

General Licences



GL 08/2019: To rear chicks from captive-bred Schedule 4 birds

General Licences allow authorised people to carry out activities that would otherwise be illegal under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). They cover situations where we accept that there may be no other satisfactory solution. However, they should only be used as a last resort. Operators must be able to explain what other alternatives they have tried if challenged.

Terms and conditions

If you operate under General Licence 08/2019 you must meet the following terms and conditions otherwise your actions may be illegal which could lead to prosecution.

<p>What can this General Licence be used for?</p>	<p>Authorised people (operators) can keep the following species of captive-bred birds listed on Schedule 4 to the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), namely:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Honey buzzard</td> <td><i>Pernis apivorus</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Golden eagle</td> <td><i>Aquila chrysaetos</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>White-tailed eagle</td> <td><i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Peregrine falcon</td> <td><i>Falco peregrinus</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Goshawk</td> <td><i>Accipiter gentilis</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Marsh harrier</td> <td><i>Circus aeruginosus</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Montagu Harrier</td> <td><i>Circus pygargus</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Merlin</td> <td><i>Falco columbarius</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Osprey</td> <td><i>Pandion haliaetus</i></td> </tr> </table> <p>hatched from incubated eggs without ringing and registration* for up to 20 days. This time period is to allow the young birds to reach sufficient age to bear a ring.</p> <p>* Registration means receipt of registration documentation by Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA).</p>	Honey buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	Golden eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	White-tailed eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>	Peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	Marsh harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	Montagu Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
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<p>Who is authorised to use this General Licence?</p>	<p>An operator may be the keeper and/or owner of a captive-bred Schedule 4 bird.</p>																		
<p>What must operators know before considering use of this General Licence?</p>	<p>Operators must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand this General Licence and comply with its terms and conditions • only use it for the purpose of falconry or aviculture • only use it where they are satisfied that there is no other 																		

Scottish Natural Heritage General Licence No. 08/2019

	satisfactory solution
When and where is this General Licence valid?	Across Scotland from 1 January to 31 December 2019 unless previously revoked, or a restriction applies.
What restrictions apply to the use of this General Licence?	Those convicted of a wildlife crime on or after 1 January 2014 unless, in respect of that offence, they were either dismissed with an admonition, they are a rehabilitated person (for the purposes of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and that conviction is spent), or a court discharged them absolutely. Any person not able to use the General Licence can still apply to SNH for an individual licence.
What are the general conditions associated with this General Licence?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any bird kept under this General Licence must have been bred in captivity. A bird shall not be treated as having been bred in captivity unless its parents were lawfully in captivity when the egg from which it hatched was laid. Documentary evidence of captive breeding must accompany any temporary transfer for incubation purposes. 2. Operators must if requested by an official of SNH or the APHA or a Police Officer make the bird available for a sample of blood to be taken. The blood or tissue sample will be taken by a qualified vet. Such a sample may be used to establish the ancestry of the bird. Likewise, any request to take a feather or swab from the bird, for DNA analysis, must be met with by the operator. 3. Operators must at any reasonable time, permit an Officer of SNH or a Police Officer to enter any premises for the purposes of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) inspecting the premises where the chick is kept, and (b) inspecting the chick.
Note	Operators holding any Schedule 4 bird longer than 20 days must register it with the APHA .

Definition

For the purposes of this General Licence;

“wildlife crime” means any offence under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, the Conservation (Natural Habitats &c.) Regulations 1994, the Protection of Badgers Act 1992, the Protection of Wild Mammals (Scotland) Act 2002, the Animal Health & Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006, the Protection of Animals (Scotland) Act 1912 and the Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996 (all as amended).



Robbie Kernahan
Head of Wildlife Management
for and on behalf of Scottish Natural Heritage
1 December 2018

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