



Forth Seabird Group

Forth Islands Bird Report 1996

Compiled by Ian J. Andrews

March 1997

MAIN EVENTS OF THE 1996 SEASON

- Bass Rock count
- Manx Shearwaters seen ashore and heard calling on the Isle of May
- Extremely low tern numbers

Acknowledgements

Thanks go to the lead persons for each of the islands for completing Visit Forms (Ronnie Morris, Dave Fairlamb, Bill Bruce and Nigel Harding) and to Kate Thompson for providing additional information. Every one who took part in this year's counts is also acknowledged. Bob Smith was unable to take part in this year's surveys due to ill health.

Fife Regional Council, through its Charter for the Environment Conservation Fund, supported the Group by way of a grant to offset boat costs. This grant is greatly appreciated and will hopefully continue in future years.

Forth Seabird Group meetings

Each year it is planned to hold pre- and post-season meetings in March and November at either Vane Farm, Tayside or 21 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh. Details will be circulated to interested parties.

St Abbs Head NNR, 1996

Fulmars declined by 6.9% to 364 AOS, and 0.35 young fledged per incubating pair. The Shag population was maintained at 175 AON, but it was still only a mere 38% of the 1991 peak figure of 463 AON. Breeding success was well above average at 1.69 fledged young per nest.

Herring Gull numbers decreased by 10.1% to 358 AON, continuing the see-saw trend of recent years. There was a slight decline in Kittiwake numbers to 13,437 AON, but productivity was a large improvement on the 1995 figure with 1.06 young per AON.

Counts on the Guillemot monitoring plots remained high, but were 10% down on the high of 1995. Razorbill counts were down 25.9% on 1995 and were the lowest since 1988. 74 Puffins were ashore on the evening of 22 June.

Summarised from a report by Kevin Rideout and S. Patterson.

International Beached Bird Survey, February 1996

In south-east Scotland (Fife Ness to England) a total of 1471 birds were found at a density of 6.24 birds / km walked. Of this total, 77% were auks (1137 birds). Unusual species found included single Brent Goose and Snow Bunting, and 17 Little Auks. The percentage of birds oiled ranged from 1.0% on the Fife Ness to Tayport stretch to 3.1-4.3% elsewhere.

The national average density was 2.37 dead birds / km walked, a figure which lies above those found over the period 1991-1993 and 1995. However, the survey this year coincided with a wreck of Guillemots which was reported along north-western, northern and eastern coasts of Scotland in the early part of the year and this mortality event accounts for the increase both in densities of auks found and for the high national density.

The prolonged period of easterly winds in the early part of 1996 probably contributed to the high figures by sweeping inland many of the Guillemots which had died at sea during the winter. Autopsies carried out on a very small sample

of Guillemots from the Moray Firth area revealed high endoparasite levels, although the extent to which these were implicated in the deaths was not clear. Many Guillemots were reported as being emaciated. Importantly though, whereas the most recent major wreck in 1994 involved many Shags, the overall density of Shags in the 1996 survey appeared little higher than in previous years (1991-1993 and 1995).

In Orkney and Shetland, many more than the usual numbers of auks were observed close inshore in the early part of 1996, either having been driven in by storms or attracted by shoals of sprats. Hence it is possible that the mortality observed there was no higher than the norm but was more obvious as a result of the birds being closer inshore. Although the proportion of birds oiled was higher in Shetland than in previous years, Orkney and northern mainland coasts were not similarly affected and oiling was not thought to have contributed significantly to the high mortality.

Overall, 11% of the seabirds, wildfowl, divers and grebes were oiled, a much lower proportion than in 1995, when 26% were oiled. Although the 1996 oiling rate is one of the lowest of the last six years, it must be born in mind that these proportions will be lowered by the wrecks of unoiled birds, such as occurred this year. The highest proportions of oiled birds were found in eastern, southern and western England. Although the situation in southern England reflects the chronic pollution in the Channel, the proportion of birds which were oiled on the eastern and western coasts of England is unusually high. It is possible that western coastlines were affected by oil from the Sea Empress spill which occurred just prior to the survey.

