

Rare breeding birds in the United Kingdom in 2009

The following updates to the published species accounts reflect additional data and corrections received after publication of the 2009 RBBP report in *British Birds* 104:476-537 (September 2011). This update includes all known amendments up to **5th February 2016**.

Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*

Revised totals: 17 sites: 13-18 pairs.

Additional record:

[Scotland, N & W](#)

Outer Hebrides One additional site: one pair bred, hatching six and fledging five young.

Shoveler *Anas clypeata*

Revised totals: 317-1,103 pairs.

Amended county totals as follows:

[Scotland, N & W](#)

Outer Hebrides Confirmed breeding pairs: 4; Total pairs: 25.

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*

Revised totals: Four sites: 0-4 pairs.

Additional record:

[England, SW](#)

Dorset One site: two adults visited a heronry in April and May but did not breed.

Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*

Revised totals: 21 sites: 31-54 pairs, at least 52 young fledged.

Upgraded details:

[England, C](#)

Staffordshire One site: one pair bred; but failed owing to disturbance.

Red Kite *Milvus milvus*

Revised total: a minimum of 1,095 pairs.

Amended county totals as follows:

[Scotland, Mid](#)

Upper Forth (Central Scotland RSG) Confirmed and probable breeding pairs: 28.

Revised totals for rare birds breeding in 2009, using data received up to 05 February 2016.

Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*

Revised totals: 363-408 breeding females/pairs.

Amended totals for the following county:

[Scotland, Mid](#)

Fife/Perth & Kinross Four pairs: three successful pairs fledged ten young; one other pair thought not to have laid eggs.

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*

Revised totals: 240-317 monitored pairs fledged a minimum of 435 young.

Amended county totals as follows:

[Scotland, S](#)

Borders Territories: 2; Confirmed breeding pairs: 1; Territories fledging young: 1; Min. no. young fledged: 4.

S Strathclyde RSG Territories: 21; Confirmed breeding pairs: 16; Territories fledging young: 8; Min. no. young fledged: 23.

[Scotland, Mid](#)

Moray & Nairn Territories: 9; Confirmed breeding pairs: 9; Territories fledging young: 5; Min. no. young fledged: 15.

Perth & Kinross Territories: 26; Confirmed breeding pairs: 17; Territories fledging young: 14; Min. no. young fledged: 49.

[Scotland, N & W](#)

Argyll (including Bute) Min. no. young fledged: 51.

Caithness Territories: 10; Confirmed breeding pairs: 10; Territories fledging young: 4; Min. no. young fledged: 9.

Highland Territories: 34; Confirmed breeding pairs: 25; Territories fledging young: 17; Min. no. young fledged: 55.

Orkney Territories fledging young: 31.

Outer Hebrides Territories: 13; Confirmed breeding pairs: 7.

Other totals for Scottish regions remain as published.

These changes mean that the UK totals should now be as follows: Territories: 317;

Confirmed breeding pairs: 240; Territories fledging young: 149; Min. no. young fledged: 435.

Northern Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*

Revised totals: 293-445 pairs.

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, SW](#)

Avon Confirmed breeding pairs: 1; Total pairs: 1.

[England, N](#)

Co. Durham Confirmed breeding pairs: 1; Total pairs: 8.

[Scotland, S](#)

Dumfries & Galloway Confirmed breeding pairs: 17; Total pairs: 19.

[Scotland, Mid](#)

North-east Scotland Confirmed breeding pairs: 37; Total pairs: 40.

Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*

Revised totals: data were available on a total of 242 home ranges.

Amended county totals as follows:

Scotland, Mid

North-east Scotland Confirmed breeding pairs: 8; Total pairs: 15; Min. no. young fledged: 12.

Scotland, N & W

Argyll (including Bute) Confirmed breeding pairs: 39; Total pairs: 56; Min. no. young fledged: 18.

Highland Probable breeding pairs: 46; Confirmed breeding pairs: 53; Total pairs: 99; Min. no. young fledged: 44.

Outer Hebrides (Uists) Probable breeding pairs: 3; Confirmed breeding pairs: 19; Total pairs: 22; Min. no. young fledged: 12.

Other totals for Scottish regions remain as published.

These changes mean that the UK totals should now be as follows: Probable breeding pairs: 86; Confirmed breeding pairs: 156; Total pairs: 242; Min. no. young fledged: 111.

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*

Revised totals: 165-179 pairs. At least 275 young fledged.

Amended county totals as follows:

Scotland, S & Mid

Tayside RSG 43 pairs bred, fledging 60 young, and two other territorial pairs.

Scotland, N & W

Highland RSG 49 pairs bred, fledging 80 young, and three other territorial pairs.

Merlin *Falco columbarius*

Revised totals: 269-390 pairs monitored.

Amended county totals as follows:

Scotland, S

Dumfries & Galloway RSG Confirmed breeding pairs: 4; Total pairs: 11.

