

Knowledge Transfer & Innovation Fund (KTIF) SG Final Report

1. **Project title: Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Wader Friendly Farmers – Building a stronger network**
KTIF/012/2022



RSPB Scotland forms part of the RSPB, a UK-wide nature conservation charity. Across the UK the RSPB employs 2139 paid staff and has 12101 volunteers. Within RSPB Scotland there are 315 paid staff and 2034 volunteers. RSPB Scotland is headquartered in Edinburgh. RSPB Scotland has a track record of delivering successful projects both large (Flows to the Future £10m+) and small (Project Puffin £55k). RSPB Scotland provide advice to farmers and landowners on a range of issues - from helping priority species to managing important farmland, upland and woodland habitats. Currently the team are involved in the delivery of multiple National Lottery Funded projects and two NRF projects. These projects include delivery of management on the ground and the development of advisory materials and demonstration events targeted towards farmers and landowners. The team has also been involved in a number of other KTIF funded projects including Biodiversity Monitoring in Shetland and Bringing Biodiversity Back.

Working For Waders started in 2017 to tackle the decline of wading birds across Scotland. Working for Waders is a collaborative project open to anyone with an interest in waders which bringing together a wide range of organisations, from major national charities like RSPB Scotland, BTO and

Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust (GWCT) through to government bodies and individual farmers, crofters and gamekeepers. Working for Waders is jointly chaired by staff representing NatureScot and SRUC.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The project looked to increase the number of farmers, landowners and agents who are engaged with the Working for Waders Initiative (WFW), increasing the area of land positively managed for waders and improving data collection from the projects. The project was delivered primarily through running a series of demonstration and knowledge exchange events in different parts of Scotland, supported by other materials including new guidance. Visits allowed farmers, conservationists, and agricultural experts, to exchange knowledge, discussing the challenges waders face, the options which are available to help waders through agri-environment, the latest research and best practice monitoring. Some of these events explored the wider agronomic, environmental and business implications of managing for waders on each farm identify more win: wins where sustainable farm management aligns with wader management.

The outputs of the project included:

- Nine farm events spread across Scotland bringing together 150 individuals including farmers, agricultural agents, conservationists and government staff. In addition, a further three events will be run by Working for Waders in April and May off the back of the project.
- Built a greater understanding of how wader friendly management could also help farmers reduce on-farm emissions and protect soils allowing them to improve the wider environmental footprints of their farming businesses. This understanding is being built into 6 case studies which will be shared with the industry.
- Strengthened industry understanding of Working for Waders helping to build a stronger wader friendly farming network community with support from a range of organisations to guide, advise and share practices increasing knowledge sharing across and between groups.
- A legacy resource in the form of podcasts, case studies and stories highlighting existing best practice and potential actions to restore and enhance farms for waders.
- Created new guidance and recording forms to aid the Working for Waders monitoring and nest camera projects as well as inputting into new recording App's.

Feedback from events highlighted the need for regular meetings in the future to share best practice and exchange ideas particularly across different groups and areas; more training for agricultural agents and farmers on monitoring methods and on what waders need; and the desire to play a more active role in the running of Working for Waders. Discussions also highlighted new opportunities through the Species on the Edge which resulted in RSPB providing some basic training on waders to their advisory staff who will be working in Orkney, Shetland, Inner and Outer Hebridean Islands. These are areas which have been under-represented in Working for Waders project up to now. Working for Waders is looking to broaden it's

appeal to farmers and landowners. Suggestions over the course of the project will be incorporated into Working for Waders planned activities to ensure the initiative maintains momentum post funding.

3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Scotland's breeding waders are much loved birds however their breeding populations are in serious trouble. The causes of these declines are well established to be habitat loss, including drainage of wet areas; the loss of mixed farming practices; the planting of commercial forestry on good wading bird habitats; the destruction of nests by field operations; and predation from generalist predators such as foxes and crows.

Scotland has nationally, and in some cases internationally important populations, of breeding wading birds such as oystercatcher, redshank, lapwing, curlew and snipe. These birds often breed on farmland, and in contrast to other parts of the UK where their breeding populations have crashed, they are still widespread - but often thinly spread now across the landscape. The most recent British Trust for Ornithology [Breeding Bird Survey Report](#) covering Scotland indicates that between 1995-2018 our oystercatcher population underwent a 39% population decline, and for lapwing and curlew the population declines are 56% and 59% respectively. Only the snipe appears to be bucking the trend with a 22% population increase over the same period.

