



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

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[REDACTED]  
{By Email}

Our Ref: ATIC1039

20 March 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

## PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about ruddy ducks, which Defra received on 25 February 2017 and have passed to APHA to respond. Your request has been handled under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

- i. Could you please supply me with a full list of locations in the UK where ruddy ducks have been shot/killed under the eradication scheme part funded by The European Union and I believe yourselves. Could you please set this out in an xls spreadsheet showing location, date and number killed since the start of the programme to the present day. If this is too costly within the terms of The Act, please narrow this to The West Midlands county area- that is the boroughs of Birmingham and The Black country.

APHA only hold data for Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales). Information for Northern Ireland should be requested from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/>

See Appendix 1 for the information requested for Great Britain.

Please note there is further information already in the public domain regarding ruddy ducks, here:

<https://data.gov.uk/data/search?q=ruddy+ducks>

- ii. Could you please supply any direct factual evidence that you hold regards any ringed ruddy ducks in the UK reaching Spain that have subsequently bred with any Spanish White-headed ducks. By factual I do not mean supposition, opinion

or speculation by any civil servants, land owners or bird watching charities who have supported/taken part in this eradication scheme. If you do not hold any such factual direct evidence could you please confirm this.

Following a search of our paper and electronic records, the information that you have requested is not held by APHA. This is because we have no evidence of any ringed ruddy ducks from the Great Britain reaching Spain that have subsequently bred with any Spanish White-headed ducks.

- iii. Could you please confirm that any birds shot under this scheme on public or private land has only been possible with the agreement of the site owner or tenant.

Yes.

Information disclosed in response to this EIR request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the EIR and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on GOV.UK, together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. No information identifying you will be placed on the GOV.UK website.

I attach an Annex which explains the copyright that applies to the information being released to you and contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact the Access to Information Team at the email address below or postal address at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely

**ACCESS TO INFORMATION TEAM**

Email: [enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk)

## **Annex**

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### **Complaints**

If you are unhappy with the result of your request for information you may request an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this letter.

If you wish to request an internal review, please contact: The Access to Information Team at [enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk) or at the postal address at the top of this letter, who will arrange for an internal review of your case.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Please note that generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted APHA's own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF