

Licence No:

GEN/WCA/019/2026

Valid From:

1st January 2026

Expiry:

31st December 2026

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981 (AS AMENDED)

LICENCE TO TRAP EURASIAN STOAT TO PREVENT SERIOUS DAMAGE TO LIVESTOCK

This licence, granted under Section 16(3) (h), 16(3ZA), 16(3ZZA) and (5) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (The Act), by the Natural Resources Body for Wales otherwise known as Natural Resources Wales (NRW), permits farmers and other keepers of livestock to trap to kill the species listed and hereby grants the following licence which applies only in Wales: -

1. The purpose of this licence is to prevent serious damage to livestock.
2. Subject to the terms and conditions below, and solely for the purposes set out in paragraph (1) above, this licence permits:
 - (i) any farmers and other keepers of livestock to trap to kill:

Eurasian stoat

Mustela erminea

by use of the following approved traps:-

Kill traps of the following types

DOC 150;

DOC 200;

DOC 250

Tully Trap

Goodnature A24 rat & stoat trap

Perdix spring trap

subject to the conditions specified in this licence.

The works noted above are licensed for the period **as stated above** and are granted subject to compliance with the conditions as specified. Anything done otherwise than in accordance with the terms and conditions of the licence may constitute an offence.

Ffôn/Tel 0300 065 4974 / 0300 065 4921

Ebost/Email: trwyddedrhywogaeth@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk or specieslicence@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk
www.cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk www.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales, Maes y Ffynnon, Penrhosgarnedd, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 2DW

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg

Correspondence welcomed in Welsh and English

CONDITIONS	
1.	Persons acting under this licence must ensure they have read and understood the terms and conditions of this licence prior to carrying out licenced activities. (See note 3).
2.	If you need to carry out actions that are not permitted by this licence (e.g. use of vehicles) on land designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) then you may need to apply to Natural Resources Wales for a consent.
3.	Use of any trap under this licence must be in accordance with the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) All persons making use of this licence and all traps used by such persons shall comply with The Spring Traps Approval (Wales) Order 2019. (ii) All persons making use of this licence must comply with the manufacturer's instructions relevant to the type of trap operated under this Licence. (iii) Any manufacturer's permanent marking of the trap must not be removed or rendered illegible.
4.	All reasonable precautions must be taken to avoid unnecessary suffering of stoats trapped under this licence.
5.	At each inspection any dead stoat or any other dead animal, caught in the trap must be removed from it and disposed of in a lawful manner.
6.	Anyone wishing to use live traps to control stoats must apply for an individual licence from Natural Resources Wales.

Ion Williams

Signed for and on behalf of
Natural Resources Wales

NOTES	
1.	Failure to act within the purpose of this licence or failure to comply with the conditions of the licence may mean that the licence cannot be relied upon and an offence may be committed.
2.	This licence may be modified or revoked at any time.
3.	Any person intending to carry out activities under this licence are advised to print, sign and date a copy and retain it for inspection.
4.	<p>Any work undertaken must take account of biosecurity risks and measures must be put in place to ensure that you don't introduce or spread invasive non-native species (INNS), pests or disease. This biosecurity risk assessment should help you to understand and mitigate the risks on your site, and those posed by your activities.</p> <p>Information, data and free e-learning on non-native species and biosecurity, including for people working in the environment, can be found on the GB Non-Native Species Secretariat website.</p> <p>You can access information about the location of invasive non-native species (INNS) by using the NBN Atlas Wales INNS Portal (a guide on how to use the portal is available).</p> <p>Data on plant and tree specific pests and diseases and biosecurity is available on NRW website, the Defra website or at Forest Research. Free e-learning is available from the Forestry Commission.</p> <p>Ensure you follow the Check Clean Dry or Keep it Clean principles.</p> <p><u>Licensees must</u> ensure that all equipment (vehicles, tools, boots etc) that come to site, arrive clean, and are cleaned again before leaving site – this applies to all sites, not just those where an invasive</p>

non-native species (INNS), pest or disease has been previously identified. High risk sites should be surveyed / visited last during any programme of work.

Check your equipment, clothing and boots and remove any plant or animal 'hitchhikers'. Clean equipment, clothing and boots thoroughly, remove all mud, leaves and plant debris. If it is not possible to clean on site, securely bag items and clean at a suitable location where risk of transfer of diseases is minimised. Wash vehicle tyres and wheel arches if muddy and park on hard standing if possible.

Dry thoroughly any equipment or PPE that has been in freshwater or the marine environment; some INNS can live on damp items for weeks.

You will also need to use disinfectant if you are:

- accessing farmland with stock
- coming into contact with known pathogens
- moving between medium / high risk sites in the same day
- unable to effectively dry (>48hrs) equipment that has been in contact with pathogens
- working during a notifiable disease outbreak situation as notified by Welsh Government.

Information on disease control and disinfectants can be found on the following websites: for [tree disease](#); for [amphibians](#); for [agricultural](#); and for [fisheries](#).

If you need any further help, please feel free to contact our [INNS and Biosecurity](#) team or our [Tree Health](#) team.

DEFINITIONS

1. Who can use this licence
 - a. This licence can only be used by farmers and other keepers of livestock and by people acting on their behalf.
 - b. This excludes any person convicted on or after 1 January 2010 of a **wildlife crime** (unless, in respect of that offence, either:
 - they are a rehabilitated person for the purposes of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and their conviction is treated as spent; or
 - a court has made an order discharging them absolutely.)

Any application for an individual licence made by a person to whom this exclusion applies will be considered on its merits.
2. "livestock" includes any animal which is kept –
 - (a) for provision of food, wool, skins or fur;
 - (b) for the purpose of its use in the carrying on of any agricultural activity;
 - (c) for the provision or improvement of shooting or fishing.

The term "kept" is not defined in the 1981 Act. For the purposes of this licence animals that are either physically constrained (e.g. within fences or a pen), or which are unconstrained but remain significantly dependent on people, are "kept". For example, where a gamebird remains in close proximity to a release pen and will often return to it for shelter or to roost at night, and is dependent of food put out by the gamekeeper then it is may be regarded as livestock even if it is free-living.