



POSITION STATEMENT ON VERTEBRATE CONTROL FOR NUCLNP PROJECTS TO CONSERVE CURLEW AND OTHER BREEDING WADING BIRDS

The Northern Upland Chain Local Nature Partnership is committed to helping to maintain and increase curlew and other upland breeding wader populations and ranges.

We believe that good habitat management is key to the breeding success of these species, and will promote, research and advocate techniques that forward this aim in our own projects.

It is accepted that some evidence shows an adverse effect of some generalist predators e.g. fox & carrion crow on wader populations, particularly regarding egg and chick survival. Therefore, in some circumstances, predator control may be necessary. This control may be via non-lethal techniques such as scaring and anti-predator fencing but on other occasions legal lethal techniques may have to be employed at the appropriate geographical scale.

The results of all methods will be monitored, evaluated and re-assessed on a regular basis to determine the effect, and discontinued if no longer thought to be effective. Habitat improvements and non-lethal methods will always be key considerations for our own wader conservation projects.