

APPENDIX 2.12

1994 REVIEW OF SALES AND RELATED

WILDLIFE CONTROLS

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SCHEDULE 4:

BIRD REGISTRATION AND RINGING



Department of the Environment

Global Wildlife Division
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21 February 1994

Dear Sir/Madam

REVIEW OF SALES AND RELATED WILDLIFE CONTROLS WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SCHEDULE 4: BIRD REGISTRATION AND RINGING

1. On 30 April 1993 the Department announced that it would be undertaking a review of the sales and other secondary controls on wildlife. The first stage of the review has now been completed and an announcement has today been made by the Environment Minister, the Earl of Arran, proposing a substantial reduction in the scope of the bird registration scheme operated under section 7 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. As a result, the Department proposes to amend Schedule 4 of the Act to remove registration requirements for a number of species of birds. The purpose of this letter is to seek your comments on these proposals in accordance with the provisions of Section 26 of the Act.

Scope of Review

2. The main aspects of the existing system covered by the review were:

- sale controls on species listed on Appendix I to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (and also those given equivalent protection under the EC Regulation implementing the Convention);
- sale controls on most native and regular visitor bird species, and certain native plant and animal species, under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981; and
- controls requiring the ringing and registration of certain birds, also under the 1981 Act.

Outcome of 1st Stage of Review

3. In the course of the review, the Department consulted a wide range of interested individuals and organisations, and received a number of comments and suggestions. The Department has provisionally concluded in the light of the review that the existing bird ringing and registration system needs to be modified to reduce unnecessary regulation, and to ensure that the remaining controls are targeted more effectively. As the main breeding season for birds will soon be under way, the Department has decided to put forward these proposed changes now. These proposals will involve changes to Schedule 4 of the Act and are set out in paragraphs 6 - 17 below.

4. The Department also proposes to strengthen protection for the less common species which will remain on Schedule 4. The rate of inspection of premises and of follow up to inspector's reports will be increased. The Department will also look into the possibility of carrying out a small number of DNA tests to check captive-breeding claims. Changes will be made in the procedures for observing the ringing of birds. The Department is also considering the need for further changes to the registration scheme, including basing the register on DNA checks for all birds and will consult interested groups about these proposals in the coming months.

5. The Department has also reached two further provisional conclusions:

(i) At present birds temporarily imported for falconry purposes must be registered. As such temporary imports pose no threat to native bird populations, the Department intends to issue a general licence exempting such specimens from registration.

(ii) There should be a regular review of Schedule 4, in the same way that non-bird species covered by the 1981 Act are already required to be reviewed every five years. Accordingly, the Department proposes to invite its scientific advisers, the Joint Nature Conservation Committee, to develop criteria for reviewing species subject to registration, and to undertake such a review in 1995 and at 5 year intervals thereafter.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO SCHEDULE 4 OF THE 1981 ACT

6. The registration system was introduced in response to concerns that the increasing demand for captive raptors would threaten the recovery of wild populations from the major declines of the 1950s and early 1960s and might otherwise contribute to significant illegal taking from the wild. Section 7 of the Act makes it an offence for any person to keep in their possession or under their control, any bird included in Schedule 4 which has not been registered and ringed or marked in accordance with regulations made by the Secretary of State. The Wildlife and Countryside (Registration and Ringing of Certain Captive Birds) Regulations 1982 (SI 1982 No 1221) has the effect of dividing Schedule 4 into three categories:

(i) all diurnal birds of prey ie hawks and falcons except Old and New World Vultures, (ie species listed in Part I of the Schedule to SI 1982 No 1221);

(ii) 24 passerine (perching) species which are rare or irregular breeding birds in Britain and given special protection against taking and killing, (ie species listed in Part II of the Schedule to SI 1982 No 1221); and

(iii) 40 mainly non-passerine species, which are again all rare or irregular breeding birds in Britain and specially protected, (ie all other species on Schedule 4 of the 1981 Act).

7. Birds of species in categories (i) and (ii) must be registered and individually ringed with a uniquely numbered ring supplied by the Department. Those in category (iii) have to be registered only.

8. Wild and captive populations of most British birds of prey have increased very substantially since the introduction of registration in 1982. Controls on the use of pesticides have undoubtedly played a major role in allowing the recovery of wild populations. Registration and ringing have afforded supplementary protection to the basic protection afforded by the prohibition in law on taking and killing, although it is not possible to assess their precise effect. Populations were already growing when the scheme was introduced. Wild populations of many species are back to the levels of the mid-1950s, and over thirty-five species of birds of prey (including non-native species) have been bred in captivity for two generations or more.

9. The Department found that earlier studies had underestimated the number of specimens in captivity, while the difficulties of captive-breeding had been overestimated. In April 1993, some 16,000 specimens were registered with the Department as compared with an estimate, at the time the scheme was introduced, that about 1,500 would be within the scheme. The Department considers that requiring captive specimens to be registered is not justifiable unless there is evidence to suggest that the removal of specimens from the wild for aviculture or falconry is adversely affecting populations in the wild to a significant degree or is likely to do so in the foreseeable future.

10. Against this background the Department has concluded that registration (and, where relevant,

ringing) requirements for the following species should be ended:

- the Kestrel, Common Buzzard and Sparrowhawk;
- non-native birds of prey (except the Barbary Falcon);
- birds of prey which are rare or irregular visitors to Britain and which do not breed here in the wild state;
- species referred to in paragraph 6(iii) above.

The reasoning supporting these conclusions is set out below.

Kestrel, Common Buzzard and Sparrowhawk

11. These are the most common and widespread birds of prey in Britain. Wild populations are estimated at: Kestrel - 70,000 pairs; Sparrowhawk - 25,000 pairs; and Common Buzzard 12,000 - 15,000 pairs. In the eleven years since the introduction of the Act, the RSPB has brought prosecutions in the illegal taking or killing of 18 cases involving Kestrels, 6 involving Sparrowhawks and 25 involving Common Buzzards. There is no indication that the current levels of illegal taking from the wild are having an adverse effect on the wild populations of these species.

12. In November 1993 there were 5,141 Kestrels, 2,811 Common Buzzards and 1,552 Sparrowhawks on the register. These captive populations are both numerically and genetically self-sustaining. Since the introduction of the register, the RSPB have brought 24 prosecutions for failure to observe the Act's registration requirements for Kestrels, 18 involving Common Buzzards and 11 involving Sparrowhawks.

13. The current supply of captive-bred birds appears able to satisfy demand; breeding success of the Kestrel in captivity peaked in 1987, closely followed by the Sparrowhawk in 1988 and the Common Buzzard in 1989. In addition the prices at which each species has been offered for sale have decreased since 1988. Taking all this into account the Department has reached the provisional conclusion that retaining registration and ringing requirements for these species would not be justified.

Non-native birds of prey

14. These species are not freelifing in Britain and cannot therefore be taken from the wild here. They were originally included on Schedule 4 because it was thought difficult to distinguish between different species of Falconiformes. However expert advice is that 'lookalike' problems arise only with the Barbary Falcon which can be very similar to a Peregrine and may indeed be part of the same species. The Department therefore proposes to end registration for all 'lookalike' species of Falconiformes except the Barbary Falcon.

Birds of prey which are rare or irregular visitors to Britain and which do not breed here in a wild state

15. There are eight species in this category. They are:

Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>
Pallid Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>
Rough-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo lagopus</i>
Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila clanga</i>
Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>
American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>
Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
Eleonora's Falcon	<i>Falco eleonorae</i>

The scarcity of these birds in the wild makes their exploitation extremely unlikely. The Department does not believe that continuing to require these species to be registered would be likely to afford them additional protection in practice. Controls will of course be retained to protect these species against killing, taking or injury when present in Great Britain.

Other Schedule 4 species

16 For 17 of the species referred to in paragraph 6(iii) above, no specimens are registered at all. For the remaining 23 species only small numbers are registered. The present registration requirements provide no significant protection to wild populations and the Department sees no justification for retaining them.

Revised List of Species on Schedule 4

17. If the changes proposed above are implemented, 14 birds of prey will remain on Schedule 4, together with 24 other species. The full list is at Annex A.

Timetable

18. The following timetable is proposed:-

- closing date for responses: 14 March;
- Department to consider comments and finalise list of species to be covered by Schedule 4 by 25 March;
- lay Statutory Instrument on 28 March, or as soon as possible thereafter, to amend Schedule;
- amendments take effect: 21 days later.

19. If you wish to submit objections or representations on the proposed amendments, you should write to the Department at Room 806 at the address above by 14 March. I should be glad if you let us know whether:

- a. you propose to publish your response or make it available to the media; and
- b. you agree that the Department may make your response available to Parliament and the public by placing copies in the libraries of both Houses of Parliament. If so, we should be grateful for 3 extra copies.

20. I should emphasise that the Department is not at this stage seeking comments on other aspects of the review, as extensive consultations have already taken place and further conclusions will be announced in due course.

21. A list of the principal groups and organisations consulted appears below. Please let us know if further copies are required by anyone you know who does not receive one.

Yours faithfully



I G MUCHMORE

CONSULTATION LIST

Principal Local Authorities
Local Authority Associations
Aviornis UK
British Orchid Council
British School of Falconry
British Waterfowl Association
British Chelonia Group
British Leather Confederation
British Bird Council
British Fur Traders Association
British Cactus and Succulent Society
British Association of Tortoise Keepers
British Falconer's Club
Care for the Wild
Elefriends
Environmental Investigation Agency
FACE-UK (c/o British Field Sports Society)
Fauna and Flora Preservation Society
Federation of Zoological Gardens of Great Britain and Ireland
Federation of Commercial Bird Importers
Guild of Taxidermists
International Herpetological Society
International Fund for Animal Welfare
International Ornithological Association
International Fur Trade Federation
International Wild Waterfowl Association
IUCN
National Association of Private Animal Keepers
National Council for Aviculture
Natural History Museum
Northern England Falconry Club
Ornamental Fish Industry
Pet Trade and Industry Association
Royal Horticultural Society
RSPB
RSPCA
The National Birds of Prey Centre
The Game Conservancy
The Raptor Breeders Association
The Hawk Board
The Hawk and Owl Trust
Timber Trade Federation
TRAFFIC International
Welsh Hawking Club
Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust
Wildlife Link
World Parrot Trust
World Pheasant Association
WTMU (WCMC)
WWF

All keepers of currently registered birds
Respondents to the initial consultation document who commented on bird matters

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

LIST OF SPECIES TO REMAIN ON SCHEDULE 4

Common name	Scientific name
Buzzard, Honey	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>
Eagle, Golden	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>
Eagle, White-tailed	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>
Falcon, Barbary	<i>Falco pelegrinoides</i>
Falcon, Gyr	<i>Falco rusticolus</i>
Falcon, Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>
Harrier, Hen	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>
Harrier, Marsh	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>
Harrier, Montagu's	<i>Circus pygargus</i>
Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>
Kite, Red	<i>Milvus milvus</i>
Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
Bunting, Cirl	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>
Bunting, Lapland	<i>Calcarius lapponicus</i>
Bunting, Snow	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>
Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>
Crossbills (all species)	<i>Loxia spp</i>
Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>
Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>
Oriole, Golden	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>
Redstart, Black	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>
Serín	<i>Serinus serinus</i>
Shorelark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>
Shrike, Red-backed	<i>Lanius collurio</i>
Tit, Bearded	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>
Tit, Crested	<i>Parus cristatus</i>
Warbler, Cetti's	<i>Cettia cetti</i>
Warbler, Dartford	<i>Sylvia undata</i>
Warbler, Marsh	<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>
Warbler, Savi's	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>
Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>

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APPENDIX 2.13

1994 CHANGES TO THE REGISTRATION SYSTEM

(INFORMATION FOR KEEPERS)

APPENDIX 2.13

**1994 CHANGES TO THE REGISTRATION SYSTEM
(INFORMATION FOR KEEPERS)**



Department of the Environment
Bird Registration Branch
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Fax: 0272 878393

13 May 1994

Dear Keeper

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981: CHANGES TO THE REGISTRATION SYSTEM

The Department wrote to all registered keepers of Schedule 4 birds on 21 February seeking comments on proposed changes to the registration scheme. On 25 April, following representations received during the consultation period, Ministers announced that they had decided to amend the earlier proposals by retaining the requirement for registration and ringing for 24 species of globally threatened birds of prey.

I am now writing to inform you that the changes will come into effect on 24 May 1994. Annex A lists the species which remain subject to the registration and ringing requirements. If your bird is not listed you no longer need to register it with the Department. The effects of these changes on the registration procedures are set out in the question and answer guidance below:-

1. What species of birds have to be registered and what fees do I have to pay?

From 24 May 1994, only those species listed in Annex A, including hybrids ie. any bird, one of whose parents or other ancestor was of a kind listed, must be registered and ringed. The fees for initial registration, transfer and re-registration will for the present remain unchanged. The current rates are set out in Annex B. The level of fees will be reviewed in the coming months and all keepers of registrable species will be notified of any changes.

2. Will it now be legal to take non-registrable species from the wild or will licences be issued to allow this?

No. It will remain illegal to take these birds from the wild. The Department has no plans to licence the taking of any of the species no longer subject to registration.

3. Should I continue to fit close rings to birds that are no longer registrable?

Yes, if you intend to sell (including sale, barter or exchange) or display your birds of prey under the specific exemption licence. It remains the responsibility of keepers to be able to show that any birds they keep are legally held. It is recommended that keepers continue to fit close rings and keep detailed written records of captive breeding or the origin of birds in their possession. If you purchase a bird it is advised that you obtain a signed declaration from the breeder stating that the bird is captive-bred (including details of the parent birds), or otherwise legally held.

4. What should I do if the close ring has to be removed?

If your bird's close ring has to be removed for medical or other reasons, it would be

advisable to have a vet certify the removal of the ring and at the same time take steps to identify the bird in another way eg. micro-chip, split ring etc.

5. How will I now be able to obtain rings for non-registrable species?

For the 1994 breeding season, you should continue to apply to the Department by telephoning a request to your case officer in the normal way. The Department intends that from 1 January 1995, the sale of the species no longer subject to registration will require them to be fitted with a close ring specifying the year in which the bird was bred. Manufacturers or other suppliers will be able to supply you with these rings direct; advertisements for this service will appear in the specialist press later in the year. Rings for those birds which will remain on the register (Annex A) will continue to be supplied by the Department.

6. Will I have to return DOE rings which are not fitted this season or if my non-registrable bird dies?

Rings for species listed in Annex A must be returned to the Department. The rings for other species should either be returned or destroyed; they should not be passed to another keeper or retained for use after the end of 1994.

7. Will I be able to sell, or display for commercial purposes, my non-registrable bird of prey?

Yes, providing that; (a) the sale or display is not already restricted under the terms of an import licence, and; (b) the conditions of a specific exemption licence issued by the Department are met. These conditions are summarised below. Free copies of the exemption may be obtained from your case officer:-

- The bird must have been bred in captivity ie. one whose parents were lawfully in captivity at the time when the egg from which it hatched was laid.
- Documentary evidence of captive breeding must accompany the sale;
- The bird must be ringed with a legible DOE close ring, or if bred after 1 January 1995, a metal close ring inscribed with the year in which the bird was bred and which cannot be removed from the bird when its leg is fully grown.

8. Will I be able to sell, or display for commercial purposes, my registered bird of prey?

Yes, providing that; (a) the sale or display is not already restricted under the terms of an import licence, and; (b) the conditions of a specific exemption licence issued by the Department are met. These conditions are summarised below. Free copies of the exemption may be obtained from your case officer:-

- The bird must have been bred in captivity ie. one whose parents were lawfully in captivity at the time when the egg from which it hatched was laid.

- Documentary evidence of captive breeding must accompany the sale;
- The bird must be properly registered and close ringed. The ring must be issued by the Department and be of a size appropriate to the sex and species of the bird.

9. What should I do if I wish to sell or display a non bird of prey species?

You must apply to the Department (or if you live in Wales or Scotland, the Welsh Office or Scottish Office respectively) for an individual sales/display licence. It will be necessary for the bird to be fitted with a close ring and for evidence of captive breeding to be provided.

10. What should I do if I wish to sell or display a bird that is not close ringed?

You must apply to the Department (or if you live in Wales or Scotland, the Welsh Office or Scottish Office respectively) for an individual sales/display licence. It will be necessary for you to provide proof of captive breeding and explain why the bird is not close ringed.

11. Will I receive a refund for birds which will no longer need to be registered?

There will be no refund of fees received by the Department before 25 April 1994. Keepers who send in fees with applications after the above date will either have the fee returned or be offered a credit. The Department will continue to issue registration documents for any application processed before the changes come into effect on 24 May 1994.

12. Will recognised club status still exist?

For the present, the Department will continue to recognise all clubs who, prior to the changes, met the existing criteria. The continuation of recognised club status will be reviewed later this year.

13. Will the Department continue to inspect birds which no longer need to be registered?

No, inspections will only be carried out for those species which remain subject to registration and ringing (Annex A). Inspectors will no longer automatically witness the ringing of the monitored species but may do so at random for any of the registrable species.

14. Will registration apply to imported birds?

Permanently imported birds of the species included in Annex A must still be registered and ringed. The Department is still considering the possibility of issuing a licence to allow birds temporarily imported for falconry to be exempt from registration. In the mean time, keepers who temporarily import registrable species must apply to the Department for an individual licence to keep the birds unregistered or register them in the normal way.

15. Will I still have to apply for a quarry licence for my non-registrable birds?

Yes. Applications should be made in the normal way to the Department (or if you live in Wales or Scotland, the Welsh Office or Scottish Office respectively).

16. How will my status as a LRK be affected?

The Department will be reviewing the selection criteria for LRK status before the end of the year. Until then, new applications will be considered against current criteria. However, if you already hold a LRK licence then your status will remain unaffected until your current licence expires.

17. What effect will the changes have on the keeping of injured wild birds?

You will only be required to register the species listed in Annex A. However, a keeper of any injured wild bird must be able to show that when taken, it was disabled other than by his unlawful act and was taken solely for the purpose of tending it and releasing it when no longer disabled.

18. Can the Department assist me if I lose my non-registrable bird?

Unfortunately not. The Department will no longer have the ability or resources to provide this service.

19. Won't the changes to the system make theft of the non-registrable birds more prevalent?

As with any kind of property, keepers should take whatever precautions they believe necessary to prevent theft. The bird registration system was not designed to detect or prevent theft of captive birds.

20. What should I do if I suspect that someone is holding a wild bird illegally?

It is for the Police to investigate alleged offences and you should contact your local Police Station and ask to speak to the Wildlife Liaison Officer. If you do not wish to speak to the Police directly you may contact the Department for advice.

We hope this guidance will help you to understand how the changes will affect you as a keeper of birds. If however, you are still unclear on any point, your case officer will be pleased to answer any specific queries you may have.

Yours sincerely



NICK P WILLIAMS
Chief Wildlife Inspector

Annex A

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

LIST OF SPECIES TO REMAIN ON SCHEDULE 4

Common name	Scientific name
Bunting, Cirl	<i>Emberiza cirius</i>
Bunting, Lapland	<i>Calcarius lapponicus</i>
Bunting, Snow	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>
Buzzard, Honey	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>
Eagle, Adalbert's	<i>Aquila adalberti</i>
Eagle, Golden	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>
Eagle, Great Phillipine	<i>Pithecophaga jefferyi</i>
Eagle, Imperial	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>
Eagle, New Guinea	<i>Harpyopsis novaeguineae</i>
Eagle, White-tailed	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>
Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhacorax</i>
Crossbills (all species)	<i>Loxia spp</i>
Falcon, Barbary	<i>Falco pelegrinoides</i>
Falcon, Gyr	<i>Falco rusticolus</i>
Falcon, Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>
Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>
Fish-Eagle, Madagascar	<i>Haliaeetus vociferoides</i>
Forest-Falcon, Plumbeous	<i>Micrastur plumbeus</i>
Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>
Harrier, Hen	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>
Harrier, Marsh	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>
Harrier, Montagu's	<i>Circus pygargus</i>
Hawk, Galapagos	<i>Buteo galapagoensis</i>
Hawk, Grey-backed	<i>Leucopternis occidentalis</i>
Hawk, Hawaiian	<i>Buteo solitarius</i>
Hawk, Ridgway's	<i>Buteo ridgwayi</i>
Hawk, White-necked	<i>Leucopternis lacernulata</i>
Hawk-Eagle, Wallace's	<i>Spizaetus nanus</i>
Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>
Honey-Buzzard, Black	<i>Henicopermis infuscata</i>
Kestrel, Lesser	<i>Falco naumanni</i>
Kestrel, Mauritius	<i>Falco punctatus</i>
Kite, Red	<i>Milvus milvus</i>
Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>
Oriole, Golden	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
Redstart, Black	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>
Sea-Eagle, Pallas'	<i>Haliaeetus leucoryphus</i>

Sea-Eagle, Steller's
Serin
Serpent-Eagle, Andaman
Serpent-Eagle, Madagascar
Serpent-Eagle, Mountain
Shorelark
Shrike, Red-backed
Sparrowhawk, New Britain
Sparrowhawk, Gundlach's
Sparrowhawk, Imitator
Sparrowhawk, Small
Tit, Bearded
Tit, Crested
Warbler, Cetti's
Warbler, Dartford
Warbler, Marsh
Warbler, Savi's
Woodlark
Wryneck

Haliaeetus pelagicus
Serinus serinus
Spilornis elgini
Euriorchis astur
Spilornis kinabaluensis
Eremophila alpestris
Lanius collurio
Accipiter brachyurus
Accipiter gundlachi
Accipiter imitator
Accipiter nanus
Panurus biarmicus
Parus cristatus
Cemia cetti
Sylvia undata
Acrocephalus palustris
Locustella luscinioides
Lullula arborea
Jynx torquilla

* * *

Annex B

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981: REGISTRATION OF SCHEDULE 4 BIRDS

SCHEDULE OF FEES PAYABLE FROM 1 SEPTEMBER 1993.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH OR OPEN POSTAL ORDERS. All cheques and postal orders should be made payable to "DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT" (not DOE) and should be crossed "NOT NEGOTIABLE". You should retain postal order counterfoils for your own records.

BIRDS OF PREY

Zoos (see note 1)

Renewal of properly registered birds (see note 2):	£7 per bird
Registration of new birds:	£14 for the monitored species (see note 3) £7 for every non-monitored
Transfers (payable by recipient):	£17 for every bird received from non-NFZ members; no charge if received from NFZ members.

Recognised club members (see note 4)

Renewal of properly registered birds (see note 2):	£7 per bird
Registration of new birds:	£14 for every monitored (see note 3) £7 for every non-monitored
Transfers (payable by recipient):	£17 for every bird.

Non-club members

Renewal of properly registered birds (see note 2):	£9 per bird
Registration of new birds:	£20 for every monitored (see note 3) £9 for every non-monitored
Transfers (payable by recipient):	£17 for every bird.

OTHER BIRDS

Renewal of properly registered birds:	£1 per bird up to maximum of £25
Registration of new birds:	£6 per bird
Transfers (payable by recipient):	£6 for every bird

NOTES

1. To qualify for reduced registration fees zoos must be members of the NFZ and be willing to participate in the inspection scheme. For qualifying zoos the maximum renewal fee payable is £360.
2. The renewal fee applies only to birds correctly registered with the keeper on expiry of the registration period.
3. The monitored species are Golden Eagle, Merlin, Gyr Falcon, Peregrine Falcon, Barbary Falcon, Hobby, Goshawk and hybrids of these species. Other species may be monitored from time to time; keepers will be notified of any changes before the breeding season each year.
4. Members of such clubs must be participants in the club inspection scheme; members of such clubs who do not wish to be included in their club's inspection programme must pay fees at the non-club rates.

LICENSED REHABILITATION KEEPERS (LRKs)

The fee for the LRK licence is £33 for the registration period 1 November 1991 to 31 October 1995. This fee will need to be paid upon request. Please do not send any fees with the application.

PERMANENTLY DISABLED BIRDS

Some birds taken in by LRKs will be permanently disabled and unsuitable for release back to the wild. No fee will be levied on LRKs for retaining such birds, nor will any fee be charged for transfers of such birds between LRKs. However, if the bird is passed to a non-LRK a transfer fee will be payable by the new keeper. The progeny of disabled birds will attract the normal registration fee.

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1984

The purpose of the Data Protection Act 1984 is to prevent the misuse of personal data held on computers, and to make sure that every organisation which holds and uses personal information does so to proper standards.

The Department of the Environment's Bird Registration Branch is registered as a Data User and has an entry in the National Data Protection Register.

The Branch's computerised records contain details of:

- the registration of live birds under section 7 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
- the registration of sellers of dead birds under section 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
- the issue of some licences under section 16 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

It is important that the records are kept up to date and therefore any change in these details should always be notified to the Department's Bird Registration Branch as quickly as possible.

Almost all the information held on the Bird Registration Branch computer is therefore provided by you, and is already available to you. However, under the Data Protection Act 1984, you have the right to make a formal enquiry about the records held, on payment of the necessary fee.

Any enquiry about your entry on the computer should be addressed to the Department's Data Protection Officer, Room 626, Lambeth Bridge House, Albert Embankment, London SE1 7SB (Tel: 071 211 4242).

Personal data stored on the Branch's computer system is held in confidence and is not normally disclosed. However, data may be disclosed to the Welsh and Scottish Offices to assist them to process licence applications under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Data may also be disclosed to the Police or other bodies who are investigating alleged offences under the 1981 Act or related complaints.

Department of the Environment
Bird Registration Branch
Room 809
Tollgate House
Houlton Street
BRISTOL BS2 9DJ

APPENDIX 2.14
1995 CLOSE RINGING OF CAPTIVE BRED
SCHEDULE 4 BIRDS: A GUIDE FOR KEEPERS
(UPDATE OF APPENDIX 2.10)

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981 - SECTION 7
CLOSE-RINGING OF CAPTIVE-BRED SCHEDULE 4 BIRDS
A GUIDE FOR KEEPERS

NOTE: Please read this document carefully and keep in a safe place for reference. The guide is not intended to be a comprehensive explanation of the law. Any enquiries about the content of the guide should, in the first instance, be directed to your Case Officer.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 All Schedule 4 birds should be fitted with a uniquely numbered ring or cable-tie issued by this Department. For birds bred in captivity since 1983, this will usually be a close ring.

1.2 All keepers who intend to breed registrable bird species in captivity should read this guide carefully. It gives details of how to request close rings and register chicks bred during the 1995 breeding season. It also describes certain procedural changes in procedure introduced since last year.

2. HOW TO REQUEST CLOSE RINGS

2.1 There are two ways in which close rings can be requested; by telephoning your Case Officer, or by sending a completed close ring request form by post or fax, copies of which are available from this office at any time. The Department hopes that most keepers will find it easier to telephone their requests as this is a quicker and more efficient method.

2.2 Telephone ring request: ring requests should be made as soon as the completed clutch of eggs has been laid unless you are already certain that all the eggs are infertile.

2.3 When a telephone ring request is made all the following details must be given.

- (i) your name and ID number;
- (ii) ring numbers of both the parent birds;
- (iii) number of eggs in clutch;
- (iv) date last egg was laid.

If your Case Officer is not available, someone else will be able to take down the details you provide.

2.4 Once this information is received the appropriate close rings will normally be dispatched within 24 hours. Rings requested late on a Friday cannot, however, be dispatched until the following Monday.

The Case Officers are as follows:-

Case Officer	Keeper (by initial letter of surname)	Telephone No
Simon Liebert	A - L	Bristol (0117) 987 8649
Sophie Millard	M - Z	Bristol (0117) 987 8120

2.5 **Written or faxed ring request** : by this method, a ring request form, completed in full, will need to be sent to the Department **as soon as the full clutch of eggs has been laid.**

2.6 Whichever method is used to request rings, the aim is to ensure that close rings will be available in time for the chicks to be correctly ringed. The Department should be contacted by telephone if there is any delay in receiving rings. To avoid delay in the issue of rings, please inform us of any special arrangements which you may have for the breeding season, especially where chicks which require ringing are being kept at different addresses.

2.7 It should be stressed that it is the responsibility of the keeper to ensure that Schedule 4 birds are ringed and registered as required.

THE DEPARTMENT CANNOT ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR RINGS NOT ARRIVING IN TIME TO BE FITTED TO CHICKS IF THE REQUEST IS RECEIVED AFTER THE EGGS HAVE HATCHED.

3. WITNESS OF RINGING BY A DEPARTMENT WILDLIFE INSPECTOR

3.1 The Department will continue the procedure of selecting packages of close rings at random to send to a Wildlife Inspector to witness the ringing of the chicks. If your birds are among those chosen, the application form and appropriate rings will be issued to an Inspector, who will then contact you to arrange a convenient time to witness the ringing. **Keepers are reminded that Inspectors are not able to assist with the ringing of birds so if an assistant is required keepers should make their own arrangements.**

4. REGISTRATION, TRANSFER AND SALE OF CHICKS

4.1 As soon as rings have been fitted to the chicks you must complete and return form DOE 14088 (a registration application form) along with the appropriate initial registration fees. You should not wait until the end of the breeding season in order to submit all your applications together. Failure to comply may leave keepers open to prosecution for being in possession or control of unregistered birds. Please make sure that any unused rings are also returned and that the boxes concerning the fate of each ring have been ticked.

4.2 Each registration application form and set of rings will be issued for a specific clutch of eggs and must not be used for any other. The form will be printed with the numbers of the close rings enclosed with it, and details of the parent birds for that particular clutch of eggs. It will also bear a 'batch' number in the top right hand corner which you should quote if you need to contact the Department regarding a specific clutch.

4.3 Please read the notes before completing the registration application form. If applications are completed incorrectly, or are accompanied by incorrect fees, bird registration documents will not be issued until these mistakes have been rectified.

4.4 On receipt of your completed DOE 14088 forms and fees, bird registration documents will be issued within three days.

4.5 The Department is aware that to promote successful breeding, parent birds and/or their eggs are sometimes moved away from their registered keeper's premises. Please note that close rings are always issued to the person who will have possession of eggs when they hatch, even if that person is not the registered keeper of either parent bird. That person is then required, under the above Act, to initially register each bird in their own name before they are passed on to another keeper, even if that second keeper is the registered keeper of one or both of the parents. The second keeper would incur transfer fees in the normal way.

Anyone who passes on a bird for which they have been issued a close ring before they have initially registered it, EVEN IF NO SALE TAKES PLACE, should be aware that they may be in breach of the regulations governing registration.

IF YOU HAVE ANY DOUBTS CONCERNING LOANS AND/OR FOSTERING PROCEDURES PLEASE CONTACT YOUR CASE OFFICER FOR ADVICE.

4.6 NOTE: Schedule 4 birds hatched from 1983 onwards which are fitted with either a close ring of a larger size than recommended, or a cable-tie, cannot be sold under the terms of a general licence. In these cases, a keeper must first apply for an individual licence before he/she can sell, or advertise the bird for sale.

Application forms for Individual Exemption Licences can be obtained from :-

Department of the Environment, Bird Licensing Section, Room 9/08, Tollgate House, Houlton Street, Bristol, BS2 9DJ

Telephone (0117) 987 8903 or 987 8700

5. RETURN OF RINGS TO DOE

5.1 The Department issues rings on the basis that they will be fitted to the clutch of eggs for which they were requested. It is not acceptable for keepers to use rings intended for one clutch for an alternative clutch of eggs, except in special circumstances, and with the prior approval of the Department.

5.2 If any eggs prove infertile or a chick dies before it can be close-ringed, all unused rings must be returned to the Department immediately, together with the appropriately completed 14088 form issued with the rings. The rings and form should not be retained for use with any other chicks.

5.3 If it becomes necessary to remove a ring to prevent damage to a chick, the Department should normally be contacted beforehand, as we may wish a Wildlife Inspector to witness the removal. However, in some cases to avoid unnecessary suffering a keeper may need to remove a ring urgently. In such cases the keeper should inform the Department as soon as practicable. In every case the ring should be returned, with an explanation of the circumstances.

5.4 If you are intending to apply to export a close-ringed bird, the Department would advise against removal of the ring before export as many importing countries require a close-ring to be kept on a bird as evidence of captive-breeding.

