



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

T: 08459 33 55 77
helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk
www.defra.gov.uk

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Your ref: 373/14
Our ref: RFI6510
Date: 17 July 2014

Dear [REDACTED]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: DEFRA FUNDING OF WILDLIFE CULLS

Thank you for your follow up email of 10 June 2014, with regard to our 9 June response to your email request for information about how much Defra has spent funding wildlife culls in the UK over the past five years, which we received on 7 April 2014.

You asked if the figures given in our response include details from Forestry Commission, CEFAS, National Forest Company, Environment Agency and the Food & Environment Research Agency.

With regard to the Food & Environment Research Agency, the National Wildlife Management Centre (NWMC) has now moved to the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency (AHVLA).

The costings of Defra funded work carried out by the NWMC was factored into our response. Likewise, Defra funded work carried out by CEFAS was factored into our response. However, further correspondence with CEFAS has resulted in additional information and some amended figures. I have set out these changes in the table below.

I have sought information from the Environment Agency and they have provided information on Defra funded culling work they have undertaken. This previously unaccounted for spend is also set out in the amended table.

With regard to the Forestry Commission, it receives Parliamentary funding via Defra but is accountable in its own right for its expenditure so we do not hold information on its cost for wildlife culling. The National Forest Company, is funded by Defra through grant in aid. Whilst some of their activities will include an element of culling,

the funding will not have been provided expressly for that purpose and the costing of specific culling activities is not recorded.

In summary, the following table includes updated information, amending the figures relating to CEFAS and including previously omitted Environment Agency figures, regarding Defra funded culling of wildlife over the past five years in the UK, broken down by year and by species. New text is underlined and corrected text is ~~struck through~~.

The table includes funds from Defra and Natural England and includes work undertaken by Forestry Commission, CEFAS, National Forest Company, Environment Agency and the NWMC, where the costing of specific culling activities could be provided.

	Cost (£, 000s)				
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Ruddy duck	405	170	200	150	120
Monk parakeet	38	80	80	15	46
Non-native crayfish			<u>32</u>	56	45
Aquatic <u>invertebrate</u> Invasive Non-natives (including. zebra mussel , and crayfish, <u>killer shrimp</u> and the parasite <u>Gyrodactylus salaris</u>)					15 <u>150</u>
<i>Dikerogarmmerus villosus</i> 'killer shrimp'		60	30		
<i>Dikerogarmmerus haemobaphes</i> 'demon shrimp'				<u>29</u>	
American bullfrog	7	18.5			5
African clawed toad	15	10	7		
Brown rats	18	18	28	18	18
Grey squirrel		43			
American mink			0.3		
<u>Invasive Non-native fish (including Topmouth Gudgeon)</u>		<u>90</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>160</u>

The figures provided in our original response were based on the best available information we had at the time. I apologise for any confusion or inconvenience that these caused.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me.

Yours