This funding built and expanded on the existing work of Working for Waders partners, including RSPB Scotland, SRUC, Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust (GWCT) [Working for Waders](#). These partners helped with the delivery of aspects of the project. The project, which ran primarily between December 2022 and March 2023, involved a series of demonstration events across Scotland increasing the number of farmers, landowners and agricultural agents who are engaged with the Working for Waders Initiative. Events took place in both areas where wader groups involving farmers are already established (e.g. Strathspey, Clyde Valley) and in newer less established areas expanding the number of wader friendly farming groups.

Visits allowed farmers, conservationists, and agricultural experts, to exchange knowledge, discussing the challenges waders face, the options which are available to help waders, the latest research and best practice monitoring. These events not only focused on wader conservation, they explored the wider agronomic, environmental and business implications of managing for waders on each farm. Events helped identify more win: wins where sustainable farm management aligned with wader management e.g. careful management of soils and grassland not only increases earthworm numbers, essential food for waders, it improves the productivity of the grassland and soils whilst reducing the carbon footprint. Events covered a range of topics including how to make the most of the agri-environment scheme; soil, wetland and rush management; scrape creation, wader monitoring and predator control.

Several of the events specifically targeted agricultural agents aiming to improve the quality of future Agri-environment and Climate Scheme applications in the 2023 and 2024 rounds. These events discussed the support package beyond 2025 considering what might come under Tier 1 and 2 Direct Payments and Tier 3 and 4 Indirect payments. A summary report is being finalised highlighting these discussions which will be shared with Scottish Government staff developing the new policies.

Other outputs from this project included case studies based on various themes, 6 podcasts, a series of blogs and stories about wader friendly farming. Some of these have already and be promoted via Working for Waders and RSPB. Products will be shared with Scottish Government and NatureScot as they develop policies that support a sustainable transition of the industry. Data collected from the projects would be able to be shared and combined with existing data sets strengthening our understanding of what works and what doesn't allowing legacy beyond the life of the project.

4. FINANCE

4.1 **Total Value of Project awarded:** £37,100 KTIF contribution to the Project: £27,825

Total actual cost of project £23,080.33 Total claimed from KTIF £17,310.25

	Costs
A) Project development costs	£1087.5
B) Project management costs	£8490
C) Fees for speakers/facilitators	£1960
D) T&S for speakers/ facilitators	£459
E) Event venue costs	£1286.25
F) Materials costs	£90
G) Publicity	£187.5
H) Podcasts	£3750
	£17310.25

Underspend was for three reasons:

- Project management costs: RSPB costs were less than original envisaged in part because others took the lead on some of the events.
- Speakers / facilitators : Costs were lower than predicted because RSPB took the lead on several of the events reducing the need for external facilitations. Working for Waders partners and the some of the farmers also contributed without asking for costs. Participants were made aware that money was available.
- App design – Originally it was envisaged that there would be a separate APP developed as part of this project but after discussions with partners this was not pursued as other organisations were already developing alternative versions with funding from others.

5. PROJECT AIMS/OBJECTIVES

- To build on the existing work of Working for Waders partners to develop a stronger network of landowners and farmers who are engaged in wader conservation at landscape scale. To engage with projects across Scotland which hold important populations of waders building a stronger partnership approach between land managers, government, conservation organizations and agricultural experts.
- Provide the opportunity for landowners to come together with experts through a series of site visits to farms in different parts of the country to see wader management in situ. Visits would allow farmers to discuss the challenges waders face, the options which are available to help waders, the latest research and best practice monitoring.
- To improve the knowledge exchange between the various groups and beyond these groups through more regular communication through newsletters and webinars so they share best practice experiences and learn from each other, helping to work collaboratively to develop new and novel ideas.
- To build a greater understanding of how wader friendly management e.g., grassland management, peatland management, aeration, liming etc, could also help farmers reduce on-farm emissions and protect soils allowing them to improve the wider environmental footprints of their farming businesses.
- To engage with the wider the national test programme, Piloting an Outcome Based Approach in Scotland (POBAS) trials and helping identify options which could be available as part of conditionality under a future Agricultural Policy framework.
- To test and improve existing products produced by Working for Waders including the APP for recording wader numbers on farm allowing data collection to be improved from individual projects and the opportunity to pool data across projects.
- Create a legacy resource in the form of podcasts, webinars, case studies and stories to highlight existing best practice and potential actions to restore and enhance farms for waders. These would be shared through Working for Waders and partner organizations communication channels as well as through the Farm Advisory Service.
- Establish a bigger network of farmers and advisors who will benefit from future training activities through Working for Waders.
- To build the number of stories that allow the public to recognize the role land managers are playing in wader conservation and the importance of Scotland wader populations.

