



Welcome to the LBC eNewsletter - November 2022

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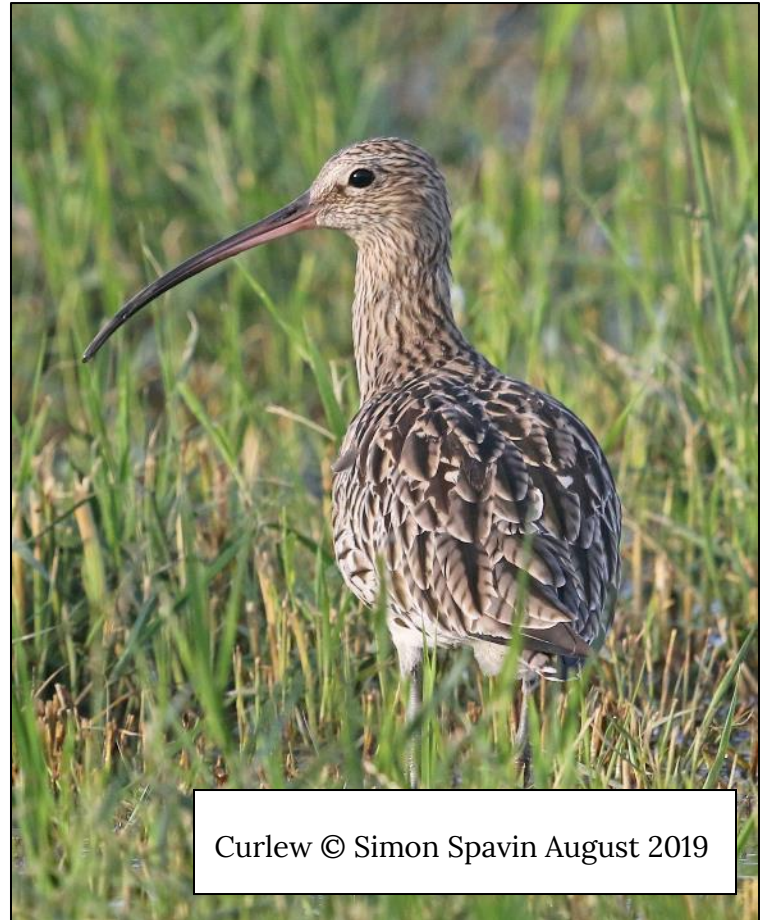
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(NO) FUTURE FOR CURLEW IN LINCOLNSHIRE?

There has been a rapid decline of breeding Curlew in the UK in recent years. The UK probably has around 20%-25% of the global population and is therefore internationally important for this species. Various studies have been carried out which highlight the fact that not enough young birds are being raised each year to sustain the population and although predator pressure is quoted as a key factor, there are undoubtedly many other factors such as habitat loss and climate change.

It has been argued that the Curlew is currently the most pressing conservation priority in the UK with half of the breeding population lost over the last 25 years. The Curlew Recovery Partnership (CRP) was launched on 1st March 2021 as a result of two Curlew Recovery Summits hosted by HRH King (then Prince) Charles on Dartmoor in 2018 and 2020.

Curlew were removed from the list of quarry species by MPs in 1981 during the debate for the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, but even in the 1994/95 winter edition of Wildfowling Magazine there was an article calling for it to be put back on the shooting list, ridiculing one MP's justification for his vote stating that "the Curlew



Curlew © Simon Spavin August 2019

has such a lovely call". I echo that sentiment in that I find the trilling call of displaying Curlew as one of the most evocative bird-sounds of Spring, and sadly one that soon may no longer be heard in Lincolnshire.

Lincolnshire has a very small breeding population but numbers are significantly boosted by birds from Scandinavia, particularly Finland as ringing data suggests. Birds are most likely to be encountered around the Wash and Humber in autumn to spring. A few inland sites host small numbers, such as Marston STW, near Grantham, that regularly holds 30 or so birds in late summer through to April. Many of these birds are wintering Scandinavian birds, and what percentage of locally bred birds occur in these inland groups is not known. Between 1985 and 2009, 77 Curlew were ringed at Marston. We retrapped several ringed birds returning in later winters suggesting that many birds were quite site-faithful. Birds were also subsequently reported from Finland (2), France (2) and one near Arkhangel in Russia (at the time the furthest recovery of a British-ringed Curlew!). An adult Curlew ringed in Shropshire in 1964, was retrapped at Marston in 1984 and again in 1995 (at the time the oldest Curlew from British ringing, retrapped at nearly 30 years after ringing!).

Unfortunately, very few Curlew chicks have been ringed in Lincolnshire, the first 2 at Nocton Fen in 2004, then a dozen or so at Barkston Airfield between 2005 and 2010. Two chicks ringed at Barkston have been subsequently reported, one dead in France just over a year later, and the other in North Wales just over 9 years later.

Curlew breed on the limestone uplands in the west of the county, and although they also breed in fenland areas of the Ancholme valley, they are completely absent in the fenland areas of south Lincolnshire. One of the strongholds for breeding Curlew in Lincolnshire has been RAF bases, possibly because of reduced predator and disturbance pressures. Breeding records submitted to the Lincolnshire Bird Club have been almost nil in recent years, but that is obviously due to under-reporting – I know for a fact that in recent years, curlew have breed successfully at Barkston and Cranwell airfields and regularly on farmland in the Ancholme valley and near Fillingham north of Lincoln.



In the last two years, Curlew eggs have been taken from RAF airfields in eastern England, and hatched out in captivity and released when fledged under an initiative known as head-starting. It would appear that head-started Curlew from East Anglia have been released on the Sandringham Estate. However Curlew from Lincolnshire airbases have been released on Dartmoor – an area where they have died out naturally, so it would seem almost irresponsible to take Curlew from Lincolnshire where they are still ‘hanging on’ to release them at a site where their future is more than uncertain.

I am told that Curlew eggs are only taken from RAF airfields with a licence granted from Natural England at sites where nests would otherwise be destroyed in the interests of air safety. However, I am not aware that the RAF has deemed Curlew a safety problem in Lincolnshire before this head-starting initiative began, or that nests have been previously destroyed as they have been reasonably successful raising chicks on the airfields in the past. It is difficult to see how much of air safety risk the odd pair of breeding Curlew pose, as during breeding the adults spend most of their time on the ground.

