## Smoked out? Afraid to speak out? You're not alone.

Driven grouse shooting is <u>not</u> farming

Burning moorland is <u>not</u> conservation

It's mass destruction of climate, nature and public health.

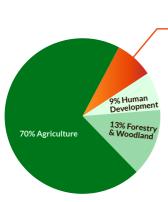
Toxic smoke pours into the valleys engulfing our homes, villages and schools. You can smell it. You can taste it. We are forced to inhale particulate matter from smoke, known to harm our health.

# ACT NOW! Call on Government to put the fires out

Respond to the consultation by <u>25th May</u> at Moorlands4climate-nature.org.uk

Don't live in fear - your response can be confidential

# How much land is being destroyed?



UK land use by area

7%

of UK land is manmade grouse moors providing zero public benefit, only destruction and pollution An area the size of Wales is set ablaze every 20 years

#### Why is moorland burned?

Burning stimulates new heather shoots to support the surplus grouse numbers required for driven grouse shooting to remain viable.

It doesn't stop with fire – manmade ditches drain the moors to promote conditions for heather growth.

#### Who gains?



- Around 15,000 people travel from all over the world to pay up to £30,000 a day to shoot the birds
- **£** Fewer than 300 landowners profit

#### Who loses?



- **×** Climate
- × Nature
- **×** Public health
- × All of us

### What are the impacts?

#### Climate change

- UK peatlands store more carbon than the combined forests of Britain, France and Germany
- 80% of our peatlands are damaged, mainly due to grouse moor management
- $\bullet$  CO $_{\!\scriptscriptstyle 2}$  from damaged peatlands makes up around 5% of the UK's greenhouse gas emissions
- Countless tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> are released every year as a direct result of the burning

#### **Destruction of nature**

 Burning abuse degrades soils which eventually disappear completely – the damage becomes permanent

 Half a million grouse are slaughtered each year in addition to the illegal killing of protected birds of prey This is killing on an industrial scale

 Burning and drainage creates manmade, barren wastelands void of nature, in our 'treasured' National Parks

There's no real nature / left on the moors, just a monoculture of heather and grouse

#### Communities and public health

- Trapped communities can't escape and are forced to inhale toxic smoke which contains PM2.5, the most serious pollutant for human health
- Flood risk increases as damaged moors can't hold as much water, accelerating rainfall run-off to the communities below
- Rivers and drinking water are polluted with heavy metals from damaged peat
- Burning and drainage creates the arid, manmade landscape that increases wildfire risk

Give climate, nature and communities a voice Download and share our leaflet and social media post online at: *Moorlands4climate-nature.org.uk* 





### Imagine what these burnt lands could become...



Restored peatlands protecting our carbon stores



Healthy soils supporting plant and animal life



Uplands teaming with nature & wildlife, supporting health & wellbeing



Stop the destruction. Save our climate, nature and public health.

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