6. RINGS AND RING SIZES

6.1 A list of the ring sizes recommended for Schedule 4 birds is at page 6 of this guide. Ring sizes will normally be issued in accordance with the list. It is accepted, however, that certain birds produce chicks for which the recommended ring sizes would be unsuitable and a smaller or larger ring is appropriate. In such cases, when a ring request is made, the keeper should give the reason for not requesting the recommended size. Your Case Officer will then send a letter along with your rings to confirm your request. If requesting a larger size ring, please bear in mind the Note in paragraph 4.6 above.

6.2 All rings issued remain the property of the Department of the Environment. Attempts should not be made to enlarge them, alter their shape or interfere with them in any way.

6.3 If there are reasons why the fitting of a DOE close ring is considered inappropriate, the keeper should contact the Department immediately.

7. DOUBLE RINGING OF CHICKS

7.1 For certain species of birds the Department recommends that two different-sized rings be fitted, one ring for each leg. This is to take account of the variation in leg (tarsus) size between the male and female of some species, since it is often impossible to sex chicks until after the appropriate close-ringing age. The inappropriate-sized ring can be removed at a later stage, once the sex is known. Keepers should, however, be aware that it is not compulsory for 2 rings to be fitted, but please see the Note at the end of paragraph 4.6 above.

7.2 If it becomes necessary to remove either ring for any reason the ring should be returned to the Department, with the bird registration document and an explanation. See paragraph 5.4 above.

8. FITTING OF CLOSE RINGS

8.1 Close ringing of chicks normally takes place between the 7th and 14th day following hatching, with all chicks from the same clutch being ringed at the same time. It is the keeper's responsibility to ensure that close rings are fitted at a time which will best achieve humane and effective ringing of the chicks.

8.2 Close rings fitted at the correct time will be a snug fit when the bird's foot is passed through. Undue force should be avoided and it may be helpful to apply a lubricating gel or soap to ease fitting. If you have any difficulties or queries, your Case Officer may be able to help.

9. FEES

9.1 Until further notice, registration fees remain as shown on the attached Schedule of Fees.

Finally, if you have any queries at all please consult your Case Officer at the address below.

**Department of the Environment
Bird Registration Branch
Room 8/09
Tollgate House
Houlton Street
Bristol BS2 9DJ**

Tel : Bristol (0117) 987 8829

RECOMMENDED CLOSE RING SIZES

SPECIES	MALE SIZE	FEMALE SIZE
BUZZARD, HONEY	V	V
EAGLE, GOLDEN	ZA	ZA
FALCON, BARBARY	V	W
FALCON, GYR	W	X
FALCON, PEREGRINE	V	W
GOSHAWK	V	W
HARRIER, HEN	R	U
HARRIER, MARSH	U	U
HARRIER, MONTAGU'S	S	S
HOBBY	R	S
KITE, RED	W	W
MERLIN	P	R
BUNTING, CIRL		E
BUNTING, LAPLAND		E
BUNTING, SNOW		G
CHOUGH		R
CROSSBILL		J
FIELDFARE		M
FIRECREST		A
ORIOLE, GOLDEN		M
REDSTART, BLACK		C
REDWING		K
SERIN		B
SHORELARK		D
SHRIKE, RED-BACKED		J
TIT, BEARDED		E
TIT, CRESTED		C
WARBLER, CETTI'S		D
WARBLER, DARTFORD		B
WARBLER, MARSH		C
WARBLER, SAVI'S		C
WOODLARK		E
WRYNECK		G

APPENDIX 2.15

**1995 DNA TESTING OF BLOOD SAMPLES FROM
SCHEDULE 4 BIRDS**



**Department of the Environment
Bird Registration and Wildlife Inspectorate Branch**

Room 808, Tollgate House
Houlton Street
BRISTOL BS2 9DJ

Tel: 0117 987 8148
Fax: 0117 987 8393

10 April 1995

Dear Registered Keeper

DNA TESTING OF BLOOD SAMPLES FROM SCHEDULE 4 BIRDS

Following the announcement last week by Environment Minister Sir Paul Beresford concerning the increased use of DNA testing to verify the information held on the Department's bird registration database, I am writing to advise you that we are introducing a programme of inspections to obtain blood samples from a number of registered birds. DNA analysis will then be carried out on the blood samples, primarily on those taken from parent birds and their corresponding offspring.

Based on the 1994 breeding statistics held on the Department's computer database, a number of registered keepers have already been selected and I will be writing to them shortly. Should you be one of those chosen, you will receive full details of the procedures involved. Further, you may rest assured that the Department will pay the fees incurred by your veterinary surgeon in obtaining the blood samples, plus the cost of the DNA tests.

Later in the year, additional keepers will be selected using information supplied to the Department during the current breeding season. I am convinced that this programme of inspections will engender increased confidence in the Department's bird registration scheme and provide benefits to all concerned.

Should you currently be attempting to breed from the birds in your care, may I take this opportunity to wish you a successful and productive season.

Yours sincerely

NICK P WILLIAMS
Chief Wildlife Inspector

APPENDIX 2.16
1995 RINGING AND REGISTRATION OF 1995-
BRED BIRDS



Department of the Environment
Bird Registration and Wildlife Inspectorate Branch
Room 809, Tollgate House
Houlton Street
BRISTOL BS2 9DJ

Tel: 0117 987 8829
Fax: 0117 987 8393

27 March 1995

Dear Keeper

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

RINGING AND REGISTRATION OF 1995-BRED BIRDS

Once again we are at the start of the bird breeding season. If you intend to breed any registrable bird species this year please read the enclosed "**Close-Ringing Of Captive-Bred Schedule 4 Birds - A Guide For Keepers**" carefully as some of the procedures have changed since last year.

Each year, at the beginning of the breeding season, all registered keepers are sent a reminder of the ringing and initial registration requirements. This year we have taken the opportunity to enclose additional information in order to clarify some of the points that have been raised by keepers in the past.

I hope you will find the following notes helpful.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS AT WHICH BIRDS ARE KEPT

Keepers should note that a registration document can only be amended to show that a bird is housed at a different address from that of its registered keeper if it is **still** being tended on a day-to-day basis by that keeper.

If the bird is being kept by another keeper, and is not returned to its original keeper within 3 weeks, it will need to be registered by the new keeper since a transfer of keepership will have taken place for which a fee is payable.

Keepers who return registration documents for such amendments should attach a letter to explain the circumstances under which the bird is being moved.

DATE THAT BIRDS ARE ACQUIRED

When applying to register a transferred bird, keepers are required to **fully** complete the reverse side of its registration document. **Applications not bearing an exact date (ie day, month, year, will be returned to the applicant and registration will therefore be delayed.**

DEAD, RELEASED, AND EXPORTED BIRDS

Registration documents, and where appropriate rings, should be returned **immediately** with the relevant box ticked.

LOST BIRDS

When a bird becomes lost keepers should contact their Case Officer by telephone **immediately**. Under the terms of the Department's entry under the Data Protection Act 1984, we are unable to release your name, address or telephone number to the finder of any lost bird without your prior agreement. This can lead to delays in reuniting bird and keeper. It would therefore be helpful if, either when reporting a lost bird or when next writing to us, you could tell us whether you are content for us to release this information. **You may withdraw your permission at any time by telephoning or writing to us.** Registration documents should be returned if a lost bird is not recovered after three weeks.

ILLEGIBLE/LOST RINGS

Birds that lose their rings or are wearing rings that have become illegible are **automatically de-registered** even if their registration documents have not expired. It is a keeper's responsibility to ensure that their birds are correctly registered at all times. Accordingly, the Department recommends that **rings should be regularly checked and, if necessary, replacement cable-ties applied for.**

LICENSED REHABILITATION KEEPERS (LRKs)

LRKs are reminded that they can hold a wild disabled bird for a maximum period of **six weeks** from the date it was taken into their care, after which, they must either release or apply to register it.

PROMPT REGISTRATION

Please remember that you should register any Schedule 4 bird(s) as soon as it/they come into your possession. Late registration is treated seriously and is always pursued since possession of a non-registered bird is an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

"UR" (UN-RINGED) LICENCE REMINDER

There are various reasons why a bird may need to be kept without it wearing either a close ring or a cable-tie. The two most common reasons are when a bird persists in pecking off cable-ties, and when injuries prevent a bird wearing anything on either leg. In these circumstances keepers are required to apply for a UR licence, in order

to keep the bird unringed.

Most UR licences are valid for a maximum of 12 months. It is therefore necessary to re-apply each year and to give sufficient reasons why the bird remains unable to bear a cable-tie. It is not possible to wait until the bird's re-registration date, as this is renewed on a 3 yearly basis. **You should therefore check any UR licences you have for birds in your keepership. If the licence has expired the bird is unregistered, even if the registration document has not expired. If a bird is passed to another keeper, that keeper will need to apply for their own UR licence because each licence is specific to the individual keeper involved.**

SALE

Keepers should remember to check **BOX 6** of their registration documents before selling birds as they may need an individual sale licence to do so. No licence is required to give a bird away.

Any queries regarding licensing matters should be addressed to :-

**Department of the Environment
Bird Licensing Section
Room 9/08
Tollgate House
Houlton Street
Bristol BS2 9DJ

Tel 0117 987 8870**

Finally, we wish you every success during the breeding season. Any queries regarding the above points or any other registration matters should be addressed to your Case Officer at the above address. The Case Officers are now as follows:-

Case Officer	Keeper (by initial letter of surname)	Telephone No
Simon Liebert	A - L	Bristol (0117) 987 8649
Sophie Millard 8120	M - Z	Bristol (0117) 987

APPENDIX 4.1
CENTRES HOLDING RAPTOR
COLLECTIONS

Appendix 4.1: Centres holding Raptor Collections

General Category	Specific Category	CENTRE
SRC	RC	Birds of Prey at Hornsea Potteries, Hornsea, Humberside
SRC	RC	Bossington Farm Park and Birds of Prey Centre, Alierford, Somerset
SRC	RC	Clyde Valley Hawks: Bird of Prey Centre and Sporting Agency, Carluke, Strathclyde
SRC	RC	Cotswold Falconry Centre, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire
SRC	RC	East Anglia Falconry Centre, Kelling, Norfolk
SRC	RC	East of England Birds of Prey and Conservation Centre, Laxford, Suffolk
SRC	RC	Edinburgh Bird of Prey Centre, Lasswade, Edinburgh
SRC	RC	Fritton Lake Falconry Centre, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk
SRC	RC	Garden Village Bird of Prey and Falconry Centre, Bridgnorth, Shropshire
SRC	RC	Heart of England Falconry, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire
SRC	RC	Huxley's Experience, Horsham, West Sussex
SRC	RC	Lakeland Bird of Prey Centre, Lowther, Cumbria
SRC	RC	Long Sutton Butterfly and Falconry Park, Spalding, Lincolnshire
SRC	RC	Mill on the Soar Falconry Centre, Lutterworth, Leicestershire
SRC	RC	National Birds of Prey Centre, Newent, Gloucestershire
SRC	RC	North East Falconry Visitors Centre, Duffton, Grampian
SRC	RC	Northumbria Bird of Prey Centre, Gosforth, Newcastle
SRC	RC	Rutland Falconry Centre, Greetham, Rutland
SRC	RC	Sussex Falconry Centre, Chichester, West Sussex
SRC	RC	The Bird of Prey and Conservation Centre, Kirby Wiske, North Yorkshire
SRC	RC	The Falconry Centre, Hagley, West Midlands
SRC	RC	The Hawk Conservancy, Weyhill, Hampshire
SRC	RC	The National Shire Horse Centre, Yealmpton, Devon
SRC	RC	The Raptor Centre, Chilham, Kent
SRC	RC	The Scottish Centre for Falconry, Kinross, Fife
SRC	RC	The Scottish Deer Centre, Cupar, Fife
SRC	RC	Turbary House Garden Centre, Whitesnake, Lancashire
SRC	RC	Welsh Hawking Centre, Barry, South Glamorgan
SRC	RC	Wentworth Falconry Centre, Wentworth, South Yorkshire
SRC	RC	Yorkshire Dales Falconry and Conservation Centre, Settle, North Yorkshire
SRC	FS	National School of Falconry at Appleby Castle, Appleby-in-Westmoreland, Cumbria
SRC	FS	National School of Falconry, Stapleford Park Country House Hotel, Leicestershire
SRC	OC	Baytree Owl Centre, Weston, Lincolnshire
SRC	OC	World Owl Trust, Muncaster, Cumbria
SRC	OC	The New Forest Owl Sanctuary, Ringwood, Hampshire
SRC	RH	Screech Owl Sanctuary, Rehabilitation and Educational Centre, Nr. Indian Queens, Cornwall
ZD	AG	Mel House Bird and Animal Gardens, Newton-on-Rawcliffe, North Yorkshire
ZD	AG	The Whitbread Hop Farm, Beltring, Kent
ZD	CP	Elsham Hall Country and Wildlife Park, Brigg, South Humberside
ZD	CP	Leighton Hall, Carnforth, Lancashire
ZD	TP	Camelot Theme Park, Charnock Richard, Lancashire
ZD	Z	Bristol Zoo, Bristol, Avon
ZD	Z	Colchester Zoo, Colchester, Essex
ZD	Z	Cotswold Wildlife Park, Burford, Oxfordshire
ZD	Z	Dartmoor Wildlife Park and West Country Falconry Centre, Sparkwell, Devon
ZD	Z	Drusillas Zoo Park, Alfriston, East Sussex
ZD	Z	Glasgow Zoopark, Uddingston, Glasgow
ZD	Z	London Zoo, London
ZD	Z	Newquay Animal World, Newquay, Cornwall
ZD	Z	Paradise Park, Hayle, Cornwall
ZD	Z	Twycross Zoo, Atherton, Warwickshire
ZD	Z	Welsh Mountain Zoo, Colwyn Bay, Clwyd

ZD	Z	Whipsnade Wild Animal Park, Whipsnade, Bedfordshire
ZD	Z	Woburn, Milton Keynes, Bedfordshire
ZN	Z	Banham Zoo, Banham, Norfolk
ZN	Z	Basildon Zoo, Basildon, Essex
ZN	Z	Beale Park, Reading, Berkshire
ZN	Z	Belfast Zoo, Belfast
ZN	Z	Blackpool Zoo, Blackpool, Lancashire
ZN	Z	Camperdown Wildlife Centre, Dundee, Tayside
ZN	Z	Chester Zoo, Chester
ZN	Z	Dudley and West Midlands Zoo, Dudley, West Midlands
ZN	Z	Edinburgh Zoo, Murrayfield, Edinburgh
ZN	Z	Flamingo Gardens and Zoological Park, Olney, Buckinghamshire
ZN	Z	Gatwick Zoo, Chertwood, West Sussex
ZN	Z	Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust, Trinity, Jersey
ZN	Z	Linton Zoo, Linton, Cambridgeshire
ZN	Z	Marwell Zoological Park, Winchester, Hampshire
ZN	Z	Paignton Zoo, Paignton, Devon
ZN	Z	South Lakes Wild Animal Park, Dalton-in-Furness, Cumbria
ZN	Z	Southport Zoo, Southport, Merseyside
ZN	Z	Wellplace Zoo, Ipsden, Oxfordshire
ZN	AG	Auchengarrich Wildlife Centre, Nr. Comrie, Tayside
ZN	AG	Brambles Wildlife Park, Herne Common, Kent
ZN	AG	Green Acres Farm Park, Chester, Cheshire
ZN	AG	Highland Wildlife Park, Kingussie, Invernesshire
ZN	AG	Mablethorpe's Animal Garden and Seal Trust, Mablethorpe, Lincolnshire
ZN	AG	Norfolk Wildlife Centre, Great Witchingham, Norfolk
ZN	AG	Riber Castle Wildlife Park, Matlock, Derbyshire
ZN	AG	Suffolk Wildlife Park, Kessington, Suffolk
ZN	AG	Tamar Otter Park, Bude, Devon
ZN	BP	Birdland Zoo Gardens, Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire
ZN	BP	Birdworld and Underwaterworld, Farnham, Surrey
ZN	BP	Blean Bird Park, Blean, Kent
ZN	BP	Busbridge Lakes Waterfowl and Gardens, Godalming, Surrey
ZN	BP	Cowal Bird Garden, Dunoon, Argyll
ZN	BP	Hillside Ornamental Fowl, Mobberley, Cheshire
ZN	BP	Lotherton Hall Bird Gardens, Aberford, West Yorkshire
ZN	BP	Merley Bird Gardens, Wimborne, Dorset
ZN	BP	Stagsden Bird Gardens, Stagsden, Bedfordshire
ZN	BP	Tropical Bird Gardens, Rode, Avon
ZN	BP	Wingham Bird Park, Wingham, Kent
ZN	TP	Chessington World of Adventures, Chessington, Surrey
ZN	TP	Crinkley Bottom at Cricket St. Thomas, Chard, Somerset
ZN	TP	Paultons Park, Romney, Hampshire

Key

General Categories			
SRC	Specialised raptor centre		
ZD	"Zoo" with bird of prey flying display		
ZN	"Zoo" with no bird of prey flying display		
Specific Categories			
RC	Raptor centre (typical)	CP	Country park
FS	Falconry school	TP	Theme park
OC	Owl centre	BP	Bird park
RH	Rehabilitation centre open to the public	Z	Traditional zoo
AG	Animal garden		

APPENDIX 4.2

DATA COLLECTION SHEETS FOR

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS AND DISPLAY TEAMS

The Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology,

The University, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NX

A RESEARCH PROJECT INVESTIGATING THE
WELFARE AND CONSERVATION ASPECTS OF
KEEPING BIRDS OF PREY IN CAPTIVITY

Questionnaire for
Flying Demonstration Teams and Static Displays

STATIC DISPLAY

Weathering Design

Shelter: Material							Comments
Sun	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Wind	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Rain	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Bath:	all						
	some						

Birds in view of one another:

--

Distance between birds:

--

Birds in view of flying birds:

--

How often are birds lost?

