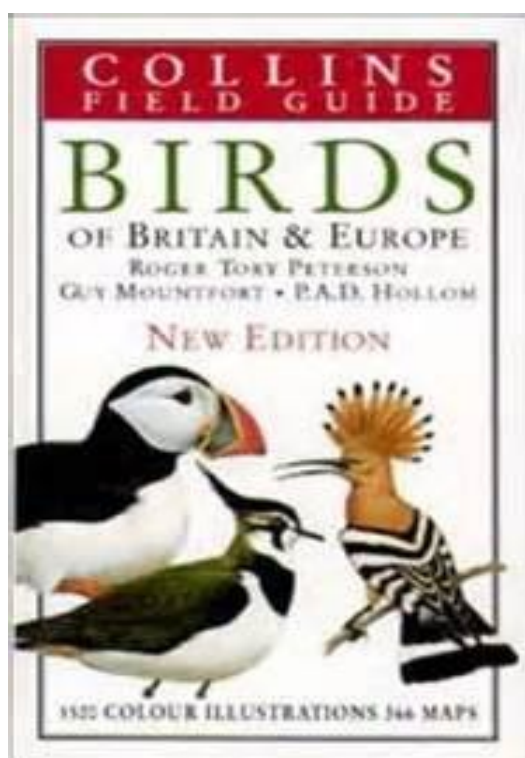


**Here are some more letters received. For easier viewing, our comments are written in Times New Roman and in block, while the letters are in plain Arial.**



**A Field Guide to the Birds of Britain & Europe – The saddest book you'll find on the shelves. Not because of its written contents, far from it, but because it's filled with pictures. Pictures of Lapwings, Curlews, Woodcock, Snipe, Turtle Doves, Song Thrushes, Bullfinches, Linnets, Starlings and many other species besides that are just not around any more. It's like looking through an album of family members that died decades ago leaving you with fond but sad memories.**

**And do please look around for yourselves. Birds that aren't anywhere to be seen and these and many others besides are becoming increasingly harder to find as each year passes.**

**In the last report we included a piece about the plight of the wolves in many parts of the US. Below is an encouraging update, at least in Idaho.**

To: cates1980@hotmail.co.uk  
From: info@earthjustice.org  
Date: Tue, 29 Jul 2014 15:39:12 -0700  
Subject: Breaking: Idaho suspends wolf-killing plan

Dear Robert,

Great news for Idaho's wolves!

Faced with our latest legal challenge, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game just suspended its plan to slaughter 60 percent of wolves in the Middle Fork region of the Frank Church–River of No Return Wilderness beginning this winter.

Over the past year we fought vigorously to stop Idaho's plan to convert this premier public wilderness into an elk farm for the benefit of hunting outfitters and recreational hunters, destroying the natural balance between predator and prey.

And today—under the pressure of our litigation—the Idaho Department of Fish and Game has agreed to suspend the slaughter of wolves in the wilderness until at least November 1, 2015.

Wolves play a critical role in the Frank Church Wilderness ecosystem, which harbors abundant wildlife, including wolverines, elk, and bighorn sheep.

But last year the state hired a hunter-trapper who killed nine wolves deep in the wilderness, and announced plans to kill 60 percent of the wolves in its Middle Fork section over a period of several years.

We've stopped these efforts for now, but our battle to save wolves is far from over.

It's not certain what action Idaho will take regarding wolves in the Frank Church Wilderness in November 2015, but one thing is certain:

With your support, my team and I won't quit defending them.

For decades, Earthjustice has fought for wolves in court and won, successfully shutting down wolf hunts in the northern Rockies. But we can't see these long-term fights through to victory without you.

I hope you continue to stay involved.

Tim Preso  
Managing Attorney  
Northern Rockies Office

**Now by contrast I've just received this one.**

From: defenders@mail.defenders.org  
To: cates1980@hotmail.co.uk  
Sent: Fri, 8 Aug 2014 09:39:15 -0500  
Subject: RE: Help stop the wolf and predator killing spree!

Dear Robert,

A "hunters' rights" organization has formally requested a federal permit to hold a multi-year predator-killing derby in Idaho -- on national public lands!

If approved, this will be the second competitive wolf-killing competition held in Idaho - and no predator will be safe!

If you care about wolves and other predators as much as I do, please help by telling the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) at the Department of the Interior to deny the request to conduct this organized killing spree.