6. PROJECT OUTCOMES

The tangible resource outcomes of the project were:

- Nine farm events were delivered (Angus Glens, Two events in Clyde Valley, Caithness, Dumfries and Galloway, Glenlivet, Oban and Strathspey). One small event in Shetland was postponed at the last minute due to heavy snow. RSPB will run this event in the autumn at its own expense.

- Supported the development of a further three events which will take place in April and May after the end of the funded project. These events will focus on the farmer groups in the Borders, Pentlands and Skye incorporating wader monitoring training and discussions on wader habitat management.
- Recorded and produced a series of six podcasts related to land management, conservation and farming for wading birds including curlews, lapwings and oystercatchers. These are intended to raise awareness of wader conservation, and also develop specific themes within that subject, from cattle grazing and wader scrape creation to predator management and broader themes of habitat requirements. The podcasts will form part of a bigger library of wader-related media that Working for Waders partners will be developing over time working with a range of stakeholders including farmers, conservationists, gamekeepers and scientists. These products will be promoted through various communications routes available to Working for Waders partners.
- Developed new paper materials which help farmers and landowners understand how to record wader numbers and nesting success on their land. Materials are being promoted through the Working for Waders partnership events and through future webinars.
- Building on the experiences of 2022 Nest Camera Project developed new guidance and forms to improve data collection and storage from the project (see Appendix for examples). BTO staff significantly updated the Online (Google-based) Data Entry Form (Wader Nest Record Form in Appendix) and tested it to ensure it comprehensively covers all wader nesting attempt situations in a way that is compatible with other nest monitoring schemes, such as the national Nest Record Scheme. Records submitted by WfW Nest Cam Participants will be included in the WfW Nest Camera Project, and all records will the Nest Record Scheme (NRS). Participants will be able to enter data via a new BTO App which will be launched in mid-April.
- Identified and started development of six case studies picking up themes highlighted from the farm visits. These will be shared directly with partners once finalised with final versions expected by late April. These will be hosted on RSPB and WfW websites.
- Developed materials for a KTIF presentation on land manager breeding wader monitoring options
- Developed and delivered training to staff of the [Species on the Edge project](#) which includes wader focused work and monitoring on Shetland, Orkney, Inner and Outer Hebridean Islands.
- Developed a series of webinars to take place over the summer and winter of 23 / 24 targeting the landowning community. These will promote the work of the partners within Working for Waders highlighting a range of topics including monitoring, Wader Friendly practices, knowledge exchange with other projects in England, Wales and NI.

7. LESSONS LEARNED

We adapted our approach slightly to our engagement with the farmers and how we develop some of the products. There was a delay in the start of the delivery whilst we waited for Working for Waders to finalise a review of their ways of working and priorities. As a result of the review, we have identified new opportunities for engagement beyond the life-time of the project. This delay did however mean that most of the activity was truncated into the final few months of delivery. Future projects would look to spread events more evenly across the timeframe of the project.

Feedback from events highlighted the need for regular meetings in the future to share best practice and exchange ideas particularly across different groups and areas; more training for agricultural agents and farmers on monitoring methods and on what waders need; and the desire to play a more active role in the running of Working for Waders. Discussions also highlighted new opportunities through the Species on the Edge which resulted in RSPB providing some basic training on waders to their advisory staff who will be working in Orkney, Shetland, Inner and Outer Hebridean Islands. These are areas which have been under-represented in Working for Waders project up to now.

Working for Waders is looking to broaden it's appeal to farmers and landowners and will incorporate the lessons from this project in future activities to ensure the initiative maintains builds on the momentum post funding.

It was originally envisaged that there would be an App developed as part of the project but following discussions with partners we became aware of a number of other products already being progressed through POBAS and BTO. We therefore inputted into their development rather than develop a competing product.

