

Scottish Government General Licence No.4/2009

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

LICENCE TO PROTECT AIR SAFETY

PREAMBLE

This licence is granted under Section 16(1)(i) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 by Scottish Ministers, after consultation with Scottish Natural Heritage, and being convinced that there is no other satisfactory solution, it is granted for the purpose of preserving air safety and may be used for no other purpose. This licence permits certain methods, subject to strict conditions, to be used to that effect, including the keeping or confinement of any bird listed in Condition 7 of this licence in a Larsen trap. Only authorised persons may use this licence.

This licence is valid in Scotland, unless previously revoked, for the period **01 January 2009 to 31 December 2009**.

CONDITIONS

1. This licence is granted for the purpose of controlling birds to protect air safety, and may only be used by owners or managers of airports and aerodromes or persons authorised by them or their deputies.

2. The methods which may be used under this licence, except where further restrictions apply, are:

- Pricking of eggs
- Oiling of eggs with a product approved by the Pesticide Safety Directorate
- Destruction of eggs and nests
- A Larsen cage trap
- A crow cage trap
- Shooting with any firearm, including semi-automatic firearms, shotguns or air weapons and, where necessary for the preservation of air safety, shooting from a moving vehicle
- Shooting with the aid of any device for illuminating a target or any device for night shooting
- Targeted falconry

3. Birds which may be taken or killed, within or without the perimeter of the aerodrome under this licence are:

Greylag Goose
Canada goose
Mallard
Eurasian Curlew
Eurasian Oystercatcher
Northern Lapwing
Black headed Gull

Anser anser
Branta canadensis
Anas platyrhynchos
Numenius arquata
Haematopus ostralegus
Vanellus vanellus
Larus ridibundus

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Common or Mew Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>
Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>
Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>
Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>
Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>

CAP 772

4. This licence only applies to airports that adhere to the guidelines set out in the Civil Aviation Authority document CAP 772.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

5. Aerodrome Managers using this licence shall submit a report to the Scottish Government, by 31 January 2010, detailing the name of the airport and the numbers of birds of each species taken or killed under this licence.

TRAPS

6. Birds other than the species listed in condition 3 should be released unharmed immediately on being found in a Larsen or other Cage Trap.

7. In the case of the Larsen trap, no bird may be confined in such a trap as a decoy except a bird of the following species:

Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>

8. For the purposes of this licence, a Larsen or crow cage trap is not required to satisfy the requirements of Section 8(1) of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 with regard to the dimensions.

9. In the case of other cage traps, only corvids may be used as decoys. Raven (*Corvus corax*) and Chough (*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*) may not be used as decoys.

10. Except in the case where severe weather prohibits, any cage trap of any sort which is set under the terms of this licence shall be inspected by the authorised person, while it remains in use, at least once every day at intervals of no more than 24 hours.

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11. Such an inspection must be sufficient to determine whether there are any live or dead birds in the trap.
12. Any dead or sickly decoy bird must be immediately removed from a trap.
13. In the case of the Larsen trap only one decoy bird may be used, and it must be removed from the trap when not in use. In the Larsen trap there must be a separate compartment for the decoy bird.
14. In the case of decoy birds, all relevant animal welfare legislation shall be complied with at all times, including the Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006. This includes providing decoy birds with adequate food, water and shelter and a suitable perch that does not cause discomfort to the birds' feet. Decoy birds shall also have adequate protection from the prevailing wind and rain.
15. When any cage trap is not in use it must be immobilised and rendered incapable of use in such a way that the immobilisation could not be reversed without considerable forethought or considerable difficulty. Doors or panels of cage traps should be removed from the site or, if they are not removed from the site, they should be taken off the trap and secured by a locked padlock. When any Larsen trap is not in use, it shall be removed from site and stored in such a manner as to prevent its accidental use.
16. Any cage trap or Larsen trap which is sited outwith the perimeter of the airport, shall carry a tag or sign that gives the number of the local police station or wildlife crime officer for the area. The tag or sign shall also carry a unique code that allows the owner to be identified by the police. The operator of the trap will contact their local wildlife crime officer to obtain this code in advance of use of traps. The operator may include other relevant material on the tag or sign.
17. Where there is reasonable suspicion that an offence has been committed, the operator of a trap must reveal its location if required to do so by a constable.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

18. Any birds killed under the authority of this licence shall be destroyed humanely as possible.
19. Any birds included in the list in Condition 3 which have become confined in a Larsen or cage trap and which are to be killed under this licence, must be killed in a quick and humane manner as soon as reasonably practicable after discovery.
20. This licence does not permit the use of any form of spring-over trap.

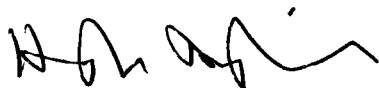
DEFINITIONS

21. The term feral pigeon for the purposes of this licence includes racing pigeons which have settled or become resident in or around an airport, but does not include wild Rock Dove, *Columba livia*.

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NOTES

1. Nothing in this licence exempts the licensee or any authorised person from complying with relevant firearms and public safety legislation.



HUGH DIGNON

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Rural Directorate

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15 December 2008