Here are some more articles and replies. In order to simplify, our comments are written in Times New Roman and in block while the letters and articles are in Arial.

In the Winter Watch programme, BBC 2 UK., shown the other week, we viewed the huge flocks of Knot inhabiting the tidal mudflats of the UK. Like the large numbers of Pink-footed Geese we saw in Autumn Watch last year, these also breed in Greenland, and like them they also have a reasonably wind-farm safe passage getting here, even though they're still in danger all the time throughout they're here of course. The RSPB. and others are always keen for us to see these vast numbers that are still present in some parts of Britain as it shows just what a great job we are doing in conserving them.

Please see the map below and you will notice the absence of wind-farms from where these two species come, ie. from Greenland.



The red knot (Calidris canutus) is a medium sized shorebird which breeds in tundra and the Arctic Cordillera in the far north of Canada, Europe, and Russia.

North American breeders migrate to coastal areas in Europe and South America, while the Eurasian populations winter in Africa, Papua New Guinea, Australia, and New Zealand. This species forms enormous flocks when not breeding.

But what about those flocks of millions of Starlings that are flying over from Russia and passing through those veritable forests of them as they travel through Scandinavia and Europe. Just why are they so unaffected? Well, let's take a look at the situation of what's happening there shall we. Those images in the top section below are typical of what's out there for anyone to download on the Net. In the second section we came across this footage of a flock of Starling's taken over Aberystwyth Pier in March 2011, while those in the third section which were also taken in Aberystwyth this winter were taken by us; please spot the various differences!

.....





Starling flocks at unknown times and locations.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CSNHaatMC4w

This flock in Aberystwyth, taken by eddybabes85 in 2011, shows I think a slightly lower density than the aboves.

.....







While finally, in Aberystwyth 2014-15, taken by ourselves four years later still.

It's like watching a disappearing pack of cards in a conjuring trick and it's only the merest tip what's more. Fieldfares and Redwings are both considerably down on what they once were and so too are all of those birds migrating from the south in the spring, and you need only take another look at the wind-farm map to see why that might be. These images don't actually prove a thing on their own of course, but as I've always maintained ever since embarking on this campaign, please do not believe me.

But whatever you do don't believe them either, believe nothing you see on the screen, but go out there and look for yourselves and believe only what you actually see with your own eyes out there in the flesh. There's a conspiracy of silence, the authorities and the media are keen for you to see lot's of birds in order for them to show you just what a splendid job modern-day conservation is doing. Programmes are often manipulated with old footage like the top images in order to boost the public's perception of how many birds there are. Like the stuff you are looking at here it could be ten or twenty years old.

In the meantime I will leave you with a piece I wrote some time ago now. It's a creepy old line but it will serve as a ghostly reminder every time you're out there in the countryside of today.

GO FOR THAT WALK IN THE WIDER COUNTRYSIDE AND YOU WILL FIND EERILY SILENT TREES AND EMPTY SKIES:

Do please get out there. Go to the forestry areas or to the lakes, the marshes and the reed-beds or the high moors, or to wherever else you might want to go. There are still birds around, we saw a lovely fieldful of Lapwings and Golden Plovers on the way towards seeing these Starlings, but they are an increasingly rare sight and they're mainly only around as winter visitors in any case.

And now we read this:

'Eat roadkill' says new face of the RSPB.

Miranda Krestovnikoff, the new president of the RSPB, is urging the public to follow her example by eating roadkill.

She was unveiled as the new face of the RSPB this weekend.

But its more than one million members might be surprised to learn that Miranda Krestovnikoff, the BBC broadcaster, is championing the eating of some of Britain's wildlife — more precisely, roadkill.

The presenter has told how she wants more people to source their meat not from a local supermarket or specialist butchers, but rather, from the roadside.