Jim Wright on behalf of the Lincolnshire Bird Club has been given the following figures for eggs taken from Lincolnshire airbases which are as shown below:-

Number of Curlew eggs taken under licence from Natural England 2020 & 2021

Number of Curlew eggs taken under licence from Natural England 2020 & 2021			
Site	2020	2021	Total
RAF Barkston Heath	0	36	36
RAF Scampton	7	44	51
RAF Waddington	4	0	4
Total	11	80	91

The figures have surprised many Lincolnshire birdwatchers, who were not aware of the high number of pairs at the first two sites, and makes it all the more depressing as to the loss of breeding Curlew in the county. The recent closure of Scampton as an operational base may be good news in the short term (assuming licences to collect eggs are not issued), but the future development plans for the site may eventually make this site unsuitable for Curlew. I only wish that there was more positive news for this iconic bird.

Report by Alan Ball October 2022



Curlew © Mark Johnson April 2016

Novartis Ings: Creating a new habitat for wetland birds

Work is now complete on the creation of a new wetland habitat on 35 acres of land adjacent to the Novartis factory on the outskirts of Grimsby. Located adjacent to the Humber Estuary, it will be managed by North East Lincolnshire Council. Here, Liz Marsden, of NELC, discusses the project with ROGER WARDLE (pictured below) who designed it.

Novartis Ings site is the second significant wildlife haven built in North East Lincolnshire. The first, the nearby Cress Marsh, was created in 2018 and has already attracted a good range of wildlife including the return of breeding wader species such as Avocets and Little Ringed Plovers.

Novartis Ings is ideally located directly adjacent to the Humber Estuary. It has been created following the transfer of 35 acres of land, free of charge, from the pharmaceutical giant, Novartis Grimsby. They left this as their legacy to the local community after manufacturing at the site next door for over 70 years. This is boosted by another parcel of land formerly owned by Solenis, in total around 18 hectares or the equivalent of 20 football fields.



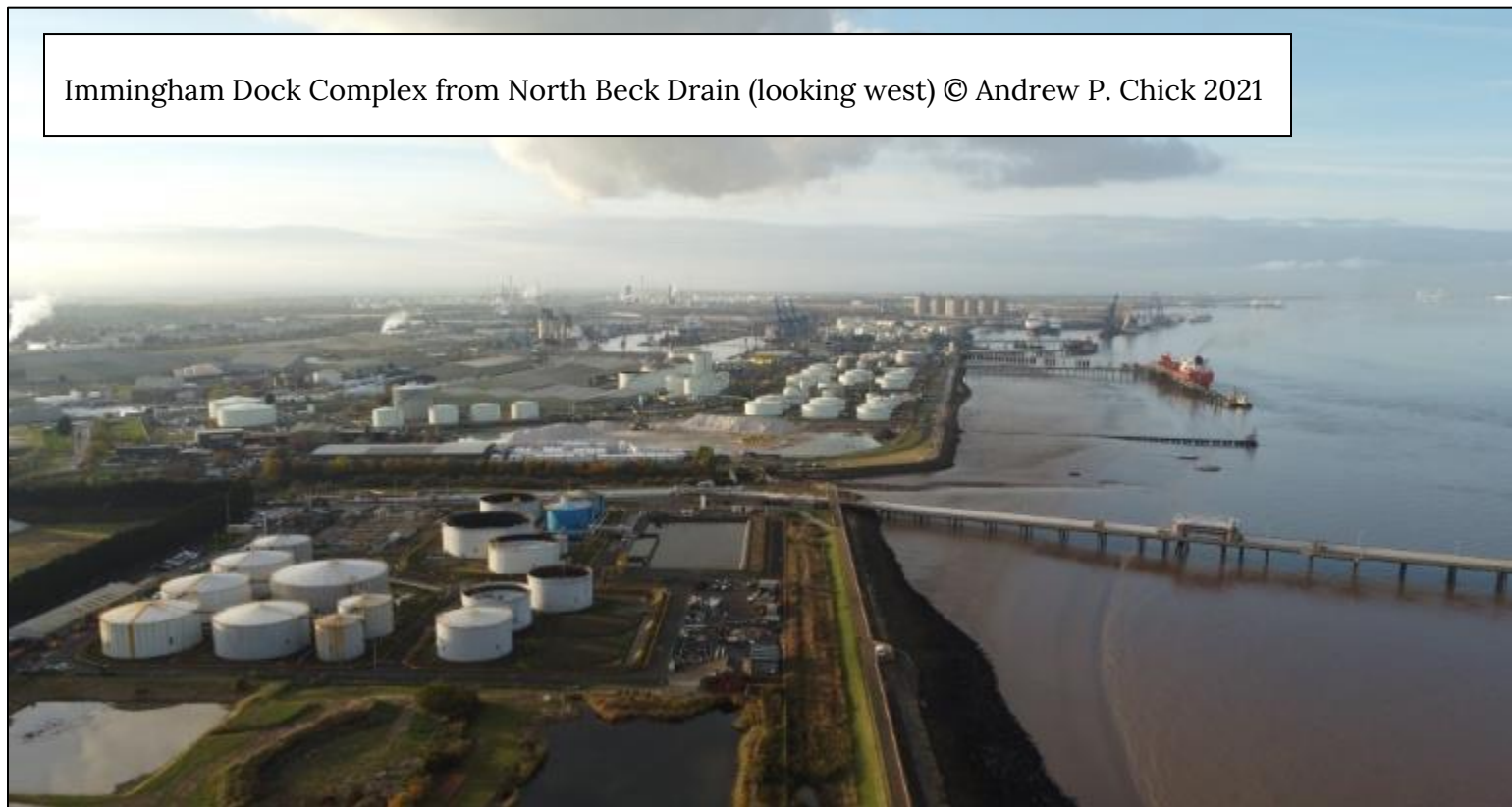
Why is this being done?

In years to come, much of the hinterland of the Humber estuary will attract economic industrial and other developments.

Both Novartis Ings and Cress Marsh have been created as part of the £42m South Humber Industrial Investment Programme that has already seen the creation of the new link road between Grimsby and Immingham, and a purpose-built business park on the A1173 near Immingham.

As a condition of development, mitigation land must be set aside especially for roosting waders. These birds require wide open undisturbed sites ideally with a mosaic of shallow water with spits and island where they can roost safely at high tide.

Immingham Dock Complex from North Beck Drain (looking west) © Andrew P. Chick 2021



The council has taken the innovative approach of building the mitigation sites before they are actually needed.

These mitigation sites are creating specially designed and protected areas for waders close to their feeding grounds, but must be free from disturbance.

The close proximity of the site and short flight saves the birds' precious energy. This is particularly important when birds are stressed by bad weather, recuperating from a long migration flight or building up condition ready for migration and breeding in spring.

