



Littlebridge Inches, Cappoquin, Co. Waterford, Ireland

Wildlife Licensing Unit
National Parks and Wildlife Service
Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
90 North King Street
Dublin 7 D07 N7CV

14th January 2021

Re: Wild Bird Declarations

Dear Sir,

I write regarding Wild Bird Declarations and control of Feral Pigeon (*Columba livia*) and Collared Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*).

1. I wish to submit that the reason for control of these species should include;
Threat to Public Safety as a consequence of Guano Contamination at places of work, residences and public thoroughfares.
2. I also wish to submit that the control methods should include the use of cage traps using natural non toxic bait.

The current methods of control (firearms) while useful is often not appropriate for reasons of safety in many locations. This may be the safety of the operator or members of the public.

Further reasons that I request these items for inclusion are;

- i. Faeces may be carried on footwear into offices, production areas and residences. Airborne spores from drying faeces can settle on exposed food, packaging, tools and work surfaces
- ii. Airborne spores and particles from drying faeces can enter air ducts / vents and be inhaled, contaminate work surfaces, packaging and contaminate exposed food in canteens

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- iii. As bird faeces or contaminated soil it rests on, dries, or is distributed, microscopic pieces break off and become airborne. Such particles can contain **bacteria** or **fungi**, which can be inhaled.
- iv. **Ornithosis** can be contracted by inhaling aerosolized dried faeces and **Salmonella** can be transmitted in this way.
- v. **Histoplasmosis** is most commonly associated with this form of contamination. The lungs' warm, moist lining provides a breeding ground for infectious agents. Common symptoms of this type of infection are flu like; coughing, elevated temperature, restricted breathing and general fatigue lasting two to four days. The body's defences deal with these infections in most cases. However a small percentage may be of a serious nature causing long term disability or even death.
- vi. Cuts and wounds may be infected by direct contact with faeces, requiring antibiotics. In rare cases **sepsis** (blood infection) or internal infection may occur. H5N1 has been associated with direct contact with bird droppings.
- vii. Safety of the operator and members of the public.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeremy Nicholson".

Jeremy Nicholson

Reference Documents

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