



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Wild birds general licence Survey

September 2019



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GLTeam@defra.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/defra

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Overview

All wild bird species, their eggs and nests (whilst they are in use or being built) are protected by law. However, licences in the form of individual, class or general licences can be granted to allow wild birds to be removed or lethally controlled where they are causing problems and certain legal tests are met. Government wildlife management policy is that people should be free to manage wildlife but, before carrying out lethal control, they should first consider taking less harmful action to resolve the issue.

What is this survey for?

This survey forms part of the process of consulting and engaging with stakeholders for the 2019 review on general licences to kill or take wild birds in England (nature conservation is a devolved matter and this review applies to England only).

The aim of the review is to deliver a robust system of licensing to manage the issues that arise between the protection of wild birds and the legitimate activities people need to carry out for specific purposes such as protecting livestock or crops and for conservation purposes. Defra is leading this review in close partnership with Natural England.

In parallel to seeking information in this survey, Defra and Natural England will be conducting a series of workshops with interested stakeholders to cover other issues such as activity on protected sites. We will also compile and consider other available evidence to inform the review.

Read more about [general licences](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/general-licences-for-wildlife-management): www.gov.uk/government/collections/general-licences-for-wildlife-management.

What does this survey cover?

This survey builds upon the useful information that stakeholders provided as part of the call for evidence in May 2019. It asks for specific information to feed into the development of a future licensing system.

The survey asks you what you consider general licences for the following purposes should cover, and should not cover, and your supporting evidence:

- to kill or take wild birds to conserve wild birds and to conserve flora and fauna
- to kill or take wild birds to preserve public health or public safety
- to kill or take wild birds to prevent serious damage to livestock, foodstuffs for livestock, crops, vegetables, fruit, growing timber, fisheries or inland waters

The survey will also seek information on other related issues including record keeping when acting under general licences.

Please see further information about the themes of the survey below.

Who can respond to this survey?

This survey seeks information from all stakeholders with an interest in the future direction of general licensing. This includes people who use general licences and those with an interest in how a system of general licensing might operate. Some questions are more applicable to specific groups, such as those who currently use the licences, and respondents can choose not to answer questions they do not consider relevant to them.

How to respond

Responses should be sent using our [online survey](#) by **23:45 on 5 December 2019**.

Alternatively, you can send your responses by email to: GLTeam@defra.gov.uk

Or by post to:

The General License Review Team
1st Floor, Temple Quay House,
2 The Square,
Temple Quay,
Bristol, BS1 6EB

How to use this survey

The survey has 6 themes as outlined further below. It is not necessary to respond to every question. Please respond to those that are most relevant to you. You must complete the 'About You' section in order that we can consider the views and information submitted. Any personal information submitted would be processed subject to the data protection provisions described in the 'Data Protection and GDPR section'. **In providing information for this survey, please do not include details that could identify you, your address or the location of your business premises.**

Theme A – Purpose 'to conserve wild birds and to conserve flora and fauna'

In this section we ask you to identify which wild bird species you consider need to be controlled, and those that should not be controlled, under a general licence for the purpose of conservation and to provide evidence to support your view. This purpose covers the conservation of other wild birds, other animals or plants.

Theme B – Purpose ‘to preserve public health or public safety’

In this section we ask you to identify which wild bird species you consider need to be controlled, and those that should not be controlled, under a general licence for the purpose of preserving public health and safety and to provide evidence to support your view. This purpose covers the prevention of the spread of human disease, or where wild birds, or their nests, are causing other problems such as blocking flues.

Theme C – Purpose ‘to prevent serious damage to livestock, foodstuffs for livestock, crops, vegetables, fruit, growing timber, fisheries or inland waters’

In this section we ask you to identify which wild bird species you consider need to be controlled, and those that should not be controlled, under a general licence for the purpose of preventing serious damage and to provide evidence to support your view. This purpose covers the prevention of serious damage to a range of potential categories including livestock and crops.

