10 March 2017

Dear Graeme,

**REVIEW OF SNARING**

I am writing to inform the Committee of our intention to lay the report “Review of Snaring for Scottish Government” before the Scottish Parliament on Tuesday 14 March 2017 as required by section 11F of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (WCA). The report will also be published on the Scottish Government website.

As you will be aware, the Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011 made a number of changes to the WCA aimed at improving the operation of snaring in terms of animal welfare and record-keeping, backed by a requirement to review every five years to see how these provisions were being applied. The first review date was 31 December 2016. The review was undertaken by Scottish Natural Heritage on behalf of the Scottish Government.

Yours,

Roseanna Cunningham