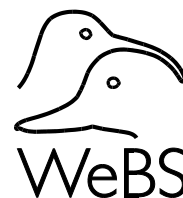


Wetland Bird Survey



5 Species & codes

Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS) monitors all waterbird species, as defined by Wetlands International. In the UK, this includes divers, grebes, cormorants, herons, swans, geese, ducks, rails, waders, gulls and terns, although counting of the last two groups is optional. In addition, WeBS records numbers of Kingfisher. Vagrants, introductions and free-flying escapes of all species in the families listed by Wetlands International are included, e.g. flamingos.

WeBS has adopted the two-letter coding system initially developed by BTO for the Common Birds Census. A list of relevant species and codes is produced below. The list, whilst not exhaustive, includes most species recorded during WeBS surveys to date; a code will be allocated for additional species from the families below as and when they occur. **It is important that both the species name and the two-letter code are recorded on the form.**

For some species, particular races are assigned codes where these are identifiable by field characteristics (e.g. sub-species of Bean Goose and Brent Goose). In these cases, we have flagged the

preferred recording level in normal type, and the less preferred option in faint type; we appreciate however that it may not always be possible to identify to this level during the course of a WeBS count - in which case the generic species code should be used.

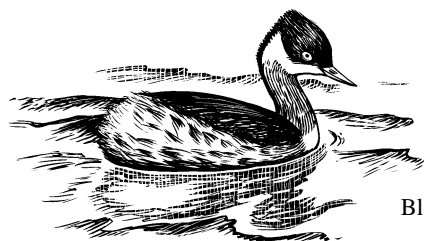
Different populations of certain species are also assigned separate codes. These are determined by WeBS staff on the basis of geographical distribution. Counters may assist this process by flagging counts of known naturalised birds by writing '(naturalised)' after the appropriate species name on the recording form.

Counters may also encounter hybrids and 'domestic' birds (e.g. farmyard Mallard or Greylag varieties). Codes for these are also listed below.

There are occasions when it may be impossible to identify birds to species level. At such times, please use one of the 'unidentified' categories listed below - if you can't be accurate, be honest! Such information is still useful in assessing total waterbird numbers using a site.

WeBS species list


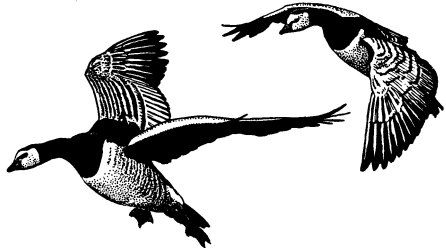
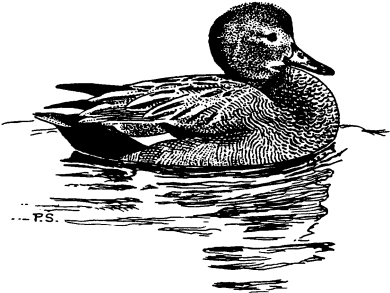
Divers			Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>	SA
Red-throated Diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	RH	Pelicans		
Black-throated Diver	<i>Gavia arctica</i>	BV	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	YP
Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>	ND	Herons		
White-billed Diver	<i>Gavia adamsii</i>	WV	Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	BI
Grebes			American Bittern	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	AM
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	LG	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	LL
Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>	PJ	Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	NT
Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	RX	Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>	HR
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	GG	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	QH
Slavonian Grebe	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	SZ	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	EC
Black-necked Gbe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	BN	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	H.
			Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	UR
			Great White Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	HW
			Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	NY
			Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	ET
			Storks		
			White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	OR
			Ibises and Spoonbills		
Cormorants			Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	IS
Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	CA	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	IB



Black-necked Grebe



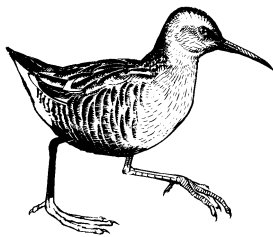
The Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS) is the monitoring scheme for non-breeding waterbirds in the UK which aims to provide the principal data for the conservation of their populations and wetland habitats. WeBS is a partnership, jointly funded by BTO, RSPB, JNCC, with fieldwork conducted by volunteers.

Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	NB	Black-necked Swan	<i>Cygnus melanocorypha</i>	AT
Flamingos			August 2022		
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>	FL			
Chilean Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus chilensis</i>	FM			
Lesser Flamingo	<i>Phoeniconaias minor</i>	FK	Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>	EG
Wildfowl			Magellan Goose	<i>Chloephaga picta</i>	QF
Magpie Goose	<i>Anseranas semipalmata</i>	MJ	Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	SU
White-faced Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	YX	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	UD
Fulvous Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>	YV	Australian Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadornoides</i>	UA
Lesser Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>	YU	Paradise Shelduck	<i>Tadorna variegata</i>	UB
Brent Goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>	BG	Muscovy Duck	<i>Cairina moschata</i>	MY
Black Brant	<i>Branta b. nigricans</i>	BB	Wood Duck	<i>Aix sponsa</i>	DC
Dark-bellied Brent Goose	<i>Branta b. bernicla</i>	DB	Mandarin	<i>Aix galericulata</i>	MN
Light-bellied Brent Goose	<i>Branta b. hrota</i>	PB	Maned Duck	<i>Chenonetta jubata</i>	MQ
Red-breasted Goose	<i>Branta ruficollis</i>	EB	Ringed Teal	<i>Callonetta leucophrys</i>	IE
Hawaiian Goose	<i>Branta sandvicensis</i>	NE	Crested Duck	<i>Lophonetta specularioides</i>	QD
Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	CG	Baikal Teal	<i>Anas formosa</i>	IK
Lesser Canada Goose	<i>Branta hutchinsii</i>	LQ	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>	GY
Barnacle Goose	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>	BY	Silver Teal	<i>Anas versicolor</i>	AG
			Red Shoveler	<i>Anas platalea</i>	VE
			Cinnamon Teal	<i>Anas cyanoptera</i>	QA
			Blue-winged Teal	<i>Anas discors</i>	TB
			Australasian Shoveler	<i>Anas rhynchotis</i>	VA
			Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	SV
			Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	GA
					
	Barnacle Goose				
					
				Gadwall	
Bar-headed Goose	<i>Anser indicus</i>	HD	Falcated Duck	<i>Anas falcata</i>	FT
Emperor Goose	<i>Anser canagicus</i>	EM	Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>	WN
Ross's Goose	<i>Anser rossii</i>	RJ	Chiloe Wigeon	<i>Anas sibilatrix</i>	HL
Snow Goose	<i>Anser caerulescens</i>	SJ	American Wigeon	<i>Anas americana</i>	AW
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	GJ	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	MA
Swan Goose	<i>Anser cygnoides</i>	HN	Black Duck	<i>Anas rubripes</i>	BD
Taiga Bean Goose	<i>Anser f. fabalis</i>	XF	Cape Teal	<i>Anas capensis</i>	QC
Tundra Bean Goose	<i>Anser f. rossicus</i>	XR	Bahama Pintail	<i>Anas bahamensis</i>	PN
Bean Goose	<i>Anser fabalis</i>	BE	Red-billed Teal	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>	YR
Pink-footed Goose	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	PG	Yellow-billed Pintail	<i>Anas georgica</i>	YL
White-fronted Goose	<i>Anser albifrons</i>	WG	Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	PT
Greenland W-front. Goose	<i>Anser a. flavirostris</i>	NW	Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	T.
European W-front. Goose	<i>Anser a. albifrons</i>	EW	Green-winged Teal	<i>Anas carolinensis</i>	TA
Lesser White-fronted Goose	<i>Anser erythropus</i>	LC	Speckled Teal	<i>Anas flavirostris</i>	KQ
Coscoroba Swan	<i>Coscoroba coscoroba</i>	OW			
Black Swan	<i>Cygnus atratus</i>	AS			

