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Inspired by Bryan Perkins and Colin Lythgoe

Author – John Thompson and assisted by Colin Lythgoe

Contents

Editorial	3
Figure 1 'Team Mavis'	3
Aims and Objectives of the activity	4
Limitations	4
Categories of Breeding Evidence	5
Coverage	6
Figure 2- patches - SWaBBS.....	6
Table 1- SECOS Recording Area - Hectads.....	7
Activity statistics.....	8
Contributors	8
Table 2 - SWaBBS Contributors	8
Weather during the survey	9
.....	10
Figure 3- local weather records for 2018	10
Systematic List	11
Key to Sites	17
Report – Fieldworkers’ patch list - ‘short’	18
Report – Fieldworkers’ patch list - ‘long’	19
Tables (in Systematic Order) summarising Breeding Status and Count	20
Table 3: Species ‘best’ Breeding Status	20
Tables (in Systematic Order) summarising Breeding Status and Count	24
Table 4: Species Count per patch	24

SECOS Winter and Breeding Bird Survey

Editorial

Inspiration - the activity that this report covers was inspired by two of SECOS's Life Members, Bryan Perkins and Colin Lythgoe:

- Bryan suggested in the Member's Survey that SECOS could do a survey
- Colin has given me a considerable amount of support and encouragement. He also 'foolishly' offered to assist me with co-ordinating the activity.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the other members of 'Team Mavis' for putting up with me since I joined SECOS. I am grateful for their patience and for sharing some of their birding knowledge with me.



Figure 1 'Team Mavis' l-r Bryan Perkins, Derek Owen, me, Russ Stonier & Dave (Robbo) Robinson

I would also like to thank: -

- Colin Lythgoe and Mick Ball for testing the spreadsheet (for functionality) used by fieldworkers to submit their sightings
- Andy Warner for testing the OpenOffice version of the Submission Form
- Mike Tonks for testing the MS Word version of the same document
- Nigel Henderson for researching with me the web-based options for collecting fieldworker's records

Aims and Objectives of the activity

- to create a bird survey that: -
 - covers the SECOS Recording Area
 - allows any SECOS member (regardless of experience) to take part
- in essence, to be a digital process (hence the use of computer keys on front cover)

Limitations

- This activity is my first standalone survey, as designer and co-ordinator
- It also uses some untested systems
- There have been some 'teething problems' but it is hoped that they will be 'ironed out' as the activity continues

The activity uses Wildlife Recorder® to store and collate the records. As such, certain aspects of this report may not conform to some readers checklists, etc. For example, the Systematic List Wildlife Recorder® uses is the International Ornithological Congress (IOC) sequence and British Ornithological Union (BOU) names.

I apologise for any errors, omission, etc. made. Please let me know of any you are aware of and have any records that I have not included.

When deciding what form the survey might take, the main objective was that it should be as inclusive as possible. Therefore it had to be reasonably straightforward in approach, yet for it to be of use to the Society and possibly the wider birding community.

We considered a number of popular surveys that some members will be familiar with and may have taken part in.

A section at the back of the report available for general circulation will include the "Introduction" and possibly "Instructions and Guidance" that was issued to registered fieldworkers in their Welcome Pack.

SECOS Winter and Breeding Bird Survey

Categories of Breeding Evidence

Courtesy of the BTO

Select a code that best describes what you have seen. Categories further down the list infer a higher level of evidence of breeding. Except F, M and U, all must relate to individuals in potentially suitable nesting habitat.

Non-breeder (single-letter codes)

F - **F**lying over

M - **M**igrant

U - **sU**mmering non-breeder

Possible breeder (single-letter codes)

H - observed in suitable nesting **H**abitat

S - **S**inging male

Probable breeder (single-letter codes)

P - **P**air in suitable nesting habitat

T - permanent **T**erritory (defended over at least 1 week)

D - courtship and **D**isplay

N - visiting probable **N**est site

A - **A**gitated behaviour

B - nest **B**uilding or excavating nest-hole

Confirmed breeder (double-letter codes)

DD - **D**istractio**n-D**isplay or injury feigning

UN - **U**sed **N**est or eggshells found from this season

FL - recently **F**Ledged young or downy young

ON - adults entering or leaving nest-site in circumstances indicating **O**ccupied **N**est

FF - adult carrying **F**aecal sac or **F**ood for young

NE - **N**est containing **E**ggs

NY - **N**est with **Y**oung seen or heard

Winter Status Codes

F - **F**lying over

Us - species **U**sing area

Co - feeding **C**oncentration

R - **R**oost

I make no apologies for using large parts of existing or discontinued surveys - "*Why re-invent the wheel, when a perfectly good one already exists?*"

