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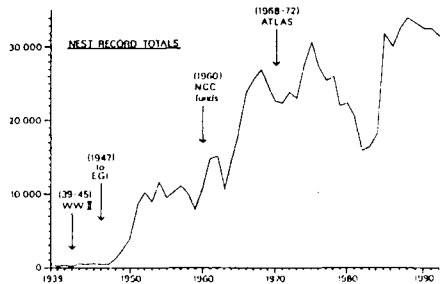
Nest Record News

A newsletter for supporters of the NEST RECORD SCHEME, forming part of the BTO's Integrated Population Monitoring Programme carried out under contract to the Joint Nature Conservation Committee.

Bumper 1992 card total reflects fine season

By the end of March this year, the BTO had received 31,411 nest record cards for the 1992 breeding season covering 182 species.

As ever, we are delighted with the fantastic amount of time and effort you put into the Scheme and our thanks go to all nest recorders for their excellent work in 1992.



1991 ANNUAL BREEDING REPORT

The fourth annual breeding report of the Nest Record Scheme was published in *BTO News* in two parts: the first in No. 185, detailing changes in laying date and clutch size, and the second in No. 187 which described changes in nesting success. 1991 tended to be a "late" year, especially for the long-distance migrants that were held back by strong northerly winds and an inclement stormy spring in the Mediterranean. 31 of the 82 species analysed were significantly late compared with that expected from previous years. To a certain extent, the later spread of laying dates will have been influenced by more favourable conditions for late nesting attempts in July and August. Clutch sizes also tended to be smaller in 1991 and not just because of the later spread of laying dates. Again, it seemed to be the migrants that were most affected and

it was possible that the longer duration of their northward migration had taken its toll on their energy reserves. The cool weather in May and June will have made foraging and hence egg-formation more difficult. Almost half of the 82 species analysed had significantly higher nest failure rates in 1991 than expected from the past 29 years. Particularly affected were the waterbirds during incubation and the long-distance migrants during the nestling period. 1990 and 1991 were both exceptionally poor years for nesting Redshank, Lapwing, Curlew and Ringed Plover. This may have been due to the very cool and wet weather in spring which flooded the exposed ground nests of some birds. Among the long-distance migrants, almost three-quarters had significantly higher failure rates than expected, the species affected including Swallow, Reed Warbler, Whitethroat, Blackcap, Willow Warbler and Spotted Flycatcher.

1992 BREEDING SEASON

Fortunately, nature rarely repeats herself exactly because after the abysmal nesting season of 1991, when many of Britain's birds struggled in prolonged spells of unseasonably cool and damp weather from April into July, it was with some trepidation that nest recorders sallied forth in 1992. Luckily, in most regions the 1991-92 winter lacked any prolonged severe cold snaps, and generally changeable weather dominated during the important months of March and April, helping many early nesting species. May then blossomed (the warmest for 160 years) followed by a glorious June (hottest since 1976) and this helped provide ample food supplies and resulted in a fine nesting season for a wide array of birds from Stonechat, Woodlark, many seabirds and most thrushes, to many of the titmice and certain migrants including Whitethroat and Sedge Warbler. Nest recorders widely reported favourably on the season including from Dorset 'a highly productive season', Suffolk 'a bumper year', Argyll 'improved after a slow damp start' and Gwent 'a summer of fits and starts but better than most'.

Mild conditions ensure flying start

Mild, cyclonic weather in the New Year period saw the season off to a flying start with Collared Dove (Surrey) found incubating a clutch on the 3rd of January which produced a single squab. Further cases of doves, thrushes and grebes nest-building were reported in January but a protracted period of freezing fog halted operations. Widespread mild, settled conditions in February saw a scattering of early clutches laid in the first week by Woodpigeon (Hertfordshire), Robin (Buckinghamshire), and by mid-month Song Thrush (Devon), Mallard (Gloucestershire), and Great Crested Grebe on the River Thames (Buckinghamshire) during the last week. Changeable weather in March saw early clutches started mid-month by Cormorant (Scillies), Woodlark (Surrey and Suffolk), and Stonechat (New Forest, Hampshire). Mid-March also saw a spate of nesting attempts by other normally 'early' species including Mistle

and Song Thrushes, Robin, Wren, Starling and Long-tailed Tit. By then the season was well underway as early Stone Curlew, Garganey and Little Ringed Plover were reported back at their traditional nesting haunts

The changeable weather theme continued to dominate in April bringing welcome rains and warm spells to southern Britain, persisting into May and these conditions helped promote a lush growth of vegetation. The situation helped many species that are reliant upon soil invertebrates or that glean insect larvae from branches and leaves, such as the thrushes, Robin, Wren, Dunnock, Chaffinch, woodpeckers and Jackdaw, to rear many early and large broods.

Scottish rains and southern drought have impact

All was not rosy for birds in all parts of the country. As low pressure systems repeatedly clipped north-west Britain, much of Scotland endured one of its wettest and coolest winters on record. High winds, heavy rains and snowfall in lower parts of Scotland persisted into April, contributing locally towards patchy and poor success rates by grebes, divers, some early nesting diurnal raptors including Golden Eagle, Buzzard and Peregrine, and also causing the failure of early breeding attempts by Heron, plovers and gulls. With voles in short supply in many northern parts, Tawny and Short-eared Owls variously reared small broods or skipped a year.

In sharp contrast, generally dry conditions persisted in most of southern Britain and many regions experienced their driest winter period (November-February) for 140 years, adding to a four-year term drought. Nest recorders in various counties attributed low water tables and parched water courses and fields to fewer numbers of certain duck, rails and wetland passerines including Grey Wagtail and Reed Bunting. Those pairs nesting though, generally performed well, ranging from Mallard and Lapwing to Partridge and Sedge Warbler.

Titmice and Pied Flys Flourish

May and June are key months for so many nesting birds and the record-breaking warmth

and relative dryness in 1992 helped a wide spectrum of species towards a highly productive season and helped to blot out memories of the abysmal conditions endured during this period in the previous year. Nestbox occupancy rates by Great and Coal Tits, Pied Flycatcher and Redstart were reported at encouragingly high levels. There were the inevitable exceptions but most nestbox scheme operators described high success rates with Great Tit regularly fledging 8-9 young, Blue Tit 10 or more and Pied Flycatcher consistently 7 young. The normal crop of box losses were recorded, with predators implicated including woodpecker, pygmy shrew, weasel and pine marten, while heavy rains from thunderstorms in late May and others in late June may have had more serious effects on the survival of nestbox broods. Overall though, it was a very successful year for most nestbox and cavity nesters in their favoured woodland environment.

