

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday 20 January 2021 16:10
To: WildBirdDeclarations
Subject: Wild bird declarations

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To whom it may concern,

I want to express my concern at any proposed restrictions on the control of pest species such as woodpigeon, magpies or grey crows.

I am an ecology manager on an estate in Co Meath. I am an avid wildlife lover and conservationist, I am currently overseeing a number of major projects all of which are designed to improve wildlife habitat and biodiversity.

One project is a major study on red deer in the Boyne Valley, another is a grey partridge reintroduction programme to name but two.

I also help control woodpigeon for a group of tillage farmers and vegetable growers in counties Meath, Louth and Dublin.

Farmers use bangers and crow scaring devices but these only work for a short period and the birds become accustomed to them very quickly, normally within a few days.

Currently there are thousands of pigeons attacking oil seed rape crops in my area, we are out every weekend shooting to help the farmer protect their crops.

As the spring months roll in there will be spring crops planted and vegetables sown, again we will be working with the farmers to prevent bird damage.

Then as the summer months arrive pigeons and crows attack standing crops such as barley, wheat and oats at the earliest opportunity and it us the farmer calls on to prevent damages and losses to his crops.

There is almost a year round requirement from farmers and vegetable growers for crop protection.

I want to be able to continue to provide this service to our hardworking farmers and trust that common sense will prevail in allowing the control of pest species as required.

Best regards,



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