Coverage

Patches - SWaBBS Spring 2018

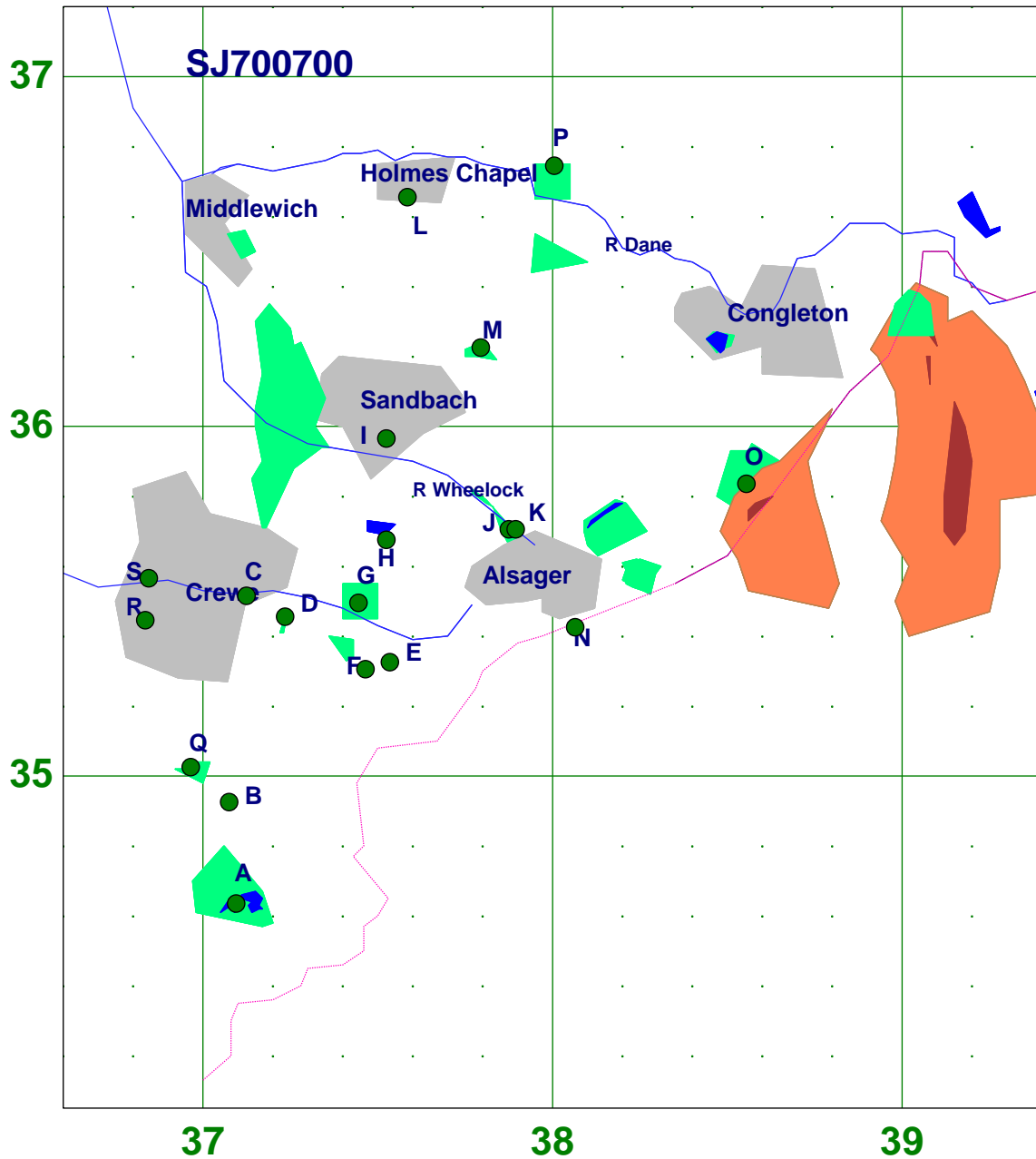


Figure 2- patches - SWaBBS

Key: -

- light brown - land over 200m
- dark brown - land over 300m
- light green - SECOS Key sites (see website for list/gazetteer)
- yellow dot - fieldworkers patch
- grey area - conurbations
- dotted line - county border

a list of the patches can be found on page 17

SECOS Winter and Breeding Bird Survey

The map on the previous page shows *roughly* where each patch is located. Most are within the SECOS Recording Area, some just outside. Three are private and out-of-bounds to the general public.

What pleases me is the diversity of habits they cover, ranging from: -

- quarries, one an active sand quarry (SQ), another reclaimed and now fishing pools
- recreational parkland
- reclaimed industrial areas / railway lines
- a landscaped former landfill site
- SSSIs – a peat bog
- both mature and relatively recently created woodland
- farmland
- a golf course
- and a number of ‘water bodies’ including streams

Of the nine BTO Habitat Codes, we’ve got almost all the whole spectrum covered. Of the 19 patches, I am pleased to note that half are either ‘new’ birding areas to SECOS members or have not been ‘covered’ for some years. I’m not expecting any surprises but the wide variety of habitats should reveal some interesting records and add to our understanding of our local bird population.

I acknowledge that this report only includes records from a small percentage of the SECOS Recording Area but it includes most habitats and should be representative of what can be seen locally. The table below lists the five 10km squares (hectads) that make up the recording area with the number of patches in each hectad.

10km square	Hectad Name	Number of patches
SJ74	Wybunbury	2
SJ75	Crewe	9
SJ76	Middlewich / Holmes Chapel	2
SJ85	Alsager	2
SJ86	Congleton	1
	Outside Recording Area	3
	Total	19

Table 1- SECOS Recording Area - Hectads

As with most surveys of this type, they are done by volunteers – “Citizen Science”, so I am very grateful to those who submitted records for this inaugural season. It’s a start and new fieldworkers are welcomed to join those who agree to continue to submit records in the seasons to come.

If we assume that all the patches are no bigger than a 1km square (km²) and as the SECOS Recording Area is made up of 360 km², SWaBBS only covers 6%. There is plenty of room for more patches to be adopted and new fieldworkers to join in the activity.

Although, obviously, not an accurate representation of the species using the SECOS Recording Area and its surroundings, it gives an indication of what can be seen or heard in any particular local environment or habitat. Scaling up will be possible if we map the different habitat types that make up the survey area.

Having said that, if we combine these records to the considerable number of records we get each month from birders adding sightings to the log books at Rode Pool and Sandbach Flashes, plus contributors to the SECOS blog and the various electronic systems – social media, WhatsApp, etc. we have a very good idea of what makes our area so attractive to the avifauna.

Activity statistics

Number of fieldworkers: - 14
 For the list of fieldworkers: - see 'Contributors' below
 Number of sites surveyed: - 19
 Number of sightings submitted: - *provisionally* c1600
 Number of species recorded: - *provisionally* 94 (+ White Dove / Feral Pigeon)

Contributors

In alphabetical order of their forename
 (non-members in italics)

Name		SJ74	SJ75	SJ76	SJ85	SJ86	Other
	19	2	9	2	2	1	3
Anne & Tom Davies	1	1					
Andy Brown & Bradley Brown	2			1		1	
Andy Warner & Mike Warner	1	1					
Bryan Perkins	1		1				
Colin Lythgoe	3		3				
Dave O'Hara	1						1
John Thompson	7		4		1		2
Mick Ball	1				1		
Mike Tonks	1		1				
<i>Tony Ford & Pete Atherton</i>	1			1			

Table 2 - SWaBBS Contributors

Weather during the survey

The month of **March** was influenced by a number of winter weather systems being blown in from the East – from as far as Russia. One system was called by the tabloids as “The Beast from the East”. The temperature rarely reached 9°C. A consequence of the conditions meant that the overwintering Hawfinch and thrushes lingered, as did some of the ‘white-winged’ gulls.