Rare birds steal limelight

For a wide variety of scarce and rare nesting birds, 1992 will figure strongly in the history books. Whooper Swans bred for the first time in Ireland. In England, Scarlet Rosefinches nested successfully for the first time, following earlier instances in Scotland a decade ago. With possibly as many as 100 Scarlet Rosefinches in Britain during 1992, this colonist from the Continent may well be a bird for future nest recorders to keep an eye open for. In the central Wales breeding stronghold of Red Kites, some 80 pairs nested, while pairs also reared young in England and Scotland for the first time in over 100 years. Ospreys topped the 70 pairs mark and achieved their best reproductive output in some 200 years. Among other scarce raptors, Montagu's Harriers continued their tenuous comeback story in east and south-west England with the help of several landowners, following their demise in the mid 1970s.

Elsewhere, farmers and reserve wardens helped other scarce species. Specially designed nest 'boxes' enhanced the breeding success of both Little and Roseate Terns in England and Wales respectively (see the

revised BTO *Nestboxes* guide by Chris du Feu for designs). In south Devon the nucleus of the remnant Cirl Bunting population in Britain showed some signs of a recovery, aided by the recent mild winters and sympathetic local farmland management. Elsewhere, observer reports of potential triple brooding by Dartford Warblers led to the belief that the population of this relatively tender resident warbler is now at its highest level since crashing dramatically during the severe winters in the early 1960s. Finally, Red-backed Shrikes nested again in east England, and so continued to cling precariously to their status as a British breeding bird.

MILESTONES PASSED IN 1992

Two ducks reached 200 cards: Teal with a record from P French, Highland and Goosander with a card sent in by K B Briggs, Lancashire. Lesser Black-backed Gull, Sandwich Tern, Black Guillemot and Swift all attained the 1,000 mark with cards sent in respectively by C Baker for a nest in South Glamorgan only two yards from a main railway line; by J E A Brook and R C Cooke for a nest on a man-made breakwater on Anglesey; by J G Greenwood for a nest on a pier in Co Down; and D J Kesby for an occupied nestbox in a loft space in Kent. Two passerines surpassed 2,000 cards: Chiffchaff with D Tompson and R J Louch's card for a nest in a grass tussock in an Oxfordshire wood; and Treecreeper with J A Burn's card for a pair in the Isle of Man which subsequently reared a second brood. Finally, Woodpigeon attained the 20,000 milestone with a card sent in by J L Smith for a South Yorkshire nest in a mature hawthorn.



Sandwich Tern by P J Grant

**1992 CARD INTAKE
- SAMPLE HIGHLIGHTS -**

A great strength of the Nest Record Scheme comes from the wide national coverage that is achieved each year. In almost all parts of the country there are birdwatchers who fill in just a handful of detailed cards for nests found on their local 'patch'. Then there are others who are able to spend more time, sometimes concentrating on a particular species or travelling widely to find nests. Such 'specialists' provide very useful detailed information that can be used to calibrate the widespread national coverage achieved by other recorders. Both types of recorder are equally vital in maintaining the accuracy of the Scheme's monitoring and fact-finding roles.

This year the BTO received cards from 425 individuals and 66 groups. Those birdwatchers operating through the 16 local bird clubs, 32 ringing groups and bird observatories, or the 18 National, County or RSPB Nature Reserves all had the advantages of being able to exchange ideas, help with co-operative projects, and also helped to reduce the BTO's time with administration.

The list that follows shows the total nest record cards each recorder or group sent to the BTO (where it exceeded 100), preceded by the number that were for nests visited more than once (eg 82/109 means that 82 of the 109 cards sent were multi-visit nest histories). Single-visit cards have limited usefulness, primarily helping to illustrate habitats and nest sites: relatively few reveal other information about breeding biology, except when a nest is found at egg-laying, hatching or fledging. Multi-visit cards are much more valuable, because even just two visits allow the calculation of the survival rate of a nest. They also show whether egg-laying has finished and allow a more accurate calculation to be made of the first egg-laying date - all important facts.

G Alexander (Hants) 74/110 inc. 27 Swallow, 9 Blackbird; **W D Allen** (Shrops) 180/181 inc. 10 Dunnock, 67 Rook; **Argyll Bird Club** (Strath) 170/171 inc. 95 Blue Tit, 52 Great Tit; **R E Batty** (Norfolk)

154/192 inc. 8 Swift, 43 Great Tit; **P Bellamy & S Hinsley** (Cams) 91/121 inc. 7 Turtle Dove, 39 Blackbird; **O Biddulph & S Mann** (S Yorks) 143/148 inc. 39 Blue Tit, 13 Linnet; **Dr K Briggs** (Hants) 164/164 inc. 9 Mallard, 82 Oystercatcher; **Bristol Naturalists' Society** (per **H R Hammacott**, Avon) 39/153 inc. 14 Linnet, 24 Yellowhammer; **J E A Brook & R C Cooke** (Warks) 888/1,194 inc. 50 Herring Gull, 265 Woodpigeon, 108 Blackbird; **D Buckingham** (Devon) 141/144 inc. 11 Robin, 7 Stonechat; **Calf of Man Bird Observatory** (per **N V & M McCanch**, IOM) 385/406 inc. 104 Shag, 158 Kittiwake, 32 Razorbill; **J E S Cooper & R F Sanderson** (Sussex) 194/205 inc. 77 Great Tit, 12 Nuthatch; **D Cox & B Hawes** (for **Hughenden Ringing Group**, Bucks) 261/269 inc. 31 Pied Wagtail, 55 Blackbird; **R E Danson** (Lancs) 386/391 inc. 6 Shelduck, 60 Swallow, 88 Tree Sparrow; **C N Davison** (Lothian) 92/121 inc. 13 Skylark, 27 Linnet; **A Dixon** (Gwent) 132/151 inc. 41 Great Crested Grebe, 35 Reed Warbler; **J Driver** (Gwynedd) 290/291 inc. 43 Pied Flycatcher, 83 Carrion Crow; **Dursley Birdwatching & Preservation Society** (Glos) 135/139 inc. 42 Blue Tit, 21 Great Tit; **Far North Bird Group** (Highland) 61/137 inc. 17 Buzzard, 17 Merlin; **I Fisher & G Norman** (Northum) 271/271 inc. 183 Arctic Tern, 63 Little Tern; **E Flatters & S Hales** (Dorset) 138/141 inc. 65 Blue Tit, 39 Great Tit; **Forest Enterprise North Scotland Region** (per **M D Canham**) 173/195 inc. 22 Kestrel, 33 Tawny Owl; **Forest Enterprise South Scotland Region** (per **G Shaw**) 172/210 inc. 40 Barn Owl, 19 Pied Wagtail; **P French** (Highland) 151 151 inc. 86 Lapwing, 3 Snipe; **D J Garner** (Cams) 97 112 inc. 5 Long-eared Owl, 14 Starling; **Grampian Ringing Group** 102 102 inc. 6 Wigeon, 38 Tawny Owl; **K J Green & A Leach** (Lancs) 154/156 inc. 5 Swift, 22 Swallow; **D J Gruar** (Staffs) 109/122 inc. 71 Fulmar, 10 Shag; **D M Gyngeil & W Attridge** (Surrey) 112/116 inc. 22 Jackdaw, 14 Chaffinch; **S R Hacker** (Tayside) 158 159 inc. 44 Swallow, 28 Tree Sparrow; **D Hazard** (S Yorks) 225/229 inc. 10 Skylark, 43 Swallow; **J A High** (Devon) 224/234 inc. 71 Blue Tit, 13 Nuthatch; **I, P & D Hildred** (Lincs) 119/119 inc. 12 Starling, 16 House Sparrow; **P & D Hill** (Gtr Manchester) 73/126 inc. 15 Great Crested Grebe, 6 Jay; **T W Hill** (Merseyside) 209/209 inc. 14 Wren, 11 Mistle Thrush; **D Holman & M Goodman** (Northants) 108/126 inc. 38 Sparrowhawk, 4 Long-eared Owl; **P Holmes** (Dyfed) 139/140 inc. 94 Pied Flycatcher, 33 Blue Tit; **P Holness** (Suffolk) 264/378 inc. 25 Stock Dove, 206 Swallow; **J C & C A Holt** (Sussex) 222/222 inc. 13 Great Crested Grebe, 10 Herring Gull; **M Jones & J Hawkins** (Shrops) 61/125 inc. 6 Gannet, 14 Pied Flycatcher; **R Jones & S J Hughes** (Powys) 143/143 inc. 84 Pied Flycatcher, 35 Blue Tit; **J M S Lewis & S J Roberts** (Gwent) 247 inc. 27 Grey Wagtail, 40 Dipper; **J V Lloyd** (Dyfed) 137/145 inc. 45 Pied Flycatcher, 7 Carrion Crow; **R J Louch & D Tompson** (Oxon) 179/185 inc. 24 Dunnock, 18 Whitethroat, 16 Garden Warbler; **D Luckhurst** (Durham) 151/158 inc. 57 Lapwing, 10 Spotted Flycatcher; **C F Mapletoft** (for **Birklands**

