



# Forth Seabird Group

## Forth Islands Bird Report

### 2003

Compiled by Dave Jones

February 2004

#### SEABIRD SPECIES SUMMARIES 2003

##### FULMAR

Complete Forth Islands count of 1505 aos, down 120, with greatest losses on Inchkeith and Isle of May. Bass Rock up from 33 to 119. Still a long way from the peak of 2045 aos in 1997. Also, four AOS on cliff at Carling Nose Pt on 8<sup>th</sup> June.

##### CORMORANT

Complete Forth Islands count of 378 nests returning to the level of two years ago (372). Previously this species reached 511 nests in 1991.

##### SHAG

Complete Forth Islands count of 1794 nests. Continuing the rise from 618 nests in 1999. Inchkeith rose to 139 nests from 78 last year.

##### GANNET

No count made. The photographic survey in 1994 gave an estimate of 39,751 AOS, was made using an aerial photographic survey in 1994. A new count of these would be useful.

##### EIDER

Incomplete count, 1840 nests, although there appears to be a general increase. The largest colony, on the Isle of May, increased by a third. 250 nests estimated on Inchcolm.

##### GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL

Complete Forth Islands count of 37 nests on seven islands, two more than last year.

##### LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL

Incomplete count of 1707 nests. Virtually all islands counted show increases, although the

substantial colonies on Craigleith, Inchkeith and Inchcolm were not counted.

##### HERRING GULL

Incomplete count, 4381 nests, which comparing only those islands counted both years, represents an increase of c4%.

##### KITTIWAKE

Complete Forth Islands count of 5453 nests. A slight fall on last season, still around half the 11229 of 1997.

##### COMMON TERN

Complete Forth Islands count of 221 nests. A change in fortunes after 2002's low of 69 nests.

##### ARCTIC TERN

Complete Forth Islands count of 577 nests. Good news after last year's drop to half that figure. Still some way below the 916 nests of 2001.

##### ROSEATE TERN

Complete Forth Islands count of eight pairs (nine sites). A welcome rise from two pairs last year. Ten young hatched from twelve eggs, all of which fledged. Eight of these young were ringed. This is the best count since 12-13 pairs in 2000.

##### SANDWICH TERN

Complete Forth Islands count of 58 nests. A pleasing return after last year's desertion of the Forth as a breeder. Recently the Isle of May has held 500 nests 2001.

##### RAZORBILL

Complete Forth Islands count of 3624 pairs/sites, which is in line with recent counts.

## **GUILLEMOT**

Complete Forth Islands count of 34279 birds on cliffs. A near 11% increase on 2002.

## **PUFFIN**

Incomplete count of 82,866 occupied burrows on three islands. Surveys for SNH carried out in April on Craigleith and the Isle of May revealed 12,100 and 69,300 occupied burrows respectively. The last count on the Isle of May was 42000 in 1998. 1,466 occupied burrows were found when Fidra was surveyed in May. This represents an increase of 9.5% p.a. here since 1976. (See appendix 4(for summary). 1056 individuals were seen on visits to four other islands.

Table 1: Summary of seabird counts for the Forth Islands, 2003 (x = present but no count, 0 = none breeding).

	<u>Ba</u>	<u>Cr</u>	<u>La</u>	<u>Fi</u>	<u>Eb</u>	<u>Ik</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>Ic</u>	<u>Hs</u>	<u>Im</u>	<u>Ig/Frb</u>	<u>LC</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Fulmar (AOS)</b>	119	168	9	194	0	321	0	206	0	35	205	0	248	1505
<b>Cormorant (nests)</b>	0	72	95	0	0	124	87	0	0	0	0	0	0	378
<b>Shag (nests)</b>	24	197	124	254	0	139	9	4	5	70	0	0	968	1794
<b>Gannet (nests)</b>	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x
<b>Eider (nests)</b>	x	x	0	68	8	x	0	250	0	197	48	7	1262	1840
<b>Great B-b Gull (nests)</b>	1	9	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	23	37
<b>Lesser B-b Gull (nests)</b>	x	x	0	300	0	x	3	x	2	135	14	0	1253	1707
<b>Herring Gull (nests)</b>	>50	x	32	900	0	x	46	x	17	413	254	0	2559	4381
<b>Kittiwake (nests)</b>	910	450	124	273	0	304	0	57	0	0	0	0	3335	5453
<b>Common Tern (nests)</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	126	60	190
<b>Arctic Tern (nests)</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	577	577
<b>Roseate Tern (nests)</b>														8
<b>Sandwich Tern (nests)</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	58	58
<b>Razorbill (pairs/sites)</b>	89	163	112	88	0	58	0	9+	0	0	0	0	3105 birds	3624
<b>Guillemot (birds on cliffs)</b>	2820	2119	1987	595	0	35	0	1	0	0	0	0	26722	34279
<b>Puffin (as stated) OB = occupied burrows</b>	x	12,100 OB	25 ind ashore	1466 OB	0	927 ind on land & sea	0	x	0	9 ind ashore 4 at sea	0	0	69,300 OB	82866 OB 965 ind

Frb = Forth Rail Bridge

## MAIN BREEDING SEABIRDS - ADDITIONAL COUNTS AND COMMENTS

### GANNET

First record of two near Bass Rock on 17<sup>th</sup> Jan., rising to 62 by the month's end. 200 by mid-Feb. Approximately three-quarters of the breeding birds in place by the end of Feb. First egg seen 16<sup>th</sup> April and the first chick on 24<sup>th</sup> May. A recently dead adult (wrapped in green fishing net) in a building on Inchmickery on 24<sup>th</sup> May. Only 56 remain soaring over Bass Rock on 31<sup>st</sup> October. Last seen on Bass Rock on 1<sup>st</sup> Nov.

### FULMAR

Early sightings included three on 6<sup>th</sup> Jan. flying over Craigleith and six there and Fidra nest sites on 18<sup>th</sup>. Eleven on the Bass Rock on 8<sup>th</sup> Feb. There the next day and on Isle of May. At least two still incubating, some with half-grown chicks on Inchcolm on 28<sup>th</sup> July. Up to 11 mid-Aug. on Craigleith. Two on 4<sup>th</sup> Sept. and seven on 7<sup>th</sup> Nov. were the last there.

