

## News from the Scottish Labour Party in the Highlands and Islands

### Peter Peacock MSP

2 July 2008

#### Scottish Golden Eagle Numbers

Following on the release of an SNH report this week, expressing concern over the declining population of golden eagles, Peter Peacock, Labour Regional MSP for the Highlands and Islands has laid a number of parliamentary questions with the Scottish Government.

Mr Peacock said, "The Golden Eagle is arguably our finest native raptor and is an impressive and iconic bird.

"The Scottish population of some 440 breeding pairs is significant in European terms and every effort should be made to safeguard the golden eagles for future generations to enjoy.

"It is totally unacceptable that the most severe limitation on their numbers is illegal persecution, particularly through poisoning.

"I am aware that the Environment Minister has commented on the findings of the report but the parliamentary questions I have lodged are designed to discover what positive action the Scottish Government plans to take to safeguard the future of this magnificent bird.

"Scotland has the right habitat for golden eagles and they should be thriving and their numbers increasing year on year.

"I will continue to press the Scottish Government on the issue of illegal poisoning of birds and other wildlife; a type of crime which increasingly is of public concern."

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Scottish Natural heritage news release :

<http://www.snh.org.uk/press/detail.asp?id=1909>

web links :

Peter Peacock : [www.peterpeacock.org.uk](http://www.peterpeacock.org.uk)

Rhoda Grant : [www.rhodagrants.org.uk](http://www.rhodagrants.org.uk)

David Stewart : [www.davidstewart.org.uk](http://www.davidstewart.org.uk)

Highlands and Islands Labour : [www.handilabour.org.uk](http://www.handilabour.org.uk)