The birds' behaviour is driven by the tides, feeding when the invertebrate rich mudflats are exposed, usually twice a day, but then birds are displaced as the water returns. The waders fly over the sea defence to find somewhere to roost and rest in relative safety until the tide once again goes out.

Just like humans, birds prefer to take the easy option, travelling the least convenient distance. This also conserves energy that also helps with survival and ability to migrate and breed. This is why we think this site, right on the edge of the Humber, will be a success.

What does the site look like?

The site will be providing wet grassland that is in mosaic with a storage lagoon, scrapes, islands and spits with slightly higher points to help the birds spot potential predators. Appearance to some will be a rather open and bare habitat but that is just what the wader's need and are adapted to as a means of reducing predation.

It is a low rainfall area and very well drained with modern mostly artificially pumped systems. This poses a problem that is addressed by removing or blocking up the onsite drainage to help raise the water table, but without impacting neighbours.

Extensive excavations are also undertaken to transform the virtually flat land into one with undulations where the low areas form shallow surface water habitats. The water also surrounding a variety of island like features that helps protect the waders from ground predation.

Additional water is required because precipitation alone is inadequate. This will be harvested from the Mawmbridge Drain just before it would otherwise be discharged into the Estuary, with no additional demand on the local water supply system. Some of that water will be stored in the lagoon and released in dry times to increase the habitat's resilience to drought.

What birds are likely to use the site?

The primary design of the site aims to provide a reliable wader roosting area free of disturbance with essential short vegetation within a wide-open habitat to which they are adapted.

Oystercatcher, Lapwing, Redshank and other waders used to breed in the area but are now very scarce or do not breed at all locally due to a lack of suitable breeding habitat.

This new site, although primarily designed for roosting, is likely to provide renewed opportunities for lost breeding waders to return.



Look out for the iconic Lapwing and their easily seen breeding displays that usually start in February. That is followed by a quieter period whilst vulnerable eggs are being incubated to hatch towards the end of April, when the birds fearlessly defend against predators by mobbing them.

As the habitat develops it is hoped that other species will also breed such as ring plover and even possibly terns if the numbers of gulls is not too high.

Some islands, especially in the lagoon, have gravel and shell toppings that benefit wader roosting by simulating natural features associated with the estuary but are also good for breeding waders and other potential species.

Pyewipe Estate just down the road takes the local name for the Lapwing indicating that in the past they were common in the area.

We will also be introducing cattle to the site from spring to autumn to help control the vegetation - the target species for this site much preferring short grass or bare ground.

The cattle also make large footprints at the water's edge creating micro-habitats for lots of insects that the birds subsequently feed on, not to mention the large biomass of invertebrates that live on dung pats.



How to watch the birds

Autumn, winter and early spring, especially when the tide is in, should see significant flocks flying in and out of the site, but easily overlooked once landed. They will be easily visible from the edges and the sea wall, better still with binoculars. As with all sites like this, we would ask that people respect the site, keep quiet and generally try to reduce bird disturbance.

Waders can be fickle creatures, and flocks are especially vulnerable to disturbance. Once the most nervous bird takes flight it panics them all. The tall green fencing around the site, in part helps to break up the shape of people and pets.

We have laid things out primarily to meet the birds' needs otherwise they will not benefit from the site. However, there is also good observation from the boundary or sea wall.

Final thoughts?

Only time will tell - it might not be an overnight success, but we are very optimistic the site will make a significant environmental contribution in conserving the waders of the Humber.

Support from LBC for Professor Martin Collinson's wildlife and genetics team

Most of you will be aware of the work that Professor Collinson's genetics laboratory team does to genetically identify birds from fragments of their tissues and remains. This can support the BTO Ringing Scheme and Bird Observatories in their studies of bird migration for conservation. They also participate in wildlife crime cases and identify bird strikes on aeroplanes.

Some of their recent achievements include confirmation of twelve firsts for Britain or other European Countries in his lab. These include the Western Palearctic's first Pale-legged Leaf Warbler, first Audubon's Shearwater, first Short-tailed Shearwater, Britain's first Stejneger's Stonechat (and all the subsequent ones), first Eastern Yellow Wagtail, Eastern Grasshopper Warbler, Rough-legged Hawk, as well as many other major rarities and odd subspecies. They have also worked closely with museums to sort out old specimens in their collections, such as the Liberian Greenbul and the Canary Islands Oystercatcher.

In Lincolnshire, some recent requests for help with county oddities have included analyses on material from an Eastern Subalpine Warbler at GPBO (April 2019), the East Halton gull (winter/spring 2022) and not forgetting the Snowy Owl pellets (Wainfleet marsh, 2018). There may be a few others that I have forgotten). This will continue to develop and be an important part of modern avian taxonomy. In order to make this ongoing project sustainable and allow them to make a conservation and science impact into the future, they decided to start a crowd-funding appeal to keep the laboratory going.

After discussions at a recent LBC committee meeting, it was agreed that the club donate £250 to this worthy cause. Professor Collinson and team replied as follows:

Thank you for your generous donation. This will assist the University of Aberdeen in continuing to be a centre of excellence in learning and research. The impact of this generosity is witnessed every day through the support you are giving current students, and the exciting new world-class facilities we are creating to match our academic ambitions. If you would like any further information please contact the University of Aberdeen Development Trust at devtrust@abdn.ac.uk.

The club is pleased to support initiatives such as this and hopes that Professor Collinson and team continue to uncover more birding conundrums in the future including maybe the mysterious "Marston" Warbler.....



Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca* Donna Nook Nov 9-12th 2011. This bird showed characters and produced vocalisations of the central asian form, whose exact taxonomy and identification is currently the subject of research. Both images taken by © Graham Catley

Continued....

The “Marston” Warbler – a Lincolnshire and UK first?



A presumed Marsh x Sedge Warbler hybrid – Marston STW, Lincolnshire. 06-09-2022 © Alan Ball

The ‘mystery’ warbler was caught in a 40’ mist net over water in the reed bed at Marston on 7th September 2022, during a few good days when a Spotted Crake was seen in the same net ride a few days earlier, and a Red-backed Shrike caught just a few metres away on 5th September!

A FULL article will appear in the next eNewsletter or maybe the LBR... However, a shed tail feather was saved and has been sent to **Martin Collinson at Aberdeen University**, for DNA testing, so hopefully we will find out in due course exactly what this bird was.

LBC eNewsletter editorial news

For the past three years I have been editing the LBC eNewsletter. After over 30 years living in Lincolnshire Caroline and I have decided to relocate to the Lake District for the next 2 years. I intend to continue producing the eNewsletter and working on the website, but in the meantime, if anyone else wishes to take over some of my roles, please do not hesitate to contact me!

