

John F. Robins, Secretary, Animal Concern Advice Line (ACAL), c/o Animal Concern, Post Office Box 5178, Dumbarton G82 5YJ. Tel 01389-841111. Mobile: 07721-605521.

Animal Concern Advice Line (ACAL) is a recognised Scottish charity: No. SC030982.

Animal Concern Advice Line was established in 2001 to take on the charitable work of Animal Concern which was founded as the Scottish Anti-Vivisection Society in 1876.

E-MAIL: acal@jfrobins.force9.co.uk Website: <http://www.adviceaboutanimals.info>

Roseanna Cunningham MSP,
Cabinet Secretary for the Environment and Animal Welfare,
The Scottish Government,
Edinburgh

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

I write concerning the use of snares in Scotland. I have copied in Environment/Rural Affairs reps from other parties as I hope this will be of interest to them.

Please find below a link to an article in The Sunday Post which reports on a woman who, in March of this year, found a live fox trapped with a snare around its abdomen. She released the animal and handed the snare to the SSPCA who could take no action as the snare had been set quite legally.

Assuming the person who set the snare was indeed operating within the law the fox could have been trapped and struggling in that snare for nearly 24 hours. Who knows what sort of suffering and injury would be caused as it struggled to free itself? This case illustrates what I and others have been saying for years – there is no such thing as a humane snare.

It should also be noted that the main use of snares is to kill anything which might predate on the eggs or chicks of pheasant, a non-native species bred and released for sport. Domestic fowl can be protected from foxes by use of proper fencing including low voltage electric fencing. A healthy ewe will see off a fox and foxes are more likely to feed on afterbirth and lambs which are stillborn or sickly and succumb to adverse weather conditions soon after birth. If a farmer believes foxes must be killed the most humane way is by laming and shooting the animal stone dead.

Snares, even those used legally, are cruel and indiscriminate and should be made illegal in Scotland.

I urge you to look once again at the issue of snaring with a view to doing what the majority of the public want you to do – make all snares illegal.

Yours sincerely,

John F. Robins,
Secretary to Animal Concern Advice Line.

[https://www.sundaypost.com/news/scottish-news/woman-freed-trapped-fox-snare-accused-t
heft-police/](https://www.sundaypost.com/news/scottish-news/woman-freed-trapped-fox-snare-accused-t
heft-police/)