

Received 2/4/08

Dear Sirs,

### **The Scottish Climate Change Bill**

What an important piece of legislation this is both for the human race and for our wildlife.

I don't wish to reiterate all the known arguments but I should like to tell you about my own first hand experience of the consequences of our changing climate.

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2006 we were at Tarbat Ness in Easter Ross, it's a good place to watch birds. On that day a small flock of Kittiwakes were present, approximately 165 individuals including only 10 juveniles. Many of the birds, both adult and young had Pipefish hanging out of their mouths, obviously unable to swallow them and also unable to dislodge them. Very distressing to witness. When they were disturbed by photographers they flew away with the Pipefish sticking out as they had no choice. But what were their chances of survival? There were Herring Gulls nearby in the same predicament.

Seabird colonies have suffered some dreadful breeding seasons in the past few years, due mainly to the collapse of food stocks (mainly Sandeels). And now due to the seas around our coasts warming a superabundance of Pipefish!!

These changes in climate have come upon us at an alarming rate and unless positive action is taken by Governments the situation can only deteriorate. Whatever the action however it must protect and enhance our wildlife and environment and not cause further damage.

I write as an individual on this matter and have no objection to my opinion being made public along with my name, but I would want my address to remain private.

Sincerely,

Margaret E Currie

Margaret Currie.

cc. John Farquhar Munro MSP.