CORE COUNT FORM

Site name can be provided here if useful for your filing purposes

This form is for recording Core Counts for the Wetland Bird Survey. All waterbird species should be recorded, though counting gulls and terns is optional. Core Counts should be made during the daytime, ideally on the morning of the priority count date or, at coastal sites, as close as possible to high tide. Wherever possible, counts should be co-ordinated with adjacent count units to avoid the possibility of double-counting. Up to seven visits can be recorded on this form. If you visit more than one count unit, please complete a separate form for each. Separate counts of birds at dawn or dusk (e.g. of roosting geese or Cormorants) should be submitted on the Non-breeding Waterbird Supplementary Count Form.

- **COUNTER CODE:** Please enter your counter code in the box provided. If you do not know your code, or if your address has changed, please provide your full name and address. Space is provided on the back page of the form for details of anyone else who assisted with the counts.
- **SITE DETAILS:** Please enter the name of the count unit and the central grid reference of the area covered in the boxes provided. If the area you count is part of a larger site (e.g. if you count one sector of a large estuary) please enter the name of the site also. Use recognised names and adhere to existing count boundaries whilst counting. Clarification will be available from your Local Organiser or the WeBS National Organiser.
- 3 DATE AND TIME: Please enter the date of the count and approximate start and finish times using the 24 hour clock (e.g. 0900, 1300). Only counts of birds between these times should be included on the form.
- 4 WATERBIRD COUNTS: Please count all waterbirds (i.e. grebes, divers, herons, wildfowl, rails and waders, including non-native birds and free-flying exotics, hybrids and escapes) and Kingfisher present within your count area during the visit. Recording of gulls and terns is optional. Please enter the number of each species counted in the appropriate box (do not separate counts of male and female birds). Blank lines are provided to record additional species not listed on the form.
 - Use brackets to enclose gross UNDERestimates, e.g. [100].
 - Write "NC" (No Count) in the appropriate box if a species was present which you were unable to count.
 - Birds flying overhead should be excluded unless obviously using your count area.
 - Please tick the box at the top of the section if you looked for those species but none were present. This will allow us to distinguish Nil Returns (no birds present) from No Counts (birds present but not counted), particularly in the case of gulls and terns since recording these groups is optional.
 - In summer, only include fledged, independent young (i.e. capable of flight and at least ¾ adult size) in your counts.
 - For Bean Geese, please identify the race (Taiga or Tundra) seen. Circle counts of Bean, Brent or White-fronted Geese if you could not identify the race involved, e.g. (20)
- 5 **COUNT CONDITIONS:** Please give an approximate value for the percentage of the water area within your count area covered by ice. If the site is tidal or close to tidal waters, please circle the appropriate number(s) using the key provided to indicate the state of the tide during the counts.
- **COVERAGE:** Recording of coverage is essential if we are to interpret your counts properly. Please circle whether you feel the counts provide a reasonably accurate reflection of the bird numbers in the count area at the time of your visit (OK) or if other factors prevented you from recording a significant number of the birds present (LOW). If your count was LOW, please tick the appropriate box(es) to indicate the factors which affected your count.
- **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Please provide any additional information you feel is relevant. Information leaflets, reports or articles about the site would also be welcome.

If you have internet access you can submit your counts using WeBS Online. By using WeBS Online your data will be easier for us to process, plus you can access your past counts and see maps of your count section boundaries. For more information on how to register please contact the WeBS Office webs@bto.org. Please note - the use of WeBS Online is NOT compulsory.

Please return completed forms promptly to your WeBS Local Organiser THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP



1 COUNTER CODE:				2 COUNT UNIT:									
If you have changed address or do not know your counter code, please provide your full name and address below			Cen Ref.	tral Grid			Cc	Count unit code					
				Site	(if part of larg	er site)	· · ·	· · · ·					
					If you are unsure how to complete any part of this form, full instructions for each numbered section are given on the front page.								
3 DATE (e.g. 13/10/12) / /		/		/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /]				
TIME (use 24 hour clock) Start (e.g. Finish (e.g.	F									-			
4 WATERBIRDS		ļ			Į.			<u>.</u>	1 				
Please \checkmark box if NO waterbirds were present	XX									XX			
Mute Swan	MS			_						MS			
Bewick's Swan	BS									BS			
Black Swan	AS									AS			
Whooper Swan	WS									WS			
Taiga Bean Goose	XF									XF			
Tundra Bean Goose	XR									XR			
Pink-footed Goose	PG									PG			
European White-fronted Goose	EW									EW			
Greenland White-fronted Goose	NW									NW			
Greylag Goose	GJ									GJ			
Canada Goose	CG									CG			
Barnacle Goose Dark-bellied Brent Goose	BY DB									BY DB			
Light-bellied Brent Goose	PB									PB			
Egyptian Goose	EG									EG			
Shelduck	SU				-					SU			
Mandarin Duck	MN									MN			
Wigeon	WN		_							WN			
Gadwall	GA									GA			
Teal	Т.									T.			
Mallard	MA									MA			
Pintail	PT									PT			
Garganey	GY									GY			
Shoveler	SV									SV			
Red-crested Pochard	RQ									RQ			
Pochard	PO									PO			
Tufted Duck	TU									TU			
Scaup	SP									SP			
Eider	Ε.									Ε.			
Long-tailed Duck	LN									LN			
Common Scoter Velvet Scoter	CX VS									CX VS			
Goldeneye	GN									GN			
Smew	SY									SY			
Red-breasted Merganser	RM									RM			
Goosander	GD									GD			
Red-throated Diver	RH									RH			
Black-throated Diver	BV									BV			
Great Northern Diver	ND									ND			
Cormorant	CA									CA			
Shag	SA									SA			
Bittern	BI									BI			
Little Egret	ET									ET			
Great White Egret	НW									НW			
Grey Heron	Н.									Н.			
Spoonbill	NB		_							NB			
Little Grebe	LG									LG			
Great Crested Grebe	GG									GG			
Red-necked Grebe	RX									RX			
Slavonian Grebe	SZ									SZ			
Black-necked Grebe	BN									BN			

DATE		/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /	
4 WATERBIRDS (continued)									
Water Rail	WA					Т		1	WA
Moorhen	MH								MH
Coot	СО								СО
Avocet	AV								AV
Oystercatcher	OC								OC
Golden Plover	GP								GP
Grey Plover	GV								GV
Lapwing	L.								L.
Little Ringed Plover	LP								LP
Ringed Plover	RP								RP
Whimbrel	WM								WM
Curlew	CU								CU
Black-tailed Godwit	BW								BW
Bar-tailed Godwit	BA								BA
Turnstone	TT								TT
Knot	KN								KN
						_			_
Ruff	RU								RU
Curlew Sandpiper	CV								CV
Sanderling	SS								SS
Dunlin	DN								DN
Purple Sandpiper	PS								PS
Little Stint	LX								LX
Common Sandpiper	CS								CS
Green Sandpiper	GE								GE
Spotted Redshank	DR								DR
Greenshank	GK								GK
Wood Sandpiper	DD								DD
Redshank	RK								RK
Jack Snipe	JS								JS
Woodcock	WK								WΚ
Snipe	SN								SN
Kingfisher	KF								KF
GULLS: OPTIONAL SECTION									
Please 🖌 box if NO gulls were present	XG								XG
Little Gull	LU								LU
Black-headed Gull	BH								BH
Mediterranean Gull	MU								MU
Common Gull	CM								CM
Lesser Black-backed Gull	LB								LB
Herring Gull	HG								HG
Yellow-legged Gull	YG								YG
Great Black-backed Gull	GB								GB
Kittiwake	KI								KI
TERNS: OPTIONAL SECTION									
									1.
Please 🖌 box if NO terns were present	XT								XT
Sandwich Tern	TE								TE
Common Tern	CN								CN
Arctic Tern									AE
	AE								
Little Tern	AE								AF

		1		1	1		1
DATE	/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /
					1		
% of water area in count unit covered by ice							
State of tide (coastal sites only): circle the	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1234	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4
appropriate number(s)	KEY	1 Rising	2 High	3 Fa	lling 4	Low	
6 COVERAGE							
Do you feel your counts of waterbirds were reas you from recording a significant number of birds			DK') or did ot	her factors (e.g. weathe	r or disturba	nce) prevent
Count accuracy	OK/LOW	OK/LOW	OK/LOW	OK/LOW	OK/LOW	OK/LOW	OK/LOW
f 'LOW' which of the following affected your co	unt (please	🖌 the appro	opriate box/b	ooxes)?			
did not cover all of my count area							
Poor visibility (due to fog, glare, heavy rain etc.)							
High levels of disturbance							
						nes and addres to assisted with	ses) of any othe the counts.
					Observers wit	o assisted with	the counts.

FOR ALL RECORDS OF NON-WATERBIRDS (E.G. PASSERINES, RAPTORS, ETC.) PLEASE MAKE USE OF BirdTrack

This is an online scheme designed to increase the personal, local and national value of your sightings. Go to www.birdtrack.net to find out more