



**HEDDLU  
GOGLEDD CYMRU  
NORTH WALES  
POLICE**

Response Date: 28/04/2025

### **2025/380 – Wildlife Crime**

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

#### **What department currently deals with allegations of wildlife crime within your force?**

North Wales Police have a dedicated Rural Crime Team.

#### **How many officers/staff are currently employed by your force?**

This information is published quarterly on our website;

[Published items | North Wales Police](#)

#### **How many incidents of wildlife crime (including but not limited to hunting, baiting, wildlife disturbance, poaching, illegal fishing, egg theft, offences against badgers, bats, birds of prey) have been reported to the force within the last 5 years?**

#### **How many incidents of wildlife crime resulted in a charge for the suspect within the last 5 years?**

1. The table below contains any crime with Home Office description containing hunting, Baiting, Poaching, Fishing, Egg, Badger, Bats, Bird or wildlife.
2. Count of occurrences and occurrences where outcome is OC1 – Charged, Summoned or Postal Requisitioned

| HO Code | HO Description                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Crime Count | OC 1 Count |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------|
| 098/95  | Fish / take fish by other than licensable means in circumstances where fish / taking may or may not be authorised, or possess unlicensed instrument with intent to fish / take fish with or without a s.27A authority | 2           | 0          |
| 099/48  | Carrying out or causing to permit to be carried out, any operation likely to damage part of an area of special scientific interest subject to notification by Nature Conservancy Council                              | 2           | 0          |
| 108/22  | Digging for badgers recordable                                                                                                                                                                                        | 4           | 1          |
| 108/22  | Interfering with badger setts recordable                                                                                                                                                                              | 16          | 1          |
| 108/22  | Wilfully kill a badger recordable                                                                                                                                                                                     | 5           | 0          |
| 108/23  | Damage destroy Schedule 5 wild animal shelter recordable                                                                                                                                                              | 2           | 0          |
| 108/23  | Disturb sheltering Schedule 5 wild animal recordable                                                                                                                                                                  | 3           | 0          |
| 108/23  | Possess live dead Schedule 5 wild animal or its parts recordable                                                                                                                                                      | 1           | 0          |

|        |                                                                                                               |            |   |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|---|
| 111/20 | Possession custody of dog whilst disqualified                                                                 | 1          | 0 |
| 118/01 | Enter land as a trespasser at night with poaching equipment recordable                                        | 2          | 0 |
| 119/01 | Daytime trespass in pursuit of game poaching recordable                                                       | 5          | 0 |
| 121/13 | Hunting a wild mammal with dogs Hunting Act 2004                                                              | 17         | 5 |
| 190/01 | Injure a non Schedule 1 wild bird recordable                                                                  | 2          | 0 |
| 190/01 | Injure a Schedule 1 wild bird recordable                                                                      | 1          | 0 |
| 190/01 | Kill a non Schedule 1 wild bird recordable                                                                    | 8          | 0 |
| 190/01 | Killing a Schedule 1 wild bird recordable                                                                     | 13         | 0 |
| 190/01 | Possess live dead non Schedule 1 wild bird or parts recordable                                                | 1          | 0 |
| 190/01 | Take a Schedule 1 wild bird recordable                                                                        | 2          | 0 |
| 190/02 | Damage destroy nest of non Schedule 1 wild bird recordable                                                    | 2          | 1 |
| 190/02 | Damage destroy nest of Schedule 1 wild bird recordable                                                        | 2          | 0 |
| 190/02 | Take eggs of Schedule 1 wild bird recordable                                                                  | 3          | 0 |
| 190/06 | Use trap to kill or take a wild bird recordable                                                               | 1          | 0 |
| 190/06 | Use weapon to kill take a wild bird recordable                                                                | 4          | 0 |
| 195/99 | Breach of licensing exclusion order recordable                                                                | 2          | 1 |
| 195/99 | In charge of a dog fail to keep it on a lead on a lead of a maximum length on land to which the Order applied | 1          | 0 |
| 195/99 | Wildlife uproot a wild plant recordable                                                                       | 1          | 0 |
|        | <b>Sum:</b>                                                                                                   | <b>103</b> |   |

**How many incidents of wildlife crime resulted in a conviction within the last 5 years?**

Information on convictions is not stored on North Wales Police systems. You may wish to direct this question to the CPS;

[IAT@cps.gov.uk](mailto:IAT@cps.gov.uk)

**How many incidents of wildlife crime resulted in Proceeds of Crime Act penalties following conviction within the last 5 years?**

No information held.

**How many officers/staff members within your force have been trained in wildlife crime investigation?**

Members of the rural crime team have received accredited wildlife training by the National Wildlife Crime Unit.

**Rural Crime Team**

| Type        | <u>Dec</u><br><u>2019</u> | <u>Dec</u><br><u>2024</u> |
|-------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| OFFICER     | 3                         | 7                         |
| PCSO        | 2                         | 2                         |
| STAFF       | 1                         | 0                         |
| Grand Total | 6                         | 9                         |

**How many officers/staff within your force are Accredited Financial Investigators?**

Financial investigators = 11

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST  
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 23/04/2025