



Protect Our Wild Animals Ltd

www.powa.org.uk



Press Release

Immediate release

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Make the Hunting Act 'Fit for Purpose'

The wildlife campaigning group **POWA - Protect Our Wild Animals**, has stepped up their campaign to '**Build on the Ban - Strengthen the Act**' in support of MP John McDonnell's Early Day Motion calling for a reckless behaviour clause to be added to the Hunting Act 2004.

POWA are delighted that **65 MP's** have shown their support for the *Motion overall in just six weeks. EDM 122 will stay in place until next October so POWA are confident that these MP's will be joined by many more when Parliament resumes from the Xmas break on 12th January 2008.

POWA have produced a pack detailing their proposals for a small number of straightforward amendments to the Hunting Act 2004 in support of MP John McDonnell's Early Day Motion and this pack is being sent to MP's and other interested parties for their consideration. The pack can also be viewed online at www.powa.org.uk .

Penny Little, spokesperson for Protect Our Wild Animals said "There are two ways of looking at the situation surrounding the hunts. One is that trail hunting is a complete fiction used as a cover for illegal foxhunting, with the alleged similarities to foxhunting due to the fact that it is foxhunting. Hunt monitors are certain this is the case.

"The other option is to see that the practices of "trail" hunting as described by the hunters themselves are so utterly reckless that they are virtually certain to result in "accidents", and lots of them.

"Either way, it is time for MPs to revisit the Hunting Act, and make that small adjustment that would make the law fit for its purpose, because at present the proscribed quarry species continue to be hunted exactly as before the ban."

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Notes to Editor:

Stills attached

Copies of the full 'Hunting Anarchy' DVD are also available from POWA on request – enquiries@powa.org.uk

*The Motion, first tabled on 6th November 2008 as EDM 2438, spanned the start of a new Parliamentary session forcing it to be resubmitted as EDM 122 on 4th December 2008.

Wording of EDM 2438/EDM 122: 'That this House notes that prior to Parliament's decision to outlaw the hunting of wild animals with dogs, a reported 50,000 hunt members and supporters signed a declaration that they would disobey such a law; further notes that there is mounting evidence that hunts are avoiding the law and by various devices are continuing the barbaric practice of hunting foxes down to a bloody kill and claiming that such kills are accidental; and therefore calls on the Government to act to prevent this abuse of the spirit of the anti-hunting legislation by means of an amendment to the Hunting Act to include a reckless behaviour clause.'