



Derbyshire
Wildlife Trust

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 Derbyshire Wildlife Trust

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust is registered in
England and Wales, company number 715675
and is registered charity number 222212

Press Release



A peregrine falcon, credit Simon Richardson

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust condemns the killing of a peregrine falcon in Goyt Valley

A peregrine falcon was found with serious injuries last week in the Goyt Valley near Ashbourne, Derbyshire.



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The juvenile bird was found by walkers near Errwood Reservoir at around 10.30am on the 5th September, before being taken to a vet in Ashbourne. The bird later died under anaesthetic whilst being x-rayed; the x-rays sadly showed shot from a shotgun .

Peregrine falcons suffered from persecution and pesticide poisoning in the early 20th century, and until recently was only found in the north and west of the country. Their fortunes have improved in recent years, but the killing of this peregrine is of serious concern as bird of prey persecution is a serious issue in Derbyshire.

Tim Birch, Head of Advocacy and Conservation Strategy at Derbyshire Wildlife Trust said, "Once again a bird of prey has been shot and then died in Derbyshire – this time in the Goyt Valley in the Peak District National Park. Derbyshire is developing a bad reputation as one of the areas in England where bird of prey persecution is rife. We live in a beautiful county full of wildlife yet some people, particularly in the Peak National Park, believe they are above the law and illegally shoot and kill birds of prey. This often happens in areas where intensive grouse shooting takes place, We totally condemn this incident and urge anyone who has any information about this shooting to come forward and inform the police. Anyone who shoots our precious wildlife needs to be prosecuted."

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust has been working closely with organisations such as Derbyshire Constabulary and RSPB to reduce this type of crime. But despite the efforts of these organisations the persecution of birds of prey continues. This comes after the male peregrine that was shot and found dead at Derbyshire Wildlife Trust's headquarters last year.





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The Trust is appealing for anyone with information to come forward. Please contact Derbyshire Constabulary immediately on 101 or via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

-Ends-

Media enquiries: contact Kaite Helps at Derbyshire Wildlife Trust on 01773 881188.

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Editors' Notes

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, a Registered Charity, is the only organisation working to protect all wildlife across the county. We are one of 47 in The Wildlife Trusts Partnership, a nationwide network of local trusts. We manage 43 nature reserves throughout Derbyshire, advise local authorities and landowners on nature conservation issues and run a range of conservation and education projects.

We are committed to The Wildlife Trusts' strategy of creating Living Landscapes – robust, connected landscapes that address the challenges facing our wildlife and countryside.

Find out more at www.derbyshirewildlifetrust.org.uk

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