

General licence decision tree for 2019

"I need to kill or take a wild bird."

Do you hold an individual licence (including those issued in 2019)?

YES

You can choose whether to act under (a) one of the Defra general licences; (b) one of the three recently issued Natural England general licences; or (c) your individual licence.

NO

In many cases, the Defra general licences will be the most appropriate option. You must be clear which licence you are operating under and comply with the conditions of that licence. If your circumstances do not meet the criteria for these licences, you should apply to Natural England for an individual licence.

NO, BUT I'VE APPLIED FOR ONE

Natural England will be in touch to discuss whether you still need one.

As before, if operating under a general licence on an SSSI, you also need Natural England consent - contact your local Natural England office if you do not have consent or are unsure.

Do you need to kill or take birds on or within 300m of a protected site (Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)/Special Protected Areas (SPAs)/Ramsar sites)?

SPAs/Ramsar sites for bird species

You may be able to control Canada geese and woodpigeons under one of Natural England's general licences, otherwise you must apply for an individual licence using form A08.

SPAs/Ramsar sites for non-bird species

You may be able to control carrion crows, Canada geese or woodpigeons under one of Natural England's general licences, otherwise you must apply for an individual licence using form A08.

Do you need to kill or take herring gulls or lesser black-backed gulls?

YES

You must apply to Natural England for an individual licence using form A08.

Natural England intends to develop a class licence for control of nests and eggs in time for the 2020 breeding season.