

MN (Minor) *Athene noctua*

Date assessed	2021-09-09
Year published	2022
Eicat category	MN (Minor)
Justification for EICAT assessment	The nests, pellets, gizzards and stomachs of Little Owls contained mainly invertebrates and some small vertebrates (e.g. birds, rodents). There is no evidence that this has caused a decline of these species. It is the only known predator of the Cromwell Chafer Beetle (<i>Prodontria lewisi</i>), but the overall effect of predation on the population of <i>P. lewisi</i> is unknown (Marples 1942, Glue 1972, Watt 1979, Hounscome et al. 2004, Barratt 2007, Troup 2021).
Confidence rating	Low
Mechanism(s) of maximum impact	Predation
Countries of most severe impact	United Kingdom; New Zealand
Description of impact	The Little Owl preys on several invertebrate and occasionally on small vertebrate species.
Assessor	Thomas Evans; Tom Allmert
Contributors	
Reviewers	EICAT authority
Recommended citation	Thomas Evans; Tom Allmert. (2026). <i>Athene noctua</i> . IUCN Environmental Impact Classification for Alien Taxa (EICAT) .