### CORMORANT

Three over Bass Rock on 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb. Nineteen on Craigleith on 20<sup>th</sup> March, included some mating. Three collecting material from bays of Inchcolm for nests on Carr Craig on 9<sup>th</sup> April. Three off Inchcolm on 22<sup>nd</sup> April and seven on 28<sup>th</sup> July. Five on Inchgarvie and one on Haystack on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Up to six seen regularly through Aug. on Craigleith. On 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. 30+ seen off Inchkeith, 18 off Carr Craig, 1 off Inchcolm & 50 off Haystack.

### SHAG

First egg seen on 7<sup>th</sup> April on the Isle of May. Six, one at nest on NW cliffs of Inchcolm on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, then 14 on 9<sup>th</sup> April, plus one on nest. On 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. 30+ off Inchkeith, 70+ off Cow & Calves, 18 off Carr Craig and 38 off Haystacks.

### EIDER

At least 205 around Inchcolm (55% male) on 9<sup>th</sup> April, plus a duck incubating on 22<sup>nd</sup>. Incubating bird on Inchkeith on 5<sup>th</sup> May, many offshore. Two ducks with five young at Haystack on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Forty-six near Inchkeith on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov.

### GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL

Thirty-four beneath Bass Rock on 13<sup>th</sup> Feb. Clutch of three near the mid 9.2" battery on Inchkeith on 5<sup>th</sup> May. Two feeding on the Lamb on 7<sup>th</sup> June.

Clutch of two eggs on 2<sup>nd</sup> June on Haystack, first record of nesting here (absence on Inchcolm and Inchgarvie this year may suggest a move). At least 20 on The Lamb on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25 off Inchkeith on the 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov.

### LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL

Nest building on 9<sup>th</sup> April, Inchcolm. One on Carr Craig & two dead on Inchcolm on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov.

### HERRING GULL

354 on Craigleith on 10<sup>th</sup> Jan. On Inchcolm nest-building 9<sup>th</sup> April, some with full clutches by 22<sup>nd</sup> April. On 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. 500+ at Inchkeith, 30+ at Carr Craig, 40 on Haystack and 900+ at Inchcolm.

### KITTIWAKE

At least 27 present on Inchcolm on 9<sup>th</sup> April.

### COMMON TERN

Two over Inchmickery on 24<sup>th</sup> May. Twenty off Inchgarvie on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. A single over Eyebroughy on 7<sup>th</sup> and four AONs on the Jubilee Tower of the Forth Rail Bridge on the 8<sup>th</sup>. One at Inchcolm on 28<sup>th</sup> July. At Long Craig; a min. of 126 pairs, 157 nests, min. of 332 eggs, 213 hatched, 167 fledged.

### ARCTIC TERN

First two of the year seen on 19<sup>th</sup> May off Yellow Craig.

### SANDWICH TERN

First of the year near the SSC on 5<sup>th</sup> April. Two flying over Inchmickery among the gulls disturbed during counting on 24<sup>th</sup> May. Three at Haystack on 2<sup>nd</sup> June and one at Inchcolm on 28<sup>th</sup> July.

### RAZORBILL

Three on sea near Inchcolm on 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Five sites on 3<sup>rd</sup> June and nine by 24<sup>th</sup> on Inchcolm. June. Thirty-eight AOS on Inchkeith by 4<sup>th</sup> May and 58 by 1<sup>st</sup> June. One in Inner Forth on 13<sup>th</sup> Sept.

### GUILLEMOT

Return noted on Isle of May on 14<sup>th</sup> Feb. Fifty on the harbour cliffs at Inchkeith on 4<sup>th</sup> May and 2,820 on cliffs of Bass Rock plus 2,119 on Craigleith on 31<sup>st</sup>. Thirty-five on cliffs of Inchkeith on 1<sup>st</sup> June. One on rocks at east end of

Inchcolm on 24<sup>th</sup> June and five past there on 15<sup>th</sup> July. One in Inner Forth on 13<sup>th</sup> Sept. and five off Carr Craig on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov.

#### **PUFFIN**

Around 50 birds returning erratically to Isle of May on 26<sup>th</sup> March. In addition to the monitoring arranged by SNH the following counts were made; Inchcolm, 22 off the west end on 9<sup>th</sup> April, 100 on 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 10 on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 43 on sea and land on 24<sup>th</sup>. About 30 on land and sea on 15<sup>th</sup> July and 8-10 on 28<sup>th</sup>. 927 on and offshore at Inchkeith on 1<sup>st</sup> June. At least 118 were seen at Fidra on 7<sup>th</sup> June. Six were seen in Inner Forth on 13<sup>th</sup> Sept. and a late bird off Inchmickery on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov.

## SYSTEMATIC LIST OF OTHER BIRD SIGHTINGS (including breeding records)

### RED TROATED DIVER

One near Craigleith on 17<sup>th</sup> Jan. and 8<sup>th</sup> Feb. One near Inchcolm on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov.

### BLACK THROATED DIVER

One near Inchcolm on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. and Bass Rock on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

### WHITE-BILLED DIVER

One east of Fidra on 3<sup>rd</sup> of Feb.

### GREAT CRESTED GREBE

One of Fidra on 29<sup>th</sup> April.

### GREY HERON

One on Isle of May on 18<sup>th</sup> Sept.

### MANX SHEARWATER

120 flying up river past Inchcolm on 15<sup>th</sup> July. Forty seen in Inner Forth on 19<sup>th</sup> Sept. Again, up to three were noted calling from above and on Manx Brae on the Isle of May during early Aug.

### PINK-FOOTED GOOSE

Three past Craigleith on 24<sup>th</sup> Jan. and 62 there on 1<sup>st</sup> Feb.

### GREYLAG GOOSE

Thirteen on the Lamb on 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb. In Nov. one on Fidra on 1<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and three on 29<sup>th</sup>. One there on 6<sup>th</sup>, four on 14<sup>th</sup>.and three on the 16<sup>th</sup>.Dec.

### SHELDUCK

Two pairs on Inchcolm on 9<sup>th</sup> April, up to four pairs on 22<sup>nd</sup>. One pair on 3<sup>rd</sup> June. A pair also on Inchmickery on 20<sup>th</sup> April and a nest site under elders, plus two other pairs on the sea there on 24<sup>th</sup> May. Four birds there on 2<sup>nd</sup> June and a pair on Fidra on 7<sup>th</sup>. Present on Inchkeith on 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> June. Two pairs on Inchkeith (south end and harbour) on 5<sup>th</sup> May. At least four pairs suspected to have bred on the Isle of May.

### MALLARD

At least five males and three females including one with a clutch of eight on Inchcolm on 9<sup>th</sup> April. (Seven eggs hatched from this nest, the one remaining egg was addled). Two males, a female and two small ducklings there on 22<sup>nd</sup> April. An

incomplete clutch of eggs was found on Inchmickery near the jetty on 20<sup>th</sup> April. Five males, four females on Inchkeith on 5<sup>th</sup> May and a drake and two ducks on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

### TEAL

Two, possibly three, close to the east end of Inchcolm on 9<sup>th</sup> April, first records for the island.

### TUFTED DUCK

A flock of 11 (mostly drakes) passed Inchcolm on 28<sup>th</sup> July, the first record for the island.

### LONG-TAILED DUCK

Five males and a female by Bass Rock on 8<sup>th</sup> Feb.

### GOLDENEYE

One male and two females in south bay of Inchcolm on 9<sup>th</sup> April, the island's first record

### RED-BREASTED MERGANSER

Seven off Craigleith on 19<sup>th</sup> Jan. and another near Craigleith on 8<sup>th</sup> Dec.

### BUZZARD

One on Inchkeith on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov.

### PEREGRINE

One or two seen recorded all months except Aug. Mating observed on 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Brood of three on Fidra, one bedraggled bird rescued from tree mallow on 7<sup>th</sup> June and placed near to eyrie. Nesting also on Craigleith, three chicks ringed on 31 May. One on Inchkeith on 8<sup>th</sup> June and two on 28<sup>th</sup>. On 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov., two at Inchkeith, one with prey at Inchmickery and two at Inchcolm.

### KESTREL

One at Inchkeith on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov.

### OYSTERCATCHER

Eighteen pairs on the Isle of May. Two nests on Inchmickery (24<sup>th</sup> May) and 11 pairs on Inchkeith (1<sup>st</sup> June). Birds on Bass Rock on 31<sup>st</sup> May. On 2<sup>nd</sup> June, one on Inchgarvie, two each on Haystack and Carr Craig. Six or seven territories on Inchcolm (3<sup>rd</sup> June). On the 24<sup>th</sup>, a pair plus chick and an alarming pair at the east end of the island. Two pairs on Fidra (7<sup>th</sup> June). On the Isle

of May 45 migrants counted on 26<sup>th</sup> Sept. On 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. 50+ on both Inchkeith and Inchcolm.

#### **PURPLE SANDPIPER**

One on Inchkeith on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. On the Isle of May 160 on 15<sup>th</sup> Aug. and 67 on 26<sup>th</sup> Sept.

#### **DUNLIN**

Twenty-five on Carr Craig on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov.

#### **WHIMBREL**

One on Isle of May on 13<sup>th</sup> April and another on the Isle of May on 26<sup>th</sup> Sept.

#### **CURLEW**

Several over Inchcolm on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, one in South Bay on 15<sup>th</sup> July, one on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. One reported on Isle of May on 5<sup>th</sup> Oct., another on 1<sup>st</sup> Nov. on Fidra. Thirty also on Inchkeith on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. On the Isle of May 60 on 15<sup>th</sup> Aug and 77 on 26<sup>th</sup> Sept.

#### **COMMON SANDPIPER**

One on Inchcolm on 28<sup>th</sup> July.

#### **REDSHANK**

One seen on Isle of May by SSC camera on 9<sup>th</sup> Feb. Two on Inchcolm on 28<sup>th</sup> July, plus two each on Inchkeith and Inchcolm on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. Twenty-three migrants on the Isle of May on 26<sup>th</sup> Sept.

#### **SNIPE**

One flew up from Inchmickery on 24<sup>th</sup> May. On the Isle of May one 15<sup>th</sup> Aug. and two on 26<sup>th</sup> Sept.

#### **TURNSTONE**

Two at the North Bay, Inchcolm on 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Four on Inchkeith on 5<sup>th</sup> May. Two on Carr Craig on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Inchmickery had two on 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug. On the Isle of May 200 migrants on 15<sup>th</sup> Aug and 16 were on Haystack on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. .

#### **ARCTIC SKUA**

Ten in the Inner Forth on 13<sup>th</sup> Sept

#### **GREAT SKUA**

Two in Inner Forth on 13<sup>th</sup> September. One on 8<sup>th</sup> Oct. west of Bass Rock.

#### **BLACK HEADED GULL**

Three over Craigleith on 31<sup>st</sup> May and one at Inchcolm on 28<sup>th</sup> July. On 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. over 250 at Inchkeith and 90 at Inchcolm.

#### **COMMON GULL**

Five on Fidra on 22<sup>nd</sup> July.

#### **LITTLE TERN**

The first of the year was seen on 20<sup>th</sup> May.

#### **LITTLE AUK**

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb. 400-500 through the afternoon, harried by a peregrine. Forty-three seen on 3<sup>rd</sup>. One near Bass Rock on 15<sup>th</sup> Nov.

#### **FERAL PIGEON**

Sixty-two over Craigleith on 17<sup>th</sup> Jan. Five there on 1<sup>st</sup> April. A minimum of 32 "sites" on Inchmickery on 24<sup>th</sup> May. Present 31<sup>st</sup> May on Bass Rock (breeding) and on Craigleith. One flew from the blowhole on Haystack (probably breeding) on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Ten birds recorded on Fidra on 7<sup>th</sup> June and over 1000 on Inchkeith on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. Present again on the Isle of May this year.

#### **WOODPIGEON**

Only recorded on Inchcolm. A pair, plus single seen on 9<sup>th</sup> April. Three on 22<sup>nd</sup> April and one on 15<sup>th</sup> July. A survey on 28<sup>th</sup> July of west part of the island found eight nests with eggs or very small squabs, and three new, empty nests. A clutch also found in the east of the island but no full survey was carried out there.

#### **SWALLOW**

Present on Inchmickery on 28<sup>th</sup> June. Two there also on 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug. Two pairs prospected but did not breed on the Isle of May.

