Using Citizen Scientists to Monitor Wildlife Roadkill

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What is Project Splatter?

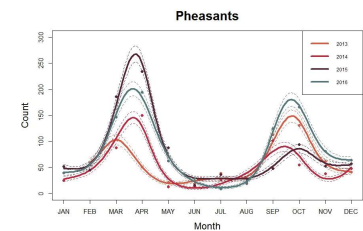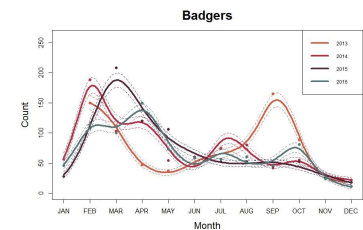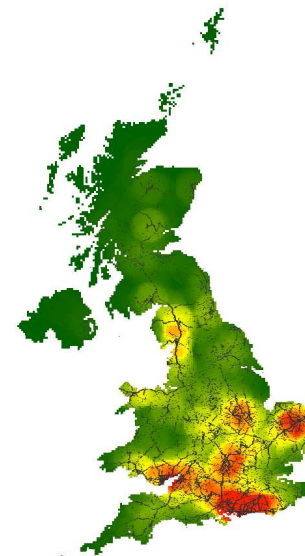Social media PLATform for Estimating Roadkill

30,000+ records received since 2013.

Project aims
1. Quantify UK wildlife roadkill reported by the public using social media.
2. Determine which species are most frequently observed
3. Identify spatial and temporal hotspots of roadkill
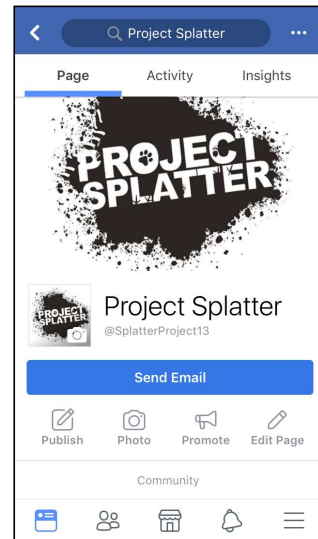4. Ultimately reduce the impact of roads on our UK wildlife

How do people submit data?

Twitter
@ProjectSplatter

Facebook
facebook.com/SplatterProject13

Smartphone apps
'Project Splatter'
(Android & iOS)

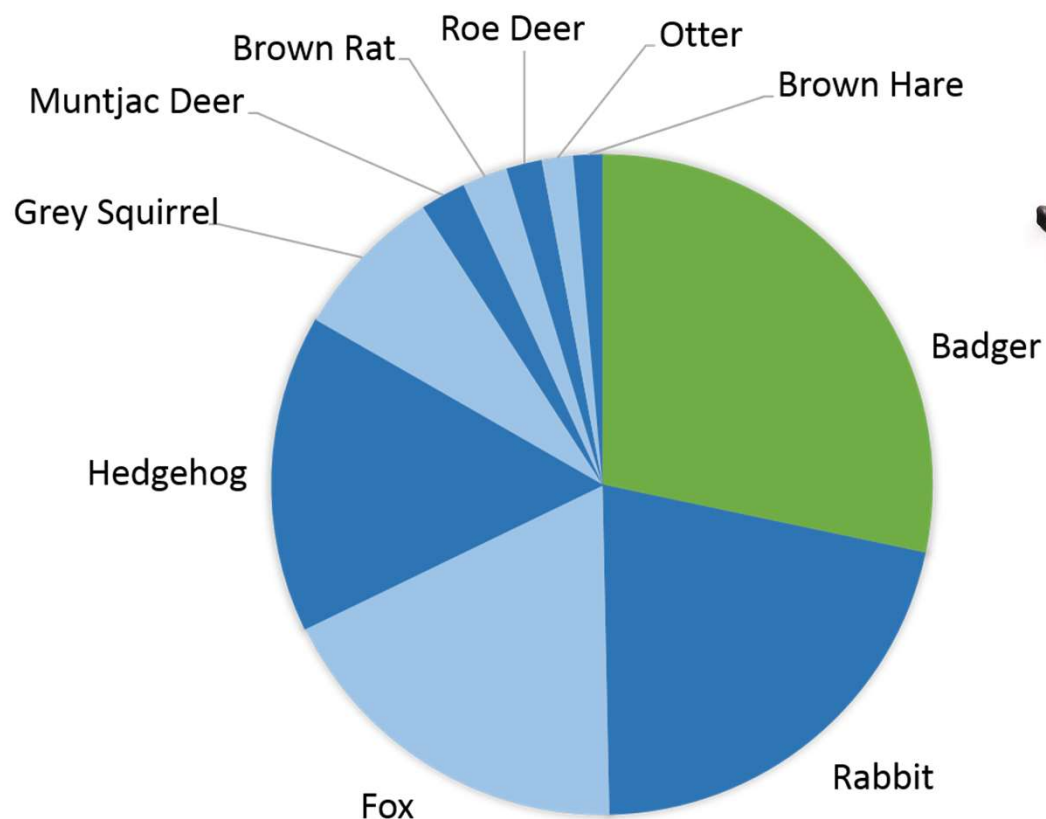**Submission form on website**
projectsplatter.co.uk

