



Isle of Man Government

Reiltys Ellan Vannin

Wildlife Act 1990

General licence to control certain birds for economic reasons Licence No. WLA/G002/23

The Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 16 of the Wildlife Act 1990, hereby authorises,

to prevent serious damage to livestock, foodstuffs for livestock, crops, vegetables, fruit, growing timber or fisheries,

any authorised person to kill, injure in the course of attempting to kill or take, with or without the use of a semi-automatic weapon, any of the wild birds listed below, or to take, damage or destroy their nests or eggs, in the Isle of Man, subject to the conditions specified below:

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	
Greylag Goose (wild or feral)	<i>Anser anser</i>	(see conditions 3 and 4)
Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	(see conditions 3 and 4)
Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	
Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>	
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	(except at the nest - condition 5)

Conditions

1. Actions taken under this licence may be done by means which are not prohibited by Section 5 of the Wildlife Act 1990 and must be done with the minimum of distress to the birds.
2. Any birds killed under the authority of this licence must be killed humanely and as quickly as possible, using the best method to deploy in the circumstances.
3. Adult geese may only be controlled during the open season, which is here defined as 1st July to 31st March, and excluding the Ayres Gravel Pit Area of Special Protection for Birds, Areas of Special Scientific Interest and National Nature Reserves.
4. Geese taken using a shotgun, may only be taken with 3" magnum cartridges and a **minimum shot size of No.1**. A rifle may be used. Goslings must be killed by shooting or by dislocation of the neck. Goose eggs must be destroyed by oiling with cooking oil or paraffin (the *whole* egg must be coated) or by pinning or shaking.

5. Rooks may only be controlled away from the nest (control at rookeries is not allowed under this licence).
6. Any use made of this licence must be reported to the Department as soon as is practical and no less than annually.

Reports should include:

- home farm name,
- species (type) of bird,
- number of each species of bird killed,
- the purpose for killing the birds (e.g. to prevent damage to a crop of vegetables).

Reports should be submitted in writing by email to ecopolicy@gov.im or to the address below:

Ecosystem Policy Team
Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture
Thie Slieau Whallian
Foxdale Road
St Johns
IM4 3AS

The purpose of the reporting is to enable the Department to quantify the actions taken under the licence and therefore inform the Department's consideration of future licences.

7. This licence is valid from **1st January 2023** until **31st December 2024** and may be modified or revoked at any time by the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture.

Aline Thomas

for and on behalf of the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture.

5th June 2023

Notes

- a) This licence conveys no authority for actions prohibited by other legislation such as the shooting controls under the Curraghs Acquisition Act 1963 (for Protected land area, see map). Also, it does not exempt owners and occupiers from their legal obligation to gain consent for 'operations likely to damage' the interest on an Area of Special Scientific Interest.
- b) Where the action licensed involves the use of firearms and/or regulated weapons, it is the authorised person's responsibility to ensure that he complies with all relevant legislation.
- c) Under the Wildlife Act, '*authorised person*' means-
 - (a) the owner or occupier, or any person authorised by the owner or occupier, of the land on which the action authorised is taken;
 - (b) as respects anything done in relation to wild birds, any person authorised in writing by any of the following bodies, that is to say, the Department or the Manx Utilities Authority;so, however, that the authorisation of any person for the purposes of this definition shall not confer any right of entry upon any land; and
'*semi-automatic weapon*' does not include any weapon the magazine of which is incapable of holding more than two rounds.

