



Appeal for information regarding information on a Goshawk shot near Chepstow

On Thursday April 21st the RSPCA were called to an incident involving a domestic cat and a Goshawk in the Brockweir area of the Forest of Dean, close to the Welsh border. The bird was taken to the Vale Wildlife Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre (Beckford) where an X-Ray was taken for a fractured wing. The results of the X-Ray found that the bird had in fact been shot and was later euthanised due to the extent of its injuries.

In the 19th century Goshawks became extinct in Britain through persecution. However, in the 1960's a population was re-established and numbers have slowly risen. Gloucestershire, and in particular the Forest of Dean, has been a stronghold for this recovery and numbers are somewhere in the region of 300 breeding pairs across the UK. Due to their status, Goshawks are specially protected by law through Schedule One of the Wildlife and Countryside Act.



Pictures courtesy of Vale Wildlife Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre.

The Gloucestershire Raptor Monitoring Group, together with the Vale Wildlife Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre, the RSPB Investigations Team and Gloucestershire Police, would like anyone with information on this incident (shooting) or any other persecution of raptors that they know of to contact Gloucestershire Police via 101 (quoting incident 184 of Monday 25th April) or the RSPB Investigations team on 01767 680551.

About Gloucestershire Raptor Monitoring Group

The Gloucestershire Raptor Monitoring Group (GRMG) was formed officially in January 2015, with the main aim to contribute to raptor conservation and science in the Gloucestershire area. The GRMG also observes numbers of key species in the county, increases awareness of persecution working closely with Gloucestershire Police and also educates and inform others.

If you would like to contact us, you can email us on glosraptors@gmail.com.