

Declaration of Red Squirrels

To the Big Two-Legged Creatures known to yourselves as People,

Perhaps you stopped admiring our innate beauty
or were we remiss in our sole, sacred duty?

To bring a small spark to the forests and woodlands
throughout all of Scotland, both highlands and lowlands.

To proudly scurry and climb up high, free
in the treetops, by daylight, for all to see.

Yet you wanted new colours in your stately homes,
to complement managed nature and garden gnomes.

For whatever reason we no longer appealed.
You introduced a new species; our fate was sealed...

There came only a few though they colonised fast,
until their numbers were great and ours were surpassed.

They brought with them disease, from which we weren't immune
and it looked very bleak; that our twilight was soon.

However, some folks saw fit to give us a chance,
to preserve our habitats and slow the advance.

We need more people to reflect; look deep inside.
Please remember what came first; have some renewed pride.

Together we can restore what was nearly lost!
It will take commitment, true; hard work is the cost.

Provide us havens - the animals will arrive.
Ecosystems for all will ensure we survive!

I hope this humble letter has outlined our plight
and know that with your help we can take back our right.

To be little flames amongst the foliage once more,
a common sight again at everyone's front door.

To be safe to thrive, having freedom to roam.
Forever secure in our ancestral home!

Signed by,

The Red Squirrels of Scotland.
aka Kieron P Baird

