

Bewick's swans at City of Derry Airport

Email one (from Airport Operations Manager at City of Derry airport)

From: Julian Benbow [mailto:Julian.Benbow@cityofderryairport.com]

Sent: Tue 06/09/2011 16:08

To: Ferry, Claire

Cc: Gethin, Toby

Subject: RE: Whooper Swan

Hi Claire ,

I can confirm that we have not recorded a Bewick swan movement in the past 3 years .

Best Regards

Julian

From: Ferry, Claire [mailto:Claire.Ferry@rspb.org.uk]

Sent: 06 September 2011 14:34

To: Julian Benbow

Cc: Gethin, Toby

Subject: RE: Whooper Swan

Hello again Julian

Really sorry to bother you again on this one. Can I just confirm that you don't see Bewick's swans at Derry airport? As I mentioned this is in connection to another case that my colleague Toby Gethin is working on. Would you be so kind as to hit 'reply all' so that he also receives your answer as I am in a meeting for the rest of the afternoon?

Many thanks,
Claire

From: Julian Benbow [mailto:Julian.Benbow@cityofderryairport.com]

Sent: Tue 06/09/2011 12:57

To: Ferry, Claire

Subject: Whooper Swan

Hi Claire ,

As per discussion I can confirm that we have a yearly migratory movement of Whooper Swans . The birds are generally active between late Sept to the end of November and late Feb to early April .

During this time we employ significant mitigation measures to reduce the risk to aircraft .

Best Regards

Julian

Email two (from Reserves Ecologist, RSPB Northern Ireland HQ)

From: Tickner, Matthew

Sent: Tue 23/08/2011 16:09

To: 'John.Day@footprint-ecology.co.uk'

Cc: Gethin, Toby; Ferry, Claire; Sutherland, Rosie

Subject: Bewick's swans at Lough Foyle

Dear John,

Regarding Lough Foyle, City of Derry Airport and Bewick's swans, I include some information below that might be of interest to you:

- I have wardened our reserve at Lough Foyle for the past 15+ years - a mainly monitoring role owing to the intertidal nature of the holdings here. This monitoring has included a large amount of time spent in the vicinity of the City of Derry airport observing bird numbers, movements and so on, particularly in relation to Runway End Safety Area works and bird disturbances, so that I am very familiar with the species present and their behaviours here.
- Whilst Bewick's swans have occurred in the past in the fields around the airport, this species has declined over the last 15 years or so such that they are now a rarity: only a very few are seen each winter, if any.
- In the last 10 years, any Bewick's swans present have been seen further northeast in the Myroe area (or beyond), which is about 7 miles away from the airport. The exception is a record of six birds in Feb. 2004, which were seen within two or three miles of the airport boundary.
- Thus, I am not aware of any Bewick's being present in the immediate airport area in the last six winters or so.

I hope this is of interest to you John.

Best wishes,

Matthew