#### **MARTIN sp**

One over Inchcolm on 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

#### **WREN**

On Inchcolm, two birds, one with nest material, on 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Another on 3<sup>rd</sup> and one singing on 8<sup>th</sup> June. One on 15<sup>th</sup> July and at least four on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. Twenty or more on Inchkeith on this latter date. Prospecting birds but no evidence of breeding on the Isle of May.

#### **ROCK PIPIT**

Four pairs on Craigleith on 31<sup>st</sup> May, also present on Bass Rock. Two on Fidra on 7<sup>th</sup> June. Two pairs bred on the Isle of May, down from 25 pairs in 2000. Two pairs on Inchkeith on 1<sup>st</sup> June, and

five birds on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. Also, one each on Carr Craig and Inchcolm on this latter date. One seen on the Isle of May SSC camera on 8<sup>th</sup> Oct. Two on Bass Rock on 8<sup>th</sup> Dec.

#### **PIED WAGTAIL**

Three on Craighleith on 1<sup>st</sup> April flew tom mainland. A pair at Inchcolm Abbey on 9<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> April. One on Inchcolm on 3<sup>rd</sup> June, three on 24<sup>th</sup>. Five ads and juvs on 15<sup>th</sup> and four on the 28<sup>th</sup> July. A pair at nest on Fidra on 7<sup>th</sup> June. Two pairs were successful on the Isle of May.

#### **DUNNOCK**

On Inchcolm, two on 9<sup>th</sup> April and a pair at Inchcolm Information centre with another bird singing on 22<sup>nd</sup>. Male in song there on 15<sup>th</sup> July.

#### **ROBIN**

One on 9<sup>th</sup> April on Inchcolm and a corpse there on 22<sup>nd</sup>. Singles also on 3<sup>rd</sup> June and 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. Twenty on Inchkeith on the latter date. One reported for Isle of May on 13<sup>th</sup> Oct.

#### **WHEATEAR**

Female at the Inchcolm Abbey on 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

#### **SONG THRUSH**

One on Inchcolm on 15<sup>th</sup> July and 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. Six or more on Inchkeith on the latter date.

#### **BLACKBIRD**

Inchcolm; at least four on 9<sup>th</sup> and two pairs on 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Two on 3<sup>rd</sup> June, a male, female and juv on 24<sup>th</sup> June. Three males on 15<sup>th</sup> July and several, including one immature on 28<sup>th</sup> July. Three on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. On Inchkeith; a male and female in different areas on 5<sup>th</sup> May, two males, two females on 1<sup>st</sup> June and 20 on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov.

#### **WILLOW WARBLER**

One on Inchcolm on 22<sup>nd</sup> April and 15<sup>th</sup> July.

#### **BLUE TIT**

Only on Inchcolm. Pair prospecting nest box in the Custodian's garden on 9<sup>th</sup> April. One on 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Pair at nest-box, 3<sup>rd</sup> June, one in garden, and one at east of island on 24<sup>th</sup> June.

#### **JACKDAW**

Only recorded on Inchcolm. At least 13 on 9<sup>th</sup> April, one with material, one leaving a nest hole.

Twelve on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, at least five on 3<sup>rd</sup> June and four on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Several on 15<sup>th</sup> July.

#### **CARRION CROW**

Inchcolm; two on 9<sup>th</sup> April, a pair on 22<sup>nd</sup>, one on 3<sup>rd</sup> June and 28<sup>th</sup> July and two on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. Present 31<sup>st</sup> May on Bass Rock. One on Inchmickery on 24<sup>th</sup> May, and one at nest with a feathered chick on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. One each on The Lamb and Eyebroughy on 7<sup>th</sup> June. A pair on Inchkeith on 5<sup>th</sup> May and one on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

#### **RAVEN**

One on Bass Rock on 26<sup>th</sup> March pecking at a dead gannet.

#### **STARLING**

On Inchcolm, about eight (ad & juv) were on present on 15<sup>th</sup> June and 15 (ad & juv) on 24<sup>th</sup>. One, also on 24<sup>th</sup> July. About 25 were on Fidra on 16<sup>th</sup> Aug.

#### **CHAFFINCH**

On Inchcolm only; three (females) on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, one on 3<sup>rd</sup>, two on 24<sup>th</sup> June. Several on 28<sup>th</sup> July.

#### **GOLDFINCH**

Sixty or more on Inchkeith on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov.

#### **LINNET**

A pair on Inchcolm on 9<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> April, two on 24<sup>th</sup> June and a male on 15<sup>th</sup> July. On Inchmickery on 20<sup>th</sup> April, and two on 24<sup>th</sup> May, present again on 2<sup>nd</sup> August. Two on Fidra on 7<sup>th</sup> June, and 13 on 16<sup>th</sup> August, when three old nests found in tree mallow, one with addled eggs.

#### **REDPOLL**

Five or six on Inchkeith on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov.

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## MAMMALS 2003

### BAT sp

Historic Scotland this year erected three bat boxes on sycamore in the Inchcolm Custodian's garden. He reported having seen one or two unidentified bats on one occasion approx. six years ago in the area of the abbey and his house.

### MINKE WHALE

Two observed off the Bass Rock on 29<sup>th</sup> May. One by the Isle of May on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Other sightings regularly made from the Isle of May this year.

### HUMPBACK WHALE

A humpback whale frequented the Inner Forth from early Feb until late March 2003. It was seen off Inchkeith and Inchcolm during this period, particularly on 11<sup>th</sup> Feb when it was especially close to Inchcolm. A humpback was also seen to the west of the Isle of May on 18<sup>th</sup> June

### HARBOUR PORPOISE

A probable porpoise was seen on 20<sup>th</sup> March in the East Bay at North Berwick. There were five more sightings from the SSC at the end of March early April. Another, just off the main harbour area, Inchcolm on 9<sup>th</sup> April, was the first record for the island. Porpoises were seen regularly from the Isle of May this year.

### BOTTLE-NOSED DOLPHIN

One at the far end of the East Bay, North Berwick on 26<sup>th</sup> Oct is the only definite record received.

