

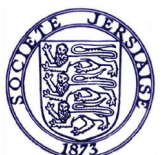


TRENDS IN JERSEY LANDBIRDS 2005 - 2015

H. GLYN YOUNG & MAIRI YOUNG



States of Jersey



Trends in Jersey landbirds 2005-2015

Summary

All terrestrial and freshwater birds except gulls were recorded fortnightly across five key sites in Jersey 2005-2015. In total, 124 bird species were recorded and the population trends for the 72 most regularly recorded species were analysed. Sixteen species show marked decreases across the five sites while a further nine species have increased. The remaining species' populations appear stable with three showing signs of a possible long-term increase and five showing signs of a possible long-term decrease.

Decreasing species:

- Common Pheasant
- Northern Lapwing
- Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon)
- Collared Dove
- Common Swift
- Common Kestrel
- Skylark
- Sand Martin
- Common Chiffchaff
- Common Whitethroat
- Dartford Warbler
- Wren
- Greenfinch
- Linnet
- Reed Bunting



Increasing species:

- Eurasian Marsh Harrier
- Common Buzzard
- Peregrine Falcon
- Eurasian Jay
- Western Jackdaw
- Carrion Crow
- Common Raven
- Firecrest
- Dunnock
- House Sparrow
- Goldfinch



Top: Sand Martin. Photo by Mick Dryden

Bottom: Carrion Crow. Photo by Mick Dryden

Introduction

Bird monitoring provides one of the most robust and globally recognised methods for measuring changes in the state of biodiversity and the broader environment. Currently the UK Farmland Bird Indicator (www.bto.org/science/monitoring/developing-bird-indicators) is one of the UK Government's 15 sustainable development indicators (the only biodiversity indicator) www.gov.uk/government/collections/sustainable-development-indicators and the European farmland bird indicator [http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Agri-environmental indicator - population trends of farmland birds](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Agri-environmental_indicator_-_population_trends_of_farmland_birds), led by Birdlife International is part of the key EU indicator set. The prevalence of these indicators is partly due to the biology of birds as they are high in food chains and respond rapidly to change, but is also because birds are visible, inexpensive to survey and are, therefore, very popular with amateur naturalists. Analyses of pan-European farmland bird data have shown the impact of intensive farming practices on bird numbers and have been responsible for major policy changes.

A structured Island-wide monitoring scheme, managed by the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust through collaboration between Durrell, the Société Jersiaise, National Trust for Jersey and the States of Jersey Department of the Environment was started in April 2005. Five sites (at Crabbé, Grosnez/Les Landes, Les Blanche Banques, Noirmont and at Les Creux: see **Appendix 1** for details) were chosen in part through their connection with the five landbirds detailed in Jersey's biodiversity action plans published in 2006: Skylark *Alauda arvensis*, Dartford Warbler *Sylvia undata*, Stonechat *Saxicola rubicola*, Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella* and Cirl Bunting *E. cirlus*. It was further considered that, with sections of each site in public ownership it would, in theory, be possible to make changes to the environment of these sites through direct management if recommendations arose from the monitoring programme.



Blackbird. Photo by Mick Dryden

The survey

Initially, in 2005, each site was visited weekly and a total of eight transects at the five sites were surveyed. The programme of site visits was changed in 2008 so that each site was visited once every two weeks. Transects at two sites were merged in 2008 so that data were recorded from six transects at the five sites (there are still two transects at Les Landes). Further sites have been added to the programme since 2005 and, in 2015, 22 transects at 20 sites across Jersey were monitored every two weeks. This report covers ten years of intense monitoring at the initial five sites: Crabbé, Les Landes, Les Blanche Banques, Noirmont and at Les Creux. Further reports will be published in time covering data from all sites.

Bird monitoring is best undertaken through the use of a straight forward and easily repeatable methodology. Monitoring guidelines were produced at the start of the programme and are available to download at www.birdsontheedge.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/BOTE-Farmland-Bird-Monitoring-Manual.pdf. Transects were established at the start of the project along easily identifiable paths at each site. Care was taken to ensure good visibility was maintained on each side of the transect and that, if at all possible, the transect did not loop in such a way that areas were viewed more than once (not always easy given the small size of the sites chosen). Each transect was mapped and measured using aerial photographs (see **Appendix 1**).

All bird species seen and heard except gulls (all species) at any time and any birds visible or audible only from adjacent coastline e.g. Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis*, Northern Gannet *Morus bassanus*, European Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*, Eurasian Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus* and Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus*, unless actually within the site, were counted along the measured transect. All overhead migrants such as Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*, Redwing *Turdus iliacus*, Meadow Pipit *A. pratensis* or Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs* were recorded.

All birds were recorded onto a *pro forma* check-sheet (**Appendix 2**) with records of date of visit, site, observer (by initials), basic weather (including wind speed) and start and finish times. Each group of birds is recorded exactly as it was observed: singles and groups of the same species may be recorded as e.g. 1,1,4,2,1,4,1,1 and not added together. The recording sheet allowed for birds to be noted for left or right of the transect line; however, this detail was not included in the final data-set. Method of detection (whether bird was seen or heard) was not recorded. Each transect is relatively flat and easy to walk and, therefore, easily repeatable and visited on one occasion every two weeks throughout the year. Fortnightly blocks were determined in advance and circulated to observers at the start of the year. Visits were typically made in the early morning when birds are most active.

The observer walked the transect recording each individual bird or group of birds seen or heard and in which distance band they were recorded in (using four bands: 0-25m, 25-50m, 50-100m, 100m+ from the transect line). Distance sampling allows estimation of population size by combining count data with an estimate of detection probability.

Completed check-sheets were returned to Durrell after each site visit and all records transferred to a Microsoft Access database (see **Appendix 3**) and stored. Hard copies (filled check-sheets) were also stored.



Golden Plover. Photo by Mick Dryden

Results

A total of 124 bird species were recorded at the five sites during the survey, April 2005 to April 2015. Some of these bird species were recorded very infrequently or even only once. Of the species recorded, 72 were seen in sufficient numbers for trends to be assessed with the data collected and graphs have been produced for 63 species (see below).

Sixteen species show marked decreases across the five sites while a further nine species have increased (see below). The remaining species' populations appear stable with three showing signs of a possible long-term increase and five showing signs of a possible long-term decrease.

Presentation

The Access database developed for this project allows for many different analyses of input records. However, for this report data are presented as number of birds per 100 metres of combined transect (from the six transects) per month over the ten years 2005-2015. Where a species has been predominantly recorded at particular sites this is noted in the species accounts (below). Graphs for 63 species are presented showing numbers recorded with population trend added. The total number of birds recorded (on the Y axis) typically varies between species (e.g. many more Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus* are typically recorded per transect visit than e.g. Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*). Analysis of nine species recorded during the survey is discussed below but graphs not shown because these birds were recorded too few times in each year for us to be able to accurately present results.

Each species account (below) includes the bird's status in Jersey taken from the annual *Jersey Bird Report* published each year by the Ornithology Section of the Société Jersiaise. The local status is reviewed each year before the *Bird Report* is published and is included in the *Working List of the Birds of the Channel Islands* which can be downloaded at www.birdsontheedge.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/Working-list-of-CI-birds-to-December-20141.pdf

Heading sections for each species are coloured to represent the degree of threat to each bird population in Jersey assigned in Jersey's bird red list: *Conservation Status of Jersey's Birds: Jersey's bird populations in the 21st Century* which can be downloaded at www.birdsontheedge.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Conservation_status_of_Jerseys_birds_2011_WEB.pdf In summary:

- **Red** species are Globally Threatened using IUCN criteria (VU or above see www.birdlife.org/datazone/species) or have in Jersey undergone a severe decline in the breeding population of more than 50% over 20 years or a severe decline in the Jersey non-breeding population size of more than 50% over 20 years.
- **Amber** species include those listed as Species of European Conservation Concern (SPECs) as reviewed by European Parliament and the Council of the European Union (see <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/species/redlist/birds/introduction.htm>), those in Jersey with a moderate breeding population decline (by more than 25% but less than 50%) or a moderate non-breeding population decline (by more than 25% but less than 50%) or that at least 50% of the Jersey population is found in five or fewer locations.
- **Green** species are those considered to be common in Jersey or not in obvious decline and may include those species recovering from historical declines that have continued to recover and do not qualify under any of the other criteria.
- **Grey** species are not recorded frequently enough in Jersey or are not dependent on habitats even locally to be assessed. However each species will be reviewed in future (e.g. Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla* only began to breed in Jersey after birds had been assessed in 2011).