Many of the reputable sources were claiming that migration and the breeding season is likely to be stalled by between 10 and 14 days.

April began in the same vein as last month although for a few days in the first week the wind direction changed to a southerly, lifting birders spirits for a possible burst of migrant sightings. However it was short-lived as the wind direction changed to predominantly easterlies by the 8th but switching yet again to southerlies by 13th. The strong southerlies continued throughout the third week but coupled with the low cloud kept temperatures down to a max of 14°C until late on the Wednesday when the predicted warmer weather broke through. The shift in position of the jet stream (to loop north of the UK) heralded the predicted unseasonally warm weather peaking at 18°C between Thursday 19th and Sunday 22nd. By Monday, the jet stream was flowing directly over the UK bringing typical April weather – sunshine and showers. The theme continued through to the end of the month.

The first few days in **May** followed the same pattern as late April, but the May Day Bank Holiday weekend saw blue skies and temperatures in the high 20’s as the winds shifted to a south-westerly dragging in hot conditions from continental Europe. The warm, dry weather continued for the rest of the week but with lower temperatures as the wind shifted round to a northerly bringing rain overnight. The warm daytime period extended through Weeks 20 & 21 (14th to 20th) & (21st to 27th) – temperatures ranging from 12’ to 20°C but cold at night, breaking on the Friday of the Whitsun weekend when we had rain all day. An Easterly wind maintained the mainly warm, dry conditions with the temperature peaking at 23°C until the end of the month.

The Met Office have said that May ’18 was the warmest May since records began over 100 years ago in 1910 and ‘provisionally’ the sunniest since 1989.

The first two weeks of **June** were warm and dry; the daily highest temperature ranging between 13’ & 21’ with fairly light winds coming from all points of the compass. Towards the end of the second week saw an unseasonal change in the position of the jet stream to it being directly over the UK has meant the Irish Met Office have named the storm forecast for Thursday ‘Hector’. The effects, locally, were restricted to high winds; the worst of the conditions were felt further north. The winds, veering between W & SSW effected the temperature for the rest of that week and most of the next – ranging between 14’ & 19’. A shift in the position of the jet stream heralds calmer conditions with a high pressure system directly over the UK. The hottest recorded days in June bring the month to a close with a ‘heat wave’ – temperatures rising from 15’ to 27’ - on Tuesday 26th, Rostherne recorded highest temp for the day in the UK: 29.9°C.

The heatwave at the end of June continued into **July** with the first week having a light breeze and highest temperatures between 22’ & 26°C. Week 2 brought cooler, cloudier conditions and the remnants of Hurricane Chris, now classed as a tropical storm, brought the first westerly weather fronts for a while and with them a ‘drop’ of rain for weeks this afternoon! Heralding (slightly) fresher conditions to our region.

Our first rain in weeks occurred on the afternoon of 16th; the following day the weather bureaux announced that we had passed the previous longest heatwave since 1976! A combination of weather systems meant very warm, dry air continued to move north from Africa, but the mainly westerly winds meant some days we experienced overcast, less warm conditions and the odd heavy 'localised' shower.

The last full week brought us typical weather for July – mainly dry with light variable winds and maximum temperatures between 22' & 28°C.

Friday 27th was notable for a shift in the position of the jet stream pushed Atlantic depressions towards the UK causing clouds to block views of the Lunar Eclipse and Blood Moon for most of us!

Saturday brought an abrupt end to the heatwave. The last few days of the month was a mixture of sunshine, showers, windy with maximum temperatures between 18' & 21°C.

Compiled from a daily summary: - <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/observation/> based on records from Leek - our nearest weather station.

