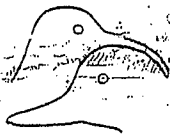
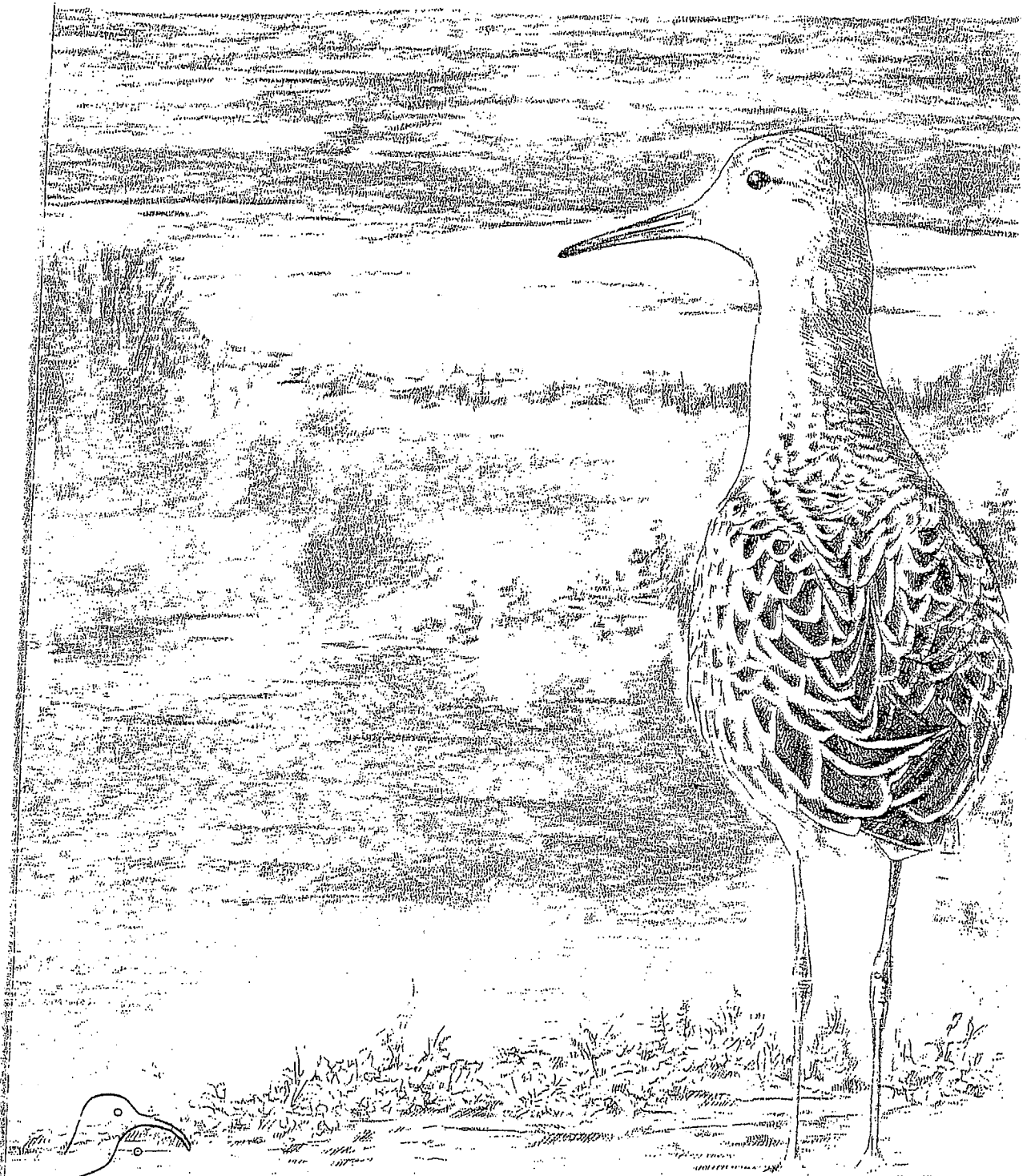


CD1246

# Waterbirds in the UK 2008/09



WeBS

The Wetland Bird Survey

PRINCIPAL SITES

Table 6 below lists the principal sites for non-breeding waterbirds in the UK as monitored by WEBS. All sites supporting more than 10,000 waterbirds are listed, as are all sites supporting internationally important numbers of one or more waterbird species. Naturalised species (e.g. Canada Goose and Ruddy Duck) and non-native species presumed to have escaped from captive collections have been excluded from the totals, as have gulls and terns since the recording of these species is optional (see Analysis). Table 7 lists other sites holding internationally important numbers of waterbirds, which are not routinely monitored by standard WEBS surveys but rather by the Icelandic Goose Census and aerial surveys.