Species	Missing how long?	Wearing telemetry/bells?	Fate?

TRANSPORT

Transport to the site

Species	Box/loose	No. per box	Tethered	Hooded	Size box	Material	Flooring

How far has the team travelled?

How often do birds travel?

EDUCATION

Labels:		Person present to answer questions
Name label	Other information	

Attitudes of the public

Interested?

Wish to take up hawk keeping or falconry?

What do you recommend?

Problems with vandals/animal libbers?

ANIMAL HEALTH PROBLEMS

Veterinary problems and solutions:

Aspergillus source?

Temperature at 12pm

Arena

Size	Fences/wires/distractions/dangers

Commentary

Educational	Conservation information	Emphasize difficulty	Emphasize not pets	Attitude to animals

Contact with public (intentional or otherwise)

--

Birds loose in view of each other

--

APPENDIX 4.3

**Letters to the Editors of Falconers and Raptor
Conservation Magazine (Autumn 1994) regarding an
incident of a Harris Hawk attacking an Eurasian
Kestrel during a flying display**

Dear David & Lyn,

I am shocked to read in the last Falconers Magazine about the Yorkshire Dales Falconry Centre receiving a £10,000 prize for Enterprising Young Businesses from Yorkshire Television. I would like to take this opportunity to let everybody know, and express my anger about, what I saw go on at the centre.

It was Sunday the 8th May when my wife and myself decided to have a run out to the Yorkshire Dales Bird of Prey Centre, we arrived just before the 3pm flying display.

The display started off with a young, so called professional, falconer flying a Male Kestrel, which seemed to have only half a tail. The bird was flown from the perch in the flying area and called to the fist, the Kestrel was then cast off into a tree, at which point the falconer joked about it not coming back down, he even jokingly bet a member of the public that he wouldn't get the bird back, however I know this was done to humour the public.

I couldn't believe what I was about to witness next, another, so called professional, falconer started flying a male Lanner falcon to the swung lure while the male Kestrel was still perched in the tree, fortunately the Lanner Falcon did not attack the Kestrel, the Kestrel stayed perched in the tree and the Lanner Falcon returned safely. However, what happened next was even worse, the first falconer returned with a Harris Hawk, he cast

the bird off into the same tree where the Kestrel was perched, the Harris Hawk flew back and forth from the tree to the fist several times until the falconer threw a chick leg onto the ground, when down came the Kestrel, followed by the Harris Hawk, the Harris Hawk then attacked the Kestrel, the falconer tried to separate the two birds while the Kestrel was screaming for its' life. The falconer tried telling the public that the Harris Hawk couldn't hurt the Kestrel because the tendons in its' legs were torn, I just wonder how the Harris Hawk managed to perch in a tree whilst not being able to use its feet. I couldn't watch any more, I offered assistance to the falconer because there was nobody else in the vicinity who could have helped. I understand he would not have known I was a falconer and would have been able to help him.

As I left, after spending only ten minutes at the centre, I asked the lady on the desk if there was anybody who I could speak to about what had just happened, our conversation went as follows:- I told her what had just happened and as a falconer and paying member of the public, how upset I was, she replied by saying, she had every confidence in the two falconers as professionals, I questioned their capability as falconers and she asked me if I was a professional falconer myself or just a weekend falconer. (I don't think this really matters, I fly hunting hawks every day of the week, from Peregrines to Bald Eagles) the lady asked if I flew a

Goshawk, I took this to mean that only professional falconers fly Goshawks.

The point I am trying to make is that Falconry in general gets enough bad press without, in my opinion, some idiots making it worse.

I only wish that centres and displays like this could be made answerable to some official organisation.

Yours deeply concerned,
Philip & Tracey Gibbons.

Dear David & Lyn,

In response to the above letter, may I first of all express my sorrow that Philip Gibbons felt he needed to write an anonymous letter to the centre, not giving me the chance to sort this out.

The Centre has extremely high standards of animal management and is responsible for setting new standards in the U.K. Our achievements and customer care are outstanding. This is the first complaint the Centre has received in the three years since opening, with over 180,000 visitors. Regarding the complaint, the member of staff came to us with very good references from the Scottish Academy and when this matter was brought to my attention, the member of staff was instantly dismissed.

Your sincerely Chris O'Donnell
Yorkshire Dales Falconry Centre

Dear David & Lyn

On March 14th this year I started my new job as falconer at Chris O'Donnells Yorkshire Dales Bird of Prey Centre. I was very excited as there were many different types of birds I had never handled before. As the weeks went past I started to worry about different practices that went on there and on more than one occasion my blood would boil at something I noticed that could cause harm to the birds that I was becoming very fond of.

The incident that is referred to in Philip Gibbons letter was that of out male Kestrel, Sinbad, being grabbed by the female Harris Hawk, Hannah.

On this particular day I was welcoming everyone to the centre. Sinbad began the flying display. He was not on my usual flying team but, as Chris O'Donnell was away in Romania it was my job to fly him. Just before he was due to finish he flew into a nearby tree. Despite attempts to get him down, there he remained. Our second falconer came into the arena with a Lanner falcon. I stopped showing the Kestrel the food and left to pick up the Harris Hawk. I feel I should mention at this point that the line up of the birds was decided before the display.

The Kestrel hadn't moved. The show had to go on. As I made my way into the arena I cast off the hawk which went into the same tree as the Kestrel. Whilst I was talking to the crowd the hawk began to fly away from the arena, not wishing to lose contact with another I

inadvertently threw a piece of meat onto the ground to entice her back. This is when my nightmare began. Down came the Kestrel, followed by the Harris Hawk, the hawk grabbed the falcon. The Harris had bad tendon damage but I was still unable to unlock her grip. I looked around for help but there were no staff to be seen. One caring man did offer to help me but I declined his offer, unaware that he too was a falconer. When assistance from centre staff did arrive the hawk let go and, very fortunately, no damage had been sustained by the Kestrel. I was able to show the public that he was fine although shaken.

I realise that I should not have thrown the food on the ground. One of my objections is that, had it been up to me two birds would not have been flying at the same time, as had been frequent practice in the past.

I chose to leave this centre, having been offered a job at a more professional establishment, where care of the birds is the first priority. Chris O'Donnells claims that I was sacked are fabricated nonsense. In any apprenticeship the standards that are taught are the one that are with you for life, As an ex- student of Heriot-Watt University, I felt that I was more than capable of assessing the quality of working standards, or the sad lack of them, and that was my reason for moving.

Yours Sincerely
Craig Mathewson
Fife

APPENDIX 5.1

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR FALCONERS

THE WELFARE AND CONSERVATION ASPECTS OF KEEPING BIRDS OF PREY

IN CAPTIVITY

A research project being carried out at the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE), The University, Canterbury, Kent.

Canvassing Falconers for their Opinions:

As part of the above project I (Ruth Cromie) would like to collect some basic information from falconers and then canvass them for their ideas about best codes of practice. From this I can get a consensus from falconers i.e. from those who know more about falconry than anyone else!

This questionnaire is not about right and wrong answers it is about your opinions!

Please try to answer all questions

Questions	Please put your opinions below:
1. How long have you been a falconer?	
2. Why did you take up falconry? <i>(please tick one of the following)</i> (i) you have had a lifelong interest in birds of prey..... (ii) friends/family/colleagues were falconers..... (iii) you became interested after seeing public raptor flying displays..... (iv) other <i>(please specify)</i>	
3. How did you learn the art? <i>(please tick one of the following)</i> (i) from books..... (ii) from friends/family/colleagues..... (iii) from a course..... (iv) other <i>(please specify)</i>	
4. Have you ever taken a falconry or handling course? (4a) When did you do this? (4b) How did you rate it?	4 4a 4b
5. What species was your first bird? (5a) If you could have your time again what species would you chose as your first bird? (5b) What do you think is an ideal first bird (not necessarily what the books suggest!)?	5 5a 5b
6. What species, including owls, and how many of each do you keep at present? (6a) Which of these do you fly at present? (6b) Which of these do you keep for breeding?	6 6a 6b
7. Have you had to treat an injured bird in the field?	

8. Have you done a raptor first aid course? (8a) If yes, how did you rate it? (8b) If yes, do you feel more confident about treating your bird?	8 8a 8b
9. How long is it fair to leave a bird tethered for? (9a) If there are dangers of leaving birds tethered for long periods, what are the dangers?	9 9a
10. Is it practical to keep a flying bird loose in an aviary? (10a) What are there disadvantages of doing this? (10b) Would the bird benefit from this?	10 10a 10b
11. What are the advantages of moulting a bird out on its perch? (11a) What are the disadvantages of doing this? (11b) Does it seem to cause the bird harm? (11c) Would you do it?	11 11a 11b 11c
12. Is it acceptable to tether owls? (12a) Why do you say this?	12 12a
13. In your experience, how often do birds of prey bathe (roughly)?	
14. Is flying a bird with mews jesses (rather than field jesses) really a welfare problem? (14a) Has a bird of yours with mews jesses ever become tangled up when flying?	14 14a
15. Are telemetry and/or bells essential when flying a reliable and well trained bird?	
16. Falconers put telemetry on birds so that the bird can be recovered if lost. Why is this important?	
17. What is the best way to despatch a rabbit? <i>(kill it rather than post it!)</i>	
18. How often should a flying bird be flown? (18a) How often does a flying bird need to be flown?	18 18a

APPENDIX 5.2

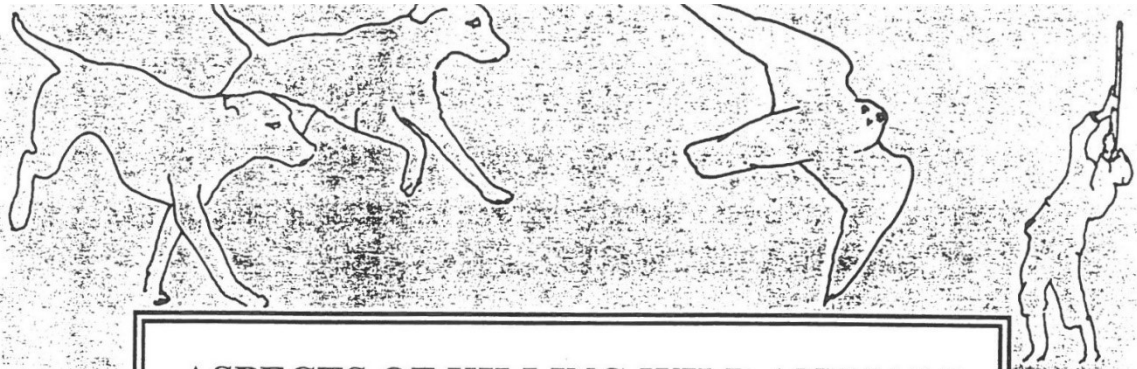
KNOWN FALCONRY CLUBS IN BRITAIN

Appendix 5.2: Known Falconry Clubs in Britain

Avon and Somerset Falconers Club
British Falconers Club (BFC), Staffordshire:
 BFC Cotswold Regional Group
 BFC East Anglia Regional Group
 BFC Midland Regional Group
 BFC North East Regional Group
 BFC North West Regional Group
 BFC Scotland Regional Group
 BFC South Regional Group
 BFC South West Regional Group
 BFC Southern Regional Group
 BFC Wales and Borders Regional Group
British Hawking Association, Nottinghamshire
Central Falconers and Raptor Club
Cheshire Hawking Club
East London Falconers Club
Hawkers and Walkers Klub, Essex
Heart of England Falconers Club
London Hawking Club (and Owl Keepers)
New Forest Falconry Club
North Avon and West Wilts Raptor Club
Northern England Falconry Club
Owl Club, Northumberland
Shropshire Hawking Club
South East Falconry Group, Essex
Southern Counties Raptor Club, East Sussex
The Cumbrian Falconry Club
The Home Counties Hawking Club, Berkshire
The Irish Hawking Club, Co. Armagh
The London Hawking and Owl Club
The Ridings Falconry and Hawking Club, Yorkshire
The Scottish Hawking Club, Lanarkshire
Welsh Hawk, Owl and Falcon Association, Gwent
Welsh Hawking Club (two regional clubs)
Wold Austringers and Falconers Group

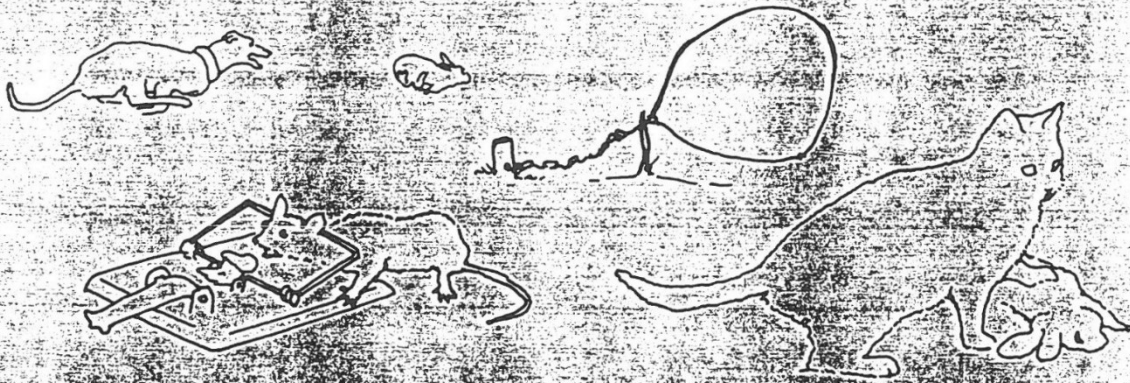
APPENDIX 5.3
ASPECTS OF KILLING WILD ANIMALS IN
BRITAIN.

Unpublished report on behalf of The Hawk Board by
N.C. Fox (1995)



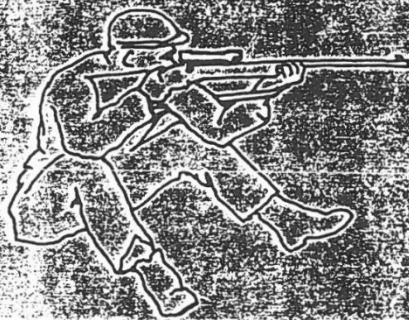
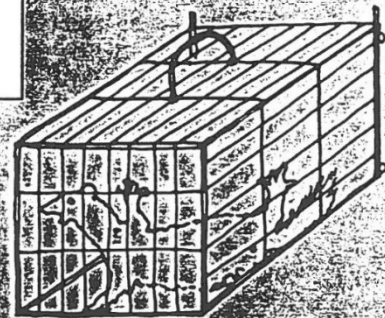
ASPECTS OF KILLING WILD ANIMALS IN BRITAIN

An investigation on behalf of the Hawk Board into the nature and extent of animal suffering caused by current methods of pest control and fieldsports.