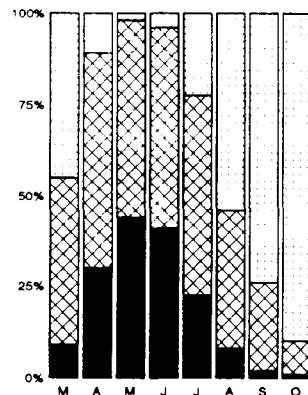
Ringling Group, Notts 1,115/1,226 inc. 23 Great Black-backed Gull, 181 Blackbird, 71 Linnet; **F J Mawby (Cumbria)** 72/100 inc. 22 Lapwing, 13 Pied Flycatcher; **P Maynard & J Baldwin (Hants)** 185/192 inc. 26 Woodlark, 24 Tree Pipit, 30 Stonechat; **M O Meadows (Essex)** 597/625 inc. 49 Moorhen, 102 Magpie, 67 Carrion Crow; **Merseyside Ringing Group (per Dr D Norman, Cheshire)** 736/1,036 inc. 105 Grey Heron, 54 Little Tern, 18 Reed Bunting; **C Moncaster (Cornwall)** 204/209 inc. 43 Fulmar, 90 Herring Gull; **J P Moulton (Clwyd)** 147/232 inc. 71 Pied Flycatcher, 4 Chough; **D A Myers (Gtr Manchester)** 101/117 inc. 13 Moorhen, 21 Oystercatcher; **National Trust, Farne Islands (Northum)** 1,202/1,202 inc. 208 Shag, 622 Kittiwake, 100 Arctic Tern; **Northumbria Ringing Group (per M Holmes)** 277/289 inc. 14 Redstart, 64 Pied Flycatcher; **A B Old (Cumbria)** 140/140 inc. 66 Pied Flycatcher, 49 Blue Tit; **Orkney Ringing Group (per E R Meek)** 85/108 inc. 20 Red-throated Diver, 36 Hen Harrier; **P Page (Devon)** 180/180 inc. 74 Pied Flycatcher, 10 Nuthatch; **G Pearce (Devon)** 160/161 inc. 13 Barn Owl, 7 Nuthatch; **R H Peart (Dorset)** 121/126 inc. 11 Spotted Flycatcher, 52 Blue Tit; **A C Pout (Western Isles)** 154/154 inc. 54 Common Gull, 21 Arctic Tern; **I Proctor (Glos)** 323/323 inc. 7 Wood Warbler, 148 Blue Tit; **W Proctor (Warks)** 2,069/2,492 inc. 156 Mute Swan, 334 Kittiwake, 623 Rook; **A D K Ramsay (Highland)** 615/749 inc. 77 Common Gull, 83 Common Tern, 216 Swallow; **J Richardson (Durham)** 121/703 inc. 105 Blackbird, 79 Song Thrush, 8 Bullfinch; **P H Ridout (Hants)** 120/121 inc. 6 Long-tailed Tit, 7 Corn Bunting; **H Robb (Central)** 132/136 inc. 37 Redstart, 53 Pied Flycatcher; **J A L Roberts (Clwyd)** 200/205 inc. 19 Meadow Pipit, 38 Pied Flycatcher; **P J Robinson (Isles of Scilly)** 250/514 inc. 23 Cormorant, 127 Shag, 118 Great Black-backed Gull; **P & V Roe & T Kuechel (W Yorks)** 192/223 inc. 10 Sand Martin, 14 Mistle Thrush; **M Roome (Derby)** 99/125 inc. 12 Hobby, 19 Little Ringed Plover; **M D Russell (Beds)** 111/120 inc. 30 Moorhen, 24 Coot; **Rye Meads Ringing Group (per A D D Wilson, Herts)** 143/147 inc. 34 Common Tern, 17 Reed Warbler; **Dr N J Skinner (Suffolk)** 81/109 inc. 11 Ringed Plover, 11 House Martin; **F M Slater (Powys)** 199/200 inc. 154 Pied Flycatcher, 25 Blue Tit; **Sorby Breck Ringing Group (S Yorks)** 264/278 inc. 154 Swallow, 53 Blue Tit; **South Lakeland RSPB Group (Cumbria)** 105/106 inc. 53 Pied Flycatcher, 34 Blue Tit; **I M Spence & I W Lloyd (Clwyd)** 293/293 inc. 14 Tawny Owl, 113 Pied Flycatcher; **B Standley (Cheshire)** 93/150 inc. 5 Little Grebe, 9 Linnet; **R J Stevens (Notts)** 395/527 inc. 9 Little Grebe, 107 Coot, 125 House Martin; **A Stratford (Gwynedd)** 106/106 inc. 55 Pied Flycatcher, 3 Chough; **Tain Royal Academy Bird Club (per R & R L Swann, Highland)** 275/297 inc. 44 Eider, 24 Buzzard; **P M Troake (Lincs)** 131/132 inc. 75 Ringed Plover, 52 Little Tern; **G Vaughan (Devon)** 162/163 inc. 53 Pied Flycatcher, 14 Nuthatch; **R Walton (for Northumberland Ringing Group)** 101/101 inc. 19 Spotted Flycatcher, 15 Great Tit; **D Warden (Avon)** 103/124 inc. 9 Wren, 14 Reed

Warbler; **E H Webb (Suffolk)** 117/121 inc. 15 House Martin, 6 Spotted Flycatcher.

COVERING THE COMPLETE SEASON

The marvellous trio of spring months April, May and June justifiably provide the heart of each nesting season and not surprisingly these months again in 1992 saw the most intense monthly nest finding effort expended by recorders. Again it was very pleasing though to see how, as in 1991, so many observers made a concerted attempt to complete cards for nests found during the important later breeding season months of July, August and later - especially since cooler and damper weather made fieldwork less comfortable. During these months when leaf cover is at its greatest, song output falls and territorial behaviour invariably diminishes and nests become more difficult to find, it is tempting to radically scale down field excursions. However, it is vital that the BTO receives a representative collection of cards each year that span the full season so please try to maintain your recording and see the season through to its completion.

In 1992 the BTO received reports from September onwards not only for 'expected' species with late broods such as Woodpigeon, Swallow, House Martin and House Sparrow but also for Greenfinch (October), Stock Dove (November) and Barn Owl (December). The message clearly is 'eyes open at anytime'.



■ Most days ▨ Few days □ No days

TOTALS FOR NEST RECORD SCHEME FROM PRE-1991 TO 1992

SPECIES	Pre-91	1991	1992	TOTAL
Red-throated Diver	1,683	69	62	1,814
Black-throated Diver	162	3	8	173
Little Grebe	1,577	44	49	1,670
Great Crested Grebe	2,167	151	221	2,539
Red-necked Grebe	1	-	-	1
Slavonian Grebe	154	2	1	157
Black-necked Grebe	12	-	-	12
Fulmar	2,756	294	324	3,374
Manx Shearwater	96	2	-	98
Storm Petrel	34	3	-	37
Leach's Petrel	2	-	-	2
Gannet	22	-	6	28
Cormorant	1,195	27	47	1,269
Shag	3,131	294	526	3,951
Bittern	17	1	-	18
Little Bittern	1	-	-	1
Grey Heron	3,042	264	321	3,627
Mute Swan	3,482	294	285	4,061
Whooper Swan	2	2	1	5
Greylag Goose	459	31	8	498
Canada Goose	1,648	176	148	1,972
Egyptian Goose	11	2	2	15
Shelduck	220	9	11	240
Mandarin	195	10	13	218
Wigeon	134	7	6	147
Gadwall	57	5	6	68
Teal	191	8	4	203
Mallard	6,550	281	236	7,067
Pintail	18	-	2	20
Garganey	9	-	-	9
Shoveler	120	3	2	125
Pochard	108	-	2	110
Tufted Duck	856	62	59	977
Scaup	1	-	-	1
Eider	1,948	197	149	2,294
Common Scoter	39	-	-	39
Goldeneye	32	5	39	76
Red-breasted Merganser	223	4	2	229
Goosander	186	6	5	197
Ruddy Duck	45	11	10	66
Honey Buzzard	11	2	3	16
Red Kite	15	-	-	15
Marsh Harrier	13	2	5	20
* Hen Harrier	1,023	77	82	1,182
Montagu's Harrier	46	-	1	47
Goshawk	187	38	37	262
Sparrowhawk	3,636	241	248	4,125
* Buzzard	3,201	162	133	3,496
Golden Eagle	385	8	15	408
Osprey	32	2	1	35
Kestrel	4,997	211	234	5,442
* Merlin	1,652	149	172	1,973
Hobby	405	15	33	453
* Peregrine	1,557	147	77	1,781
Red Grouse	614	16	6	636
Ptarmigan	117	2	3	122
Black Grouse	51	1	4	56

SPECIES	Pre-91	1991	1992	TOTAL
Capercaillie	62	4	2	68
Red-legged Partridge	405	6	6	417
Grey Partridge	757	11	12	780
Quail	10	-	2	12
Pheasant	1,803	40	25	1,868
Lady Amherst's Pheasant	1	-	-	1
Water Rail	72	3	1	76
Corncrake	27	-	-	27
Moorhen	17,187	452	406	18,045
Coot	10,021	607	491	11,119
Oystercatcher	9,512	414	482	10,408
Black-winged Stilt	1	-	-	1
Avocet	449	7	2	458
Stone-curlew	427	6	-	433
Little Ringed Plover	1,308	57	65	1,430
Ringed Plover	6,127	326	249	6,702
Kentish Plover	19	-	-	19
Dotterel	142	3	1	146
Golden Plover	770	9	12	791
Lapwing	16,629	497	560	17,686
Temminck's Stint	1	-	-	1
Purple Sandpiper	3	-	-	3
Dunlin	525	2	-	527
Ruff	1	-	-	1
Snipe	1,333	10	14	1,357
Woodcock	539	11	5	555
Black-tailed Godwit	13	-	-	13
Whimbrel	53	2	2	57
* Curlew	2,288	106	21	2,415
Redshank	1,901	26	15	1,942
Greenshank	145	1	4	150
Wood Sandpiper	2	-	-	2
Common Sandpiper	1,156	25	28	1,209
Red-necked Phalarope	33	1	18	52
Arctic Skua	266	2	3	271
Great Skua	275	-	4	279
Little Gull	3	-	-	3
Black-headed Gull	5,443	986	324	6,753
Mediterranean Gull	2	1	-	3
Common Gull	2,422	242	334	2,998
Lesser Black-backed Gull	920	63	36	1,019
Herring Gull	3,838	205	386	4,429
Great Black-backed Gull	1,116	190	216	1,522
Kittiwake	2,902	637	1,232	4,771
Lesser Crested Tern	2	-	1	3
Sandwich Tern	576	415	11	1,002
Roseate Tern	245	377	4	626
Common Tern	3,606	138	195	3,939
Arctic Tern	3,214	141	323	3,678
Little Tern	3,686	262	271	4,219
Guillemot	1,021	71	3	1,095
Razorbill	593	64	53	710
Black Guillemot	949	39	25	1,013
Puffin	165	33	6	204
Rock Dove	215	46	4	265
Feral Pigeon	1,063	158	141	1,362
Stock Dove	4,876	205	231	5,312
Woodpigeon	18,536	753	816	20,105
Collared Dove	2,597	180	219	2,996
Turtle Dove	1,731	16	18	1,765

