

Rare breeding birds in the United Kingdom in 2016

The following updates to the published species accounts reflect additional data and corrections which came to our attention after publication of the 2016 RBBP report in *British Birds* 111: 644-694 (November 2018). This update includes all known amendments up to **8th April 2020**.

Shoveler *Spatula clypeata*

Revised totals: **209 sites: 387–1,183 pairs.**

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, SE](#)

Kent Sites: 11; Confirmed pairs: 13; Total pairs: 37.

Common Pochard *Aythya ferina*

Revised totals: **371–677 pairs**, 5-yr mean now 702 bp.

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, SE](#)

Greater London Confirmed pairs: 7; Total pairs: 11.

Red-throated Diver *Gavia stellata*

Revised totals: **189–249 pairs.**

Amended county totals as follows:

[Scotland, N & W](#)

Shetland Confirmed pairs: 67; Total pairs: 87.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Revised totals: **148 sites: 1,270–1,295 pairs**, 5-yr mean now 1,036 bp; 15y trend now +1,989%.

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, SW](#)

Dorset Sites: 7; Total pairs: 43.

[England, SE](#)

Essex Sites: 9; Total pairs: 104.

[England, E](#)

Norfolk Sites: 8; Total pairs: 98.

[England, C](#)

Nottinghamshire Sites: 3; Total pairs: 42.

[Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*](#)

Revised totals: **483 sites: 205–1,392 pairs.**

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, SE](#)

Kent Sites: 27; Total pairs: 50.

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

Revised totals: **361–555 pairs.**

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, SE](#)

Kent Total pairs: 5.

[Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*](#)

An additional record of a singing male has been received for Foula, **Shetland**.

[Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus*](#)

Revised totals: **20 sites: 155 AOTs**, 67 young fledged.

Amended county totals as follows:

[Scotland, N & W](#)

Shetland Sites: 7; AOTs: 39; minimum young fledged 8.

[Lesser Spotted Woodpecker *Dryobates minor*](#)

Revised totals: **14–320 pairs.**

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, SW](#)

Hampshire Total pairs: 72.

[England, SE](#)

Essex Total pairs: 11.

Surrey Total pairs: 16.

[England, C](#)

Herefordshire Total pairs: 5.

[Hobby *Falco subbuteo*](#)

Revised totals: **275–727 pairs**; 5-yr mean now 896 bp.

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, SE](#)

Kent Confirmed pairs: 0; Total pairs: 40.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*

Revised totals: **817–1,079 pairs**.

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, SE](#)

Essex Confirmed pairs: 4; Total pairs: 7.

Kent Confirmed pairs: 11; Total pairs: 14.

Fair Isle Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes fridariensis*

Note that the coverage, given as 'near complete' should actually be 'low'.

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros*

Revised totals: **51 sites: 20–64 pairs**, 5-yr mean now 59 bp.

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, SE](#)

Essex Sites: 1; Confirmed pairs: 0; Total pairs: 2.

Kent Sites: 8; Confirmed pairs: 2; Total pairs: 13.

Hawfinch *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

Revised totals: **40–509 territories**. The larger totals in these two counties than published are based on the number of trapped females with brood patches at study sites in the Wye Valley and Forest of Dean.

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, SW](#)

Gloucestershire Total pairs: 24.

[Wales](#)

Gwent Total pairs: 66.

Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis*

Note that the current UK population estimate given in the species banner should read 60 bp, as per the survey report referred to in the text.

Additional records of rare non-native species considered by RBBP in 2016.

Black Swan *Cygnus atratus*

In **Kent** there were two pairs, one of which was confirmed breeding, bringing the 2016 total so far to ten pairs (four confirmed breeding).

Cinnamon Teal Swan *Anas cyanoptera*

In **Kent** an escaped female bred with a male Shoveler, producing six ducklings. This is the first time this species has been found breeding in the UK (albeit as part of a mixed pair).

Red-crested Pochard *Netta rufina*

There were an additional four pairs breeding in **Greater London** bringing the 2016 total (so far) to 53 pairs.