Theme D – Alternatives to lethal control

We are asking you in this section to tell us about what alternative measures you have used, or know about, to killing or taking wild birds under a general licence. We are also asking you to provide any evidence you have about how well these alternative measures work.

Theme E – Record keeping

This section is only relevant to users of general licences. We are asking you in this section to tell us if you keep records when acting under any of the three licensing purposes (see Themes A, B & C). If you keep records, we would also like to know what kinds of records you keep and how long it takes you to make these records.

Theme F - Your views on the role of General Licences to manage Wild Birds

In this section of the survey, we are asking for your views on any issues not covered in the rest of the survey in relation to the current general licensing system. We are seeking your views about what you consider to be the key issues in relation to the general licensing of wild birds, and the way the system of general licensing operates.

Confidentiality and data protection

We are asking you to provide your contact details so that we can contact you if we have any queries about your response or if we wish to ask you to provide further information to

add to the response that you have given. **You must complete the ‘About You’ section in order that we can consider the views and information submitted.**

All individuals have the right to complain if they think a Defra group organisation is in breach of the New Data Protection Regime. All complaints, not lodged directly with the organisation, should go to the Information Commissioner’s Office as the supervisory authority. Details of our Personal Information Charter on GOV.UK can be found at www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs/about/personal-information-charter. It explains how we treat personal data and inform individuals about their rights.

The provision of the information you provide is not connected with individual decision making (making a decision solely by automated means without any human involvement) or profiling (automated processing of personal data to evaluate certain things about an individual).

The legal basis for collecting the data is Article 6(1)(a) of the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) that Defra has your consent for the processing and secondly Article 6(1)(e) of the GDPR, which states that the “processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller”. In this case Defra.

Individuals have the right to withdraw their consent and request that their personal data be deleted, also known as the ‘right to be forgotten’. The principle is to enable an individual to request the deletion or removal of personal data where there is no compelling reason for its continued processing.

A summary of responses to this survey will be published on the Government website at: www.gov.uk/defra. An annex to the survey response summary will list all organisations that responded **but will not include** personal names, addresses or other contact details.

Your personal details will not be transferred outside the European Economic Area, to third countries or international organisations.

Your personal data is being collected by Defra and will be seen by Defra employees such as survey analysts and statisticians. There may be occasions when Defra will share the information you provide in response to the survey, including any personal data with external analysts. This is for the purposes of survey response analysis and provision of a report of the summary of responses only.

Defra may also publish the content of your response to this survey to make it available to the public without your personal name and private contact details (such as home address and email address). Your personal data will be kept by us for 6 years in line with our standard information retention policy.

If you click on ‘**Yes**’ in response to the question asking if you would like anything in your response to be kept confidential, you are asked to state clearly what information you would

like to be kept as confidential and explain your reasons for confidentiality. The reason for this is that information in responses to this survey may be subject to release to the public or other parties in accordance with the access to information law (these are primarily the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs), the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA)).

We have obligations, mainly under the EIRs, FOIA and DPA, to disclose information to particular recipients or to the public in certain circumstances. In view of this, your explanation of your reasons for requesting confidentiality for all or part of your response would help us balance these obligations for disclosure against any obligation of confidentiality.

If we receive a request for the information that you have provided in your response to this survey, we will take full account of your reasons for requesting confidentiality of your response, but we cannot guarantee that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances.

If you click on '**No**' in response to the question asking if you would like anything in your response to be kept confidential, we will be able to release the content of your response to the public, but we won't make your personal name and private contact details publicly available.