As if the competitive targeting of wolves was not bad enough, this proposed derby would sweep all predators in Idaho into its gun sights, rewarding the killing of coyotes, skunks and even weasels.

Last year's wolf and coyote-killing derby included prizes for killing the most coyotes and killing the largest wolf. This is not hunting; this is simply mass-killing for fun based upon hatred and fear.

Defenders is adamantly opposed to this sort of competitive killing derby and the dangerous and unethical precedent that it sets. Please stand with us and call on the BLM to immediately deny this outrageous request!

If you think it can't get worse, consider this: The proposed event would take place every winter for five years when wolves and other wildlife are most vulnerable out foraging for food in the snow and extreme cold.

This proposal sets us back to the barbaric 19th century approach to predators when their value to the environment was not understood. These are exactly the kinds of extermination era tactics that drove wolves to the brink in the first place! This is not modern wildlife management, and it has no place in civil society.

Please demand that the BLM stop this unconscionable killing contest in its tracks!

Sincerely,

Jamie Rappaport Clark  
President  
Defenders of Wildlife

From: Min.Aglukkaq@ec.gc.ca  
To: george.ashleycooper@aol.co.uk  
Cc: Min@dfo-mpo.gc.ca  
Sent: Tue, Jul 15, 2014 3:15 pm  
Subject: Reply from the Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of the Environment - MIN 182032

Dear Mr. Ashley-Cooper:

Thank you for your email of May 19, 2014, regarding seal hunting.

Our government supports a sustainable, well-regulated and humane seal hunt, and recognizes that the harvest of seals has played an integral role in the development and sustainability of Canada's eastern and northern coastal communities. It provides a livelihood for families and enables communities to maintain their traditional way of life. This matter falls under the purview of Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Therefore, I am forwarding a copy of your correspondence to the Honourable Gail Shea, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, for consideration.

I appreciate your bringing your views to my attention, and I extend my best wishes.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of the Environment  
c.c.: The Honourable Gail Shea, P.C., M.P.  
Canada

---

From: ferguson@maspin-house.co.uk  
To: h.pagan.pla@aol.co.uk  
Sent: Tue, Aug 5, 2014 12:03 pm  
Subject: More and more wind farms being refused.

More wind farms being "Pickled"

Eric Pickles policies are working.

Another 5 wind farms refused at appeal. To find out where they are and why they were refused have a look at the report here.

<http://stopwoodlanewindfarm.co.uk/page90%20more%20wind%20farms%20refused.html>

The page also includes links so that you can download the appeal decision documents. Reasons for refusal include Green Belt, Visual impact and residential amenity. One of the decisions makes it clear that little weight is given to the fact that wind farms are temporary – 25 years, or that they provide an additional income for a farmer – derived from subsidy.

Thanks Eric , you are doing a great job.

## New Selby Landmark

The new turbine seen from Selby by-pass is 78 metres high and is rated at 500KW maximum power output.

Another 5 turbines one and a half times higher at 127 metres have been approved at Cleek Hall at the other side of the river , the nearest turbine is less than 1km from the by-pass. The turbines that is already up is over 2km from the view you get as you cross the railway.

If anybody tries to tell you that the turbine is a better option than Drax power station behind can you point out to them that it would require 25,600 turbines of the same size to match the average power output from Drax - and even then there would be no power when there was no wind.

And of course the farm turbine will get about £165,000 per year subsidy, even if the farmer uses all the power himself.

For 25,600 turbines the subsidy would be just over £4BN per year. The wind might be free, but electricity produced by turbines costs twice as much as the current average price for electricity from other sources.

Howard Ferguson

Stop Woodlane Windfarm

.....

**News now of a wind-turbine in the local area. Land at Panteg, Cellan, Lampeter, Carmarthenshire SA48 8HN, owned by Geoffrey Spawnton. What's rather cozily described as a small domestic appliance. I've seen some of these small appliances, they are hideous and they do kill.**

**Application No. is: E/29773**

.....

**In a report several months ago now we had a story concerning a thirty year amnesty to enable wind farms to kill Eagles without fear of prosecution. And at last we have one bird authority that's acting in a responding in a manner that's fit for purpose. Sadly, later it says 'the American Bird Conservancy is not against wind energy,' but I guess we can't expect miracles.**

From: save.the.eagles2@gmail.com  
To: napaw@yahooogroups.com  
Sent: Wed, 6 Aug 2014 00:34:30 +0200  
Subject: American Bird Conservancy Announces

One of the nation's leading bird conservation groups plans to sue the Obama administration over a federal regulation that allows wind energy companies to obtain 30-year permits to kill eagles without prosecution by the government.