N. C. Fox, BSc, CEd, PhD.

April 1995



ASPECTS OF KILLING WILD ANIMALS IN BRITAIN

An investigation on behalf of the HAWK BOARD into the nature and extent of animal suffering caused by current methods of pest control and field sports.

Adapted from: Fox, N. C. 1995. *Understanding the Bird of Prey*. Hancock House. In press.

Introduction.

Man uses various ways to kill wild animals and kills for a variety of reasons. Despite much heated debate, very little basic factual information actually exists. If it did, the debate might be unnecessary.

This report collates information about the common methods of killing wild birds and mammals. These two groups all have similar nervous and sensory systems and are thus comparable. Fish have not been included because they are neurologically more primitive (although not, of course, insensitive to pain) and because the data are complex and not so easily lumped together under comparable headings.

The author is a professional biologist who has, at some time or another, personally used all of the methods described, some of them for many years. Using this experience as a base, he has identified seven criteria common to them all. The first two, (natural and legal selectivity,) and the final one (volume), relate to the welfare of prey as *species*, while the remainder relate to the welfare of *individual* prey animals. The data used derive from the literature and from contributions and extensive consultations with professional specialists. These include:

Prof. Tom Cade (World Center for Birds of Prey, Idaho), Dr Mike Nicholls (Durrell Institute for Conservation and Ecology, University of Kent), Dr Ken Felix DVM (President, North American Falconers' Association), Mr Hal Webster (Author), Mrs Jemima Parry-Jones (The National Centre for Birds of Prey, UK), Dr Walter Bednarek (Germany), Mr Paul Llewelyn (University of Swansea), Dr Cecilia Lindberg (University of Bristol), spokesmen from the

RSPB, RSPCA, Game Conservancy, British Association of Shooting and Conservation, British Field Sports Society, The Campaign for Hunting and the Pet Traders' Association.

The author would like to thank all consultants but accepts sole responsibility for any statements made. The inclusion of a consultant's name does not imply agreement with the contents of this report.

What is 'suffering'?

Given that the prey is born, then it must die. It might meet its death in various ways, some of which are more painful than others. It can also suffer and survive. Any assessment of this suffering should include:

1. The ability of each species to feel mental or physical suffering.
2. Short-term mental suffering during actual pursuit or attack.
3. Long-term mental suffering, for example, while caught in a trap or cage for some hours, unable to escape.
4. Short-term physical pain, for example, while actually being attacked and killed. There are data for many species from many sources indicating that the ability to feel pain is much reduced at this time.
5. Long-term physical pain, for example, being caught by a limb in a trap, or being injured and killed only later. This pain includes shock and its physiological aftermath.
6. Escaping wounded to survive or die later.
7. Natural selectivity: whether the method tends to cull animals which are already old, sick, diseased or injured from another cause, and therefore tends to curtail other suffering.
8. Suffering of non-target species such as in systems of agriculture, industry, water, energy, communications and transport which incidentally, and sometimes avoidably, cause suffering to animals, for example by the mis-use of sprays and poisons, fishnets which catch seals, lack of provision for mammal movements in the design of roads and fences, ingestion of lead shot by waterfowl and so on. The very inadequate data available indicate that about 220 million vertebrates are killed or maimed by British drivers every year, a toll on wildlife which is new this century. In Germany, more game is killed by drivers than by shooters.

A definition of terms:

Without in any way wishing to dismiss it as inconsequential, let us leave on one side the incidental effects on non-target animals and other, 'natural' causes of death such as disease and starvation. Let us look more closely at the ways man uses to kill wild animals *deliberately*. (For the sake of brevity fish are excluded here, but you might like to make your own estimates for fishing with hooks and with nets). We need to define our terms:

Natural selectivity: Natural selectivity indicates that weak or infirm individuals are more likely to be caught than healthy strong ones. No selectivity indicates that prey animals are captured in about the same proportion as represented in the locality.

Legal selectivity: 100% selectivity indicates that only certain legally unprotected target species are captured (but not necessarily killed). 0% selectivity indicates that species are caught in about the same ratio as available in the locality.

Human supervision of control method: Whether or not the activity is supervised by a human, or, in the case of traps, the time interval between checking.

Pre-capture pursuit interval: The length of time from the start of evasive action by the prey, to its capture or escape.

Catch-to-kill interval: The length of time between initial physical contact between predator (or weapon) and prey, and the death of the prey. The time span shown indicates approximately 90% of the distribution curve but excludes prey which survive the attack.

Abandonment of maimed prey: Prey which have been significantly injured (ie. more than losing a few feathers) and which are not killed by the predator. These animals may or may not survive.

Approximate annual volume: The figures given are for England, Wales and Scotland and, except for scent hounds, cats and birds of prey (for which supportive data exist) are very much estimates based on expert opinion; factual information at present being unavailable. The figures therefore indicate only the order of magnitude.

Gaze hounds: Dogs such as greyhounds, salukis, lurchers and whippets which hunt by sight and kill in a sprint. They are usually used singly or in pairs, sometimes at night, catching hares and rabbits.

Scenting hounds: Dogs such as fox hounds, stag hounds, harriers and beagles which hunt by scent, usually in a pack. There are about 314 registered packs in England, Wales and Scotland. Scenting hounds catch foxes, red deer, brown hares, and mink. The deer are not normally killed by the hounds themselves but brought to bay and shot by the huntsman. Many of the foxes ascribed to foxhounds are not killed above ground by hounds but below ground by terriers.

Terriers: Dogs used to tackle prey, such as foxes, underground (excluding their use above ground for rats etc).

Cats: *Felis catus*, the domestic cat. Used to control small mammals on farms and industrial sites, kept widely as pets with a major impact on small vertebrates near areas of housing.

Ferrets: A domestic form of the Polecat, *Mustela putorius*. Normally used to bolt rabbits or rats into nets or to guns or hawks, but occasionally killing prey underground.

Birds of prey: Trained raptors commonly of the genera *Falco*, *Accipiter*, *Buteo*, *Parabuteo* and *Aquila*.

Gassing: Government-approved gases (eg. 'Cymag') used to kill mammals, such as rabbits, in their tunnels.

Poison: Government-approved substances (eg. 'Warfarin', 'Klerat' [brodifacoum], 'Ratak' [difenacoum], 'Storm' [flocoumafen]), used to kill mammals such as rats, mice and moles.

Dead traps: Government-approved spring traps, such as break-back mouse and rat traps, pliers-type mole-traps and 'Fenn' type tunnel traps, intended to kill any creature triggering them.

Snares: Wire loop traps of government-approved specification and method of use, designed to hold the prey alive until released.

Live traps: Government-approved traps, usually a wire cage or box, designed to capture animals alive and physically uninjured.

Shotgun: A smooth-bore gun firing many small pellets in a spread pattern, used to kill birds and medium-sized mammals, usually while moving.

Rifle: A rifled-barrel gun firing a single bullet, used mainly to kill static, medium-sized to large mammals.

Angling: Fishing using hooks for fresh or salt-water fish.

Net-fishing: Fishing using nets for fresh or salt-water fish.

A comparison of the methods:

Table 1 is based on data gleaned where possible from published information but primarily from a consensus of expert opinion. More detailed research into these parameters is needed.

	Natural selectivity	Legal selectivity	Human supervision	Pre-capture pursuit interval	Catch-to-kill interval	Maiming	Approx UK annual volume
Gazehounds	Yes	99%	Yes	<2 mins	0-5 secs	0	500,000
Scent hounds	Yes	99%	Yes	>2 mins	0-5 secs	0	35,000
Terriers	No	70%	Yes	>2 mins	2-30 mins	?	15,000
Cats	Yes	0%	No	<30 secs	0-30 mins	20%?	210,000,000
Ferrets	No	95%	Yes	<5 mins	0-15 mins	10%	10,000
Birds of Prey	Yes	95%	Yes	<2 mins	0-5 mins	0	60,000
Gassing	No	70%?	Yes	N/A	0-30 mins	1%	500,000
Poison	No	80%?	Yes	N/A	0-2 days	?	20,000,000
Dead traps	No	60%	24 hours	N/A	0-24 hrs	5%	10,000,000
Snares	No	70%	24 hours	N/A	0-24 hrs	10%	200,000
Live traps	No	70%	24 hours	N/A	0-24 hrs	0	40,000
Shotgun	No	99%	Yes	<2 mins	0-15 mins	30%	20,000,000
Rifle	Yes	100%	Yes	0	0-15 mins	10%	3,000,000
Angling							
Net-fishing							

Table 1. A comparison of the methods and criteria.

In examining this table you could apply additional criteria and you could apply different weighting to the seven criteria used here. It is not easy to quantify these things; we can only assess them comparatively as best we can. Obviously the values given are indicative rather than absolute. Only two methods score well on all points: gazehounds and raptors. They are both naturally and legally selective, supervised, quick in pursuit, quick to kill and leave no wounded. Scent hounds follow close behind with good scores on five criteria. Guns fall down on their high incidence of wounding and maiming. The use of terriers and ferrets down holes has difficulties in supervising and intervening if there is a problem. Cats and traps score badly in comparative terms. In addition, some of the methods, such as poisons, are liable to misuse, or to poaching. Surprisingly, there is no legal control on the use of cats and these are the major killers of protected species.

As well as the suffering caused to individual prey animals, it is relevant to look at the scale (figure 1). There are about 2,000 active falconers in Britain each taking about 30 head of legal quarry per year, a total of about 60,000 prey. The 314 registered hunts and unregistered packs in Britain kill around 35,000 foxes, hares or deer. In contrast, the 7.5 million cats in Britain are estimated to kill at least 75 million birds and 135 million mammals annually. In other words, for every head of prey taken by someone's raptor, the cats take 3,500 prey and for every fox killed by hounds, cats kill about 6000 creatures. Not only this, but cats do it in such a slow way that they have been selected as the model animal for studies of aggressive predatory behaviour. Cats also put into perspective the 3.2 million experiments on laboratory animals each year in Britain and the four million migratory birds killed in Malta each year.

It would be nice to have firmer figures for these parameters, but meanwhile it is possible to make some simple broad-brush analyses. For example, cats are responsible for about 79% of all kills. If you look at the parameter that you are interested in, such as the catch-to-kill interval, and multiply it by the volume, you can see quite quickly where the major sources of suffering really exist.

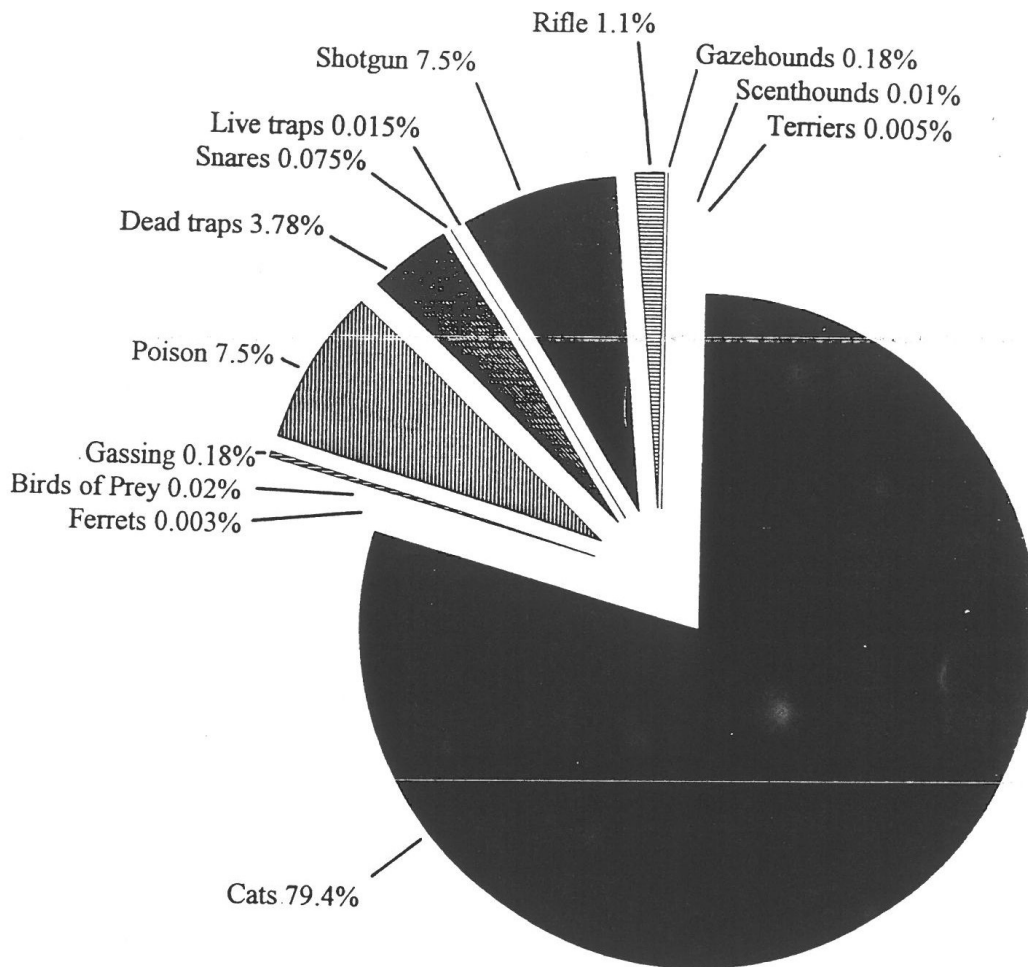


Figure 1: Percentage volumes of animals killed by the different method.

In attempting to reduce animal suffering as represented above, one must take into account the consequences of eliminating these methods. What would happen if rats and mice were allowed to proliferate unchecked? What would happen if deer and rabbits could not be controlled on farm land? What efforts would land-owners make to maintain and improve habitat benefitting all wildlife if they obtained no sporting return? Would the alternative deaths awaiting the prey animals be preferable to the ones they have now?

Public attitudes:

Unfortunately, few people attempt to evaluate these issues in any logical or scientific way, preferring to win hearts emotively rather than minds. The result is massive inconsistency and hypocrisy. The RSPCA, which funds many research projects into the alleviation of animal cruelty, has sadly neglected the cruelty aspect of cat-keeping because a major proportion of its income derives from cat-keepers. The RSPB is also heavily supported by cat-lovers and has, as far as possible, avoided research on the impact of cats on wildlife. But it has at the same time remained neutral on fieldsports, a position which seems wise considering the RSPB's increasing land ownership and its real requirement to manage unwanted wildlife on its land. The British Association on Shooting and Conservation, for its part, does not appear to have researched the extent of suffering involved in shooting and is reluctant to provide information on this. Therefore most of the major organisations have their own reasons for not wanting to investigate some aspect of this issue and so at present it is impossible to conduct an informed debate owing to sheer lack of factual information.

The activities to change the status quo have largely been confrontational rather than research. Most attempts at 'education' by both anti-fieldsports and pro-fieldsports are very short on facts and rely heavily on emotion. The major thrust by the anti-fieldsports lobby has been to push for legislation against fieldsports, and to do this it has of necessity concentrated on numerically small fieldsports which it might have some prospect of banning. Paradoxically therefore, the legal efforts would have insignificant benefit to wildlife. For example, the recent legal efforts in Britain have been the MacNamara Bill 1993 and the McFall Bill 1995 which were essentially attempts to ban hunting of mammals with dogs. Considering that, of all mammals killed by cats and dogs in Britain, dogs only kill 0.4%, to exclude cats from the issue seems somewhat one-sided, particularly as a proposed safety clause would have removed rabbits and rodents from the Act. In South Australia, 16 billion wild animals are estimated to be killed by domestic cats each year. Cats found over 1 km from home may now be killed under a government plan and some local authorities have made it illegal to leave cats out of doors after dark.

