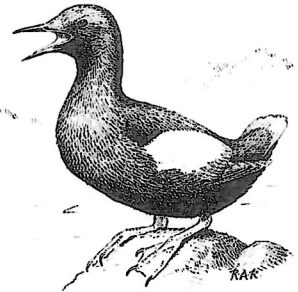


Shetland Bird Club



Burnside,
Skellister,
Nesting,
Shetland.

24th August, 1983

Dear Dr. Vermeer,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Shetland Bird Club about an issue that you may be aware of - namely the proposal to develop a mink farm on the island of Trondra in Shetland. I enclose a copy of a fact sheet prepared by the Bird Club which, although directed at the layman, will give you the background to the case.

A planning application for this mink farm has now been lodged with the Shetland Islands Council and I am writing to you to ask whether you would consider adding your name to the list of individuals and organisations who are formally objecting to the application. If you felt able to do so, we would be most grateful since your objection would not only carry weight with local councillors when they vote on the planning application, but will strengthen our call to the Secretary of State for Scotland for a public enquiry should planning permission be granted.

We have a hard fight on our hands, largely because of the past history of mink farming in Shetland and the fact that a small mink farm still operates near Aith. What concerns us most, however, is that should the Trondra development be granted planning permission it will set a precedent leading to a resurgence of interest in mink farming in the islands which the Shetland Islands Council will be only too willing to financially support.

If you do feel able to object to this planning application, your letter of objection should be received by the Director of Planning, Shetland Islands Council, Victoria Buildings, Esplanade, Lerwick, Shetland, by 9th September. Any evidence of the effects of feral mink on populations of birds or wildlife in general that you could include in your letter would be most valuable, as would any details of escapes from farms. I hope you feel able to support us in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Heubeck

ENVIRONMENT CANADA
CANADIAN WILDLIFE SERVICE
DELTA, B.C.

SEP 2 1983