The quantity of communications at a national level through RSPB and Working for Waders throughout the project was a lot less than originally envisaged. Capacity issues in the support teams due to staff leaving made it more difficult to publish stories on a regular basis resulting in less communication about the project than we would have liked during the lifetime of the project. We are in the process of reviewing our approach to communications to landowners to increase the number of people who are available to post materials on social media thus reducing the reliance on core communications staff. On a more positive note, there is a bank of opportunities over the next few months to promote the work of the farmers and Working for Waders, the KITF funded case studies and podcasts through the various channels now this capacity gap has been addressed.

8. COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT

The events were primarily targeted at farming and land management audiences as well as government and their agencies officials. The secondary audience was the wider public through the development of wader focused stories.

Farm visits and subsequent content for case studies and podcasts were carefully selected to ensure a range of farm types and subject matter covering different parts of the country. Information on events were circulated via Working for Waders newsletters (see below), through social media, local contacts and partnerships. This

involved support from staff within the Working for Waders partnership, SAC Consulting and Nature Friendly Farming Network at a national level as well as partners involved in local initiatives including Cairngorms National Park and Scot FWAG. Those attending events were contacted afterwards and asked to fill in a feedback form highlighting what had worked well and what had not. We also asked for their thoughts on topics for future events. It was decided to focus on podcasts rather than films because Working for Waders felt this provided more opportunities to share knowledge transfer from projects across the UK.

Information produced by the project has not yet been uploaded onto the Working for Waders website www.workingforwaders.com but this will happen over the next few months. Working for Waders intends to do a lot more promotion of the outputs of case studies, guidance and stories through social media channels including Facebook and twitter. Working for Waders will also make sure that there are links through to the Farm Advisory Service to add to the information we have already jointly produced.

RSPB has so far done some promotion of this project through their existing wader projects contracts across Scotland, social media, on their website and farming e-newsletter. RSPB Scotland will continue this communication through pieces on the RSPB farming blog & farming e-newsletter in September which goes to 3,125 within the UK farming industry and through the 700 + face: to: face farming contacts RSPB works with every year. Printed versions of the case studies will be taken to various events including a parliamentary event in May and Royal Highland Show in June. Case studies will also be added to the RSPB website once we have finalised our new website (likely July / August 2023).



Working for Waders Newsletter highlighting

some of the events.

9. KEY FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Feedback from events highlighted the need for regular meetings in the future to share best practice and exchange ideas particularly across different groups and areas; more training for agricultural agents and farmers on monitoring methods and on what waders need; and the desire to play a more active role in the running of Working for Waders. Discussions also highlighted new opportunities through the

Species on the Edge which resulted in RSPB providing some basic training on waders to their advisory staff who will be working in Orkney, Shetland, Inner and Outer Hebridean Islands. These are areas which have been under-represented in Working for Waders project up to now. Working for Waders is looking to broaden it's appeal to farmers and landowners. Suggestions over the course of the project will be incorporated into Working for Waders planned activities to ensure the initiative maintains momentum post funding.

Events helped identify more win: wins where sustainable farm management aligned with wader management e.g. careful management of soils and grassland not only increases earthworm numbers, essential food for waders, it improves the productivity of the grassland and soils whilst reducing the carbon footprint. Events covering a range of topics including how to make the most of the agri-environment scheme; soil, wetland and rush management; scrape creation, wader monitoring and predator control were successful. It was found that combining agronomic and wader conservation discussions into one event maximised the on-farm events.

The aim of Working for Waders is to continue expanding the number of farmers, gamekeepers and landowners involved in the project increasing the amount of data collected. The project has highlighted some key issues around wader conservation, becoming a really important tool to help Working for Waders engage with farmers, land managers and the general public. Discussions are now underway on how Working for Waders does this through it's revised structures which are being brought into place as a result of a review by Working for Waders on how it operates.