From reports by Peter Gordon (SE Scotland) and Emma Brindley (national), both RSPB.

Mainland seabird colonies in the Firth of Forth, 1996

The following Fulmar counts were made between the Forth Bridges and Fife Ness during June/July:

		AOS
North Queensferry	- Deep Sea World	7
	- East cliff	5
Burntisland to Pettycur		1
Crail	- Roome rocks	3
	- East of Harbour	3
	- Harbour to West Ness	20
Earlsferry	- Kinraig Point cliffs	46
	TOTAL	85

Other counts submitted are:

761 Kittiwake nests at Dunbar Harbour on 1 June. Productivity: 0.7 young per monitored nest.

574 Fulmar sites (716 birds) at Tantallon on 13 June (probably an undercount). Productivity: 0.45 young per monitored site.

Data from Dave Fairlamb and Peter Gordon (RSPB) and Stan da Prato.

Bass Rock count, 1996

The Bass has for some years been the thorn in the flesh of the FSG, as much of its seabird populations have been considered uncountable due to the spread of the nesting Gannets.

With the cancellation of the annual Lamb/Fidra trip this year (counted instead by the RSPB), opportunity was taken to undertake a monitoring feasibility study of the Bass on 8 June 1996.

During the study an attempt was made to count the nesting species, other than Gannet, part of which was conducted by normal means, and partly by taking photographs (of the Guillemots and Kittiwakes). In all, over 400 slides were taken, covering the full circumference of the rock.

	1996	Previous
Fulmar	166	122 (1984), 59 (1985)
Guillemot	3225 ¹	2500+ (1985), previous estimates were sometimes 4000+
Razorbill	188	36 (1986), previously 100+ counted
Kittiwake	2142 ²	c.2450 (1984)
Puffin	c.20	17 (1990)
Shag	47	121 (1990)
Eider	c.7	3 (1990)
G B-b Gull	1	1+ (1990)
Herring Gull	est. 240	c.225 (1990)
L B-b Gull	est. 60	22+ (1990)

¹ 2014 by photograph, 1211 + 155 on sea counted in the field

² 1943 by photograph, 199 in the field

Results from the trip and subsequent examination of the slides, are listed above, with the last previously obtained figures and the pertinent year for each species, for comparison purposes.

By Ronnie Morris

Management for terns on Inchmickery

Early season visits in April for tern substrate management revealed that the island vegetation had been severely affected by sea scour, especially on the eastern side of the island - the area preferred by terns. So, the annual ritual of vegetation suppression by black plastic was unnecessary. Work carried out on the shingle plots included the repair of tern shelters, repositioning of shelters and re-distribution of shingle over the black plastic base to form a complete shingle cover.

On 9 June, all the terns were nesting around the original suppressed vegetation plots, but, unfortunately, all had deserted by 30 June.

It was interesting to note that the large gull nest count on 25 May gave a combined Herring/Lesser Black-backed Gull count of 392 nests - the highest total since records began in the 1950s.

Information supplied by Dave Fairlamb, RSPB

Isle of May seabird studies, 1996

Shag numbers increased only slightly following the dramatic crash in 1994 and the small recovery in 1995. The first egg was laid on 13 April and laying continued until late July. Nesting success (1.05 young per incubating pair) was among the highest ever recorded.

Most pairs of Kittiwakes which were present built nests but the clutch-size was small. Breeding was the latest recorded with the first young not flying until the end of July. Few chicks were neglected and there was no evidence of serious food shortage. Breeding success was moderate (0.56 fledged young per nest), but higher than 1993 (0.07), 1994 (0.16) and 1995 (0.40). Few pairs appeared to be prospecting and the population may well soon decline.

Puffins and Guillemots both had a good season with outputs of 0.78 and 0.82 young fledged per pair respectively. Razorbill success was lower at 0.63, due, as usual, to losses at the egg stage. The reason for this remains obscure. Fulmar breeding success (0.44) was normal.