Wetland Bird Survey

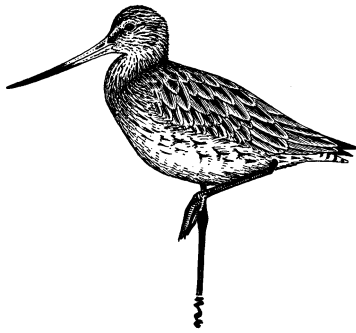
Species & codes

Chestnut Teal	<i>Anas castanea</i>	QB	American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>	AO
Marbled Duck	<i>Marmaronetta angustirostris</i>	MB	B		
			L		
Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>	RQ	C		
Rosybill	<i>Netta peposaca</i>	QR	Craie	<i>Grus grus</i>	AIN
Canvasback	<i>Aythya valisineria</i>	VB	Oystercatchers		
Redhead	<i>Aythya americana</i>	AZ	Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	OC
Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	PO	Stilts and Avocets		
Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>	FD	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	IT
New Zealand Scaup	<i>Aythya novaeseelandiae</i>	NZ	Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	AV
Ring-necked Duck	<i>Aythya collaris</i>	NG	Thick-knees		
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	TU	Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicnemus</i>	TN
Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>	SP	Pratincoles		
Lesser Scaup	<i>Aythya affinis</i>	AY	Oriental Pratincole	<i>Glareola maldivarum</i>	GM
Steller's Eider	<i>Polysticta stelleri</i>	ES	Black-winged Pratincole	<i>Glareola nordmanni</i>	KW
King Eider	<i>Somateria spectabilis</i>	KE			
Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	E.			
Harlequin Duck	<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>	HQ	Plovers		
Surf Scoter	<i>Melanitta perspicillata</i>	FS	Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	L.
Velvet Scoter	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	VS	Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Hoplopterus armatus</i>	KS
Common Scoter	<i>Melanitta nigra</i>	CX	Spur-winged Lapwing	<i>Hoplopterus spinosus</i>	UW
Black Scoter	<i>Melanitta americana</i>	DX	Sociable Lapwing	<i>Vanellus gregarius</i>	IP
Long-tailed Duck	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	LN	Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	GP
Bufflehead	<i>Bucephala albeola</i>	VH	Pacific Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	IF
Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	GN	American Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis dominica</i>	ID
Smew	<i>Mergellus albellus</i>	SY	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	GV
Hooded Merganser	<i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>	HO	Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	RP
Goosander	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	GD	Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	TV
Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	RM	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	LP
Ruddy Duck	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>	RY	Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	KL
Argentine Blue-bill	<i>Oxyura vittata</i>	OI	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	KP
Cape Shelduck	<i>Tadorna cana</i>	UE	Lesser Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>	DQ
White-headed Duck	<i>Oxyura leucocephala</i>	WQ	Greater Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>	DP
Rails			Dotterel	<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>	DO
Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>	WA	Upland Sandpiper	<i>Bartramia longicauda</i>	UP
			Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	WM
			Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	CU
			Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	BA



Water Rail

Corncrake	<i>Crex crex</i>	CE
Spotted Crake	<i>Porzana porzana</i>	AK
Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	MH
Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	CO



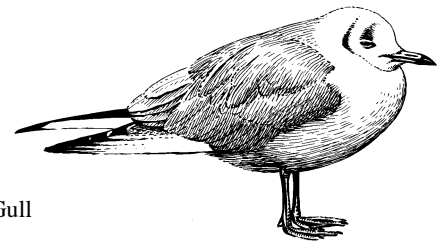
Bar-tailed Godwit

Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	BW
Hudsonian Godwit	<i>Limosa haemastica</i>	HU
Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	TT
Sandpipers and allies		
Great Knot	<i>Calidris tenuirostris</i>	KO
Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	KN
Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	RU
Broad-billed Sandpiper	<i>Limicola falcinellus</i>	OA
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	VV
Stilt Sandpiper	<i>Calidris himantopus</i>	MI
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	CV
Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	TK
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	SS
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	DN
Purple Sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>	PS
Baird's Sandpiper	<i>Calidris bairdii</i>	BP
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	LX
Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>	EP
White-rumped Sandpiper	<i>Calidris fuscicollis</i>	WU
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	<i>Tryngites subruficollis</i>	BQ
Pectoral Sandpiper	<i>Calidris melanotos</i>	PP
Semipalmated Sandpiper	<i>Calidris pusilla</i>	PZ
Western Sandpiper	<i>Calidris mauri</i>	ER
Long-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus scolopaceus</i>	LD
Woodcock	<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>	WK
Jack Snipe	<i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>	JS
Great Snipe	<i>Gallinago media</i>	DS
Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	SN
Terek Sandpiper	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>	TR
Wilson's Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>	WF
Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	NK
Grey Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>	PL
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	CS
Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularia</i>	PQ
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	GE
Solitary Sandpiper	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>	I.
Grey-tailed Tattler	<i>Heteroscelus brevipes</i>	YT

Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>	LY
Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	RK
Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	MD
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	OD
Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	DR
Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	GK
Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	LZ

Gulls and Terns

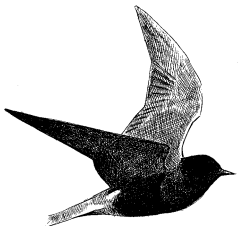

Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	KI
Ivory Gull	<i>Pagophila eburnea</i>	IV
Sabine's Gull	<i>Larus sabini</i>	AB
Slender-billed Gull	<i>Larus genei</i>	EI
Bonaparte's Gull	<i>Larus philadelphia</i>	ON
Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	BH



Black-headed Gull

Little Gull	<i>Larus minutus</i>	LU
Ross's Gull	<i>Rhodostethia rosea</i>	QG
Laughing Gull	<i>Larus atricilla</i>	LF
Franklin's Gull	<i>Larus pipixcan</i>	FG
Mediterranean Gull	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	MU
Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	CM
Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>	IN
Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	GB
Glaucous Gull	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	GZ
Iceland Gull	<i>Larus glaucoides</i>	IG
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	HG
Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>	YC
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	YG
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus a. cachinnans/michahellis</i>	YG
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	LB
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Sterna nilotica</i>	TG
Caspian Tern	<i>Sterna caspia</i>	CJ
Royal Tern	<i>Sterna maxima</i>	QT
Lesser Crested Tern	<i>Sterna bengalensis</i>	TF
Sandwich Tern	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>	TE
Little Tern	<i>Sterna albifrons</i>	AF
Roseate Tern	<i>Sterna dougallii</i>	RS
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	CN
Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	AE
Forster's Tern	<i>Sterna forsteri</i>	FO
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	WD



White-winged Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>	WJ	hybrid gull		ZU
Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	BJ	Unidentified birds		
			unidentified yellow-billed swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus/columbianus</i>	UF
			unidentified scoter sp.	<i>Melanitta sp.</i>	UX
			unidentified goose	<i>Anser/Branta sp.</i>	UO
Black Tern			unidentified duck		UM
			unidentified grebe	<i>Podicipedidae</i>	UV
Kingfishers			unidentified flamingo		FU
Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	KF	unidentified wader		U.
			unidentified Common/Arctic Tern ('Commic' Tern)	<i>Sterna hirundo/paradisaea</i>	UI
			unidentified gull	<i>Larus sp.</i>	UU
			unidentified small gull		OU
			unidentified large gull		VU
			unidentified tern	<i>Sterna sp.</i>	UT
		Kingfisher	unidentified diver	<i>Gavia sp.</i>	UL
Hybridsⁱ			unidentified cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax sp.</i>	XU
hybrid goose		ZL	Feral/domestic birds		
hybrid swan		ZS	Feral/domestic goose		ZL
hybrid shelduck		ZT	Feral/domestic Mallard		ZF
hybrid <i>Aythya</i>		ZD			
hybrid <i>Anas</i>		ZR			

Line drawings by Mark Hulme, Peter Scott, Joe Blossom and Graham Giddens.

ⁱ codes for hybrids of presumed 'wild' birds (e.g. Teal x Gadwall) rather than feral/domestic/farmyard types for which there are separate codes