Acknowledgements

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1. RED-LEGGED PARTRIDGE

Alectoris rufa

Status in Jersey **Rare, introduced (several times?), breeds occasionally. Status in 2015 unclear**

Trend at survey sites **No trend discernible. Possibly extinct**

Red-legged Partridge does not appear to be becoming established in the Island. One pair were present at Les Landes during much of the survey and others were recorded.

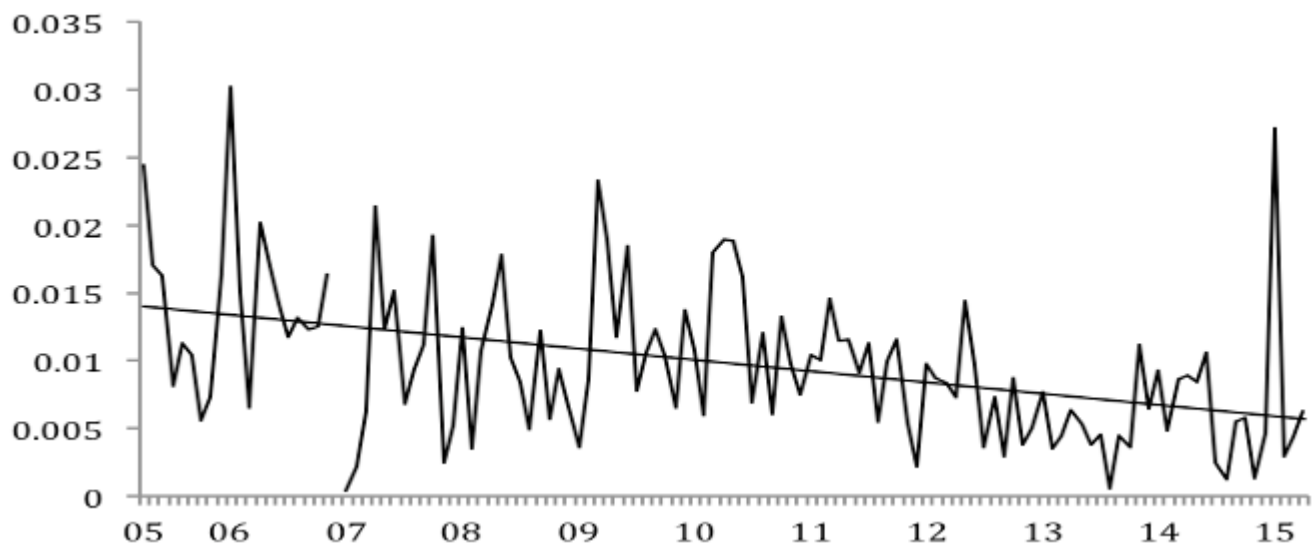
2. COMMON PHEASANT

Phasianus colchicus

Status in Jersey **Abundant resident, introduced (regularly!)**

Trend at survey sites **Decreasing**

The Island's Common Pheasant population increased after releases in 1980s. Recorded at all sites, this species is now in decline.



Common Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*: FBS results 2005-2015



Male Common Pheasant. Photo by Mick Dryden

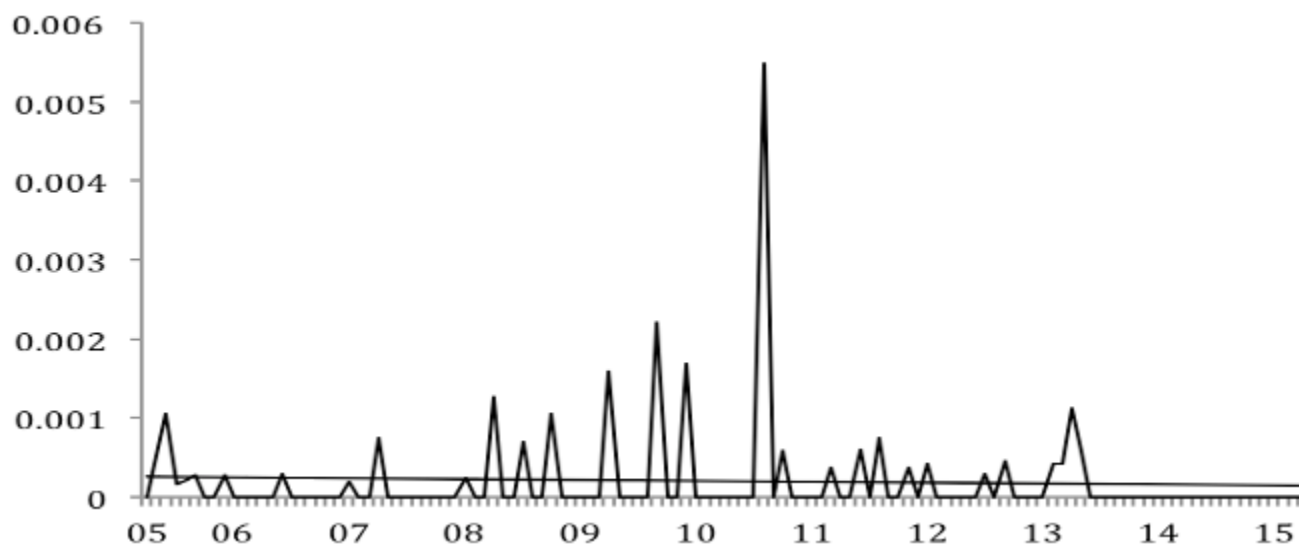
3. GREAT CORMORANT

Phalacrocorax carbo

Status in Jersey Two subspecies reported: *P. carbo carbo* Common resident, and migrant, breeds only on offshore reefs, and eastern subspecies *P. carbo sinensis* migrant, status unclear. Red status is given as safeguard to breeding population

Trend at survey sites Stable

Great Cormorant is both a resident breeding and a wintering species and is only recorded flying over survey sites typically to inland waters.



Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*: FBS - birds recorded flying over inland sites 2005-2015

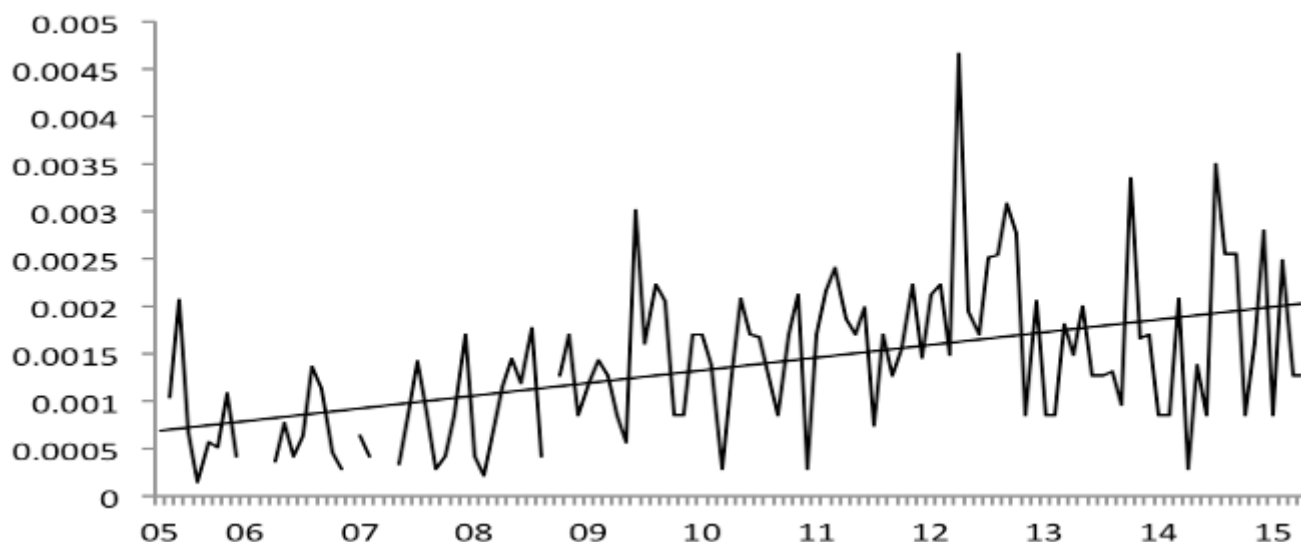
4. EURASIAN MARSH HARRIER

Circus aeruginosus

Status in Jersey Scarce resident: Breeding birds present most of the year with juveniles and others throughout. Breeding since 2002 (13-16 pairs in 2014). Status of migrants unclear. **Species of European Conservation Concern**. Amber status is given as safeguard to breeding population