SPECIES	Pre-91	1991	1992	TOTAL
Ring-necked Parakeet	2	-	2	4
Cuckoo	1,621	19	31	1,671
Barn Owl	1,933	240	210	2,383
Snowy Owl	1	1	-	2
Little Owl	1,284	40	48	1,372
Tawny Owl	5,015	353	356	5,724
Long-eared Owl	515	26	32	573
Short-eared Owl	288	12	15	315
* Nightjar	990	75	79	1,144
Swift	956	28	58	1,042
Kingfisher	492	22	13	527
Hoopoe	1	-	-	1
Wryneck	17	-	-	17
Green Woodpecker	267	2	7	276
Great Spotted Woodpecker	793	45	35	873
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	140	6	3	149
Woodlark	488	15	85	588
* Skylark	6,085	78	82	6,245
Sand Martin	925	26	22	973
Swallow	36,384	1,565	2,048	39,997
House Martin	5,080	575	644	6,299
Tree Pipit	1,354	50	44	1,448
* Meadow Pipit	7,770	149	182	8,101
Rock Pipit	599	17	19	635
Yellow Wagtail	875	12	11	898
* Grey Wagtail	4,426	156	154	4,736
Pied Wagtail	7,193	240	256	7,689
Dipper	7,056	307	320	7,683
Wren	12,048	253	262	12,563
Dunnock	27,040	231	338	27,609
Robin	16,475	366	361	17,202
Nightingale	405	6	5	416
Bluethroat	1	-	-	1
Black Redstart	131	-	-	131
Redstart	4,614	140	183	4,937
Whinchat	1,721	19	20	1,760
Stonechat	1,996	42	113	2,151
* Wheatear	2,864	90	93	3,047
Ring Ousel	1,260	20	24	1,304
Blackbird	112,968	1,924	1,645	116,537
Fieldfare	6	-	-	6
Song Thrush	66,485	770	663	67,918
Redwing	98	4	7	109
Mistle Thrush	6,374	209	180	6,763
Cetti's Warbler	18	-	-	18
Grasshopper Warbler	313	8	5	326
Savi's Warbler	2	-	-	2
* Sedge Warbler	3,857	96	59	4,012
Marsh Warbler	111	4	1	116
Reed Warbler	9,081	199	198	9,478
Dartford Warbler	391	9	8	408
Lesser Whitethroat	720	20	9	749
* Whitethroat	4,966	67	74	5,107
Garden Warbler	1,422	47	48	1,517
* Blackcap	2,536	68	72	2,676
Wood Warbler	1,790	43	41	1,874
* Chiffchaff	1,982	69	52	2,103
Willow Warbler	10,659	185	126	10,970
Goldcrest	691	6	11	708
Firecrest	10	-	-	10

SPECIES	Pre-91	1991	1992	TOTAL
Spotted Flycatcher	8,825	206	238	9,269
Pied Flycatcher	22,081	1,787	1,576	25,444
Bearded Tit	53	1	-	54
Long-tailed Tit	3,694	150	140	3,984
Marsh Tit	1,064	32	28	1,124
Willow Tit	383	8	6	397
Crested Tit	246	15	20	281
Coal Tit	4,026	149	124	4,299
Blue Tit	51,504	3,536	3,004	58,044
Great Tit	31,847	1,965	1,898	35,710
Nuthatch	1,884	157	160	2,201
Treecreeper	1,879	75	53	2,007
Short-toed Treecreeper	1	-	-	1
Golden Oriole	18	10	5	33
Red-backed Shrike	251	-	1	252
Jay	1,261	28	26	1,315
Maggie	5,106	349	376	5,831
Chough	432	18	22	472
Jackdaw	4,468	266	247	4,981
Rook	6,417	980	833	8,230
Carrion Crow	4,899	299	323	5,521
Hooded Crow	986	18	19	1,023
* Raven	2,427	45	38	2,510
Starling	11,836	343	318	12,497
House Sparrow	10,414	254	171	10,839
Tree Sparrow	13,403	267	226	13,896
Chaffinch	17,739	439	406	18,584
Brambling	2	-	-	2
Serin	2	-	-	2
Greenfinch	12,166	211	193	12,570
Goldfinch	2,592	59	65	2,716
Siskin	58	1	3	62
Linnet	23,295	348	331	23,974
Twite	814	8	4	826
Redpoll	1,251	14	6	1,271
Common Crossbill	114	4	2	120
Parrot Crossbill	4	-	-	4
Scarlet Rosefinch	1	-	-	1
* Bullfinch	4,870	39	45	4,954
Hawfinch	137	3	11	151
Snow Bunting	11	-	-	11
* Yellowhammer	5,888	121	95	6,104
Cirl Bunting	80	76	42	198
* Reed Bunting	7,017	85	98	7,200
* Corn Bunting	504	37	16	557
	Pre-91	1991	1992	GRAND TOTAL
	836,047	32,547	31,411	900,005

NB A few records for some wildfowl species may relate to feral birds (eg Whooper Swan, Greylag Goose and Mallard).

82 species are currently used within the BTO's Integrated Population Monitoring Programme. For a full list of species see *BTO News* 185: 18.

* Species for which we would particularly like more cards.

The totals for pre-1991 and 1991 have changed since those printed in *Nest Record News* No. 8 due to the addition of cards received at the BTO after March 1992.

NEST RECORD RESULTS

Long-term trends

As part of the annual monitoring undertaken using the BTO's collection of nest record cards, we were able to analyse nearly a quarter of a million cards to look at long term trends in the breeding performance of 82 species of British birds. These results were included in the 4th Annual Breeding Report referred to on the front page of this newsletter. The results presented were extremely interesting and have been used to alert the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (who provide us with a substantial contract to undertake this work) of the problems facing some of our birds. We were tremendously excited when analysing the trends of laying date over the past thirty years to see that 33 of the 82 species show significant trends towards earlier distribution of laying dates in recent years. Although 23 of these species have trends that are better described by a "hump-backed" curve than a straight line (with a peak at around 1976), such a widespread pattern of trends is extremely interesting. Our immediate thoughts turn to the possibility that we have picked up evidence for a global warming effect and we hope to look at this pattern in more detail in the near future.