Thanks Andrew Chick (andrew (AT) forktail.co.uk)

LBC Annual Report 2021

The Lincolnshire Bird Club 2021 report is in production.

We would like to thank Jon Cooper and Charlie Barnes (GLNP) for helping with the 2021 data,

Call for 2021 Bird Photographs

Could anyone with images of birds photographed in 2021 please send copies to info@lincsbirdclub.co.uk. All pictures in .jpg format please. PLEASE include the species name, location, date and your initials in the image file name.

All images will be fully credited. All emails will be acknowledged, so if you don't get a response, please check that they have been received.



Filename Example => BrentGeese_NthCotes_22112021_MDJ.jpg

Here's all you need to know about avian flu, including what it is, what do to if you find a sick bird and updates on recent outbreaks

The bird flu virus has had catastrophic effects on the UK's breeding seabirds this summer, causing thousands of deaths and affecting the whole coast of the UK. Particularly badly affected were gannets, great skuas and terns. Overall, over sixty species of birds have tested positive, including six species of raptor.

What is bird flu?

Bird flu (or Avian Influenza) is a virus that affects birds, including poultry, pigeons and wild birds. As with other viruses, there are lots of different strains of the bird flu virus, most of which cause no or few signs of disease in infected wild birds. By contrast, the current outbreak is of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), which can cause severe disease and high mortality. Pathogenic means "disease causing".

How does bird flu spread?

It is spread from bird to bird through contact with infected saliva, nasal secretions, or droppings. Wild birds are often more resistant to bird flu than domestic birds and can carry and spread the virus without showing symptoms.

This has led to speculation that wild birds are the main cause of bird flu spreading, but there are several ways by which the disease is spread. Globally the most significant has been the unrestricted movement of poultry and poultry products.

The strain of bird flu (HPAI) that is currently circulating originated in intensive poultry operations in East Asia in 1996 and has now spread into wild birds through two routes: the movement of poultry, poultry products and associated vehicles and equipment; and through the movements and migrations of wild bird populations. There is no evidence that the current bird flu outbreak has spread from poultry in the UK.

Can bird flu affect people?

Human infections with HPAI are rare and the risk to the general public's health is very low.

However, some strains of the virus, such as H5N1 or H7N9, have been associated with human disease. This is why we are encouraging people not to have close contact with sick or injured birds. Of all the reported cases of the current strain in humans worldwide, almost all have been associated with extremely close contact with infected birds (dead or alive) within populations of domestic poultry.

Close contact includes touching infected birds; contact with droppings or bedding; killing or preparing infected birds for cooking; inhalation of aerosols (e.g. feather dust). Bird flu is not transmitted through properly cooked food. Cooked poultry and eggs are safe to eat in areas where outbreaks have occurred.

Are species other than birds affected?

Bird flu has been found in small numbers of foxes, harbour seal, grey seal and otter. It has also been found in cetaceans – bottlenose dolphin and harbour porpoise.

In England and Wales, if you find a single bird of prey or owl, 3 or more dead wild waterfowl (swans, geese or ducks), gulls, or 5 or more dead wild birds of any other species (including gulls) at the same place at the same time, report them to the Defra helpline on 03459 33 55 77.

New report shows how we can deliver offshore wind safely and help threatened seabird populations to recover and thrive again

- The UK's coast and seas are home to amazing wildlife above and below the waves, however seabird numbers have suffered almost a 25 per cent decline, in less than four decades
- Through a new "Nature Positive" approach the expansion of offshore wind over the next decade can be delivered without jeopardising the UK's efforts to restore seabird populations



A new report, published by the RSPB, brings together experts in conservation and wind energy to look at how the UK can live up to its offshore wind commitments and protect our natural world. The report offers hope that with the right frameworks and political will, we can find ways to generate renewable energy at sea that will help us tackle the climate and nature emergencies together.

This year the health of our marine life and the potential for offshore wind to provide clean and sustainable electricity and deliver energy security have been brought into sharp focus. Avian Influenza is devastating the UK's globally important seabird populations that are already facing numerous pressures as the nature and climate emergency impacts on our wildlife. At the same time, decision-makers are looking at how offshore wind can play a key role in the Government's British Energy Security Strategy (BESS) to both help decarbonise our energy sector and deliver energy security.

Nearly three quarters of the UK is actually seabed, and whilst the view from the shore may look to many like a large expanse of undisturbed water, our seas are already a crowded powerhouse of economic activity with busy trade routes, fisheries and power through gas and oil extraction along with a

rapidly growing renewable energy sector. The scale of wind farm expansion from under 15GW today to reach BESS targets of 50GW by 2030, and potentially the need to double this by 2050, will require a substantial footprint around our coasts.

To do this safely, and in harmony with nature, we must learn from the mistakes of previous generations that have left our marine ecosystems depleted and degraded by unplanned or badly managed practices that have left marine wildlife as an afterthought.

The UK's coast and seas are home to amazing wildlife above and below the waves. However, the condition of this precious habitat is under threat and the globally important marine life is in decline. Official Government statistics show that seabird numbers have suffered almost a 25 per cent decline, in less than four decades, a loss of over 2 million fewer seabirds compared to 1986. And this is particularly prevalent in Scotland, which should be a haven for seabirds, where population numbers almost halved in this time.

All but one of the UK's 25 breeding seabirds are Red or Amber listed on the Birds of Conservation Concern, and this is before conservationists are able to fully understand the impact of this year's devastating Avian Influenza outbreak on colony populations.

With Government commitments to tackle the nature and climate emergency, there are legally binding targets for halting species decline and reducing greenhouse gases by decarbonising the energy sector. The report, *Powering Healthy Seas*, brings together expertise from energy and conservation to better understand the factors planners and decision makers will need to take into account so that the expansion of offshore wind can be delivered without jeopardising the UK's efforts to restore seabird populations.

Katie-jo Luxton at the RSPB said: "We have a clear vision of what we want to achieve; thriving seabird colonies and sustainable energy. However, the current system is not working. Energy companies are being locked into development sites that are problematic for wildlife and the Secretary of State is regularly being asked to make impossible decisions that may achieve our energy targets but only at the expense of our seabirds and marine habitats.

"We need to change this, as the decisions we make today will have long lasting and potentially irreversible effects on seabird colonies that are already struggling. This report clearly states what we need to do at a time when decision-makers are beginning to plan new developments. With the right planning and a cross sector approach, we can achieve world leading ocean recovery and secure renewable energy, but only if we take transformative Nature Positive action, now."