What information do we ask for?
- Species of animal (as accurate as possible)
- Location
- Date
- Any other supplementary information if known, i.e. age/sex of animal

Which mammals are reported as roadkill?
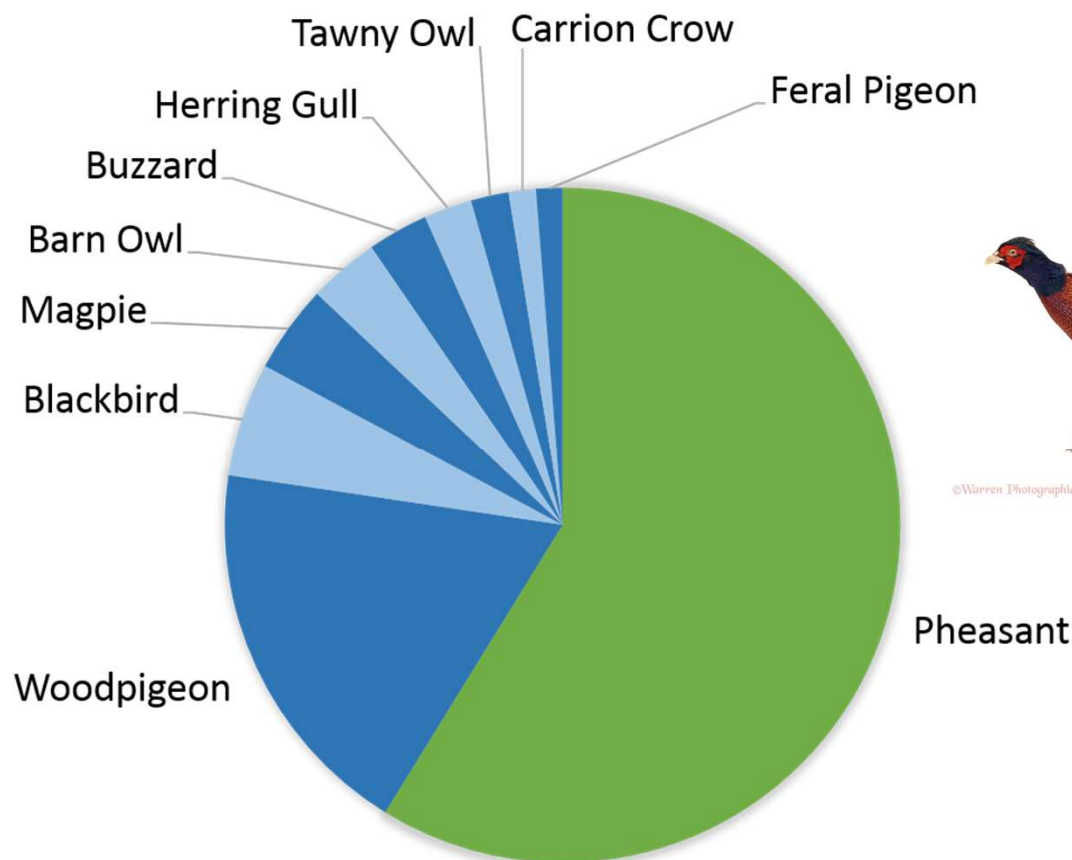
Top 10 mammals
1. Badger **28%**
2. Rabbit **21%**
3. Fox **18%**
4. Hedgehog **16%**
5. Grey Squirrel **8%**
6. Muntjac Deer **2%**
7. Brown Rat **2%**
8. Roe Deer **2%**
9. Otter **2%**
10. Brown Hare **1%**

Which birds are reported as roadkill?