It was quite surprising to find 21 significant trends of change in clutch size over the past thirty years (17 increasing and 4 decreasing) because clutch size is thought to be pretty constant for most species. These trends cannot be explained by changes in average laying dates but a substantial number could possibly be a result of population changes. If the population has increased, then overcrowding may reduce resources available to each individual (for example, if territory size is squeezed), thereby decreasing average clutch size. The converse may happen if the population has decreased.

Looking at nesting success, it seems that the majority of species have shown some improvement over the years, especially for waterbirds and resident insectivores. It is possible this is a general result of the decline in organochlorine pesticides (such as DDT and

Dieldrin) used in the countryside. However, nine species have been suffering a progressive increase in nest failure rates: Nightjar, Swallow, Dipper, Nightingale, Goldcrest, Raven, Linnet, Twite and Reed Bunting. The Nest Records Unit has alerted the JNCC to the declines in nesting success of Raven, Linnet and Reed Bunting as being of importance considering their population declines.

These results show the importance of the efforts of the many nest recorders who have selflessly written down their observations on BTO cards. Their records are so much more useful than those that remain hidden in notebooks. The importance and value of these records will continue to grow over the years.

OWL STUDIES

The ecology and conservation of European owls was the subject of a conference held in 1989, organised jointly by BTO, JNCC and the University of Edinburgh. The proceedings of this conference have recently been published by the JNCC and it includes an important paper by Steve Percival on the population dynamics of owls in Britain. This paper is very much a summary of the BTO Owls Project that ran from 1987 to 1990. The aims of the project included an examination of trends in owl breeding performance, survival and dispersal and to look at changes in the birds' population pattern in relation to weather, land use, food supply and pesticide use.

The Nest Record Scheme made a major contribution to this project and showed that the number of chicks fledged by Barn Owls dipped in the 1970s in a manner consistent with a detrimental affect of organochlorine pesticides. Tawny Owls did not seem to be so affected but did show a depression in breeding productivity during 1977-82. Barn Owl breeding success was found to differ significantly between regions with birds being most successful in south-east England and in south-west Scotland. Tawny Owls showed no such geographical variation.

As part of the project, Steve designed a more detailed recording sheet so that measurements of eggs and young could be recorded easily by observers. The paper provides interesting graphs to show how egg density (estimated from measurements of egg weight, breadth and length) declines through the incubation period in systematic but slightly different ways between the two species of owls. Such measurements can provide pretty accurate estimates of the age of the eggs. Similarly, he provides growth curves for nestlings that can be used to age them accurately.

When he combined data from the Nest Record and Ringing schemes to look at mortality factors through the life cycle of Barn and Tawny Owls, he showed that post-fledging juvenile mortality is the most important factor for Barn Owls. However, for Tawny Owls late chick losses and adult mortality were also important.

NEW PROJECTS

The new projects using nest record cards that have been initiated since the last *Nest Record News* are:

- a. Steve Carter - Grey Heron;
- b. Marie-Jane Deeley - Pied Wagtails in Warwickshire;
- c. Tony Fox - Pintail;
- d. Paul Hobson - Little Ringed Plover habitats;
- e. David Kilbey - Yellow Wagtail;
- f. Mick Lees - Long-eared Owl in Cheshire;
- g. John Muddeman - Willow and Marsh Tit;
- h. Geoff Pearce - some data for Barn Owl in Devon;
- i. Chris Perrins - Nightjar laying dates;
- j. Marcos Rodrigues - Chiffchaff, Wood and Willow Warblers;
- k. Rob Williams - Long-eared Owl.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Nest records data have featured in a number of recent publications in addition to those above: Rob Fuller and Humphrey Crick's

study in *Ibis* of habitat use by resident and migrant passerines; Humphrey Crick, David Gibbons and Robert Magrath's paper in the *Journal of Animal Ecology* on seasonal changes in clutch size for single- and multi-brooded species; Stephen Baillie and Will Peach's population studies of warblers, in *Ibis*; Mike Shrubbs's paper on Kestrel nest sites; Tony Fox and Eric Meek's study of the Pintail in *British Birds*; and in the preparation of the substantial *Birds of Oxfordshire* edited by Brucker, Gosler & Heryet.

HAVE A GO YOURSELF

Currently there are 49 studies that are using nest record cards, 22 of which are by amateur birdwatchers. Analysing nest record cards is interesting, challenging and rewarding but cannot be undertaken lightly. It takes a good deal of time to pore through the cards, and for species with a reasonable number of records you really require a computer. The rewards are that you really get to know a particular species very well and you can find out facts that are new to science. If you would like to try an investigation on a particular species, contact Humphrey Crick and he will be pleased to give advice on planning, analysis and writing up your studies.

COMMON CODING MISTAKES AND PROBLEMS

Please help us by reading through the following list of common problems found by observers when completing nest record cards.

Inactive Nests

Please do not send in cards for nests that failed before the egg laying stage or had already failed when found. We only need records of nest that were 'actively' used, ie contained eggs or nestlings, on at least one visit.

Observer Codes

Please write your observer code on the cards, as it is your code and not your name that is computerised. If you use your observer code

and wish to save time, there is no need to write your name as well. However, if you are new to the Scheme, write your name for the first season and we will issue you with a code when you send in your first batch of cards.

Grid References

Use the National Grid reference as given on Ordnance Survey maps. For counties in England, Scotland and Wales, please use the two letters denoting your 100km grid square at the beginning of the sequence of numbers, eg SH432621. For counties in Ireland, use the relevant letter followed by a dash, eg D-213123. Four and two-figure grid references should be written with dashes in the boxes where numbers are missing eg SH43-62- for a four-figure grid reference or SH4--6-- for a two-figure grid reference.

If giving a six-figure grid reference, please give the reference for the actual nest site and not for the locality or place name.

Recording Approximate Counts of Eggs and Young

If a simple count is not possible, use the following examples to guide you and write a comment if any clarification is necessary:

- ? if the contents cannot be counted with certainty or if the adult is sitting and you cannot see the contents
- 6+ if there are six or more eggs or young
- (6) if there are about 6 eggs or young

Recording Numbers of Addled/Broken Eggs and/or Dead Young

Record number of healthy eggs/live young first, then after a comma, the number of infertile/broken eggs/dead young eg:

- 0,1 in the egg column if there are no fertile eggs in the nest but one infertile one

- 3,1 in the young column if there are three live young and one dead one

When to use Outcome Success Codes

Outcome success codes eg 'AC = Adult carrying food near nest' and 'VA = Adult visibly agitated or alarms near nest' should only be used when some or all of the young have successfully left the nest. If no young have yet left the nest, use one of the adult activity codes, eg 'AV = Adult in vicinity of nest'.