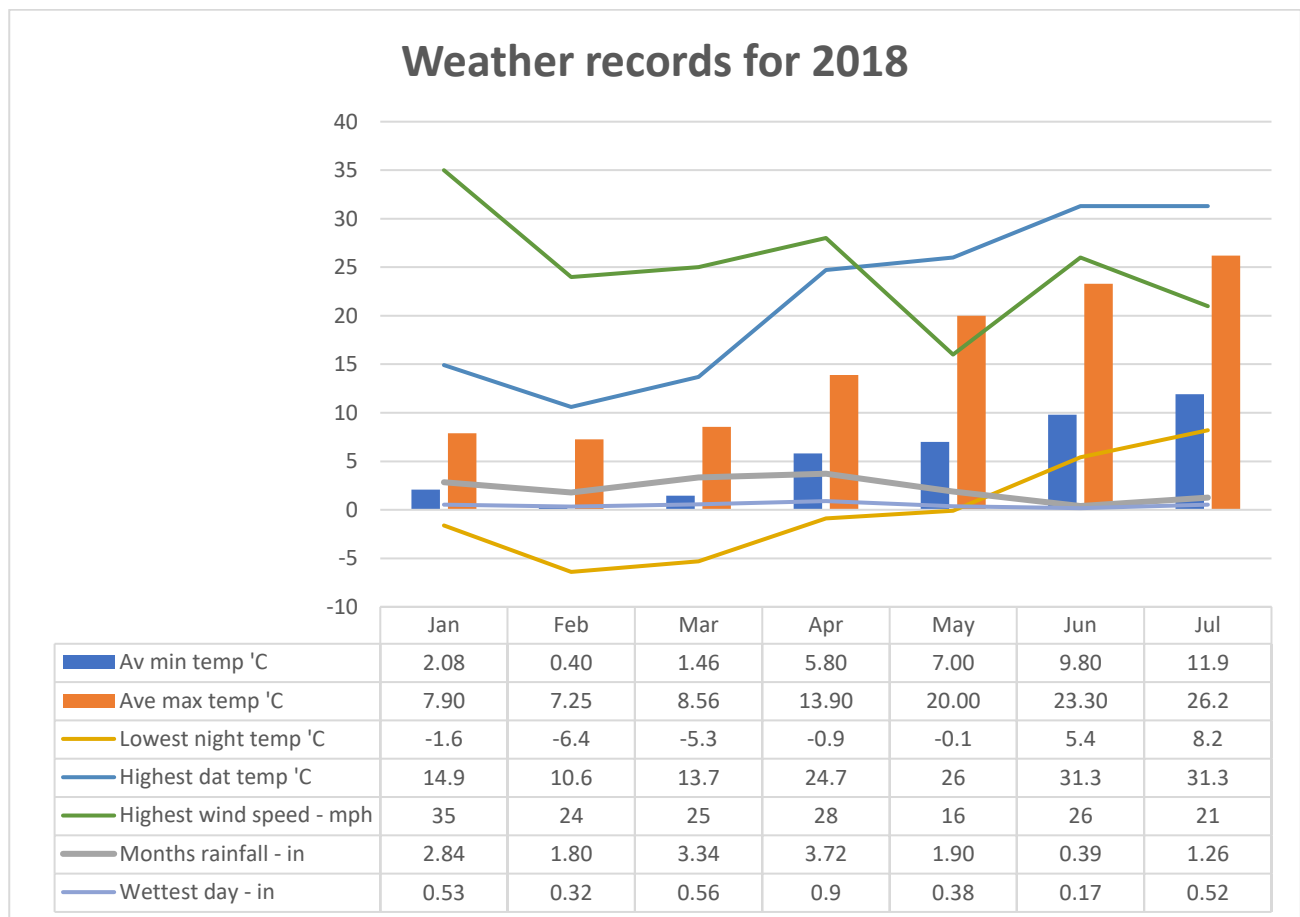


Figure 3- local weather records for 2018

Data courtesy of David Cookson, Cheshire Swan Study Group - Shavington, Crewe

SECOS Winter and Breeding Bird Survey

Systematic List

As mentioned in the 'Coverage Section', the patches cover a wide range of habitats. Consequently, as some species prefer specific habitats, these species will be recorded in some patches and not others. Also cold, wet weather was experienced at the start of the survey period and one or two fieldworkers were lucky enough to record some of our winter migrants/visitors.

The list below is summarised in table form (count & breeding status) later in this section.

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*)

recorded at 10 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Arclid SQ, Doddington Pool, Wheelock Heath and Wybunbury Fishing Lake

Greylag Goose (*Anser anser*)

recorded at 8 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Borrow Pit Meadows, Doddington Pool and Wybunbury Fishing Lake

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*)

recorded at 4 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Doddington Pool and Meremoor Moss

Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*)

recorded at Arclid SQ and Doddington Pool

breeding confirmed at Arclid SQ

Shoveler (*Spatula clypeata*)

recorded at Arclid SQ and Doddington Pool

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*)

recorded at 16 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Arclid SQ, Borrow Pit Meadows, Doddington Pool, Meremoor Moss, Swettenham, Wheelock Heath, Wheelock & Malkin's Bank and Wybunbury Fishing Lake

Teal (*Anas crecca*)

recorded at Doddington Pool

Pochard (*Aythya ferina*)

recorded at Doddington Pool

Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*)

recorded at Arclid SQ, Doddington Pool and Wybunbury Fishing Lake

breeding confirmed at Doddington Pool

Red-legged Partridge (*Alectoris rufa*)

recorded at Swettenham

Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*)

recorded at 8 of the sites surveyed

Little Grebe (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*)

recorded at Arclid SQ and Doddington Pool

breeding also confirmed there

Great Crested Grebe (*Podiceps cristatus*)

recorded at Arclid SQ, Doddington Pool, Wheelock Heath and Wybunbury Fishing Lake

breeding also confirmed at all apart from Wheelock Heath

Grey Heron (*Ardea cinerea*)

recorded at 7 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Doddington Pool

Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*)

recorded at Doddington Pool and Wybunbury Fishing Lake – as a ‘fly-over’

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)

recorded at Doddington Pool

Red Kite (*Milvus milvus*)

recorded at Doddington Pool

Sparrowhawk (*Accipiter nisus*)

recorded at 9 of the sites surveyed

Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*)

recorded at 14 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Doddington Pool

Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*)

recorded at 12 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Crewe Golf Club, Doddington Pool, Macon Meadows, Wheelock Heath, Wheelock & Malkin’s Bank, Wybunbury Fishing Lake and Wybunbury Moss

Coot (*Fulica atra*)

recorded at 7 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Arclid SQ, Doddington Pool and Wybunbury Fishing Lake

Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*)

recorded at 7 of the sites surveyed – as a ‘fly-over’

breeding confirmed at Arclid SQ and Doddington Pool

Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*)

recorded at 6 of the sites surveyed

Little Ringed Plover (*Charadrius dubius*)

Recorded at Arclid SQ

breeding confirmed there, too

Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*)

recorded at Doddington Pool

Black-headed Gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*)

recorded at Doddington Pool, Meremoor Moss and Wheelock Heath

Yellow-legged Gull (*Larus michahellis*)

recorded at Arclid SQ

Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*)

recorded at 7 of the sites surveyed

Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*)

recorded at Doddington Pool

Rock Dove (*Columba livia*) "White Dove"

recorded at Swettenham

Rock Dove (*Feral*) (*Columba livia 'feral'*)

recorded at 3 of the sites surveyed

SECOS Winter and Breeding Bird Survey

Stock Dove (*Columba oenas*)

recorded at 11 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Merelake Way and Quakers Coppice

Woodpigeon (*Columba palumbus*)

recorded at 18 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Doddington Pool and Merelake Way

Collared Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*)

recorded at 11 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Doddington Pool

Cuckoo (*Cuculus canorus*)

recorded at Swettenham and Wybunbury Fishing Lake

Tawny Owl (*Strix aluco*)

recorded at Merelake Way

Little Owl (*Athene noctua*)

recorded at Doddington Pool

Swift (*Apus apus*)

recorded at 10 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Merelake Way

Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*)

recorded at Doddington Pool, Joey the Swan, Macon Meadows and Swettenham although one seen fly off with a fish at Macon Meadows, nest site must be upstream as the river bank in the patch won't support a nest

Great Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos major*)

recorded at 15 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Crewe Golf Club, Doddington Pool, Macon Meadows, Merelake Way and Quakers Coppice