The American Bird Conservancy on Wednesday announced its intent to file the lawsuit, arguing the Department of the Interior violated federal laws when it promulgated the regulation it says sanctions the killing of bald and golden eagles.

"The rule lacks a firm foundation in scientific justification and was generated without the benefit of a full assessment of its impacts on eagle populations," said Michael Hutchins, National Coordinator of ABC's Bird Smart Wind Energy Campaign.

The Obama administration announced in December it would allow companies to seek authorization to kill and harm bald and golden eagles for up to 30 years without penalty in a bid to balance the environmental trade-offs of green energy.

The Interior Department rule provides legal protection for the lifespan of wind farms and other projects if companies obtain permits and make efforts to avoid killing protected birds.

Companies must take additional measures if they kill or injure more eagles than they had estimated they would, or if new information suggests that eagle populations are being affected.

In its notice of intent to sue the government, the American Bird Conservancy argues that the rule "undermines the nation's longstanding commitment to conservation of eagles—unique animals that are 'ubiquitous in U.S. Culture.'" The group says the regulation violates the National Environmental Policy Act, the Endangered Species Act, and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.

"ABC will pursue legal action to address these violations and ensure that eagles, and the millions of Americans who enjoy them, obtain the legal protections to which they are entitled under U.S. law," the organization's notice read. Matthew Stuber, an eagle permit coordinator with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, told NPR the take permits are an important management tool.

"A permit allows an activity to happen that needs to happen. And in doing so, it gets the best possible thing for the eagles. We're actually able to get conservation, and hopefully in the long run, prevent that nest from begin disturbed at all by that activity." Stuber said.

Stuber said Fish and Wildlife originally wanted to grant five-year permit but the wind industry pushed for an extended period for more continuity. He said the 30-year permit requires regulators to anticipate problems ahead of time.

“Before we issue a permit, since it’s a lot longer time frame, we need to try to foresee more possible situations and have a better, what we call, adaptive management plan as a part of these permits. That way, when we come in for the five-year check-in, we have things on paper of what we’ll do to respond to certain situations,” he added. Wind farms are clusters of turbines as tall as 30-story buildings, with spinning rotors as wide as a passenger jet’s wingspan. Though the blades appear to move slowly, they can reach speeds of up to 170 mph at the tips, creating tornado-like vortexes.

According to federal biologists, wind farms in 10 states have killed at least 85 eagles since 1997, with most deaths occurring between 2008 and 2012, as the industry was greatly expanding. Most deaths — 79 — were golden eagles that struck wind turbines.

One of the eagles counted in the study was electrocuted by a power line. Wind farms in two states, California and Wyoming, were responsible for 58 deaths, followed by facilities in Oregon, New Mexico, Colorado, Washington, Utah, Texas, Maryland and Iowa.

Hutchins told NPR that the **American Bird Conservancy is not against wind energy**, but simply wants wind farms to be ordered not disturb or kill eagles.

“It’s just a really big price to pay. I don’t think that we can see these resources as collateral damage to try to win the fight on climate change,” Hutchins said.

The Associated Press & Fox News contributed to this report.

<http://www.abcbirds.org/newsandreports/releases/140430.html>

**The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this name just keeps on cropping as and where there's wildlife killing doesn't it.**

.....

**Next report we'll be hearing again from the Reverend. In the meantime I'll leave you with some more stuff I've been uncovering.**



## **Monsanto is the Devil!**

**'Monsanto is the Devil,' paste it onto Bing and see what comes up.**

.....

**Hillary Clinton once worked as a lawyer for Monsanto, no coincidence then that most of the US. GMO. laws were railroaded through during Bill Clinton's reign of terror.**



[http://petitions.moveon.org/sign/hillary-clinton-its-time?source=c.url&r\\_by=5382364](http://petitions.moveon.org/sign/hillary-clinton-its-time?source=c.url&r_by=5382364)



**US. Right to Farm Laws: A law in place that makes it virtually impossible to oppose animal cruelty, farm pollution or to hold companies like Monsanto to account (see links below).**

<http://nationalaglawcenter.org/state-compilations/right-to-farm/>

[http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php/Right\\_to\\_Farm\\_Laws](http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php/Right_to_Farm_Laws)

