

Fair, Susan P AGRI:EX

From: Parnell, Grant AGRI:EX
Sent: Thursday, June 5, 2014 1:07 PM
To: Bill, Karen F AGRI:EX; Sturko, Derek AGRI:EX
Cc: McLaren, Solveig AGRI:EX; Langton, Heather AGRI:EX
Subject: RE: blueberry cannon

Hi Karen,

- 1/ s.22
- 2/ sorry for the delay on the list of studies, I have added some info below
- 3/ Happy to add the Abbotsford Noise Control Bylaw to the agenda – please also note that Delta has requested approval of a series of amendments to their Noise Control Bylaw (letter sent in April) Perhaps addressing both bylaw requests together would be useful.

The studies and reports on the use of propane cannons and alternative methods of bird control are posted on our website:

http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/resmgmt/sf/farmpp/bird_devices.htm

There have been 3 reports by BCFIRB and one by the Ministry since 1999. In addition, the Ministry co-funded two studies with the Fraser Valley Regional District, one on the efficacy of several bird scare devices and the other on the socio-economic impact of propane cannons. The Ministry has also worked with the agriculture industry on a feasibility study for a starling trapping program. In addition to this information on the website, Ministry staff has worked with inventors to evaluate other tools with promise such as the “Silent Sentinel” and “bird detection” systems to trigger propane cannons only when needed (birds are present). Ministry staff keep in touch with other production areas in the world using propane cannons and equipment suppliers to determine if new tools or methods are worth investigating.

In the province there are four basic types of bird control used by the agriculture industry, although each tool is not used extensively in each production region. They are:

1. Audible and visual bird scare devices
2. Falcons
3. Starling population control (trapping)
4. Netting

Each method has advantages and disadvantages and no single method is the best choice in all cases.

The bird scare devices work best when used as part of an integrated approach to bird management which minimizes bird habituation to a particular device. Farmers indicate that while they are actively using a wide variety of bird deterrence devices and methods, the low cost and ease of operation of propane cannons in conjunction with their perceived effectiveness currently makes them an important tool within any integrated bird management plan.

The Ministry's Wildlife Damage Control guidelines and Minister's Bylaw Standard for propane cannons require that cannons only be used as part of a bird management plan that takes an integrated approach to the issue of bird predation on crops.

Our website does not have a complete listing of the research that staff are familiar with. There are literature searches that have been carried out on this topic that have comprehensive listings of published research although some of these are dated. Staff rely on contacts in other production areas and equipment suppliers to keep up-to-date on the topic.

One additional note, i ran into MLA Plecas at Beef Day and he mentioned that he was aware of a study at UFV regarding 'drones' to address bird depredation of blueberries. This concept is new and potentially another tool (in the future). We do not have any literature on it to date

NR

Page 3 to/à Page 4

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

NR

DMO Deputy Minister's Office

Referral Slip

Wed, Apr 15, 2015 11:11 AM

Action: MIN - Draft Response	Due: 2014/09/12	Log ID: 180620
-------------------------------------	------------------------	-----------------------

J. Beaman

Type: EM-Electronic Mail

Written: 2014/08/24

Office: MO Minister's Office

Received: 2014/08/25

Entered By: JUSSANDH

Interim:

Sign By:

Signed:

Batch:

Closed: 2014/10/22

File No.:

☐ Confidential☐ Frequent Writer☐ Elected Official

Phone:

Fax:

Email: s.22

Addressed to: Minister

Drafter:

Issue: Agriculture - General Issues

MLA:

X-Ref:

Electoral Dist:

ADM OFFICE:

Copied To:

Subject

wants statement on drone demo conducted last Friday.

Referrals

From: MO Minister's Office	Sent: 2014/08/25	Rcvd:	Status: Completed
To: MO Minister's Office	Due: 2014/09/08	Active: 43 days	State:
Action: MIN-Draft Response	Cmpltd: 2014/10/23		

From Notes:: 2014/08/25T12:47 JUSSANDH (MO Minister's Office)
With MO staff for viewing and consideration.

Driedger, Emily AGRI:EX

From: Plecas.MLA, Darryl <Darryl.Plecas.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: Monday, August 25, 2014 3:28 AM
To: Letnick, Norm; Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX
Subject: FW: friday's demonstration

Hi Norm. As you can see by the email below, I have an email from someone who is asking if you might provide a statement on our drone demo last Friday. I am thinking that a statement would be helpful, but will obviously defer to you. Thanks, Darryl.

From: s.22
Sent: August 24, 2014 1:43 PM
To: Plecas.MLA, Darryl
Subject: friday's demonstration

Hello MLA. Plecas, than you so much for organizing the alternate predation use demo on Friday, would it be possible for you to obtain a statement from the Minister regarding his views of Friday's demonstration and possible future action to allay the use of cannons in the future for a possible column in the local newspapers.

Regards,
s.22

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE			
Referral #	180620		
Refer to:			
Received:	AUG 25 2014		
MIN Response <input type="checkbox"/>	Reply Direct <input type="checkbox"/>	InfoFile <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
DM Response <input type="checkbox"/>	Briefing Note <input type="checkbox"/>	Speaking Notes <input type="checkbox"/>	
Other _____			