

ACTIVELY EXPOSING SHOOTING'S VILE UNDERBELLY!

Although Corvid traps are mainly used by gamekeepers, a small proportion are used by domestic households to catch magpies. The traps are most commonly set during February to June, but can be in use all year round in some places.

ACTING to awaken public awareness of the cruelties associated with Larsen traps and the larger multiple crow traps.

ACTING to expose the great risks to birds of prey that these traps pose, particularly from the larger multiple traps.

ACTING to expose this inhumane aspect to shooting sports for which the public are largely in the dark.

ACTING to lay the foundations which will ultimately lead to abolition of these traps.



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AGAINST
CORVID
TRAPS**
www.againstcorvidtraps.co.uk



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ACT NOW!

When out walking, look out for these traps. Gather any evidence of cruelty and if found call the **RSPCA: 08705555999**. Send us your photos and details of any birds found trapped. If you find any birds of prey in traps, call the **RSPB: 01767 683355**

Log on to our web site ... www.againstcorvidtraps.co.uk and check out the latest news, or download our petition and support us where you can.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT ...
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ACT NOW!



LARSEN TRAP



MULTI TRAP

ANTI MAGPIE PROPAGANDA



MAGPIES

Some mindless and inhumane people set Larsen Traps in private gardens. They have usually seen a magpie rob a bird's nest and set out with vengeance. Research commissioned by the RSPB shows that magpies are not responsible for the decline in songbirds. However, this is no comfort to people who have seen a garden nest robbed of its eggs.

The answer to the problem lies in creating a less fussy and wilder garden: thorny bushes, plenty of ivy; a pruned Hawthorn hedge is ideal. The next step, paradoxically, is to encourage the magpie into your garden by providing a high feeding station on a fence. Get in a routine of placing household scraps on the platform each day. Many birds will benefit, and the magpies will be far less inclined to look elsewhere in the garden.

GAME SHOOTING

Most of the anti-magpie, and anti-predator propaganda originates from game shooting interests. The organisation Songbird Survival (set up in 2001) has been behind much of the recent propaganda with Viscount Coke, a principle Trustee and spokesman for the group. However, the heir to the Holkham estate, Wells-Next-The-Sea, Norfolk is no stranger to controversy and in June 2000 faced 12 charges relating to the use of poisons on the family's Norfolk estate. While the case against him was later dropped, his charges followed the conviction in March that year of one of the estate's gamekeepers for shooting and poisoning three kestrels, which he blamed for killing partridges being raised for shooting.

So be aware of black propaganda against magpies, crows, or birds of prey. Somewhere behind it you will generally find the dark hand of game shooting lurking.

LARSEN TRAPS

These traps have been used in the UK since 1988, following their introduction by the Game Conservancy Trust. Because they use a captive wild bird (technically contrary to the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act) they have to be used under the terms of a "general license". Under the terms of the general license issued by DEFRA, only magpies, crows, jays, jackdaws and rooks can be trapped. The traps use a live decoy bird, which is kept in one compartment, and when another bird lands on top, it falls through a one-way gate. Legally they must have a perch, shelter, food and water, and be checked each day. Ironically they were designed by a Danish gamekeeper (Larsen) in the 1950s, but are now banned in that country because the traps are viewed as inhumane.

The wild decoy bird, its most vital instincts frustrated and abused by confinement, suffers a most terrible fate. Close to the ground it is terrorised by predators, and watches as its fellow birds are brutally killed in front of it.



VINCE JENKS, TELFORD.

◆ Harry Stephenson with the Buzzard he caught in his Larsen trap.

A BUZZARD CAUGHT IN A LARSEN TRAP REPORTED IN THE SHOOTING PRESS
(We are not implying this buzzard was harmed)

MULTI TRAPS

Multi traps, often called crow traps. These also come in the shape of Ladder traps and Cone or lobster pot traps. Almost all aim to catch crows, mostly by use of decoy birds. The multi-trap has been used for several decades.

These traps are almost all used by gamekeepers for predator control, but will often catch Raptors (birds of prey). Gamekeepers have historically been hostile to Raptors, and inevitably many of the trapped birds are killed. An example being this case in April 2005 when two gamekeepers (Leslie Morris and Michael Clare) from the Bradenham Hill Pheasant Shoot, West Wycombe, Berkshire were convicted of killing a buzzard they found in their crow multi-trap.



EXHAUSTED CROW FINALLY DIES



SNARE SET AROUND MULTI TRAPS