

General Licences



GL 09/2021: To keep certain captive-bred live birds in show cages for training purposes

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 are satisfied that there is no other satisfactory solution in respect of the species to which they relate and the circumstances in which the licensed action may be taken.

Terms and conditions

If you operate under General Licence 09/2021 you must meet the following terms and conditions otherwise your actions may be illegal which could lead to prosecution.

What can this General Licence be used for?	Authorised people (operators) can temporarily keep or confine any captive-bred live wild bird in a show cage with the following, <u>minimum</u> dimensions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Height 24.13 cms • Breadth 25.4 cms • Depth 11.43 cms
Who is authorised to use this General Licence?	An operator can be anyone.
What other information must operators know before considering use of this General Licence?	Operators must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand this General Licence and comply with its terms and conditions • only use it for the purpose of training birds for any public exhibition or competition •
When and where is this General Licence valid?	Across Scotland from 1 January to 31 December 2021 unless previously revoked.
What restrictions apply to the use of this General Licence?	This General Licence cannot be used by those convicted of a wildlife crime on or after 1 January 2016 unless, in respect of that offence, 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 this General Licence can still apply to NatureScot for an individual licence.
What are the general conditions of this General Licence?	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The bird 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.2. No bird shall be kept or confined in a cage for longer than one hour in any period of 24 hours.

Notes	This General Licence shall only apply to those birds whose showing for the purposes of any public exhibition or competition is not otherwise specifically prohibited by the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).
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Definitions

For the purposes of this General Licence;

“NatureScot” means Scottish Natural Heritage acting under its operating name NatureScot.

"wild bird" means any bird of a species which is ordinarily resident in or is a visitor to the UK or any member State or the European territory of any member State in a wild state but does not include poultry. "Bird" includes all stages from chick to adult.

“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, Deer (Scotland) Act 1996, Agriculture (Scotland) Act 1948, the Animal Health & Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006, the Protection of Animals (Scotland) Act 1912, the Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996 and the Animals & Wildlife (Penalties, Protections and Powers) (Scotland) Act 2020 (all as amended).

Donald Fraser

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For Scottish Natural Heritage acting under its
operating name NatureScot

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