

**Laws Affecting Wild Animals & Birds in the UK**  
**ALTERNATIVE VETERINARY MEDICINE CENTRE**  
**Information Sheet WS035/07**  
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**Legislation affecting the Handling and Treatment of  
Wild Animals (& Wild Birds) in the UK**

The AVMC is always willing to advise or help on [Wild Animal or Wild Bird issues](#).

**N.B.:** Neither the AVMC nor anyone involved in the construction of this site can be held responsible, should there be any omissions or errors in this list. Ignorance of the law has traditionally not been a defence, in the UK.

- Abandonment of Animals Act 1960
- Animal Health Act 1981
- Animal Welfare Act 2006
- Conservation of Seals Act 1970
- Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations 1994
- Control of Trade in Endangered Species (Enforcement) Regulations 1997
- Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976
- Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 (Modification) Order 1984
- Deer Act 1991
- Deer (Scotland) Act 1996
- EU Council Regulation EC3338/97
- EU Commission Regulation EC 1808/2001 and 2087/2001

## *Laws for Wild Animals - AVMC*

- Game Acts (various)
- Pests Act 1954 (Section 1) relating to rabbits
- Protection of Badgers Act 1992 Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996
- Protection of Wild mammals (Scotland) Act 2002
- Salmon & Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975
- Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966
- Welfare of Animals (Transport) Order 1997
- Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981

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