

FORM F1.

Request for forensic analysis match funding

- The Forensic Analysis Fund is only accessible to UK police officers and UKBF officers.
- Please complete the following fields, save and then email this form to: stephanie.pendry@traffic.cjsm.net
- You will receive an email confirmation of receipt within 24 hours and should be contacted regarding the case within 5 days.

Name / Rank	PC John Smith
Constabulary Address	Fictitious constabulary, Main Street, Nowhere, ZZ3 TOP
Telephone & mobile	01457 324XXX (direct office line), 07432xxx432 (when on duty)
Email	John.smith@fictitious.pnn.police.uk
Case ref	Inc 48 20/05/17
Date	05/06/17
Authorising officer signature Inspector or above	<i>Inspector Chris Evans</i>
Mobile number of authorising officer	07432xxx432 (when on duty)

Possible offence in relation to:

COTES Wildlife and Countryside Act Other

If other, please specify:	
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PLEASE NOTE:

- Please be accurate with level of funds required. Additional work or increased costs will not be authorised. A further application to the fund will be required if costs increase.
- This fund can pay the first £300 plus up to 50% of additional costs of any forensic test. Match funding is required for amounts over £300.
- Any media articles must acknowledge FAF as a source of funding (see notes page 5).
- Should the case go to court, it is required that an application for costs is submitted to the court and any costs recovered are reimbursed to FAF (MG19 form).

Case information:

Please provide a case summary and objective of the forensic testing. Consider: -

1. Circumstances of the alleged offence(s) including date(s)

Between 1000 Hrs and 1530 hrs on 20th May 2017, three Peregrine chicks were taken from their nest on a cliff in location X. This nest is monitored by local bird-conservation groups and was noted as having chicks present at 1000, but later the same day another check showed the nest to be empty and the chicks were far too young to have fledged.

Location X is accessed via a national park car park, which is monitored by CCTV. Police enquiries show two males on CCTV entering the car park at about 1351 in a dark coloured possibly Ford Fiesta motor vehicle (registration unknown). Both males leave the car and out of view towards the cliff. After 1 hour, the driver re-appears gets in the car and drives away, the front seat passenger is never seen again on CCTV. No other individuals were observed on CCTV footage that day, other than the bird-conservation volunteers who reported the incident. It is believed that the second male may have climbed up the cliff, taken the chicks and continued to climb out of the site before being picked up by the driver elsewhere.

On reviewing the CCTV footage, the police believed they could identify the male from the passenger seat of the vehicle, and he was wearing a red jacket with distinctive markings on the back.

A search warrant was executed at the suspect's address on the 21st May 2017 at 2130 hrs, and although the birds were not discovered a red jacket with distinctive markings was found which seemed identical to that seen on the CCTV footage. There is a white substance in one of the pockets, which could be bird faeces.

The suspect answered 'no comment' to questions put to him. He denied any involvement in taking the birds, he denied coming in contact with any Peregrines. The driver and the suspect vehicle have not yet been traced.

The objective of the forensic testing is to determine whether traces of Peregrine DNA can be identified from the suspect's belongings.

2. Specific offence(s) being investigated

Section 1 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981: taking wild bird from nest

Case information:

3. Details of items seized and how these items have been stored. If there are multiple items, please provide details for each item

Distinctive red jacket seized in the search of suspects home address placed in a brown paper evidence bag in a dry condition and sealed.

Be simple, yet specific. If there are multiple items, create a table for this section. The method of storage could have a big impact on what types of testing are possible.

Case information:

4. What are the points to prove from the forensic test or specialist examination?

To carry out a forensic examination of the contents of the jacket pockets to determine whether there is any biological evidence (feathers, faeces) present. If recovered, does this biological evidence originate from Peregrine falcon? This will provide evidence of whether Peregrine chicks had been placed in there by the suspect.

Wildlife DNA Forensic testing is requested for any biological evidence recovered from the jacket.

5. Please provide accurate costing and specifically state what proportion of these costs is being applied for from FAF. Please include details of who is carrying out the forensic test(s)

Wildlife DNA Forensic testing will be carried out at SASA. The full costs of this analysis have been quoted at £300 and so full costs are requested.

Identify the provider for the testing you require and get a quote

Case information:

6. The importance of this in relation to other evidence in the investigation – what could the forensic evidence add to the case?

This evidence would be crucial in proving the case. The CCTV footage indicates that the suspect was at the scene at the time in question, and he owns a jacket matching the distinctive one seen at the time. If the DNA evidence can demonstrate the presence of Peregrine falcon DNA in the jacket pockets, it provides a crucial link between our suspect and the theft of the peregrine chicks.

The importance of the forensic testing is emphasized here. Without it, there is little evidence for prosecution.

Case information:

7. Details of any other forensic tests which have been considered or completed. If completed, please provide a copy of the forensic test results with your Forensic Analysis Fund application

No other items were identified from the scene which could be linked back to the suspect.

In this instance there is no other evidence for forensic testing consideration.

Case information:

8. Any other information relevant to the case, such as if a bail date applies, or other date for which this analysis and evidence is required e.g. any time bars for offences, or court dates

Bail date is 8th July 2017 14 00 hrs.

It is imperative that all crucial dates are included here. From court dates through to time bars for offences.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

As a condition of accepting these funds, should the case go to court, it is required that an application for costs is submitted to the court and any costs recovered are reimbursed to FAF (MG19 form).

In addition, all FAF recipients must include the following information in the 'notes' section of any press release or media work carried out:

“The Forensic Analysis Fund (FAF) offers financial support to police and customs officers seeking to carry out forensic analysis during a wildlife crime investigation. WWF, TRACE, RSPB and Defra have all contributed to the scheme. For amounts up to £300 the scheme will cover full forensic costs. For amounts in excess of £300, the scheme will cover the initial £300 plus 50% of the remainder. The fund has been established to encourage the use of forensic techniques to help solve wildlife crimes and comes under the banner of the Partnership for Action against Wildlife Crime (PAW). Many wildlife cases which make use of forensic analysis would otherwise have failed to reach prosecution stage or be eliminated at an early stage. Founded in 2008, the scheme has already provided money to help support over 40 cases.”