Animals are usually killed because they are pests, food or a recreational resource, or combinations of these. The rabbit, for example, is all three. Some, such as foxes, can be a recreational resource in one locality and a pest in another. It can be difficult to agree on what is and what is not a 'pest'. At present it seems to be more socially acceptable to kill some pests (such as rats) with dogs than to kill other pests (such as foxes) with dogs. Rats and foxes have equally developed nervous systems and presumably experience similar levels of pain. The movement against fox-hunting therefore must hinge, not on biological grounds, but on a perception that the hunters *enjoy* hunting. Many of the anti-hunting organisations are funded by cat-keepers who maintain that, because they do not enjoy watching their cats mauling little birds, they are therefore eliminated from the charge of cruelty. This is not a source of consolation to the cats' victims. The question of human enjoyment is not relevant to the suffering animal.

Human enjoyment:

Given that one of the legitimate reasons for killing wild animals is as a recreational resource and that the enjoyment is derived from the total hunting experience rather than from the kill itself, it seems logical to maximise the experience benefit and minimise the numbers of kills. This is a cost-analysis approach. Thus in hunting with hounds, or in falconry, many man-hours of leisure enjoyment are obtained per kill. One fox killed could represent about 100 people/days of hunting, not to mention ancillary activities. Shooting with a shotgun is intermediate, ranging from cost-effective activities such as rough-shooting or wildfowling, to more killing-dependent activities such as driven game shooting. Pet cat-keeping is the most cost expensive activity. Many millions of deaths produce no resulting enjoyment.

Conclusion:

For a variety of valid reasons, we are unlikely ever to cease killing wild animals in Britain. The situation in which a large proportion of the human population live in cities (83% in UK) depending for their food supply on perhaps 5% of the population, is very artificial and unstable and in evolutionary terms, extremely recent and probably transient. Given the rate of human

population growth and the massive ecological damage being inflicted on the planet, it is unlikely that the current precarious urban stability will be maintained for more than a few centuries. It is important therefore for us to develop proper wildlife management systems, to understand that our species is part of nature and not apart from nature, and to continue to use the hunting instincts which have been vital to us for millenia and could well become so again.

Whatever our reasons for killing wildlife, we must try to do it humanely, and that means minimising suffering as outlined above. We must minimise the amount of pain to each individual, and we must minimise the numbers of individuals caused pain. Where wildlife is a pest or a food source, killing is obviously a prime consideration. Where wildlife is a recreational resource, priority should be given to maximising the hours of leisure enjoyment and minimising unnecessary killing. The only area in which there is *wanton* killing without any concomitant enjoyment is in the practice of allowing pet cats to range freely, killing protected wildlife at random. Legislation and research focussed on this would provide the largest single reduction in wild animal suffering. Simply reducing predation by cats during the sensitive breeding months of April to July could reduce wildlife deaths by 100 million per year, the equivalent in one year of banning all hunting with dogs until the year 2,200 AD.

From the legislative point of view, it seems unwise to legislate on individual aspects of wildlife management in Britain, such as some types of hunting with dogs, as a response to emotive pressure. Our investigation shows, above all, that full hard scientific data on these issues simply are not available and therefore the first priority should be a thorough scientific investigation into all types of pest control, fieldsports, fisheries and man-made factors impinging on our wildlife populations. These investigations should be designed clearly to differentiate between four important aspects:

1. The *welfare* of the animal as an *individual*.
2. The *management* of *populations* of certain species (either to increase them, decrease them or stabilise them).

3. The balance between these first two aspects and the *recreational value* of an activity and the *social acceptability* (or otherwise) of an activity. This should also include economic factors; for example, why pay a 'pest destruction officer' to kill animals in a situation where others will do the same task free of charge?

4. *Parity* between activities (for example between legal controls on dogs and on cats).

Further reading:

Note: The following are of book titles only. We have an annotated bibliography of 107 scientific papers on aspects of predatory behaviour of cats available on floppy. The original papers are held here, together with a very extensive collection of scientific papers on raptors and predation.

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APPENDIX 6.1
QUESTIONNAIRE FOR RAPTOR
BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

THE WELFARE AND CONSERVATION ASPECTS OF KEEPING BIRDS OF PREY
IN CAPTIVITY

The above research project is being carried out by myself (Ruth Cromie) at The Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE), The University, Canterbury, Kent.

Canvassing Keepers, Breeders and Falconers for their Opinions:

I am currently working on an independent project regarding the welfare of raptors in captivity/domesticity and the conservation value of this practice. The report arising from the project will provide a consensus of raptor keepers' opinions and hopefully improve the conditions of all raptors in captivity, a target for all those involved in the raptor keeping world. I recently attended a committee meeting of the Raptor Breeders Association and I was very impressed at the professionalism of the organisation! Following from this, I would like to canvass you, as an RBA member, for your opinions regarding the project.

I would be very grateful if you could support the project by completing this questionnaire and returning it in the attached envelope. *Your participation could win you a prize!* (an egg candler). The raffle tickets from returned questionnaires will be pooled and a winning ticket will be drawn. As I do not know who you are or where you live i.e. to maintain your privacy and confidentiality, the winning number will be passed to the Secretary of RBA who will forward the prize to you.

This questionnaire is not about right and wrong answers it is about your opinions!

Please try to answer all questions

Questions	Please put your answers or opinions below:
1. Are you a (i) keeper?..... (ii) breeder?..... (iii) falconer?..... (iv) other? (please specify)	
<i>(please tick one or more of the above)</i>	
2. How long have you been a (i) keeper..... (ii) breeder?..... (iii) falconer?..... (iv) other? (please specify).....	
3. Why did you take up raptor keeping? (please tick one or more of the following) (i) you were interested in birds of prey..... (ii) friends/family/colleagues were raptor keepers..... (iii) you became interested after seeing public raptor flying displays..... (iv) other (please specify).....	
4. How did you learn the skills of raptor keeping? (please tick one or more of the following) (i) from books..... (ii) from friends/family/colleagues..... (iii) from a course..... (iv) other (please specify).....	

22. Should clubs provide training schemes for new (and old!) keepers?	
23. To protect bird welfare, do you think membership of a club (such as RBA) should be compulsory for raptor keepers?	
24. Should potential new keepers demonstrate a level of competence prior to acquiring a bird?	24
(24a) Should this be compulsory?	24a
(24b) What are your feelings about compulsory licences for raptor keeping?	24b

**HANK-YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO FILL OUT THIS FORM.
PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU RETURN IT IN THE PROVIDED ENVELOPE AND YOU
OULD WIN A PRIZE!**

If you have any specific ideas for improving bird welfare standards and promoting the conservation activities of raptor keepers I would be very grateful for your comments:

If you would like to write to me regarding the welfare and conservation aspects of this project you can contact me at:
DICE, The University, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7PD. Tel. 0227 475480. Thank you.

APPENDIX 6.2
QUESTIONNAIRE FOR VETS

THE WELFARE AND CONSERVATION ASPECTS
OF KEEPING BIRDS OF PREY IN CAPTIVITY

An independent research project being carried out by

Dr. Ruth Cromie and Dr. Mike Nicholls

at

**The Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology
(DICE), University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent,
CT2 7PD, UK. Tel. 01227 475480**

**CANVASSING AVIAN VETS FOR INFORMATION
AND OPINIONS**

The questionnaire is divided into four sections:

- A Adult Nocturnal Raptors** (owls)
- B Juvenile Nocturnal Raptors**
- C Adult Diurnal Raptors** (vultures, hawks, buzzards, eagles, falcons, etc.)
- D Juvenile Diurnal Raptors**

These sections are followed by a short set of general questions

***PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE QUESTIONNAIRE RELATES TO
CAPTIVE BIRDS AND NOT WILD CASUALTIES***

Please attempt to answer all questions

A. ADULT NOCTURNAL RAPTORS

1. Approximately how many cases do you treat each year?

1a Compared with 5 years ago, have you noticed a change in the number of cases treated annually? <i>Please tick one category</i>	a great decrease ()	a decrease ()	no change ()	an increase ()	a great increase ()
--	-------------------------	-------------------	------------------	--------------------	-------------------------

1b If there has been a change, please attempt to quantify its magnitude
e.g. x cases in 1989, x cases in 1994 *If you are unable to do so, please tick here ()*

2. What are the five most common diagnoses? Please attempt to rank them i.e.
1 = most common,
2 = second most common
etc. *If you are unable to rank them, please tick here ()*

2a What is the usual cause of this problem?
(Management practice or action of bird etc. rather than e.g infectious agent)

2b What would you suggest to prevent this problem?

1

2

3

4

5

B. JUVENILE* NOCTURNAL RAPTORS * before its first January

3. Approximately how many cases do you treat each year?

3a Compared with 5 years ago, have you noticed a change in the number of cases treated annually? <i>Please tick one category</i>	a great decrease ()	a decrease ()	no change ()	an increase ()	a great increase ()
--	-------------------------	-------------------	------------------	--------------------	-------------------------

3b If there has been a change, please attempt to quantify its magnitude
e.g. x cases in 1989, x cases in 1994 *If you are unable to do so, please tick here ()*

4. What are the five most common diagnoses? Please attempt to rank them i.e.
1 = most common,
2 = second most common
etc. *If you are unable to rank them, please tick here ()*

4a What is the usual cause of this problem?
(Management practice or action of bird etc. rather than e.g infectious agent)

4b What would you suggest to prevent this problem?

1

2

3

4

5

C. ADULT DIURNAL RAPTORS

5. Approximately how many cases do you treat each year?					
5a Compared with 5 years ago, have you noticed a change in the number of cases treated annually? Please tick one category	a great decrease ()	a decrease ()	no change ()	an increase ()	a great increase ()
5b If there has been a change, please attempt to quantify its magnitude e.g. x cases in 1989, x cases in 1994 If you are unable to do so, please tick here ()					
6. What are the five most common diagnoses? Please attempt to rank them i.e. 1 = most common, 2 = second most common etc. If you are unable to rank them, please tick here ()	6a What is the usual cause of this problem? (Management practice or action of bird etc. rather than e.g infectious agent)		6b What would you suggest to prevent this problem?		
	1				
	2				
	3				
	4				
	5				

D. JUVENILE* DIURNAL RAPTORS * before its first January

7. Approximately how many cases do you treat each year?					
7a Compared with 5 years ago, have you noticed a change in the number of cases treated annually? Please tick one category	a great decrease ()	a decrease ()	no change ()	an increase ()	a great increase ()
7b If there has been a change, please attempt to quantify its magnitude e.g. x cases in 1989, x cases in 1994 If you are unable to do so, please tick here ()					
8. What are the five most common diagnoses? Please attempt to rank them i.e. 1 = most common, 2 = second most common etc. If you are unable to rank them, please tick here ()	8a What is the usual cause of this problem? (Management practice or action of bird etc. rather than e.g infectious agent)		8b What would you suggest to prevent this problem?		
	1				
	2				
	3				
	4				
	5				

9. In general, what do you consider to be good perch coverings?						
10. In your opinion, what is the maximum length of time for which a healthy bird can be tethered (i.e. not flown) without causing harm?						
11. Do you have any specific animal health concerns regarding tethering diurnal raptors?						
11a. Do you have any specific animal health concerns regarding tethering nocturnal raptors?						
12. <i>Psychological health:</i> Do you think raptors suffer from boredom? <i>Please tick one category. If 'No' please go on to question 14</i>		Yes ()	No ()			
12a If Yes, in which situations do you think this occurs?						
12b What could the owner do to alleviate this?						
13. Do you have any specific concerns about injured wild raptors unsuitable for release?						
14. On average, do you consider the expertise of a nocturnal raptor keeper to be:		poor ()	unsatisfactory ()	satisfactory ()	good ()	excellent ()
14a On average, do you consider the expertise of a diurnal raptor keeper to be:		poor ()	unsatisfactory ()	satisfactory ()	good ()	excellent ()
14b. In your opinion, does the experience of the keeper make a difference to the sorts of cases you see? <i>Please tick one category</i>		Yes ()	No ()			
14c Please explain your answer:						
15. If you have any further comments to make please use the following space:						

If you wish to receive a brief summary of the findings from this research please fill in your name and address:

Name:
Address:

**THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO FILL IN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE.
PLEASE RETURN IT IN THE ENCLOSED PREPAID ENVELOPE.**

APPENDIX 6.3

DoE INFORMATION LEAFLET:

"THINKING OF RELEASING A BARN OWL"

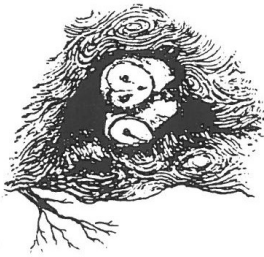
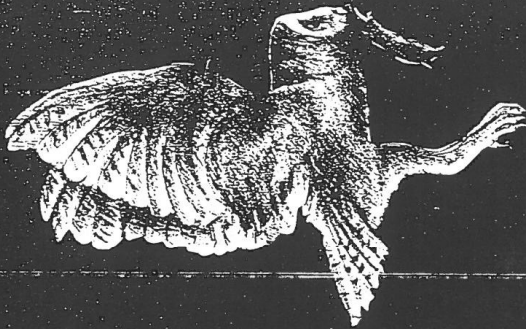
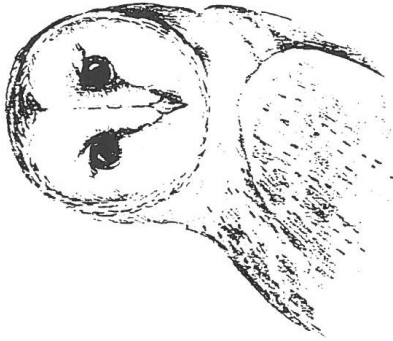
HOW SHOULD I APPLY FOR A LICENCE?

You should write to the following address to obtain the guidelines and an application form:

Department of the Environment,
Wildlife Licensing Section,
Room 908, Tollgate House,
Houlton Street, Bristol, BS2 9DJ
(Telephone 0272 218693/218900)

WHAT WILL THE LICENCE ENABLE ME TO DO?

If you get a licence, it will permit you to release a specified number of birds from an agreed release site during the period, 1 January to 31 October. At the end of the release period, you will be required to complete an end-of-year report form and send it to the Department. This will be analysed and will help to assess how effective the releases have been.



WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I FIND AN INJURED BARN OWL?

You should either contact the RSPCA or contact the Department of the Environment at the address given. They will be able to put you in touch with the nearest person licensed to rehabilitate and release injured birds.

Produced by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee for the Department of the Environment.

THINKING OF RELEASING A BARN OWL?

Barn owl releases and the law

Department of the Environment

THE BARN OWL (*Tyto alba alba*)

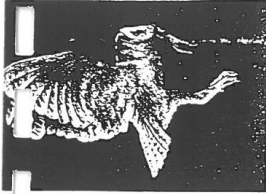
The barn owl has declined seriously in Britain due mainly to the loss of its preferred habitat. Many people have bred barn owls in captivity and released them hoping to boost the wild population. Whilst some release schemes have worked well, others have been far less successful. Many of the birds have died shortly after release because too little thought was given to their needs in the wild.

Because of the growing concern about the high death rate of released birds a Department of the Environment working group recommended that the law should be changed, making it illegal to release any captive-bred barn owl without a licence.

This ensures anyone releasing barn owls complies with certain standards which give the owls the best chance of survival.

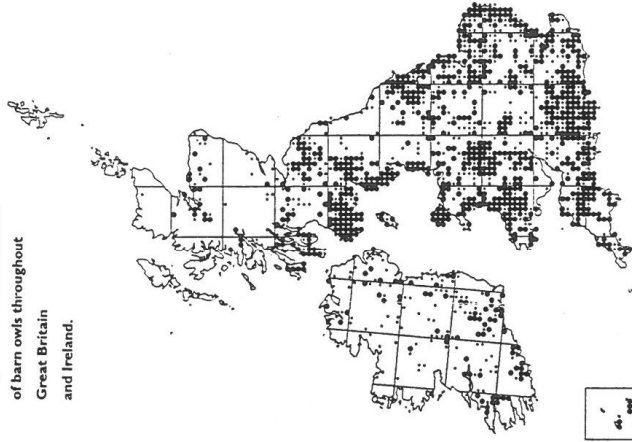
HOW DOES THE LAW AFFECT ME?

The barn owl was placed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, in November 1992. This Schedule contains a list of species which must NOT be released into the wild without first obtaining a licence from the Department of the Environment.