RenewableUK's Environmental Policy Analyst Juliette Webb said: "Not only are new offshore wind farms lowering our energy bills, but they also remain critical to tackling climate change, which poses the greatest threat to bird populations and our natural environment. It's vitally important that we build well-sited clean energy projects to reach net zero as fast as possible.

"We're working with the RSPB to ensure that we develop offshore wind farms in an environmentally sensitive way which protects birds and support marine ecosystems. This includes adapting the location of our wind farms and providing specially-designed safe places for birds to nest at sea."

By bringing together experts from conservation and energy the new report is the first step towards developing a blueprint for how we can deliver offshore wind safely as well as setting the right conditions for seabird populations to recover and thrive again.”

The report looks at the need for:

- A robust ecological evidence base to inform environmentally conscious siting of new offshore windfarms.
- Country-level marine plans to provide clarity to marine users.
- Impact assessments that identify cumulative impacts of multiple developments
- Innovative industry standards, supported by government policy
- Adaptive management techniques that offer flexibility in the face of changing conditions or new information
- Strategic compensation, where necessary, to ensure ecological impacts are appropriately addressed.
- A marine net gain system to help drive nature recovery and improvement.

As part of a wider Nature Positive approach, offshore wind could be the driver for change in the way we manage and protect our seas. This approach should address safe places for seabirds to feed with MPA management and bycatch mitigation, safe places to nest through a UK wide island biosecurity programme, and more food availability through the closure of industry sandeel fisheries in UK waters and improved fisheries management.

Read the full report here: <https://www.rspb.org.uk/globalassets/downloads/pa-documents/powering-healthy-seas-report-rspb-august-2022.pdf>



All windfarm photographs by Andrew P. Chick (Site: Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm, located between 17 and 23 kilometres off the coast of North Norfolk)

Lincolnshire Bird News - October 2022

Compiled by Chris Grimshaw

This Lincs Latest Bird News is available on the LBC Website and is updated on a regular basis, to provide a convenient news service to scarce & rare birds found within Lincolnshire. This is a free service and members wishing to get more up to the minute information should check commercial news services. The Sightings page and @Lincsbirding Twitter feed are intended to alert birders to rare (**RED**) and scarcer (**BLUE**) species that they might be interested in seeing within the County.

If your sightings are missing from the list, then please let us know by emailing recorder_south@lincsbirdclub.co.uk. Records of more common species are still very important and should be submitted to the county Recorder (again, send all records to recorder_south@lincsbirdclub.co.uk) or submitted online using the **BTO BirdTrack** or **eBird Apps**. ALL records will then be added to the Lincolnshire Bird Club data-base, to be included in the Annual Reports. **PLEASE NOTE** that none of these reports have been verified or checked by the Lincolnshire Bird Club Records Committee. Please note that the close off date for records for the 2019 Lincs Bird Report is 1st May 2020, after this we cannot guarantee inclusion.

Lincolnshire Latest Bird News – October 2022

31/10/2022

Belton Park

9 Goldcrest, 8 Jay, **Kingfisher**, Red Kite, **2 Nuthatch**, **Raven**, 10 Redwing, 5 Siskin, Treecreeper, **3 Green Woodpecker**

Cleethorpes

Dunlin, Knot, Grey Plover

Crook Bank

2 Jack Snipe, **12 Twite**

Deeping High Bank

Short-eared Owl

Market Rasen

400 Pink-footed Goose

Rimac

Hen Harrier

Winter's Pit

Blue-winged Teal

30/10/2022

Cress Marsh

Buzzard, 14 Fieldfare, 24 Goldfinch, 30 Teal

Kirton Marsh

Cattle Egret

Winter's Pool

Blue-winged Teal

29/10/2022

Allington

600 Pink-footed Goose

Gibraltar Point

Lapland Bunting, 4500 Dunlin, **4 Eider**, **Peregrine Falcon**, 5500 Bar-tailed Godwit, 250 Brent Goose, 3 Marsh Harrier, 3500

Oystercatcher, 13 Pintail, 34 Rock Pipit, 3450 Grey Plover, 89 Teal, **Arctic Tern**, 22 Turnstone, 468 Wigeon

East Halton

Water Pipit, 5 Twite

Marston

150 Pink-footed Goose, Goldcrest, Marsh Harrier, 3 Cetti's Warbler

Tetney

Osprey

Winter's Pool

Blue-winged Teal

28/10/2022

Black Bank

5 Buzzard, 3 Kestrel, 12 Pied Wagtail, 33 Yellowhammer

Deeping High Bank

10 Common Crane, Whooper Swan

Gibraltar Point

1450 Pink-footed Geese, Hen Harrier, 4 Marsh Harrier, 1200 Lapwing, 8 Lesser Redpoll, 6 Siskin

Novartis Ings

Spotted Redshank

Whitton

Bearded Tit

Willow Tree Fen

3 Buzzard, 4 Common Crane, 5 Goosander, 8 Pink-footed Goose, 400 Mallard, 11 Marsh Harrier, 3 Kestrel, 3 Barn Owl, Tawny Owl, Snipe, 2 Stonechat, 12 Whooper Swan, 300 Teal, 100 Wigeon

27/10/2022

Deeping High Bank

Bearded Tit

Frampton Marsh

Hen Harrier

Freiston Shore

Yellow-browed Warbler

Gibraltar Point

2 Brambling, 3 Chiffchaff, 2 Eider, Peregrine Falcon, Brent Geese, 48 Goldcrest, Hobby, Kingfisher, 20000 Knot, Water Rail, 9 Siskin, 2 Stonechat, 14 Whooper Swan

Heighington Fen

100 Whooper Swan

Novartis Ings

Whimbrel

26/10/2022

Crook Bank

Rough-legged Buzzard

Donna Bank

Rough-legged Buzzard

Gibraltar Point

Ring Ouzel, Water Pipit

Humberston Creek

Red-throated Diver (probable)

Waddingham

400 Pink-footed Goose

Willow Tree Fen

4 Common Crane (into roost)

Wolla Bank

Yellow-browed Warbler

25/10/2022

Deeping High Bank

Whooper Swan

Goxhill Haven

Twite

Ingham

Short-eared Owl

Pyewipe

Yellow-browed Warbler

Saltfleetby/ Theddlethorpe Dunes

Chiffchaff, Snow Bunting, 4 Eider, 12 Goldcrest, 20 Pink-footed Goose, Marsh Harrier, House Martin, 24 Sanderling, 65 Scoter, Grey Wagtail, Lesser Whitethroat