She spoke after hosting a dinner party for friends featuring rat — fried and served with a garlic and soy sauce dip — from the B3347 near Sopley in the New Forest; fox, sautéd in garlic, from the Ferndown bypass, near Wimborne, Dorset; and badger chasseur, served with tomato sauce and croutons, picked up from the A354 near Salisbury.

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/motoring/news/10375201/Eat-roadkill-says-new-face-of-the-RSPB.html

Perhaps she should've said, let them eat cake. Nothing at all wrong with eating roadkill of course so long as it's fresh but it's surely time to end flippant and meaningless comments like this and to get on with the serious business of saving birds; something they have provenly not done for well over four long decades.

From: info@harringtonspetfood.com To: cates1980@hotmail.co.uk Date: Mon, 19 Jan 2015 16:31:58 +0000

Subject: RE: free from artificial colours and flavours

Dear Robert

Thank you for your enquiry. There are two kinds of antioxidants in our food, the first is to help the immune system by "mopping up" free radicals. This comes from citrus extract and vitamins A, C & E. The other type of antioxidant is used to preserve the stability of the food. We add mixed tocopherols, which is a natural preservative and a source of vitamin E and also rosemary extract. Other antioxidants such as BHT are routinely used in the animal products that are available as ingredients to the pet food industry. The amounts of these antioxidants diminish during food processing and are therefore only present in the food in trace amounts.

Kind regards, Helen Fothergill, Customer Services Manager, Harringtons

On seeing their TV. advert talking about the 'natural ingredients,' as part of our Additive-Free Pet-Food Campaign, we decided to write to them. I guess the question is, does this company use any of these other antioxidants, it certainly doesn't deny and why would it even mention them if it didn't. And I've never heard of these BHTs. diminishing during the cooking process either.

Just talking about natural ingredients on an advert really doesn't do it. Every food item you could possibly imagine on the shop-shelf has them but it's whether additives are contained within the mix which is more the question. Always question the words 'free of artificial colours and flavourings' because by not mentioning the antioxidants and preservatives they may also contain they're not giving you the full story.

If this product is not additive-free, and obviously we don't oppose the natural ones such as Vit. C. or tocopherols etc., it's simply not got a place in our list of additive-frees. And it does need to be additive-free, and not 'diminished in the process' otherwise there's no point in us putting this information out there.

From: cynthia.lummis@mail.house.gov; To: cates1980@hotmail.co.uk Sent: Fri, 23 Jan 2015 16:32:42 -0500 Subject: Time to Shrink the Federal Workforce

Time to Shrink the Federal WorkforceU.S. Congressman Cynthia Lummis.

Dear Friends,

This week I joined Rep. Mick Mulvaney of South Carolina in introducing the Federal Workforce Reduction Through Attrition Act.

This bill is designed to cut the federal workforce by 10% by limiting new hires to one new employee for every three that retire or leave service and ensures that the government isn't simply backfilled with contractors. There are limited exceptions to the legislation for a state of war, or national emergencies, but otherwise if the limits are not followed this bill would institute a hiring freeze. It was previously estimated that this bill will save \$35 billion over five years.

We see businesses and local governments all across America using this attrition method to cut back on their employees without having to force anyone out of a job. With a national debt now over \$18 trillion I think it is high time that the federal government did the same and cutback to a workforce the American people can actually afford.

Here we read Congressman Cynthia Lummis' opening line 'Dear Friends,' (see last report). I can assure Ms. Lummis we are no friend of those who advocate the wholesale slaughter of Wolves.



Meanwhile demonstrators protesting against Idaho's wolf policy and the Wolf Control Board.

The names of members of a wolf regulation panel in charge of regulating wolf populations and tracking predation have been released.

Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter announced July 7 that the Wolf Depredation Control Board's members include co-chairs Idaho Department of Fish and Game Director Virgil Moore and Department of Agriculture Celia Gould. The board will also include former Idaho Cattle Association president and rancher Richard Savage, representing the livestock industry; Leadership Idaho Agriculture-member Carl Rey of Meridian representing the general public; and former Idaho Fish and Game Commission member Tony McDermott representing sportsmen.