If you have any comments or complaints about the survey process, please address them to:

The General License Review Team
1st Floor, Temple Quay House,
2 The Square,
Temple Quay,
Bristol, BS1 6EB

Or email: GLTeam@defra.gov.uk

Survey questions

Data protection and GDPR

Would you like your response to be confidential? Yes/No

If you answered Yes to this question please give your reason. (Free text - please confine your answer to a maximum of 500 words)

About you

We are asking you to provide your contact details so that we can contact you if we have any queries about your response or if we wish to ask you to provide further information to add to the response that you have given. **You must complete this section in order that we can consider the views and information submitted.**

1.1. What is your name? (Required)

1.2. What is your contact email address? (Required)

1.3. Are you responding on behalf of a number of persons (group, organisation nor business), or responding as an individual? (Group, organisation or business/Individual)

If applicable, please give details of the group, organisation or business

If applicable, number of persons represented by response

1.4. Do you use, or have you used, a general licence to kill or take wild birds on land you own or occupy? (Yes/No)

1.5. Under a general licence, do you authorise, or have you authorised, other persons to kill or take wild birds on land you own or occupy? (Yes/No)

1.6. Are you, or have you been, authorised by other persons under a general licence to kill or take wild birds on land you do not own or occupy? (Yes/No)

1.7. Do you use or authorise use under a general or individual licence to kill or take wild birds on a protected site? (Yes/No)

If 'Yes' please specify the type(s) of site – please select any options that apply.

- Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
- Special Protected Area (SPA)
- Ramsar Site

1.8. In what capacity have you used a general licence to control wild birds? You can select more than one box.

- conservation organisation
- farmer
- gamekeeper
- landowner or occupier (other than farmer or gamekeeper)
- local government pest controller
- private pest control company
- recreational shooter
- other (please specify)

1.9. Are you a member of, or affiliated to, any organisations associated with shooting, farming, pest control or conservation? (Yes/No)

Please select which organisation(s): you can select more than one option.

- Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board
- Angling Trust
- Animal Aid
- Associated British Ports
- Associated of Local Government Ecologists
- Birders Against Wildlife Crime
- Brassica Growers Association
- British Association for Shooting and Conservation
- British Game Alliance
- British Oat and Barley Millers Association
- British Pest Control Association
- British Retail Consortium
- British Trust for Ornithology
- Burnham Thorpe Syndicate
- Country Landowners Association
- Countryside Alliance
- European Federation for Hunting and Conservation
- Food and Drink Federation
- Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust
- Great Broughton Woodpigeon Club
- Greater Exmoor Shoots Association
- Gun Trade Association
- Hunt Saboteurs Association
- League Against Cruel Sports
- Little Dowling Pidgeon Club
- Local Government Association
- Maize Growers Association
- Moorland Association
- National Association of British and Irish Millers Ltd
- National Farmers Union
- National Gamekeepers' Organisation
- National Pest Technicians Association
- National Police Chiefs Council
- National Sheep Association
- National Trust
- National Wildlife Crime Unit
- Pest Management Alliance
- Royal Agricultural Society of England & Innovation for Agriculture
- Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA)

- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
- Scottish Association for Country Sports
- Shooting Times & Country Magazine
- SongBird Survival
- Tenant Farmers Association
- Wild Animal Welfare Committee
- Wild Justice
- Wildfowl and Wetland Trust
- Wildlife and Countryside Link
- Wildlife Management Ltd
- Wildlife Trusts
- Other (please specify)

Theme A - Purpose ‘to conserve wild birds and to conserve flora and fauna’

In this section we ask you to identify which wild bird species you consider need to be controlled, and those that should not be controlled, under a general licence for the purpose of conservation and to provide evidence to support your view. This purpose covers the conservation of other wild birds, other animals or plants.

A.1. Which bird species do you consider need to be controlled under general licence for conservation purposes and why?

This question includes the species currently included on general licence GL34. You will have an opportunity in the next question to propose new species for inclusion. This question includes consideration of non-native species – we received very few responses relating to these in the May call for evidence, so would welcome information and evidence in relation to these species.

The Secretary of State decided not to include the lesser black-backed gull on licence GL34 in June 2019 due to its poorer conservation status.

