

# Distribution 1964

## Title

Distribution 1964

## Description and Summary of Results

This has always been included in the list of BTO surveys and the returned forms (questionnaires) are stored in the BTO archives. However it was actually a survey commissioned and run by the British Ornithologists' Union Records Committee, and carried out by questionnaire as part of their researches for a new checklist of the birds of Britain and Ireland – eventually published in 1971. The results were also used by John Parslow in his series of papers in *British Birds* on the status of breeding birds in Britain and Ireland.

## Methods of Data Capture

A 19 page form was sent to each county or area recorder with a request that either they or some other knowledgeable person filled it in on behalf of the whole county. The bulk of the form was a list of breeding, wintering and regular passage species (excluding rarities) with 5 columns to be filled in to indicate status. 'Observers' were asked to fill in columns 1 to 3 with B (for breeding), W (for wintering) or P (for those which were passage only) into Column 1 if the species was 'Widespread in suitable localities', into Column 2 if 'Local but regular', into Column 3 if 'Irregular in last 10 years'. If the species had been absent in the last 10 years then they were asked to put a tick into Column 4. Column 5 was for Comments with a specific request to be more precise if there was an entry in Column 2 or if the species was known to have changed in numbers in the last 10 years or so. They were also asked to ignore extreme weather effects, such as the large decreases of some species in spring 1963 following the very cold winters.

## Purpose of Data Capture

To determine the current status of each species in the breeding and non-breeding seasons in each county and to record any known changes over the previous 10 years.

## Geographic Coverage

Britain and Ireland.

## Temporal Coverage

1964.

**Other Interested parties**

The questionnaire was sent out by the British Ornithologists' Union Records Committee.

**Organiser(s)**

Phil Hollom sent out and received the forms in his capacity as Secretary of the BOU Records Committee.

**Current Staff Contact**

archives@bto.org

**Publications**

The results were used to aid the compilation of:

Parslow, J.L.F. 1967-1968. Changes in status among breeding birds in Britain and Ireland. *British Birds* 60: 2-47, 97-123, 177-202, 261-285, 396-404, 493-508; 61: 49-64, 241-255; and Snow, D.W. (ed.) 1971. *The status of birds in Britain and Ireland*. Prepared by the Records Committee of the British Ornithologists' Union. Blackwells Scientific Publications, Oxford. There is no mention in any BTO publications.

**Available from NBN?**

No.

**Computer data -- location**

None.

**Computer data -- outline contents**

N/A.

**Computer data -- description of contents**

N/A.

**Information held in BTO Archives**

3 Transfer Cases containing data forms.

**Notes on Access and Use****Other information**

**Notes on Survey Design**

**Specific Issues for Analysis**