

Ayrshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan

As you may or may not be aware work is currently underway to update the Ayrshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP). Birds are addressed in a number of areas in particular Objective Reference HPCH -6 states:

To assess the coastal bird species and their biodiversity importance, abundance, rate of population change and the health of their habitats including sites.

The action point in relation to this is: "to collate and analyse existing data on coastal breeding, migrating and wintering birds and their sites supplemented with further survey if required." One of the targets for achieving this was to produce an annotated list of coastal bird species and also an annotated list of coastal bird sites.

In the past the Ayrshire Biodiversity Plan has possibly received a bit of negative feedback due to its relative lack of public consultation. In order to address the issue this time around it is the intention to seek feedback from active birders in Ayrshire. One of the best ways to identify active birders was through the Ayrshirebirding forum and the Ayrshire Birding website.

On the Ayrshire Birding website there are two annotated lists, 1. Coastal bird species; 2.coastal bird sites, which we would welcome your comments on. This process will be ongoing for the next two months, after which the information will be passed on to the LBAP committee for inclusion in the report. This is your opportunity to provide constructive comments and to contribute to the production of the Ayrshire Local Biodiversity Plan.

Ayrshire Coastal Bird List

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Breeding status	Occurrence	Comment
Red-throated Diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	C	FB	W P	
Black-throated Diver	<i>Gavia arctica</i>	C	(B)	W P	
Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>	U		W P	
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	C	B	P	
Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	C	B	P	
Manx Shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	C		S P	
Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	C	B	p	
Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	C	B	p	
Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>	C	B	w	
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	C	B	w	
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	C	B		
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	C	b	W	
Brent Goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>	U		w p	
Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	C	B		
Wigeon	<i>Anas Penelope</i>	C	(B)	W	
Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	C	B	W	
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	C	B	W	
Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>	C		W	
Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	C	B		
Long-tailed Duck	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	U		W	
Common Scoter	<i>Melanitta nigra</i>	C		W P	
Velvet Scoter	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	U		W	§
Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	C		W	
Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	C	b	p	
Goosander	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	C	b	w	
Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	C	b	w	
Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	C	B	W P	
Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	C	B	W P	
Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	C	B	w P	
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	C		w P	
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	C	B	W P	
Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	C		W P	
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	C		w P	
Purple Sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritime</i>	C		W P	
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	C	b	W P	
Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	C		P	
Jack Snipe	<i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>	C		w P	
Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	C	B	w P	
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	U		w P	

Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	C		W P	
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	U		P	
Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	C	B	W P	
Redshank	<i>Tringa tetanus</i>	C	B	W P	
Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	C		w P	
Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	C		W s P	
Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	C	B	W	
Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	C	B	W	
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	C	B	S p	
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	C	B	W	
Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	C	B	W P	
Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	C	B	w P	
Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	U	(b)	S p	
Sandwich Tern	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>	C	(B)	S P	
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	C	B	S P	
Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	C	B	S P	
Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>	C	B	w p	
Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>	C	B	w p	
Black Guillemot	<i>Cepphus grille</i>	C	B	W p	
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	C	B	P	
Rock Pipit	<i>Anthus petrosus</i>	C	B	p	(§ littoralis only)
Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	R		w P	§
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	C	B	S w P	
White/Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	C	B		
Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	C	B		
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	C	B	S P	
Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>	U	b		
Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	C	B	S p	
Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	U	b		
Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	C	B		
Twite	<i>Carduelis flavirostris</i>	C	(B)	W	
Snow Bunting	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	U		W p	

Key Meaning

A - Accidental (5 records or less)

R - Rare (20 records or less)

U - Uncommon (20 records or less per year)

C - Common (More than 20 records per year)

B - Breeds (25 or more pairs/territories reported per year)

b - Breeds (Less than 25 pairs/territories reported per year)

(B) - Casual or occasional breeder

FB - Former breeder

S - Summer visitor (s = less regularly)

W - Winter visitor (w = less regularly)

P - Passage migrant (p = less regularly)

§ - Written details may be required for Ayrshire Birds Records Committee

Ayrshire Coastal Sites (from the north southwards)

From	To	North / South	Approx. Distance (Km)	WeBS Priority Areas	Other sites
Wemyss Bay	Portencross	North	22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wemyss Bay to Fairlie Hunterston Lagoon Hunterston Sands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meigle Bay Three Sisters Fairlie Pier to Seamill Largs to Fairlie
Portencross	Irvine	North	18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ardrossan to West Kilbride Ardrossan South Irvine & Garnock Estuary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farland Head Farland Point to Clashfarland Point Horse Isle
Irvine	Troon Harbour	North	8		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Irvine Bay Barassie North Sands Troon harbour
Troon Harbour	Ayr Harbour	South	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ayr to North Troon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lady Isle Powburn Estuary
Ayr Harbour	Dunure	South	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doon Estuary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ayr Harbour Ayr Bay Greenan shore Heads of Ayr
Dunure	Turnberry	South	13		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dunure to Culzean Culzean Bay Maidens harbour Turnberry Point
Turnberry	Lendalfoot	South	18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girvan to Turnberry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dipple Shore Girvan Harbour Water of Lendal Estuary Bennane Head
Lendalfoot	Finnarts Bay	South	20		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ballantrae Beach Stinchar Estuary Finnarts Bay
		Total	120		

Arran & Cumbrae's

From	To	Arran/ Cumbrae	Approx. Distance (Km)	WeBS Priority	Other Sites
Brodick	Lochranza	Arran	23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arran 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brodick Bay Lochranza
Lochranza	Blackwaterfoot	Arran	29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arran 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drumadoon Bay
Blackwaterfoot	Kildonan	Arran	17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arran 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bennan Head
Kildonan	Brodick	Arran	24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arran 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whiting Bay Lamlash Bay Holy Island Pladda
Millport	Millport	Great Cumbrae	16		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clashfarland Point to Ferry Ferry to Skate Point Skate Point to Sheriffs Point Sheriffs Point to Millport Millport to Clashfarland
Meadow Point	Meadow point	Little Cumbrae	7		