### DOLPHIN sp

Twenty seen in the outer Forth in the first week of June

### GREY SEAL

Between 8-22 hauled out at Craigleith on various dates in Jan. Similar numbers there in Feb and six in March. Three on Bass Rock on 7<sup>th</sup> April. On Inchcolm, one ashore (NW Bay), two off shore elsewhere on 9<sup>th</sup> April. Thirty-six there on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, of which 33 were on rocks off west end. A singleton on Craigleith on 24<sup>th</sup> May. Twelve on 24<sup>th</sup> June. Ten were at the west end, plus six in south bay on 15<sup>th</sup> July. Twelve on 28<sup>th</sup> July. Elsewhere; about 20 at Seal Carr, Inchkeith on 4<sup>th</sup> May, and over 18 seen at Inchkeith on 1 June. Six were on Haystack and 14-20 at north end of Carr

Craig on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Forty-two+ were on Oxcars rocks on 3<sup>rd</sup> June and 16+ at Haystack on 24<sup>th</sup> June. One to four off Craigleith and on the Isle of May through Sept-Oct. The first pup seen on SSC camera on 7<sup>th</sup> Oct and the following day there were 10 cows, a male and a pup there. 62 pups visible via SSC camera on the May on 26<sup>th</sup> Oct, 102 the next day and 150 in the first week of Nov. Sixteen on Craigleith on 8<sup>th</sup> Nov. See Appendix 5 for further information.

Last year 1997 pups were born on the Isle of May and 1932 the year before.

### COMMON SEAL

On Inchcolm, one ashore (NW Bay) on 9<sup>th</sup> April and one at extreme west end, plus two close inshore (N.W. Bay) on 15<sup>th</sup> July, (one with small pup). On 24<sup>th</sup> July a youngster seen via the SSC camera on the Isle of May. On 28<sup>th</sup>, 4 ashore (NW bay of Inchcolm), one this year's pup, possibly the same pup as on previous visit, but much larger See Appendix 5 for further information.

### MINK

Staff on board "Maid of the Forth" reported seeing a "mink" in the harbour area, Inchcolm on two occasions during last year's (2002) summer season.

### RABBIT

Fresh droppings and diggings on Inchmickery on 24 May. Six seen on 4<sup>th</sup> May, seven on 1<sup>st</sup> June and at least 24 on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov on Inchkeith

### HOUSE MOUSE

Still present on the Isle of May, especially noticeable at the Keeper's Cottage in Sept.

### BROWN RAT

A possible sighting on Inchkeith on 1<sup>st</sup> June

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## MOTHS & BUTTERFLIES 2003

At least two small whites on 4<sup>th</sup> May on Inchkeith and another on Craigleith on 31 May.

On 1<sup>st</sup> June painted lady, red admiral, small tortoiseshell, small white, large white and green-veined white were all recorded on Inchkeith.

A large white on Inchgarvie 2<sup>nd</sup> June

Painted lady on Inchcolm on 3<sup>rd</sup> June

One red admiral, two small white, a male meadow brown, and a six-spot burnet moth on 24<sup>th</sup> June, Inchcolm. The burnet was the first record since the mid-1980s.

Many Meadow Brown, two red admiral, one possibly two ringlets and both small and large white were common on Inchcolm on 15<sup>th</sup> July. The ringlets were the first record for the island. Six-spot burnets were also plentiful in the SE corner of Inchcolm, many mating.

On Inchcolm on 28<sup>th</sup> July several meadow browns, and large whites. At least 20 six-spot burnet moths on various plant species.

Two small whites on Inchmickery on 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug.

Small tortoiseshell, small white & peacock butterflies on Fidra 16<sup>th</sup> Aug.

Small tortoiseshell, red admiral, painted lady, peacock and small white were recorded on the Isle of May this year. In addition, 36 species of moths were found during late June and early July.

See appendix 6 for summary of butterfly records.

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## FLORA 2003

### TREE MALLOW (*Lavatera arborea*)

Four plants were growing just above strand line south bay close to the Abbey, Inchcolm. This plant now has a very secure presence at west corner of south bay. This species is now quite dominant on parts of Fidra and work has commenced to eradicate it.

### DANISH SCURVY-GRASS (*Cochlearia danica*)

In recent times, Haystack has been devoid of vegetation. This year there were clear signs of this species re-colonizing.

### ANNUAL MEADOW-GRASS (*Poa annua*)

This species was also found to be re-colonizing Haystack.

**A SUMMARY OF SEABIRD MONITORING  
AT ST ABB'S HEAD NNR IN 2003 (Data  
supplied by Kevin Rideout)**

**Fulmar**

Numbers remained similar to last year's level, with 262 AOS, but were well below the levels reached in the mid 1990s. A casual count on 18<sup>th</sup> August revealed 39 well grown chicks

**Shag**

At 365 AON, shags showed a 23% increase on 2002, with the highest count since the population crash in 1993 and 1994 and productivity of 1.76 young fledged per active nest was the second highest value since the survey began in 1990.

**Herring gull**

The count was well up 16% to 298 AON on last years exceptionally low one but still less than a third of the 1978 count of 907 AON.

**Kittiwake**

Kittiwakes showed a large (25%) decrease on last year, reaching 6,642 AON, their lowest level for over 40 years, but productivity (0.97 young fledged per AON) was well above average, being the best result since 1996.

**Guillemot**

The 5-yearly whole colony count produced 40,389, a result very close to the 1998 count but numbers on the annual monitoring plots decreased to their lowest level since 1999.

**Razorbill**

The 5-yearly whole colony count produced a result of 2,218 individuals virtually identical to the 1998 count, while numbers on the annual monitoring plots decreased to their lowest level since 1996

**Puffin**

The count of the small puffin population was the lowest since this survey started in 1985. A count was made of only 34 birds were ashore on 16<sup>th</sup> June.

**Eider**

One nest found.

**Lesser black-backed gull**

A single nest

**Great black-backed gull**

One nesting attempt.

**SUMMARY OF ISLE OF MAY SEABIRD  
SPECIES ACCOUNTS IN 2003 (Using data  
supplied by Ian Parkinson)**

The all-island count of fulmars gave a total of 248 AOS, a decrease of 27% from 2002. The first egg was noted on 19 May and first chick on 9 July, at an approximate age of 5 days.

Shags, with 968 AOS showed a marked increase of 43% on 2002. The first laying date was 23 March, and the first chick hatched on 26 April.

833 eider nests were found during the gull count, with a nest finding accuracy calculated at only 66% due to lush vegetation. This leaves an estimate of 1262 pairs, 9% up on last year.

Great black-backed gull occupied 23 territories during 2003, 3 more than 2002. Several broods with young chicks were noted during the gull count, but there is no information on fledging.

