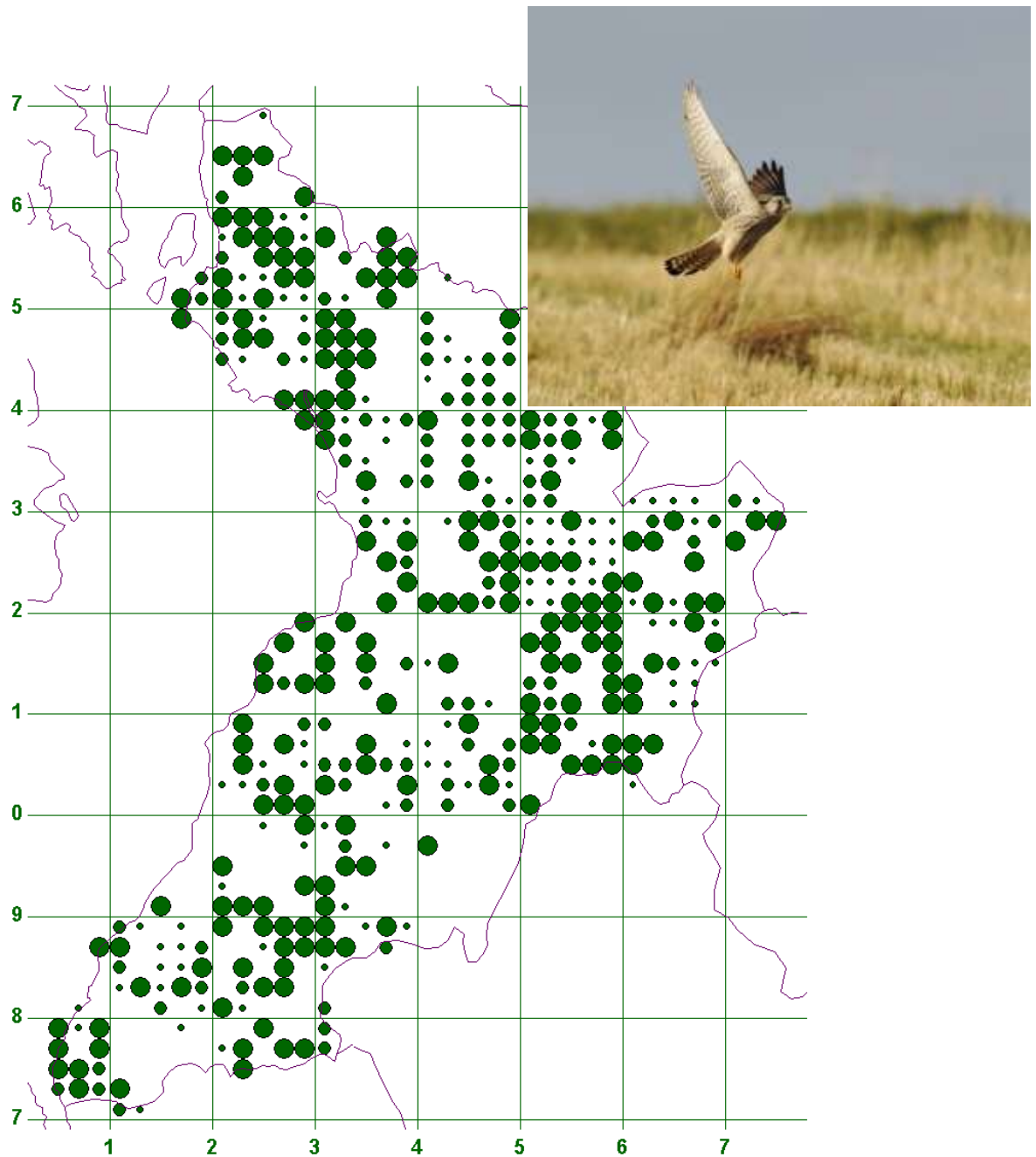


Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*)



Status: Common breeder

Current trend: Unlike Sparrowhawk and Common Buzzard, the Kestrel has suffered a large population decline, with breeding numbers of this species having been carefully monitored over the past 40 years by Gordon Riddle. In the past 2 or 3 years, the breeding success rate has been extremely poor, perhaps due to adverse weather, food shortage and loss of habitat.

Follow up: It will be very important to discover what the factors are which have led to the recent serious decline of this once widespread raptor.