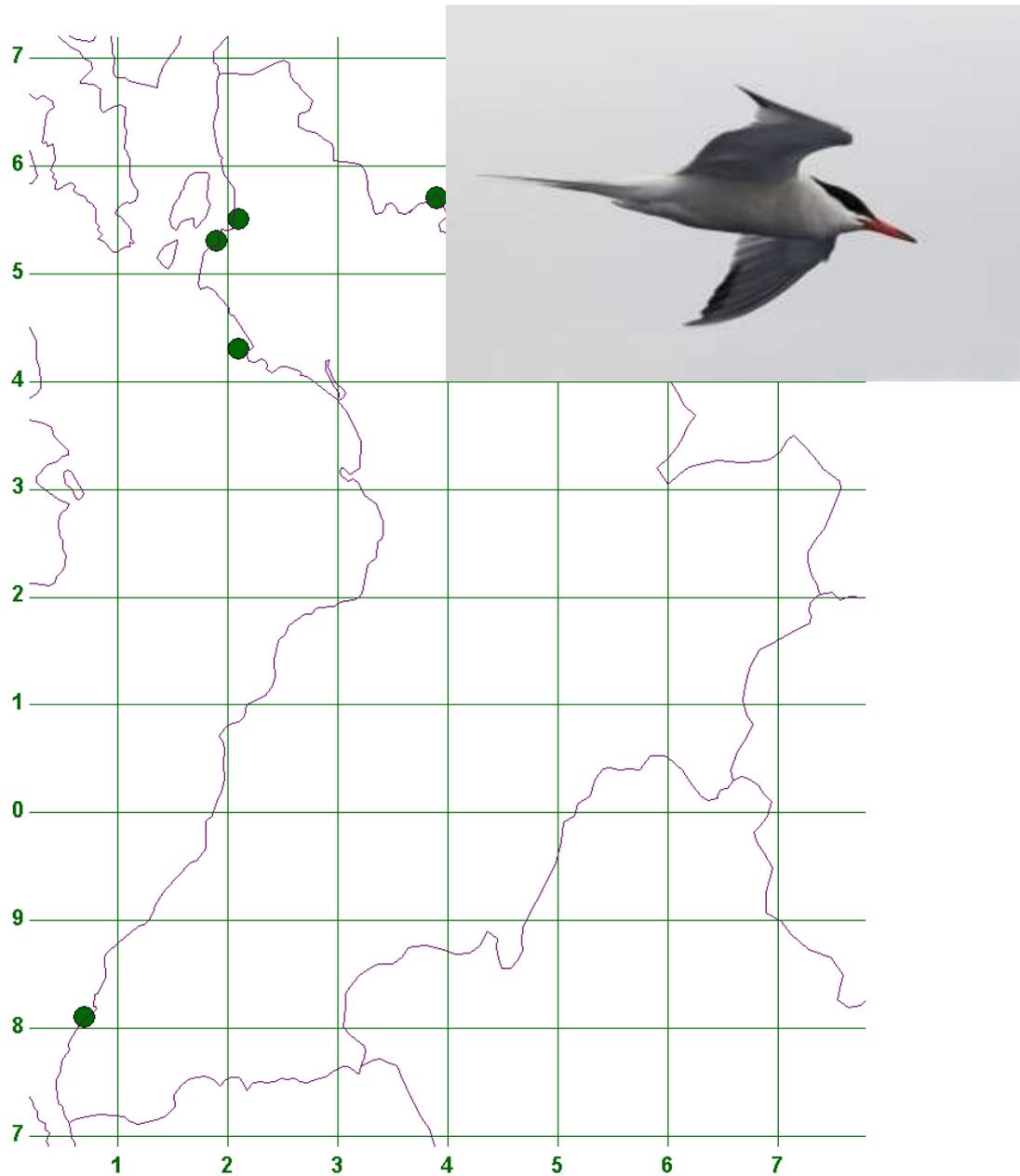


## Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*)



**Status:** Rare (and occasional) breeder

**Current trend:** At present, the very small population shown on the map has vanished, and none currently breed in Ayrshire. Formerly found nesting on some of Ayrshire's lochs, the Common Tern was, latterly, restricted to coastal sites such as Ballantrae, Horse Island and Hunterston, with the total Ayrshire population probably not exceeding 10 pairs. Increased pressure from nest site competition, predation and land reclamation have resulted in its disappearance as a breeding species.

**Follow up:** Continued checking of suitable sites, or the provision of artificial nest platforms.