**2017 Annual Mammal Report**

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**Annual Report 2017 Species Summaries**

**Hedgehog *Erinaceous europaeus*** The first report in 2017 was the 6th January and the last on 4th December, both from the trail camera at Langham. The next report from Langham was in March, and hedgehogs in ones, twos and occasionally three, reappeared regularly through the year. At Barrowden in March one was seen, and during the year several were rescued and sent to the wildlife hospital, then marked and released. Subsequently released animals were seen in the area. Hedgehogs also reported from Oakham, Teigh, Barrow, Whissendine and Ketton.

**Mole -*Talpa europaea*** Molehills were seen in many parts of the county through the year. One dead animal was reported in July. Reports received from Pick, Emp, ClipYTA, BarnsW, Ext, FH, Man, Eg, RWNR Heron Bay,BOQ , BW, Tin.

**Common Shrew *Sorex araneus*** Most live animals were found under reptile shelters at RWNR. Others seen in Barrow, Wing, BW, Hamb, several dead animals.

**Water Shrew *Neomys fodiens*** Two reports only. Live animal trapped in Barrow. Droppings on WV raft at RWNR

**Pygmy Shrew *Sorex minutus*** Three reports,1 dead by hedge near Lincolnshire Gate, Pick, 1 dead RWNR Eg, live under reptile shelter 26 RWNR

**Rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus*** Under reported this species was reported from Upp, GreetVGC, Wing, QFGtCast,Tole, Eg

**Brown hare *Lepus europaeus*** Widely reported, through year, concerns about hare coursing in the area, so exact locations not published in FF. Largest group 11 at Pick, early March. Numbers seen together until June, probably due to late spring. Reported from PickW, Cottes, RWNR Lax, Eg, F16, F17,Barrow, QF, BCF, Ext, Greet, Rut Showground, Lang, Braun, FHP, Lyndon.

**Grey Squirrel *Sciurus carolinensis*** Reported in every month of the year, and from many parts of the county. Many records come from regular visits to the trail camera at Langham.

**Bank Vole *Myodes glareolus*** Most records were from animals found under reptile shelters at RWNR, between April and August. One was seen in Wing, in a stone wall.

**Water Vole *Arvicola amphibious*** There were no reports of WV seen this year. All records were evidence in the form of droppings, footprints or foodpiles found at RWNR and Oakham Canal. Sites where evidence was found were, F16 ponds, Snipe hide channel, Wet meadow, Manton Bridge, Heron Bay, Badger Hide bridge, Shoveler Hide channel, Pollards, Moth trap, Smew hide by sluice, Redshank hide, Dog kennel stream. BFP, Oakham canal N &S.

**Short tailed field Vole *Migrotus agrestis*** Five records only of this species, very under reported, but only observed when dead, trapping or under sheets. Four records were from reptile shelters, of which one in Tunnely Wood, one at Pollards RWNR, and two at Ketton Quarry. One was trapped, in Barrow and another dead one was being eaten by a cat at Wing.

**Long tailed field mouse *Apodemus sylvaticus*** Seen feeding on Seeds in garden at Barrow in January, and later in May at Langham, either in Longworth traps or on trail camera.

**Harvest mouse *Micromys minutus*** No *reports* this year

**House Mouse *Mus musculus*** Two reports only this year, both from Langham, one on trailcam, and another in members garden.

**Brown Rat *Rattus norvegicus*** Rats wereresident in a Barrowden garden and seen on camera at Langham in March. They were also seen under bird feeders at Lyndon RWNR in April. Evidence of rats was found under a mink raft at Manton Bay, and a live rat seen on the road at Whitwell.

**Red Fox** ***Vulpes Vulpes*** Very many reports were received,frequently from camera traps. Cubs were observed at Banthorpe gravel pits in July and in February a fox with a limp was seen at Pickworth. The same month one crossed the road at Egleton, another was seen at Ketton, and one reported from Langham camera trap. During later months a fox appeared very regularly on the same trap at Langham, often 2 or 3 times per night. Other reports came from Hambleton, Wing, Pickworth, Ft Henry, Normanton, Clipsham, Cold Overton.

**Stoat *Mustela erminea*** A stoat in ermine was reported from Brooke in January, and another stoat carrying prey was seen at Clipsham Quarry in April. Other records came from RWNR, Clipsham quarry, Pickworth, Empingham, Little Casterton Stamford, Cottesmore and Leighfield.