A total of 240 sites are listed in tables 6 and 7. Of these 223 supported one or more species in internationally important numbers and 82 held a five-year mean peak of 10,000 or more birds. Typically there are few changes to the top twenty sites listed in the principal sites table, with the order of the top ten changing little each year. The Wash remains as the key waterbird site in terms of absolute numbers, but in 2008/09 held figures 8% lower than the five-year average (attributable to apparent:

Table 6. Total number of waterbirds at principal sites in the UK, 2004-2005 to 2008/09 (includes data from all available sources and species occurring in internationally important numbers at each. (Species codes are provided in Table 8.)

Site	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	Average	Int Imp Species
The Wash	355,527	356,373	316,003	372,405	344,411	372,361	PG, OB, SU, PT, OC, RP, GR, GV, L, NI, SS, DI, BW, BA, RK
Fleets Estuary	232,356	220,893	242,279	265,180	274,246	243,017	WS, PG, WH, T, PT, OC, RP, GV, KN, SS, DI, BW, BA, RK
North Norfolk Coast	221,337	241,410	222,386	142,870	206,343	205,571	PG, OB, PT, RP, KN, BW, BA
Morrecambe Bay	204,114	203,371	154,375	151,200	219,070	190,866	AS, PG, SU, PT, OC, RP, KN, DI, BW, BA, CU, RK
Thames Estuary	172,181	160,335	226,127	186,932	149,745	181,345	OB, SV, OC, AV, RP, GV, NI, DI, BW, BA, RK
Humber Estuary	153,357	167,085	167,461	145,793	123,257	151,756	PG, OB, SU, RP, GP, GV, RI, DI, BW, BA, RK
Dee Estuary (Deerford and Waters)	115,307	130,362	125,640	103,875	133,930	119,313	SU, PT, OC, KN, DI, BW, BA, RK
Slavou, Water & Barrow	110,759	106,453	94,350	100,555	129,151	108,551	PG, WH, SV, AV, GP, L, BW
Sudrey Estuary	140,091	103,053	115,193	69,547	26,009	107,359	WS, PG, VS, GU, PT, OC, RP, KN, RI
Somerset Levels	93,739	67,827	102,162	114,246	104,340	102,673	AS, WH, GA, T, SV, GP, L, RK
Ouse Washes	112,819	133,174	72,202	66,875	76,765	92,447	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW

redistribution of knots to North Norfolk Coast; see page xxx). The Ribble Estuary consolidated second place in the table following a further increase. Totals at both Morrecambe Bay and North Norfolk Coast returned to over 200,000 birds; the Aberecamb total being the highest since 2003/04. Total numbers at both Thames Estuary and Humber Estuary were approximately 20% lower than the averages for recent years, those on Dee Estuary were typical, whereas the total from Breydon Water & Barrow Marshes was the highest ever from there. Totals at the two most important non-estuarine sites, Somerset Levels and Ouse Washes, were representative of the trends at those two sites in recent years.

Overall, five-year averages of sites holding 10,000 or more waterbirds were relatively similar compared to the previous year, with 69 of the 82 sites undergoing changes of less than 10%. The greatest increases were at Eden Estuary (36%), Slains Lochs (32%), Blyth Estuary (25%) and Dengie Flats, Camel Estuary and Ythan Estuary (all 14%). The greatest decreases were seen at Moray Firth (23%), Loch Spynie (17%) and Mersey Estuary (15%).