The board was created at Otter's request by the Idaho Legislature with \$400,000 from the general fund to manage wolves when they come into conflict with livestock and wildlife populations. The move was criticized by local and national groups, who dubbed the task force a "wolf-kill panel."

According to a press release, the board will not perform its duties at the expense of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game's wolf management responsibilities, which include a listing of wolves as a big-game species for hunting and trapping.

http://canislupus101.blogspot.co.uk/2014/07/otter-names-members-of-idaho-wolf.html

And as ever we always include both sides of the arguments.

http://www.idahoconservation.org/files/icl-comments-on-wolf-management-in-wilderness

http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/public/hunt/?getPage=120

And, not content with wolf killing they also support GMOs.

http://www.sugarproducer.com/2014/11/idaho-cattle-association-backs-gmo

Please write to the contacts below. These people have also declared war on the Wolf. Thank you.

Governor@gov.idaho.gov; troubleshooin1@yahoo.com; jrobison@idahoconservation.org; info@agri.idaho.gov; celia.gould@agri.idaho.gov; brian.oakey@agri.idaho.gov; pamela.juker@agri.idaho.gov; chanel.tewalt@agri.idaho.gov; sharon.henning@agri.idaho.gov; info@agri.idaho.gov; info@idahocattle.org;

From: info@earthjustice.org
To: cates1980@hotmail.co.uk

Date: Fri, 16 Jan 2015 11:15:48 -0800 Subject: BREAKING: We're suing to save wolves!

Just a few weeks ago we asked you to tell the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to protect the last remaining wild Mexican gray wolves. And more than 44,000 of you made your voices heard—thank you!

Unfortunately, the agency continues to bow to pressure from ranchers and other wolf foes who are hindering the recovery of this rare wolf—the most endangered mammal on the continent.

Time is of the essence to save these wolves! And today, we're going to court to protect them.

At last count, only 83 wild Mexican gray wolves remained. Read more about our critical case to save them from extinction.



Earlier this week, the Fish and Wildlife Service finalized rules to protect these wolves in their native U.S. habitat. But the rules have some serious flaws, including:

•Expanding opportunities for killing wolves without any safeguards in place to prevent the loss of genetically important individuals.

- •Capping the reintroduced population at 325 wolves, a level that scientists have demonstrated is too low for long-term survival, let alone recovery.
- Barring wolves from essential recovery habitat.

These measures, by themselves and cumulatively, threaten the recovery of the Mexican gray wolf, consigning the species to a perpetual battle for survival.

But with you by our side, we're heading to court to fight back, using the power of the law to compel the agency to do its job and protect these critically endangered wolves!

When tough battles like this need to be won for wolves, organizations such as Defenders of Wildlife and Center for Biological Diversity turn to Earthjustice to do the legal work—and thanks to your support, we're able to represent these groups free of charge.

Thank you for helping us take on these difficult battles. I promise to keep you updated as the fight continues—and I hope you continue to stay involved.

Thank you for all that you do to save wolves,

Heidi McIntosh Managing Attorney Rocky Mountain Office

Please write to the contacts below even if you've already done so. Please emphasise those points highlighted. Thank you.

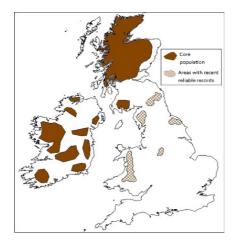
http://travel.aol.co.uk/2015/01/27/polar-bear-shocks-commuters-tube-london-	athan_zorich@fws.gov; melanie_steinkamp@fws.gov; william_ritchie@fws.gov; jennifer_a oug_forsell@fws.gov; angela_matz@fws.gov; ken_goddard@fws.gov; larry_martin@fws.g ori_nordstrom@fws.gov	
underground/?ncid=wsc-uk-travel-headline#!slide=aol_2895271	·	ube-london-

Important! Please watch this video and share it with your friends.

http://action.sumofus.org/a/ttip-video/?akid=9195.755751.XYnlHu&rd=1&sub=fwd&t=1

I was recently sent this link suggesting the culling of Grey Squirrels was helping to bring back these Reds in Formby, near Liverpool.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/30726566



Pine Martin Distribution Map.