Green Woodpecker (*Picus viridis*)

recorded at Arclid SQ, Roe Park, Salt Line and Wybunbury Moss

Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*)

recorded at Arclid SQ, Borrow Pit Meadows, Doddington Pool, Meremoor Moss, Rive Croco and Swettenham

breeding confirmed at Arclid SQ and Borrow Pit Meadows

Hobby (*Falco subbuteo*)

recorded at Arclid SQ, also at Macon Meadows (as 'fly-over')

Peregrine (*Falco peregrinus*)

recorded at Doddington Pool

Jay (*Garrulus glandarius*)

recorded at 13 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Salt Line

Magpie (*Pica pica*)

recorded at 18 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at 5

Jackdaw (*Coloeus monedula*)

recorded at all of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Doddington Pool and Merelake Way

Rook (*Corvus frugilegus*)

recorded at 5 of the sites surveyed
breeding confirmed at Crewe Golf Club and Macon Meadows

Carrion Crow (*Corvus corone*)

recorded at 18 of the sites surveyed
breeding confirmed at 4

Raven (*Corvus corax*)

recorded at 6 of the sites surveyed – 2 as fly-overs
breeding confirmed at Arclid SQ

Coal Tit (*Periparus ater*)

recorded at 11 of the sites surveyed
breeding confirmed at Meremoor Moss

Blue Tit (*Cyanistes caeruleus*)

recorded at 18 of the sites surveyed
breeding confirmed at 13 of the sites surveyed

Great Tit (*Parus major*)

recorded at 18 of the sites surveyed
breeding confirmed at 11 of the sites surveyed

Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*)

recorded at Doddington Pool, Merelake Way and Meremoor Moss either singing or displaying

Sand Martin (*Riparia riparia*)

recorded at Arclid SQ and Doddington Pool

Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)

recorded at 13 of the sites surveyed
breeding confirmed at Doddington Pool and Merelake Way

House Martin (*Delichon urbicum*)

recorded at 8 of the sites surveyed
breeding confirmed at Doddington Pool and Merelake Way

Long-tailed Tit (*Aegithalos caudatus*)

recorded at 15 of the sites surveyed
breeding confirmed at many of the sites surveyed

Willow Warbler (*Phylloscopus trochilus*)

recorded at 8 of the sites surveyed

Chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus collybita*)

recorded at 18 of the sites surveyed
breeding confirmed at Macon Meadows, Merelake Way, Meremoor Moss, Salt Line and Wybunbury Moss

Sedge Warbler (*Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*)

recorded at Arclid SQ and Meremoor Moss
breeding confirmed at Meremoor Moss

Reed Warbler (*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*)

recorded at Doddington Pool and Meremoor Moss
breeding confirmed at Doddington Pool

Blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*)

recorded at 19 of the sites surveyed
breeding confirmed at 4 of the sites surveyed

Garden Warbler (*Sylvia borin*)

recorded at Arclid SQ, Borrow Pit Meadows, Merelake Way, Salt Line and Swettenham

SECOS Winter and Breeding Bird Survey

breeding probably at Arclid SQ

Lesser Whitethroat (*Sylvia curruca*)

recorded at Arclid SQ and Meremoor Moss

Whitethroat (*Sylvia communis*)

recorded at 8 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Arclid SQ, Borrow Pit Meadows, Meremoor Moss & Wybunbury Moss

Goldcrest (*Regulus regulus*)

recorded at 14 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Meremoor Moss and Wybunbury Moss

Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*)

recorded at 18 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Crewe Golf Course, Doddington Pool, Macon Meadows and Meremoor Moss

Nuthatch (*Sitta europaea*)

recorded at 15 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Barthomley (private wood), Macon Meadows, Quakers Coppice and Roe Park

Treecreeper (*Certhia familiaris*)

recorded at 10 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Barthomley (private wood) and Wybunbury Moss

Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*)

recorded at 10 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Merelake Way and Wheelock & Malkin's Bank

Blackbird (*Turdus merula*)

recorded at 18 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at 9 of the sites surveyed

Fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris*)

recorded at Merelake Way and Swettenham

Redwing (*Turdus iliacus*)

recorded at Barthomley (private wood) and Swettenham

Song Thrush (*Turdus philomelos*)

recorded at 16 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Merelake Way

Mistle Thrush (*Turdus viscivorus*)

recorded at 10 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Doddington Pool and Merelake Way

Spotted Flycatcher (*Muscicapa striata*)

recorded at Roe Park

Robin (*Erithacus rubecula*)

recorded at 18 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at 10 of the sites surveyed

Redstart (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*)

recorded at River Croco

Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*)

recorded at Meremoor Moss and River Croco

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)

recorded at 14 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Merelake Way, Roe Park and Salt Line

Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*)

recorded at Arclid SQ, Merelake Way

breeding confirmed there also

Dunnock (*Prunella modularis*)

recorded at 17 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Merelake Way, Meremoor Moss, Wheelock & Malkin's Bank

Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla flava*)

recorded at Doddington Pool

Grey Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*)

recorded at Joey The Swan, Queen's Park, Swettenham and Wheelock & Malkin's Bank

Pied Wagtail (*Motacilla alba yarrellii*)

all records presumed to be the sub-species of White Wagtail

recorded at 8 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Crewe Golf Course, Doddington Pool and Wheelock Heath

Chaffinch (*Fringilla coelebs*)

recorded at 17 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Merelake Way and Meremoor Moss

Brambling (*Fringilla montifringilla*)

recorded at Swettenham

Bullfinch (*Pyrrhula pyrrhula*)

recorded at 10 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Merelake Way

Greenfinch (*Chloris chloris*)

recorded at 11 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Merelake Way

Linnet (*Linaria cannabina*)

recorded at Merelake Way, Meremoor Moss, Swettenham and Wheelock & Malkin's Bank

Lesser Redpoll (*Acanthis cabaret*)

recorded at Swettenham

Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*)

recorded at 17 of the sites surveyed

breeding confirmed at Doddington Pool, Merelake Way, Meremoor Moss and Wybunbury Moss

Yellowhammer (*Emberiza citrinella*)

recorded at Arclid SQ, Meremoor Moss and River Croco

Reed Bunting (*Emberiza schoeniclus*)

recorded at Arclid SQ, Borrow Pit Meadows, Merelake Way, Meremoor Moss, River Croco and Wybunbury Moss

breeding confirmed at Doddington Pool and Meremoor Moss

SECOS Winter and Breeding Bird Survey

The two primary functions of SWaBBS was to count the species on each patch and record breeding status. The table on the next few pages lists 'best' breeding status for species seen. On subsequent pages is the table showing species count on each patch.

