

ADDITIONAL MAMMAL NOTES FROM AILSA CRAIG

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These additional notes on the mammals of Ailsa Craig are supplementary to my paper in the last volume of the *Transactions of the Buteshire Natural History Society*, volume XVII, pages 73-76, 1969.

Order INSECTIVORA

PIPISTRELLE *Pipistrellus pipistrellus* (Schreber)

Another specimen was killed at the light on 28th May 1970.

Order CARNIVORA

OTTER *Lutra lutra* (L.)

An otter was seen near the Swine Cave by lightkeepers and workmen on several occasions during September 1969. Attempts were made to shoot it, but fortunately without success.

Order PINNIPEDIA

GREY SEAL *Halichoerus grypus* (Fabricus)

Up to five adult female grey seals were seen on many occasions along the west shore of Ailsa during summer 1970; one could regularly be seen sunning herself on the large rock just offshore from the Crusher.

Order ARTIODACTYLA

WILD GOAT *Capra hircus* L.

The feral goats now seem to have completely died out on Ailsa. The last I saw was in 1968, and I could find none in 1970 despite a detailed search over several days.

SOAY SHEEP *Ovis aries* L.

It now seems to be quite clear that the small herd of Soay sheep on Ailsa has died out, and so this interesting experiment has now unfortunately come to an end. In June 1970 I found the rotting carcasses of four old rams near the Slunk, and despite an intensive search could find no other specimen on Ailsa. I was unable to discover what had caused the death of these last four specimens.