

Wild Animal Welfare Committee

NEWS FROM THE WILD ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE

May 2018

IMPORTANT PRIVACY MESSAGE - GDPR

If you **DO NOT** wish to hear from the WAWC in future, please reply to this message with **UNSUBSCRIBE** in the subject line. We will remove you from our mailing list.

1. WAWC RESPONDS TO BADGER CULL AND TRAPPING CONSULTATIONS

The Wild Animal Welfare Committee (WAWC) has submitted responses to the two DEFRA consultations on extending the badger cull into Low Risk Areas (LRA) in England and on revised guidance for licensing badger control areas. Both proposals are aimed at contributing to the delivery of the government's strategy for achieving Officially Bovine Tuberculosis Free (OTF) status for England.

In summary, the WAWC is opposed to the government's strategy of killing badgers for disease control purposes. The WAWC believes that the programme is ineffective and cannot be carried out humanely. The application of badger culling in England does not follow international ethical principles for wildlife control nor general principles for the effective killing of animals for disease control purposes.

For more information, please see our [news release](#).

The WAWC has also responded to the DEFRA consultation on implementation of the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS), raising concerns about implied support for the fur trade and the consultation's failure to question the need for routine killing of predatory wild animals in the name of pest control or wildlife management. The WAWC believes that a thorough review of the necessity, means and welfare impacts of trapping and killing wild animals in the UK, and an overhaul of the whole trapping regulation system in the UK, are long overdue.

All consultation responses are available [on the WAWC website](#).

2. CONFERENCE: WHO ARE THE GUARDIANS OF WILD ANIMAL WELFARE?

Our second full-day conference, on the theme of “guardianship”, will take place in Edinburgh this November. Featuring thought-provoking presentations from guest speakers and updates on the work of the WAWC, this year’s conference will ask questions such as:

- *Do regulators pay enough attention to wild animal welfare?*
- *When do we become responsible – legally and ethically – for the welfare of a wild animal?*
- *When do benign interventions, such as reintroductions, put welfare at risk?*
- *What should we all be doing to protect the welfare of wild animals in the UK?*

Do you have a question you want the WAWC conference to address? Please let us know and help to shape the agenda. And do join us in Edinburgh this November, and help find the answers!

Conference details

Monday 19 November 2018, 1030 – 1700 hrs

Edinburgh City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

Booking opens 1 August 2018

Note your interest NOW by emailing wildanimalwelfarecommittee@gmail.com

3. GDPR: WAWC ACTION TO SAFEGUARD YOUR DATA

You have received this email because your contact details are on a mailing list compiled by the WAWC. The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) to protect data and privacy, coming into force on 25 May 2018, requires us to check that you are content for us to retain this information and use it to contact you from time to time. The information held is your name, organisation and job title (if relevant), and email address. We do not, and will not, share any of this information with third parties.

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We look forward to hearing from you and hope we can keep in touch!

Wild Animal Welfare Committee

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