**Please write to these contacts and let them know what you think.**

[hmpittm@uark.edu](mailto:hmpittm@uark.edu); [erumley@uark.edu](mailto:erumley@uark.edu); [rrumley@uark.edu](mailto:rrumley@uark.edu); [craysor@uark.edu](mailto:craysor@uark.edu); [cbassham@uark.edu](mailto:cbassham@uark.edu);

---

From: messenger@truthout.org  
To: cates1980@hotmail.co.uk  
Date: Fri, 8 Aug 2014 14:28:53 -0400  
Subject: One Little Piggy Had Birth Defects: Is Monsanto's Roundup to Blame?

## One Little Piggy Had Birth Defects: Is Monsanto's Roundup to Blame?

Friday, 08 August 2014 10:35 By Jeff Ritterman, M.D., Truthout | Op-Ed



A pig farm in Denmark. A renewed charge against Monsanto's Roundup pesticide is being led by a Danish pig farmer who realized the chemical's effects on his livestock.

(Photo: Jan Ingemansen / Flickr)

One little piglet was born with only one large eye. A second piglet was missing an ear. A third piglet had a large hole in its skull. A fourth piglet had a monstrously huge "elephant tongue." A female piglet was born with testes. Still others had malformed limbs, spines, skulls and gastrointestinal tracts.

The pigs in question belonged to a Danish pig farmer. For three years he had fed his pigs ordinary, non-genetically modified soy. When he ran out, he bought the cheaper genetically modified (GM) soy pig feed. His herdsman, unaware of the feed switch, immediately noticed that the pigs lost their appetite and that the piglets developed diarrhea. Even worse was the sudden and shocking increase in birth defects. The farmer, eager to understand the cause, had 38 of the deformed pigs euthanized and tested for glyphosate, the herbicide used on the GM soy. The results were published in the April 2014 issue of the *Journal of Environmental and Analytic Toxicology*. The samples of lung, liver, kidney, brain, gut wall, heart and muscle all tested positive.

Glyphosate is the world's most frequently used herbicide. First marketed by Monsanto in the 1970s under the trade-name "Roundup," it is used extensively wherever GM crops are grown. Monsanto has touted Roundup's safety, claiming that, since it attacks an enzyme system not present in animals, it is harmless to people and to pets. We are beginning to find out that this is simply not true. As scientists start to investigate the effects of glyphosate residues in humans and animals, a horrifying story is beginning to emerge. It begins with what we have learned about glyphosate's propensity to cause birth defects.

## **Glyphosate and Birth Defects**

Glyphosate is a known teratogen, meaning "monster-maker." Studies conducted on rats and rabbits since the 1980s have shown an astonishing spectrum of birth defects associated with glyphosate, including absent kidneys, missing lobes of the lungs, enlarged hearts, ventricular septal defects (holes in the heart), extra ribs, and deformed and absent bones of the skull, spine, ribs, sternum and limbs.

But if birth defects in rats and rabbits have not been enough to get our attention, we are now seeing high rates of spontaneous abortion and birth defects in human infants born in areas where glyphosate is being sprayed. This is particularly true in Argentina, Paraguay and other parts of Latin America where GM acreage has increased significantly. A group of researchers in Argentina noted alarmingly high rates of miscarriages and birth defects in families living within meters of glyphosate spraying. They decided to conduct a study with animals in the laboratory.

The scientists exposed frog and chicken embryos to glyphosate. The herbicide caused birth defects in the embryos similar to those seen in human infants. They were able to demonstrate that glyphosate attacks the Vitamin A (retinoic acid) signaling pathway, which is crucial for normal fetal development in vertebrates. Since the Vitamin A pathway is found in all vertebrates, it is likely that the piglet birth defects, too, can be explained by a glyphosate induced disturbance of this pathway during embryonic development.

## **Glyphosate's Role in Chronic Diseases**

The Vitamin A pathway is part of a much larger enzyme system known as Cytochrome P450. This enzyme system is present in most tissues of our bodies. It plays critical roles in estrogen and testosterone synthesis and metabolism, as well as in cholesterol synthesis, and in Vitamin D metabolism. Cytochrome P450 enzymes also function to inactivate potentially toxic compounds. Most drugs are metabolized by this enzyme system. It has now been demonstrated that glyphosate interferes with several of the enzymes in this vital system.

