## FINDHORN NATURE RESERVE SHOOTING AGREEMENT (Not implemented for 2016/17 Season) The map



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Point A is OS Grid Ref. NJ 03275 63512) Point B is OS Grid Ref. NJ 05525 62352) Point C is OS Grid Ref. NJ 05575 61650)

### Mondays and Tuesdays:

No shooting at any time North and East of Line 2, which runs from Point A to Point C on attached map. This includes no shooting from/on all places North & East of Line 2 as if continued overland.

### Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday:

No shooting at any time North and East of Line 1 which runs from Point A to Point B on the attached map. This includes that land on the North side of the caravan park burn. (That is, all places North & East of Line 1 as if continued overland.)

#### Monday to Saturday

No Shooting after 10am **Sunday** No shooting at anytime

# The Wildfowling Agreement for FBLNR for 2017/2018

During 2016/2017 I held a range of meetings with Findhorn Bay wildfowlers, including BASC, other interests, including Friends of Findhorn Bay, members of Findhorn Bay LNR Management Committee (two of the quarterly meetings which also included public sessions), Moray Council officials and the Forres police inspector. In the end, a general agreement was reached after prolonged and sometimes difficult debates, which forms the basis of a voluntary permit system for the coming season. The Findhorn Bay LNR management committee supports the approach as fair but both the wildfowlers and Friends of Findhorn Bay are unhappy about certain aspects and regard the proposals as a trial for the forthcoming wildfowling season. All are agreed that in the end there should be Byelaws for Findhorn Bay but there are disagreements about the content. It seems necessary to keep the process rolling by attempting to use a voluntary system in 2017/2018.

In consequence, a voluntary permit system will be started in 2017/18. This will be overseen by a 5 person wildfowling sub-committee comprising the following members of the FBLNR management committee; two wildfowlers, one representing public interests, one bird conservation and the Chairman, with secretary assistance (which has already held its first meeting).

**1. Local wildfowlers** resident in Moray & Nairn, within 20 miles of Forres will receive a season permit on application – in the first season it will be free. They will be able to wildfowl on all days except Sundays and Mondays, and have exclusive wildfowling on Saturdays.

**2. Visitor wildfowlers** can apply for day permits, up to a maximum of 5 visiting wildfowlers per day, for Tuesday, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays only – this will also be free in the first year.

**3. Kinloss Bay**, delineated from the Mosset Burn eastwards, would be open for goose shooting **only** during the months of September, October and November. There would be no shooting there in December, January and February.

**4. Shooting times** are restricted to one hour before sunrise to 10am and 2 hours before sunset to one hour after sunset. Outside these hours there will be no shooting. The Findhorn Bay LNR will host a wildfowling page with all relevant information for wildfowling in the Bay. It will outline a wildfowling good practice guide for Findhorn Bay, relevant maps and advice on good relations with local residents . Drop down menus will allow locals and visitors to apply for permits which will be free in the first year. Permits will be issued by email and can be

used on mobile phones and as a printed version. Individual wildfowlers' use of the LNR, including their bag returns, may form the basis of permit renewals in subsequent years. The FBLNR website will also contain advice for the local people and visitors to avoid conflict with wildfowling.

It has been a long and difficult road to get to this point. I am most grateful to all for engaging constructively in the formulation of a resolution and encourage everyone to support and test the voluntary scheme. It will inform the future byelaws

I submit this recommendation as an attempt to bring peace to a fraught situation and seek Moray Council's approval to continue with the voluntary scheme.

Roy Dennis, Chairman Findhorn Bay LNR Management Committee July 2017