Predation of the Nest

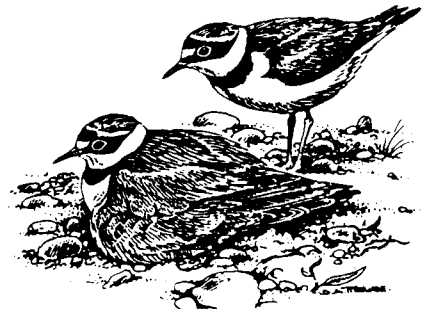
Please only use the status codes 'EP', 'JP' and 'XP' if there is positive evidence for the nest being predated, eg the predator was seen removing eggs or young, or the nest and contents are damaged in a way typical of a certain predator. If you think that the nest was probably predated, but you are not certain, use the codes 'EB' or 'JB', 'ED' or 'JD', 'EE', 'JE' or 'XE', or 'EO', 'JO' or 'XO' depending on the circumstances.

Nest Height

If the nest is that of a ground nesting species, please always write a zero for the nest height rather than leave a blank space.

Extra Comments on Habitat and Nest Site

In the extra comments box on the reverse side of the card, please put details of plant species and specific detail about the nest site next to the relevant heading. Anything written next to 'H1' should apply to the First Habitat, next to 'H2' the Second Habitat, and next to '*' to the Nest Site.



Little Ringed Plovers by D A Thelwell

COUNTY CODES

We are now sending some batches of nest record cards for our non-Schedule 1 monitoring species to a data processing company. In order for them to input the county for each card, we must give them the EURING county codes given below. It would help our job enormously if you could use these codes in the County/Region box on the front of the card rather than the full county name.

UNITED KINGDOM AND EIRE

GREAT BRITAIN

Anglesey	GBAN
Avon	GBAV
Bedfordshire	GBBD
Berkshire	GBBK
Borders Region	GBBR
Buckinghamshire	GBBC
Cambridgeshire	GBCA
Central Region	GBCR
Cheshire	GBCH
Cleveland	GBCV
Clwyd	GBCW
Cornwall	GBCO
Cumbria	GBCU
Derbyshire	GBDB
Devon	GBDV
Dorset	GBDO
Dumfries & Galloway Region	GBDR
Durham	GBDU
Dyfed	GBDY
Essex	GBES
Fair Isle	GBFI
Fife Region	GBFR
Glamorgan (W, Mid & S)	GBGM
Gloucestershire	GBGL
Grampian Region	GBGR
Gwent	GBGT
Gwynedd	GBGD
Hampshire (excl. IoW)	GBHA
Hereford & Worcs	GBHF
Hertfordshire	GBHT
Highland Region	GBHR
Humberside	GBHU
Isle of Man	GBIM
Isle of Wight	GBIW
Kent	GBKE
Lancashire	GBLA

Leicestershire	GBLE
Lincolnshire	GBLI
London (Greater)	GBLO
Lothian Region	GBLR
Manchester (Greater)	GBMA
Merseyside	GBME
Norfolk	GBNK
Northamptonshire	GBNH
Northumberland	GBNL
North Yorkshire	GBNY
Nottinghamshire	GBNT
Orkney	GBOR
Oxfordshire	GBOX
Powys	GBPO
Shropshire	GBSA
Scilly Isles	GBSI
Shetland	GBSH
South Yorkshire	GBSY
Staffordshire	GBST
Strathclyde Region	GBSC
Somerset	GBSO
Suffolk	GBSK
Surrey	GBSR
Sussex (West & East)	GBSX
Tayside Region	GBTR
Tyne & Wear	GBTY
Warwickshire	GBWK
Western Isles	GBWI
West Midlands	GBWM
West Yorkshire	GBWY
Wiltshire	GBWT

NORTHERN IRELAND

Antrim	GBUN
Armagh	GBUR
Down	GBUD
Fermanagh	GBUF
Londonderry	GBUL
Tyrone	GBUT

EIRE

Carlow	ERCW
Cavan	ERCV
Clare	ERCL
Cork	ERCK
Donegal	ERDO
Dublin	ERDU
Galway	ERGA
Kerry	ERKE
Kildare	ERKD
Kilkenny	ERKK
Leitrim	ERLM
Leix	ERLX
Limerick	ERLK
Longford	ERLG
Louth	ERLU
Mayo	ERMA
Meath	ERME
Monaghan	ERMO
Offaly	EROF
Roscommon	ERRO
Sligo	ERSL
Tipperary	ERTP
Waterford	ERWA
Westmeath	ERWM
Wexford	ERWX
Wicklow	ERWI

CHANNEL ISLANDS

Alderney	CIAL
Guernsey	CIGU
Herm	CIHE
Jersey	CIJE
Sark	CISA

NEW BLUE CODING CARD

The Nest Record Scheme coding card has recently been reprinted and revised. The new version is essentially the same as the previous yellow card, however, new status codes which have been brought in by popular demand are:

'AY = Audible young in nest';

and under 'ADULT ACTIVITY' an additional second letter:

'B = Building nest or carrying nest material'.

A few codes have also been redescribed to clarify their usage:

'LB = Young left nest naturally before fledging' should not be used to indicate a successful outcome for a nest for nidicolous species (species with young that hatch blind and naked) but can be used for circumstances such as the early dispersal of Short-eared Owlets from the nest before fledging. Thus it has been changed from an OUTCOME: 'SUCCESS' code to a 'YOUNG' code and now reads: 'LB = Young left nest naturally before fledging: still nearby'. For the young of nidifugous species (eg ducklings and wader chicks), 'LB' should be used to indicate that young have left the nest but are not yet able to fly.

'NN = Young near nest' now reads: 'NN = Fledged young near nest'. Many recorders have, understandably, been using 'NN' to indicate that young of nidifugous species (eg duckling and wader chicks) have left the nest, regardless of whether they can fly or not. However, for such species 'NN' should only be used when the young are able to fly, ie they have fledged.

'YC = Young capable of leaving nest when last seen' now reads: 'YC = Young capable of leaving nest on the previous visit'. 'YC' is a success code and therefore, can only be used when some or all of the young have fledged the nest. If young look ready to leave the nest

but none have yet done so, then use the code RF = Ready to fledge'.