This has been the law since 1 January 1993. ANYONE releasing a barn owl without a licence is committing an offence under the 1981 Act.

Map to show the distribution of barn owls throughout Great Britain and Ireland.



Reproduced from *The New Atlas of Breeding Birds in Britain and Ireland, 1988-1991*, by kind permission of the BTO.

WHAT DOES RELEASE INVOLVE?

Anyone can apply for a licence to release barn owls. However, you should recognise that setting up a successful release scheme is not easy and will require some hard work. You will have to be certain that the area of release can support barn owls, and there are no major hazards, such as main roads, nearby.

You will have to carry out a survey of the area and, as far as possible, follow recommended release techniques which have the most likelihood of success.

To help you undertake this, the Department of the Environment working group has produced guidelines on what to consider before applying for a licence.

APPENDIX 8.1

BRITISH WILDLIFE

REHABILITATION COUNCIL:

**Ethics and legal aspects of treatment and
rehabilitation of wild animal casualties**

BRITISH WILDLIFE REHABILITATION COUNCIL

Ethics and legal aspects of treatment and rehabilitation of wild animal casualties

INTRODUCTION

There is growing interest in the rescue, treatment, and rehabilitation of wild animal casualties. No doubt man has always felt compassion for wounded or sick animals, but perhaps the reasons why rehabilitation has gained momentum recently are the general awareness of the present man-made threats to the environment, and the development of veterinary medicine to the stage at which wild animal medicine can be effective.

Wild animals are as they are; anatomically, physiologically, immunologically and behaviourally, as a result of the continuing process of natural selection of those best-adapted to the environment, and we should be wary of interfering with this process. However, many wild animal casualties are due to man's very recent (in evolutionary terms) changes to the environment, and may be caused by for example: road traffic accidents, oil-spillage at sea, collisions with high-tension wires, and poisoning by environmental contaminants. In these cases the argument for rehabilitation is particularly strong.

Concern for animal welfare and species conservation underlie efforts to treat wild animals and restore them to the wild. Whilst, in some cases, the restoration of an animal to the wild may benefit both the individual and the species, there are circumstances when neither animal welfare nor conservation are served by attempts to rehabilitate. Careful thought needs to be given to each case and the purpose of this document is to provide some guidelines about ethical and legal aspects of wild animal treatment and rehabilitation.

THE ETHICS OF WILD ANIMAL TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION

This is a very difficult subject and opinions differ widely about what is and is not a justifiable level of intervention in the fate of individuals and thus the population dynamics of their species.

A good first principle which also guides medical and veterinary practitioners, but which also applies here, is "first, do no harm."

There are several ways in which inappropriate rehabilitation attempts may also do harm; either to the individual involved, to others of its own species, to other species, or to the environment. It is important that these possibilities, examples which are listed below, are considered:

1. If the animal is not fit when released, and suffers as a result.

2. If a fit animal is released into an inhospitable environment (e.g. one in which food is scarce, or in which all territories are already occupied).
3. If a released animal carries an infectious disease, which could spread into the wild population of its own or other species.
4. If it is a genetically distinct strain from those in the area where it is released, in which case its offspring may be less adapted to the local environment.
5. If it is non-indigenous species which may damage the ecosystem.
6. If it displaces a resident of the same species, to the latter's detriment.

The welfare issues (points 1 and 2) are the most immediate, and perhaps the most easily judged, and must be carefully considered in each case. The genetic arguments are probably of little relevance in most cases involving common species, because rehabilitated animals are unlikely to form more than a tiny proportion of the breeding population. The potential for introducing infectious disease into the wild population demands consideration because of the opportunities for cross-species disease spread in wild animal hospitals, and the effects of introducing disease into wild populations could be serious. Both genetic and disease hazards could be particularly relevant when rehabilitating an individual far from the site where it was captured.

Rehabilitation of wild animal casualties can for these reasons be harmful, and these considerations must be seriously addressed. The law permits the taking of injured or sick wild animals for treatment, although in the case of birds, only if the intention is that they are released when cured (see note on legal aspects below).

The preceding paragraphs point out that treatment and rehabilitation of injured or sick wild animals is not, in all cases, the kindest or wisest course of action. Practical and economic constraints alone dictate that not all rescued individuals of all species can be treated and rehabilitated. Maintenance in captivity or euthanasia are humane alternatives. Some circumstances under which rescue, treatment and rehabilitation may benefit the individual, and/or its own or other species are listed below.

1. If the individual, having been restored to complete fitness, is successfully reintroduced into habitat that can support it, without compromising the success of other wild individuals. That is if the wild population is smaller than that which the environment can sustain (as may occur after a 'die-off' due to bad weather, a disease epidemic, environmental contamination, or persecution), or;
2. If what is learned in the process of treatment and rehabilitation may subsequently be of value in the care of individuals of rare and endangered species in the future.

Three criteria should be addressed before embarking on treatment and rehabilitation, namely; whether or not the attempt will improve welfare, conservation, or our knowledge. From the welfare viewpoint, it is not easy to judge whether treatment and rehabilitation is preferable to humane euthanasia. Even when

successful, treatment is unlikely to be accomplished without any fear, pain or stress.

The welfare of the individual must be the prime consideration, but it is appropriate to consider also the conservation status of the species. With the exception of a few rare British species, rescue and rehabilitation is unlikely to have direct beneficial or harmful effects on population dynamics. However the rescue, treatment, and rehabilitation of wild animals provides an excellent opportunity to learn about their diseases, management, medical care, and husbandry, which may contribute to conservation in the future. The time and level of organisation required to collect, analyse, and publish results, and thus capitalise on the work in this way should not be underestimated.

Preventative Wildlife Medicine

It is perhaps a small step from treating the common causes of diseases and injury in casualty animals, to considering how these illnesses might be prevented. If the cause is man-made, for example environmental pollution, then steps should be taken to correct the situation. It is probably not justifiable, on the other hand, to interfere with the epidemiology of 'natural' diseases by, for example, vaccination of routine anthelmintic treatment of free-living animals, unless this forms part of a scheme to prevent disease in man or his domestic livestock (e.g. vaccination of badgers against tuberculosis), or perhaps to intervene to protect an endangered population (e.g. vaccination of Mountain gorillas against measles).

LEGAL ASPECTS

Taking or Killing of Wild Animals

Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (WCA), it is an offence to take or kill or to have in one's possession wild birds. There are exceptions to this which allow, for example, the shooting of wildfowl and gamebirds at some times of the year and the control of some species which may damage crops, for example, crow, sparrow, or pigeon. Only specified mammals, reptiles, amphibians, insects and other animals listed in Schedule 5 of the WCA (as amended) are given such broad protection.

It is permitted to kill any wild bird which is so badly disabled that there is no reasonable likelihood of its recovery, and it is permitted to take a sick or injured bird solely for the purpose of tending it and returning it to the wild when it has recovered. Broadly, the same principles apply to other protected wild animals.

Release of Wild Animals

The WCA also forbids the release of non-indigenous species, including those such as grey squirrel and Canada goose that are already well-established in Britain.

The Abandonment of Animals Act, 1969 provides that it is an offence to deliberately abandon an animal in circumstances likely to cause it unnecessary suffering. Thus careful estimation of an animal's physical condition and the environment must be made before release of a wild animal.

Welfare Whilst in Captivity

Section 8 of the WCA requires that bird-cages must be large enough to allow spreading the wings, unless the bird is undergoing examination or treatment by a veterinary surgeon.

Treatment by Lay Persons

The extent to which lay persons are permitted to treat animals is described in the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966 (as amended). Any person may provide first aid measures in an emergency to save life or relieve pain and the owner of an animal may give minor medical treatment. As one in possession of a wild animal casually is its temporary owner he or she is therefore permitted to give minor medical care.

The Veterinary Surgeons Act, 1966 (as amended) provides that only people registered with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons are permitted to:

- make diagnosis of diseases in, and injuries to, animals;
- give advice based upon such diagnosis; and
- undertake the medical or surgical treatment of animals (see however the exceptions above)

The BWRC is keen that lay wild animal rehabilitators and veterinary surgeons should work closely in this field.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The inclusion of the books in this list does not imply their endorsement by the BWRC.

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- Proceedings of the First Symposium of the British Wildlife Rehabilitation Council (1989) *BWRC, in press.*
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The BWRC is grateful to Margaret E. Cooper for her comments on an earlier draft of these notes.

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APPENDIX 8.2

**THE WILDLIFE HOSPITAL
TRUST: CODE OF PRACTICE**

Further Reading

ACTS OF PARLIAMENT AND STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS. Available from Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

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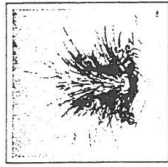
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SANDYS-WINSCH, G. (1984). *Animal Law*. 2nd Edn. Shaw and Sons, London.

VETERINARY RECORD. Information and papers on legal subjects are published from time to time.



The Wildlife Hospital Trust

St. Tiggywinkles

CODE OF PRACTICE

For the Rescue, Treatment,
Rehabilitation and Release
of Sick and Injured Wildlife

Written by *Les Stocker*



Printing sponsored by
Millpledge

In the community

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Price £1

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The Wildlife Hospital Trust
1 Pemberton Close, Aylesbury,
Buckinghamshire HP21 7NY
Telephone: (0296) 29860 Fax: (0296) 437373

*President: The Countess of Buckinghamshire
Registered Charity No. 286447*

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Each year in Britain there are an estimated 5 million wild birds and other animals injured or disabled in some way, many due to man-made hazards. The successful treatment, rehabilitation and release of wildlife casualties serve two important purposes -
- It relieves the pain and suffering of a bird or other animal which would probably otherwise die a painful death;
 - The released animal helps to ensure the survival of the species in the wild, many of which are increasingly under threat.
- 1.2 The Wildlife Hospital Trust and other wildlife rehabilitators have pioneered the successful treatment, rehabilitation and release of all forms of British wildlife and over many years has built up a vast fund of knowledge in this area. The Trust has developed a set of principles of good practice for treating wildlife casualties which it follows.
- 1.3 The general public, businesses and other organisations which give financial support to fund wildlife treatment in Britain and overseas expect the money they donate to be used wisely and that wildlife rehabilitators adopt the best possible practices in dealing with wildlife casualties.
- 1.4 In response to many requests, the Trust has decided to publish its principles of good practice in this Code of Practice.
- 1.5 As wildlife rehabilitation is relatively new, there are a number of 'grey areas', particularly concerning some aspects of the law which has developed piecemeal over the years. The interpretations of the law of England and Wales in this Code of Practice are the Trust's own and where the law is not clear the Wildlife Hospital Trust has tried to follow the spirit of the legislation. Notice should be taken of future changes in the law and differences occurring in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

1.6 The principles set out in this Code of Practice are meant to benefit not only animal casualties but also all those who come into contact with them.

In the production of this Code of Practice the Trust would like to acknowledge the valued comments and advice of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and the input of Mr. John E. Cooper, D.T.V.M., M.R.C.Path., F.I.Biol., F.R.C.V.S., Mrs. Margaret E. Cooper, L.L.B., Mr. Philip Dunn, L.L.B., Dr. John C.M. Lewis, M.A., Vet M.B., Ph.D., M.R.C.V.S., of the International Zoo Veterinary Group.

Les Stocker, Chairman
The Wildlife Hospital Trust
(1st August 1991)

2 Policy

- 2.1** The aims of The Wildlife Hospital Trust are the rescue, medical treatment, rehabilitation and wherever possible the release of sick and injured wild birds and other animals in need of care and attention and the education of the public in methods of treatment, nursing and conservation.
- 2.2** In furtherance of these aims the Trust pursues all avenues to safeguard the life of any animal taken into its care and the Trust does not resort to euthanasia unless there is no viable alternative.

3 Terms

3.1 The definitions of terms used in this Code of Practice are as follows:-

Wildlife Rehabilitator

Any person other than a veterinary surgeon who cares for wildlife casualties.

Veterinary Surgeon

A registered member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

Veterinary Practitioner

A person registered on the Supplementary Veterinary Register.

Animal

Any mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian or fish found living wild in or around the United Kingdom.

Wildlife Casualty

Any animal which is or appears to be sick, injured or disabled, including animals unable to survive in the wild e.g. orphaned young.

Wildlife Care

The treatment of wildlife casualties ranging from basic first aid through to major surgery, as well as the rehabilitation and release of such wildlife casualties.

3.2 Legislation referred to in this Code of Practice.

PAA - Protection of Animals Act 1911, Protection of Animals (Scotland) Act 1912 and other amending legislation collectively 1911-88.

AAA 1960 - Abandonment of Animals Act 1960.

VSA 1966 - The Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966.

VSA 1966 Order 1988 - The Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966 (Schedule 3 Amendment) Order 1991.

MA 1968 - Medicines Act 1968.

TOAO 1973 - Transit of Animals (General) Order 1973.

HSWA 1974 - The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 (as amended).

RIDOR - The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1985.

COSSH - Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 1988.

WCA 1981 - Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

4 Legal Position

4.1 Only take into captivity wildlife casualties (WCA 1981).

4.2 Once taken into captivity the animal then becomes temporarily the property of the wildlife rehabilitator unless the finder chooses to keep the animal, in which case the finder should be referred to a veterinary surgeon.

4.3 The owner of sick, diseased or injured domestic, exotic or farm animals should be referred to a veterinary surgeon (VSA 1966).

4.4 As a general rule treated wildlife casualties should not be returned to their finder or rescuer unless the latter has special facilities for their release.

4.5 Do not ask for any payment for taking in a wildlife casualty as this might jeopardise one's charitable status. However the acceptance of donations is quite permissible.

4.6 Specially protected birds on Schedule 4 of WCA 1981 may be held for up to six weeks by a Licensed Rehabilitation Keeper (authorised by the Department of the Environment) or a veterinary surgeon before needing to be registered with the Department of the Environment (D.O.E.). Finders of Schedule 4 birds who are not licensed Rehabilitation Keepers should refer immediately to the D.O.E., who may refer them to a Licensed Rehabilitation Keeper.

5 Rescue

5.1 Only use hand-held nets or catching devices to capture protected species that are sick, injured or disabled.

5.2 All wildlife casualties should be captured in such a way as to minimise pain, stress or suffering.

5.3 Where sedation is necessary before capture, only those holding Police and Home Office authorities should use remote injection techniques. Specialist veterinary advice on this should be sought.

6 Transportation

- 6.1 Wildlife casualties should be transported in such a way as to avoid injury or unnecessary suffering to the animal (TOAO 1973).
- 6.2 Birds should not be carried in the hand but should be closely confined in a dark cardboard box with ventilation holes around the base. Old towels or carpet should be used to give the bird a firm footing.
- 6.3 Deer may benefit from being sedated during transportation; the veterinary surgeon will advise on drugs and dosages.

7 General Care of Wildlife Casualties

- 7.1 All wildlife casualties should be provided with housing, food, water and care appropriate to their state of health and well-being.
- 7.2 A bird should only be kept in a cage in which it is able to spread its wings fully (WCA 1981), unless it is undergoing examination or treatment by a veterinary surgeon or is being transported.
- 7.3 All housing must be cleaned every day and thoroughly sterilised once a week. The veterinary surgeon will advise on disinfectants.
- 7.4 Only compatible species should be housed together.
- 7.5 Wildlife rehabilitators should seek appropriate instruction and advice on the handling and care of wildlife casualties. The Wildlife Hospital Trust is always ready to give advice.

- 7.6 Try to avoid insecticides as none are completely safe. Pyrethrum-based products are less dangerous than others.

8 Treatment

- 8.1 Wildlife rehabilitators should work in close conjunction with a veterinary surgeon, preferably one who is interested in and experienced with wildlife casualties.
- 8.2 The practice of veterinary surgery is restricted to those registered with The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.
- 8.3 However, the owner of an animal (including a wildlife rehabilitator who owns the wildlife casualty), a member of the owner's family or a person in the employment of the owner, may carry out minor medical treatment VSA 1966 (Schedule 3, Amendment) Order 1991 provided the animal is not treated cruelly or in a way to cause it unnecessary suffering (PAA).
- 8.4 The term 'minor medical treatment' is not defined in law but could include the administration of medicines and the changing of dressings.
- 8.5 The law permits any person in an emergency to take **first aid** measures to save an animal's life or to relieve its pain or suffering. Depending upon the circumstances these might include administration of medicines, stabilisation of dislocations and fractures, control of haemorrhage, closure of wounds and treatment of shock.
- 8.6 All wildlife casualties requiring surgery must be referred to the veterinary surgeon.

