



# Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

## CHAPTER 69

This is an extract from a scanned copy of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, **as at the time when it received Royal Assent**. The Act remains one of the most important pieces of wildlife legislation in Great Britain, but it is important to be aware that **this document does not represent the Act as it currently stands**.

**Please Note:**

- Since the passing of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 there have been various amendments to the text of the Act, most significantly through the [Countryside and Rights of Way \(CROW\) Act 2000](#) (in England and Wales) and the [Nature Conservation \(Scotland\) Act 2004](#) (in Scotland), but also through other legislation including the Local Government Act 1985, the Water Act 1989, and the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (**PLEASE NOTE:** This is not a complete list of amending legislation).
- There have also been changes to the species listed in the schedules, through Variations to the Schedules Orders. There is a statutory five-yearly review of Schedules 5 and 8 (protected wild animals and plant respectively), undertaken by the statutory conservation agencies and coordinated through JNCC, but changes to the Schedules can be made by the Secretary of State at any time, if it is considered necessary because of a threat of extinction or in response to international obligations. JNCC maintain a central spreadsheet of [conservation designations for all taxa](#) which includes any changes to the Schedules of the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act.
- When citing any legislation, it is important to check whether any parts of it have been amended (or repealed) by later Acts or Statutory Instruments. Most UK legislation introduced since 1988 is available online from the website of the Office of Public Sector Information <http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation>. If necessary, a qualified legal adviser should be consulted for definitive guidance over what legislation may be applicable, and its interpretation.

The remaining parts of this original text of the act can be found at [www.jncc.gov.uk/page-3614](http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-3614)

Sections 7  
and 22.

#### SCHEDULE 4

#### BIRDS WHICH MUST BE REGISTERED AND RINGED IF KEPT IN CAPTIVITY

<i>Common name</i>	<i>Scientific name</i>
Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>
Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>
Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>
Bittern, Little	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>
Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>
Bunting, Cirl	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>
Bunting, Lapland	<i>Calcarius lapponicus</i>
Bunting, Snow	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>
Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>
Corncrake	<i>Crex crex</i>
Crake, Spotted	<i>Porzana porzana</i>
Crossbills (all species)	<i>Loxia</i>
Curlew, Stone	<i>Burhinus oedicephalus</i>
Divers (all species)	<i>Gavia</i>
Dotterel	<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>
Duck, Long-tailed	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>
Falcons (all species)	Falconidae
Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>
Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>
Godwit, Black-tailed	<i>Limosa limosa</i>
Grebe, Black-necked	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>
Grebe, Slavonian	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>
Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
Hawks, True (except Old world vultures) that is to say, Buzzards, Eagles, Harriers, Hawks and Kites (all species in each case)	Accipitridae (except the genera <i>Aegypius</i> , <i>Gypaetus</i> , <i>Gypohierax</i> , <i>Gyps</i> , <i>Neophron</i> , <i>Sarcogyps</i> and <i>Trigonoceps</i> )
Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>
Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
Oriole, Golden	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
Petrel, Leach's	<i>Oceanodroma leucorhoa</i>
Phalarope, Red-necked	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>
Plover, Kentish	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>
Plover, Little ringed	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>
Quail, Common	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>
Redstart, Black	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>
Rosefinch, Scarlet	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>
Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>
Sandpiper, Green	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>
Sandpiper, Purple	<i>Calidris maritima</i>
Sandpiper, Wood	<i>Tringa glareola</i>
Scoter, Common	<i>Melanitta nigra</i>
Scoter, Velvet	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>
Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>
Shorelark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>
Shrike, Red-backed	<i>Lanius collurio</i>
Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>
Stilt, Black-winged	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>

<i>Common name</i>	<i>Scientific name</i>	SCH. 4
Stint, Temminck's	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	
Tern, Black	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	
Tern, Little	<i>Sterna albifrons</i>	
Tern, Roseate	<i>Sterna dougallii</i>	
Tit, Bearded	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>	
Tit, Crested	<i>Parus cristatus</i>	
Treecreeper, Short-toed	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>	
Warbler, Cetti's	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	
Warbler, Dartford	<i>Sylvia undata</i>	
Warbler, Marsh	<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>	
Warbler, Savi's	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>	
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>	
Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	

NOTE. The common name or names given in the first column of this Schedule are included by way of guidance only; in the event of any dispute or proceedings, the common name or names shall not be taken into account.

## SCHEDULE 5

Sections 9, 10,  
22 and 24.

## ANIMALS WHICH ARE PROTECTED

<i>Common name</i>	<i>Scientific name</i>
Adder (in respect of section 9(5) only)	<i>Vipera berus</i>
Bats, Horseshoe (all species)	Rhinolophidae
Bats, Typical (all species)	Vespertilionidae
Beetle, Rainbow Leaf	<i>Chrysolina cerealis</i>
Burbot	<i>Lota lota</i>
Butterfly, Chequered Skipper	<i>Carterocephalus palaemon</i>
Butterfly, Heath Fritillary	<i>Mellicta athalia</i> (otherwise known as <i>Melitaea athalia</i> )
Butterfly, Large Blue	<i>Maculinea arion</i>
Butterfly, Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>
Cricket, Field	<i>Gryllus campestris</i>
Cricket, Mole	<i>Gryllotalpa gryllotalpa</i>
Dolphin, Bottle-nosed	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i> (otherwise known as <i>Tursiops tursio</i> )
Dolphin, Common	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>
Dragonfly, Norfolk Aeshna	<i>Aeshna isosceles</i>
Frog, Common (in respect of section 9(5) only)	<i>Rana temporaria</i>
Grasshopper, Wart-biter	<i>Decticus verrucivorus</i>
Lizard, Sand	<i>Lacerta agilis</i>
Lizard, Viviparous (in respect of section 9(5) only)	<i>Lacerta vivipara</i>
Moth, Barberry Carpet	<i>Pareulype berberata</i>
Moth, Black-veined	<i>Siona lineata</i> (otherwise known as <i>Idaea lineata</i> )
Moth, Essex Emerald	<i>Thetidia smaragdaria</i>
Moth, New Forest Burnet	<i>Zygaena viciae</i>
Moth, Reddish Buff	<i>Acosmetia caliginosa</i>