In Table 4, the count refers to individual, not pairs.

Although it should be stressed the activity is not a competition of which patch or fieldworker can record the most species, the highest count or the best breeding status it is inevitable that comparisons will be made. As patch size, habitat type differ and the levels of experience and amount of time and effort made by fieldworkers differ, it is, therefore, like comparing "apples and pears"!

Key to Sites

- A. Doddington Pool
- B. Wybunbury Fishing Lake & Quarry [private]
- C. Macon Meadows
- D. Quakers Coppice
- E. Barthomley – a private wood
- F. Meremoor Moss (previously named Stowford)
- G. Crewe Golf Course
- H. Wheelock Heath (Winterley Pool & Farm)
- I. Wheelock & Malkin's Bank
- J. Borrow Pit Meadows
- K. Salt Line
- L. River Croco, Holmes Chapel
- M. Arclid SQ [no public access]
- N. Merelake Way, Alsager
- O. Roe Park, Mow Cop
- P. Swettenham
- Q. Wybunbury Moss
- R. Joey the Swan, Wistaston
- S. Queens Park & King George V playing fields

Examples of reports sent to fieldworkers after sightings are coded into database

Report – Fieldworkers' patch list - 'short'

Macon Meadows (Cheshire, England, United Kingdom)

18/05/2018 08:30 to 18/05/2018 10:35

Cloud cover: - 0-33%; Rain: - None; Wind: - Calm; Direction: - SW; Temperature: - 8-11'C;

Visibility: - Good;

Species Name	Count
Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>)	4
Sparrowhawk (<i>Accipiter nisus</i>)	1
Moorhen (<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>)	2
Rock Dove (Feral) (<i>Columba livia</i> 'feral')	2
Stock Dove (<i>Columba oenas</i>)	2
Woodpigeon (<i>Columba palumbus</i>)	20
Great Spotted Woodpecker (<i>Dendrocopos major</i>)	
Hobby (<i>Falco subbuteo</i>)	1
Magpie (<i>Pica pica</i>)	5
Rook (<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>)	1
Carrion Crow (<i>Corvus corone</i>)	3
Blue Tit (<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>)	17
Great Tit (<i>Parus major</i>)	6
Long-tailed Tit (<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>)	4
Chiffchaff (<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>)	4
Blackcap (<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>)	4
Wren (<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>)	13
Nuthatch (<i>Sitta europaea</i>)	1
Starling (<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>)	14
Blackbird (<i>Turdus merula</i>)	19
Song Thrush (<i>Turdus philomelos</i>)	2
Robin (<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>)	11
House Sparrow (<i>Passer domesticus</i>)	
Dunnock (<i>Prunella modularis</i>)	3
Bullfinch (<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>)	1
Goldfinch (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>)	4

SECOS Winter and Breeding Bird Survey

Report – Fieldworkers' patch list - 'long'

Macon Meadows (Cheshire, England, United Kingdom)

18/05/2018 08:30 to 18/05/2018 10:35

Cloud cover: - 0-33%; Rain: - None; Wind: - Calm; Direction: - SW; Temperature: - 8-11'C; Visibility: - Good;

Species Name	Count	Ages	Status
Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>)	4	1 Female, 3 Males	P Pair in suitable nesting habitat
Sparrowhawk (<i>Accipiter nisus</i>)	1		H observed in suitable nesting Habitat
Moorhen (<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>)	2		H observed in suitable nesting Habitat
Rock Dove (Feral) (<i>Columba livia</i> 'feral')	2		H observed in suitable nesting Habitat
Stock Dove (<i>Columba oenas</i>)	2		H observed in suitable nesting Habitat
Woodpigeon (<i>Columba palumbus</i>)	20		H observed in suitable nesting Habitat
Great Spotted Woodpecker (<i>Dendrocopos major</i>)		new hole seen	
Hobby (<i>Falco subbuteo</i>)	1		F In Flight or flying over
Magpie (<i>Pica pica</i>)	5		H observed in suitable nesting Habitat
Rook (<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>)	1		FF Feecal sac or Food
Carrion Crow (<i>Corvus corone</i>)	3		F In Flight or flying over
Blue Tit (<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>)	17		H observed in suitable nesting Habitat
Great Tit (<i>Parus major</i>)	6		H observed in suitable nesting Habitat
Long-tailed Tit (<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>)	4		H observed in suitable nesting Habitat
Chiffchaff (<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>)	4		S Singing male
Blackcap (<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>)	4		S Singing male
Wren (<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>)	13		H observed in suitable nesting Habitat
Nuthatch (<i>Sitta europaea</i>)	1		N visiting probable Nest site
Starling (<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>)	14		
Blackbird (<i>Turdus merula</i>)	19		FF Feecal sac or Food
Song Thrush (<i>Turdus philomelos</i>)	2		S Singing male
Robin (<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>)	11		S Singing male
House Sparrow (<i>Passer domesticus</i>)			
Dunnock (<i>Prunella modularis</i>)	3		S Singing male
Bullfinch (<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>)	1	Heard - (contact calls)	
Goldfinch (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>)	4		S Singing male

Tables (in Systematic Order) summarising Breeding Status and Count

Table 3: Species 'best' Breeding Status (* indicates species seen but status not recoded)

	SJ74		SJ75									SJ76		SJ85		86	Other		
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
Canada Goose	NY	FL	F			H	H	FL				P	FL	P					ON
Greylag Goose	NY	FL				H				FL						F	F	F	H
Mute Swan	ON					FL		P											P
Shelduck	D												FL						
Shoveler	M												P						
Mallard	NY	FL	P	P	H	FI	P	FL	FL	FL		H	FL	H		FL	F	H	P
Teal	S																		
Pochard	S																		
Tufted Duck	NY	N											T						
Red-legged Partridge																H			
Pheasant	H	*			T	P						H			T	H	T		
Little Grebe	NY																		
Great Crested Grebe	NY	NE						H					FL						
Grey Heron	NY	P		U		U		U	U					H					
Cormorant	U	FL																	
Osprey	M																		
Red Kite	F																		
Sparrowhawk		FL	P		H	F			H	H				H	H	H			
Buzzard	NY	FL	T	T	T	T	H		F	P		T		P	T	T	T	NY	
Moorhen	NY	ON	FL	H		FL	FL	FL	FL	P			H				FL	ON	P
Coot	NY	FL				P		H		H			FL						P
Oystercatcher	NY	FL	F		F	H							FL				F		
Lapwing	F	FL				H						B			H	H			
Little Ringed Plover													FL						

