

Wildlife in and around the Callander and Trossachs area

Black Grouse



This woodland grouse lies and feeds on moorland and around woodland edges. At dawn and dusk, in spring, males gather at 'leks' in order to impress females. Conservation work in Callander and in The Great Trossachs Forest National Nature Reserve is helping this nationally declining species. Watch Chris Packham visiting one of our leks <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p03y9s88>

Golden Eagles



The sight of a huge golden eagle soaring high above the moors and peaks has long been associated with Scotland's rugged mountains and remote glens. We are fortunate to have breeding eagles within the wider area and the work we are doing here is helping to secure their future in this part of Scotland. The golden eagle prefers open, treeless areas to lowland woods. Golden eagles are sensitive to human disturbance and build their nests in remote, inaccessible places. Their territories range in size from 5 - 150 km².

Osprey



The Aberfoyle Osprey Project is a partnership between Forestry Commission Scotland and RSPB Scotland. It is based in Wildlife Watch at the Lodge, at The Lodge in Aberfoyle. Bringing people closer to nature, Wildlife Watch at the lodge is home to the not only the ospreys but many other types of wildlife including red squirrels, barn owls, buzzards and much more. What you may see depends on the season.

Water Vole



One of the larger British voles, the dark water vole is now one of our most threatened native mammals. The vole (sometimes referred to as a 'water rat') is an elusive creature, but you may see signs of where the vole has been- such as a small round hole at the entrance to a network of underground tunnels.

The Trossachs Water Vole Project is committed to the protection of water voles in the Trossachs area. This is achieved through monitoring the current water vole population, creating suitable wetland habitat and controlling the numbers of American mink in the area.

Red Squirrel



The red squirrel is one of our most-loved mammals. The only squirrel native to Britain, it lives in both native woodlands and commercial conifer plantations, where it eats seeds including hazelnuts, acorns, beech mast and Scots pine seeds.

Following a sharp decline numbers, the red squirrel is now endangered and most of the UK's remaining population is in Scotland. These charming little creatures can be frequently seen in the area.

Pine Marten



Pine martens are about the size of a small cat, with a dark brown head and large ears, creamy-white throat and brown fur. Once widespread in Britain, these nocturnal mammals are now increasing in number and can be found mostly in remote, forested areas.

Red and Roe Deer



The largest land mammal in Britain has adapted to life on the open hills, due to the loss of woodland, its preferred habitat, over the centuries. The buck is reddish in colour in summer, greyish-brown in winter, flecked with yellow and has shorter antlers than the red deer. The annual deer rut, in the autumn, can be a spectacular sight.

Acknowledgement

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