First eggs of herring and lesser black-back gulls on the 24 April, first chicks on the 24 May. 3,544 nests were counted (3,812 nests when count efficiency was accounted for). An estimate of 2,559 herring gull nests and 1,253 lesser black-backed gulls. This means that the overall gull population increased by 6% since last year. Herring numbers were up by 8% and lesser by 4%. This marks a change in the recent trend of a gentle decline in the breeding population for both species.

Kittiwake decreased by 9% since last year, to 3,335 AONs, continuing the recent general decline in population since 1995. The first egg was noted on 9 May, first chick on 6 June, and the first fledge on 15 July.

Sandwich terns were first seen on the island on 19 April. There was a maximum of 58 nests by the 30 June. The first chick was seen on the 30 June and peak fledging was 18 on the 29 July.

## Common and Arctic terns

On 7 May, the first Arctic terns were noted at the colony and incubation was first observed on the 25<sup>th</sup>, with chicks on the 20 June. Two counts gave of 637 nests. It was estimated that of these nests, 60 were common. Peak fledging occurred on the 20 July with 185 fledged 'commic' terns counted

The guillemot population is estimated at 26,722\* individuals representing an increase in of 10%, the highest since recording began, but a decrease in pairs of 3% on 2002. This continues the relative stability of numbers of breeding guillemot over the past few years. Dates for the first egg laid, the first chick hatched and the first one fledged were 20 April, 23 May and June 13.

There were 3105 razorbills, an increase of 2% on 2002. The first egg was noted on 24 April, the first chick 29 May, and the first fledgling June 18.

The first puffin carrying fish was seen on 24 May, the first egg was laid on approximately 8 April. At the end of April, a team from CEH counted 70,000 burrows, up from 42,000 counted in 1998.

<p><b>SUMMARY OF ISLE OF MAY SEABIRD SPECIES PRODUCTIVITY ACCOUNTS IN 2003 (Data supplied by LJ Wilson, MP Harris, S Wanless, G Jones)</b></p>
--

During 2003, weather conditions on the Isle of May, like much of the UK, were much warmer and drier than in recent years. Most seabird species experienced a reasonably good breeding season, with breeding for all species except common guillemot and razorbill, being close to, or above the long-term average. European shag productivity saw its highest value on record and continued the trend of excellent breeding success seen during the previous three seasons. Black-legged kittiwakes also performed well, with the second highest productivity since 1990. Breeding success of both northern fulmars and Atlantic puffins was close to the long term average, and similar to last year. Common guillemot productivity did not improve from last year, and was still below the long-term average. Razorbill breeding success was well below the long term average and lower than that of last year. Timing of breeding was earlier for European shags and common guillemots, but normal for northern fulmar, black-legged kittiwake and Atlantic

puffins were close to, or above, the long-term average, while those for common guillemots and razorbills were slightly lower. As in previous years, lesser sandeels were the predominant prey species for all species, except for guillemots, which mainly brought back clupeids for their chicks.

Northern fulmar breeding success (0.44 chicks per pair) was similar to that of 2002, and close to the long-term average.

European shags had another productive season, with timing of breeding, (the first eggs were laid on 23 March), being much earlier than in 2001 and 2002. Breeding success was 1.83 chicks per pair, the highest ever recorded here. As in 2002, return rate was high at 92.7%

Timing of breeding for black-legged kittiwakes was normal, but 15% of birds occupying a site did not start nest building. Those pairs that did complete a nest however, went on to produce an average of 0.77 chicks per pair. This value is much higher than that for 2002 and the long-term average. The black-legged kittiwakes return rate (84.2%) was the highest since 1990.

Common guillemots began egg-laying slightly earlier than in 2002, with the first egg on the island being seen on 17<sup>th</sup> April, and in the study plots on 20<sup>th</sup> April. Breeding success (0.68 chicks per pair) was below the long-term average, but similar to 2002. Common guillemot return rate (87%) was the same as in 2002.

Razorbill breeding success (0.59 chicks per pair) was below that for 2002, and slightly below the long-term average. The return rate of razorbills (77.8%) was slightly lower than in 2002.

Atlantic puffin breeding success for 2003, (0.77 chicks per pair), was similar to the long-term mean. Return rate (85.2%) was similar to that in 2002 and close to the long term average.

**SUMMARY OF OTHER TERN SITES IN THE FORTH (Data supplied by Mark Oksien)**

**Port Edgar**

Two pairs of common terns were present on the unused pontoon, possibly apparently on territory (AOT) no nest site noted and no young present. No other terns present at time of visit

**Rosyth Dockyard**

On 4<sup>th</sup> July a minimum of 40 nests of common tern were counted this year, producing at least 12 young. A flush count of 112 adults was also made. Estimate of 56 pairs

**Grangemouth Docks**

139 apparently incubating adults/pairs at Grangemouth

**Methil Docks**

No count made this year

**Leith Docks**

795 clutches recorded. Twelve young ringed by Lothian Ringing Group.

**FSG FOOTNOTES**

**DATES FOR MAIN ISLAND COUNTS**

<b>Bass Rock</b>	31 May
<b>Craighleith</b>	31 May
<b>The Lamb</b>	7 June
<b>Fidra</b>	7 June
<b>Eyebroughy</b>	7 June
<b>Inchkeith</b>	1 June
<b>Carr Craig</b>	2 June
<b>Haystack</b>	2 June
<b>Inchcolm</b>	3 June
<b>Inchmickery</b>	24 May
<b>Inchgarvie</b>	2 June

**Forth Rail Bridge** 8 June

**Long Craig** late May to Aug

**Isle of May** late May to June

**TERNs IN EAST SCOTLAND**

Data supplied by the East Scotland Tern Conservation Group (ESTCG) whose monitoring area stretches from the Borders to the southeast boundary of the Moray Firth. Collated by Pete Gordon. Counting unit is in pairs. 2002 totals in brackets.

<b>Totals for East Scotland</b>	<u>2003</u>	<u>(2002)</u>
Common tern	1588	(665-7)
Arctic tern	820	(>691)
Roseate tern	8	(2)
Sandwich tern	1064	(975)
Little tern	39-42	(80)

**Firth of Forth Breeding Terns**

These totals include all reported island and mainland sites, with 2002 totals in brackets. (Methil docks not checked)

Common tern	1182	(169)
Arctic tern	577	(234)
Roseate tern	8	(2)
Sandwich tern	58	(0)
Little tern	0	(1)

**OTHER TERN NOTES**

Although outside of our area, there is excellent news this year of the burgeoning roseate tern colony down in Northumberland. This year a staggering 70 pairs nested (up from 57 last year and from just 28 ten years ago). There was also a good fledging rate reported.