This purpose has been split into several sub-categories. You can select as many of the available options as you wish to. **These will only be registered if you give reasons why.**

Species	Conserving wild birds	Conserving flora (plants)	Conserving fauna (animals other than wild birds)
Canada Goose - Branta canadensis			

Carrion Crow - <i>Corvus corone</i>			
Egyptian Goose - <i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>			
Indian House Crow - <i>Corvus splendens</i>			
Jackdaw - <i>Corvus monedula</i>			
Jay - <i>Garrulus glandarius</i>			
Magpie - <i>Pica pica</i>			
Monk Parakeet - <i>Myiopsitta monachus</i>			
Ring-necked Parakeet - <i>Psittacula krameri</i>			
Rook - <i>Corvus frugilegus</i>			
Sacred Ibis - <i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>			

If you have made a selection above, please provide evidence for why you think the species concerned should be controlled under general licence for the relevant purpose(s) you have selected. This includes scientific and practitioner evidence, with literature references where they exist, including if you have needed to use the licence for the purpose and species in question.

Please be as specific as possible in giving your evidence, including in describing the reason why control is required and referring to particular species rather than groups of species such as corvids. Please confine your answer to a maximum of 500 words for each species.

A.2. Do you consider that any other bird species need to be controlled under general licence for conservation purposes?

Please list each additional species (you can add up to five), indicate the particular issue and explain why it should be included. **These will only be registered if you give reasons why.**

Provide evidence for why you think the species concerned should be controlled under general licence for the relevant purpose(s) you have selected. This includes scientific and practitioner evidence, with literature references where they exist.

Be as specific as possible when describing why control is required and refer to particular species rather than groups of species such as corvids. Please confine your answer to a maximum of 500 words for each species.

Proposed species:

Issue - conserving:

- **wild birds**
- **flora (plants)**
- **fauna (animals other than wild birds)**

Why (please provide supporting evidence for your selection(s)).

A.3. Are there any bird species listed below that you consider should NOT be controlled under general licence for the purposes listed?

This purpose has been split into several sub-categories. You can select as many of the available options as you wish to. **These will only be registered if you give reasons why.**

Species	Conserving wild birds	Conserving flora (plants)	Conserving fauna (animals other than wild birds)
Canada Goose - <i>Branta canadensis</i>			
Carrion Crow - <i>Corvus corone</i>			
Egyptian Goose - <i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>			
Indian House Crow - <i>Corvus splendens</i>			
Jackdaw - <i>Corvus monedula</i>			
Jay - <i>Garrulus glandarrus</i>			

Magpie - <i>Pica pica</i>			
Monk Parakeet - <i>Myiopsitta monachus</i>			
Ring-necked Parakeet - <i>Psittacula krameri</i>			
Rook - <i>Corvus frugilegus</i>			
Sacred Ibis - <i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>			

If you have made any selections above, please provide evidence for why you think the species concerned should **not** be controlled under general licence for the relevant purpose(s) you have selected. This includes scientific and practitioner evidence, with literature references where they exist.

Please be as specific as possible in giving your evidence, including in describing the reason why control is not required and referring to particular species rather than groups of species such as corvids. Please confine your answer to a maximum of 500 words for each species.

Theme B – Purpose ‘to preserve public health or public safety’

In this section we ask you to identify which wild bird species you consider need to be controlled, and those that should not be controlled, under a general licence for the purpose of preserving public health and safety and to provide evidence to support your view. This purpose covers the prevention of the spread of human disease, or where wild birds, or their nests, are causing other problems such as blocking flues.

B.1. Which bird species do you consider need to be controlled under general licence for preserving public health and public safety purposes and why?

This question includes the species currently included on general licence GL35. You will have an opportunity in the next question to propose new species for inclusion. This question includes consideration of non-native species – we received very few responses relating to these in the May call for evidence, so would welcome information and evidence in relation to these species.

The Secretary of State decided not to include the herring gull and lesser black-backed gull on licence GL35 in June 2019 due to their poorer conservation status.

This purpose has been split into several sub-categories. You can select as many of the available options as you wish to. **These will only be registered if you give reasons why.**

Issues in relation to birds nesting include blocking flues and nesting on emergency equipment/within food premises.

