



Rt Hon Mark Drakeford MS
First Minister for Wales
Welsh Government
5th Floor, Tŷ Hywel
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

By email: Correspondence.Mark.Drakeford@gov.wales

8 December 2021

Dear Mr Drakeford

Re: Grouse shooting in Wales

I write to you on behalf of Wild Moors to thank the Welsh Government for taking a firm stand against grouse shooting by declaring that the shooting of birds for leisure does not have your support. This is the right thing to do.

As you are aware, Wales hosts a small yet significant number of grouse moors clustered around the Ruabon Mountains, which is known as the 'grouse capital of Wales'. It is no surprise to see the damage this is causing to the landscape. There is only one way to manage moorland for grouse shooting and that involves killing off natural predators and burning away precious peatland habitat, at the expense of the nation's iconic wildlife and environment.

It is clear that a practice which destroys wildlife and drives climate change in the name of shooting birds for 'sport' has no place in a modern nation like Wales.

With the grouse shooting season ending on Friday we urge you to take the opportunity to turn the government's words into action by ensuring this is the last ever to take place in Wales. By introducing a ban you will set a strong example across the UK by ensuring the Ruabon Mountains are protected and restored for nature, climate and people.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'L. Steele', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Luke Steele, LLM
Executive Director

CC: Julie James AS/MS, Minister for Climate Change