



ESTUARINE WATERBIRDS AT LOW TIDE

The WeBS Low Tide Counts 1992–93 to 1998–99

EDITED BY
***Andy Musgrove
Rowena Langston
Helen Baker
and Robin Ward***



INTERNATIONAL WADER STUDIES 16

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INTERNATIONAL WADER STUDY GROUP

The International Wader Study Group (WSG) is an association of amateurs and professionals from all parts of the world interested in Charadrii (waders or shorebirds). Membership of the WSG is currently over 650 worldwide.





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The aims of the International Wader Study Group are:

**to maintain contact between both amateurs and professionals studying waders
to help organise co-operative studies; and
to provide a vehicle for exchange of information on waders and their biology.**

The main means of achieving these aims are by:

**holding an annual conference;
publishing, three times per year, the *Wader Study Group Bulletin*, and on an occasional basis, *International Wader Studies*, each issue of which covers a major topic of wader biology and conservation; and
acting as Wetlands International's Specialist Group on waders.**

International Wader Studies (IWS) is a fully refereed occasional journal series published by the International Wader Study Group. *International Wader Studies* publishes proceedings based on conferences, symposia and workshops, many arranged by the Wader Study Group, and major analyses of single topics in wader biology. A full listing of published IWS is available on the WSG website, along with information on how to obtain copies.

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WeBS is the monitoring scheme for non-breeding waterbirds in the UK which aims to provide the principal data for the conservation of their populations and wetland habitats. The data collected are used to assess the size of waterbird populations, determine trends in numbers and distribution, and assess the importance of individual sites for waterbirds, in line with the requirements of international conservation Conventions and Directives. A programme of research underpins and enhances these objectives.

WeBS is a partnership between the British Trust for Ornithology, The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (the last on behalf of English Nature, Scottish Natural Heritage, the Countryside Council for Wales and the Environment and Heritage Service in Northern Ireland).

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INTERNATIONAL WADER STUDIES 16

Contents

PAGE	
vi	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
vi	ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS BOOK
1	1. INTRODUCTION <i>Andy Musgrove and Niall Burton</i>
1	Estuarine habitats
2	Estuarine wildlife
3	Human influences on estuaries
4	Monitoring of estuarine waterbirds
6	2. METHODS <i>Andy Musgrove</i>
6	Site selection
6	Species coverage
7	Counters and local organisers
7	Subdivision of sites
7	Count dates and times
8	Field methods and the recording form
8	Data storage and validation
8	Areas and densities
9	Figure 2.1: WeBS Low Tide Counts recording form
11	Distribution maps
13	3. COVERAGE <i>Andy Musgrove</i>
13	Site coverage
13	Table 3.1: Numbers of sites in JNCC (1993–1997) which were covered and not covered by the WeBS Low Tide Counts during the winters 1992–93 to 1998–99, grouped by the numbers of wintering waterbirds per site
14	Figure 3.1: Estuaries covered by the WeBS Low Tide Counts, 1992–93 to 1998–99
15	Figure 3.2: Frequency of site count repetition during the first seven winters of the WeBS Low Tide Counts
15	Species coverage
15	Temporal coverage
16	Table 3.2: The top 30 species recorded by the WeBS Low Tide Counts during the winters 1992–93 to 1998–99, ranked by: (i) proportion of section visits on which species was recorded, (ii) proportion of the total count of all individuals referable to a species, and (iii) proportion of the total count, weighted by biomass
17	Table 3.3: Proportions of individuals of each species recorded separately as feeding and roosting (omitting species with less than 20 individuals observed)
18	Human activities, raptors and disturbance
18	Table 3.4: Numbers and proportions of total recorded activities/raptors assignable to each category and the proportion of occasions for each that the activity/raptor was considered by the counter to be affecting the birds

PAGE	
19	4. SITE ACCOUNTS
	Andy Musgrove
19	Tabulated information
19	Site description
19	Coverage and interpretation
20	Waterbird distribution
22	1. Moray Firth
27	2. Ythan Estuary
29	3. Montrose Basin
32	4. Firth of Tay
36	5. Eden Estuary
39	6. Firth of Forth
44	7. Lindisfarne
48	8. Tyne Estuary
51	9. Wear Estuary
53	10. Tees Estuary
56	11. Humber Estuary
61	12. North Norfolk Coast
66	13. Breydon Water
69	14. Blyth Estuary (Suffolk)
72	15. Deben Estuary
74	16. Orwell Estuary
79	17. Stour Estuary
83	18. Hamford Water
88	19. Colne Estuary
93	20. Blackwater Estuary
98	21. Dengie Flats
101	22. Crouch–Roach Estuary
105	23. Thames Estuary
110	24. Medway Estuary
114	25. Swale Estuary
118	26. Pegwell Bay
120	27. Adur Estuary
122	28. Pagham Harbour
125	29. Chichester Harbour
130	30. Langstone Harbour
134	31. Portsmouth Harbour

