



Red Squirrel Post-mortems

If you find a dead red squirrel it may be possible for it to be sent for post-mortem, in order to further our knowledge on the conservation and welfare of red squirrels. It is best to send the red squirrel as soon as possible, however it can be kept chilled for a couple of days and can be frozen if necessary. The red squirrel can be sent to different places depending on the circumstances.

Where the cause of death is apparent and there are no signs of disease, e.g. a road traffic accident, then the squirrel can be used for research projects in genetics, and health surveillance, for example emerging diseases or harm caused by human activities. If this is the case please send the red squirrel to:

Dr Tony Sainsbury
Institute of Zoology
Zoological Society of London
Regents Park
London NW1 4RY

If disease is suspected, such as **Squirrelpox virus**, then please send the red squirrel to:

England

Dr Julian Chantry
Leahurst Veterinary Teaching Hospital
Liverpool University
Chester High Road
Neston
Wirral CH64 7TE

Scotland

Anna Meredith MA VetMB CertLAS DZooMed MRCVS
Head of Exotic Animal Service/ Senior Lecturer
Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, University of Edinburgh
Hospital for Small Animals, Easter Bush Veterinary Centre
Roslin
Midlothian EH25 9RG
0131 650 7652 /6247
annam@miscorp.ed.ac.uk

Please inform the Red Squirrel Conservation Officer for your region if you are sending a squirrel for post mortem.

1. Pack the body in absorbent material e.g. kitchen roll in **three** plastic bags, which are **tightly closed** and placed in a rigid cardboard box e.g. a tissue box. Label “Pathological Specimen – Fragile with Care” and mark with the senders address.
2. Send by first class post.
Please pack properly – the Post Office may refuse to deliver dirty or smelly packages. Please ensure the package is posted to arrive on a weekday.
3. Please provide the following information:

Date found:

Location found:

Any indications of cause of death:

Senders name and address:

Senders telephone number:

Email:

Red Squirrel Conservation Officers:

Cumbria

Jana Kahl
Red Alert North West
Cumbria Wildlife Trust
Plumgarths
Crook Road
Kendal
Cumbria
LA8 8LX
Tel: 01539 816300
janak@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk

Northumberland

Louise Bessant
Red Alert North East
Northumberland Wildlife Trust
Garden House
St. Nicholas Park
Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 3XT
Tel: 0191 284 6884
louise.bessant@northwt.org.uk

Scottish Borders

Elly Hamilton
Studio 2
Lindean Mill
Galashiels
Selkirkshire
TD1 3PE
Tel: 01750 23446
Mobile: 07733 121838
Email: ellyhamilton@redsquirrels.org.uk

Dumfries & Galloway

Ann-Marie MacMaster
Carlow House
Locharbriggs
Dumfries
Dumfries & Galloway
DG1 1QS
Tel: 01387 711804
Mobile: 07733 121837
Email: ann-marie@red-squirrels.org.uk

RED SQUIRRELS IN SOUTH SCOTLAND PROJECT

Blood Collection from Red/Grey Squirrels: Submission Form

Sample reference code: _____ Date collected: ____/____/____

Species of squirrel (*please circle*): Red Grey

Location where squirrel was found: _____
(*including nearest to wn*)

Grid reference where squirrel was found: _____

Male / Female (*please circle*) Adult/Juvenile (*please circle*) Result

Sender's name and address:

Sender's telephone number: _____

I agree that the results from this test may be used as part of a wider UK poxvirus monitoring programme.

Please post samples to:

Dr Peter Nettleton, Moredun Research Institute, International Research Centre, Pentland Science Park, Bush
Loan, Penicuik. EH26 0PZ

For the attention of Moredun Research Institute:

All poxvirus test results to be returned to the Red Squirrel Conservation Officer, Studio 2, Lindean Mill, Galashiels.
TD1 3PE (Tel 07733 121838)

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