Tern fledging success was also good on the Farne Islands were 1,999 pairs of Sandwich terns nested this year on Inner Farne. Unfortunately, roseate terns did not breed this year for the first time in living memory

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Thanks again to the above and any others who have assisted with counts and provided data

including the staff and visitors of the Scottish Seabird Centre (SSC)...and anybody I've inadvertently overlooked!

Data passed onto;  
East Scotland Tern Conservation Group;  
Dr R M Sellers for inclusion in the annual Cormorant Breeding Colony Survey  
The Scottish Natural History Archive

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Westminster Gravels once again provided funding for the group's work in the Firth of Forth.

Fife Council, through its Nature Conservation Fund (under the Community Environmental Grant Scheme) also supported the Group by way of a grant to offset boat hire/transport costs.

A special thank-you to Hew Hamilton Dalrymple, Tom Farmer, Historic Scotland, and other owners who have allowed access to their islands for counts and to boatmen Dougie Ferguson and Bill Simpson.

Special thanks are also given to John Carpenter from New York, USA who once again donated \$75.00 towards our work.

## Lothian Ringing Group Seabird Ringing Totals 2003

	Full grown	Pulli	Retraps	Total
<b>Craigleith, Firth of Forth</b>				
Fulmar	5	86	1	92
Cormorant	0	69	0	69
Shag	6	179	19	204
Kittiwake	0	2	0	2
Guillemot	5	21	2	28
Razorbill	6	34	4	44
Puffin	58	97	7	162
Total for: Craigleith, Firth of Forth	82	488	30	600
<b>Inchkeith, Firth of Forth</b>				
Fulmar	11	80	2	93
Cormorant	0	109	0	109
Shag	13	50	4	67
Herring Gull	0	0	1	1
Kittiwake	11	195	3	209
Guillemot	1	1	0	2
Razorbill	1	1	0	2
Puffin	3	9	0	1
Total for: Inchkeith, Firth of Forth	40	445	10	495
<b>Leith Docks, Edinburgh</b>				
Common Tern	0	12	0	12
Total for: Leith Docks, Edinburgh	0	12	0	12
<b>Annual Total:</b>	120	945	43	1108

## INCHKEITH KITTIWAKE DIET 2003

### Inchkeith kittiwake samples 2003

(Data supplied by CEH, Banchory)

26 samples from 5 and 12 July 2003

Total Weight 228g

<i>Fish</i>	<i>No. of samples present</i>	<i>% of biomass</i>
0-grp sandeels (young of the year)	22 (85%)	53.1
Older sandeels (1 year +)	3 (12%)	3.5
Clupeids (sprat / herring)	20 (77%)	42.1
Gadidae (whiting)	1 (0.4%)	1.3

### Comparison with previous years

<i>Year</i>	<i>% in terms of biomass</i>			
	<i>0-grp Sandeel</i>	<i>1+ Sandeel</i>	<i>Clupeid</i>	<i>Gadoid</i>
2003	53.1	3.5	42.1	1.3
2002	70.9	0	23.5	2.9
2001	16.6	2.4	81	0
1999	35.4	0	59.6	0
1998	32.9	0	43.3	23.8
1997	3.5	0	83.8	12.7

### Comparison with the Isle of May

Biomass proportions on the Isle of May during chick-rearing 2003 (135 samples, 11 June – 4 August):

Sandeels	91.1
Clupeids	7.1
Gadoids	1.8

98.6% of sandeels were 0 group fish



Appendix 3

## **ADDITIONAL MAINLAND COUNTS**

### **ST.ANDREWS 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2003**

Supplied by Ron Morris, Alistair Ballingall

Survey made of the Fulmar colony at the cliffs between the Step Rock (St. Andrews Aquarium) and the Harbour.

FULMAR – 459 AOS. Some sites likely hidden by vegetation.

HERRING GULL – Three pairs nesting.

ROCK PIPIT – Several pairs present, but not counted.

### **CARLINGNOSE POINT 8th June 2003**

Supplied by Dave Jones

Count of nests from MV “Maid of the Forth”

FULMAR – Four nests

## Puffin counts in 2003

(Supplied by Alan Leitch)

### Background

The Isle of May National Nature Reserve (NNR) is currently the main breeding colony for puffins in the Firth of Forth and one of the largest colonies in Britain. A complete count of burrows occupied by puffins in April 1998 estimated the Isle of May population at 42,000 occupied burrows. A sample count of burrows on Craigleith in 1999 was extrapolated to give a total of 28,000 on the whole island based on habitat areas and 405 burrows were counted on Fidra in the same year. Puffins are a qualifying species for the Forth Islands Special Protection Area (SPA) designated on 25 April 1990. An up-to-date assessment of numbers was required and Scottish Natural Heritage placed this contract with the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, and Lothian Ringing Group, using largely members of the Forth Seabird Group, was sub contracted to do the counts on Fidra and Craigleith. This account is based on the final report of that work.

### Main findings

- The colony on the Isle of May was estimated at 69,300 occupied burrows (95% Confidence Interval 66,400 - 72,700). Numbers have increased at an average rate of 12.4% per annum between 1998 and 2003 and at 10.9% per annum between 1970 and 2003. New areas of the island are still being colonized by puffins and rates of increase here are generally higher than in the long-established areas.
- About 12,100 occupied burrows (95% CI 9,200 – 15,000) were counted on Craigleith. This is a dramatic reduction from the 28,000 estimated in 1999 and only 25% of that expected given the past rate of increase, which has been remarkably constant at 14.4% per annum. The decline was attributed to the spread of the alien plant tree-mallow *Lavatera arborea* which currently covers most of the island.
- The colony on Fidra was estimated at 1466 occupied burrows (approximate limits 1388 – 1528). Numbers have increased at 9.5% p.a. over the period 1976-2003.

