

[REDACTED]

From: Karenfkirk@aol.com
Sent: 24 March 2011 20:14
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Consultation on Seal Haul-Out Sites

Dear Mr. Kent,

I have seen seals hauled out on the beach/rocks at Burnmouth, South Carrs, and North Carrs. The beach to the west side of Fast Castle is not only a haul out area, but is a pupping beach. Seals also haul out at Mudge, Burnmouth. Hurkers Rocks Eyemouth, Half tide rocks at Eyemouth Harbour., black Carr rocks at St Abbs Head, and Scart rocks, at Ferriehole and I would like these haul-out sites designated as a place where seals are protected from harassment. I'm sure there will be other unseen areas on this stretch of coastline, where seals also haul out!

Moreover I ask you to give any seal which is hauled out, no matter where it is, legal protection from harassment. A seal which is hauled-out, whether that be to bask in the sun or for breeding purposes, poses no risk to salmon netters, fish farmers or other fishery concerns and should not be subject to harassment or persecution.

Although there are many traditional seal haul-out sites, seals can haul-out almost anywhere. Indeed seals have had to find new haul-out sites due to the harassment and disturbance caused by allowing fish farms to be built on or near haul-out sites which have been used by seals for thousands of years.

Instead of designating specific haul-out sites I ask you to make it an offence to harass any hauled-out seal.

Yours sincerely,

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