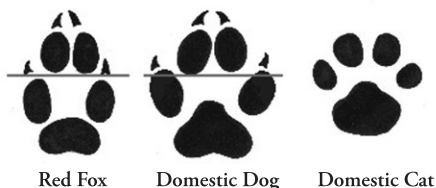


Year: 20 / 20

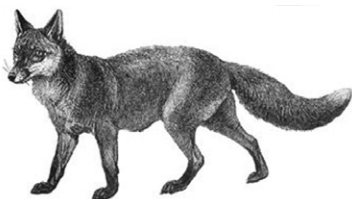
Member Name: _____

[illegible]

1. Please complete this voluntary survey and submit it to your Club Secretary by 28th February next.
2. All returns are treated by LEWC as strictly confidential, especially regarding the identity of participants and the area in which they shoot.
3. Please use block capitals and pen when completing the form.
4. Please clearly identify the location where each animal was obtained. For research purposes, LEWC must separate out returns which were not taken directly from Lough Erne and it's foreshore.
5. For Fox and Mink returns, please stipulate Male or Female and Adult or Juvenile details.



When 'Lamping' (Night shooting of foxes) it is essential that the appropriate firearms and ammunition are used at ranges that ensure rapid despatch. Always ensure a safe background and clear field of fire. Bullets can ricochet off bushes, fence wire and other obstacles en route to the target. Always clearly identify the body of the animal, never ever shoot at a pair of eyes. If in doubt, do not shoot. When snaring, the presence of foxes will be indicated by fox tracks, reddish brown hair on bramble, twigs or wire, a strong musty smell. Only free running snares with a permanent stop can be used.



Notes:

- Mink are invasive species and must by law be controlled and eradicated. When trapping near water always check for signs of otter activity.
- The Jay and Collared Dove are protected species in Northern Ireland.
- Night is defined as one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise.

Predator and pest control is an integral part of conservation and wildlife management. It is necessary to reduce predation and damage, particularly at vulnerable times of the year such as the nesting season. It is the responsibility of all those involved in predator control to ensure their methods are legal, humane and carried out with respect for other countryside users.

Depending on the target species, various methods can be used to catch predators and pests; these include trapping, snaring and lamping (night shooting of foxes). Each of these activities have strict legal requirements relating to the equipment used and the treatment of the decoy and the target animal. Details of the legal requirements are identified in four '**Codes of Practice**' produced by BASC. These Codes relate to the trapping of predator mammals and birds, snaring and lamping. Full information is available on www.basc.org.uk

It is permitted to trap pest birds such as Crows and Magpies using a Larsen Cage trap. Permission to install a trap must be obtained from the land owner of the trapping site to be used.



The decoy bird must be provided with adequate food, water, shelter and a perch for the entire period it is used. Each trap must be inspected at least once in every 24 hour period. At each inspection any trapped target birds must be removed and despatched quickly and humanely. The display of carcasses serves no useful purpose and may offend other countryside users.

Mink are aggressive predators, killing a wide variety of water-side animals, including all types of waterfowl. Cage traps are most commonly used to catch mink.



Mink track
(front)



Otter tracks

Every effort must be made to avoid the capture of non-target species. Knowledge of the tracks, trails and signs of both target and non-target species is essential. Traps must be inspected once every 24 hours and not set near grazing livestock.



LEWC PREDATOR AND PEST BAG RETURN LOUGH ERNE



VOLUNTARY PREDATOR AND PEST SURVEY

Predator and Pest control is an integral part of conservation and wildlife management. The purpose of this voluntary survey is to record and recognise the valuable conservation activities already carried out by our members for the benefit of all waterfowl on and around Lough Erne.