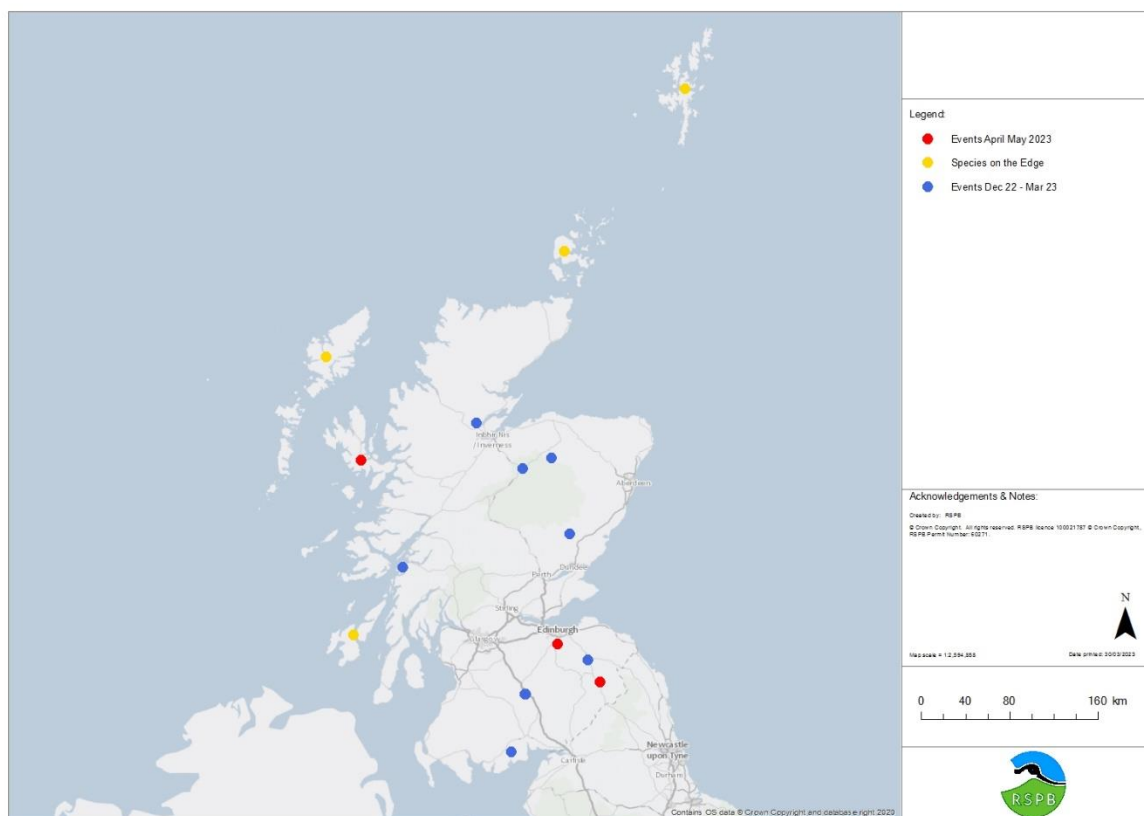
10. CONCLUSION

The RSPB along with Working for Waders partners are committed to developing the outcomes of this project, ensuing they are disseminated even more widely, utilising partnerships with other organisations to do so. This project has allowed Working for Waders to develop on some of their existing project work but at the same time explore some new opportunities. RSPB is keen to work with Working for Waders partners to ensure that products from this project and others are incorporated into the development of future Rural Development Policies.

This project has highlighted that landowners and agricultural agents are keen to learn more about wading birds and how to conserve them. There was agreement that there needs to be more regular knowledge exchange and dialogue between conservationists, landowners and agricultural agents to ensure that funding delivers for the species as well as climate and the farmed business. Future projects through Working for Waders and partners are needed to increase the number of farmers involved in landscape scale conservation work. To deliver this more training and support is needed targeted at farmers, landowners and agricultural agents. We will work with others in the sector to further strengthen the promotion of wader friendly farming practices and nature and climate friendly farming in Scotland.

11. ANNEXES/APPENDICES

Map of where events have taken place (Blue), events in April and May 23 (red) and Species on the Edge Areas (yellow) where initial training has been provided with further work planned later in 2023.



Summary of Attendees at events December 22 – March 23

	Date	Numbers attending						Comments
		Farmers / landowners	Facilitator	Counsellors	Agents	Government	Public	
Clyde Valley 1	December	16	1	1				
Oban	February	3	1	2	9		4	
Clyde Valley 2	February	13	1	1				Many of same farmers as event in Dec
Glenlivet	March	6	1	4	1		1	
Strathspey	March	13	1	2	2		1	
Angus Glens	March	20	2	3	2		3	4
Dingwall	March	5	2	1	10		3	
Lauderdale	March	8	1					
D&G	March	6	1	2	15		3	



Summary information on each event

Argyll Agricultural advisors and Consultants Information Exchange and Networking Event

Feb 2023

The event focused on agricultural agents servicing the Argyll area. The morning incorporated a series of presentations from RSPB, SAC, Savills, NFUS, NatureScot and SGRPID followed by an afternoon site visit to a farm on Kerrera. This session provided an opportunity to share best practice around agri-environment, look at alternatives to agri-environment funding and identify opportunities for increased collaboration. NatureScot and SGRPID representatives highlighted key issues that had caused agri-environment applications in 2022 to be rejected and some of the changes that had been made to the 2023 application round. There was opportunity to feedback on the proposed future scheme design post 2025, to discuss the challenges of the current scheme and its options and whether there was merit in the alternative outcome focused approach.

