

Evidence of Red Grouse – National Grouse Survey 2021-2022

SIGHTINGS



Photo 1 – Adult male Red Grouse with obvious red eye comb. Taken by Aonghus O’Donail, NPWS.



Photo 2 – Adult female Red Grouse lacks the obvious red eye comb and has paler plumage. Photograph is of a Scottish bird taken by Coatesy.

DROPPINGS



Photo 2- Very fresh caecal droppings



Photo 3 – A slightly older, but still considered a fresh caecal dropping

Note: Once the skin on droppings hardens, and the consistency is dry, the caecal droppings are no longer considered fresh.



Photo 4 – Dry 'fibrous' droppings – about the width of a pencil. White caps of urine indicate recent fresh droppings. Paler washed-out pellets, without the caps, are referred to as 'old' droppings and can persist, depending on local weather conditions, for a number of months before breaking down *i.e.*, past presence.

FEATHERS



Photos 5 – Grouse feathers



Photo 6 - Photos 5&6 show grouse feathers, which can be a sign of past presence.