Raptor Persecution UK

Welcome Blog About

Raptor Persecution UK

Red kite found poisoned in Highlands

RaptorPersecutionUK
November 5, 2024
2024 persecution incidents, News
carbofuran, poisoning, red kite

Press release from RSPB (5th November 2024):

RED KITE FOUND POISONED IN HIGHLANDS

- *The bird had consumed a banned pesticide which has a history of being used to kill birds of prey.*
- *Red Kites are fully protected by law, and to kill or harm one could result in jail.*
- *The illegal poisoning of birds of prey is a national issue and poses a potentially deadly danger to people, pets and wildlife.*

A protected Red Kite endured an 'agonising death' after being killed by a banned pesticide, one quarter of a teaspoon of which is enough to kill a human.

RSPB Scotland received a call in April 2024 from a dog walker who had found a red kite dead on the ground near to a popular woodland walking trail, adjacent to hill farm land at Spinningdale, near Dornoch in East Sutherland.

RSPB Investigators notified Police Scotland, collected the bird and sent it for a post-mortem examination and toxicology analysis. The results were consistent with Carbofuran poisoning being the cause of the bird's death, a pesticide banned for over 20 years.

Police Scotland and partner agencies conducted a search of the area but found no evidence that enabled them to identify a suspect.

It is a crime to kill or attempt to kill a bird of prey, and anyone caught doing so faces a fine or even jail.

Red kite photo by Andy Howard

The latest Birdcrime report, released last month found there were 159 poisoning incidents involving birds of prey between 2009-2024 in Scotland. In recent years, Carbofuran has become the pesticide most frequently associated with bird of prey persecution.

And of all UK counties, the Highland area had the second highest number of confirmed incidents of raptor persecution during the same 15-year period.

Ian Thomson, RSPB Investigations Manager, said:

"We are very grateful to the person that found this dead kite for reporting it to us. It is appalling that individuals are still using this poison, decades after it was banned, and this bird will have suffered an agonising and horrific death.

Carbofuran is a highly toxic substance and is one of several banned pesticides still used by criminals targeting birds of prey or other protected wildlife. Its possession or use is illegal and placing it out in the open poses a potentially deadly and indiscriminate risk not only to wildlife but to people and pets.

We ask anyone using the area to be vigilant if they find anything suspicious, don't touch, but do take photos and report to Police Scotland immediately on 101."

If you notice a dead or injured bird of prey in suspicious circumstances, call Police Scotland on 101 and fill in the RSPB's online reporting form here.

If you have information about anyone killing birds of prey which you wish to report anonymously, call the RSPB's confidential Raptor Crime Hotline on 0300 999 0101.

ENDS

Share this:

Facebook Twitter Reddit LinkedIn

5 thoughts on "Red kite found poisoned in Highlands"

Murmur
November 5, 2024 at 7:15 pm

How on earth are these folk still getting hold of carbofuran?

Who is supplying it to UK addresses?

Reply

Marie
November 5, 2024 at 8:11 pm

it's gamekeepers and the like who have never disposed of their old supplies, mostly I infer.

Reply

delicatelygladiatore023c8aad2
November 5, 2024 at 8:43 pm

That's got to be axidental, would a red kite take anything live?

Reply

andrew966
November 5, 2024 at 8:54 pm

why would something have to be alive to be contaminated with poison???

Reply

Murmur
November 5, 2024 at 8:59 pm

How does a substance which has been banned for 20 odd years find its way into anything a red kite is likely to eat?

"Axidental"? Pull the other one…This is a completely deliberate act.

Oh, and kites will take live prey, just not that often.

Reply

Leave a comment

PREVIOUS
Dismembered golden eagle found in plastic bag – Police Scotland appeal for information

Search …

FOLLOW BLOG

Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Email Address

SIGN ME UP!

