



[www.animalaid.org.uk](http://www.animalaid.org.uk)



**Grouse shooting:**  
Unnatural. Uncontrolled. Unkind.



Each year, around half a million grouse are shot for 'sport'. The season runs from 12 August – known as the 'Glorious Twelfth' – until 10 December, during which time those who are eager to impress and do some power networking will each pay as much as £3,000 for a day's shooting. Outrageously, while grouse shoot operators tend to be extremely wealthy, they are able to claim financial subsidies, which are funded by the taxpayer.

.....

### **Cruel to animals**

In addition to the shooting of the grouse – many of whom are wounded and face a slow, agonising death – animals said to present a threat to the grouse are also targeted. They include foxes, stoats and other birds. Guns, traps and snares (in which animals can languish in unimaginable pain) are the gamekeepers' weapons of choice. Even rare, legally-protected birds are victimised and incidents of illegal raptor persecution continue to occur.



A victim caught in a trap

The uplands should be a flourishing landscape, populated with insects, birds and other animals. But all are expendable when it comes to ensuring that there are large numbers of grouse to be shot.

### **Harming the environment**



Burning peat moorlands

Many people think of moors as being wild, natural landscapes. In fact, the heather-rich terrain is the result of extreme manipulation. Gamekeepers want an abundance of heather because the grouse make use of it for food and shelter. To achieve the necessary dry growing conditions, the peat moorlands are burned and even sometimes drained as well. But these interventions damage delicate eco-systems and degrade the carbon-rich peat, releasing carbon dioxide, which in turn contributes to climate change.

.....

**Upland shoots use grouse as feathered targets. They also kill wildlife and harm the environment.**

Visit [www.animalaid.org.uk/go/grouse](http://www.animalaid.org.uk/go/grouse) for more information and ways to help our campaign against grouse shooting.

Animal Aid, The Old Chapel, Bradford Street, Tonbridge, TN9 1AW. Tel: 01732 364546.

Incorporated under the name of Animal Abuse Injustice & Defence Society, a company limited by guarantee. Registered in the UK no.1787309

