



WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 1/17
PART OF STUDY FSGD-209
REGIONAL NUMBER W/16/32
OTHER REFERENCES 28/B0135/12/16
SENDER VLA Carmarthen
LOCATION Llangenny
Brecknockshire
GRID REFERENCE SO2318
INCIDENT DATE 13 December 2016
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT disease
DATE OF REPORT 24 April 2017

REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]
SIGNED : [REDACTED]

NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED
1 goshawk

COPIED TO [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Samples received		Date received	Sample identifier
98643	goshawk	5/1/17	APHA: 28-B0135-12-16: spec 1
98643	goshawk	5/1/17	APHA: 28-B0135-12-16: spec 1
	tissues		

Summary of field data

On a footpath, close to a river, a dead goshawk was found. The finder suspected that the bird had died recently as rigor mortice was not apparent. The Welsh Government were contacted and the finder stored the bird until it could be collected, the following day. Arrangements were made to transfer the carcass to the APHA for a post-mortem.

Summary of post mortem report

A dead, male, goshawk was submitted for post-mortem. The bird weighed 680g and was in emaciated body condition, with mild autolysis. There was a swelling of the caudal pharynx which when incised, showed cream coloured firm tissue below the mucosal surface. The gizzard contained green fibrous material. There were no abnormalities of the remaining body systems seen and digital images of the intact carcass and pharyngeal lesion were taken.

Analysis : rodenticide analysis suite

98643	liver	brodifacoum	confirmed	0.0008	mg/kg
98643	liver	difenacoum	confirmed	0.00005	mg/kg

Conclusion

Initially, it was suspected that this goshawk had been poisoned. Given the post-mortem findings that are consistent with a natural cause of death, laboratory analysis for a range of anticoagulant rodenticides only has been undertaken on the submitted samples. These tests have detected and confirmed very small residues of brodifacoum and difenacoum in the liver of this bird and these are considered to be consistent with exposure only. Therefore, the cause of death of this goshawk appears to be from a combination of the pharyngeal lesion and starvation.