Top 10 birds
1. Pheasant **59%**
2. Woodpigeon **19%**
3. Blackbird **6%**
4. Magpie **4%**
5. Barn Owl **3%**
6. Buzzard **3%**
7. Herring Gull **2%**
8. Tawny Owl **2%**
9. Carrion Crow **1%**
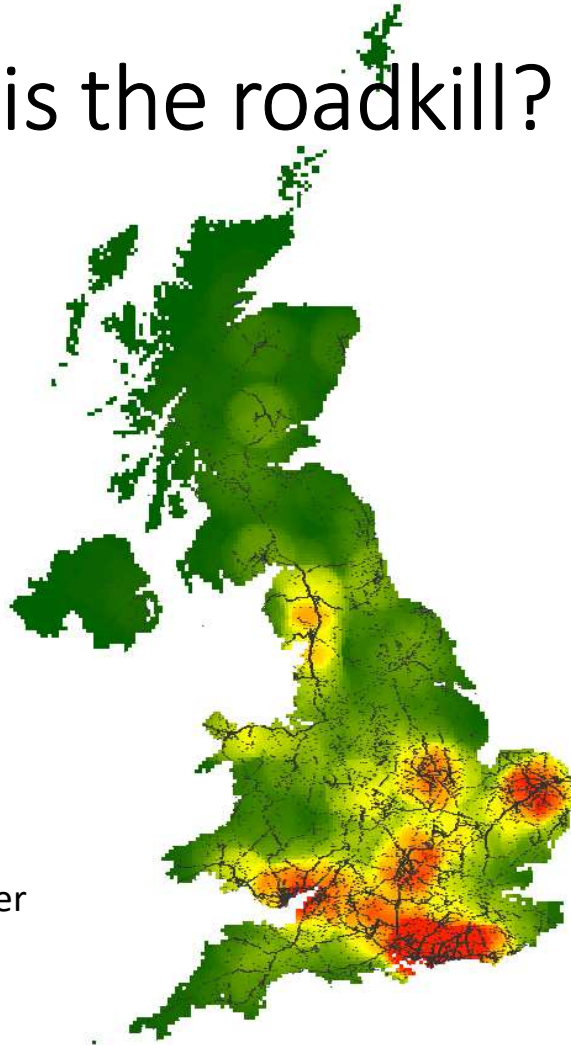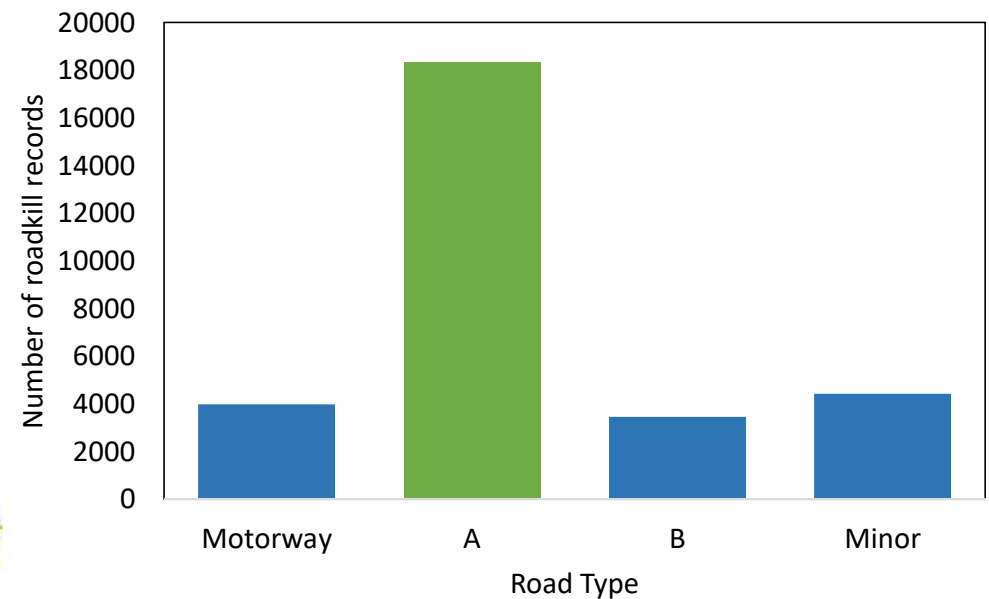10. Feral Pigeon **1%**

©Warren Photographic

Where is the roadkill?

