





Raptor health as an indicator of ecosystem health:

Part 1



A tool for conservation

Gabriela Peniche







Sample collection challenges

Part 2



Gabriela Peniche

Environmental Pressures



Agricultural practices







Communications, transport and energy



Assessing Raptor Health

Post mortem examinations: 15 raptor species

Buteo buteo
Milvus milvus
Haliaeetus albuda Falco peregrinus
Circus cyaneus
Accipiter gentilis
Accipiter nisus
Aquila chrysaetos
Pandion haliaetus

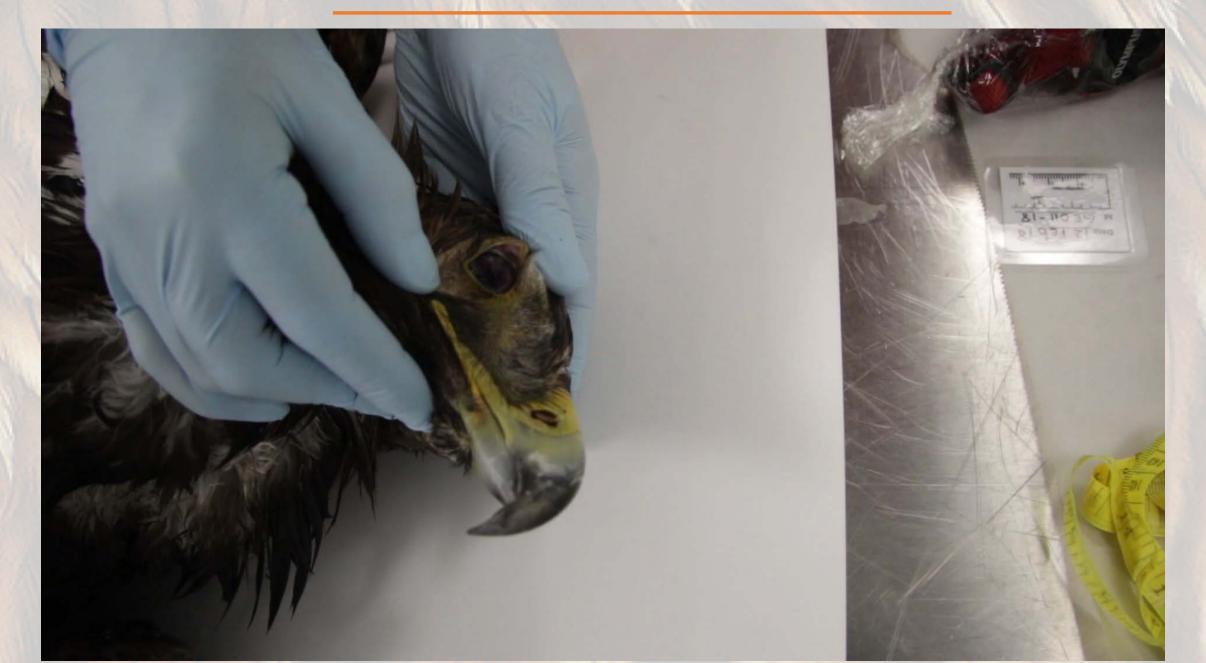
Falco columbarius
Falco peregrinus
Tyto alba
Strix aluco
Asio otus
Asio flammeus

Live golden eagle chick examinations





Post mortem Examinations



Live Golden Eagle Chick Examinations

Study Area



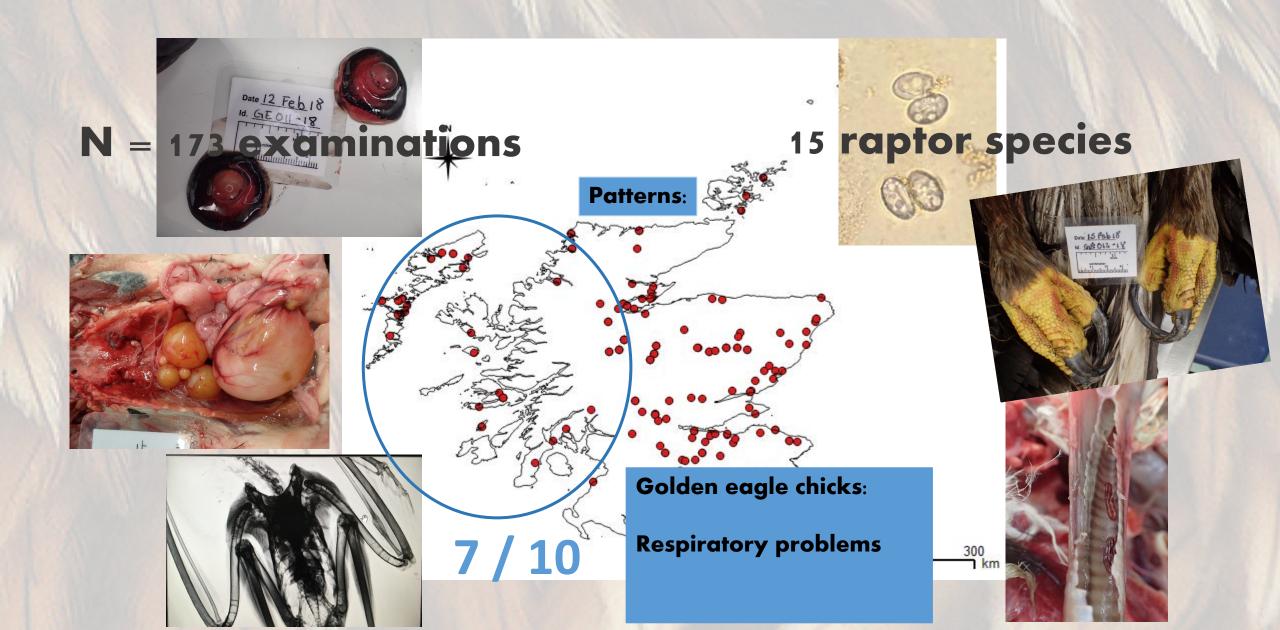


Live Golden Eagle Chick Examinations





Results: Post Mortem Examinations



Toxicology Analysis

~ 160 Chemicals

Heavy metals 11

Pesticides 136

Rodenticides 10

Acaricides

Insecticides

Molluscicides

Herbicides

Fungicides

Veterinary pharmaceuticals 24

Antibiotics

Anthelmintics

Poisons 7



Results: Live golden eagle examinations



1/4 of chicks examined in the West

→ sick

N = 51 chicks examined



Results: Toxicology

Live Golden Eagle Chick Examinations - Bloods

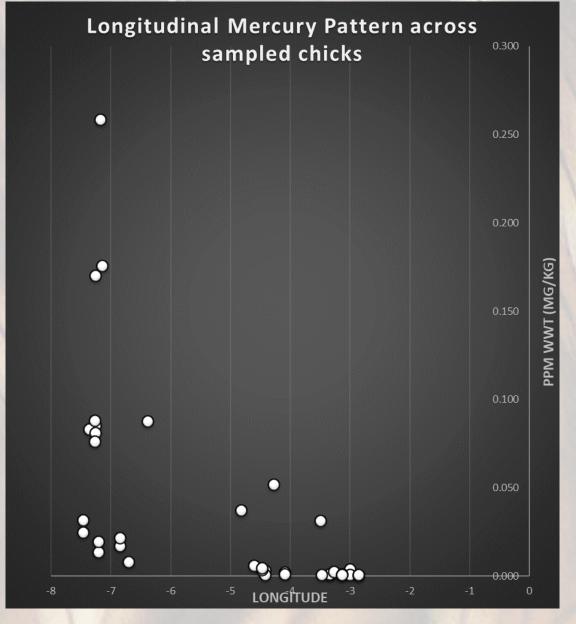
0.25 ppm

Mercury
concentration in
blood
wwt (mg/kg)

0.0 ppm



N = 37



WEST EAST

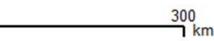
Results: Raptor's Eye View





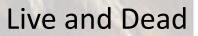
Heat map of rodenticide concentrations

from raptor post mortems



Sample collection challenges

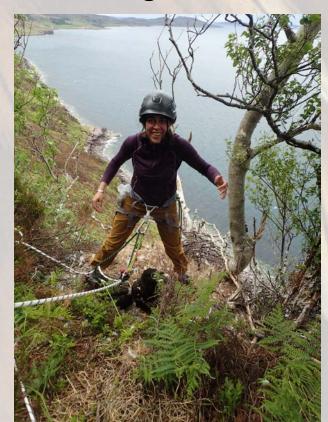






Logistics





Economics

Communication

Live

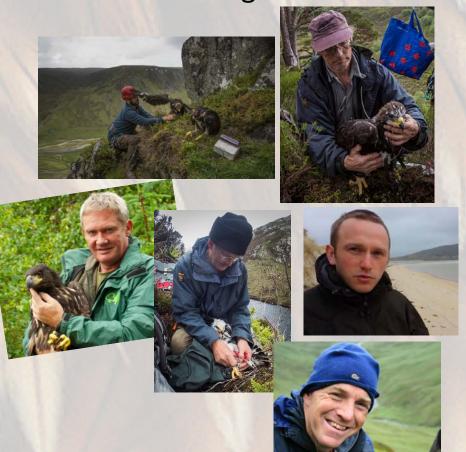
Respect / knowledgefield experts



- Contacts



-Timing



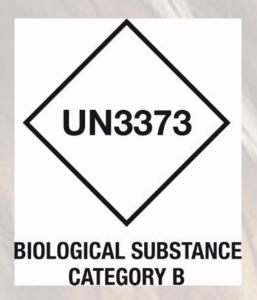
Communication

- Submitters



Dead

- Legal and H & S



- Feedback





Logistics

Dead

- Tissue choice



- Absence



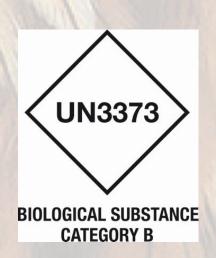
- Freezer Space



- Time



Unbelievable! It looks like they've both been killed by the same stone...



- Transport

Logistics

Live

- Permits & Licenses



Animals in Science Regulation Unit Home Office Science Mail Point A11/12, 1st Floor, Peel Building NE 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF

Our Reference: IB3B9F48F Date: 25 April 2017

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Dear Miss Peniche Peyron

ANIMALS (SCIENTIFIC PROCEDURES) ACT 1986

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You are required to keep a record of all regulated procedures that you have carried out. This information You are required to keep a record of all regulated procedures that you have carried out. This information must be made readily available to the Inspector or Secretary of State when required. If you cease to must be made readily available to the Inspector or Secretary of State when required. It you cease to carry out work requiring a licence (for example leaving the UK to work abroad) you must return your licence to the Home Office.

Disturbance and Ringing licenses

Egg collection license

- Readiness



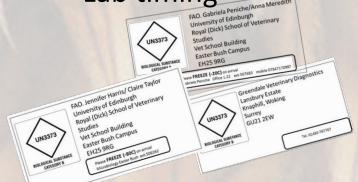
- Sampling
 - Efficiency







- Postage
 - Packaging
 - Lab timing



Economics

Live and dead

- Fuel

- Freezer

- Collaborators

- Postage

- Lab tests

Summary

Whilst on the face of it gathering samples from live and dead birds seems simple, the organization required at each stage is complex and without care and continual oversight can result in failure.







Thanks for listening



Website: https://www.ed.ac.uk/vet/raptor-health-scotland

Twitter: @Raptorscotland

Videos of my work: Simon Dures (You Tube)





















