



His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales

Via email: enquiries@sandringhamestate.co.uk

16 February 2021

Your Royal Highness,

I am writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and our more than 1.2 million members and supporters regarding the use of snares on Sandringham Estate following reports that a local dog, Nell, suffered for hours – and could have been killed – after becoming entangled in a cruel snare trap on the estate last month. Although the dog survived her ordeal, the use of these traps continues to pose a threat to all animals, and we urge you to remove them from the estate immediately.

Snares consist of a wire noose which tightens when the trapped animal struggles. They are unnecessary, dangerous, and cruel. In their desperate attempts to escape, animals may be strangled or suffer horrible and sometimes life-threatening injuries, which could become infected. So extreme is their distress that animals have been known to chew their limbs off, desperate for a chance at freedom.

Snares are also indiscriminate, maiming any animal unfortunate enough to go near them – as Nell's case demonstrates. A snare caught and killed a little owl, a protected species in the UK, just two months ago. In fact, according to a UK government study, 75% of animals killed in snares are not the intended target.

The British public largely oppose the use of snares, and 77% of Britons want them to be banned, according to research conducted by Ipsos Mori. By banning these contraptions on Sandringham Estate, you would not only prevent further deaths and instances of suffering but also set a positive example of peaceful coexistence with wildlife and other animals.

We hope to hear from you soon that these unnecessary, cruel, and dangerous devices will be removed from Sandringham Estate permanently.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Werner
Senior Campaigns Manager

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