**Weasel *Mustela nivalis*** Reported from RWNR F16, Pickworth, Barrow, Barnsdale and Wing

**Polecat *Mustela putiorus*** None reported this year

**Mink *Mustela vison*** No reports this year

**Badger *Meles meles*** Latrines, setts and road casualties found widely throughout the area, and the occasional sighting of live animals shows that they are present in healthy numbers. They appear regularly on trail camera at Langham.

**Otter *Lutra lutra*** At Ketton an adult and 3 juveniles were heard and seen in January, and in May 3 otters were observed from Teal hide at RWNR. One adult was seen twice in October and twice again in November at Leighfield fishponds. One road casualty was found at Ketton – a large male. Evidence – spraint and footprints, was found widely at RWNR throughout the year, and spraint and fish remains found at Fort Henry ponds.

**Fallow deer *Dama dama*** Early in the year Fallow deer were seen regularly in the Pickworth area, and the largest group was 20 females. They were also reported in numbers at Greetham valley golf club. Later fewer animals were seen, mainly in twos and threes, again near Pickworth, Clipsham quarry, Greetham and Exton.

**Muntjac *Muntacus reevesii*** Reported widely throughout area**.**

**Roe Deer *Capreolus capreolus*** Numbers very similar to previous year**.** Seen in Burley, Westland and Barnsdale woods, Banthorpe, Exton park Greetham valley golf club, Langham, South Luffenham and RWNR.

**Summary Mammal numbers 2017**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Species | No reports | No live | No dead | Evidence | Comments |
| Badger *Meles meles* | 33 (38) | 4 (20) | 15(7) | 12(11) |  |
| Bank vole *Myodes glareolus* | 9 (28) | 13 (37+) | 0 (0) | 0(0) | Most found under reptile shelters |
| Brown hare *Lepus europaeus* | 56 (30) | 108 (95) | 3 (2) | 1 (0) | Includes 4 leveretts |
| Brown rat *Rattus norvegicus* | 5 (16) | 5 (11) | 0(1) | 1(4) |  |
| Common Shrew *Sorex araneus* | 21 (10) | 23 (8) | 8 (2) | (0) |  |
| Fallow deer *Dama dama* | 23 (32) | 125 (79) | 0(2) | 2(8) |  |
| Fox *Vulpes vulpes* | 131(165) | 133(164) | 4(0) | 2(1) | Only 29 reports of casual sights, remainder are regular sights on webcam – probably same individual |
| Grey squirrel *Sciurus canadiensis* | 71(127) | 73(142) | 0(130) | 0(0) | 15 casual reports remainder on webcam |
| Hedgehog *Erinaceous europaeus* | 157(65) | 223(73) | 7(8) | 1(4) | 22 casual remainder on web cam. Up to 6 individuals at one time |
| House mouse *Mus musculus* | 2(3) | 1(0) | 1(3) |  |  |
| LT Fieldmouse *Apodemus sylvaticus* | 9(10) | 9(23) | 0(0) | 0(0) |  |
| Mole *Talpa europaeus* | 18(46) | 1(1) | 1(6) | 17(43) |  |
| Muntjac *Muntiacus reevesii* | 40(86) | 45(93) | (2) | 1(6) | 1 fawn |
| Otter *Lutra lutra* | 50(55 | 11(2) | 1(1) | 45(52) | 3 juv seen with adult |
| Polecat *Mustela putorius* | 0 (0 ) |  |  |  |  |
| Pygmy Shrew *Sorex minutus* | 3(4) | 3(13) | 2(1) |  |  |
| Rabbit *Lepus capensis* | 6(20) | 10 (0) | 7(0) | 0(3) |  |
| Roe Deer *Capreolus carpreolus* | 11(11) | 16(12) | 0(0) | 0(1) |  |
| Short tailed Field vole *Microtus agrestis* | 4(18) | 4(21) | 1(0) | 0(1) |  |
| Stoat *Mustela erminea* | 11(8) | 12(8) | 1(0) | 0(0) | 1 in full ermine |
| Water Shrew *Neomys fodiens* | 2(0) | 1(0) | 0(0) | 1(0) |  |
| Water Vole *Arvicola amphibius* | 52(44) | 0(2) | 0 | 52(44) |  |
| Weasel *Mustela nivalis* | 7(2) | 8(2) | 0(0) | 0(0) |  |