SECOS Winter and Breeding Bird Survey

	SJ74		SJ75									SJ76		SJ85		86	Other		
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
Common Sandpiper	M																		
Black-headed Gull	U					F		H											
Yellow-legged Gull													*						
Lesser Black-backed Gull	U		F	F									*	F					U
Common Tern	U																		
Rock Dove/White Dove																	T		
Feral Pigeon			H			H													H
Stock Dove	P		N	FL		H	S	H		S	S			ON			T		H
Woodpigeon	UN	A	N	H	T	H	D	H	S	P	D	B		FL	T	B	T	ON	H
Collared Dove	P		H			H		H	B			H		P	H	S		ON	H
Cuckoo		S														S			
Tawny Owl														H				FL	
Little Owl	P																		
Swift	U		F						F	H		H		ON	F	H	F		F
Kingfisher	*		FF													H		P	
Great Spotted Woodpecker	NY		FL	NY	T	N	FL			H	H	S		FF	T	S	T	T	T
Green Woodpecker											S		*		D		S		
Kestrel	P					T				FF		H	FF			H			
Hobby			F										*						
Peregrine	H																		
Jay	P		H		T		H		H	H	FL	T		P	H	P	T	FL	
Magpie	P	B	FL	FL	NY	FL	P	H	P	FL	H	P		ON	T	H	FL	FL	T
Jackdaw	NY	B	H	N	T	H	B	H	N	P	H	T	*	ON	H	H	N	NY	
Rook	P		F				NY						N			H		NY	
Carrion Crow	P	H	FL	N	T	FL	P	Co	FL	P	H	B		FL	A	B	B	P	T
Raven	NY	FL										H	FL	P					
Coal Tit	P	H		H		FL	S				H			FL	T	P	T	FL	
Blue Tit	NY	FL	FL	FL	FL	FL	FF	P	FL	FF	FF	B		FL	FL	FL	FL	NE	FL

	SJ74		SJ75									SJ76		SJ85		86	Other		
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
Great Tit	NY	FL	FL	FL	FL	FL	FF	S	P	FF	FF	P		FL	FL	FL	FL	NE	FL
Skylark	S					D								S					
Sand Martin	U												N						
Swallow	NY				F	F	H	B	H	H	H	H		ON	F	N	F		F
House Martin	NY	FL		F	F				H			p		ON			F		
Long-tailed Tit	P	H	FL	FL	FL	FL	P		FL	H	P	T		B	FL	P	FL	FL	H
Willow Warbler		S	S			S						S	T	S		S	T		
Chiffchaff	S	S	S	S	S	FL	T		S	N	FF	T	T	FF	T	S	FL	NY	S
Sedge Warbler						FF							*						
Reed Warbler	ON					S													
Blackcap	NY	P	FL	FL	FL	FL	T	S	S	P	P	P	T	FL	FL	A	T	NY	S
Garden Warbler										S	S		T	S		S			
Lesser Whitethroat						H							*						
Whitethroat			M	S		FF				FF		P	FL	P			FF		
Goldcrest		P	S	T	T	FL	B		H		H	H		S	S	P	FL		T
Wren	NY	S	FF	T	N	FL	FL	S	S	N	T	A		P	T	A	T	NY	T
Nuthatch	S		NY	FL	FL		S		S	S	H	S		S	FL	S	T	ON	T
Treecreeper	P		T	T	FF		H					P		P	T	P	FL	ON	
Starling	P		H				H		FL	H		H		FL		P	F	FL	H
Blackbird	NY	A	FL	FL	T	FL	T	A	FF	FF	FF	D		FL	FL	FL	FL	FL	B
Fieldfare														*					
Redwing					M														
Song Thrush	S		FL	N	T	B	T		S	P	T	S		FL	T	S	T	FL	S
Mistle Thrush	NY			N	N	N	S							FF		H	T	T	A
Spotted Flycatcher															H				
Robin	H	FF	FL	FL	FL	FL	FF	S	FL	FL	FL	T		FL	T	FL	FL	ON	H
Redstart												M							
Wheatear						M						P							

SECOS Winter and Breeding Bird Survey

	SJ74		SJ75									SJ76		SJ85		86	Other		
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
House Sparrow		H	H		T		H	H	P		ON	B		FL	FL	B	T	FL	H
Tree Sparrow													N	ON					
Dunnock	P	S	T	T	T	FL	S		FL	S	S	T		FL	T	S	T	ON	T
Grey Wagtail									H							H		FL	T
Yellow Wagtail	H																		
Pied Wagtail	NY						FF	FF	N			H		P		H			T
Chaffinch	P	S	P	T	P	T	S	S	S	S	P	P		FL	H	N	T		P
Brambling																M			
Bullfinch			P	S	S	FL			H	P				FL	T	S		P	
Greenfinch			S			T			P		H	P		FL	T	S	T	H	P
Linnet						N			H					P		S			
Lesser Redpoll																H			
Goldfinch	NY	S	P	T	T	FL	P	H	H	P	H	T		FF	T	P	FL	FL	P
Yellowhammer						S						H	*						
Reed Bunting	NY					NY				S		H	T	H			T		

Tables (in Systematic Order) summarising Breeding Status and Count

Table 4: Species Count per patch (* indicates species seen but count not recorded)

