

## **PRESS RELEASE**

12th March 2026 - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Progress on Goose Management as Parliament Committee Closes SCF Petition**

The Scottish Crofting Federation has welcomed progress in the long-running discussion around goose management, following consideration of its petition by the Scottish Parliament's Rural Affairs and Islands Committee.

The petition, originally lodged by SCF in 2013, called for greater attention to the growing impact of geese on agriculture, particularly in crofting areas. It has been revisited by the committee at various points over the years, most recently in 2024.

At its latest meeting, the committee discussed the petition in light of the forthcoming National Goose Management Plan. It was agreed that the plan now reflects a stronger recognition of the damage that increasing goose populations can cause to agricultural land and the need for an ongoing management approach.

The committee has therefore agreed to close the petition. However, it will write to NatureScot to ensure that goose management remains under review as the new plan is implemented in the years ahead.

The Scottish Crofting Federation said it would continue to monitor developments closely.

While the closure of the petition marks the end of a formal process that began more than a decade ago, the federation welcomes the growing recognition within government that geese remain a significant and ongoing issue for many crofting communities, and that proactive management will be needed going forward.

ENDS

**For further information or interview requests, please contact [mike @crofting.org](mailto:mike@crofting.org) or [donna@crofting.org](mailto:donna@crofting.org)**

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### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

#### **About the Scottish Crofting Federation**

The Scottish Crofting Federation is the only organisation solely dedicated to supporting crofting in Scotland. Our mission is to ensure the sustainability of crofting for future generations and advocate for crofting so that its value is recognised from within communities to government. We support crofters to meet the challenges of a changing world and champion the need for crofting to remain accessible and affordable for young people in crofting communities. As a member-led organisation, SCF works to secure a thriving future for crofting, rooted in community, culture and care for the land.