



NEWS RELEASE

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“TELL THE GOVERNMENT WHAT YOU THINK OF THEIR GOOSE POLICY” SCF SAYS TO CROFTERS AND FARMERS

The Scottish Crofting Federation (SCF) is encouraging crofters and farmers to sign up to the on-line petition raised in the Scottish Parliament urging the Scottish Government to review its policy on the unfolding wild-goose debacle. The petition closes on 1st September, this weekend.

“We are all aware of the plague of wild geese suffered by crofters and farmers in the Scottish islands, and increasingly the Highlands” said SCF Chief Executive Patrick Krause, “yet there is little done by the Scottish Government or its agencies to address the threat posed to these fragile communities. We have raised this petition in the Scottish Parliament to show the strength of feeling over this issue and I would encourage people to take advantage of it now as it closes this Sunday.”

The on-line petition calls on the Scottish Parliament “to urge the Scottish Government to address the problems created by increasing populations of wild geese in the crofting areas as a matter of priority; reassess its decision to stop funding existing goose management programmes, and assign additional resources to Crop Protection and Adaptive Management programmes to ensure this threat to the future of crofting is averted.”

“The on-line petition system is a wonderful way to get your voice to our Parliament who we can ask to represent us to Government”, added Mr Krause. “Many have already signed up and also left very useful comments – thank you all. And those that haven’t yet, go on, tell the government what you think about their goose policy today!”

The petition can be found at:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/gettinginvolved/petitions/controlgoosenumbers>

END

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