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| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  |   **Licence application form – to control predatory protected species for conserving wild birds**  **The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended)** |

**The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)**

If you need assistance filling in this form please contact the NatureScot Licensing Team:

Email: [licensing@nature.scot](mailto:licensing@nature.scot) Telephone: 01463 725364

Please answer all relevant questions fully and do not defer to other attached documents.

Who should use this application form

Persons who wish to control predatory protected species for the purpose of conserving wild birds.

Please consult the appropriate [guidance document](https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/protected-areas-and-species/licensing/species-licensing-z-guide/birds/birds-licences-control-predatory-species) before completing this application form. You can provide any further information that you feel is relevant as a separate document.

Amendments

If you wish to amend a current licence please email [NatureScot Licensing Team](mailto:licensing@nature.scot?subject=Control%20of%20predatory%20species%20licence%20XXXXX%20-%20amendment%20request) with the licence reference number, the details you wish to change and the reasons for this change.

Renewals

If you wish to renew a licence that has expired within the last two years, you must have submitted a licence return for your expired licence before we can process your renewal. To request a renewal, please email [NatureScot Licensing Team](mailto:licensing@nature.scot?subject=Control%20of%20predatory%20species%20licence%20XXXXX%20-%20renewal%20request), quoting your previous licence.

**Section A: Licence holder details**

Please provide the name and address of the licence holder, this person will be legally responsible for ensuring that all licence conditions are met and for submitting a return to NatureScot Licensing at the end of the licence period.

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| **Title** |  |
| **First name** |  |
| **Surname** |  |
| **Email address** |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Postcode** |  |
| **Contact telephone number(s)** |  |
| **Type of Address** | **Home**  **Work** |
| **Organisation & position** (if applicable) |  |
| **Applicant details** | Land owner  Land manager  Land Agent / Factor  Tenant |

Section B: Licence details

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| **Site name** (where predation is occurring - this is how your application will be referred to in all future correspondence) |  |
| **Address** (please include the full postal address of the farm/location/estate if different from Section A) |  |
| **Farm CPH number** (if relevant) |  |
| **Six figure grid reference of site where predation is occurring** (e.g. NX100200) |  |
| **Proposed licence start date** | Click here to enter a date. |
| **Proposed licence end date** | Click here to enter a date. |
| **Date you require your licence**  (i.e. date when you need confirmation that a licence will be issued to allow preparation for the works) | Click here to enter a date. |
| **Is the area where predation is occurring covered by a nature conservation designation & if so, what is it called?** (e.g. give name of affected Site of Special Scientific Interest, Special Protection Area, Special Area of Conservation etc. – see our website for site locations and [information](https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/protected-areas-and-species/protected-areas/national-designations)) |  |

For the following sections we will require monitoring data from surveys, and records from field observations gathered using a recognised technique and recording format (see Annex 1 and accompanying guidance for more information).

**Section C: Details about the wild bird species you want to protect / conserve**

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| **Name of wild bird you want to protect** *(*incl. scientific name, if known) |  |
| **Conservation status of the wild bird species you want to protect** (refer to the [Birds of Conservation Concern guidance](https://www.bto.org/our-science/publications/birds-conservation-concern/status-our-bird-populations-fifth-birds) or ask a licencing officer if you are unsure) |  |
| **Please state whether the wild birds you want to protect are adults and / or juveniles, and are breeding or non-breeding** |  |
| **Total number of wild birds you want to protect, that are currently present in the licence application area** (answer must accord with count information you provide using Annex 1) |  |
| **How have the numbers of birds you want to protect that are present in the licence application area changed over time?** (include multi-year count data evidence using Annex 1) |  |

**Section D: Details of the predator species you want to control**

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| **Name of the predator species you want to control** (incl. scientific name, if known) |  |
| **Conservation status of the predator species** (refer to the [Birds of Conservation Concern guidance](https://www.bto.org/our-science/publications/birds-conservation-concern/status-our-bird-populations-fifth-birds) or ask a licencing officer if you are unsure) |  |
| **Please state whether the predator species you want to control are adults and / or juveniles, and are breeding or non-breeding** |  |
| **Total number of predator species present in licence application area** (answer must accord with count information you have provided in Annex 1) |  |
| **Type of predation occurring** (e.g. attacks on adult birds in air, attacks on adult birds on nest, attacks on chicks, eggs etc.) |  |
| **Number of predation attempts you have observed** (answer must accord with count information you provide using Annex 1) |  |
| **When is predation occurring -** **please give months of year and times of day** (answer must accord with count information you have provided in Annex 1) |  |
| **How have the numbers of predators present in the licence application area changed over time?** (include multi-year count data evidence using Annex 1) |  |

**Section E: Significance of the licence application area to the wild birds you are wishing to protect / conserve**

Please provide information on the importance of the area covered by this licence application for the wild bird species you wish to protect. Are there any hot/spot cold spot maps associated with this species? Are there are surveys or monitoring data or reports on the species in the wider area?