The overwinter survival rate of adult Shags was extremely high (93.6%) while those of Kittiwakes (75.8%) and Puffins (90.1%) were normal. Both Guillemots (88.9%) and especially Razorbills (56.6%) survived much less well than in past years; this may have been due to many adults dying in a little-publicised wreck in east Scotland in the early spring.

Sandeels predominated in the diet of young Shags, Kittiwakes and Puffins, but made up under half the fish brought to young Guillemots. Puffins and Kittiwakes fed their young mainly on 0-group fish, whereas Shags concentrated on older and larger sandeels. Most non-sandeels eaten were sprats, but Puffins also brought back small cod and saithe. There was no evidence that young of any species were short of food.

This summary is taken from Harris, M.P. (1996) Isle of May seabird studies in 1996. JNCC Report No. 263.

Seabirds ringed on the Forth Islands, 1996

This year's seabird ringing trips consisted of five visits to Inchkeith and three visits to Craigleith and succeeded in ringing a total of 996 seabirds and retrapping a further 57.

This far exceeds the 1994 (590) and 1995 figures (776).

The first visit to Craigleith on 2 June managed to ring just over half the Cormorants since the remaining birds were too small. Therefore an extra trip was scheduled to complete the Cormorant ringing and to coincide with the bulk of the Shag pulli. The final Craigleith trip coincided with the peak in auk abundance.

Fulmars were down on Inchkeith and we only succeeded in ringing 132 pulli in comparison with about 145 in each of the last 2 years. Although Craigleith had about 50 pairs of Fulmars a special ringing trip was not run for them.

A record number of Cormorant pulli were ringed in 1996 by LRG with

102 ringed on Craigleith and 55 ringed on Inchkeith. The number on Inchkeith were similar to 1994 (47) and 1995 (69) whereas the number ringed on Craigleith was well up on the last two years when 21 and 14 pulli were ringed respectively. This increase was mainly due to the timing of the visits.

Shag numbers had recovered after the crash of the 1994 winter and a total of 141 were ringed on Craigleith. An attempt was made to retrap adults with rings, and 19 were retrapped (compared with 5 in 1994 and 7 in 1995).

Kittiwakes had a reasonable year, and we succeeded in ringing 162

pulli and 35 adults in addition to snitching 13 adults.

A reasonable sample of Guillemots and Razorbills were ringed on both islands this year with a total of 37 Razorbills and 24 Guillemots. In an attempt to catch adult Puffins on Inchkeith two mist nets were erected south-east of Kirkcaldy Haven and 12 adults were caught. Six of these birds were retraps and all had been ringed on Inchkeith as adults in previous years (five when mist netting last year). An average number of Puffin pulli were ringed on Craigleith.

No Eiders were ringed this year. A smattering of Herring and Lesser Black-backed Gulls were ringed.

However, the group ringed good numbers of Great Black-backed Gulls, with 10 ringed on Craigleith and two on Inchkeith. The latter was most gratifying since Great Black-backed Gulls only bred on this island for the first time in 1995.

Many thanks to all those ringers who tried to reach the targets for 1996. Thanks to John Davies for organising the Inchkeith trips via the Granton Pilots. Thanks to Dougie Ferguson for landing us on Craigleith. Finally, thanks are due to the SOC for their seabird grant of £100 towards our travel costs.

Article supplied by Martin Moss, Lothian Ringing Group

Table 2: Seabird ringing totals for Craigleith (Cr) and Inchkeith (Ik), Lothian Ringing Group, 1996

	Pullus		Adult		Retrap		New			Target
	Cr	Ik	Cr	Ik	Cr	Ik	Cr	Ik	Total	
Fulmar		132		3			0	135	135	All
Cormorant	102	55					102	55	157	All
Shag	113		28		19		141	0	141	All
Kittiwake		163	5	34		13	5	197	202	250
Razorbill	14	13	2	8			16	21	37	All
Guillemot	14	7	1	2			15	9	24	All
Puffin	124	20	115	18		6	239	38	277	250
Eider							0	0	0	0
Herring Gull		4					0	4	4	0
L B-b Gull		6		1			0	7	7	0
G B-b Gull	10	2					10	2	12	All
Total									996	900+

Summary of ringing activities on the Fife Forth Islands, 1996

Haystack was visited on 3 June to ring Cormorants. The ringers specifically teamed up with Ronnie Morris to minimise disturbance to the colony. Ringing time was limited to the time it took Ronnie to count nests and their contents; 23 Cormorant chicks were ringed.

Carr Craig was also visited on 3 June, but Cormorants were only at the egg stage. On a further visit, on 26 June, 10 Cormorant and 3 Shag chicks were ringed. Again visits were co-ordinated with Ronnie Morris.

Inchcolm Two visits were made, the first on 26 June. Very few birds were at a ringable stage. However, the second Razorbill chick for Inchcolm was ringed at the south-west end of the island, along with two Shag chicks. As on Inchkeith, Kittiwakes were found to be well behind. This may have been as much as two weeks in comparison with the 1995 season. Most were on eggs and only two chicks and four adults were ringed. 24 Lesser Black-back and 13 Herring Gulls were also ringed on this visit.

A further visit was made on the 9 July when another 45 Kittiwake chicks were ringed, almost all being at the 11-16 day old stage or younger. A further one Herring Gull and 20 Lesser Black-backed pulli were also ringed. It was perceived that even with these species, chicks were fewer and harder to find than in 1995.

Acknowledgements

Seabird ringing is supported by a grant from the Fife Council's Community Environmental Grant Scheme - Nature Conservation Fund. This grant covers the cost of rings used on the Fife Forth Islands. We are grateful to Ronnie Morris who organised boats to the smaller islands, and to Colin Aston of the Maid of The Forth for the 9 July Inchcolm trip.

Article supplied by Brian H. Little

Table 3: Seabird ringing totals for Inchcolm, Haystack and Carr Craig, 1996.

	Inchcolm	Haystack	Carr Craig
Fulmar	1 ad		
Cormorant		23 pulli	10 pulli
Shag	2 pulli		3 pulli
LB-b Gull	44 pulli		
Herring Gull	14 pulli		
G B-b Gull			
Kittiwake	47 pulli 4 ads		
Razorbill	1 pulli		

Count dates, additional counts and comments

For consistency Table 1 shows counts on the *main count day only*. Additional counts (possibly with higher totals) are given below.

Bass Rock (Ba)

Ronnie Morris, Bill Bruce, Murray Wilson and Stephanie Smith visited on 8 June. See article above.

Guillemot: 3225 birds on cliffs, plus 155 on sea.

Craighleith (Cr)

Visited on 26 May (Bill Bruce, Helen O'Donoghue and Richard Watt) and 14 June (Dave Fairlamb and Peter Gordon).

Guillemot: extrapolation of 0.67 = one pair, gives an estimated 1258 pairs.

Lamb (La)

Visited on 28 May (Dave Fairlamb, Michael Ellison and Ian Parkinson).

Fulmar: 14 AOS is highest number recorded since colonisation in 1962.

Guillemot: extrapolation of 0.67 = one pair, gives an estimated 2446 pairs.

Fidra (Fi)

The main count was carried out on 28 May by Dave Fairlamb, Michael Ellison and Ian Parkinson.

Nest productivity data is as follows:

	% of population	Nests/AOS	No. of young	Young per nest/AOS
Fulmar	18	60	32	0.53
Shag	11	9	14	1.55
Kittiwake	34	107	26	0.24
Razorbill	54	40	10	0.25

Eyebroughy (Eb)

Visited on 14 June (Dave Fairlamb and Pete Gordon).

Inchkeith (Ik)

Visits were made on 6 May, 2 June (main count) and 27 July. The main count was carried out by Bill Bruce, Ronnie Morris, Helen O'Donoghue and Tim O'Donoghue.

Cormorant: 66 nests on 6 May.
Eider: 140 nests on 6 May, 535 including 16 young on 2 Jun.
Guillemot: 81 birds on cliffs, plus 15 on sea.

Razorbill: 68 sites, plus 27 on sea.
Puffin: 610 offshore and 50+ ashore on 6 May.

Carr Craig (CC)

Viewed on 6 March, 30 April, 14 May and 28 May. Landed on 3 June (main count) and 25 June.

On 25 Jun, Cormorant had increased to 40 nests and Shag to 7 nests.

Inchcolm (Ic)

Visits were made on 6 March, 30 April, 14 May, 28 May (main count), 15 June, 25 June and 5 July.

Fulmar count of 237 AOS was made on 15 June, after an incomplete count of 199 AOS on 28 May.

Kittiwake: after main count of 144 nests on 28 May, 150 were counted on 15 Jun and 138 on 25 Jun.

Puffin: an egg was found on 14 May at the site where breeding was first discovered in 1993. Max c.134 birds on and offshore 15 Jun.

Razorbill: 5 ashore on 30 Apr, 6 ashore (3 sites) on 28 May, 3 birds on eggs at NW cliffs on 15 June, 8 on cliffs 25 Jun.

Haystack (Hs)

Viewed on 6 March, 30 April, 14 May and 28 May. Landed on 3 June (main count) and 25 June.

Inchmickery (Im)

The main counts were carried out on 25 May and 9 June by Dave Fairlamb, Graeme Ruthven and Ian Parkinson.

The terns had failed and deserted by the end of June.

Inchgarvie (Ilg)

Counted on 30 May by Ron Morris, Eddy Cartmel, Brian Little and Mark Oksien.

Long Craig (LC)

Eider - all failed.
Sandwich Tern - failed at egg stage.

Isle of May (May)

The work was carried out by SNH staff and ITE staff (under contact to JNCC).

Manx Shearwater: On 27 Jul, a single bird was heard calling in flight. On seven nights during 7-15 Aug, 2-3 birds were heard overhead and seen on the ground in suitable nesting habitat.

The gull population may have been underestimated.

Herring Gull: a revised figure of c.3313 nests has been estimated. Fledging success was 1.23 fledged young per nest.

L B-b Gull: a revised figure of c.1832 nests has been estimated. Fledging success was 0.88 fledged young per nest.

Great Black-backed Gull: 8 territories were occupied at end May.

Common and Arctic Terns: of 780 nests counted, 68% were estimated to be Arctic Tern and 32% Common Tern. A minimum of 231 tern chicks fledged, i.e. c.0.3+ fledged young/nest. Gulls took an estimated 300±146 chicks - a high proportion by just three individuals.

For additional information see article on page 2.

Other seabirds and passerines

Dates as per main seabird table, unless given.

Bass Rock

Pied Wagtail (1 on 8 Jun)
Rock Pipit (2 on 8 Jun)

Craigleith

Mallard (1 pr on 26 May)

Lamb - none

Fidra

Oystercatcher (3 prs)
Starling (1 on 16 Jul)

Eyebroughy

Oystercatcher (1 pr on 14 Jun)
Bar-tailed Godwit (1 on 14 Jun)
Redshank (1 on 14 Jun)
Turnstone (8 on 14 Jun)
Swallow (2 over on 14 Jun)

Inchkeith

Manx Shearwater (5 from boat on 2 Jun)
Gannet (3 past on 2 Jun)
Greylag Goose (pr and nest 6 May and 2 Jun)
Mallard (2 prs ?prospecting on 6 May)
Oystercatcher (28 including 7 prs and 3 singles on 6 May, 19 including 8 prs on 2 Jun, alarming at 6 sites on 27 Jul)
Knot (150 on 6 May)
Purple Sandpiper (2 on 6 May)
Turnstone (24 on 6 May)
Black-headed Gull (1 over on 6 May)
Swallow (3 over on 6 May, 1 on 2 Jun)
Rock Pipit (2 with food on 2 Jun, 2 on 27 Jul)
Pied Wagtail (1-3 on 6 May)
Wren (1 on 6 May)
Blackbird (no adults, 3 nests on 6 May)
Willow Warbler (6 amongst elder scrub on 6 May)
Carrion Crow (3-5 adults, 2 nests on 6 May)
Starling (11+ on 6 May, 12+ including 1 young bird on 2 Jun)
Linnet (1 on 6 May)

Carr Craig

Cormorant (22 on 6 Mar)
Shag (4-6 on 6 Mar)
Gannet (8 past on 3 Jun)
Eider (20+ on 14 May)
Oystercatcher (1 on 3 Jun, 2 on 25 Jun)
Turnstone (4 on 25 Jun)
Kittiwake (6 past on 3 Jun)
Puffin (2 inshore on 14 May)

Guillemot (4 inshore 28 May)
Carrion Crow (1 on 6 Mar, 28 May, 25 Jun, 3 on 14 May)

Inchcolm

Gannet (12E on 30 Apr, 15E on 15 Jun)
Cormorant (6 on 6 Mar, 2-3 on most visits, 6+ on 13 Nov)
Shag (3 on 6 Mar, 6 on 30 Apr, 5+ on 13 Nov)
Greylag Goose (50N on 30 Apr)
Shelduck (3 on 6 Mar, 4 on 30 Apr, 2 on 14 May, 6 on 28 May, 3 on 15 Jun, 4 on 25 Jun; nest c/1 at 1995 site on 14 May [later predated], nest c/11 on 28 May, nest c/8 on 25 Jun)
Gadwall (6ff on 15 Jun)
Mallard (2-3 prs on 6 Mar, nest c14 on 17 Apr, nest c13 on 1 May, nests c8 and c4 on 25 June)
Wigeon (1 on 13 Nov)
Eider (100+ on 6 Mar, 250-300 on 30 Apr, still c4 c4 on 25 Jun, 20+ on 13 Nov)
Red-breasted Merganser (4 on 6 Mar, 3 on 13 Nov)
Sparrowhawk (1 on 13 Nov)
Oystercatcher (2 on 6 Mar, 5-7 prs on 30 Apr, 7 prs on 14 May, 2 nests on 28 May, 2 new nests 15 Jun, 2+ on 13 Nov)
Curlew (17 on 15 Jun, 30 on 13 Nov)
Redshank (2-3 on 6 Mar, 22 on 13 Nov)
Turnstone (4 on 6 Mar)
Black-headed Gull (2 over 14 May, 10+ on 13 Nov)
Great Black-backed Gull (5 on 6 Mar, 1 on 13 Nov)
Sandwich Tern (1 on 30 Apr, 2 on 14 May, 4 on 28 May, 3 on 15 Jun)
Common Tern (9 on 14 May, 1 on 28 May, 2 on 15 Jun; all inshore)
Guillemot (3 on 6 Mar, 1 on 14 May, 2 on 15 Jun - all offshore)
Feral Pigeon (500 plus pr feeding young on 13 Nov)
Woodpigeon (4 on 30 Apr, 1-2 prs on 14 May, 28 May, 4 nests on 25 Jun, 1 on 13 Nov)
Swallow (3 over on 14 May)
Rock Pipit (pr on 6 Mar, 6+ on 13 Nov)
Pied Wagtail (1 on 6 Mar, 14 May, 28 May, 5 Jul)
Wren (14+ on 6 Mar, 1 singing on 28 May, 25 Jun, 5 Jul, 10+ on 13 Nov)
Duncock (4+ on 13 Nov)
Robin (1-2 on 6 Mar, 2 on 15 Jun - one with food, 15+ on 13 Nov)
Blackbird (1 on 6 Mar, 2 on 30 Apr, 2 plus c4 on 14 May, 1 on 28 May, 3 on 15 Jun, 1 on 13 Nov; 3 nests reported)
Willow Warbler (2-4 on 14 May)
Blue Tit (2 on 13 Nov)
Jackdaw (17 on 6 Mar, 24 on 30 Apr, 26 and broken shells on 14 May, 24 on 28 May, 6 on 13 Nov)

Carrion Crow (up to 4 per visit, 1 nest on 30 Apr and 14 May, 2 on 13 Nov)
Starling (7 on 28 May, 30 on 15 Jun, 3 on 25 Jun)
Chaffinch (1 on 13 Nov)
Linnet (5 on 14 May, 4 prs on 28 May)

Haystack

Fulmar (3-4 flying around on 3 Jun)
Cormorant (15 on 6 Mar, c.12 on 13 Nov)
Eider (7 on 3 Jun)
Redshank (2 on 13 Nov)
Carrion Crow (1 on 5 Jul)

Inchmickery

Other breeding birds recorded:
Shelduck (2 prs)
Oystercatcher (3 prs)
Blackbird (1 pr)
Feral Pigeon (50 prs)

Also reported were:

Manx Shearwater (28 past on 6 Jul)
Gannet (1 past on 25 May)
Purple Sandpiper (2 on 26 May)
Curlew (2 on 6 Jul)
Turnstone (5 on 25 May, 5 on 26 May 3 on 9 Jun, 1 on 30 Jun)
Kittiwake (3 past on 25 May)
Sandwich Tern (2 on 25 May 6 on 26 May 4 on 9 Jun, all over)
Guillemot (1 past on 25 May)
Razorbill (9 past on 25 May)

Cow and Calves - none

Inchgarvie

Cormorant (2 ashore on 30 May)
Puffin (9 close inshore 30 May)
Oystercatcher (1-2 prs and nest found on 30 May; *this is a first record for the island*)
Kittiwake (75 nearby on 30 May)
Sandwich Tern (1 offshore on 30 May)
Feral Pigeon (several clutches seen on 30 May, but general comment that not so many as a few years ago)

Long Craig - no data

Isle of May

Shelduck (up to 6 prs prospecting, b/4 on 13 Jun)
Oystercatcher (32 prs bred)
Rock Pipit (25+ prs bred)
Pied Wagtail (4 prs bred)
Wheatear (2 prs bred)
Wren (1 pr bred, 1st brood since 1957)
Carrion Crow (pr present)
Swallow (1 pr prospected)
Feral Pigeon (no data)
Starling (no data)

Table 1: Summary of seabird counts for the Forth Islands, 1996 (x = no count, 0 = none breeding, see report for more details). Note that Puffin, Eider and gull counts are incomplete (the total is marked ++).

	Ba	Cr	La	Fi	Eb	Ik	CC	Ic	Hs	Im	Ig	LC	May	Total
Fulmar (AOS)	166	184	14	331	0	429	0	237	0	32	188	0	308	1889
Cormorant (nests)	0	78	137	0	0	84	26	0	60	0	0	0	0	385
Shag (nests)	47	159	77	81	0	16	5	3	2	18	0	0	512	920
Gannet (nests)	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x
Eider (nests)	c7	x	x	256	2	x	2	x	0	230	51	3	1075	1626++
Great B-b Gull (nests)	1	6	3	4	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	7	24
Lesser B-b Gull (nests)	c60 prs	x	140	467	0	x	c.3	x	1	196	11	0	1641	2519++
Herring Gull (nests)	c240 prs	x	140	1401	11	x	54	x	18	196	195+	0	2969	5224++
Kittiwake (nests)	2142	509	143	314	0	426	0	144	0	0	0	0	6269	9947
Common Tern (nests)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	80+	248	343
Arctic Tern (nests)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	532	532
Roseate Tern (nests)														5
Sandwich Tern (nests)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Razorbill (sites)	188	73	73	74	0	68	0	3	0	0	0	0	3405 birds	479 +3405 birds
Guillemot (birds on cliffs)	3225	1877	3650	173 sites	0	81	0	0	0	0	0	0	24,468	33,301 +173 sites
Puffin (birds)	c20	148	148	410 sites	0	186 +423s	0	42 (1 nest)	0	13 sites	0	0	x	544++ +847 sites