Whisby

Bittern



Bittern showing nicely at Whisby - Image © Garry Knight

24/10/2020

Anderby Creek

Red-rumped Swallow

Brumby Common

3 Buzzard, 2 Kestrel, 60 Linnet, 6 Whooper Swan

Cleethorpes

Stonechat, 7 Whooper Swan

Crook Bank

4 Jack Snipe

Deeping High Bank

Hen Harrier, 2 Short-eared Owl

Donna Nook

5 Barnacle Goose, Hooded Crow, Yellow-browed Warbler

Gibraltar Point

Hen Harrier

Humber Bridge

Pomarine Skua

Kirton Marsh

Cattle Egret

Riseholme Lake

Kingfisher, Nuthatch, Shoveler, Teal

Saltfleetby

Red-rumped Swallow, Common/Pallid Swift, Twite

23/10/2022

Gibraltar Point

Yellow-browed Warbler

East Halton

Brent Goose, 2 Marsh Harrier, 4 Pintail, 8 Ruff, 3 Stonechat, Grey Wagtail

Hartsholme Park

3 Goosander

Pyewipe

Yellow-browed Warbler

Riseholme Lake

Marbled Duck

22/10/2022

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Rock Pipit, Bearded Tit

Donna Nook

Firecrest, Goldcrest, 17 Little Grebe, 250 Redshank, Black Redstart, 500 Teal, 600 Starling, 5 Whooper Swan

Gibraltar Point

Snow Bunting, Hen Harrier, 2 Ring Ouzel, Mealy Redpoll, Black Redstart, Yellow-browed Warbler



Black Redstart at Gibraltar Point - Image © Russell Hayes

Pyewipe

Spotted Redshank

Rimac

Garganey, 2 Hen Harrier, 2

Ring Ouzel

Riseholme Lake

Marbled Duck

Saltfleetby

Black Redstart

Saltfleet Haven

10 Little Egret, 9 Pink-footed

Goose, 13 Sanderling, 17

Shelduck

Sutton on Sea

Black Redstart

21/10/2022

Belton Park

Marsh Tit

Donna Nook

Firecrest, 12 Goldcrest, 20

Redwing, 2 Willow Warbler

Messingham

11 Great White Egret

Riseholme Lake

Marbled Duck (Woodhall
bird?)

Trent Port

3 Bullfinch 110 Fieldfare, 6

Goldcrest, Jay, Kingfisher, 54

Redwing, Mistle Thrush, 24

Long-tailed Tit, Grey Wagtail,

Green Woodpecker

20/10/2022

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Rock Pipit

Donna Nook

Yellow-browed Warbler

Far Ings

Jack Snipe

Gibrraltar Point

Ring Ouzel, Swift sp.

Huttoft Bank

Black Redstart

Saltfleetby

Hen Harrier, 2 Ring Ouzel, Short-eared Owl

19/10/2022

Anderby Creek

Mealy Redpoll

Belton Park

Snipe

Belvoir Castle



Marbled Duck on Riseholme College Lake - Image © Ian Birch

1200 Redwing, 44 Golden Plover

Deeping Fen

Golden Plover, Grey Plover

Doddington Park

7 Redwing

Gibraltar Point

Hawfinch, Ring Ouzel, Short-eared Owl, Pomarine Skua, Curlew Sandpiper, 6 Bewick's Swan, Yellow-browed Warbler

Huttoft

Short-eared Owl

Rimac

Dusky Warbler

Stamford

Spotted Redshank

18/10/2022

Donna Nook

4 Greenshank, 200 Redshank, 500 Teal

Frampton Marsh

Common Crane (over), Collared Pratincole (over), 2 Little Stint

Gibraltar Point

Ring Ouzel

Kirton Marsh

2 Cattle Egret

Winter's Pool

3 Pintail, 7 Whooper Swan, Blue-winged Teal

17/10/2022

Black Bank

Kestrel, 14, Linnet

Brumby Common West

Buzzard, Kestrel, 60 Lapwing 70 Goldfinch

Gibraltar Point

Lapland Bunting, Slavonian Grebe

Hartsholme Park/Swanholme Lakes

18 Shoveler 10 Wigeon



Great Crested Grebe, Pike Drain, Hartsholme Park - Image © Chris Grimshaw

Winter's Pool

Blue-winged Teal

16/10/2022

Baston Fen

2 Common Crabs

Baston & Langtoft Pits

162 Red-crested Pochard



Some of the impressive number of the Red-crested Pochard at Baston & Langtoft Pits complex - Image © Josh Jones

Covenham Reservoir

2 Slavonian Grebe

Cress Marsh

Cattle Egret, 20 Goldfinch, Kestrel, 25 Teal

Job's Lane

3 Little Egret, 34 Little Grebe 200 Jackdaw, 14 Pochard 14 Shoveler

Kirton Marsh

2 Cattle Egret

Stanton's Pit

2 Black Redstart

Winter's Pool

Blue-winged Teal

15/10/2022

Alkborough Flats

Pratincole Sp (over)

Covenham Reservoir

Slavonian Grebe

Huttoft Pit

Long-billed Dowitcher



Long-billed Dowitcher at Huttoft Pit -Image © Garry Wright

Kirton Marsh

2 Cattle Egret

Lea Marsh

110 Goldfinch, 197 Greylag Goose, 2 Goosander (f), 53 Pink-footed Goose, Kingfisher, 8 Grey Partridge, 6 Redwing, 16 Skylark, 3 Swallow, 52 Pied Wagtail

Nebraska Wetlands

22 Whooper Swan

Winter's Pool

Blue-winged Teal



The Blue-winged Teal found by Steve Routledge at Winter's Pool - Image © Graham Catley

14/10/2022

Cliff Farm Path

Buzzard, Kestrel

Doddington Park

3 Jay, Sparrowhawk

Frampton Marsh

3 Little Stint

Gibraltar Point

Long-eared Owl

Kirton Marsh

Cattle Egret

Nocton Fen

Peregrine Falcon, 200 Lapwing, Barn Owl, Kingfisher, 35 Whooper Swan, Cetti's Warbler