However, and I'm not disagreeing Grey's are terrible news, I'm just thinking there's probably a far better and more effective way of controlling them. Please see the map above and you will notice Pine Martens are becoming increasingly more widespread than they've been for a long time. And there's a great deal of evidence that Pine Martens may be helping to achieve this outcome rather than human intervention.

The clustered nature of these new sightings is only where they've actually been spotted of course and doesn't mean they're not found in other places in between. In Formby, where the Reds in the top link were filmed, who's to say there aren't Martens there and it's these that are actually doing the real work in keeping the Greys in check.

Culling is an extremely labour intensive activity as well as extremely on-going as a method of control. I think it would be far better therefore to see if we could boost the numbers of Pine Martens, perhaps by putting boxes out, rather than go to all the trouble of culling. Where there's a native species that'll do the job very nicely for us, why would we do anything else? I speak here very much for the Reds by the way and I'm certainly not saying Greys shouldn't be got rid of.

From: gcu@occupy-monsanto.com To: cates1980@hotmail.co.uk Sent: Wed, 28 Jan 2015 17:15:13 -0500

Subject: This Friday Occupy Monsanto's 2015 Annual Shareholder Meeting



Dear Food Fighters,

It's that time of year when we head over to Monsanto's HQ and stir up some organic action. If you are in or around St. Louis, Missouri this Friday, please join us! The following Call to Action is from the Organic Consumers Association:

On Friday, January 30, a representative of Moms Across America, as a proxy shareholder for Harrington Investments, will attend the Monsanto shareholders' annual meeting. She will present personal testimonials and scientific evidence linking glyphosate, the key active ingredient in Roundup, to a wide range of human health issues.

Outside of the meeting, OCA and others will hold a rally, with presentations from two physicians, about the health hazards linked to Monsanto's Roundup and GMO foods.

Join OCA, Moms Across America, SumOfUs, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, GMO Free Midwest, Occupy Monsanto, and more, at the Monsanto Shareholders' Annual Meeting in St. Louis!

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Shortly after 12 p.m. we'll hear from Zen Honeycutt, founder and director of Moms Across America, and Lisa Lindsley, senior shareholder advocacy director of SumOfUs, before they head into the meeting. And SumOfUs will present Monsanto with its "Most Evil Corporation in the World" award.

Physicians Jeff Ritterman, M.D. and Norm Shealy, M.D. will speak about the health hazards linked to Monsanto's Roundup and GMO foods.

After the speakers, we'll construct a memorial to the victims of Monsanto's Roundup in front of the Monsanto sign. This will be a somber event, everyone attending should wear black. You can also bring a memento (photo, flowers, stuffed animal, candle, etc.) for the memorial.

After the rally, GMO Free Midwest will host a potluck at 6 p.m. at the Community, Arts & Movement Project (CAMP), 3022 Cherokee St., St.Louis, MO 63118. Bring a dish to pass and connect with local leaders and activists.

+ Click here to RSVP with OCA + Click here to RSVP on Facebook

http://salsa3.salsalabs.com/o/50865/p/salsa/event/common/public/?event KEY=80566

This is a bit late sending out but we only received it ourselves last week.