Species	Prevention of trips, slips and falls	Preventing spread of human disease	Dealing with issues in relation to birds nesting	Other
Canada Goose - <i>Branta canadensis</i>				
Carrion Crow - <i>Corvus corone</i>				
Feral pigeon - <i>Columba livia</i>				
Jackdaw - <i>Corvus monedula</i>				
Jay - <i>Garrulus glandarrus</i>				
Magpie - <i>Pica pica</i>				
Monk Parakeet - <i>Myiopsitta monachus</i>				
Rook - <i>Corvus frugilegus</i>				

If you select 'other' (i.e. a different health and safety purpose to those specified), please specify in the 'why' box for the relevant species below what that other health and safety related purpose is and what evidence you have to support that purpose.

If you have made a selection above, please provide evidence for why you think the species concerned should be controlled under general licence for the relevant purpose. This includes scientific and practitioner evidence, with literature references where they exist, including if you have needed to use the licence for the purpose and species in question.

Please be as specific as possible in giving your evidence, including in describing the reason why control is required and referring to particular species rather than groups of species such as corvids. Please confine your answer to a maximum of 500 words for each species.

B.2. Do you consider that any other bird species need to be controlled under general licence for preserving public health or public safety purposes?

Please list each additional species (you can add up to five), indicate the particular issue and explain why it should be included. **These will only be registered if you give reasons why.**

Provide evidence for why you think the species concerned should be controlled under general licence for the relevant purpose(s) you have selected. This includes scientific and practitioner evidence, with literature references where they exist.

Be as specific as possible when describing why control is required and refer to particular species rather than groups of species such as corvids. Please confine your answer to a maximum of 500 words for each species.

If you select 'other' (i.e. a different health and safety purpose to those specified), please specify in the 'why' box what that other health and safety related purpose is and what the evidence is to support that purpose.

Proposed species:

Issue:

- **prevention of trips, slips and falls**
- **preventing spread of human disease**
- **dealing with issues in relations to birds nesting**
- **other**

Why (please provide supporting evidence for your selection(s)).

B.3. Are there any bird species listed below that you consider should NOT be controlled under general licence for the purpose of preserving public health or safety?

This purpose has been split into several sub-categories. You can select as many of the available options as you wish to. **These will only be registered if you give reasons why.**

Species	Prevention of trips, slips and falls	Preventing spread of human disease	Dealing with issues in relation to birds nesting
Carrion Crow - <i>Corvus corone</i>			
Canada Goose - <i>Branta canadensis</i>			
Feral pigeon - <i>Columba livia</i>			
Jackdaw - <i>Corvus monedula</i>			
Jay - <i>Garrulus glandarrus</i>			
Magpie - <i>Pica pica</i>			
Monk Parakeet - <i>Myiopsitta monachus</i>			
Rook - <i>Corvus frugilegus</i>			

If you have made any selections above, please provide evidence for why you think the species concerned should **not** be controlled under general licence for the relevant purpose(s) you have selected. This includes scientific and practitioner evidence, with literature references where they exist.

Please be as specific as possible in giving your evidence, including in describing the reason why control is **not** required and referring to particular species rather than groups of species such as corvids. Please confine your answer to a maximum of 500 words for each species.

Theme C – Purpose ‘to prevent serious damage to livestock, foodstuffs for livestock, crops, vegetables, fruit, growing timber, fisheries or inland waters’

In this section we ask you to identify which wild bird species you consider need to be controlled, and those that should not be controlled, under a general licence for the purpose of preventing serious damage and to provide evidence to support your view. This purpose covers the prevention of serious damage to a range of potential categories including livestock and crops.

C.1. Which bird species do you consider need to be controlled under general licence to prevent serious damage and why?

This question includes the species currently included on general licence GL36. You will have an opportunity in the next question to propose new species for inclusion. This question includes consideration of non-native species – we received very few responses relating to these in the May call for evidence, so would welcome information and evidence in relation to these species.