Barn Owl down Nocton Fen - Image © Russell Hayes

Novartis Ings

Spotted Redshank

Rimac

Great White Egret, Red-breasted Merganser, Rock Pipit 35 Snipe, 6 Jack Snipe

RAF Woodhall

12 Whooper Swan

13/10/2022

Alkborough Flats

Bearded Tit

Anderby Creek

Bean Goose

Boultham Mere

32 Pink-footed Goose, 21 Whooper Swan, 2 Cetti's Warbler

Far Ings

Hen Harrier

Frampton Marsh

3 Little Stint, 2 Curlew Sandpiper

Gibraltar Point

Snow Bunting

Hartsholme Lakes

2 Kingfisher, 2 Shoveler

Nocton Fen

Raven, 20 Whooper Swan

North Hykeham

Lapland Bunting

Swanholme Lakes

3 Goldcrest, 4 Jay

12/10/2022

Gibraltar Point

8000 Dunlin, Peregrine Falcon, 4000 Bar-tailed Godwit, 1000 Pink-footed Goose, 50000 Knot, Merlin, 17 Pintail, 80 Ringed Plover, 2500 Sanderling, 4 Whooper Swan, Arctic Tern

Novartis Ings

Caspian Gull

Saltfleetby

Caspian Gull

11/10/2022

Boultham Mere

Water Tail, Snipe, 6 Whooper Swan

Far Ings

Jack Snipe

Frampton Marsh

Short-eared Owl

Gibraltar Point

Spotted Redshank

Nebraska Wetlands

3 Buzzard, 40 Common Gull, 150 Lapwing, Ring Ouzel (possible), 54 Whooper Swan

Novartis Ings

Spotted Redshank, Curlew Sandpiper

10/10/2022

Alkborough

Stonechat

Black Bank

Buzzard, 60 Pink-footed Geese, 2 Kestrel

North Cotes

Redwing

Frampton Marsh

7 Red-breasted Grebe, Merlin, Rock Pipit, Grey Plover, Curlew Sandpiper, 5 Little Stint, Whooper Swan

Huttoft

Great Northern Diver, 8 Gannet, 350 Pink-footed Goose, 2 Sandwich Tern

Marton

6 Chiffchaff, Kingfisher, Redwing, Great Spotted Woodpecker

Marston

Grey Wagtail

Messingham

Buzzard, 10 Cormorant, Great White Egret, 4 Little Egret, 4 Goldcrest, 240 Black-headed Gull, 83 Lapwing, 2 Green Sandpiper, Sparrowhawk, 160 Teal, 2 Cetti's Warbler

Gibraltar Point

4 Stonechat

Riseholme

Hawfinch

Wainfleet

538 Curlew, 3500 Pink-footed Goose, **Merlin**, **Barn Owl**, **Short-eared Owl**, **4 Grey Partridge**, **14 Whooper Swan**

09/10/2022

Boultham Mere

13 Cormorant, 2 Great White Egret, 2 Ringed Plover, 56 Shoveler, 4 Snipe, **21 Whooper Swan**, 102 Teal

Covenham Reservoir

Purple Sandpiper, **Little Stint**, **15 Whooper Swan**

Cress Marsh

30 Goldfinch, Pink-footed Goose, 2 Common Sandpiper, Sparrowhawk, **2 Stonechat**, 52 Teal

Deeping Lakes

Whooper Swan



One of the sights and sounds of the forthcoming winter. Whooper Swan at Deeping Lakes - Image © Mike Weedon

Frampton Marsh

Curlew Sandpiper, **7 Little Stint**

Gibraltar Point

Snow Bunting, **3 Stonechat**, **5 Whooper Swan**

Immingham

Snow Bunting, **Curlew Sandpiper**

Lincoln, Doddington Park

3 Siskin (earliest)

Marston

12 Curlew, 2 Great White Egret, **Water Rail**

Marton

3 Chiffchaff, 3 House Martin, 20 Long-tailed Tit, 95 Wigeon

Millennium Green

Cetti's Warbler

Pyewipe

Spotted Redshank, Jack Snipe

Whisby

Jack Snipe

08/10/2022

Cleethorpes

42 Whooper Swan

Covenham Reservoir

Purple Sandpiper, 32 Whooper Swan



A splendid photograph of a Purple Sandpiper at Covenham Reservoir - Image © John Clarkson

Frampton Marsh

2 Curlew Sandpiper, 8 Little Stint

Gibraltar Point

Ring Ouzel, Twite, Yellow-browed Warbler

Hill Holt Wood

150 Pink-footed Goose

Saltfleet

10 Brent Goose, 2500 Pink-footed Goose (leaving roost), Lapland Bunting, 17 Rock Pipit, 27 Whooper Swan

Marton

2 Bullfinch, 4 Chiffchaff, Coal Tit, House Martin, 12 Skylark, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Green Woodpecker

Tetney Marsh

37 Pink-footed Goose

07/10/2022

Frampton Marsh

12 Dunlin, Cattle Egret, 2 Little Egret, 20 Black-tailed Godwit, 50 Pink-footed Goose, 7 Red-breasted Goose, Marsh Harrier, Red Kite, 5 Ringed Plover, 6 Little Stint

Gibraltar Point

Snow Bunting, Yellow-browed Warbler

Novartis Ings

Spotted Redshank, Curlew Sandpiper

RAF Woodhall

Great White Egret, 2 Black-tailed Godwit, Marsh Harrier, 2 House Martin, 2 Ruff, Stonchat, Swallow

Saltfleetby

Lapland Bunting

06/10/2022

Bardney

Red kite

Boultham Mere

4 Sparrowhawk

Louth

Little Owl

Novartis Ings

2 Curlew Sandpiper

RAF Woodhall

Marbled Duck (present for about a week not ringed and fully winged)

05/10/2022

Frampton Marsh

Jack Snipe

Gibraltar Point

Great Northern Diver, Cattle Egret, Grey Phalarope

04/10/2022

Frampton Marsh

7 Red-breasted Goose, Jack Snipe, 3 Little Stint

Gibraltar Point

8 Avocet, 2 Chiffchaff, 24 Black-tailed Godwit, 5 Goldcrest, 385 Pink-footed Goose, 4 Rock Pipit, 2 Grey Plover, 8 Redwing, Jack Snipe, 2 Sparrowhawk, 620 Teal, Grey Wagtail, Yellow-browed Warbler

Messingham SQ

Buzzard, 14 Cormorant, Great White Egret, Goldcrest, Marsh Harrier, Grey Heron, Kingfisher, 202 Lapwing 18 Shoveler, 5 Snipe, Song Thrush, Cetti's Warbler

Novartis Ings

Curlew Sandpiper

Toft Newton

Rock Pipit

03/19/2022

Black Bank

Lesser Black-backed Gull, Grey Heron, Kestrel, 27 Linnet, 16 Grey Partridge, 6 Pied Wagtail

Boultham Mere

Ringed Plover, 12 Snipe, Sparrowhawk

Brumby Common West

40 Carrion Crow, Marsh Harrier, 22 Linnet, Stonechat, 6 Pied Wagtail, 2 Yellowhammer

Cleethorpes

Curlew 187 86 Brent Geese, 78 Black-tailed Godwit, 160 Redshank, Great Skua, 27 Turnstone