Site	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	Average	Int Imp Species
Strangford Lough	75,432	81,211	71,129	67,104	61,564	70,831	Int Imp Species
Foxhall Estuary	55,047	74,229	58,926	76,361	67,301	66,661	AS, VS, SV, PT, OC, RP, KN, DI, BW, BA, RK
Blackwater Estuary	79,265	70,869	71,817	70,905	65,695	73,550	PG, OB, SU, RP, GP, GV, RI, DI, BW, BA, RK
Severn Estuary	61,111	70,969	61,581	61,492	65,242	65,192	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Mersey Estuary	63,560	61,135	61,549	66,181	65,631	63,556	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Loch of Strathbeg	61,644	61,266	61,541	62,082	61,125	61,729	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Derby Flats	45,717	51,280	61,545	53,041	53,282	53,417	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Inner Lough and Inverness Firth	53,707	71,248	47,300	43,375	53,282	53,417	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Langie Flough and Beg	56,262	51,255	50,737	45,977	42,800	53,417	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Kanish Basin	50,184	51,115	45,569	45,812	44,580	51,755	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Irishland	54,785	51,944	47,952	46,350	41,889	50,725	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Stour Estuary	47,600	52,225	63,976	40,232	49,518	51,558	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Chichester Harbour	43,396	41,665	44,029	51,125	55,930	49,041	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
All Estuary	53,071	41,887	50,362	40,258	48,787	46,853	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Canamerton Bay	55,792	41,081	52,876	47,222	46,794	46,056	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Bury Hill	49,281	41,256	44,181	42,564	45,464	45,464	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Hamford Water	39,943	41,459	41,137	44,720	48,665	42,261	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
West Water Reservoir	33,080	31,654	35,251	38,115	36,704	35,955	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Lough Foyle	33,773	41,565	34,563	37,990	34,955	37,199	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Dunlough and Rye Bay	41,774	24,552	31,279	22,007	24,615	34,232	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Loch Leven	31,841	31,356	33,242	36,015	30,665	33,764	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Crown Royal Estuary	15,659	41,491	29,041	20,784	22,056	33,806	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Aide Complex	37,057	31,513	28,558	30,810	32,282	32,282	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Lanuskane Harbour	29,347	31,853	28,763	34,659	32,495	32,495	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Dundoon Estuary	37,955	35,799	25,552	39,055	35,255	32,279	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Lower Demerest Ings	34,623	34,497	37,609	35,536	35,536	32,199	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Radway Estuary	50,544	34,870	24,225	35,350	32,050	32,050	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
WWT Mann Lake	45,381	31,632	28,328	22,270	39,265	32,050	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Ferne Washes	28,271	24,702	30,256	25,542	31,607	28,571	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Abraham Reservoir	21,137	30,250	12,674	30,318	26,571	26,571	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Rahand Water	26,209	31,194	30,351	22,912	26,759	27,459	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Clevedon Estuary	27,746	31,415	18,643	21,242	28,071	27,459	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Orwell Estuary	20,757	24,377	23,525	18,901	23,714	22,515	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Pegwell Bay	18,231	21,225	29,311	29,340	19,544	22,550	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Inner Firth of Clyde	19,915	21,181	24,225	22,172	19,771	21,555	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Loch of Strathgarry	18,831	21,784	21,338	20,620	20,401	21,555	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Coma Estuary	18,430	14,106	16,872	31,505	22,687	21,552	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Teas Estuary	21,054	21,801	22,807	22,633	15,716	21,552	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Paganin Harbour	20,339	20,767	22,836	13,437	15,672	19,687	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Weymouth Bay	16,049	16,991	18,101	26,145	18,687	19,687	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Tay Estuary	20,555	26,995	18,460	18,186	11,439	19,515	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Dulyn Estuary	19,050	16,061	14,555	21,945	18,258	18,258	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Balish Lough	16,061	14,566	16,605	19,279	16,175	19,111	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Ewe Estuary	20,139	11,167	17,755	19,262	19,350	15,179	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Wales Llanidloes, Chirney	20,653	11,005	22,552	16,111	16,758	16,758	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Larain Sands	22,036	11,281	15,975	15,752	17,600	16,752	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Peopla Harbour	26,349	11,691	20,245	14,117	16,458	16,633	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Tillen Estuary	13,597	11,747	5,589	12,957	30,795	16,566	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Eden Estuary	14,215	11,190	17,236	12,282	11,281	16,155	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Castlemark and Rhydol Lochs	12,282	11,026	17,236	12,282	11,281	16,155	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW
Fildale Vane Marshes	11,066	12,048	15,181	15,537	15,898	15,898	AS, BS, WS, WH, GA, T, PT, SV, BW