The afternoon site visit was to a farm on Kerrera where we discussed their current management and its impact on biodiversity. We discussed their current grazing regimes and their implications for waders, particularly Curlew and Lapwing which bred on the island.

Clyde Valley Waders Initiative. – December 2022 and February 2023

Two events were run with farmers of the [Clyde Valley Wader Bird Initiative](#). The first meeting brought the farmers together to discuss the results from the 2022 breeding season highlighting that hatching success was low in Wader Grazed Grassland fields but high in Wader & Wildlife Mown Grassland and arable fields. Farmers were asked to express an interest in undertaking changes to their farming systems to improve productivity increasing the area under arable management. This was potentially being made possible with funding from Working for Waders and NatureScot.

At the second meeting farmers had their farm maps in front of them and they marked which fields they will offer up for trial management centred on the growing of brassicas, the spreading of courtyard dung in March, and which pastures they could

manage on a stock exclusion basis. They also discussed what training they needed to help them finding nests, future membership requirements and group finances.

Strathspey and Tomintoul

March 2023

Focusing on farmers in the Glenlivet and Strathspey area. These two half-day events focussed on soil health and management techniques for controlling rush on farmland. The events were led by Ian Cairns, a qualified farm adviser with over 20 years' experience in professional farm consultancy, and owns his own beef and sheep farm in Northumberland. Ian specialises in grazing systems, upland improvement, common rush control, carbon audits and soil and nutrient management. Attendees looked at soil condition on the host farm and discuss how improving soil health can benefit your farm, and why this is important for wading birds. They discussed the best methods for controlling rushes on farmland – how much rush is too much rush, and what are the best management techniques for controlling rush for the benefit of wading birds and farm productivity?



Angus event

Kinclune was the recipient of the 2021 Nature of Scotland Food and Farming Award for their ongoing positive work and are actively involved in wader conservation with neighbouring farms, estates as well as working closely with RSPB Scotland, Nature Friendly Farming Network and Working for Waders.

RSPB Scotland and Working for Waders have been working with the estate integrating land management for wading birds alongside farm management.

At the event participants say practical habitat management for wading birds including wetland creation, seasonal grazing and predator control and be able to discuss their own experiences with other attendees. Collaboration for wading birds is of vital importance and this event will provide a unique opportunity to find out more and hear about the challenges and opportunities of integrating nature-friendly farming with the running of a farm business.



Dumfries and Galloway and Dingwall

Two events were run for advisors and land management consultants focusing on Agri-environment schemes to review how this funding can be used to best effect. AECS funding currently underpins some excellent work for species like curlews and lapwings in the wider farmed landscape, but this support needs to reflect recent progress and advances in wader conservation. The funding is available, so how do we make best use of it?

The participants discussed AECS conservation options for wading birds and how they could make better use of them learning about recent studies undertaken into the effectiveness of AECS wader options from Dan Brown of RSPB Scotland. The meetings also discussed views on the future scheme design with outputs being collated by Working for Waders partners.

Podcast

To record and produce a series of podcasts related to land management, conservation and farming for wading birds including curlews, lapwings and oystercatchers. These will raise awareness of wader conservation, and also develop specific themes within that subject, from cattle grazing and wader scrape creation to predator management and broader themes of habitat requirements. Working with a range of stakeholders including farmers, conservationists, gamekeepers and scientists, we propose to develop an existing podcast platform into a library of wader-related media.

Each episode will require different levels of travel and input. The podcast channel already works in conjunction with Pete Smith (<http://www.thesoundspace.co.uk/>) to produce a high quality finished product. This work would produce six podcasts between March and May 2023, with episodes “released” on the channel The Curlew Tapes, hosted at Soundcloud.com

Three pilot episodes for The Curlew Tapes can be found at <https://soundcloud.com/user-110654211-708583582>

Schedule of podcasts

Proposed schedule and subject matter for the six episodes is shown below.

