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25th September 2002

To Whom It May Concern

The Norfolk Broads are currently being invaded by one of the world's most prolific freshwater organisms, the Asian clam. Within the last few decades the clam has spread all over North and South America and large parts of continental Europe. It has caused great damage to industrial and agricultural systems, and effected huge changes in the ecology of many rivers, lakes and wetlands. It is set to do the same in Norfolk and much of Britain within the next few years. The Aquatic Ecology Group at the University of Cambridge is currently conducting a research program into the clam's spread and potential effects on Britain's ecology, agriculture and industry.

As an important part of this study the interactions between British wildfowl and the Asian clam are being investigated. The clam can function as an important new food source for some native and migrant bird species, which in turn may act as an effective means of clam density control.

The Rockland Wildfowlers Association (RWA) has played an invaluable part in this study over the past two shooting seasons by supplying us with large numbers of carefully labeled wildfowl carcasses for diet analyses.

Already some highly interesting results are emerging from our collaboration with the RWA, and we sincerely hope that we will be able to continue this arrangement. Continuity of data collection is essential if long-term changes in the feeding habits of wildfowl are to be identified. We are therefore very grateful for the RWA's support.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for further information.

Sincerely

Stephan Müller