

SCIENTIFIC

(Penguins)

1922

C.S.

No. 822/22

Mr. G. T. Dean

SUBJECT.

192 2

1st December

Previous Paper.

JACKASS PENGUINS

Asks permission to be allowed to kill:

MINUTES.

Letter from Mr G. T. Dean of 1st December 1922 - Encl ①

- 1 Y.S. Submitted
- 2 Govt. Naturalist to be asked to advise?
- 3 Y.S. had occasion to observe recently the inroads made by these penguins and provided that the killing can be carried out in a humane manner there appears to be allowed an experiment to be made to reduce the numbers

*[Signature]* 19/11/22

H.C.S.

Mr G. Dean took me over a considerable area of ground which the large number of jackass penguins had made useless for grazing & dangerous to ride over. I suggested to him the possibility of utilizing penguins if

Subsequent Paper.

permission to reduce numbers was granted.  
Mr. Dean is prepared to make an experiment.  
Will you recommend some advice as to  
conditions under which such permission  
may properly be granted.

AM

20 Dec 1932

Govt. Lands Dept.

Secretary

W.H. 2/12/32

Hon. Col. Sec.

I would suggest that the conditions herewith  
submitted might reasonably be applied to a permit ~~such~~  
to Mr. G. Dean.

2. Permission to kill Jackass Penguins should be  
restricted to Pebble Island and should be conditional  
on the utilization of those killed (H.E.'s Minute of  
20th. December).

3. It seems probable that the best time for kill-  
ing would be in February or March, when the young birds  
have attained a considerable size, but have not, in the  
earlier month at least, taken to the water. The old  
birds are moulting in February and should then be more  
easily caught. The permit might therefore cover the  
period from the middle of January to the end of ~~March~~ <sup>April</sup>.

4. The killing of the old birds before the young  
are able to fend for themselves would leave the latter  
to starve to death in the burrows unless pains were taken  
to kill them also, this might necessitate digging them  
out. I would nevertheless submit that the permit  
should insist on the killing of the young simultane-  
ously with their parents. It will probably be found  
that the young yield a proportionately greater amount  
of oil.

Y.R.  
Submitted for review of approval  
to the conditions proposed by the  
Naturalist

~~ttttt~~ 20/12/22  
S.R.

30 Dec 22

Letter to Mr. G. Dean 30/12/22. Encl. (3)

Extract from letter from Mr. J. C. Betts  
of 4<sup>th</sup> May 1923 — Encl. (4)

Y.C.  
Submitted.  
Government Naturalist to see?  
S.R.  
O'Connell  
2 July 1923.

Yes please  
~~ttttt~~ 2 July 1923

Govt Naturalist  
Accordingly.  
S.R.  
O'Connell  
2 July 1923

Hon. Col. Sec.  
Noted and returned please  
J. Hamilton,  
Govt Naturalist  
3 July 1923



1811

Pebble Island

December 1<sup>st</sup> 1922.

The Colonial Secretary.  
Port Stanley.

(1)

Sir.

I have the honour to request that permission may be granted to kill and boil-down Jackass penguins.

Apart from the danger, to a man on horseback, caused by the holes they burrow, they are breaking up a belt of camp on the north coast of this island to a depth of two or three hundred yards and in extent ten miles or more.

There are so many hundreds of thousands of them that an unrestricted licence to kill would only make it possible to put a slight check to their inroads.

I have the honour

To be Sir

Yr Obedient Servant  
George J. Dean

5. A Report should be made containing information as to the periods of work, the methods used, the area cleared, the number of birds killed and the amount of oil extracted from them.

6. To summarize:-

Permit for Pebble Island only.

Period, 15th. January to April 30th.

Young birds to be killed simultaneously with the  
parents.

A full Report to be made on the termination of the  
killing.

The permit to be liable to cancellation at any time.

7. The Jackass Penguin (*Spheniscus magellanicus*) is a bird of somewhat restricted range, being confined to Southern South America and the Falkland Islands.

*J. E. Hamilton*

(J.E. Hamilton)

Government Naturalist.

23rd. December 1922.

322/22.

30th December, 22.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your application of the 1st of December, 1922, for permission to kill and boil down Jackass penguins.

2. His Excellency has been pleased to grant the permission required in respect of Pebble Island only on the following conditions :-

- (a) Penguins are to be killed between the 15th of January and 30th of April only
- (b) Young birds are to be killed at the same time as their parents and on no account left to starve
- (c) A full report to be submitted in due course on the number of penguins killed and the oil yield
- (d) The permit may be cancelled at any time

3. I am to add that the Government Naturalist is of opinion that the young birds will yield a proportionately larger amount of oil than the older penguins.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

George Dean, Esq.,  
Pebble Island,  
WEST FALKLAND.

H. Henniker-Heaton,  
Colonial Secretary.

EXTRACT from letter from Mr. J. C. Betts of 4th May, 1923.

Original in M.P. 66/23.

Pebble Island,

West Falkland,

4th May, 1923.

Sir,

x x x x x x x x x

I am also very sorry having to inform you that we were unable to kill and try out any Jackass Penguins this year, because the birds had all left land before we finished our dipping.. They had all left land and went to sea about the end of March.

I am, etc.,