

FORWARD PLANNING TEAM,
CORPORATE IMPROVEMENT & ECONOMY, ①
SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL.

Dear Sirs,

Have received your mail

regarding [REDACTED], and

[REDACTED]. First regarding ownership,
the [REDACTED] is on [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the field to the south of
the Long Moss belongs to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Now may I point out some facts about
the "Mosses" mainly your list of "notable
species". As one who has farmed here for
50 odd years, I feel I should know
what's what.

Yeast - they visit very infrequently, and are
hardly a "notable species."

Wigeon - Seen once in 50 years?

Mufted duck - very rarely seen. (2)

Oystercatcher - never seen at either site, really not their type of territory.

[redacted] - seen everywhere not special to the [redacted]

lapwing - never seen, wrong habitat.

Brown trout - were introduced for a while.

But others cleared them out, Long Moss is a "stank" so trout cannot breed there.

[redacted] - definitely there, wiped out the trout, they annually kill the young swans which hatch out every year, Moorhens, coots and Mallard have virtually no chance of rearing young.

Red squirrel - one seen five years ago, now nothing but greys (many greys)

[redacted] - yes many, but because of that no hedgerows, and honeybees nests mostly destroyed.

Personally I do feel the "experts" are now leaning too heavily to the predator species, at the huge expense of the prey species. I feel the general public

is being influenced by T.V. and radio personalities who really don't know (3) what is really happening.

The only place where young ducks and coots are reared (2 broods every year) successfully is the small garden pond here. Why? Because it is fenced to keep out the badger, foxes and otters, at least some birds have been given a chance.

I do not write letters normally but I felt I should correct some mistakes.

Yours Bryan Bell.

enclosed is a S.A.K. for my reply.