Date	Project 1 – middle of month	Project 2 – end of month
March	Curlews at Mochrum Estate (with Mary Colwell)	Nest camera project review and update
April	Urban oystercatchers	Lapwings and predators
May	Golden Plover - high altitude conservation	Redshank – saltmarsh waders

Nest Camera Project Data Collection

Below is the minimum we ask you to record during each wader nesting attempt you monitor (whether you deploy a camera or not). For ethical and scientific reasons, it's essential to minimise disturbance when monitoring nests. See the **Working for Waders Nest Camera Set-up Guidance** and **[BTO Wader Nest Monitoring Code of Conduct](#)**.



1

Finding a nest



1. **Location** (10-digit grid reference or equivalent)
 2. **Wader species**
 3. **Date** you found the nest
 4. **Number of eggs** in nest when found
- Take photos of the nest cup and surrounding habitat when found!**

2

Camera deployment



- If you manage to deploy a camera at the nest:
5. **Date** of deployment
 6. **Number of eggs** in nest at deployment
 7. **Distance** of camera from nest (nearest metre)
- Take photos of the nest and camera set up during deployment!**

3

Final nest observations, &/or camera collection & SD card download



- Take photos of the nest after outcome and any eggshells found!**
8. **Latest date you know the nest was active** (from field or nest camera observations)
 9. **Nest hatching outcome** (Success, Failure, or Unknown)
 10. **Earliest date you know the nest was inactive** (from field or camera observations)
Often, but not always (e.g., camera failure), the same as 'Latest date you know the nest was active'. This helps us estimate outcome date where the exact date of outcome is not known.
 11. **Evidence for outcome** (Camera footage, field observations, and/or other)
 12. **Reason for failure** (if failure)
(Predation, farm operations, livestock trampling, human disturbance, other, or unknown)
 13. **Predator** (if any eggs predated)
(e.g., Badger, Carrion Crow, Fox, Sheep, Unknown...)
 14. **Photos:** please provide at least 5 of:
 - Bird sitting on the nest
 - Reported outcome
 - Nest cup when found,
 - Nest cup after the outcome
 - Any eggshell fragments found after outcome

4

Data return

Please submit your nest information using the **Data Entry Form**:
<https://forms.gle/vhCMUd1cU6C7j1No7> by the **30 September** (we can't guarantee submissions after this date will be included in any reporting). The data entry form requires a Google account; if you don't already have one, they are free and simple to set up, see:
<https://support.google.com/accounts/answer/27441?hl=en>.

Version 3: 15/03/2023

Image credits (top to bottom): Sam Franks / BTO, Patrick Laurie, Luise Janniche



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

Wader Nest Record Form

Please submit the below to the online **Wader Nest Record Form**:

<https://forms.gle/vhCMUD1cU6C7j1No7>, or post this paper sheet to **FAO**

Wader Project Officer, BTO Scotland, Beta Centre (Unit 15), Stirling University Innovation Park, Stirling, FK9 4NF by the **30 September**.



Notes:

1. Finding a nest

Remember to take photos of nest cup and surrounding habitat!

Location (10-digit grid reference or equivalent)

Wader species

Date nest found

Number of eggs in nest

2. Deploying Nest Camera (leave blank if you don't deploy a nest camera)

Remember to take photos of nest cup and camera set-up during deployment!

Date camera deployed

Number of eggs in nest

Distance of camera from nest
(nearest metre)

3. Final observations &/or camera collection & SD card download

Remember to take photos of the nest cup and any eggshell fragments found after outcome!

Latest date you know the nest was active (from field or nest camera observations)

Nest hatching outcome
(Success, Failure, or Unknown)

Earliest date you know the nest was inactive (from field or camera observations) – often the same as latest date you know nest was active

Evidence for outcome
(Camera footage, field observations, and/or other)

Reason for failure (if failure)

Predator (if any eggs predated)
(e.g., Badger, Carrion Crow, Fox, Sheep, Unknown...)

Photo credits: Sam Franks / BTO, Patrick Laurie, Luise Janniche / Innes Smith

Version 1 – 15 March 2023



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

Example of Feedback Form

Soil Health and Rush Management Events Feedback

1. Which event did you attend?

☐ Rhindhu (Thursday 2nd March)

☐ Rothiemoon (Friday 3rd March)

* 2. Overall, how would you rate the Soil Health and Rush Management event?

☐ Excellent

☐ Very good

☐ Good

☐ Fair

☐ Poor

3. What did you like about the event?

4. What did you dislike about the event?

* 5. Was the event length too long, too short or about right?

☐ Too long