Computer Security Systems

Here's an important notice many may well be unaware of! Some of you may be considering upgrading the security on your computer but before doing so there are issues you may like to consider first. For some time now we have had not inconsiderable numbers of news letters being returned to us stating, 'it has not been delivered because they are judged to be spam.' On writing to the companies who are rejecting them, please see the replies below, they inform us that we ourselves should go around contacting their clients of these failed emails asking them to 'raise a support case' with the company. This is absolutely outrageous. These companies throw our perfectly good emails into the bin and then tell us we have to chase their clients around. You should all be warned that anyone signing up to these security services stands a very good chance of losing not only our emails but others too because, as they put it, their engines won't allow them to be delivered.

From: support@mimecast.com To: cates.1980@aol.co.uk Sent: Thu, 29 Jan 2015 18:52

Subject: Case Update: MIME898962 - 'complaint.'

Update for Case #MIME898962 - "complaint."

Hi Robert,

Good Morning, Thanks for the email.

I am sorry to hear that you are having problem sending emails.

I would like to inform you that Mimecast dont block the emails on its own.

We have robust scan engines which evaluate every message sent to our clients with the real time Database systems, if the email is found suspicious or hit a specific spam score then the system will mark the email as spam or on hold.

If you think your emails to the client are genuine then you need to ask the recipient who use mimecast services to raise a support case with us, and then our support team will investigate the issue for you.

Hope this helps

Thanks Akbar

From: cates.1980@aol.co.uk>
To: support@mimecast.com; cases.601905.22470526_35813387_559496.dd8855f2ef
<cases.601905.22470526_35813387_559496.dd8855f2ef@cases.netsuite.com>
Sent: Fri, 30 Jan 2015 10:45
Subject: Re: Case Update: MIME898962 - 'complaint.'

Dear Mimecast,

Thank you for your reply.

Surely it is yourselves who might like to warn clients that they might well lose a good number of communications before signing up to your service. It is certainly not up to everyone else to have to go chasing around.

We ourselves just send out perfectly good news reports only to have your 'robust scan engines' throw it all in the bin; lucky old bin is what I say. It is your service that's at fault and the problem's therefore yours and not mine.

Thank you.

From: akhan@mimecast.com>
To: ates.1980@aol.co.uk>
Sent: Fri, 30 Jan 2015 11:39

Subject: RE: Case Update: MIME898962 - 'complaint.'

Hi

You need to contact the recipients and ask them to raise case with Mimecast support.

I am afraid I won't be able to help you here anymore.

Thanks

Akbar

Other companies were equally helpful or simply replied with a bog-standard auto response and nothing else. Here's a tiny cross-section of rejected returns.

host smtp.secureserver.net[68.178.213.203] said: 552

5.2.0 IPFR1p0151USJQ001 - IPFR1p0151USJQ001PFSxg This message has been

rejected due to content judged to be spam by the internet community??IB212

http://x.co/crbounce (in reply to end of DATA command)

host eu-smtp-inbound-2.mimecast.com[91.220.42.201]

said: 554 Email rejected due to security policies -

http://kb.mimecast.com/Mimecast_Knowledge_Base/Administration_Console/Monitoring/Mimecast_SMTP_Error_Codes# 554

(in reply to end of DATA command)

host smtp.secureserver.net[68.178.213.37] said: 552

5.2.0 IPGq1p02A1T8e3k01 - IPGq1p02A1T8e3k01PGrRN This message has been

rejected due to content judged to be spam by the internet community??IB212

http://x.co/crbounce (in reply to end of DATA command)

host smtp.secureserver.net[72.167.238.29] said:

552 5.2.0 IPGh1p0171NjTNg01 - IPGh1p0171NjTNg01PGhYp This message has been rejected due to content judged to be spam by the internet community IB212 -

If you feel this is in error, please submit a request using the following page.

https://checkspam.secureserver.net/?sid=IPGh1p0171NjTNg01&mid=IPGh1p0171NjTNg01PGhYp> (in reply to end of DATA command)

host eu-smtp-1.mimecast.com[195.130.217.76]

said: 554 Email rejected due to security policies -

http://kb.mimecast.com/Mimecast_Knowledge_Base/Administration_Console/Monitoring/Mimecast_SMTP_Error_Codes# 554 (in reply to end of DATA command)

host smtp.secureserver.net[72.167.238.29] said:

552 5.2.0 IPFR1p00S1T8e3k01 - IPFR1p00S1T8e3k01PFRD3 This message has been rejected due to content judged to be spam by the internet community IB212 -

If you feel this is in error, please submit a request using the following

https://checkspam.secureserver.net/?sid=IPFR1p00S1T8e3k01&mid=IPFR1p00S1T8e3k01PFRD3>(in reply to end of DATA command)

host smtp.secureserver.net[68.178.213.203] said:

552 5.2.0 IPLQ1p0013E18zk01 - IPLQ1p0013E18zk01PLQRW This message has been rejected due to content judged to be spam by the internet community??IB212

http://x.co/crbounce (in reply to end of DATA command)

Who is this Internet Community in any case? Companies who will quite happily take your money whilst dumping your emails in the bin. We are losing much valued members every month due to this Internet Community. And please remember it is not only our mail you'll not be getting but anything at all their robust scan engines consider spam.

The update is that they've now blocked us from sending them any more emails. They really are very shoddy outfits.

.....

Anyway, here's some more from the Reverend.

From: revbilly@revbilly.com> To: h.pagan.pla@aol.co.uk> Sent: Thu, 8 Jan 2015 17:54

Subject: Good To Be Free After 21 Hours In Solitary

When a great city struggles for its soul, then strange things happen. Sept. 11th, 2001 was surreal. Watching the buildings fall. It is fitting that the effort by citizens to regain our balance, after five militaristic Republican mayoral terms - will be strange, too.

This is how strange. I shouted "Black Lives Matter" a few times in Grand Central Station and police rushed at me like I was a fiend. Before us were the names of the unarmed police-killed citizens, on placards on the floor. Watch a bystander's video.



Later in the downstairs jail, I asked the police why the upset about a little protest. And why disrespect the dead. A thoughtful sergeant posed the question, "Where will it all end? You can't shut down the Grand Central the way you shut down the bridges and highways." There's the problem. They don't see the defense of my right to speak as their work. They won't admit that they will consider the lost lives and their families.

No - they consider me a leader of an opposing cult. They are territorial. They think of the Brooklyn Bridge as a famous symbol that they lost to a rival group, with an international audience watching. They see Grand Central that way. But, of course, we are not a rival religious group. We pay their salary. The police are bound to protect and serve us, and to enforce the laws of the land. as set forth in the United States Constitution. After 20 years of these Republican mayors, New York police never talk of the 1st Amendment as something that is tangible to them.

The police in our city have a notion of their 40,000 officer community that is cult-like, and they are quite unconscious about it. They are grandiose, afraid, disconnected, and easily led by demagogues. And they carry loaded guns. And yet, last night in The Tombs, I was engrossed with their conversations about the insensitivities of a liberal mayor, about their replays of the murders of Michael Brown and Eric Garner. They are surprisingly caring when they don't think anyone is listening.

The cops can be reached and changed. That must happen. It will come from black lives and white lives being unafraid to talk to them in public space. That was always how it was. We have to bravely go to them and change them - and that is a strange transfer, like wrestling with very old culture. Sojourner Truth did it, and Lucy Parsons, and Emma Goldman. They were abused by cops but they teach us how to change them.

When I was sitting in that empty cell for all that time, freezing on that bench, it was my jailer I had to think about. I would shout for some water. Most of the night my jailer was a black man who was as funny as Chris Rock. I would preach back at him and we both laughed a lot. But the conversation that we had that might have changed both us always started with our children.

http://www.revbilly.com/blacklivesmatter_sermon_arrest?
utm_campaign=grand_central&utm_medium=email&utm_source=revbilly

Earthalujah!

Reverend Billy Talen

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