The Secretary of State decided not to include the lesser black-backed gull on licence GL36 in June 2019 due to its poorer conservation status.

This purpose has been split into several sub-categories. You can select as many of the available options as you wish to. **These will only be registered if you give reasons why.**

Species	Livestock	Crops	Vegetables	Fruit	Livestock feedstuffs	Growing timber	Fisheries	Inland waters
Canada Goose - <i>Branta canadensis</i>								
Carrion Crow - <i>Corvus corone</i>								
Egyptian Goose - <i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>								
Feral Pigeon - <i>Columba livia</i>								
Jackdaw - <i>Corvus monedula</i>								
Magpie - <i>Pica pica</i>								
Monk Parakeet - <i>Myiopsitta monachus</i>								
Ring-necked Parakeet - <i>Psittacula krameri</i>								
Rook - <i>Corvus frugilegus</i>								
Woodpigeon - <i>Columba palumbus</i>								

If you have made a selection above, please provide evidence for why you think the species concerned should be controlled under general licence for the relevant purpose(s) you have selected. This includes scientific and practitioner evidence, with literature references where they exist, including if you have needed to use the licence for the purpose and species in question.

Please be as specific as possible in giving your evidence, including in describing the reason why control is required and referring to particular species rather than groups of species such as corvids. Please confine your answer to a maximum of 500 words for each species.

C.2. Do you consider that other bird species need to be controlled under general licence to prevent serious damage?

Please list each additional species (you can add up to five), indicate the particular issue and explain why it should be included. **These will only be registered if you give reasons why.**

Provide evidence for why you think the species concerned should be controlled under general licence for the relevant purpose(s) you have selected. This includes scientific and practitioner evidence, with literature references where they exist.

Be as specific as possible when describing why control is required and refer to particular species rather than groups of species such as corvids. Please confine your answer to a maximum of 500 words for each species.

Proposed species:

Purpose:

- **livestock**
- **crops**
- **vegetables**
- **fruit**
- **livestock feedstuffs**
- **growing timber**
- **fisheries**
- **inland waters**

Why (please provide supporting evidence for your selection(s)).

C.3. Are there bird species that you consider should NOT be controlled under general licences for the purposes listed?

This purpose has been split into several sub-categories. You can select as many of the available options as you wish to. **These will only be registered if you give reasons why.**

Species	Livestock	Crops	Vegetables	Fruit	Livestock feedstuffs	Growing timber	Fisheries	Inland waters
Canada Goose - <i>Branta canadensis</i>								
Carrion Crow - <i>Corvus corone</i>								
Egyptian Goose - <i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>								
Feral Pigeon - <i>Columba livia</i>								
Jackdaw - <i>Corvus monedula</i>								
Magpie - <i>Pica pica</i>								
Monk Parakeet - <i>Myiopsitta monachus</i>								
Ring-necked Parakeet - <i>Psittacula krameri</i>								
Rook - <i>Corvus frugilegus</i>								
Woodpigeon - <i>Columba palumbus</i>								

If you have made any selections above, please provide evidence for why you think the species concerned should **not** be controlled under general licence for the relevant purpose(s) you have selected. This includes scientific and practitioner evidence, with literature references where they exist.

Please be as specific as possible in giving your evidence, including in describing the reason why control is **not** required and referring to particular species rather than groups of species such as corvids. Please confine your answer to a maximum of 500 words for each species.

Theme D - Alternatives to lethal control

We are asking you in this section to tell us about what alternative measures you have used, or know about, to killing or taking wild birds under a general licence. We are also asking you to provide any evidence you have about how well these alternative measures work.

D.1. For each species where you have knowledge of alternative measures to killing or taking, can you indicate what evidence you have for its effectiveness?

Reducing reproductive success - (such as nest destruction, egg oiling or egg destruction); and lethal control - (like shooting or trapping) require the use of a licence to be lawful and are not considered as alternatives in the context of this question.