Doddington Park

300 Jackdaw (north to roost in 10 minutes)

Gibraltar Point

Hawfinch, 2150 Red Knot, Ring Ouzel, 260 Oystercatcher,

Tetney

100+ Golden Plover

02/10/2022

Ancaster

3 Cattle Egret (3 possibles high over), 125 Pink-footed Goose, Meadow Pipit, Skylark

Covenham Reservoir

2 Egyptian Goose

Frampton Marsh

Cattle Egret, Little Stint

Gibraltar Point

Snow Bunting

Grimsby

Sparrowhawk (in a Supermarket)

Stainton-le-Vale

3 Buzzard, 14 Coot, Little Grebe, 78 Common Gull, 110 Linnet, 27 Mallard, 13 Tree Sparrow, 4 Yellowhammer

Pyewipe

Curlew Sandpiper

Swanpool

Mistle Thrush

Tetney Marsh

Little Stint

Trent Port

Little Egret, Kingfisher, Redwing, Sparrowhawk, 2 Stonechat

East Halton Skitter

Curlew Sandpiper



Mistle Thrush in local garden - Image © Andy Sims

01/10/2022

Cleethorpes

Yellow-browed Warbler

Covenham Reservoir

7 Swallow, 2 Whooper Swan

Crook Bank

Jack Snipe

Deeping High Bank

2 Whooper Swan

Deeping Lakes

Rock Pipit

Donna Nook

Rough-legged Buzzard

Frampton Marsh

Hen Harrier

Freshney

Goosander

Gibraltar Point

27 Avocet, 2 Lapland Bunting, Snow Bunting, Buzzard, Curlew, Dunlin, Pink-footed Goose, Hen Harrier, 2 Marsh Harrier, 1000's Knot, Short-eared Owl, Grey Plover, Rock Pipit, Ringed Plover, Sanderling, Siskin, Sparrowhawk, 2 Stonechat, 11 Whooper Swan, Marsh Tit, 2 Yellow-browed Warbler, Whimbrel



Pair of Stonechat at Gibraltar Point - Image © Chris Grimshaw

Halton Marsh

Spotted Redshank, Curlew Sandpiper

Messingham

Jack Snipe

Lincs Bird Club Website

Website: <http://www.lincsbirdclub.co.uk>

Twitter [@Lincsbirding](https://twitter.com/Lincsbirding)

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/LincolnshireBirdInformation/>

LBC County Bird Recorder

Phil Hyde recorder_south@lincsbirdclub.co.uk

BTO - <https://www.bto.org>

RSPB - <https://www.rspb.org.uk/>

Birdguides - <https://www.birdguides.com/>

Rarebird Alert - <https://www.rarebirdalert.co.uk/>

Recording

BTO Birdtrack - <https://app.bto.org/birdtrack/login/login.jsp>

eBird - <https://ebird.org/home>

iRecord - <https://www.brc.ac.uk/irecord/>

Nature Lister - <http://www.naturelister.co.uk>

Wildlife Recorder - <https://www.wildlife.co.uk>

Lincolnshire Naturalists' Union Website

<http://lnu.org/>

LNU e-mail: info@lnu.org

Love Lincs Plants <https://www.lincstrust.org.uk/what-we-do/love-lincs-plants>
Love Lincs Plants Twitter feed
[@LoveLincsPlants](https://twitter.com/LoveLincsPlants)

Sir Joseph Banks Society

<http://www.joseph-banks.org.uk>

enquiries@joseph-banks.org.uk

Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust

<http://www.lincstrust.org.uk/>

Lincolnshire Bat Group website

<http://www.lincsbatgroup.co.uk/>

Butterfly Conservation Lincolnshire Branch

<http://butterfly-conservation.org/300/lincolnshire-branch.html>

FIGHTING WILDLIFE CRIME

Rural Crime Officer

Pc 160 Nick Willey

Force Wildlife, Rural Crime Officer

Force Dog Training Establishment

Lincolnshire Showground.

Grange-De-Lings.

Lincoln

nicholas.willey@lincs.pnn.police.uk

OFFICE: 01522-731897

MOBILE :07768-501895

PAGER : 07654-330877

Rural Crime News - <https://www.lincs.police.uk/news-campaigns/news/2019/rural-crime-news/>

STAYING SAFE

EasyTide

<http://easytide.ukho.gov.uk/EasyTide/EasyTide/index.aspx>

Met Office Severe Weather E-mail Service

<http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/about-us/guide-to-emails>

Environment Agency Flood Information/Floodline

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/default.aspx>

Lyme Disease

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/lyme-disease/>

SPECIES IDENTIFICATION AND RECORDING

Botany

Botanical Group in South Lincs

Contact: Sarah Lambert - sarah.lambert7@ntlworld.com

Also see: <http://bsbi.org/south-lincolnshire-v-c-53>

LNU Sawflies, Bees, Wasps and Ants Recorder

Dr. David Sheppard - d.a.sheppard@btinternet.com

Lincolnshire Mammals

Chris Manning, Chris.LincsDeer@gmail.com

Mammal Atlas

You can download and print off a hard copy or view it online.

[http://www.glnp.org.uk/our-](http://www.glnp.org.uk/our-publications/biodiversity/projects-and-reports.php)

[publications/biodiversity/projects-and-reports.php](http://www.glnp.org.uk/our-publications/biodiversity/projects-and-reports.php)

Lincs Amphibian and Reptile Group

The Lincolnshire ARG (Amphibian & Reptile Group)

Ashley Butterfield - learningoutdoors@btinternet.com

Local Bat Helpline

Grounded bats, bat problems, advice and information.

Contact Annette and Colin Faulkner on

01775 766286 or e-mail: annettefaulkner@btinternet.com

Confidential Bat Records

You may send confidential bat records direct to Annette

Faulkner on: annettefaulkner@btinternet.com

USEFUL WILDLIFE CONTACTS

Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership

<http://www.glnp.org.uk/>

Contact: charlie.barnes@glnp.org.uk

or for more general queries:info@glnp.org.uk

Natural England

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/>

Lincolnshire Environmental Awards

www.lincsenvironmentalawards.org.uk

Life on the Verge and Wildflower Meadow Network Project

<http://www.lifeontheverge.org.uk/>



Lincolnshire Bird Club
Follow us on twitter @lincsbirdclub
<http://www.lincsbirdclub.co.uk>

The Lincolnshire Bird Club, supporting the recording & conservation of wildlife in Lincolnshire

