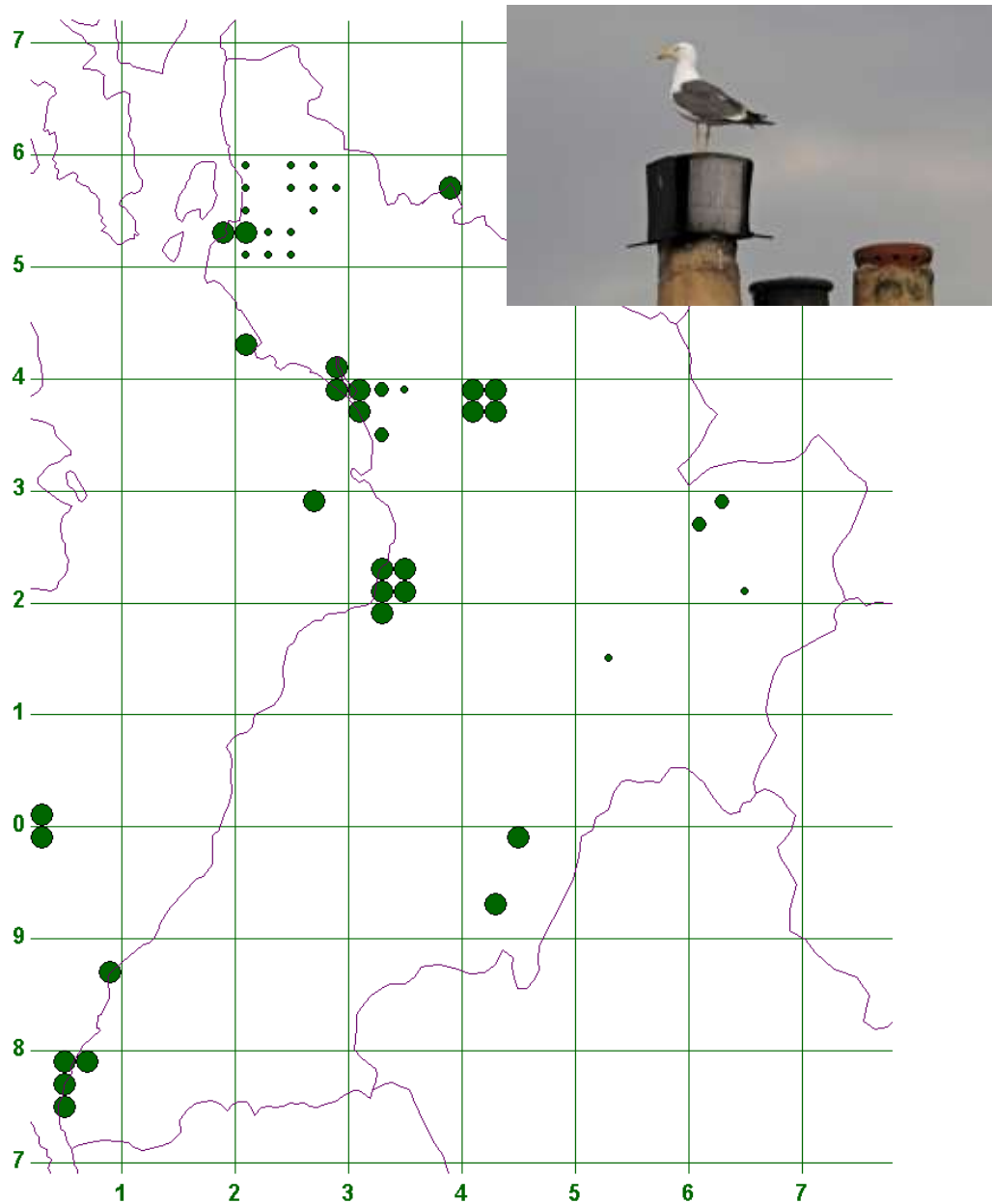


## Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*)



**Status:** Common breeder.

**Current trend:** Like Herring Gull, this species has established itself within many of our urban centres, relying largely on human “untidiness” as a source of food. Thriving island colonies exist on Horse Island, Lady Isle and Ailsa Craig, and the small population on the South Ayrshire coast is stable or in slow decline. Occasional breeding occurs in upland areas on hill reservoirs such as Loch Riecawr.

**Follow up:** Continued monitoring of numbers at the main island colonies, plus occasional counts of nesting birds in urban centres.