- 8.7** It is essential that all wildlife rehabilitators receive tuition in the medical procedures they are likely to be called on to carry out.
- 8.8** The diagnosis of wildlife casualties must be carried out by the veterinary surgeon. Although the majority of wildlife casualties will probably be injury cases, there are some conditions which occur regularly and could be treated by the wildlife rehabilitator without a prior diagnosis by the veterinary surgeon e.g. myxomatosis in rabbits; trichomoniasis in birds and sarcoptic mange in foxes.

8.9 Treatments which are likely to cause pain or suffering should only be carried out with the use of anaesthetics or analgesics.

The administration of anaesthetics should, as a general rule, only be carried out by the veterinary surgeon. In emergencies a trained wildlife rehabilitator may administer anaesthetics to save an animal's life or to ensure the safety of the animal handler so long as he or she a) possesses them legally, b) uses them under the direction of the veterinary surgeon. Anaesthetics should only be administered by wildlife rehabilitators who have been trained by the veterinary surgeon.

Circumstances that regularly occur where anaesthesia is necessary include:-

- A rolled up hedgehog with maggot infestation on its ventral side (every hedgehog casualty during the summer months is likely to have maggot infestation to some degree and numbers of such casualties run into thousands).
- A badger trapped in a snare which is suffering and is extremely dangerous to handle (possibly dozens of cases a year).
- Large deer trapped by their antlers in wire mesh fencing (extremely dangerous and a common occurrence).

9 Records

- 9.1** Each wildlife casualty should have its own record card recording date received, finder's name, address and telephone number, place where found, circumstances of rescue, nature of injuries, course of treatment and other useful information through to the animal's release.
- 9.2** All record cards should be kept.

10 Medicines

- 10.1** Only obtain medicines from a reputable source, a veterinary surgeon, pharmacy or registered agricultural merchant depending on the drug concerned.
- 10.2** Keep all medicines under lock and key and out of reach of children, animals or anyone not authorised to handle them.
- 10.3** Keep a record of the quantity of all medicines purchased as well as the quantity of medicines used and the date and place of use. (The Pig Veterinary Society, Grove House, Corston, Malmesbury SN1 6 OHL publishes a record book 'Veterinary Medicines - Record of Administration').
- 10.4** Check the information on all labelled medicines and safely dispose of any out of date medicines through the veterinary surgeon.
- 10.5** Only use medicines recommended for animals by the method and in accordance with the direction of the veterinary surgeon.

11 Administering Injections

- 11.1 Always use a disposable syringe and needle.
- 11.2 Clean the rubber cap of any bottle from which a dose is obtained with a swab of surgical spirit, both before and after use.
- 11.3 Do not inject through wet or dirty areas of skin if at all avoidable.
- 11.4 Always draw back the plunger of the syringe before injecting to ensure that a blood vessel has not been entered.

12 Rehabilitation

- 12.1 Assess each animal's ability to maintain itself once it is released back to the wild.

13 Release

- 13.1 Always try to release an animal back into its original territory.
- 13.2 If the original territory is likely to contain hazards for the animal or the animal may cause annoyance to the landowner, then select a more suitable release area.
- 13.3 Try to ensure that any animal released has a good chance of survival in the wild. Failure to take all necessary precautions could contravene AAA 1960.
- 13.4 Never release tame or imprinted animals: these should be fostered out wherever possible.

- 13.5 Never release a migrant species at a time of year in which it is impossible for the animal to follow its migratory instincts.

- 13.6 Never release animals during very cold, hot, wet or dry spells of weather.

- 13.7 Try to release diurnal species in the early morning and nocturnal species as soon after dusk as you consider safe.

- 13.8 Identifying released animals by marking them is desirable but may require a licence and/or expensive equipment.

- 13.9 Whenever possible obtain follow up information about an animal's survival post release.

14 Disposal of Waste

- 14.1 *Sharps:* All needles, catheters and other sharp objects should be put into a solid, suitably labelled bin. Disposal should be with the advice of the veterinary surgeon. Sharps should not be put out with household waste.

- 14.2 *Animal tissue:* All animal tissue, contaminated swabs or dressings should be put into yellow plastic bags. Disposal should be with the advice of the veterinary surgeon. Animal tissue should not be put out with household waste.

- 14.3 *Carcasses:* Carcasses should be stored frozen in black plastic body bags prior to disposal. Most veterinary practices employ a body disposal firm which should be contracted to remove any carcasses.

- 14.4 Avoid arrangements with taxidermists: consider instead giving carcasses to research facilities, local museums or schools. Ensure that both you and they keep proper written records of such transactions.

15 Post Mortems

- 15.1 Valuable information can be gleaned from post mortem investigation. The veterinary surgeon will advise in this area.

16 Personal Safety and Hygiene for Wildlife Rehabilitators

- 16.1 Ensure you have immunisation against tetanus and rabies and that these are up to date.
- 16.2 Always wash your hands before and after handling a wildlife casualty.
- 16.3 Do not smoke, eat or drink while handling animals or potentially contaminated material.
- 16.4 Ensure that all employees and voluntary staff are aware of diseases that can be contracted from wild animals. These include:
- a. Leptospirosis
 - b. Ornithosis (chlamydiaosis)
 - c. Rabies (it can happen)
 - d. Ringworm infection
 - e. Salmonellosis
 - f. Tuberculosis
 - g. Toxocariasis
 - h. Pasteurellosis
 - i. Campylobacteriosis

If an animal develops a disease which could infect humans, contact the finders of the animal using the record card and advise them to see their doctor.

- 16.5 If there are paid employees or voluntary staff, ensure that a fully trained first aider is present during normal working hours and that you have a fully equipped first aid box.

- 16.6 Record injuries to staff in an accident book. It is a requirement of RIDOR that specified injuries, dangerous occurrences or diseases are notified by the quickest practicable means to the enforcing authority, either the Health and Safety Executive or a local authority. (HMSO publish a Guidance Booklet, Ref. HS(R)23.)

- 16.7 Refer any serious wounds or animal bites to a doctor.

- 16.8 Ensure full compliance with any legal requirements.

- 16.9 The HSWA requires employers to ensure, so far as is reasonably possible, the health and safety of employees and others who may be affected by activities carried out by wildlife rehabilitators. (HMSO publish a guide entitled 'Essentials of Health and Safety at Work'.)

- 16.10 Under the COSHH Regulations 1988 an employer has a legal duty to make an assessment of the health risks created at the place of employment by substances used which may be hazardous to health and to take measures to protect people from such risks. (HMSO publish a guide entitled 'COSHH Assessments - A step by step guide to assessment and the skills needed for it'.)

APPENDIX 8.3

**HAWK BOARD DISCUSSION
DOCUMENT BY THE AUTHORS**

THE ROLE OF THE HAWK BOARD: a discussion document

Following the review of the UK wildlife sales controls, this is an ideal opportunity to review the role of The Hawk Board so as to create a panel which addresses the issues surrounding raptor keeping in the UK in the 1990s and into the next century.

THE MODEL

1. The Continuing Advisory Role

The Board would continue to represent the interests of the raptor keeping fraternity to the DoE, JNCC and other interested parties e.g. media. It would remain in place to interact with Government about issues regarding the remaining registerable species, trade in raptors, European legislation etc.

The Board would embrace the requirements of the owl keeping world and perhaps be renamed The Bird of Prey Panel (BOPP).

2. The New *Quality* Role

2.1 The "Approval" System

Beyond its advisory role to DoE and JNCC, the panel would become the *quality auditor* of the raptor keeping world.

The panel would produce specific and thorough *guidelines* concerning all aspects of raptor keeping, including welfare, education, training of personnel etc. These guidelines would be updated in recognition of the continued advancement of knowledge.

It would assess and *approve* the following:

- * clubs
- * professionals
- * handling/management/falconry courses
- * bird of prey centres
- * zoos
- * vets
- * display givers
- * rehabilitation centres

This "approval" would only be granted following a stringent **annual** assessment by a relevant subset of the panel (or recommended individuals) ensuring adherence to BOPP guidelines. The approval would be used as a stamp of quality i.e. a desirable attribute for those involved to attract customers e.g. clubs attracting new falconers; centres attracting visitors etc.

Clubs would be approved if they implemented effective self-policing systems and regularly monitored the high standards of **all** their members. Only those clubs approved by the panel would be eligible to elect representatives on the panel. Those raptor keepers outside approved clubs would have no vote. *Proportional representation* would select representatives from approved clubs. Consortia of smaller approved clubs could elect representatives.

The new panel would advertise its quality awards in the hawk and bird keeping press, country fairs etc. to encourage new and would-be falconers/keepers etc; to enrol on an approved course/ join an approved club etc; and encourage members of the public to visit only approved bird of prey centres etc. The panel would produce an easily updated series of "Good x Guides" e.g. "Good Bird of Prey Centre Guide", "Good Breeders Guide", "Good Falconry Club Guide", "Good Bird of Prey Demonstration Guide" etc. These would be circulated to the appropriate bodies e.g. Tourist Information centres would receive the "Good Bird of Prey Centre Guide", local authorities would receive the "Good Raptor Education for School Children Guide" etc.

2.2 Information dissemination

Additionally the panel's role would be to provide a service for dissemination of information. Information would be disseminated to recognised clubs/ centres etc. via a regular newsletter plus news releases. This useful service would make recognition and approval by the panel additionally advantageous not only in terms of the quality award and representation to DoE and JNCC.

3. The Structure of the Panel

The Panel would consist of six elected members, and co-opted members including:

- * specialist vet
- * professional raptor conservationist
- * professional raptor biologist

A representative from:

- * the diurnal bird of prey Taxon Advisory Group
- * the nocturnal bird of prey Taxon Advisory Group
- * the professional/commercial raptor keeping world
- * the rehabilitation world
- * Hawk and Owl Trust
- * Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
- * British Field Sports Society
- * Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
- * Joint Nature Conservation Committee
- * National Federation of Zoos
- * National Council for Aviculture
- * Raptor Breeders Association

4. Funding

Funding of the panel would come from clubs/centres/courses etc. paying for their inspection and quality award. Approved clubs would pay a fee *pro rata* of their membership to the panel. Should the standards set by the panel be of sufficient integrity the charities represented on the panel could provide funds.

This model is dependent on the panel being perceived as *the* body of excellence and high standards both within and without the raptor keeping fraternity (*the merest hint of nepotism would be its downfall!*)

APPENDIX 8.4
THE NEW HAWK BOARD
CONSTITUTION

THE HAWK BOARD CONSTITUTION

Position Statement by The Hawk Board term ending August 1995

The Hawk Board's weakness in the past has always been an inability to contact the individual "hawk" keeper, other than through infrequent mailings by the DOE, due to the confidentiality of the names and addresses of "hawk" keepers. With the changes in regulations, many individual "hawk" keepers are no longer on the DOE mailing list and thus contact by The Hawk Board has become impossible other than by direct contact from the individuals themselves, who have responded to requests from The Hawk Board. After much deliberation, the new constitution of The Hawk Board has had to be aimed towards falconry and bird of prey/raptor clubs; now that all clubs are able to gain affiliation to The Hawk Board through the criteria set out below.

It has therefore been decided that as The Hawk Board can now only disseminate information through the clubs, we strongly recommend that all "hawk" keepers join reputable clubs, so that The Hawk Board can:

- a) disseminate information quickly through the club system, and*
- b) know that certain standards, through club Codes of Conduct, are expected from all those it represents.*

The new Hawk Board continues to represent individuals on a case by case basis through direct contact with anyone feeling the need of Hawk Board assistance.

Objects

The Objects of The Hawk Board (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") are:-

1. To liaise between keepers of all Falconiformes (diurnal birds of prey) and Strigiformes (all owls) hereinafter referred to as "hawks", the government and other bodies, in the best long term interests of the "hawks" and the keepers.
2. To encourage those who keep "hawks" for any purpose to adhere to appropriate and approved Guidelines and Codes of Conduct, and to seek to promote increasingly high standards of husbandry and conservation.
3. To collate scientific evidence to safeguard and promote falconry and the keeping of "hawks".

Constitution

1. The "Board" shall comprise not more than 18 voting members.
2. The "Board" shall consist of
 - a) 1 club representative to be taken from each of the ten largest clubs at the time of the three yearly elections
 - b) 6 specialist elected members
 - c) 5 fixed members

Additional non-voting members can be co-opted as circumstances require.

- a) The 10 club representatives. All clubs will be invited to affiliate with the "Board", the criteria for affiliation being the presentation of:-
 - i) a Code of Conduct, with aims and objects acceptable to the "Board", from each club.
 - ii) Three years' audited accounts, or a letter from the club's bank stating that the club has had an account in existence for three years.
 - iii) A verifiable membership list giving names and membership number, as at 30th April in the year in which an election is held.
 - iv) A cheque for the required levy per capita membership.

Once all those clubs wishing to affiliate with the "Board" have done so, the ten clubs with the largest membership will be eligible to elect within their club, one member to represent them for the following three-year term of service to the "Board". Towards the end of each three-year term the membership numbers of all affiliated clubs will be re-counted to allow for changes in the make-up of the ten largest. Clubs may, once they have fulfilled the above criteria, affiliate with the "Board" mid term.

All affiliated clubs will be entitled to:-

- 1) Representation on the "Board" through the three yearly election process, subject to the prescribed criteria above.
 - 2) A copy of the minutes of each full Hawk Board meeting.
 - 3) A once-yearly Hawk Board Discussion Symposium open to ALL affiliated clubs to send a representative.
- b) The six specialist elected members will be nominated and elected by the membership of all affiliated clubs. These members will be expected to have an understanding of national and international legislation, and policy from DOE, MAFF and CITES relating to birds of prey, and an awareness of the threats against falconry and "hawk" keeping.
- c) The five fixed members "ex officio" will be invited from the DOE (non-voting), JNCC (non-voting), BFSS Falconry Committee Chairman (voting), BFSS Director (non-voting) and the Federation of Zoos (voting).
3. All "Board" members, whether elected or appointed, shall serve for a period of three years and shall be eligible for re-election or re-appointment at the end of the term of office.
 4. The Chair shall be elected by members of the "Board" from amongst their own number.
 5. A Vice Chair shall be elected by members of the "board" from among their own number; the vice chair will preside over Meetings in the absence of the Chair.
 6. A Secretary and a Treasurer shall be appointed by the "Board" under mutually agreed terms and conditions.
 7. No member of the "Board" shall apply for a licence to take a British bird of prey from the wild.
 8. The past attendance record of any "Board" member seeking re-election shall be made available to the electorate.
 9. Immediate suspension of any Hawk Board member awaiting court decision for an offence concerning birds of prey, and automatic dismissal following a conviction. No individual may stand or sit as a "Board" member if he or she is awaiting court decision for an offence concerning birds of prey or who is subject to any criminal warrant or charge in any country concerning birds of prey.
 10. If a member of the "Board" misses all of four consecutive meetings of the "Board" he or she shall vacate his/her seat on resolution to that effect on a majority vote of the other members present and voting.

Meetings

1. Ordinary meetings of members of the "Board" shall be held quarterly or more frequently as the "Board" decides.
2. In the event of an Extraordinary Meeting being called by a minimum of 5 members, provision should be made:-
 - a) for the business to be stated in the requisition notice to the Secretary.
 - b) for the meeting to be held within 21 days of the Secretary receiving the requisition.
3. Eight members shall form a quorum.
4. Each voting member, including the Chair, shall be entitled to one vote. In the case of an equality of votes, the Chair shall have an extra casting vote.

Finance

Each Club affiliated to the "Board" shall pay a yearly levy to the "Board" for each subscribing UK member. This levy will be paid prior to each election and thereafter annually on or before 31st July. Any new club wishing to become affiliated mid-term shall pay the appropriate fee pro rata. Failure to pay by the appropriate date will result in the club's representation at "Board" meetings being automatically suspended until the full payment is made.

The Board has the power to vary the rate of the annual levy.

Reasonable expenses will be considered for elected "Board" members.