



## Breeding Woodcock Annual Monitoring

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### Letter of Introduction

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Game & Wildlife Conservancy Trust and the British Trust for Ornithology are coordinating annual monitoring of breeding Woodcock at selected woodland sites across Britain and Ireland following the 2013 survey. The bearer of this letter is participating in the annual monitoring.

In a recent review of the population status of birds in the UK, the Woodcock was 'Amber Listed' as a bird of European conservation concern because of a long-term decline in breeding numbers. The purpose of the survey is to provide an updated national population index for this species, to compare changes since the previous survey in 2003 as well as future changes in numbers, and to investigate the bird's woodland habitat preferences.

This survey requires the birdwatcher to make observations within a wood, which may not normally be open to the public. The volunteer will need access to paths, rides or glades within the wood. The survey comprises four visits to the same site at dusk between 1st April and 30th June.

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

The breeding Woodcock 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 on the survey, or visit the GWCT or BTO websites for information about the organisations.

Many thanks for your help

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