



Protecting Woodland Wildlife

At Vattenfall, our commitment to biodiversity goes beyond helping to tackle climate change through generating renewable energy. Across several wind farm sites—including [South Kyle](#), [Ray](#), and [Clashindarroch](#) — we've implemented targeted measures to protect woodland species such as the red squirrel, pine marten, and Scottish wildcat. In addition we implement habitat enhancement measures to benefit a range of species including woodland wildlife.

Why These Species Matter

These animals are more than just woodland residents—they're vital indicators of ecosystem health. The elusive [Scottish wildcat](#), is one of the UK's most endangered mammals. Red squirrels can help regenerate forests by dispersing seeds, while pine martens can naturally control invasive grey squirrel populations, indirectly supporting red squirrel survival.

Safeguarding Wildlife During Construction

During construction and operations, some of the measures to safeguard wildlife will include:

- Site-wide speed limits of 15mph
- Any exposed pipes or deep excavations that animals could enter will be covered overnight or exit ramps will be provided in the excavations.
- Pre-felling surveys to detect signs like squirrel dreys, pine marten scats, and den sites
- Camera trap monitoring of mammal activity
- On-site Ecological Clerk of Works to advise and respond to findings
- Toolbox talks to educate site workers and ensure compliance.

Enhancing Habitats for the Future

Post-construction, we restore and enrich woodland habitats by planting native trees alongside peatland and moorland restoration. This in turn can increase the levels of prey for these species. These efforts are guided by ongoing monitoring and Habitat Management Plans, ensuring long-term benefits for local wildlife.