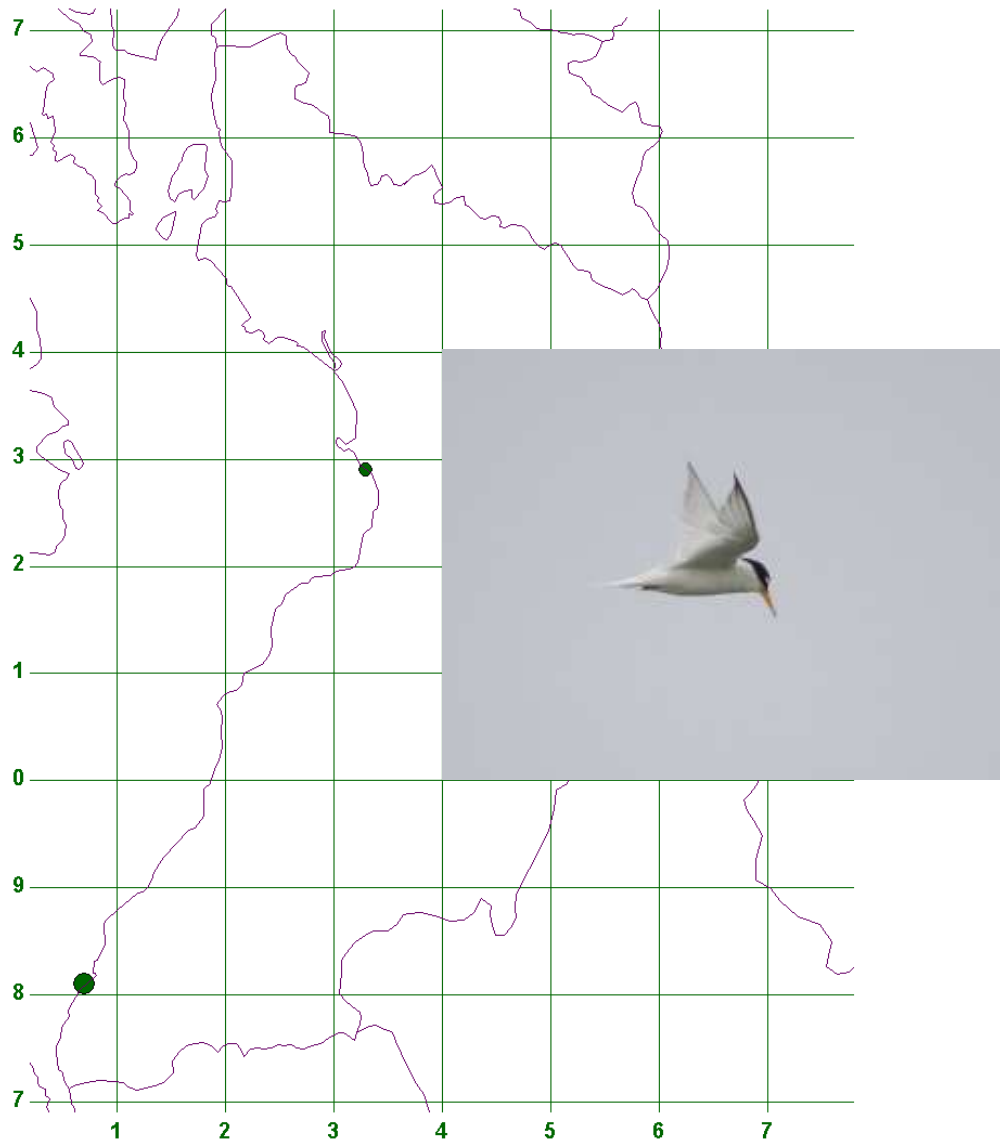


## Little Tern (*Sterna albifrons*)



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

**Current trend:** Little Tern is currently extinct as a breeding species in Ayrshire. It last bred at Ballantrae during 2007, when 6 pairs failed. Most recent attempts have involved birds which were possibly displaced from other sites, since their arrival was generally late (similar to Ayrshire's breeding Arctic Terns). However, the high failure rate is linked to a combination of human disturbance, mammal predation and poor weather, and it may be difficult for this species to re-establish itself.

**Follow up:** Visits to likely breeding locations with checks for the presence of birds at these sites.