BLOG STATS

- 11,609,901 hits

CATEGORIES

- 1989 persecution incidents (1)
- 1990 persecution incidents (1)
- 1991 persecution incidents (2)
- 1992 persecution incidents (2)
- 1993 persecution incidents (2)
- 1996 persecution incidents (1)
- 1998 persecution incidents (4)
- 1999 persecution incidents (1)
- 2000 persecution incidents (3)
- 2001 persecution incidents (7)
- 2002 persecution incidents (3)
- 2003 persecution incidents (13)
- 2004 persecution incidents (6)
- 2005 persecution incidents (8)
- 2006 persecution incidents (18)
- 2007 persecution incidents (14)
- 2008 persecution incidents (13)
- 2009 persecution incidents (48)
- 2010 persecution incidents (71)
- 2011 persecution incidents (51)
- 2012 persecution incidents (124)
- 2013 persecution incidents (147)
- 2014 persecution incidents (182)
- 2015 persecution incidents (103)
- 2016 persecution incidents (147)
- 2017 persecution incidents (142)
- 2018 persecution incidents (206)
- 2019 persecution incidents (210)
- 2020 persecution incidents (265)
- 2021 persecution incidents (219)
- 2022 persecution incidents (141)
- 2023 persecution incidents (112)
- 2024 persecution incidents (45)
- Henry the Hen Harrier (82)
- News (4,223)
- Opinion (328)
- Our satellite tagged golden eagles (18)
- Persecution Incidents in England (789)
- Persecution Incidents in Irish Republic (81)
- Persecution Incidents in Northern Ireland (52)
- Persecution Incidents in Wales (75)
- The Real Price of Grouse (8)

RECENT COMMENTS

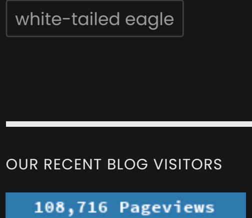
- Murmur on Red kite found poisoned in Highlands
- andrew966 on Red kite found poisoned in Highlands
- delicatelygladiatore023c8aad2 on Red kite found poisoned in Highlands
- Marie on Red kite found poisoned in Highlands
- Geemeff on Dismembered golden eagle found in plastic bag – Police Scotland appeal for information