PAGE	
137	32. Southampton Water
142	33. Beaulieu Estuary
146	34. North-west Solent
151	35. Medina Estuary
154	36. Poole Harbour
158	37. Exe Estuary
161	38. Kingsbridge Estuary
163	39. Tamar Complex
166	40. Fowey Estuary
168	41. Fal Complex
171	42. Hayle Estuary
173	43. Camel Estuary
175	44. Taw-Torridge Estuary
177	45. Severn Estuary
183	46. Burry Inlet
186	47. Cleddau Estuary
189	48. Inland Sea
191	49. Lavan Sands
195	50. Conwy Estuary
197	51. Clwyd Estuary
199	52. Dee Estuary and North Wirral Shore
203	53. Mersey Estuary
207	54. Alt Estuary
210	55. Ribble Estuary
216	56. Duddon Estuary
220	57. Solway Firth
225	58. Wigtown Bay
227	59. Irvine–Garnock Estuary
229	60. Belfast Lough
235	61. Strangford Lough
242	62. Dundrum Bay

245 5. SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Andy Musgrove

245	Introduction
245	Outline of the full species accounts
245	UK Status
245	LTC Status
246	SPA network
246	Reduced species accounts
246	Tabulated species
246	Table 5.1: Summary information for additional species recorded by the WeBS Low Tide Counts, 1992–93 to 1998–99
	Full species accounts
247	Little Grebe <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
248	Great Crested Grebe <i>Podiceps cristatus</i>
249	Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>
250	Little Egret <i>Egretta garzetta</i>

251	Grey Heron <i>Ardea cinerea</i>
252	Mute Swan <i>Cygnus olor</i>
253	Dark-bellied Brent Goose <i>Branta bernicla bernicla</i>
254	Light-bellied Brent Goose <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>
255	Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i>
256	Wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i>
257	Teal <i>Anas crecca</i>
258	Mallard <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
259	Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i>
260	Eider <i>Somateria mollissima</i>
261	Goldeneye <i>Bucephala clangula</i>
262	Red-breasted Merganser <i>Mergus serrator</i>
263	Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>
264	Avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>
265	Ringed Plover <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>
266	Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>
267	Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>
268	Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i>
269	Knot <i>Calidris canutus</i>
270	Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i>

PAGE		PAGE	
271	Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina</i>	280	Tufted Duck <i>Aythya fuligula</i>
272	Black-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa limosa</i>	281	Scaup <i>Aythya marila</i>
273	Bar-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i>	281	Long-tailed Duck <i>Clangula hyemalis</i>
274	Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i>	282	Common Scoter <i>Melanitta nigra</i>
275	Redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i>	282	Velvet Scoter <i>Melanitta fusca</i>
276	Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres</i>	282	Goosander <i>Mergus merganser</i>
	Reduced species accounts	282	Moorhen <i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
277	Red-throated Diver <i>Gavia stellata</i>	283	Coot <i>Fulica atra</i>
277	Great Northern Diver <i>Gavia immer</i>	283	Purple Sandpiper <i>Calidris maritima</i>
277	Slavonian Grebe <i>Podiceps auritus</i>	283	Ruff <i>Philomachus pugnax</i>
277	Shag <i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>	284	Snipe <i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
278	Bewick's Swan <i>Cygnus columbianus</i>	284	Whimbrel <i>Numenius phaeopus</i>
278	Whooper Swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	284	Spotted Redshank <i>Tringa erythropus</i>
278	Pink-footed Goose <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	285	Greenshank <i>Tringa nebularia</i>
279	Greylag Goose <i>Anser anser</i>	285	Common Sandpiper <i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
279	Canada Goose <i>Branta canadensis</i>	285	Black-headed Gull <i>Larus ridibundus</i>
279	Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i>	286	Common Gull <i>Larus canus</i>
280	Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i>	286	Lesser Black-backed Gull <i>Larus fuscus</i>
280	Pochard <i>Aythya ferina</i>	287	Herring Gull <i>Larus argentatus</i>
		287	Great Black-backed Gull <i>Larus marinus</i>

PAGE
288 6. WEBS LOW TIDE COUNTS AND NATURE CONSERVATION CASEWORK
Allan Drewitt

288	Introduction
288	The role of low tide counts in site protection
289	Mitigation and compensation
290	Monitoring
290	Case studies
290	<i>Dibden Bay, Southampton</i>
292	Table 6.1: Peak mean waterbird numbers using Dibden foreshore or adjacent shallow water at low tide during the winters 1995–96 to 2000–01, along with the proportions present of the population of Southampton Water and of the Solent and Southampton Water SPA/Ramsar site
292	Table 6.2: Peak mean densities, in birds per hectare, of selected waterbird species using Dibden foreshore and Southampton Water as a whole at low tide during the winters 1995–96 to 2000–01
293	<i>Rock Ferry, Mersey Estuary</i>
293	Table 6.3: Peak low tide counts at Rock Ferry during the winters 1994–95 to 1998–99
293	Table 6.4: Average number of birds present in each count sector at Rock Ferry, 1996–97 to 1999–2000
294	Conclusions

295 7. DISCUSSION
Andy Musgrove and Niall Burton

295	Coverage
295	Interpretation
297	Uses

298 8. THE FUTURE OF THE WEBS LOW TIDE COUNTS
Andy Musgrove

299 REFERENCES

309 GLOSSARY

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ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE BOOK

ASSI	Area of Special Scientific Interest (Northern Ireland only)	GIS	Geographical Information System
BoEE	Birds of Estuaries Enquiry	JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
BTO	British Trust for Ornithology	LTC(s)	WeBS Low Tide Count(s)
CCW	Countryside Council for Wales	RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
CRoW	Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000	SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
EHS	Environment and Heritage Service of Northern Ireland	SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
EN	English Nature	SPA	Special Protection Area
		WeBS	Wetland Bird Survey
		WWT	The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust