



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

RURAL AFFAIRS, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

8th Meeting, 2016 (Session 4)

Wednesday 9 March 2016

Present:

Claudia Beamish	Sarah Boyack
Graeme Dey (Deputy Convener)	Alex Fergusson
Rob Gibson (Convener)	Jim Hume
Angus MacDonald	Michael Russell
Dave Thompson	

Also present: Jackie Baillie, Joan McAlpine, Elaine Murray.

The meeting opened at 9.30 am.

1. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee took evidence on the Conservation of Salmon (Scotland) Regulations 2016 (2016/115); Salmon Carcass Tagging (Scotland) Regulations 2016 (2016/116); Tweed Regulation (Salmon Carcass Tagging) Order 2016 (2016/117); Tweed Regulation (Salmon Conservation) Order 2016 (2016/118) from—

Richard Lochhead, Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Food and Environment, Willie Cowan, Head of Performance, Aquaculture and Recreational Fisheries, Jeff Gibbons, Head of Wild Fisheries, and Stuart Middlemas, Head of Ecology Programme, Scottish Government.

2. **Subordinate legislation:** Alex Fergusson moved—S4M-15732—

That the Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment Committee recommends that the Conservation of Salmon (Scotland) Regulations 2016 (SSI 2016/115) be annulled.

The motion was disagreed to, by division (For 4; Against 5; Abstentions 0).

3. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee considered the following negative

instruments—

The Salmon Carcass Tagging (Scotland) Regulations 2016 (2016/116);
Tweed Regulation (Salmon Carcass Tagging) Order 2016 (2016/117);
Tweed Regulation (Salmon Conservation) Order 2016 (2016/118);
Common Agricultural Policy (Direct Payments etc.) (Scotland) Amendment
Regulations 2016 (SSI 2016/104).

The Committee agreed not to make any recommendations to the Parliament on these instruments.

4. **Public petitions:** The Committee considered the following petitions—

PE01547 on Conservation of Wild Salmon
PE01490 on Control of Wild Goose Numbers.

The Committee agreed to close Petition PE01547 and write to the petitioner to inform him of this decision. On Petition PE01490 the Committee agreed to write to the Scottish Government and Scottish Natural Heritage. The Committee agreed to keep the petition open and recommend to its successor committee, via the Legacy Report, that it may wish to consider examining the outcome of the review of wild goose management by Scottish Natural Heritage, with a view to deciding what further action, if any, should be taken on the petition.

5. **Annual report:** The Committee agreed its draft annual report for the parliamentary year from 11 May 2015 to 23 March 2016.

6. **Legacy paper (in private):** The Committee agreed a report reflecting on its work during the current session and suggesting priorities for Session 5.

The meeting closed at 12.47 pm.

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