

## WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORT

INCIDENT NUMBER 66/18  
PART OF STUDY FSGD-209  
REGIONAL NUMBER W/18/23  
OTHER REFERENCES 28/B0053/09/18  
SENDER VLA Carmarthen  
LOCATION Ruabon, Wrexham  
Denbighshire  
GRID REFERENCE SJ2449  
INCIDENT DATE 28 August 2018  
SUSPECTED CAUSE OF INCIDENT bendiocarb  
abuse  
DATE OF REPORT 9 October 2018

**RESTRICTED**

REPORTING OFFICER [REDACTED]

SIGNED : ..... [REDACTED]

### NUMBERS AND SPECIES INVOLVED

1 raven

### COPIED TO

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Direct Phone Number 01904 462456

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**Samples received****Date received****Sample identifier**

99182	raven		25/9/18	28/B0053/09/18 : 1 (one)
99182	raven	tissues	25/9/18	28/B0053/09/18 : 1 (one)

**Summary of field data**

A dead raven was found (it was initially reported to be a crow). The bird was found lying on its back and in an area that is managed as a grouse moor and where the RSPB have received reports of illegal action, such as shooting and trapping birds of prey. The carcass appeared to be fresh and there was no sign of bleeding, or injury, or other cause of death. The finder collected and bagged the carcass and stored it in a freezer. Arrangements were made to collect the carcass and transfer it for a post-mortem at the APHA Carmarthen.

**Summary of post mortem report**

A female, dead, raven was submitted for post-mortem with weight 1123g and in fair body condition and moderate autolysis. There was feed material mainly in the mouth, but also in the oesophagus and stomachs. The feed material consisted of a piece of tissue resembling spleen with a straight cut edge, some fibrous material and some tissue resembling intestine from a small bird or mammal. No abnormalities of the remaining body systems were seen. The cause of death has not been established. The bird was eating when it died including tissue resembling spleen that appeared to have been cut with a sharp instrument.

**Analysis : metaldehyde & carb (LC) analysis suite**

99182	gizzard contents	bendiocarb	confirmed	400	mg/kg
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**Analysis : organophosphate analysis suite**

99182	gizzard contents	no organophosphate detected	detection limit	0.3	mg/kg
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**Conclusion**

It was suspected that this raven had been poisoned. Laboratory analysis for some likely pesticides has been undertaken on the submitted samples. These tests have detected and confirmed a residue of bendiocarb in the gizzard contents of this raven and the amount found is likely to have caused the death of this bird. On extraction, a black mass of fibrous material was noted and some possible lumps of meat and the post-mortem noted that material appeared to be cut rather than naturally torn. Therefore, although the bait material used is uncertain, given the circumstances and amount of bendiocarb found abuse of it is suspected. Some further routine tests for a range of anticoagulant rodenticides will also be completed and a revised report issued if residues are found.