



## Breeding Waders of English Upland Farmland survey 2016

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### Letter of Introduction

Dear Sir/Madam,

The British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) is coordinating a Defra funded survey of breeding wading birds found on enclosed upland farmed land (grassland and cropped) below the moorland line, known as 'in-bye', during spring/summer 2016. The 'in-bye' supports large numbers of wading birds, particularly Curlews and Lapwings, and this is the first national survey of its kind. The bearer of this letter is participating in the survey.

The size and range of the breeding population of Curlews and Lapwings, along with many other wading birds, has declined considerably during recent decades. The purpose of the survey is to find out how many are currently present, which will allow us to measure future changes as well as assessing the effects of targeted agri-environment schemes and management.

This survey requires the surveyor to make two visits to a 2km x 2km square, between 1st April and late July 2016. During each visit, undertaken in the morning, the surveyor will ideally need to briefly enter, or view, each field to count the number of breeding waders and record details of the field and land use. The surveyor will need access to paths, trackways and ideally fields, to help cover the area. Further details can be found on the survey webpages: [www.bto.org/bweuf](http://www.bto.org/bweuf)

Any help you can give the bearer of this letter in allowing access to privately owned land would be very much appreciated.

This survey is just one of the many short-term and on-going projects on birds carried out by BTO volunteers. Please do not hesitate to telephone or email if you would like more information about the survey, or the work of the BTO.

Many thanks for your help

Greg Conway  
Survey organiser