



**FEB-01 – FISH-EATING BIRDS APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO KILL/TAKE CORMORANTS, HERONS, GOOSANDERS OR MERGANSERS TO PREVENT SERIOUS DAMAGE TO FISHERIES AND FISH STOCKS**

**SECTION 16(1) OF THE WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981 (AS AMENDED)**

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| **NOTES FOR GUIDANCE**Please read the following notes carefully: |
| a. | Natural Resources Wales (NRW), in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 16 (1) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, may issue licences to permit the killing or taking of wild birds, **provided that there is no satisfactory alternative.*** 1. Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (WCA) failure to comply with the terms of a Licence may make the licensee liable to prosecution for an offence.
	2. Licences will normally only be granted to the owner or occupier of the associated land or a person authorised by the owner or occupier.
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| b. | Licences relating to the shooting of birds are only granted to reinforce scaring. |
| c. | The following conditions apply before consideration will be given to granting a licence for the purpose of preventing serious damage:1. Applicants must provide detailed evidence that serious damage is occurring. This may include evidence gathered from previous years’ experiences and must also include information about the current numbers of fish-eating birds present on the river, lake, fishery or farm. Careful distinction should be made between the answers to 5(c), damage to stock (which, for example, might include taking of young stock) and 5(d), damage to fishery (which might include effect on e.g. catches, permits etc. and other sources of income). All applicants must complete a ‘FEB-01 Bird Observation Log’ prior to submission of the application. NRW will reject any applications in the absence of a complete ‘FEB-01 Bird Observation Log’.
2. For small stillwaters, ponds, small lakes etc. the ‘Bird Observation Log’ must include at least **10 site visits dated at least 3 days apart, between the months of November and February.**
3. For stretches of river and large waterbodies, the ‘Bird Observation Log’ should be completed separately for each 2km stretch and should clearly reference each sector. **The whole stretch of the river/large lake should be surveyed at least once prior to submission of an application.**
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| d. | The following conditions will apply:1. The maximum number of birds which may be killed or taken under the licence will be stated on it.
2. Applicants should note that a licence from NRW does not grant access or power of entry onto any land.
3. If the land where the licence would be used lies within a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), in addition to obtaining a licence to control birds, the owner or occupier of the land **may** need to obtain separate consent from NRW under section 28E of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as substituted) for operations which are anticipated in connection with the exercise of the licence. This applies to operations which are not expressly permitted under the licence and which are notifiable operations in relation to the SSSI, for example the use of vehicles or clearance of vegetation for the purpose of installing traps (this could include consent to kill or take the species licensed). In these circumstances, unless the owner or occupier already has the necessary consents, applicants are advised not to await the outcome of the licence application, but to give notice to NRW as soon as possible about any such operations.
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| e. | All questions in this application form must be completed unless otherwise stated: failure to provide adequate information will delay the processing of your application. Any further information you wish to provide should be appended on additional sheets. We aim to process applications within 30 working days of receipt of all the information requested. We cannot guarantee an earlier response. |
| f. | It is a condition of any licence issued that a report of the work carried out under licence is submitted within four weeks of the expiry of the licence. Report Form **FEB-01** can be found on our website. Failure to do so may constitute an offence. Information from these reports is required to provide summary information to NRW and others on the number of licences issued, the purpose of the licence and which species are covered. None of these summary statistics includes personal information about licensees. The information may also be used for conservation purposes and shared with other organisations. |
| g. | Applications are dealt with chronologically. This means they are processed according to when they were submitted, not according to the timing of the works. Please submit your application in good time before the proposed works. If you think your application needs to be dealt with urgently, please ring us to discuss and agree this before its submission. |
| h. | NRW can modify or revoke any licence issued, this will only be undertaken if there are good reasons for doing so. Any licence issued will be revoked immediately if it is discovered that false information had been provided which resulted in the issue of a Licence. |
| i. | The information provided by you will be processed by Natural Resources Wales under the General Data Protection Regulation. This will enable us to process your application; to monitor compliance with any permit conditions; to process renewals, and to maintain the relevant public register. We will use the information you provide in connection with the following: * Consultation with third parties who are relevant and responsible for responding to consultation requests from NRW to enable us to process your application
* Carrying out statistical analysis, research and development on environmental issues
* Providing public register information for enquiries
* Preventing and investigating possible breaches of environmental law and taking any resulting action

Responding to requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004Note that the above is not an exhaustive list and NRW may use the data provided in connection with the application in other ways, as considered appropriate **We would also like to send you details about other topics we think may be of interest to you such as NRW news; services relating to environmental matters; asking for your feedback on our service; and more useful information.****If you consent to receiving further information from us, please tick the following box to confirm** Yes, I would like to receive additional information from NRW relating to environmental matters □                       **Please note we may pass the information on to our agents or representatives to carry this out for us**If you have any further queries or concerns, please contact dataprotection@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk.  For further information on the processing of your personal details please see our [Privacy Notice page](https://naturalresources.wales/privacy) |
| j. | Any information included in this application which the applicant considers to be in confidence for commercial or industrial reasons or to be the applicant’s intellectual property must be clearly marked as such. |
| k. | In this document “Natural Resources Wales” means the Natural Resources Body for Wales established by article 3 of the Natural Resources Body for Wales (Establishment) Order 2012. The Natural Resources Body for Wales (Functions) Order 2013 transferred the relevant functions of the Countryside Council for Wales, and functions of the Environment Agency and the Forestry Commission in Wales to the Natural Resources Body for Wales. |

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| **Information for completion of an application form:** |
| 1. | If the document is being handwritten please complete in **BLOCK CAPITALS.** |
| 2. | Please answer **ALL** questions in detail**.** Incomplete answers will mean delays in your application being processed. |
| 3. | Applications can be accepted **either** electronically **or** by post (electronic is our preferred option).**Electronic applications –** E-mail Applications to: specieslicence@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk. (**There is no need to send hard copies by post**.)**Postal Applications**Please post your signed application form to: **Species Protection Team, National Permitting Team, Natural Resources Wales, Maes y Ffynnon, Penrhosgarnedd, Bangor, LL57 2DW**  |
| 4. |  We will aim to send an acknowledgement of receipt of your application within 5 working days. |
| 5. | NRW aims to determine applications within **30 working days** from date ofreceipt of a completed application form and the required associated information. If we require further information from you during the determination period, for whatever reason, this will delay the determination period. |
| 6. | All correspondence sent to you from NRW will be via e-mail. If an e-mail address has not been provided, we will contact you in writing through the post. Please note that this may delay your application due to postal delivery times. |

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| Part A. The Applicant: Personal and Fishery Details |
| **This section relates to the person who will be the named licensee. This must be a named individual; company names and several individuals are not permitted. As the licensee, you will be responsible for ensuring compliance with the licence and its conditions.** |
| **1.** | **Applicants Contact Details** |
|  | Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) | Forename(s) | Surname |
|  |  |  |
| Business Title (if appropriate) |  |
| Company Name (if appropriate) |  |
| Address |  |
|  |
| Town |  |
| County |  |
| Postcode |  |
| Tel. number (incl. national dialling code) |  |
| Mobile. number (incl. national dialling code) |  |
| Email address (Please provide if possible, to enable us to email you a copy of your licence, if approved.)  |  |

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|  **2. Details of Fishery** |
| a) | Fishery Name |  |
|  | Type of Fishery (e.g. coarse / trout pond / fish farm / river / other) |  |
|  | Address |  |
|  |  |  |
|  | Town |  |
|  | County |  |
|  | Postcode |  |
|  | Grid Reference |  |
|  | Tel. number (incl. national dialling code) |  |
|  | Mobile. number (incl. national dialling code) |  |
|  | Email address (Please provide if possible, to enable us to email you a copy of your licence, if approved.)  |  |
| b) | Are you the owner or occupier of the land referred to in question 2 | Yes |[ ]  No |[ ]
|  | If **NO** give the position you hold in relation to this land:***NB*** *Where you are not the owner/occupier you should attach the owner or occupier’s written consent for you to make this application.* |  |

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| **3. Previous Applications**Please insert an **x** as appropriate |
| a) | Have you applied previously for a licence to kill/take birds or use prohibited methods?  | Yes |[ ]  No |[ ]
|  | **If YES**, please state below the related species and the methods that were used |
|  |  |
| b) | Please state the date of the most recent Application: **Date:**  |  |
| c) | Was the Licence granted? | Yes |[ ]  No |[ ]
|  | **If YES** please provide the Licence Reference Number: **Number:**  |  |

**PART B. The Application**

 **4. Nature of the Problem**

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| a) | Please indicate which species of birds will be the subject of the proposed activity |
|  | Cormorant [ ]  Goosander [ ]  Other (please specify) [ ]  Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| b) | Please give details of the nature and extent of the problem being caused or the problem that is likely to be caused? E.g. predation, injury, disease of trout/salmon/other fish species |
|  |  |
| c) | Please state the time of year when the problem occurs **Date:** |  | **to** |  |
| d) | Please detail the location of the proposed shooting **(NB: A map of suitable scale including the fishery boundary and the area where shooting is to take place marked upon it should accompany this application.)** |
|  | **Address of shooting location** |  |
| **Grid Reference e.g. SH 1234 5678** |  |
| e) | Please provide the dates that you wish to be licensed **from** and **until: *(licences are granted between 1st September and 15th March)*** |  | **to** |  |

 **5. Evidence of Serious Damage**

**NB** Please read Section **c** of the Notes for Guidance at the front of this form before completing this question.

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| a) | Please give estimates of the number of fish damaged or likely to be damaged and estimated numbers of fish taken by birds per month. |
|  |  |
| b) | Please give assessment of likely damage to the fishery e.g. loss of income; you must give full details of recorded losses, catch records, damage reports (*ie number of bird-damaged fish caught per month*), costs of replacing stock, ticket/membership losses etc. |
|  |  |
| c) | Please identify any other factors influencing the fishery e.g. invasive species, mink or other predators, low levels of water, quality of water, habitat quality, poaching etc. |
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1. **Preventative Measures**

As stated in Guidance Note ‘a’, all other available preventative measures must be undertaken prior to applying for a licence to control birds.

