



INTERNATIONAL SWAN CENSUS (ISC)

Although counts of swans made for WeBS and I-WeBS will automatically be included in the census, if you observe any Bewick's or Whooper Swans during your count please use this form: 1) To provide additional information (e.g. age assessments or habitat use) during your WeBS/I-WeBS count; 2) to provide a roost count of swans at the WeBS/I-WeBS site. This form should also be used to provide counts of swans recorded at sites not normally visited for the national schemes, including non-wetland sites, e.g. fields. If you visit an additional site but no swans were present, please submit the form with nil counts so we know that the site was visited. Please complete a separate form for each site/count unit visited.

- 1 COUNTER DETAILS:** Please enter your full name, address and email address. Please provide details of anyone else who assisted with the counts in the additional information box (section 10).
- 2 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 large estuary) please enter the name of the site also. Use recognised names and adhere to existing count boundaries if covering a WeBS or I-WeBS site. Clarification will be available from your Local Organiser or National Organiser.
- 3 DATE, TIME and METHOD:** Please enter the data of the count and approximate start and finish times using the 24-hour clock (e.g. 0900/1300). Only counts of swans made between these times should be included on the form. Please indicate if the count was of roosting birds made at dawn or dusk, or a daytime count.
- 4 SWAN COUNTS:**
 - Write "0" (zero) if none of the target species were present when you made the count. Please don't leave the cell blank or use any other symbol, such as a dash (-).
 - 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.
 - Swans flying overhead should not be included in the count recorded in section 4, as they may be counted at other sites. Please provide details of these birds in section 11, including whether you feel they should be included in the census total. Counts of swans that arrived at or left this site during the survey can be included in section 4. Please, however, indicate numbers and likely origin or destination in section 11.
- 5 AGE ASSESSMENT:**
 - Please record the total number of swans aged (identified as adults or cygnets).
 - Where possible, please identify the number of cygnets in each family. Blank columns are provided to record broods of more than six cygnets; please enter the brood size at the top of the blank column.
- 6 COUNT CONDITIONS:** Please give an approximate value for the percentage of the wetland within your count area covered by ice. If the site is tidal or close to tidal waters, please circle the appropriate number to indicate the state of the tide during the count. Please indicate whether there was any local flooding at the time of your count.
- 7 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.
- 8 SITE USE:** Please indicate if the site is used as a roosting and/or feeding area, and the name of the roost site if different.
- 9 HABITAT USE:** Please record the total number of each species of swan using the habitat types present at the site.
- 10 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** If you are aware of regular interchange of birds with other locations, and particularly if birds flew during or after the count that may have been counted elsewhere, please provide details. Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

PLEASE NOTE - COLOUR-RINGED BIRDS: BTO doesn't manage colour-rings, but if colour-ringed birds were seen, please visit: <https://www.ring.ac> to input your data on colour-ringed birds.

If you have internet access you can now submit your counts using GSMP Online. By using GSMP Online your data will be easier for us to process. For more information on how to register please contact the GSMP Office at gsmp@bto.org. Please note - the use of GSMP Online is NOT compulsory.

Please return completed forms promptly to your
GSMP Local Organiser or to the GSMP Office
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP



1 COUNTER DETAILS

2 COUNT UNIT:

Central Grid Ref.

Site (if part of larger 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. 13/10/22)	TIME Start	TIME Finish	Method: Please circle the appropriate number
/ /			1 Dawn Roost Count 2 Dusk Roost Count 3 Daytime/feeding count

4 SWAN COUNTS			5 AGE ASSESSMENTS			Number of families of each brood size						
Enter a 'O' if no swans were present			Total aged	No. of adults	No. of cygnets	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Bewick's Swan	BS											
Whooper Swan	WS											
Unidentified yellow-billed swan	UF											

6 COUNT CONDITIONS

State of Tide (coastal sites only)	1 Rising 2 High 3 Falling 4 Low	% of water in count unit covered by ice	
Was there any local flooding?	1 Yes 2 No 3 Unknown	Was the night moonlit?	1 Yes 2 No 3 Unknown

7 COVERAGE

Do you feel your counts of waterbirds were reasonably accurate (circle 'OK') or did other factors (e.g. weather or disturbance) prevent you from recording a significant number of birds present (circle 'LOW')?

Count accuracy	OK/LOW	If 'LOW' which of the following affected your count (please ✓ the appropriate box/boxes)?	<input type="checkbox"/> I did not cover all of my count area <input type="checkbox"/> Poor visibility (due to fog, glare, heavy rain etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> High levels of disturbance
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8 SITE USE Please circle whether the site is used as	1 Roost site 2 Feeding site 3 Roost & Feeding site 4 Unknown
If used as a feeding site, please provide the name of the roost site (or write UNKNOWN)	

9 HABITAT USE Please record the total number of Bewick's (BS), Whooper (WS) or Unidentified yellow-billed swans (UF) observed in each habitat											
	BS	WS	UF		BS	WS	UF		BS	WS	UF
Natural permanent Lake				Sea Loch (11)				Arable: sugar beet (21)			
Artificial Lake/Reservoir (02)				Open Coast (12)				Improved pasture (flooded) (22)			
Gravel Pit (03)				Improved pasture (dry) (13)				Rough/unimproved pasture (flooded) (23)			
Non-tidal river (04)				Rough/unimproved pasture (dry) (14)				Reseeded pasture (flooded) (24)			
Canal (05)				Reseeded pasture (dry) (15)				Turlough - improved pasture (25)			
Freshmarsh (06)				Arable: stubble (16)				Callow - improved pasture (27)			
Tidal river/estuary (on water) (07)				Arable: winter cereal (17)				Callow - rough/unimproved pasture (28)			
Saltmarsh/merse (08)				Arable: oil seed rape (18)				Raised Bog (29)			
Mudflats (09)				Arable: potatoes (19)				Blanket bog/moorland (30)			
Brackish Lake (10)				Arable: carrots (20)				Other (99)			

10 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Please provide details of other sites that may be used by these birds. Please list below any counts of birds that flew over the site, and indicate their likely origin and destination , if known. If any birds left or arrived at your site during the count, please indicate their numbers and origin or destination if known. Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary.