

# Current capacity and gaps in sampling: a UK perspective

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# Key Aims

- Review existing capacity to collect samples from raptors
- Identify gaps where new effort might best be targeted
- Explore potential for relevant contextual information (such as population trends and demographic data)
- Develop guidance on two focal species





# Key Questions

- Who can contribute to a sampling program?
- Where are the biggest gaps?
- What is the general level of interest in raptors?
- Which areas have greatest potential for building more capacity?
- What is the capacity to collect additional samples for **Common Buzzard** and **Tawny Owl**?
- If you found a fresh **Common Buzzard** or **Tawny Owl** carcass in your own country what would you do?

# Who contributes?

- **Lots** of different groups
  - e.g. Research Centers, Rehabilitation Clinics, Museums
  - Veterinarians, Ringers, Members of the public
- Generally well organised, but different approaches can require work to build consensus



# Biggest gaps/challenges

- Coverage 'poor' in North and West - fewer people
- Lack of coordination between different bodies
- Established practices can make it hard to innovate
- Strong legislation can make some sampling difficult
- Can be expensive to get things done, so overall capacity is limited





# Greatest potential for building capacity?

- Raising profile of commoner species
- Developing better contextual information
  - especially broader demography
- Improved coordination between different 'actors'
  - Leading to better integration of results
- Encouraging the next generation



# Sharing of experience...

- Predatory Bird Monitoring Scheme
- Garden Wildlife Health
- Scottish Raptor Monitoring Scheme
- RAS ringing
- Nest Record Scheme