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| a) | Have any measures been taken to prevent the problems outlined in **Questions 4 and 5** above | Yes |[ ]  No |[ ]
|  | If **YES, please** detail the methods that have been attempted, the duration of their use, and explain why you do not consider them to be sufficient (e.g. scaring, proofing, distress calls, acoustic deterrents, visual deterrents) |
|  | **METHOD** | **DURATION** | **RESULT** |
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|  | If **NO** please explain why preventative control measures have not been undertaken  |
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**7. Consideration of Designated Sites**

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|  | Please read **Section d (iii)** of the ‘Notes for Guidance’ found at the front of this form before completing these questions. |
|  | **Designated Areas:** Local Nature Reserves (LNR), National Nature Reserves (NNR), Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Protection Area (SPA), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Ramsar sites, and certain other river/lake systems. |
| a) | Will the proposed action fall within an area covered by a designated site? | Yes |[ ]  No |[ ]
| b) | Will the proposed action fall adjacent to an area covered by a designated site? | Yes |[ ]  No |[ ]
| c) | If **YES** to either of the above, have you consulted with Natural Resource Wales for advice on the implications of your application on the protected site? | Yes |[ ]  No |[ ]
| d) | Please give either the outcome of the owner or occupier’s consultation or the reason why the owner or occupier has not consulted with Natural Resources Wales. Please enclose any relevant correspondence **and please name the relevant designated site.** |
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**8. Authority to Shoot**

Up to six people (including the licensee) may be authorised to shoot birds under a Licence, **it is your responsibility to ensure that you have the legal right to shoot.**

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| a) | Please list the names and contact telephone numbers of all persons other than the Licensee who are authorised to shoot (maximum of 5) |
|  | **Name of authorised person** | **Contact telephone number** |
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**Part C. Declarations**

**9. Handling of your information**

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| a) | The information requested in this application form will capture personal data about you – for example, your name and address. Your personal data will be managed and used by the NRW in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation. **For more information please see the Notes for Guidance at the beginning of this form.** |
| b) | Do you give your consent to the disclosure of information provided by you in connection with this application? Your personal and financial information not relating to the environment will not be disclosed | Yes |[ ]  No |[ ]

 **10. Declarations**

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| a) | Have you or your proposed assistants ever been convicted of a wildlife offence? | Yes |[ ]  No |[ ]
|  | A wildlife offence is an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, the Protection of Badgers Act 1992, the Deer Act 1991, the Hunting Act 2004, the Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996, the Animal Welfare Act 2006 and the Protection of Animals Act 1911 (all as amended). You do not have to declare a previous conviction if you are: (1) a rehabilitated person for the purposes of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and your conviction is treated as spent; or (2) in respect of such an offence, a court has made an order discharging you absolutely. |
|  | If YES, please give details, including dates |  |
| b) | I authorise employees or representatives of Natural Resource Wales to enter the site that is subject to this application for the purpose of monitoring and inspecting the permitted works (please place an x in the box opposite).  |[ ]
| c) | I have read and understand the guidance provided in this application form. I declare that the particulars given are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I apply for a licence in accordance with these particulars. If a licence is granted I agree to send to NRW a written report of the licensed activities within four weeks of the expiry of the licence.***NB****. Applicants should note that it is an offence under the Wildlife* *and Countryside Act 1981 to knowingly or recklessly provide false information in order to obtain a licence.* |
|  | Signature of the Applicant |  | Date |  |
|  | ***For electronic applications please insert an electronic signature above or place an x in the box opposite to confirm agreement with the declarations above.*** | [ ]  |
|  | Name in BLOCK LETTERS |  | Date |  |
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**Part D. Checklist.**

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|  | **Please submit your application to Natural Resources Wales on the below contact details. If possible, please submit your application electronically. If you do wish to apply through the post, please send your application to the address listed below. Please note that incomplete applications that do not include a complete application form and log of action form will be rejected.** |
|  | **Electronic** **Applications:** **specieslicence@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk****Postal Applications:****Species Permitting Team,****Natural Resources Wales,** **Maes y Ffynnon,** **Penrhosgarnedd,** **Bangor,** **Gwynedd,****LL57 2DW** **Tel. 03000654974/03000654921** | **Checklist before submitting your application:** |
|  |  | **Completed FEB-01 Application Form** |[ ]
|  |  | **Completed FEB-01 Bird Observation Form** |[ ]
|  |  | **Map of the site** |[ ]
|  |  | **Evidence of problem, e.g. photographs, videos** |[ ]
|  |  |  |[ ]
|  |  |  |[ ]
|  |  |  |[ ]