Lothian & Borders RSG Confirmed breeding pairs: 14; Total pairs: 26.

S Strathclyde RSG (incl. Ayrshire) Confirmed breeding pairs: 6; Total pairs: 10.

Scotland, Mid

Angus & Dundee Confirmed breeding pairs: 10; Total pairs: 17.

North-east Scotland Confirmed breeding pairs: 29; Total pairs: 30.

Perth & Kinross Confirmed breeding pairs: 5; Total pairs: 14.

Scotland, N & W

Argyll Confirmed breeding pairs: 1; Total pairs: 2.

Caithness Confirmed breeding pairs: 2; Total pairs: 2.

Highland Confirmed breeding pairs: 20; Total pairs: 34.

Shetland Confirmed breeding pairs: 16; Total pairs: 17.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*

Revised totals for rare birds breeding in 2009, using data received up to 05 February 2016.

Revised totals: 820-1,026 pairs monitored.

Amended county totals as follows:

[Scotland, S](#)

Clyde Islands Confirmed breeding pairs: 3; Total pairs: 3.

Dumfries & Galloway RSG Confirmed breeding pairs: 40; Total pairs: 48.

Lothian & Borders RSG Confirmed breeding pairs: 47; Total pairs: 55.

S Strathclyde RSG (Ayrshire/Clyde) Confirmed breeding pairs: 21; Total pairs: 26.

[Scotland, Mid](#)

Angus & Dundee Confirmed breeding pairs: 11; Total pairs: 17.

Central Scotland RSG Confirmed breeding pairs: 15; Total pairs: 19.

Perth & Kinross/Fife Confirmed breeding pairs: 27; Total pairs: 41.

[Scotland, N & W](#)

Argyll Confirmed breeding pairs: 14; Total pairs: 22.

Highland RSG Confirmed breeding pairs: 11; Total pairs: 14.

[Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*](#)

Revised totals: 361 sites: a minimum of 1,178 territories; 166 pairs confirmed breeding.

Amended county totals as follows:

[Scotland, S](#)

Borders 18 sites, 31 territories.

[Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*](#)

Revised totals: 600 pairs.

Amended county totals as follows:

[Wales](#)

Anglesey The record of a confirmed breeding pair in Anglesey should be deleted.

[Ruff *Calidris pugnax*](#)

Revised totals: three sites: three females.

Additional record:

[Scotland, N & W](#)

Outer Hebrides One site: one bird present in late May and a female still on territory on 21st June.

[Little Gull *Hydrocoloeus minutus*](#)

The published RBBP report for 2009 did not include any records of this species.

Two sites: two pairs probably bred. A pair attempted to breed in Norfolk in 2007, but was unsuccessful.

Revised totals for rare birds breeding in 2009, using data received up to 05 February 2016.

[England, E](#)

Norfolk One site: one pair probably bred: the birds were displaying and holding territory in a Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* colony from 21st to 27th May.

[England, N](#)

Yorkshire One site: up to three second-summer birds present from 8th to 13th June, with two remaining until 16th June. Display and collection of nest material was noted, with one bird also seen apparently sitting on a nest.

[Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*](#)

Correction to text; no change to published totals.

[England, N](#)

Yorkshire One site: one pair probably bred and one pair possibly bred.

[Wales](#)

Carmarthenshire The one breeding pair constitutes the first confirmed breeding of this species in Wales.

[Little Tern *Sternula albifrons*](#)

Revised totals: 65 sites: 1,569 pairs confirmed breeding.

Amended county totals as follows:

[Scotland, N & W](#)

Argyll 12 sites, 67 confirmed breeding pairs.

[Wryneck *Jynx torquilla*](#)

Revised totals: Four sites: 0-4 pairs.

Additional record:

[England, SE](#)

Essex One site: one male singing in suitable habitat, indeed a former breeding site, on 25th May only.

[Iberian Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus ibericus*](#)

The published RBBP report for 2009 did not include any records of this species.

One site: one singing male. With the addition of this record, and the belated acceptance (by BBRC) of a singing bird in Cheshire & Wirral in 2004, the Panel now has records of this species from eight of the last 11 years, since the first in 1999.

[England, SW](#)

Hampshire One site: one singing male heard from 10th to 17th May.

[Savi's Warbler *Locustella lusciniodes*](#)

Correction to text (dates only); no change to published totals.

Revised totals for rare birds breeding in 2009, using data received up to 05 February 2016.

England, SE

Greater London/Essex One site: one singing male 30th April to 30th May.

Marsh Warbler *Acrocephalus palustris*

Revised totals: 13 sites: 5-16 pairs.

Additional record:

England, N

Co. Durham One site: two singing males, one from 15th to 24th June, second bird 20th to 21st June. A third bird, possibly a female, also present.

Appendix 1

Greater Scaup *Aythya marila* There were also at least 28 birds on Lough Neagh in Northern Ireland on the late date of 21st May.