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| **Is the area a stronghold or hot spot for the wild bird species you wish to protect / conserve?** (we can help access this information if it is available) |  |
| **Please provide any information you have on the size of the population of the wild bird species you wish to protect / conserve in the wider area/region?** (We can help access this information if it is available) |  |

**Section F: Other satisfactory solutions**

Please describe any other actions, which don’t require a licence, which you have tried to remove or reduce the predatory impacts.

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| **Have you sought advice or information from elsewhere to try to minimise any impacts on the wild bird species being predated?** |  |
| **If so, please provide details of this advice** |  |
| **Give details of all non-licensable actions you have employed to try to reduce predation** (give the type of device used, the frequency of use, and the location used - with 6 figure OS grid reference) | **Scaring** (name type of scare, static or non-static, location and frequency used)    **Land or Stock Management** (include details of any periods when fields are shut off to protect nests from trampling, low stocking densities used during bird breeding periods etc.)    **Use of physical barriers** (fencing type and location)    **Other predator control** (give name of species and frequency, describe any previous control under a NatureScot General Licence) |
| **What other factors could be affecting populations of the prey species, and what are you doing to manage them?** |  |
| **Is there any other information that you feel is relevant to this application?** |  |

Section G – checklist of documents

* A location map showing the landholding and the fields or moorland areas where predation is occurring, please show any fencing and type of fencing and any static scaring devices on this map.
* Evidence of predation occurring – see Annex 1 and accompanying guidance, please use Annex 1 of this licensing application to provide photos, dated observations and field recordings etc.
* Evidence of impact on prey species - see Annex 1 and accompanying guidance, please use Annex 1 of this licensing application to provide photos, dated observations field recordings, multi- year transects, fixed point surveys etc.
* A map clearly showing where predator control is proposed

**Section H: Declaration**

* I understand that it is an offence to knowingly or recklessly provide false information in order to obtain a licence, and I declare that the particulars given in this application and any accompanying documents are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I apply for a licence in accordance with these particulars.
* I understand that failure to comply with any conditions included on any licence granted in respect of this application may constitute an offence.

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| **Date**: Click here to enter a date. | **Print name:**  **Electronic signature:** |

**Submitting your application form**

This application **should be submitted by email by the licence holder** as named on this licence application (in which case please print name above and a signature is not required). If this application is not submitted by the licence holder, the electronic signature of the licence holder must be inserted above, and they must be copied in to the submission email. Please email the completed application form, together with all supporting information, to:[**licensing@nature.scot**](mailto:licensing@nature.scot)

Please do not send zip files as these may be blocked by our security system and not received.

Once we have received your application, you will receive an automated email acknowledging this. Please quote the reference number given in the email if you need to contact us in relation to your application.

If you do not have access to email, you can print out and send your application and supporting information to the postal address below. Please note if you apply by post you will not receive confirmation that your application has been received.

**Licensing Section**

**NatureScot**

**Great Glen House**

**Leachkin Road**

**Inverness**

**IV3 8NW**

[How we adhere with the Data Protection Act and the Scottish Regulators' Strategic Code of Practice](https://www.nature.scot/data-protection-how-we-use-your-personal-information-accordance-data-protection-act)

**Annex 1 - BIRD RECORDING TEMPLATES AND LINKS TO USEFUL INFORMATION**

<https://www.workingforwaders.com/resources> - in particular the wader calendar which is designed for farmers but would work just as well for other practitioners

<https://www.workingforwaders.com/resources> - in particular the decision making guide.

**BIRD YOU WISH TO PROTECT / CONSERVE - SURVEY RECORDING FORM**

Record the observed number (or presence) of each species of bird you wish to conserve / protect. If possible, indicate how many of these birds you observed with young and any alarm-calling, any that are agitated or exhibit mobbing behaviours. Please also note any nests or eggs you have observed (please be careful not to disturb nesting birds). Please note the method you have used to collect this information e.g. nest cameras, observations going about daily business or walking a transect line (for further guidance on how to monitor waders (this may be useful for monitoring other birds as well) please see the [Working for Waders guidance](https://www.workingforwaders.com/fieldwork-guidance).

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| **Survey method used:** | | | | | | |
| **Location** (give six figure OS grid reference) | **Date** | **Time of count/ observation** | **No. of each species observed** | **Number with young** | **Number alarm calling, agitated or mobbing** | **Other Comments** |
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| Other comments may include observations regarding weather conditions or prior disturbance that might have influenced bird numbers or direction of flight for birds that fly away. It would also be useful to reference any photographic or video evidence which you have captured to go alongside any observations recorded above. | | | | | | |

**PREDATORY BIRD SURVEY RECORDING FORM**

Record the observed number of predatory birds. Note any observations of predation e.g. taking of eggs or chicks. Please note the method you have used to collect this information e.g. nest cameras, observations going about daily business or walking a transect line (for further guidance on how to monitor waders (this may be useful for monitoring other birds as well) please see the [Working for Waders guidance](https://www.workingforwaders.com/fieldwork-guidance).

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| **Survey method used:** | | | | | |
| **Location** (give six figure OS grid reference) | **Date** | **Time of count/ observation** | **No. of predatory birds observed** | **Observations**  **of predation** | **Other Comments** |
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