

C.S.O.

NAT/FAU/3 # 4

8/47

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0
4
3
7
/
I
I

(Formerly)

SUBJECT :

H A R E S

CONNECTED FILES.

NUMBER AND YEAR.

0437

Hares

1671

Rabbits

No.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted).

MIN



23rd August, 19 47. 51

From The Government Naturalist,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley.

Payment for killing Hares.

May I suggest that the payment of a shilling for every hare's nose by the Agricultural Department is unnecessary and might well be discontinued.

2. To the best of my belief this practice was started a very few years ago when hares were frequently seen in a swede plantation belonging to the Agricultural Department.

3. The hare was introduced many years since and has never spread to any extent because so much of the ground is too wet.

4. It is found on Stanley Common, Mangera Point, Johnson's Harbour, Douglas Station (on the Rincon del Moro) at Darwin and North Arm.

I have heard no complaints of its being destructive apart from that above (p. 2) and as indicated, I do not consider the prospects of increase good.

5. It is the only game animal in the Colony except for rabbits in two or three places and is not found in West Falkland.

J. G. Hamilton

Government Naturalist.

O.I.C. Ag. Dept.

fy.o. pc.

Do from S.O.A. pay?

ABE
26/10

H. C. S.

Hon Col Sec

A

Sheet No.....

Since 1943 when this Dept started paying for
horns noses untill today's date we have paid for
132 noses. I do not think that people kill them
for the sake of getting 1/- for the nose but, are
killed for eating, and, at the same time collecting
1/- for the nose. It would make little or no
difference to the amount billed if the Govt
ceased to pay for them.

The farms do not pay.

J.B.B. O/c of Dept
27/8/47

B

O.K.

From what vote is payment made?

A.B.L.
28.8

Hon Col Sec

From XVI subhead 12 Contingencies.

We spoke with H.E., payment now discontinued.

J.B.B. O/c of Dept
29/8/47

[Signature]

G.N.

L:

A.B.L.
29.8

H.R.S

Good!
2100. 30-viii

PA A.B.L.
31.8

53

NHC/



A

Natural History Centre,
The School,
Stanley.

3.9.1952.

Dear Sir,

At present the Hare has no close season and is being made an object of pursuit by every ship that comes here. It is an animal of the dry camp and cannot, therefore, spread very far in the Falklands. In the neighbourhood of Stanley, where it is most shot, it inhabits only the Lighthouse peninsula, the Sappers Hill area and the Sparrow Cove area. The extensive shooting that is going on, and presumably the arrival of each warship will lead to more of it, means that its numbers will decline and, in the absence of a close season (which is in any case a disgrace to a civilised Colony) there is no chance for them to be built up.

* What has civilization to do with it?
[Signature]

This Centre, of which I am the Chairman, suggests that Government introduces legislation to protect the hare throughout the Falklands from October 1st to the end of February.

B

Yours faithfully,

Lt. Cawkell.

ACS.

Pin file & Pass to A.O. for his comment pl.

The Colonial Secretary,
S T A N L E Y.

1/22/52

C

Reply at 56

H.A.O.

As at B pt. 24/9/52

254

H.C.S. The file dealing with hare preservation is 14/31. Why start a new one?
The one on Hare Killing, 0437/A would also quite well
amalgamate with it. And help the Record Clerk by reducing
the number of files on the go

Mr Cawkell's statements at 1 as to the only places inhabited
by hares round Stanley is untrue. As are his statements
that it cannot spread very far in the Falklands, they have
spread & are found far & wide over this Island. Cape Dolphin
Darwin North Arm, the San Carlos & Douglas Station etc.

It is now not only an animal of by camp.

His centre appears singularly ignorant about the hare here.

It is considered vermin at home & not protected.

I would strongly suggest you consult the sheep owners Association
before doing anything about protective legislation in respect of
a pest.

John P. Blair & Co. 26/11/52.

J.H. 53-54
P.V. 2.

355

Hares were taken from the 'protected' list in 1936.

It was suggested that a close season be restored in 1948 but this was not done S.O.A. appearing to have had the last word at 47 in ~~47~~ 0437/Vol I

There is no close season in U.K. (although I know that at least some sportsmen observe one) it is however an offence to offer a hare or leveret ^{for sale} between 1st March & 31st July. The idea would therefore appear that their killing the whole year round is permitted solely to safeguard crops.

J.E.B.
C.S. The crux of the matter is "||"
whether Hares are to be regarded as a game animal & therefore protected for sporting reasons or whether they are vermin. The humanitarian line ~~can~~ can be argued *ad infinitum* as is something of a red herring.

2) Draft at cover to issue & let them get on with it.

"||"

14th November,

52.

53
Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter of the 3rd of September, 1952, and to state that hares are no longer protected as they are considered to be destructive to grass and crops and in the nature of vermin.

2. This opinion is held particularly strongly by the Sheep Owners' Association, whose views on the subject must necessarily carry considerable weight and I am to suggest, therefore, that you should take up the matter with them direct in the first instance.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd) J. E. Briscoe

Acting Colonial Secretary.

E. M. Cahell, Esq.,
STANLEY.

Pa

57

EXTRACT FROM MEMO. BY DR. HAMILTON AND MR. CAWKELL
ON WILD LIFE PROTECTION - Mammals.

(Original in 1099 - Wild Animals and Birds Protection
Ordinance).

.....

See 53 46

i. Hares should have a close season as indeed they had until some years since. A suggestion is mid October to January 31st.

I have notes on two females, one killed in late November which contain 3 foetuses about 2½ inches in length and the other was killed in late December and contained 3 foetuses almost 6 inches in length.

.....

0437/Vol I + II
Asp. with 4/1/29 + 0437/12.
2029

H.C.S.
files add. pl.
J.M.W.
1/10.

H.B.
files renumbered as instructed, pl. 22/8/10

9th October,

54.

Sir,

57

I am directed to state that representations have again been made to Government that hares should be afforded seasonal protection and I am to enquire whether you still adhere to the views contained in your letter of the 2nd of September, 1948.

47 un Vol. I.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd) C. Campbell

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Reply at 59.

The Chairman,
Sheep Owners' Association,
STANLEY.

BEI #6/10
28/10 9/11

hbl
no reply pl.
hbl 9/11
ACB send polite reminder @ SW

Bo 1 month
9/11 = 209/12/54

0437/II

59

11th December, 54.

Sir,

58

I am directed to refer to my letter No. 0437/II of the 9th of October, 1954, regarding seasonal protection of hares and to enquire whether you are yet in a position to reply.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd) C. Campbell

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

See 60.

The Chairman,
Sheep Owners' Association,
STANLEY.

Bu 22/12
Bu 25/12/55
20/12

60.

The Falkland Islands Sheepowners Association,
(LOCAL COMMITTEE)
STANLEY, FALKLAND ISLANDS.



10th January, 1955.

59

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 0437/II dated 11th December, 1954 regarding seasonal protection of hares, I confirm that the Association still adheres to the views expressed in our letter to you dated 2nd September, 1948

47 in Vol. I.

I am,

Sir,

your obedient servant,

[Handwritten Signature]

Secretary.

The Honourable
The Colonial Secretary,
Stanley.

But.
10/11
PMQ
19/11