

**Proof of Evidence from  
Dr John Underhill-Day (RSPB 4/A)  
for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds**

**Errors – correcting page 30, paragraph 6.28; page 31, table 3 and page 32, paragraph 6.29  
New paragraphs 6.28 and 6.29 and new Table 3 to be inserted**



- 6.28 For example, on sites for which there is count data for both periods 1999/00-2003/04 and for 2004/05-2008/09 (RSPB, Long pits, Lade Sands, Lydd West, Bretts Pit, Scotney and Walland), the mean five year peak counts of greylag geese have declined from 87 to 2 at Lydd West but increased at Walland (126 to 378), numbers of Mute swans have increased at RSPB (56 to 78) but declined at Scotney (33 to 18), while golden plover have declined at RSPB (520 to 172) and increased at Walland (2060 to 4420) with a different situation for lapwing where numbers have been stable at RSPB (1227 to 1220) and declined at Walland (7400 to 6740).
- 6.29 WeBS figures can only give a general indication as they represent peaks on different sites, perhaps in different months, and need to be examined in detail for each site to draw conclusions about changes in numbers and distributions. However, in the absence of up-to-date field data, any attempt to assess the bird strike risk should use the latest numbers and locations of the main risk species from WeBS which is the only data available for most sites.

**Revised Table 3. WeBS mean winter peak counts made up of all sectors of the Dungeness to Pett Level SPA plus additional sites within the WeBS Dungeness-Rye Bay count area zone for 2004-2009. All data provided by The BTO**

All 2004-09 Species	RSPB	Long Pits	Lade Sands	Bretts Pits	Walland	Fairfield	Scotney	Lydd West	Camber & E. Guldeford	Midripps	Dungeness Beach	Rye Harbour	Pett Level	Brede Level
Little Grebe	25	2		2	18	1	9	14	14			19	5	1
Great Crested Grebe	31		664	13	4		13	1	4	1	70	41	133	
Slavonian Grebe	2													
Black-necked grebe	1						1							
Cormorant	260			16	9	2	17	12	42	2	200	96	15	4
Bittern	1				1							1		
Little Egret	5				4	2	1		3			10	3	3
Grey Heron	8			1	9	4	1	2	8			7	4	5
Mute Swan	78	2		49	208	6	18	59	19	6		12	25	73
Bewick's Swan	6			2	123									
Whooper Swan	2			1	1									
White-fronted Goose					171		110			3			23	
Greylag Goose	132	1		39	378	13	520	2	18	22		28	65	13
Bean Goose					20									
Canada Goose	62			20	13		65	47	101			69	94	
Barnacle Goose	22				19		31		1			3	1	
Brent Goose							7		1			48	9	
Shelduck	20		4		6		38	9	15	47		24	26	
Wigeon	1186		1		2034	221	600	525	14	12		291	265	100
Gadwall	179				49	10	7	2	3			90	71	5
Teal	415		1		342	95	31	22	40	109		202	202	214
Mallard	201	3		13	226	67	73	27	151	19		225	87	85
Pintail	132				122	1	16			6		6	3	8
Shoveler	237			5	82	7	9	48	4	18		142	74	60
Pochard	266	1		15	27		233	50	43			122	15	
Tufted Duck	284	6		7	32		36	41	28			213	43	7
Goldeneye	24						1	2				4		
Smew	16						4		2			4		
Goosander	4											1		

All 2004-09 Species	RSPB	Long Pits	Lade Sands	Bretts Pits	Walland	Fairfield	Scotney	Lydd West	Camber & E. Guldeford	Midripps	Dungeness Beach	Rye Harbour	Pett Level	Brede Level
Common Scoter			6									36	258	
Water Rail					1	2						2	4	4
Moorhen	31	6		16	1	11	3	2	28			49	63	6
Coot	837	29		32	70	11	455	163	216	27		419	263	9
Oystercatcher	23		491	2			2	4	9	234		457	10	
Avocet							2	1				2	9	
Golden Plover	172			1	4420	107	400		440			693	221	
Lapwing	1220			120	6740	1013	500		1515	45		1105	1125	78
Knot			172							7		83	3	
Sanderling			190						23			110		
Dunlin	7		282		81		3	6	88	2		178	208	
Ruff	5		1	1	17				6			5	7	
Bar-tailed godwit			5									1		
Black-tailed godwit													1	
Snipe	20				4	9			3			40	16	37
Curlew	9		182						157	7		43	144	
Common sandpiper									2					
Green sandpiper						1			1				3	1
Greenshank													3	
Redshank	5		32		5		15	5	126	21		25	19	
Spotted reshank										1				
Turnstone			39				2			9	69	40	29	
Ringed Plover	4		5				7	2	3	2		43	3	
Grey Plover			26							6		36	13	
Kingfisher						1			1			1	1	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5932</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>2101</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>15237</b>	<b>1584</b>	<b>3230</b>	<b>1046</b>	<b>3129</b>	<b>606</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>5026</b>	<b>3566</b>	<b>714</b>

Total number of waterbirds Dungeness and Rye Bay WeBS 2004/05 to 2008/09

Year	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009	Average
Waterbird numbers	41,682	33,898	34,863	37,990	24,409	34,968

Note Figures in main table exclude gulls, divers, sea duck and presumed escapes