The results of the census emphasize the importance of the puffin colony on the Isle of May, which is now the largest single colony in Britain and Ireland holding about 8% of the total population. Long-term demographic studies on the Isle of May indicate that breeding success and adult survival are high. Assuming no change of recruitment patterns, the population is expected to continue to grow. The two other major colonies in east Britain, on the Farne Islands and Coquet Island, appear to be becoming full up. Alternative nesting areas that are safe from mammalian predators appear to be limited in east Britain. It is therefore potentially possible that chicks from other colonies in eastern Britain may recruit to the Isle of May where there still appears to be plenty of suitable habitat. However, even without this increased immigration, the colony on the Isle of May is predicted to double in size by 2010.

On Craigleith, tree mallow looks almost certain to be causing major problems, and work is proposed by CEH, working with SNH, this summer to clarify the links. The colony on Fidra is small and tree mallow is limited in extent. However, it would seem prudent to take steps now to ensure that it does not get out of hand.

The other significant Puffin colony in the Firth of Forth, Inchkeith, was not counted as being outwith the SPA. This is something the Group should probably consider as a matter of priority.

## SEAL SURVEY OF THE FORTH ISLANDS 22 NOVEMBER 2003

Ron Morris, Bill Bruce, Alan Murray, Henry and Lesley Fairweather, Hilary Munro.

Left Granton harbour about 0900 hours, sailed to Inchkeith where approx 2 ½ hours were spent ashore, then sailed to Inchmickery, circling this island before proceeding to Inchcolm via Cow and Calves rocks and Carr Craig, which we also circled. Landed at Inchcolm and spent about 1 ½ - 2 hours ashore, then sailed around Haystack before returning to Granton. A sunny but cold day. Arrived back at Granton about 1600 hours.

The only islands with Grey Seal pups were Inchkeith and Inchcolm. At Inchkeith a record 65 grey seal pups were found. Most of these pups were in the 2-5 week old bracket, but there were 3-4 only 1-7 days old. Three of the pups were dead. Approx. 74 adult grey seals were present, but only 1-2 bulls established. Most of the pups were at the island's extreme southern end, with seven found elsewhere, including 4 at Kirkcaldy harbour (N.E. part of island).

Inchcolm had 11 grey seal pups, one of which was dead. They were in the 3-5 week old bracket. Information was received to the effect 2-3 dead pups were seen one week previously. Approx. 13 adults were seen, including 2-3 bulls.

Further seal records are: -

Inchmickery = one Grey Seal Cow close inshore plus 3 Common Seals on rocks.

Carr Craig = one Grey Seal Cow close inshore.

Haystack = three Grey Seal Cows on rocks.

Summary

	Grey Seals				Common seals
	Bulls	Cows	Pups live	Pups dead	
<b>Inchkeith</b>	1-2	61	62	3	
<b>Seal Carr</b>		11			
<b>Inchmickery</b>		1			3
<b>Carr Craig</b>		1			
<b>Swallowcraig</b>		1			
<b>Inchcolm</b>	2-3	9	10	1	
<b>Haystack</b>		3			

## Ornithological data

Birds seen during seal counts on 22 November ( o.s. = off-shore )

	Inchkeith	Inchmickery	Cow + calves	Carr Craig	Inchcolm	Haystack
Divers					1red 1blacko.s.	
Grebes						
Cormorants	30+			18	1	50
Shags	30+		70+	18		35
Eider	46+ o.s.					
Buzzard	1					
Kestrel	1					
Peregrine	2	1 + kill			2	
Oystercatcher	50 +				50+	
Purple s' piper	1					
Turnstone						16
Dunlin				25		
Redshank	2				2	
Curlew	30				1	
B.h. gull	250+ o.s.				90+ o.s.	
Herring gull	500+ o.s.			30+	900+ o.s.	40
G.b.b. gull	25+			1 (lesser)	2(lesser dead)	1
Puffin		1 o.s.				
Guillemot				5 o.s.		
Feral pigeon	1000+				Present	
Rock pipit	5+			1	1	
Wren	20+				4+	
Robin	20+				2+	
Song thrush	6+				1	
Blackbird	20+				3+	
Carrion crow					2	
Goldfinch	60+					
Redpoll	5-6					

## Appendix 6

**BUTTERFLIES RECORDED ON FORTH ISLANDS 2003**

	<b>Inchgarvie</b>	<b>Inchmickery</b>	<b>Inchcolm</b>	<b>Inchkeith</b>	<b>Fidra</b>	<b>Craigleith</b>	<b>May</b>
<b>Red admiral</b>			1 on 24/6 2 on 15/7	Present 1/6			Present
<b>Painted Lady</b>			1 on 3/6	Present 1/6			Present
<b>Small tortoiseshell</b>				Present 1/6	Present 16/8		Present
<b>Peacock</b>					Present 16/8		Present
<b>Small white</b>		2 on 2/8	2 on 24/6. Common on 15/7	2 on 4/5 Present 1/6	Present on 16/8	1 on 31/5	Present
<b>Large white</b>	1 on 2/6		Common 15/7. Several 28/7	Present 1/6			
<b>G-v white</b>				Present 1/6			
<b>Meadow brown</b>			1 on 24/6. Many 15/7. Several 28/7				
<b>Ringlet</b>			1-2 on 15/7 1st record				
<b>6-spot burnet moth</b>			1 on 24/6. 1st since mid- '80s. Plentiful in SE, many mating. 20+ on various plant species				

## RINGING RECOVERIES 2002-3

### 2002

#### **Kittiwake**

Ring number	EH 22337		
Ringed	Nestling	27/06/78	Inchkeith
Found	Dead	01/06/02	Fidra
Reporter	Kenny Little		

### 2003

#### **Shag**

Ring number	1366348		
Ringed	Nestling	25/06/02	Isle of May
Found	Dead (not fresh)	16/08/03	Fidra
Reporter	Ali Little		

#### **Shag**

Ring number	1366038		
Ringed	Nestling	20/06/02	Isle of May
Found	Freshly dead	24/05/03	Inchmickery
Reporter	Ali Little		

#### **Shag**

Ring number	1388758		
Ringed	Nestling	6/07/02	Isle of May
Found	Dead	7/06/03	Fidra
Reporter	Ali Little		

#### **Oystercatcher**

Ring number	FA53744		
Ringed	At 1 yr+	05/10/91	Musselburgh Lagoons
Controlled		07/03/96	Loch of Forfar, Tayside
Found	Long dead adult	20/04/03	Inchmickery
Reporter	Dave Jones		