Twitter Thread by HS2 Rebellion



HS2 Rebellion
@Hs2Rebellion



#HS2 locks #TreeProtectors ■in tunnels. The latest tactic employed by NET bailiffs is to install locked & barricaded doors within the tunnels beneath Euston Square Gardens, trapping those inside with no fire exit. Have they forgotten the Bradford City stadium fire?

Yesterday, one such barricaded door was installed by #HS2 a few metres into the tunnel known as 'Kelvin' & earlier today, another was screwed in & locked shut over the mouth of the tunnel known as 'Crystal'. This is a picture of it.



At around 8am on Thursday 11 February a #HS2 bailiff known as Dan entered Kelvin & wedged a door in place a few metres into the tunnel. He used a wooden brace to tightly secure it in place, preventing any outward passage by the

occupants.

Over the course of the day, there followed an epic struggle between Desperate Dan the big bailiff and Blue, our brave nature defender, for possession of these few metres of tunnel leading to the downshaft, with Blue ultimately prevailing. #GoBlue #StopHS2

Battle commenced when Desperate Dan attempted to swap in a new door for the one originally installed. It is thought that the new door was one which could be screwed in and locked, rather than wedged & barricaded, much like the one now over the mouth of Crystal.

Blue reacted quickly to the removal of the first makeshift door, managing to re-enter that section of the tunnel & prevent the installation of the more solid replacement door.

Over the next several hours, Blue the nature defender & Desperate Dan the big bailiff were at uncomfortably close quarters, with Blue very gradually able to progressively inch forward and inch Dan backwards out of the tunnel.

At around 4.30pm, Dan, having had his body entirely inside an extremely narrow section of the #Treerotector's tunnel, which #HS2 have yet to begin enlarging or shoring up to their own safety standards, for over 8 hours, tried to switch out, with another bailiff taking his place

Again the dauntless and ever vigilant tree protector Blue reacted immediately to this opportunity, recapturing the entire length of the tunnel and precious access to the downshaft, with its daylight and phone signal, on behalf of the #StopHS2 #HS2Rebellion Nature Defenders.

There followed an unpleasant and tense episode in which several bailiffs grabbed hold of young #TreeProtector Blue & attempted to drag her out of the tunnel,despite her being locked on inside Kelvin by a tight metal ankle bracelet & chain,causing her discomfort, distress & pain

Thankfully, once the bailiffs became fully convinced that she was indeed attached in this manner, that removing her was impossible & that continuing to try could cause her serious and clearly avoidable injury, they relented.

The #StopHS2 #TreeProtectors inside Kelvin once again have access to the downshaft & are free for interviews, although for how much longer is anybody's guess. Having been thwarted from sealing in the occupants of Kelvin, the bailiffs next move was to the occupants of Crystal

At about 2pm today, #HS2 operatives fixed a door to the mouth of the tunnel & locked this closed. In defiance of the claustrophobia which most people might imagine this would cause, the intrepid #Scotty nonchalantly commented on social media: "We seem to have a new front door"

About half an hour after the original notification to journalists of what had happened, outlined above, the door over Crystal was removed. Our sincere thanks ■ to the journalists who saw fit to ask #HS2 about it during this time. #HS2Rebellion

However, it appears people aren't the only ones #HS2 have been trapping. Failure to adequately check, maintain or provide an escape route (or ‘mammal ladder') from their newt traps in Buckinghamshire, as required by law, are resulting in the deaths of other protected species ....

by starvation & by freezing to death in these traps. This apparent breach of #HS2's operational license, the 1981 Wildlife & Countryside Act, & the Animal Welfare Act 2006 is now being investigated by Natural England.....

Ecological consultant on protected species Rob Mileto comments: "If #HS2 are found to be in breach of their organisational licence, then the appropriate action would be to revoke that licence – it’s akin to being found guilty of drink-driving, you lose your driving licence....”

A press release on #HS2's alleged misdemeanors, from our friends at the #JonesHillWood 'Roald Dahl' Woods Protection Camp, is attached.

PRESS RELEASE
11 February 2021

Another likely wildlife crime uncovered at HS2 development site

A dead shrew has been discovered at a HS2 development site following apparent breaches of their legally-binding organisational licence for great crested newts.

Under the licence, pitfall traps to catch the protected newts had been installed at Waddesdon Greenway, some 2km north-west of Aylesbury. These traps catch newts which are then translocated to new homes before development. However, newts are very likely to die if trapped in cold weather and so the license requires traps to be closed with a tight-fitting lid, in order to prevent such deaths and also the accidental trapping and killing of other species.

Moreover, even when traps are open in warmer weather, the licence issued by Natural England requires climbable escape routes typically known as 'mammal ladders' to allow any trapped small mammals species an escape route in order to minimise the risk of mortality. Photos taken at the scene over the last few days show that these have not been provided, and that this led to the death of at least one shrew at the site.

All shrews are protected under Schedule 6 of the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act from capture or killing and causing it to freeze to death may also constitute an offence under the Animal Welfare Act 2006.

The shrew was discovered by a local resident who, during daily exercise, discovered the pitfall traps full of rubbish. Suspecting that they were not being checked per the requirements of the license, she returned to find the same rubbish remaining, and after several similar visits additionally discovered the dead shrew.

Rob Mileto, a specialist in protected species with 30 years experience in ecological consultancy said: "I would expect a Government backed National Infrastructure Project like HS2 to follow legislation and industry best practice to the letter. Instead, all I am seeing is a disregard for wildlife law, Government guidance and even any transparency on the wildlife surveys they have done."

Rob has raised the likely breach of condition and later the death of the shrew with Natural England, who are investigating.

He added: "I trust Natural England will take their regulatory responsibilities in this matter very seriously and make public their findings. If HS2 are found to be in breach of their organisational licence, then the appropriate action would be to revoke that licence – it's akin to being found guilty of drink-driving, you lose your driving licence."

ENDS