ARCHIVES

- November 2024 (6)
- October 2024 (19)
- September 2024 (17)
- August 2024 (20)
- July 2024 (13)
- June 2024 (18)
- May 2024 (17)
- April 2024 (20)
- March 2024 (28)
- February 2024 (23)
- January 2024 (27)
- December 2023 (22)
- November 2023 (29)
- October 2023 (21)
- September 2023 (17)
- August 2023 (50)
- July 2023 (20)
- June 2023 (36)
- May 2023 (37)
- April 2023 (31)
- March 2023 (27)
- February 2023 (24)
- January 2023 (30)
- December 2022 (16)
- November 2022 (15)
- October 2022 (22)
- September 2022 (14)
- August 2022 (33)
- July 2022 (21)
- June 2022 (26)
- May 2022 (32)
- April 2022 (20)
- March 2022 (34)
- February 2022 (28)
- January 2022 (31)
- December 2021 (22)
- November 2021 (27)
- October 2021 (29)
- September 2021 (24)
- August 2021 (26)
- July 2021 (21)
- June 2021 (15)
- May 2021 (35)
- April 2021 (41)
- March 2021 (38)
- February 2021 (42)
- January 2021 (38)
- December 2020 (33)
- November 2020 (48)
- October 2020 (29)
- September 2020 (41)
- August 2020 (50)
- July 2020 (40)
- June 2020 (38)
- May 2020 (35)
- April 2020 (27)
- March 2020 (30)
- February 2020 (21)
- January 2020 (22)
- December 2019 (34)
- November 2019 (21)
- October 2019 (30)
- September 2019 (23)
- August 2019 (31)
- July 2019 (30)
- June 2019 (30)
- May 2019 (30)
- April 2019 (30)
- March 2019 (42)
- February 2019 (23)
- January 2019 (25)
- December 2018 (23)
- November 2018 (25)
- October 2018 (22)
- September 2018 (13)
- August 2018 (35)
- July 2018 (26)
- June 2018 (13)
- May 2018 (31)
- April 2018 (37)
- March 2018 (31)
- February 2018 (26)
- January 2018 (28)
- December 2017 (31)
- November 2017 (38)
- October 2017 (28)
- September 2017 (26)
- August 2017 (28)
- July 2017 (29)
- June 2017 (30)
- May 2017 (37)
- April 2017 (27)
- March 2017 (31)
- February 2017 (30)
- January 2017 (37)
- December 2016 (25)
- November 2016 (28)
- October 2016 (23)
- September 2016 (30)
- August 2016 (29)
- July 2016 (27)
- June 2016 (31)
- May 2016 (30)
- April 2016 (25)
- March 2016 (23)
- February 2016 (15)
- January 2016 (10)
- December 2015 (12)
- November 2015 (23)
- October 2015 (17)
- September 2015 (18)
- August 2015 (22)
- July 2015 (37)
- June 2015 (37)
- May 2015 (33)
- April 2015 (27)
- March 2015 (25)
- February 2015 (19)
- January 2015 (23)
- December 2014 (22)
- November 2014 (23)
- October 2014 (40)
- September 2014 (15)
- August 2014 (19)
- July 2014 (10)
- June 2014 (14)
- May 2014 (23)
- April 2014 (33)
- March 2014 (25)
- February 2014 (18)
- January 2014 (21)
- December 2013 (20)
- November 2013 (15)
- October 2013 (16)
- September 2013 (19)
- August 2013 (22)
- July 2013 (32)
- June 2013 (12)
- May 2013 (18)
- April 2013 (18)
- March 2013 (23)
- February 2013 (22)
- January 2013 (24)
- December 2012 (21)
- November 2012 (20)
- October 2012 (32)
- September 2012 (18)
- August 2012 (27)
- July 2012 (23)
- June 2012 (20)
- May 2012 (26)
- April 2012 (17)
- March 2012 (27)
- February 2012 (28)
- January 2012 (13)
- December 2011 (20)
- November 2011 (26)
- October 2011 (11)
- September 2011 (20)
- August 2011 (18)
- July 2011 (19)
- June 2011 (15)
- May 2011 (23)
- April 2011 (14)
- March 2011 (13)
- February 2011 (6)
- January 2011 (7)
- December 2010 (10)
- November 2010 (7)
- October 2010 (6)
- September 2010 (10)
- August 2010 (11)
- July 2010 (3)
- June 2010 (10)
- May 2010 (13)
- April 2010 (3)
- March 2010 (96)

Aldicarb | alphachloralose | Balmoral Estate | barn owl | Bendiocarb | buzzard | Cabrach Estate | Cairngorms National Park | carbofuran | Cardross Estate | Cawdor Estate | chloralose | clam trap | Corrybrough Estate | crow trap | dailyprompt | dailyprompt-1889 | Dinnet & Kinord Estate | Edradynate Estate | Environment Minister | gamekeeper | Gift of Grouse | gin trap | Glanusk Estate | Glenogil Estate | Glen Orchy | Glenturret Estate | golden eagle | goshawk | hen harrier | Invercauld Estate | Invermark Estate | kestrel | Leadhills Estate | Lochindorb Estate | long-eared owl | Marsh harrier | merlin | mevinphos | Millden Estate | mountain hare | Moy Estate | North Glenbuchat Estate | osprey | peregrine | poisoning | pole trap | Raeshaw Estate | red kite | Ross-shire Massacre | scottish gamekeepers association | scottish parliament | shooting | short-eared owl | Skibo Estate | sodium cyanide | sparrowhawk | spring trap | Stody Estate | strychnine | tawny owl | trap | vicarious liability | Wemmergill Estate | white-tailed eagle

OUR RECENT BLOG VISITORS



Comment Subscribe