

Re: The CONservation organised culls.

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On Wed, 06 Oct 2004 12:45:46 +0100, J Smytje <JSmythe@hotmail.com> wrote:

> *The RSPB, Woodland Trust, BTO etc slaughter millions of animals each year between them. They call these animals "pests", a euphamism to legal eliminate anything you dont like. Based on classic nazi principals.*

>

> *They suggest, though you'd be hard pushed to find any of the groups willing to discuss it, that the killing is carried out by professional marksmen, with minimal suffering.*

>

> *Here's an interesting story to proves the lie in conservation carried out by CONservation hooligans.*

>

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> <http://homepages.which.net/~rex/bourne/diary199902.htm>

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>

> *Saturday 20th February 1999*

>

> *We went to Bourne Woods a few days back for one of our regular walks*

> *only to find a notice in red letters stuck up at the entrance*

> *announcing that they were closed that day because shooting was in*

> *progress. Visitors at the entrance who had also been disappointed by*

> *the closure asked us: "Who is doing the shooting and at what?"*

> *The last time I complained to the Forestry Commission about shooting*

> *in these woods I was told that culls of fallow deer were carried out*

> *on two or three days each year because the population in the area is*

> *so high that they killed off the young trees in new plantations.*

> *Bourne Woods, like many others in Britain, have survived for thousands*

> *of years without culling so why start now? If deer do cause damage,*

> *then that damage will be done whether the herds number a hundred or a*

> *mere fifty. No, the answer is that these deer are shot for profit*

> *because their carcasses are handed over to a game dealer who sells*

> *them for venison.*

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>Those who cull will insist that their marksmen do it humanely but we
>can be sure of nothing in this world and certainly not when trying to
>hit a moving animal with a rifle shot. I have often seen pools of
>blood on woodland trails left by a large animal and this indicates
>that they have merely been wounded and on another occasion, a young
>stag broke cover and dashed across the path in front of me with one of
>its antlers dangling broken and loose. It was terrified and
>disorientated and it seemed obvious that the animal had either been
>hit by one of the gunmen or frightened by the noise of the firing.
>
>The Forestry Commission has made no mention of organised shoots, which
>I have witnessed on several occasions when the quarry is rabbit and
>pheasant. We have even seen these gunmen in the woods on a Saturday
>afternoon when walkers were in the vicinity, a most frightening
>experience.
>
>We once ignored these warning notices and watched a shooting party at
>work in Bourne Woods in mid-week. Two dozen or more men armed with
>shotguns arrived in lorries and then fanned out in line before moving
>forward in order to give maximum cover to the woodland ahead and
>therefore anything living in that area had little chance of escaping
>their attention. Most of these men were farmers or connected with the
>agricultural industry, which has already been responsible for so much
>devastation in our green and pleasant land.
>
>Why does the Forestry Commission allow this shooting to continue? Pet
>owners are asked to keep dogs on a lead when walking in the woods and
>horse riding is banned yet gunmen are regularly allowed in to destroy
>wild animals. This is sheer hypocrisy.
>
>Coincidentally, I have just been reading a leaflet issued by the
>Forestry Commission which has owned the woods since 1926 and is always
>ready to parade its green credentials. "Fallow deer are abundant in
>the wood and if lucky you may catch a glimpse of their shy cousin the
>muntjac", it said. "Be on the lookout for other dwellers of these
>woodlands such as foxes, squirrels, owls, snakes and woodpeckers. Not
>so common are the white letter hairstreak and white admiral
>butterflies, hazel dormouse, nightingale and badger that also live
>there."
>
>It should also have said: beware of shooters because they regularly
>roam these woods killing off our wildlife. Do these gunmen not know of
>the changes that have been wrought on the English countryside in the
>last fifty years? Are they unaware of the flora and fauna that is now
>under threat? Have they not heard the siren calls of alarm that
>creatures such as the brown hare and the common partridge that were
>once so abundant are fast disappearing?
>
>The leaflet also carries a warning to visitors asking them to remember
>the forest code by protecting trees, plants and wildlife. Leave things
>as you find them, take nothing away, it says. How does the Forestry

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- >Commission reconcile these guidelines to the public with a day's
- >closure to enable gunmen hunt our wild animals? The Forestry
- >Commission should practice what it preaches and leave these animals in
- >peace. Hunting is a barbaric practice and totally unnecessary and
- >allowing it in the woodlands it controls is tantamount to pulling the
- >trigger on anything that moves.
- >
- >I notified the Forestry Commission on Monday that because of the
- >increasing public concern over the threat to wildlife in these woods,
- >I intended writing on the subject and I asked them for a statement to
- >explain their shooting policy but although almost a week has elapsed,
- >they have not replied.
- >

No surprises there then!

Regards,
Nick Maclaren.