POLICY NOTE

THE SPRING TRAPS APPROVAL (SCOTLAND) AMENDMENT ORDER 2020

SSI 2020/417

The above instrument was made in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 50(3) and 85(3) of the Agriculture (Scotland) Act 1948. The instrument is subject to the default laying requirement provided for by section 30 of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010.

This instrument provides an additional type of spring trap for stoat, which complies with the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards(AIHTS), and adds non-AIHTS species as target species for existing types of traps listed in the schedule to the Spring Traps Approval (Scotland) Order 2011.

Policy Objectives

This Order updates the list of approved traps and the species which they are approved to take under the Spring Traps Approval (Scotland) Order 2011 (as amended by the Spring Traps Approval (Scotland) Amendment Order 2018).

This Order adds an additional type of spring trap, the Perdix Spring Trap, for the killing and taking of stoat, weasel, rat and grey squirrel. This reflects the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS). This Order also adds a non-AIHTS species, the edible dormouse, as a permitted target species for the Goodnature A24 trap and it updates the conditions for use for the DOC 150, DOC 200 and DOC 250 traps.

This Order also inserts a new entry in the schedule to the Order for the Tully Trap specifying that the Tully Trap must be fitted with baffles when used for the purpose of killing or taking grey squirrels. The Tully Trap fitted with baffles for grey squirrels can also be used for the purpose of killing or taking stoats, weasels and rats. The Order also makes provision for the conditions of use when using the Tully Trap fitted with baffles.

None of the traps listed in the Order is a leghold trap within the meaning of Article 1 of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3254/91 (as amended by the Leghold Trap and Pelt Import (Amendment etc) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019) prohibiting the use of leghold traps in the Community and the introduction into the Community of pelts and manufactured goods of certain wild animal species originating in countries which catch them by means of leghold traps or traps which do not meet international humane trapping standards (O.J. No. L 308, 9.11.1991, p.1).

Consultation

Requests from key stakeholder organisations to have the Perdix Spring Trap for stoats added to the Spring Traps Approval Scotland Order prompted the amendment of the Order.

Impact Assessments

There are no environmental or equality impact issues.

Financial Effects

The Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform confirms that no BRIA is necessary as the instrument has no financial effects either on the Scottish Government or local government. The instrument will provide more spring traps to choose from in Scotland. This will therefore enable people to choose a spring trap which meets their needs more closely and will generate business for manufacturers, distributors and pest controllers.

Scottish Government
Environment and Forestry Directorate

December 2020