

C.S.

WHALING & SEALING.

(Sealing.)

193 7.

No. 195/37.

Manager, F. Is. Co., Ltd.

SUBJECT.

193 7.

21st September.

Prevalence of Sea Leopards in the Falkland
Islands.

Previous Paper.

MINUTES.

① Letter from Manager, Falkland Is., Co., Ltd., of 21/9/37.

ag. Gov. Naturalist

had ① for your observations and
recommendations pleaseJ.P.C.
22/9/37

Hon: Col: Secy:

From my personal experiences
I look upon the Sea Leopard as a
dangerous animal in the water,
harmless on land. I think it only fair
to state that Mr J.E. Hamilton holds
views different from these.

The Sea Leopard will charge &
board a boat after being wounded,
& they are at no time pleasant company
when one is in a small boat. It may
be mere curiosity, but they will

Subsequent Paper.

persist in their attentions following a
boat about.

AGB
ag Nat
23.9.37

Y.E.

I am inclined to agree with the views of Mr Bennett
as recently the Inqumaste has had two dangerous
experiences with a Sea Leopard.

2. Does Y.E. wish to take the necessary steps to have
them removed from the protected list.

Red
24/9/37

Hon. C.S.

I agree also with the views of
Mr Bennett. I have always understood
from old residents that the Sea
Leopard is dangerous particularly to
anything in the water. It is
difficult to understand why they were
ever protected.

2. Yes, steps should be
taken to remove them from
the protected list.

MCH

24.9.37

Y.E.

There is no provision in the ord. that permits the
exclusion of any particular type of seal & for the
present all that can be done is to issue licences
under sec. 5 (1) of ord. No. 8 of 1921 for Sea Leopards.

2. an ordinance could be prepared at a later date after
ref. to the S.P.

Red
25/9/37

Hon. C.S.

I gathered from your
minute of 24th inst. that this
species of seal was protected
but since this appears not
to be so I see no reason
why a license should not be
issued to any person wishing
to kill Seal Leopards.

2. Have there been
any instructions regarding the
preservation of this species?
Refs to Mr. Bennett to state
what he knows about it.
Does he recommend that persons
applying should be authorized
to kill these Seal?

3. So far as I can see
from the facts before me
reference to the S. of S. is
not required.

MCH

25 9. 2)

of Hon. Naturalist

This minute for your observations & reply
please.

Res
27/9/27

Hon. Col. Secy.

Ord 1/1899. (1) cites Sea Leopard. (9) would seem to cover permits.

I regret that I have nothing on the protection of Sealeopard except the Ord. & Discovery Report vol. 1 which gives a short account of the animal at Sborcia.

I strongly favour the thinning down of the Sea Leopard. In my own experience these animals are the wolves of the sea; large numbers of birds are destroyed by them, most penguin-rookeries have one, or more in attendance continually, & I once saw a case where a Sea Leopard had eaten almost the entire of another seal that could not have been less than 6 ft in length. I once saw at Sorknoys many miles of sea strewn with penguins minus their breast - the work of the Sea Leopard; there must have been hundreds of penguins in this condition, some were still alive.

A.G.D.
ag. Nat.
29.9.37.

Y.E.
— submitted. Names can be inserted
here of my number of 28/9/37.

Pals
29/9/37

Hon. C.S.

Yes.

MCH
24.9.37

Letter to Manager, F. Is. Co., of 30.9.37.

(2)

PA
20/9/37

①

The Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1851.)

REGISTERED 1902.

AGENTS FOR LLOYDS.

TELEGRAMS "FLEETWING PORTSTANLEY" RADIO.

Stanley

21st September, 19 37.

Sir,


I understand that Sea Leopards are protected. The diver engaged from Montevideo refused to dive for the wool lost at Fox Bay owing to their presence. Capt. Adair reported that as soon as a boat was lowered on "Fitzroy's" arrival there on 10th inst. a leopard appeared and one or two remained around "Fitzroy" that and the next day.

The Manager of the Sealing Company also reports as to their prevalence as does a man who occasionally fishes around Stanley. I therefore beg to suggest that the question of protecting Sea Leopards be re-examined with a view to Government granting permission for a certain number to be killed annually.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,


Manager.

The Honourable,
The Colonial Secretary
Stanley.

195/37.

30th September, 37.

Sir,

Red!

With reference to your letter of the 21st of September, 1937, regarding Sea Leopards, I am directed by the Acting Governor to inform you that His Excellency is prepared to issue licences for the killing of Sea Leopards where their presence is a source of danger.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

g
Acting Colonial Secretary.

The Manager,
Falkland Islands Co., Ltd.,
STANLEY.