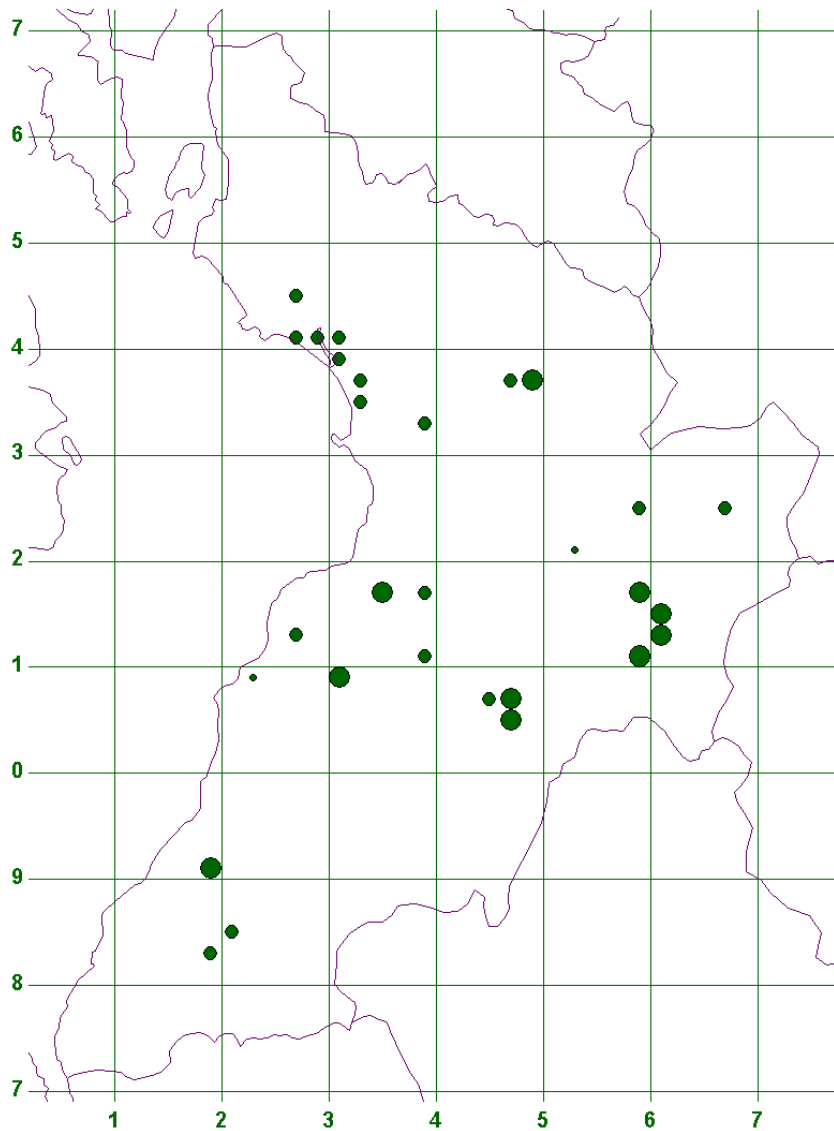


Water Rail (*Rallus aquaticus*)



Status: Uncommon breeder

Current trend: Water Rails are extremely difficult birds to survey and have any certainty of their breeding population. The map shows a wide distribution, and it almost certainly breeds at most of these, but obtaining proof, rather than presence, in suitable habitat, is always going to be difficult. However, it has also occurred in some locations which, on face value, might have seemed unsuitable e.g. some upland lochs. There is currently little data available which would suggest any change in the population.

Follow up: Dedicated coverage of suitable water bodies to find singing birds in the breeding season would be very useful in providing comparative information with what is currently known.