



**Isle of Man  
Government**

*Reiltys Ellan Vannin*

## **Wildlife Act 1990**

### **General licence to trap birds in certain cage-traps or nets for specified purposes Licence No. WLA/G006/23**

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,

- 1. to conserve wild birds (including game),**
- 2. to protect any collection of wild birds,**
- 3. to prevent serious damage to livestock (including game), foodstuffs for livestock, crops, vegetables, fruit, growing timber or fisheries,**
- 4. to preserve public health**

**any authorised person to use a cage-trap or net to take the following wild birds in the Isle of Man, subject to the conditions below:**

<b><u>Common Name</u></b>	<b><u>Scientific Name</u></b>	
<b>Gull, Great Black-backed</b>	<b><i>Larus marinus</i></b>	<b>(purposes 1 to 3 only)</b>
<b>Gull, Herring</b>	<b><i>Larus argentatus</i></b>	<b>(purposes 1 to 3 only)</b>
<b>Carrion Crow</b>	<b><i>Corvus corone</i></b>	<b>(purposes 1 to 3 only)</b>
<b>Hooded Crow</b>	<b><i>Corvus cornix</i></b>	<b>(purposes 1 to 3 only)</b>
<b>Magpie</b>	<b><i>Pica pica</i></b>	<b>(purposes 1 to 3 only)</b>
<b>Woodpigeon</b>	<b><i>Columba palumbus</i></b>	<b>(purpose 3 only)</b>
<b>Jackdaw</b>	<b><i>Corvus monedula</i></b>	<b>(purpose 3 only)</b>
<b>Rook</b>	<b><i>Corvus frugilegus</i></b>	<b>(purpose 3 only)</b>
<b>Feral Pigeon</b>	<b><i>Columba livia</i></b>	<b>(purpose 4 only)</b>

### **Conditions**

1. The cage-trap or net must be operated with the minimum of distress to the birds.
2. The dimensions of every cage-trap must satisfy the requirements of section 8 (1) of the Act, thereby permitting any bird in the trap to stretch its wings freely.
3. Only one decoy bird may be held in a cage trap at any time.
4. Every cage-trap, used under the authority of this licence, shall be inspected by an authorised person on a daily basis when the cage trap is in use. In exceptional weather conditions it may not be possible to do this, but every effort must be made to inspect the

cage trap as soon as possible. However, when such exceptionally bad weather is expected, the trap should be closed if a daily visit is unlikely to be possible. Every cage trap shall be inspected sufficiently to establish the presence of birds. At each inspection any birds caught in the trap shall be removed from it.

5. Any bird not listed above that is caught in the trap or net must be released unharmed immediately it is found.
6. Under this licence, the use of a net does not include the use of any net for taking birds in flight or the use for taking birds on the ground of any net which is projected or propelled otherwise than by hand.
7. Where cage-traps or nets are left in the open but not in use, they must be rendered incapable of holding or catching birds or other animals. Any decoy bird must be removed when a trap is not in use.
8. The taking and keeping of a decoy bird must be done under, and in accordance with a licence (see **WLA/G001/23**). The decoy bird must be provided with adequate food, water, shelter and a perch for the entire period during which it is used.
9. The killing of any bird caught under the terms of this licence may only be undertaken under the terms of a licence.
10. 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 or other location where action undertaken,
- species (type) of bird cage-trapped or netted,
- numbers of each species of bird cage-trapped or netted,
- the purpose for operating the cage trap (e.g. to prevent damage to a crop of barley).

**Reports should be submitted in writing** by email to [ecopolicy@gov.im](mailto: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.

11. This licence is valid from **1<sup>st</sup> January 2023** until **31<sup>st</sup> 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.  
5<sup>th</sup> June 2023

## Notes

- a) This licence conveys no authority for actions prohibited by other legislation. 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) 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.