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Curlew frustration

Dear Editor,

I found your article on the Duke of Norfolk's work to restore the curlew to his West Sussex estate inspiring but also frustrating. The reason for the latter is how a similar ambition here in the Brecon Beacons National Park has been stymied by the Welsh Government. A productive farm which already hosts some amazing wildlife was identified earlier this year as a potential site for a curlew restoration project (Wales Action Plan for the Recovery of Curlew prepared by Gylfinir Cymru / Curlew Wales at the recommendation of Welsh Government). Unfortunately, the farm was then purchased by the very same Government to provide a 'permanent home for a music festival' bringing to an end hopes for curlew on the farm. The Welsh Government appears to give with one hand and take away with the other. I hope the Government will have second thoughts and retain wildlife friendly agriculture on the farm so that people, so often now isolated from the countryside, may hear the call of the curlew and be inspired, like the Duke, to help nature.

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