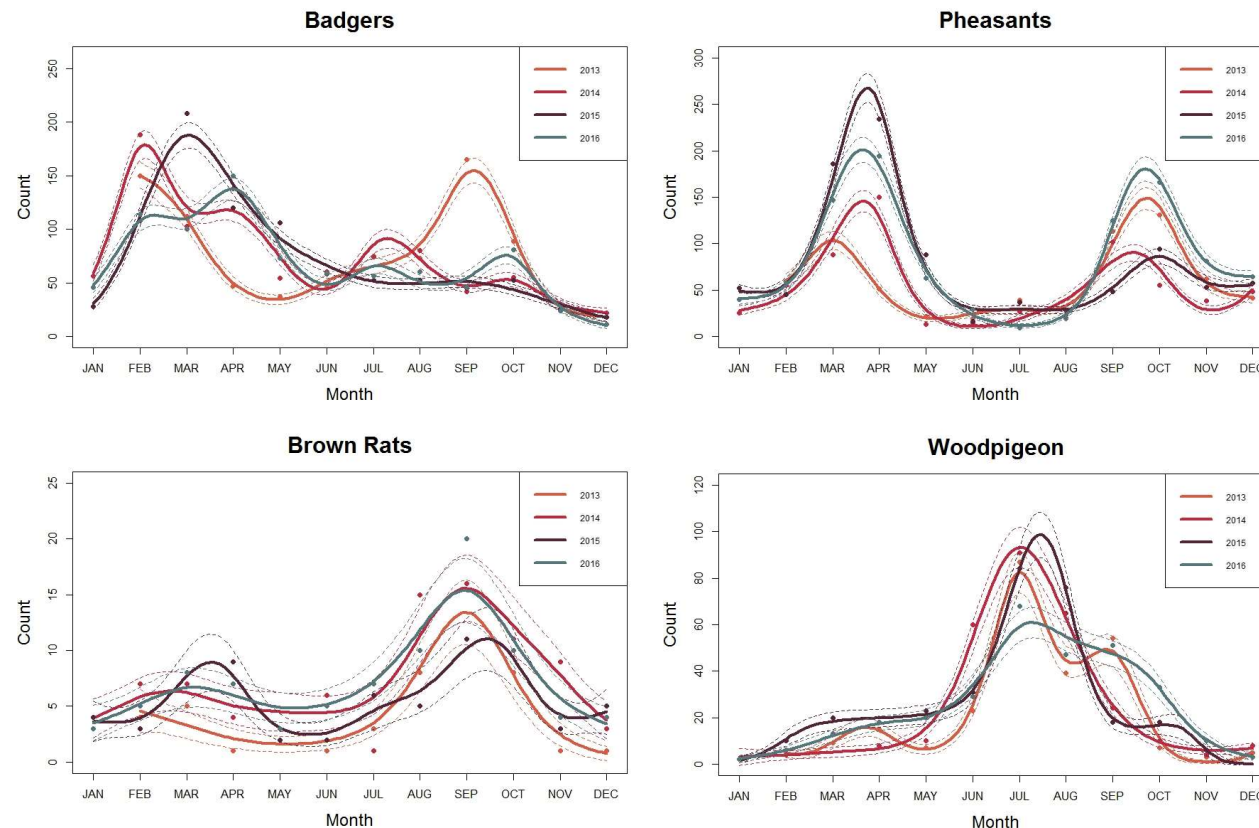We have recorders all over the UK!

Red = high number of records

Roadkill records, by road type

Temporal patterns in roadkill

Badgers

Pheasants

Brown Rats

Woodpigeon

Why did the pheasant cross the road? Long-term road mortality patterns in relation to management changes

Joah R. Madden[1] and Sarah E. Perkins[2]

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[2]School of Biosciences, Cardiff University, Museum Avenue, Cardiff CF10 3AX, UK

Madden & Perkins (2017)
http://rsos.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/royopensci/4/10/170617.full.pdf

Please get involved:

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