

OPERATION OWL

Be our eyes and ears



Help us stop bird of prey persecution

If you spot a suspicious activity, poisoned bait or an illegal trap, **call 101** to report it to the police



North Yorkshire has the highest incidence of raptor (birds of prey) persecution of any English county.

It is against the law to intentionally kill, injure or take wild birds. Yet every year, species such as buzzards, peregrine falcons and kites are shot, poisoned and illegally trapped, as well as having their nests disturbed.

We want to stop these crimes and bring the offenders to justice. You can help.

Operation Owl is a joint initiative by North Yorkshire Police, RSPB, RSPCA and the North York Moors and Yorkshire Dales National Parks.

Our dedicated Rural Taskforce and specially-trained wildlife officers will be visiting known persecution hot-spots to deter criminal activity.

You can join the Operation by being our eyes and ears out on the Moors and in the Dales. In particular you can help to spot suspicious activity, poisoned bait sites and illegal “pole traps”. These are used to capture birds of prey before the trapper comes back to kill them.

If you spot a dead or injured bird, poisoned bait or a pole trap, please note the location, take a photo and call the police on 101 to report it. It could help us to prosecute this criminal offence.