One of the enzymes that glyphosate inhibits is called "aromatase." It converts testosterone to estrogen. Glyphosate's interference with this particular enzyme may explain its association with impaired fertility.

In addition, glyphosate is toxic to many of our gut bacteria. These bacteria are vital to human health. Gut bacteria aid digestion, synthesize vitamins, detoxify foreign chemical substances, aid immunity and help the gastrointestinal tract to maintain normal permeability. When glyphosate kills off certain of our helpful gut bacteria, other bacteria grow, and those other bacteria may be harmful. The loss of the protective bacteria may make us vulnerable to leaky gut syndrome, ulcerative colitis and other gastrointestinal maladies.

But that's not all. The glyphosate induced change in the bacterial flora can also lead to the overproduction of ammonia, and to a deficiency in essential amino acids and in necessary metals, like zinc and sulfur. Elevated ammonia levels are seen in children with autism. Sulfur deficiency has been associated not only with autism, but with Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis as well. Zinc deficiency, too, has been associated with autism and Alzheimer's disease, and also with attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder.

The depletion of amino acids by glyphosate can result in abnormally low levels of the neurotransmitters serotonin and dopamine. Serotonin, as we know, regulates mood, appetite and sleep. Serotonin depletion may lead to depression, insomnia and disorders of appetite, like obesity and anorexia. Dopamine depletion in a key brain area is the hallmark of Parkinson's disease.

A group of researchers from the University of Leipzig published a study in 2014 investigating the prevalence of glyphosate residues in humans and animals. They sampled urine and tissue from cows, hares and rabbits, and tested urine from humans. An interesting finding, very much in line with the association of glyphosate with a myriad of illnesses, was that chronically ill humans have significantly higher glyphosate residues in their urine when compared to healthy people.

## **It's Everywhere**

Despite these ominous warnings, glyphosate use continues to increase. Since 1996, when GM crops were first commercially introduced, the amount of land devoted to these crops has multiplied a hundred-fold. As more and more acreage is planted with GM crops, glyphosate use increases. Ninety percent of GM crops worldwide are engineered to be glyphosate resistant. These crops are designed to be grown with repeated and heavy spraying of glyphosate.

In addition, the ever-increasing problem of glyphosate resistant weeds has encouraged farmers to intensify glyphosate use. As a result, glyphosate now appears in groundwater, rain and air. It has been found in the urine and organs of dairy cows and rabbits. It has been found in the urine of farmers and their family members. It is in animal and human food derived from GM soy, corn and alfalfa. It is in the meat of the animals that consume these foods as well. Glyphosate residues are not removed by washing. Cooking does not break down the glyphosate. The herbicide residue can remain in food for more than a year, even if the food is processed, dried or frozen.

## From Science to Public Policy



**Photos of malformed Danish piglets. A: spinal deformation, B: ear is not formed, C: cranial deformation, D: cranium hole in head, E: piglets born alive having short legs and one eye not developed, F: one large eye, an elephant trunk with bone in it, G: elephant tongue, H: female piglet with testes, I: fore gut and hind gut of the piglet with swollen belly are not connected, J: malformed piglet with swollen belly. (Photos courtesy of Professor Monika Krueger) When Ib Borup Pedersen, the Danish pig farmer, found out that his deformed and sick pigs were most likely suffering from glyphosate toxicity, he immediately called for the herbicide to be banned. He had seen up close the grotesque abnormalities that the herbicide had likely caused. The scientists who examined Pedersen's piglets warned:**

The presence of glyphosate residues in both humans and animals could haul the entire population towards numerous health hazards. Studying the impact of glyphosate residues on health is warranted and the global regulations for the use of glyphosate may have to be re-evaluated.

It seems that it is indeed high time to examine our public policies around the use of this potentially deadly chemical. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is due to re-evaluate glyphosate in late 2014 and to make a final determination on its status in 2015. The science is clear. Glyphosate produces birth defects in vertebrates, including in humans. Glyphosate may be a cause of, or a trigger to, a dizzying array of chronic health problems.

Let's join Danish pig farmer Ib Borup Pedersen and call for an immediate ban of glyphosate!

The author thanks Vivien Feyer for editorial assistance.

Copyright, Truthout. May not be reprinted without permission.

**Concluding: We print any letters here from all sides of both arguments. So long as it's relevant to subject matters, and provided it's not obscene, we will print it. If you disagree with anything that's said, please write in. This is a public arena so please feel free to have your say.**