	#	SJ74		SJ75									SJ76		SJ85		86	Others		
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
Canada Goose	11	128	6	2			2	2	25				17	72	6			2		81
Greylag Goose	7	15	13				15				2						1		2	3
Mute Swan	4	59					3		2											2
Shelduck	2	9												5						
Mandarin Duck	1													*						
Shoveler	1	2																		
Gadwall	1	158																		
Mallard	14		10	7		1	11	8	44	26	4		4		1		8	8	5	65
Teal	1	2																		
Pochard	1	2																		
Tufted Duck	3	110	8											10						
Red-legged Partridge	1																5			
Pheasant	8	2	2			3	14						2			7	9	9		
Little Grebe	1	8																		
Great Crested Grebe	4	39	8						1					10						
Grey Heron	7	10	3		1		5		1	3					1					
Cormorant	2	10	3																	
Osprey	1	1																		
Sparrowhawk	7			2			1			1	1					1	1	1		
Red Kite	1	1																		
Buzzard	15	7	1	1	1	2	7	2		1	2		6		5	2	7	2	3	
Moorhen	12	13	3	6	1		2	4	2	4	3			*				5		4

SECOS Winter and Breeding Bird Survey

		SJ74		SJ75									SJ76		SJ85		86	Others		
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
Coot	7	453	7				3		5		1			18						3
Oystercatcher	7	6	1	1		1	2							6				1		
Lapwing	6	1	2				3						4			1	1			
Little Ringed Plover	1													7						
Common Sandpiper	1	2																		
Black-headed Gull	3	39					50		28											
Yellow-legged Gull	1													3						
Lesser Black-backed Gull	7	2		5	11	2	3							*						10
Common Tern	1	4																		
Rock Dove/White Dove	1																10			
Feral Pigeon	3			2			3													3
Stock Dove	11	2		2	13		2	2	1		2	1			2			2		3
Wood Pigeon	18	47	7	32	6	22	20	14	2	19	7	13	40		31	17	13	21	29	19
Collared Dove	11	4		2		2	2		1	1			2		2	1	3			3
Cuckoo	2		1														1			
Tawny Owl	1														1					
Little Owl	1	1																		
Swift	10	6		1						1	2		2		8	1	5	7		9
Kingfisher	4	1		1													2		1	
Great Spotted Woodpecker	15	2		2	1	1	3	4			1	1	1		1	1	3	3	4	1
Green Woodpecker	4										1		1		1		1		1	
Kestrel	6	1					2				1		1	1			1			
Hobby	2			1										1						
Peregrine Falcon	1	1																		
Jay	13	1		1		3		2		2	2	2	2		6	1	3	3	1	
Magpie	17	7	2	12	**	9	13	5	2	14	4	3	7		15	7	2	10	10	23

		SJ74		SJ75									SJ76		SJ85		86	Others		
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
Jackdaw	18	28	2	7	8	8	11	14	15	12	4	2	41	1700	6	8	3	33	18	
Rook	6	5		1	12			8						120			10			
Carrion Crow	17	35	2	7		12	57	11	18	9	5	2	32		11	9	90	19	3	11
Raven	6	2	2										4	5	2				1	
Coal Tit	11	2	1		2		2	2				1			2	2	5	2	1	
Blue Tit	18	12	10	20	13	18	21	14	3	12	10	21	39		26	28	24	39	23	15
Great Tit	18	9	6	7	11	11	4	9	1	13	6	10	14		17	10	28	14	22	6
Skylark	3	1					6								1					
Sand Martin	2	8												200						
Swallow	14	10				4	17	2	14	4	3	1	17		5	6	30	9		3
House Martin	8	2	2		3	1	?			6			7		6			1		
Long-tailed Tit	16	5	3	6		12	6	4		4	3	2	3		5	4	6	32	4	7
Willow Warbler	8		4	1			4						2	1	2		1	1		
Chiffchaff	17	1	2	4	4		5	1		4	7	8	11	15	6	7	8	12	7	5
Sedge Warbler	2						5							*						
Reed Warbler	2	2					3													
Blackcap	19	1	4	6	6	8	5	4	1	3	7	12	5	13	6	8	10	7	3	1
Garden Warbler	5										1	1		1	1		1			
Lesser Whitethroat	2						1							*						
Whitethroat	8			1	1		4				7		2	4	2			1		
Goldcrest	14		2	1	2	6	2	1		1		1	1		1	5	6	4		3
Wren	18	2	5	16	13	11	21	22	1	13	15	16	9		9	16	7	20	1	8
Nuthatch	15	2		1	5	3		9		1	4	1	3		2	9	5	6	4	3
Treecreeper	11	1		1	4	1		1					2		2	2	4	2	1	
Lesser Redpoll	1																2			
Starling	10	4		14				1		15	1		14		13		15	9		66

SECOS Winter and Breeding Bird Survey

		SJ74		SJ75									SJ76		SJ85		86	Others			
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	
Blackbird	18	5	7	19	23	9	13	14	5	26	14	26	28		13	15	27	30	43	31	
Song Thrush	16	1		2	3	1	5	6		4	6	4	6		8	4	6	7	1	6	
Mistle Thrush	10	12			2	2	2	3							2		2	4	4	1	
Spotted Flycatcher	1															3					
Robin	18	2	9	12	9	10	8	21	2	16	11	37	10		15	7	21	24	12	16	
Redstart	1												1								
Wheatear	2						1						2								
House Sparrow	13			5		4	*	8	14	23		5	16		3	10	26	10	1	41	
Tree Sparrow	3		2											*	3						
Dunnock	16	2	4		4	6	7	1		7	5	5	4		9	5	5	7	4	5	
Yellow Wagtail	1	1																			
Grey Wagtail	4									2							1		2	1	
Pied Wagtail	8	5						5	2	1			4		2		1			1	
Chaffinch	17	4	6	5	6	6	6	5	1	6	4	8	8		9	4	8	10		2	
Brambling	1																1				
Bullfinch	10			2	1	1	3			1	2				4	2	1		2		
Greenfinch	10						4			3		1	2		8	4	14	3	1	2	
Linnet	4						2			2					4		2				
Lesser Redpoll	1																2				
Goldfinch	17	7	3	8	8	8	22	6	2	6	6	1	23		9	8	21	14		11	
Yellowhammer	2												2	*							
Reed Bunting	7	2					6				1		1	8	1			1			
	96	65	35	39	28	31	50	33	25	35	34	27	42	28	47	34	50	40	29	36	