DR BRUCE CAMPBELL (1912-93)

It was with great sadness in January 1993 that the BTO learnt of the death of Dr Bruce Campbell in Witney, Oxfordshire, at which point the Trust's Nest Record Scheme lost one of its longest standing, most eminent and respected of contributors. Born in Southsea, Hampshire, and educated at Winchester, it was along the south coast counties and on treasured annual holiday trips to Argyll with his father, that he learnt and expanded his nest-finding skills and meticulous recording techniques. Whether recording for his pioneering Pied Flycatcher nestbox scheme and later survey in the Forest of Dean, employing his uncanny knack of finding warbler nests at will in Oxfordshire, or stalking Dotterel in Scotland, Bruce was always master of the art of nest finding. Between 1954 and 1987 he contributed high quality batches of nest records each year totalling over 8,400 plus many colony sheet records. He actively birdwatched in all the counties in Britain and Ireland and found nests in most of them. In 1948, Bruce was appointed first full-time secretary of the BTO and there followed a decade of development by the Trust that included finally in 1960 the appointment of the first full-time Nest Record Officer, Henry Mayer-Gross. Like all nest recorders, part of Bruce's legacy will live on in the historical files safely housed in the national nest record collection. Bruce was also able to pass on the knowledge of his nest-finding skills in the form of three excellent publications - *Finding Nests* (1953), a field guide to *Birds' Nests* (written together with James Ferguson-Lees, 1971), and an autobiographical *Birdwatcher at Large* (1979), highly recommended reading for all nest recorders.

NEW NESTBOXES GUIDE

The BTO guide *Nestboxes* by Chris du Feu has recently been rewritten and boasts a brand new eye-catching cover by Robert Gillmor. It

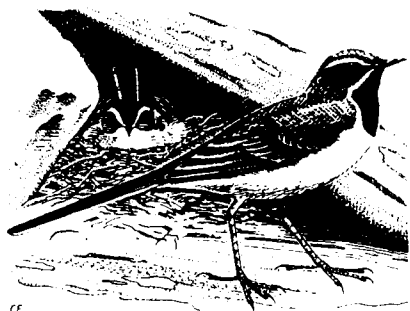
includes many new types of artificial sites covering a wide range of nesting structures from boxes, tunnels, rafts and islands to improvement of natural sites for birds to nest in. The guide, which is thoroughly recommended, is now available, price £4.95 plus p&p from the Sales Department at BTO headquarters.

HELP WITH CUCKOOS

For several years a team at the Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge, has been studying interactions between Cuckoos and their hosts. Of particular interest is the possibility of genetic differences between the Cuckoos parasitising different hosts.

To address the possibility, a small drop of blood is taken harmlessly from a baby Cuckoo (under licence). The DNA of the blood is then analysed. Preliminary results are looking very promising. The sequence of the DNA building blocks appears to be different in Meadow Pipit and Reed Warbler Cuckoos. But more samples are needed.

Nest recorders have helped greatly over past years, and it would be marvellous if this help could continue in 1993. Sample sizes for Reed Warbler Cuckoos are now adequate. But if you find the nestling of a Cuckoo in the nest of any other host **anywhere in Great Britain**, please telephone Michael Brooke on 0223 811059, reversing the charges.



Grey Wagtail by Crispin Fisher

NEW COLONY CARD

An updated version of the Colony Sheet has been devised and has been sent to major contributors of colony nest records for their comments. From replies received so far, a few alterations will need to be made, but the card will be available for general use next season. If you would like to see a copy of the new colony card before we finalise the design, please contact us.

SENDING IN YOUR CARDS

Please send all completed cards in one batch as soon as your fieldwork finishes - by 1st February at the very latest.

THE NEST RECORDS UNIT

Humphrey Crick (Head of Nest Records Unit) is employed under the JNCC contract to develop the use of Nest Record data as part of the Integrated Population Monitoring Programme. This is a programme of work aimed at combining the results of nest recording, ringing and censuses to build up an overall picture of how well each species is fairing in Britain. He is currently undertaking an analysis of the bunting data held by the BTO and has responsibility for raptor monitoring within the BTO.

Caroline Dudley (Assistant Nest Records Officer) has special responsibility for maintaining the collection of cards and for overseeing their computerisation. She also helps with data analysis and answering data requests. She has recently been assisting with the analysis of bunting nest record cards.

David Glue (Nest Records Research Officer) keeps an eye on how each season progresses and summarises the nesting year. He is undertaking a programme of analysis of the basic breeding biology of species of conservation interest. He has recently submitted a paper on comparative nesting biology of Woodpeckers. He also maintains the Raptor Research Register and co-ordinates the BTO's garden bird work.

BIRD SPECIES PROTECTED UNDER THE WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

The species listed below are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended by the Environmental Protection Act 1990. If you wish to consider visiting the nests of any of these species, write to J K Baker, the Licensing Officer, at the BTO for a licence application form. No nest may be visited without prior approval.

The majority of licenses issued during the breeding season for Special List Schedule 1 species are renewals for the same workers who held the appropriate approval during the previous season. Newcomers to the Nest Record Scheme, or recorders who have never held such a licence before, can apply for the relevant approval through the Trust. However, it is necessary to provide two references from 'respected' ornithologists eg County Recorder, BTO Regional Representative, Chairman of Bird Club, etc, or a letter of support from a study group - relevant to the species application being sought. Please apply to J K Baker at the BTO, Thetford.

GENERAL LIST OF SCHEDULE 1 SPECIES

Crossbill	Owl, Barn (England & Wales)	Quail
Kingfisher	Plover, Little Ringed	Redstart, Black

SPECIAL LIST OF SCHEDULE 1 SPECIES

Avocet	Godwit, Black-tailed	Sandpiper, Green
Bee-eater	Goose, Greylag	Sandpiper, Purple
Bittern	Goshawk	Sandpiper, Wood
Bittern, Little	Grebe, Black-necked	Scaup
Bluethroat	Grebe, Slavonian	Scoter, Common
Brambling	Greenshank	Scoter, Velvet
Bunting, Cirl	Gull, Little	Serin
Bunting, Lapland	Gull, Mediterranean	Shorelark
Bunting, Snow	Harrier (all species)	Shrike, Red-Backed
Buzzard, Honey	Heron, Purple	Spoonbill
Chough	Hobby	Stilt, Black-winged
Corncrake	Hoopoe	Stint, Temminck's
Crake, Spotted	Kite, Red	Swan, Bewick
Curlew, Stone	Merlin	Swan, Whooper
Diver, Black-throated	Oriole, Golden	Tern, Black
Diver, Great Northern	Osprey	Tern, Little
Diver, Red-throated	Owl, Barn (Scotland)	Tern, Roseate
Dotterel	Owl, Snowy	Tit, Bearded
Duck, Long-tailed	Peregrine	Tit, Crested
Eagle, Golden	Petrel, Leach's	Treecreeper, Short-toed
Eagle, White-tailed	Phalarope, Red-Necked	Warbler, Cetti's
Falcon, Gyr	Pintail	Warbler, Dartford
Fieldfare	Plover, Kentish	Warbler, Marsh
Firecrest	Redwing	Warbler, Savi's
Garganey	Rosefinch, Scarlet	Whimbrel
Goldeneye	Ruff	Woodlark
		Wryneck

NB *A rarer breeding species than these may be added to the Special List without warning, so if you find one, contact the BTO's Licensing Officer for clearance.*

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