For each species do you have knowledge of alternative measures to killing or taking? If so, please tick the relevant boxes. You can select as many of the available options as you wish to - these will only be registered if you give evidence of effectiveness below.

Species	Audio-visual deterrents	Chemical repellants	Exclusion	Habitat management	Livestock/crop management	Other
Canada Goose - <i>Branta canadensis</i>						
Carrion Crow - <i>Corvus corone</i>						
Egyptian Goose - <i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>						
Feral Pigeon - <i>Columba livia</i>						
Indian House Crow - <i>Corvus splendens</i>						
Jackdaw - <i>Corvus monedula</i>						
Jay - <i>Garrulus glandarius</i>						

Magpie - <i>Pica pica</i>						
Monk Parakeet - <i>Myiopsitta monachus</i>						
Ring-necked Parakeet - <i>Psittacula krameri</i>						
Rook - <i>Corvus frugilegus</i>						
Sacred Ibis - <i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>						
Woodpigeon - <i>Columba palumbus</i>						

If you have made a selection above, please provide evidence you have about how well these alternative measures work. This includes scientific and practitioner evidence, with literature references where they exist.

Please be as specific as possible in giving your evidence, including referring to particular species rather than groups of species such as corvids. Please confine your answer to a maximum of 500 words for each species.

D.2. If you have proposed additional species for inclusion on a general licence in Themes A-C, do you have knowledge of the use of one or more alternative measures when acting under the purposes in this survey for those species?

If you have, please state the species, alternative measure(s) used, and evidence of the effectiveness of this/these measures. You can enter more than one species.

Please be as specific as possible in giving your evidence, including referring to particular species rather than groups of species such as corvids. Please confine your answer to a maximum of 500 words for each species.

Proposed species:

Purpose:

- **audio-visual deterrents (including scarecrows, gas cannons, lasers)**
- **chemical repellents (including taste deterrent sprayed on crop)**
- **exclusion (including netting, tape, polythene)**
- **habitat management (including game cover crops, brash piles)**
- **livestock/crop management (including lambing tunnels, sacrificial crop)**
- **other (including human disturbance, shooting to scare)**

Why (please provide supporting evidence for your selection(s)).

Theme E - Record keeping

This section is only relevant to users of general licences. We are asking you in this section to tell us if you keep records when acting under any of the three licensing purposes (see Themes A, B & C). If you keep records, we would also like to know what kinds of records you keep and how long it takes you to make these records.

Users do not need to report the activity they have taken under a general licence. However, users of a licence will need to be able show that they are complying with the terms and conditions of the licence if asked by an enforcement officer or the Police. It is therefore advised that users keep a record of the actions they have taken so that they can demonstrate that they are using the licence lawfully.

E.1. When killing or taking birds for the purposes covered by this survey, do you keep records of what you have done?

Yes/No

E.2. If you do keep records, for each time you kill or take birds for one of these purposes, what sort of record do you make?

Please tick each aspect that applies to your records:

- date and time action was taken
- where the action was taken
- species controlled
- method of control
- which general licences purpose
- other (please specify - maximum 50 words)

E.3. How long do you estimate it takes you to compile these records each time?

Please confine your answer to a maximum of 50 words.

Theme F - Your views on the role of general licences to manage wild birds

This survey has sought your views on which wild bird species you consider need to be controlled or not controlled under general licence, and for what reasons, under three broad purposes (to conserve other species, to prevent serious damage to crops and other commodities, or to preserve public health and safety).

In this section of the survey, we are asking for your views on any issues not covered in the rest of the survey in relation to the current general licensing system. We are seeking your views about what you consider to be the key issues in relation to the general licensing of wild birds, and the way the system of general licensing operates.

F.1. Please tell us whether there are any other key issues you would like to highlight in relation to the general licensing of wild birds that are not covered in this survey

Please confine your answer to a maximum of 500 words.

F.2. Are there any other issues related to the operation of general licensing in relation to wild birds that you would like to raise?

Please confine your answer to a maximum of 500 words.