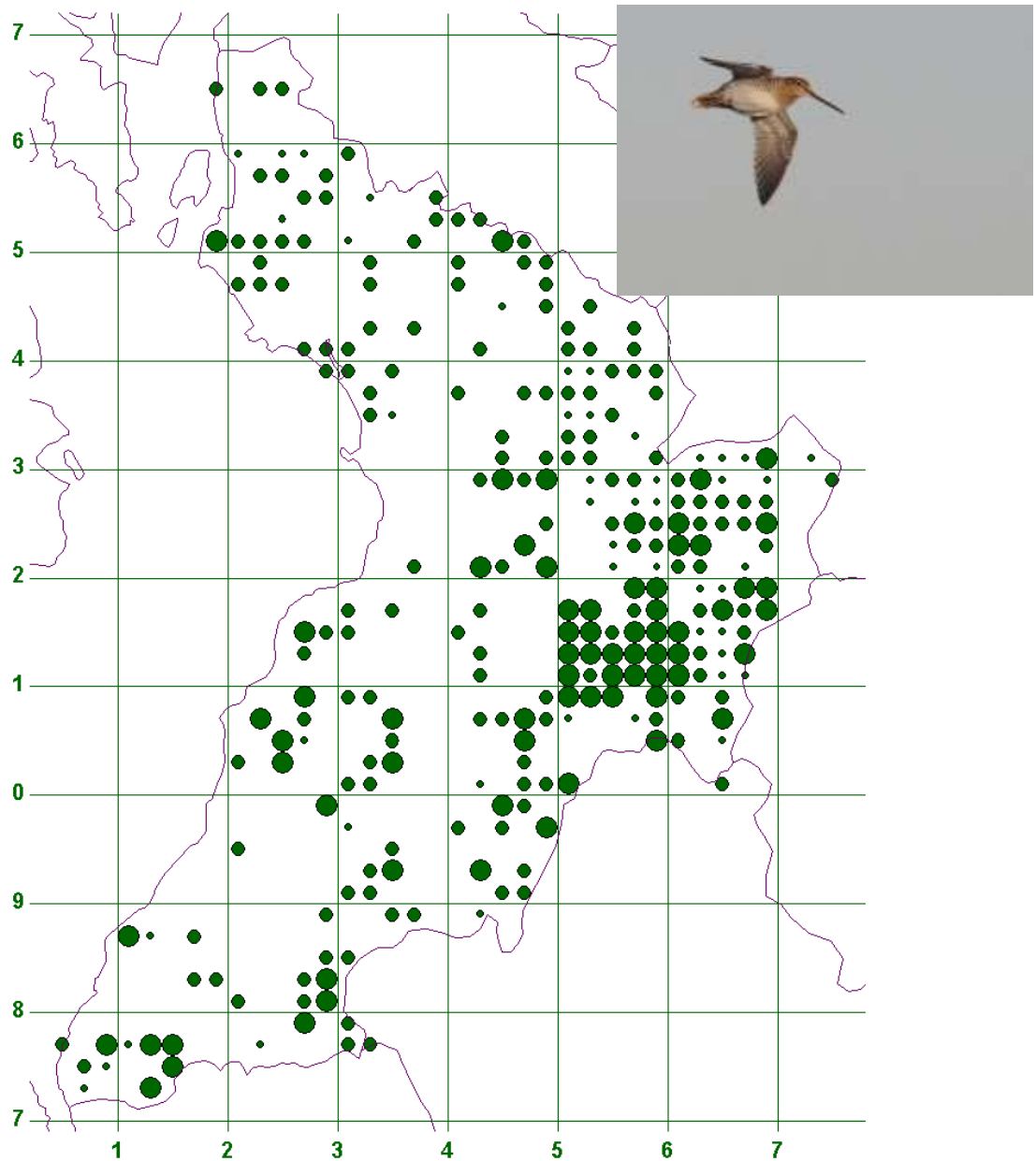


Common Snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*)



Status: Uncommon breeder

Current trend: The breeding population of Common Snipe is in decline over most of the county. It was, until recently, widespread in both lowland wetlands and upland moors but, with many of the former sites now drained or drying out, and with the spread of forestry in the latter, numbers breeding in Ayrshire have dropped markedly. Although it's likely that some territories were missed in the 1991-97 survey, the trend is still downwards.

Follow up: Continued monitoring of key breeding sites, along with an attempt to clearly identify the main factors affecting the decline.