



Isle of Man Government

Reilfty Ellan Vannin

Wildlife Act 1990

General licence to take and keep decoy birds in traps for pest control Licence No. WLA/G001/23

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 and
3. to prevent serious damage to livestock (including game), foodstuffs for livestock, crops, vegetables, fruit, growing timber or fisheries

any authorised person to take for use in a cage trap, and to keep or confine in a cage-trap, any bird listed below, in the Isle of Man, subject to the conditions listed on this licence.

The wild birds that are permitted to be used as decoys are:

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	(for purposes 1 to 3)
Hooded crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	(for purposes 1 to 3)
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	(for purposes 1 to 3)
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	(for purpose 3 only)

Conditions

1. The dimensions of every cage-trap must satisfy the requirements of section 8 (1) of the Act, to permit the bird to stretch its wings freely.
2. **Only one decoy bird may be held in any one cage trap at any time.**
3. Every cage-trap 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.
4. Where cage-traps are left in the open but not in use, they must be rendered incapable of holding or catching birds **or other animals**.

5. The decoy bird must be provided with adequate food, water, shelter and a perch for the entire period during which it is used. The decoy bird must be removed when the trap is not in use.
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 birds of traps run,
- the purpose for operating the cage trap(s) (e.g. to prevent damage to a crop of barley).

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

Note

- 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.