[redacted]

From: [redacted] (Defra)
Sent: 13 June 2013 15:27
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: BBC Countryfile

[redacted]

That's helpful, thank you. I've since heard from a different source (BASC's press office contacted ours) that it was a [redacted] whose birds were affected.

Enjoy your trip!

[redacted]

From: [redacted]]
Sent: 13 June 2013 15:22
To: [redacted] (Defra)
Subject: RE: BBC Countryfile

[redacted]

I only know what I've been told – and I am told that it has been independently verified as lead shot by senior vets etc. Will be fascinated to hear the background when I get back.

Usually these events with wildfowl are linked to new ponds being dug which turns up old shot? And exacerbated if birds on a low calcium diet simply because lead replaces calcium and gets metabolised instead (e.g. if feeding on corn) and the victim is 'hungry' for calcium (e.g. if producing lots of eggs continually) and made worse if stressed (e.g. crowded)? So circumstances affect impact/lethality – and that goes for people as much as ducks.

But if substantiated it shows rather dramatically that lead is a sneaky poison.

The LAG process has the potential to make sure it is considered in proper perspective.

All best

[redacted]

From: [redacted] (Defra) [redacted]
Sent: 13 June 2013 15:08
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: BBC Countryfile

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for copying this to me. I am not aware of this incident – do you have any more specific details you can provide? I've also put out feelers to other parts of Defra and its subsidiaries to try and obtain some further info.

We'll prepare our lines in readiness for any queries.

Thanks also for the update on the timetable – a shame it's been so difficult to identify suitable dates. We're of course still happy to provide a Defra presence at the meetings, as observers.

Best wishes

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 13 June 2013 14:07
To: [redacted] (Defra); [redacted] (Defra); [redacted] (Defra); [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: BBC Countryfile

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

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[redacted]

[redacted]

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)

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