Trend at survey sites Increasing

Eurasian Marsh Harrier was a rare but regular spring and autumn migrant until the early 1990s when single birds began to over-winter. Numbers increased rapidly and birds over-summered with the first pair breeding in 2002. Harriers are now seen right across the Island each day throughout the year and are increasing at all survey sites.



Eurasian Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*: FBS - results 2005-2015

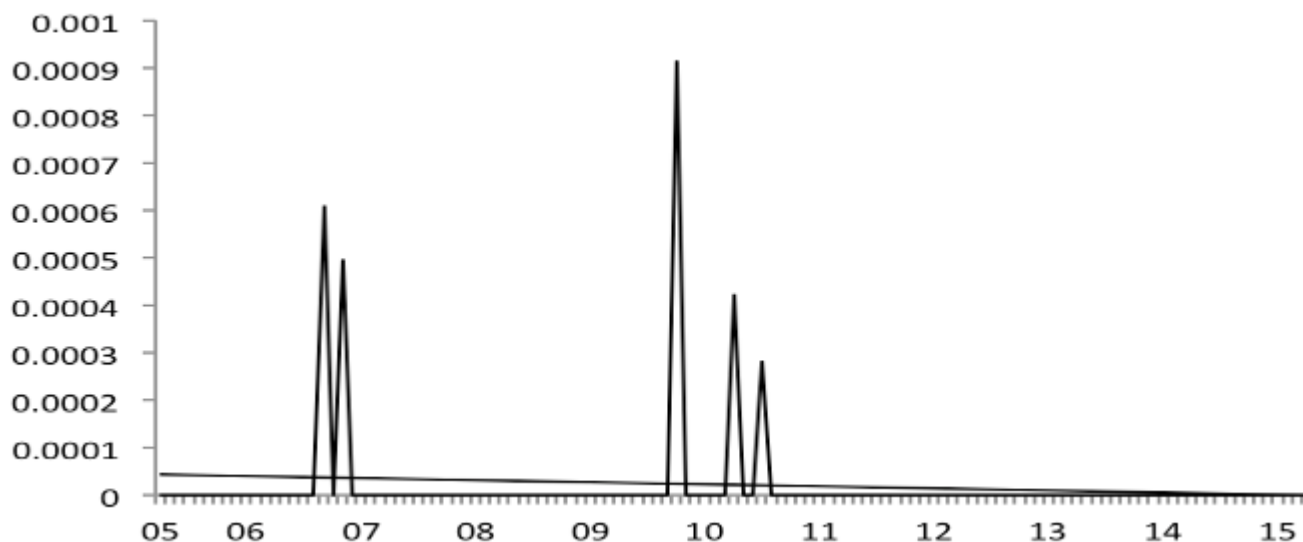
5. HEN HARRIER

Circus cyaneus

Status in Jersey Rare but annual winter visitor and spring and autumn migrant. **Species of European Conservation Concern**

Trend at survey sites Decreasing

Hen Harrier was recorded in very small numbers at all sites, presumably both birds migrating through Jersey or wintering here.



Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*: FBS results 2005-2015

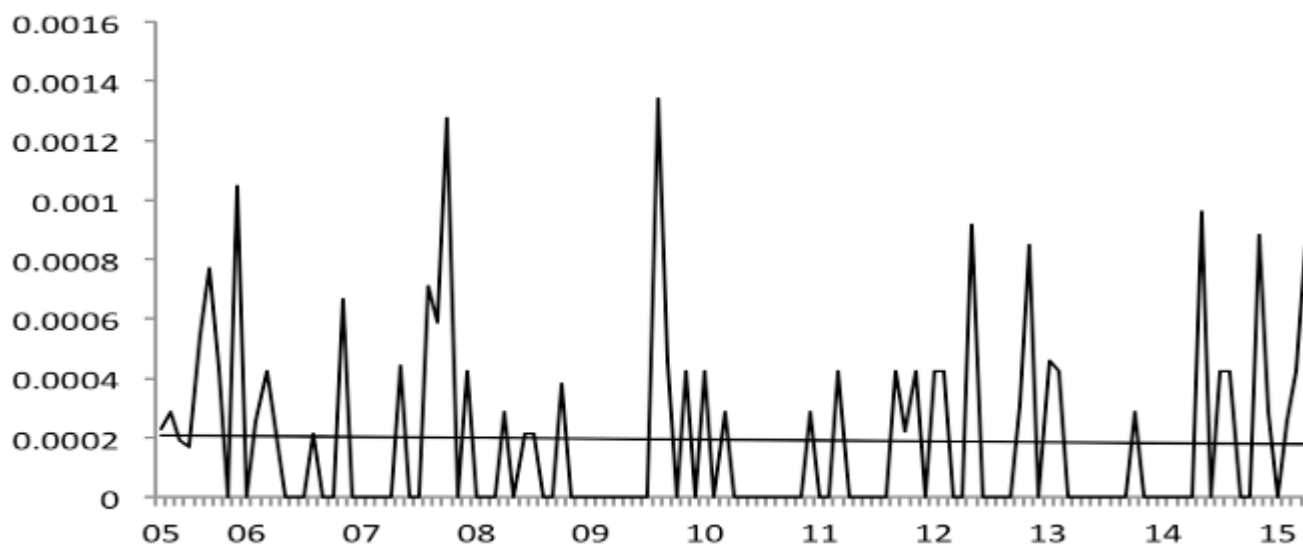
6. EURASIAN SPARROWHAWK

Accipiter nisus

Status in Jersey Scarce resident, scarce, mainly autumn, migrant and winter visitor

Trend at survey sites Stable

Eurasian Sparrowhawk was recorded throughout the year in very small numbers, presumably including migrants and resident birds.



Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*: FBS results 2005-2015



Male Hen Harrier. Photo by Romano da Costa



Eurasian Sparrowhawk. Photo by Mick Dryden

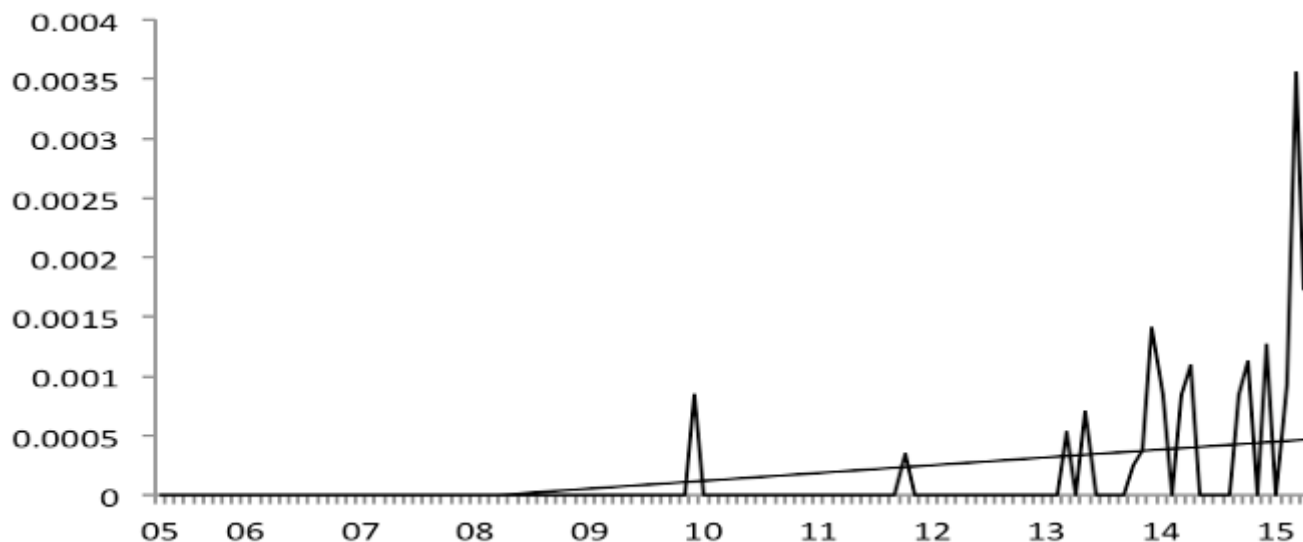
7. COMMON BUZZARD

Buteo buteo

Status in Jersey Scarce resident and, mainly autumn, migrant. Bred for first time in 2007. Amber status is given to protect small but increasing breeding population

Trend at survey sites Increasing

Common Buzzard was recorded at all sites and probably now nests close to each of them.



Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo*: FBS - results 2005-2015

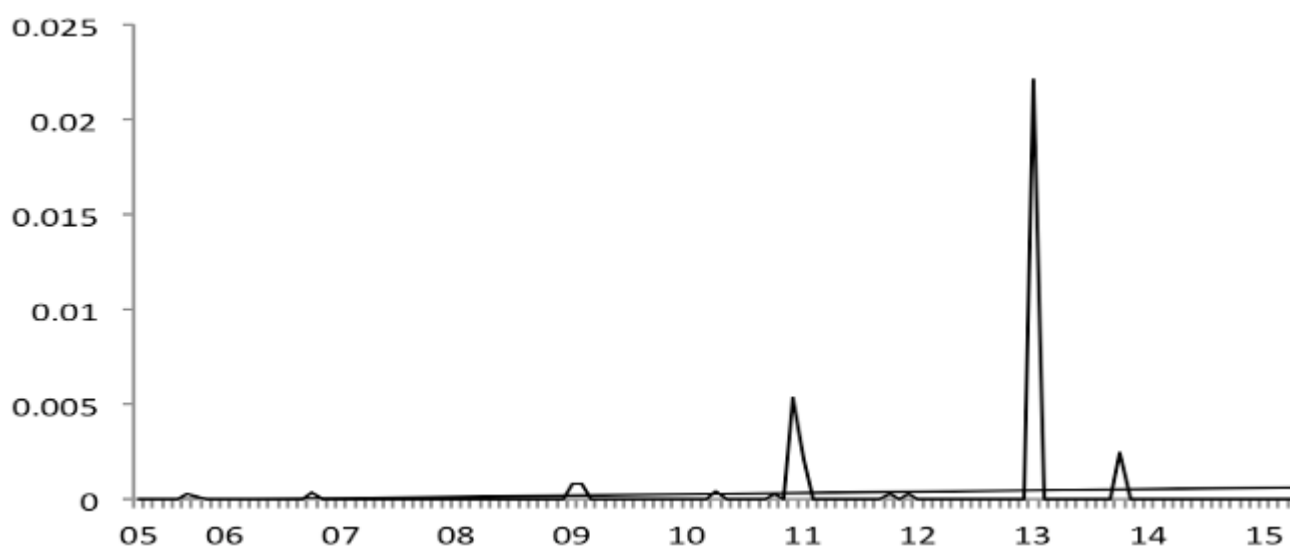
8. EUROPEAN GOLDEN PLOVER

Pluvialis apricaria

Status in Jersey Common migrant and winter visitor, occasionally very common during periods of cold weather on the continent **Species of European Conservation Concern**. Amber status is given as, in Jersey, species uses very few wintering sites

Trend at survey sites No trend discernible

European Golden Plover were only recorded occasionally, typically at Les Landes or Noirmont, in harsh continental weather conditions.



Eurasian Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*: FBS - results 2005-2015

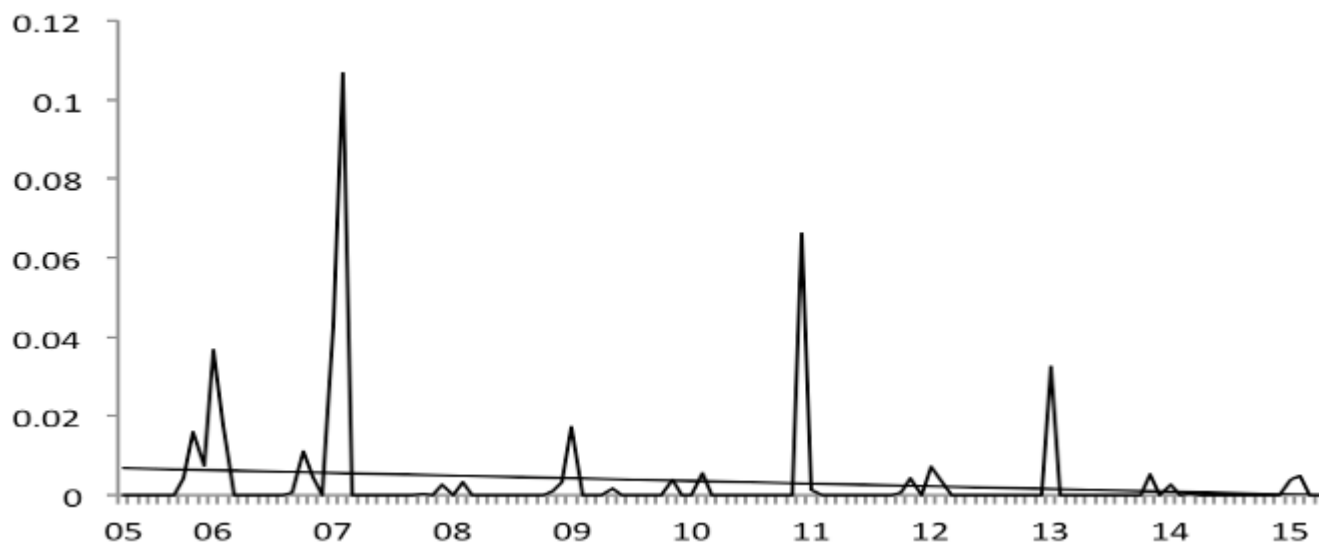
9. NORTHERN LAPWING

Vanellus vanellus

Status in Jersey Rare resident and common migrant, sometimes abundant in winter. Red status is reflection of small breeding population. IUCN Globally Threatened Species (Near Threatened).

Trend at survey sites Decreasing

Northern Lapwing may be a common or even abundant winter visitor during periods of severe continental weather. The small breeding population on the Island's west coast has undergone a steady decline. Birds recorded at all survey sites during winter.



Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*: FBS results 2005-2015

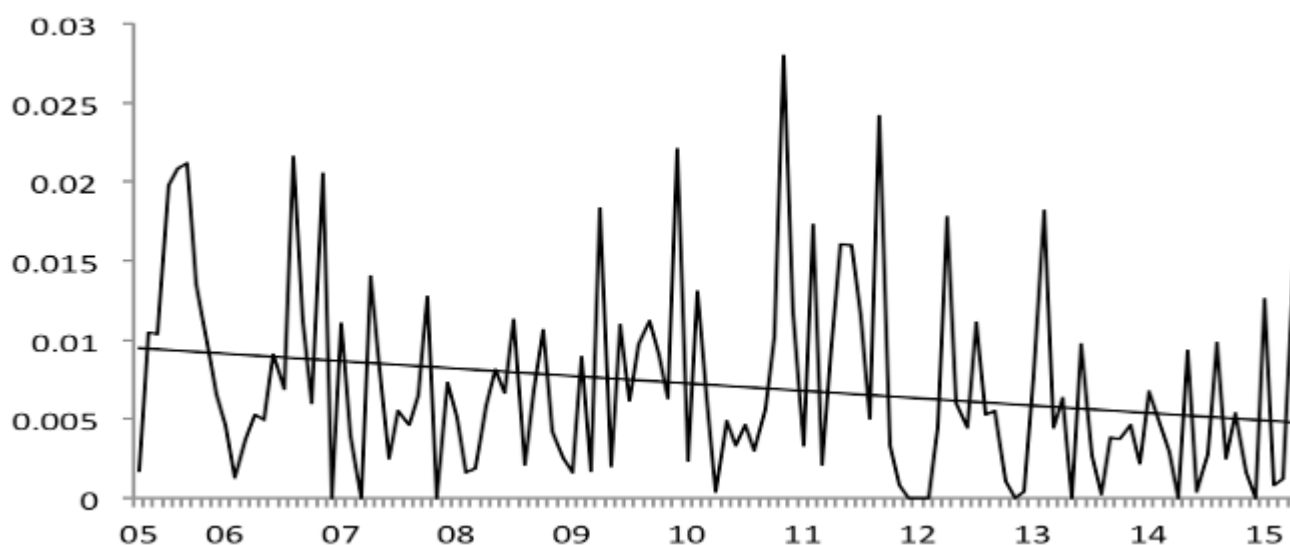
10. ROCK DOVE (FERAL PIGEON)

Columba livia

Status in Jersey Formerly bred. Feral birds, including wild type, resident on cliffs and in urban areas

Trend at survey sites Decreasing

Rock Dove is recorded at survey sites feeding on ground or, more often, flying overhead. Most often recorded at Les Landes.



Rock Dove *Columba livia*: FBS results 2005-2015

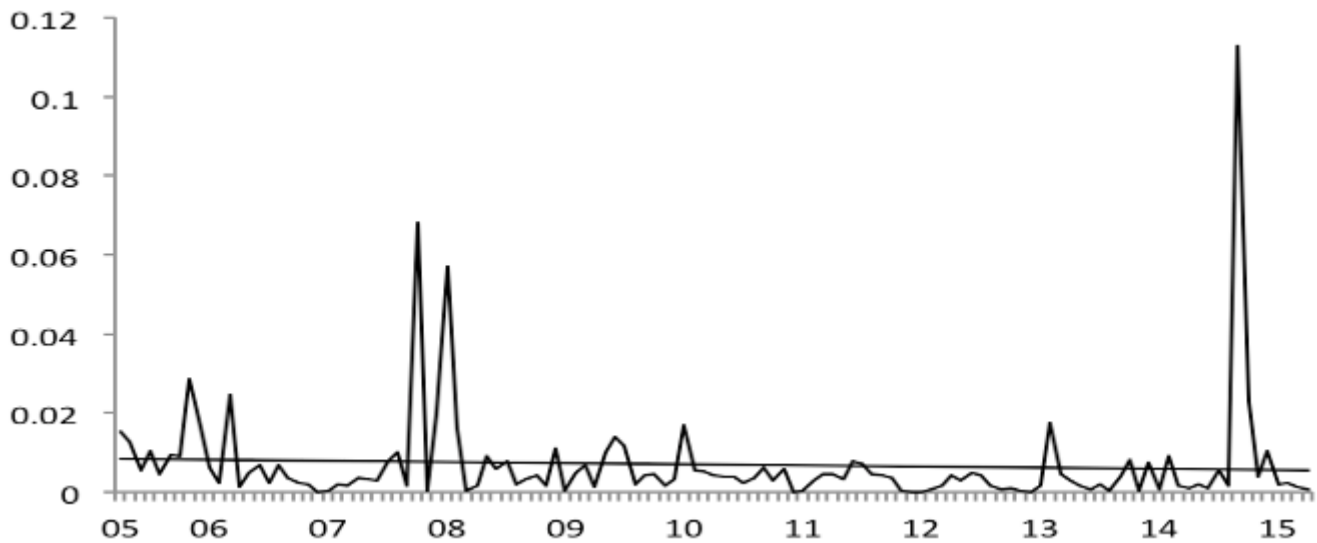
11. STOCK DOVE

Columba oenas

Status in Jersey Common resident– first breeding record 1966

Trend at survey sites Stable

Stock Dove is widespread in Jersey and recorded at all survey sites. There is suggestion of a change in nesting habitat with many birds formerly nesting on the sea cliffs whereas now most or all nest inland



Stock Dove *Columba oenas*: FBS results 2005-2015

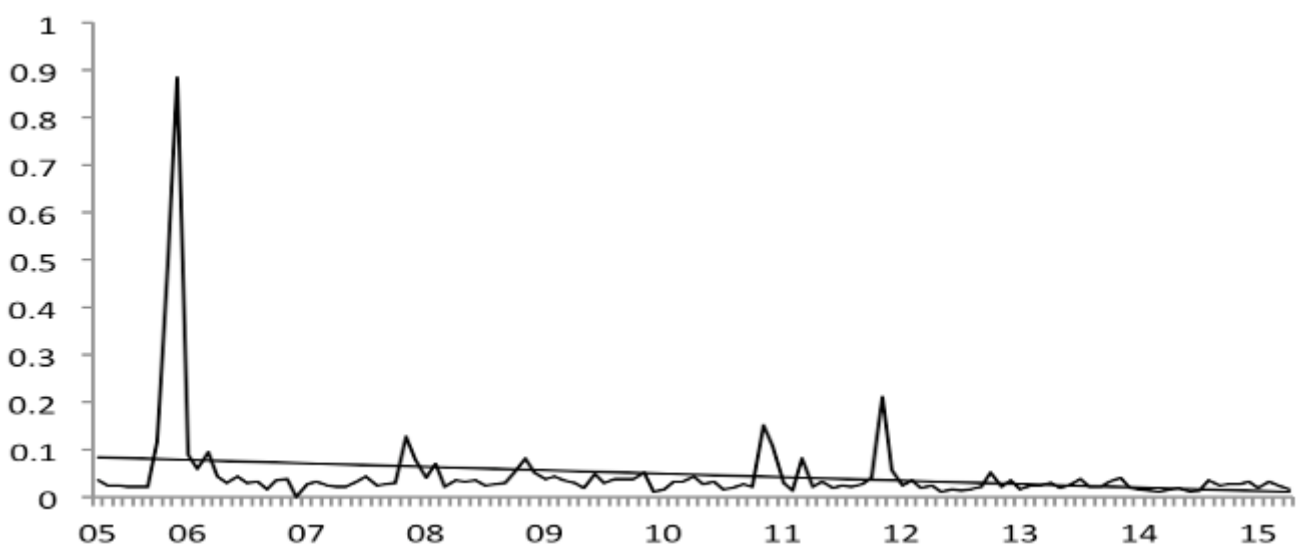
12. WOOD PIGEON

Columba palumbus

Status in Jersey Very common resident and very common winter visitor and very common, often abundant, autumn migrant

Trend at survey sites Stable

Wood Pigeon is a very common and obvious bird. Many thousands migrate through or over Jersey and the survey sites each year particularly in autumn. Exceptional numbers were recorded in the 2005-2006 winter with the population otherwise appearing stable.



Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*: FBS results 2005-2015



Stock Dove. Photo by Mick Dryden



Wood Pigeon. Photo by Mick Dryden

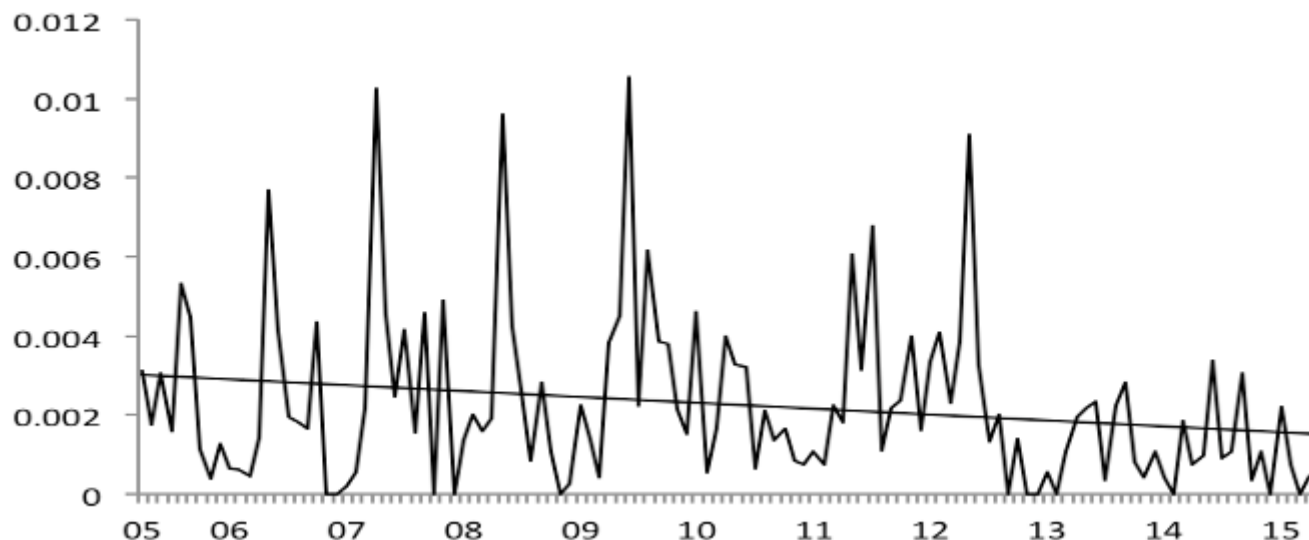
13. COLLARED DOVE

Streptopelia decaocto

Status in Jersey Common resident—first bred 1961

Trend at survey sites Slight decrease

Collared Dove colonised Jersey in the early 1960s but has now almost disappeared from open countryside since the reappearance of Sparrowhawk as a breeding bird. Birds are typically recorded at the survey sites where there are nearby dwellings and farm buildings.



Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*: FBS results 2005-2015

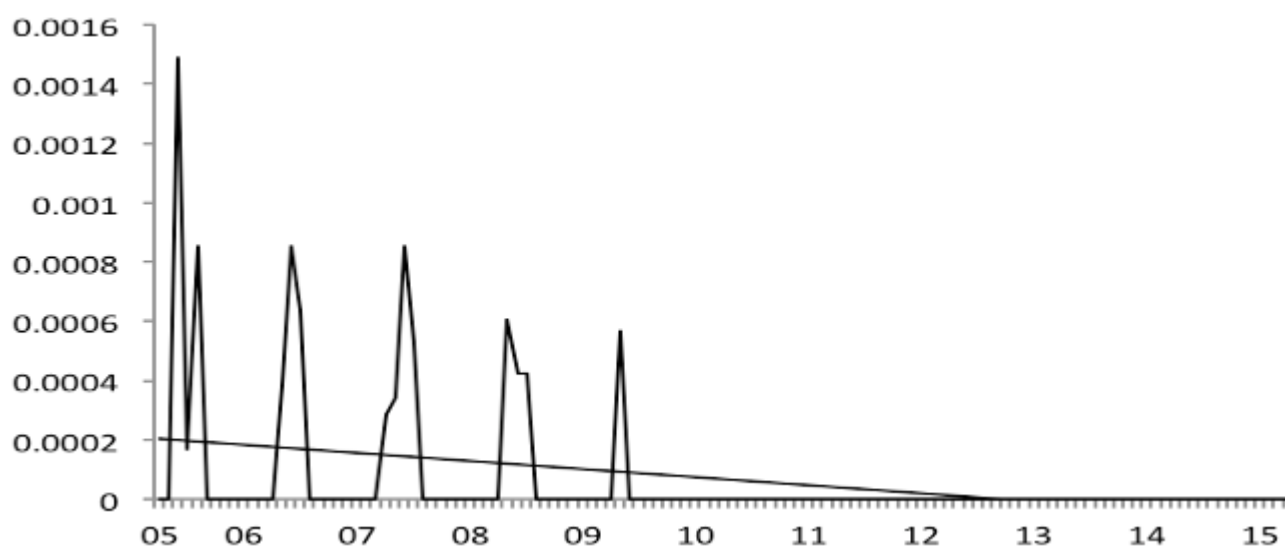
14. TURTLE DOVE

Streptopelia turtur

Status in Jersey Rare and declining breeding species and migrant. May have not bred in 2014. IUCN Globally Threatened Species (Vulnerable)

Trend at survey sites Decreasing to probable extinction as Jersey bird

Turtle Dove was recorded at survey sites as a migrant; however, with overall declines in Europe, this species was not recorded after spring 2010.



Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*: FBS counts 2005-2015

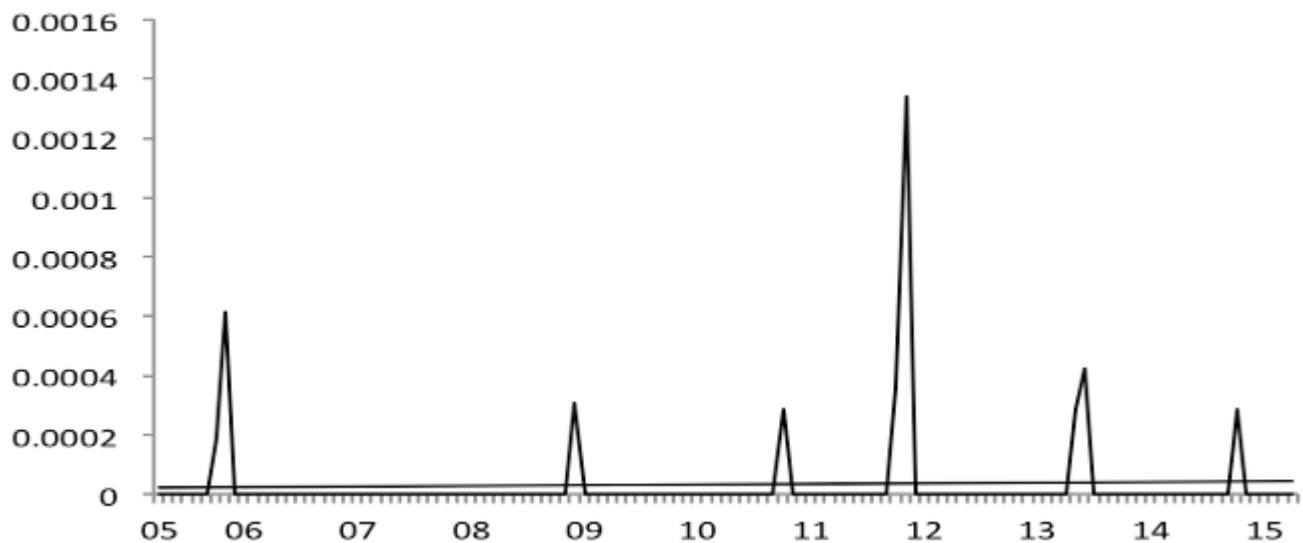
15. SHORT-EARED OWL

Asio flammeus

Status in Jersey **Rare winter visitor and migrant** **Species of European Conservation Concern**

Trend at survey sites **Stable**

Short-eared Owl was recorded, typically only at Les Landes and Les Creux.



Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*: FBS records 2005-2015

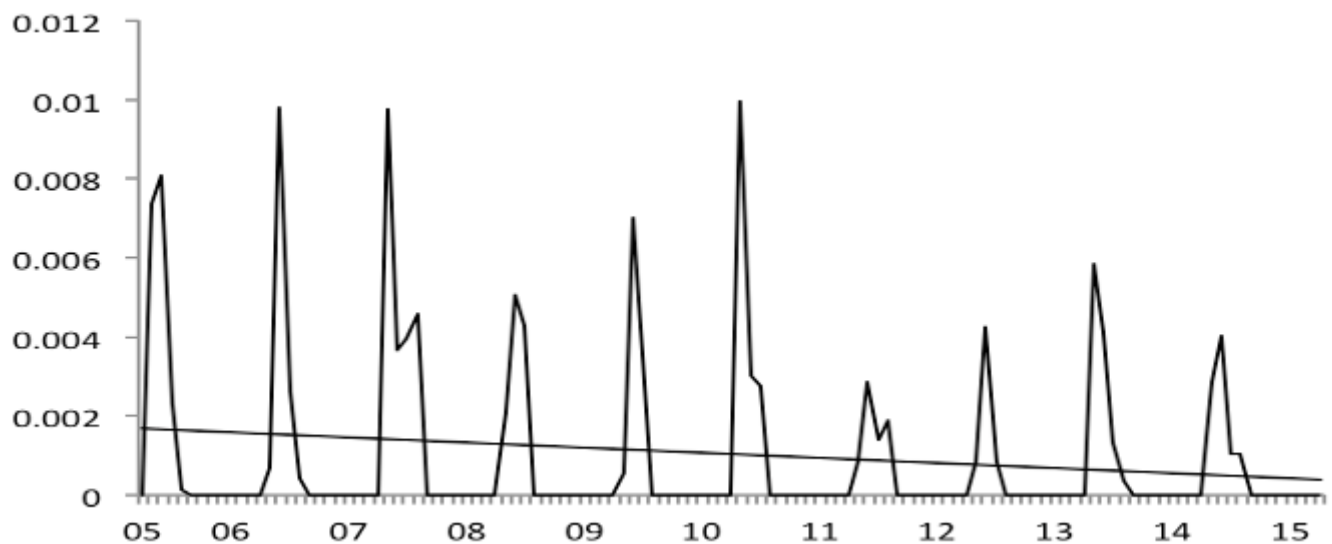
16. COMMON SWIFT

Apus apus

Status in Jersey **Common summer visitor and migrant**. Amber status is given in recognition of population declines and as safeguard to a breeding population using a small number of sites

Trend at survey sites **Decreasing**

Common Swift are not monitored systematically and only a small number of breeding sites are known, all in cliffs, historical buildings or harbour walls. The random counts of this species on this survey do suggest a steady decline.



Common Swift *Apus apus*: FBS records 2005-2015

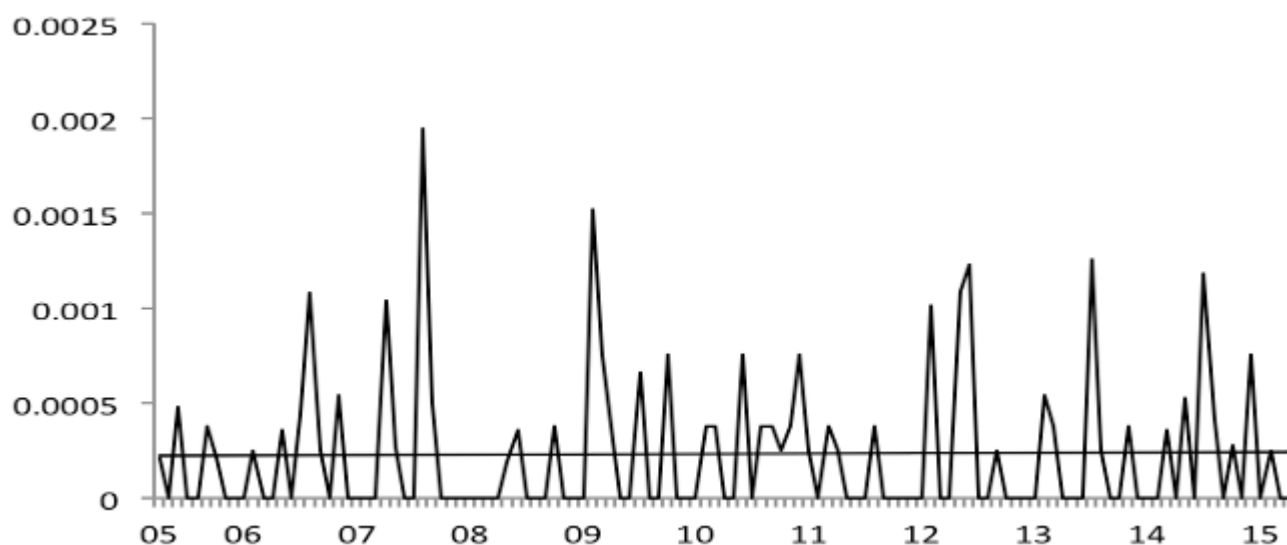
17. GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER

Dendrocopos major

Status in Jersey **Common resident**—first breeding record 1950

Trend at survey sites **Stable**

The five survey sites represent only marginal habitat for woodpeckers. However, this woodpecker does not restrict itself to woodland and was recorded surprisingly often.



Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major*: FBS results 2005-2015

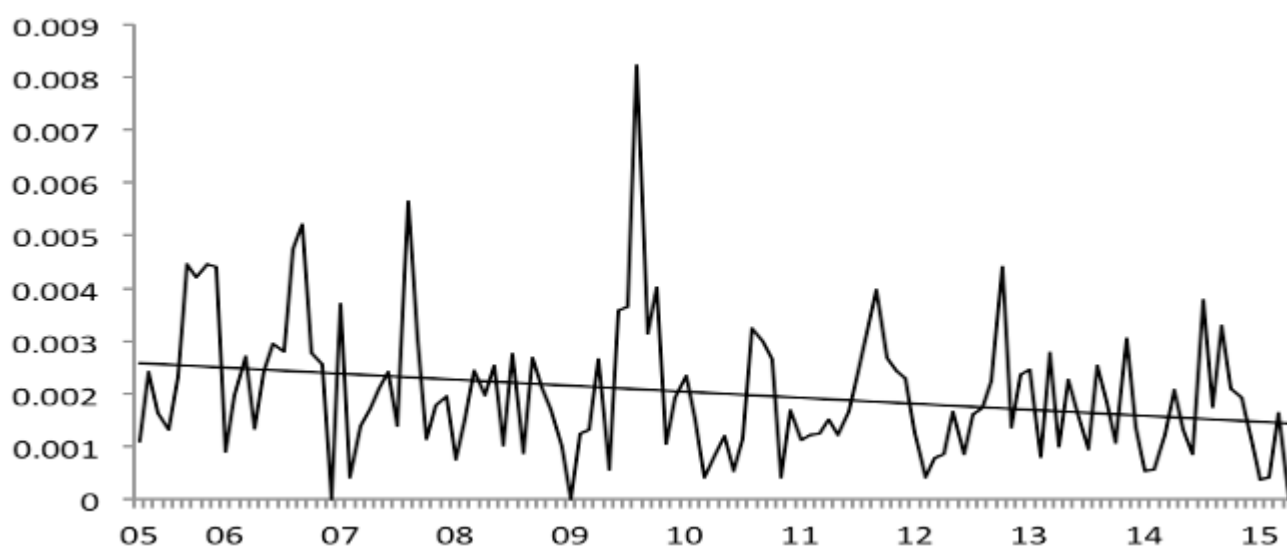
18. COMMON KESTREL

Falco tinnunculus

Status in Jersey **Common resident and scarce migrant**. Amber status reflects vulnerability of nest-sites and declines in local population

Trend at survey sites **Decreasing**

Common Kestrel was recorded at all sites throughout the year with, potentially, one resident pair at each site.



Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*: FBS results 2005-2015

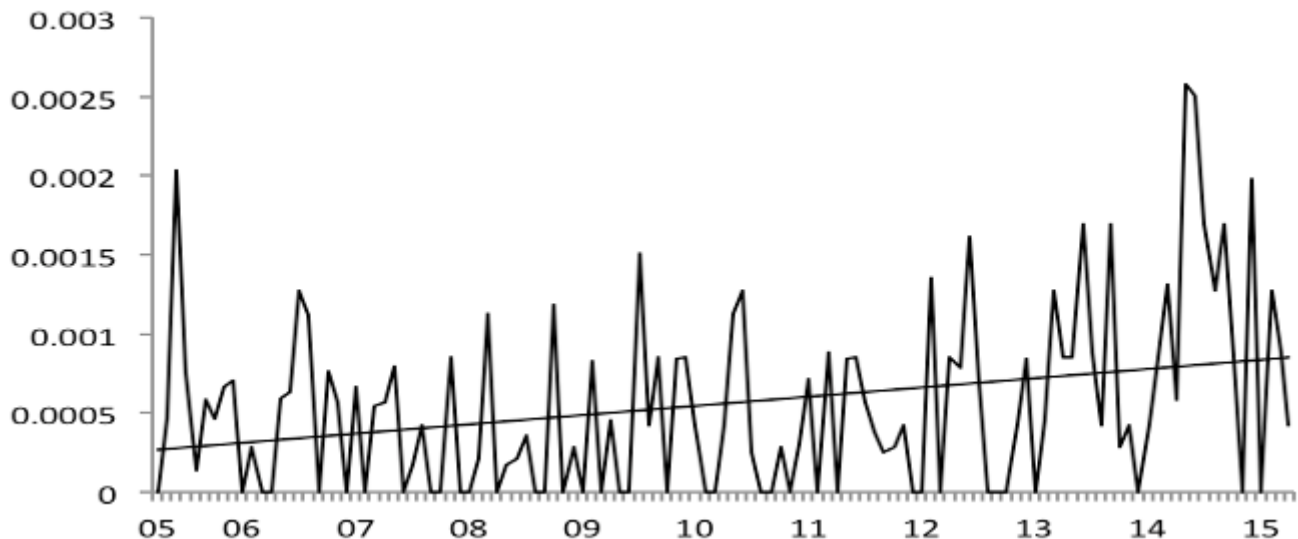
19. PEREGRINE FALCON

Falco peregrinus

Status in Jersey Two subspecies reported but identification difficult: NW European *F. peregrinus peregrinus* **Rare resident, scarce winter visitor and migrant. Bred until 1958 and again annually since 2000.** Arctic tundra form *F. peregrinus calidus* is **Possible.** **Species of European Conservation Concern** Amber status is given to protect breeding population

Trend at survey sites **Increasing**

Peregrine Falcon was regularly recorded at all five survey sites with four within known nesting territories.



Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*: FBS results 2005-2015

20. RED-BILLED CHOUGH

Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax

Status in Jersey Rare resident prior to 1900. Reintroduction project begun 8/2013 **Species of European Conservation Concern**

Trend at survey sites **No trend discernible**

Red-billed Chough last bred in Jersey over 100 years ago and natural recolonisation appears unlikely. A reintroduction project began in 2013 and birds have since then been seen at three of the survey sites and will, hopefully, feature more in future reports.



Red-billed Choughs in St John. 2014. Photo by Liz Corry

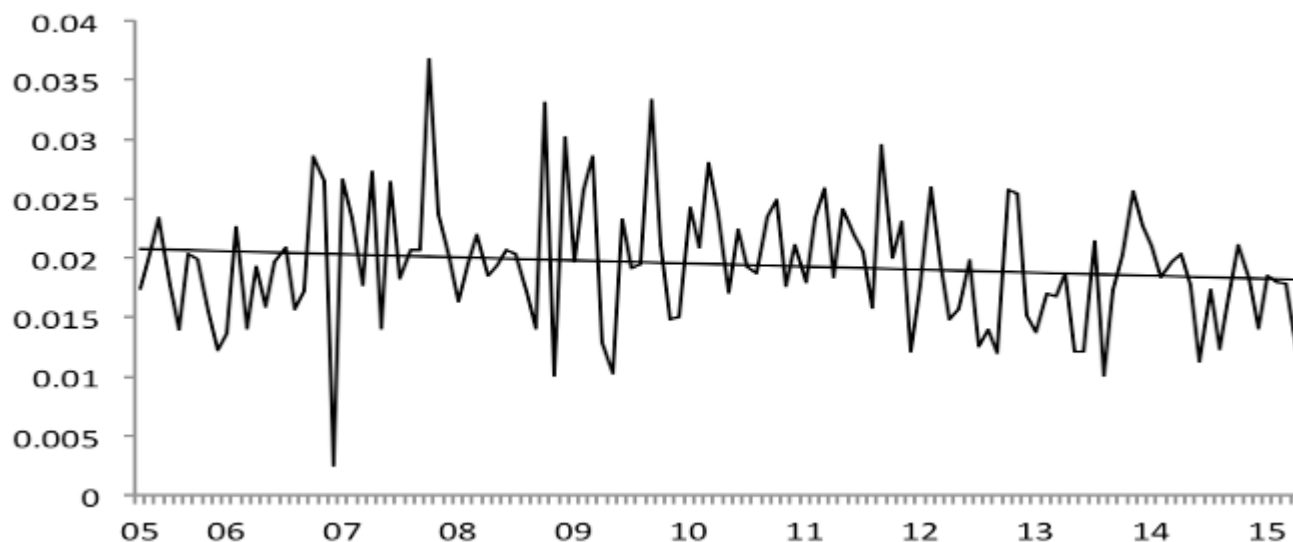
21. MAGPIE

Pica pica

Status in Jersey **Very common resident**

Trend at survey sites **Stable, possibly decreasing**

Magpie was recorded regularly at all sites. Typically all birds in a survey area are visible and it may indeed be the only bird visible in periods of high wind. Proportions of Magpie in any bird survey may be accordingly biased.



Magpie *Pica pica*: FBS results 2005-2015

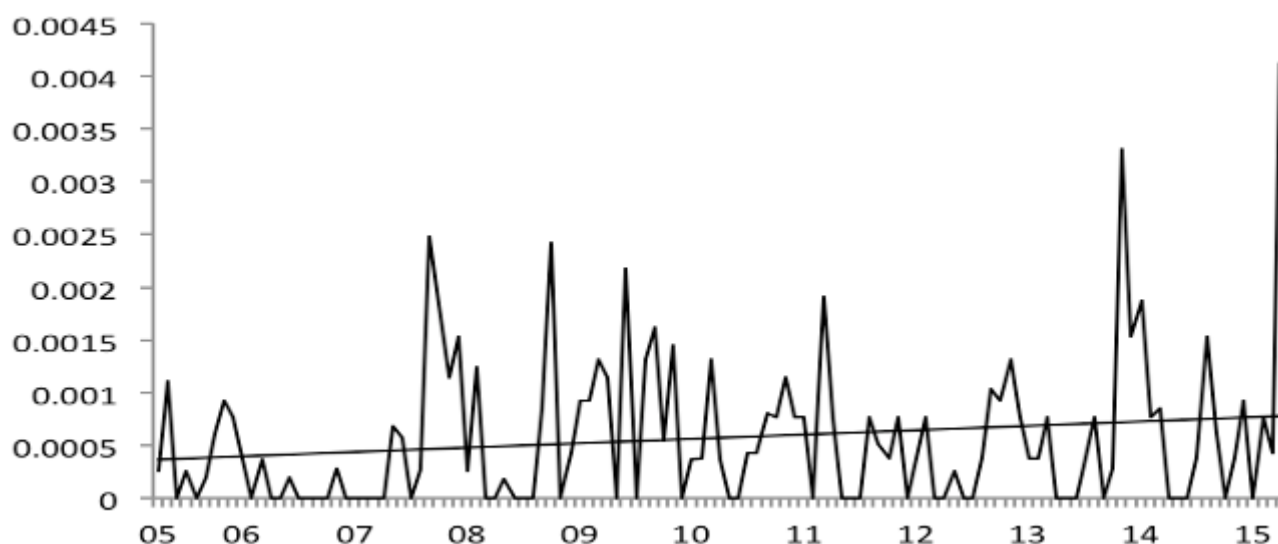
22. EURASIAN JAY

Garrulus glandarius

Status in Jersey **Common resident**

Trend at survey sites **Increasing**

In Jersey, Eurasian Jay is not restricted to woodland and was recorded regularly at Les Creux with smaller numbers at Noirmont, Les Landes and Crabbé.



Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius*: FBS results 2005-2015

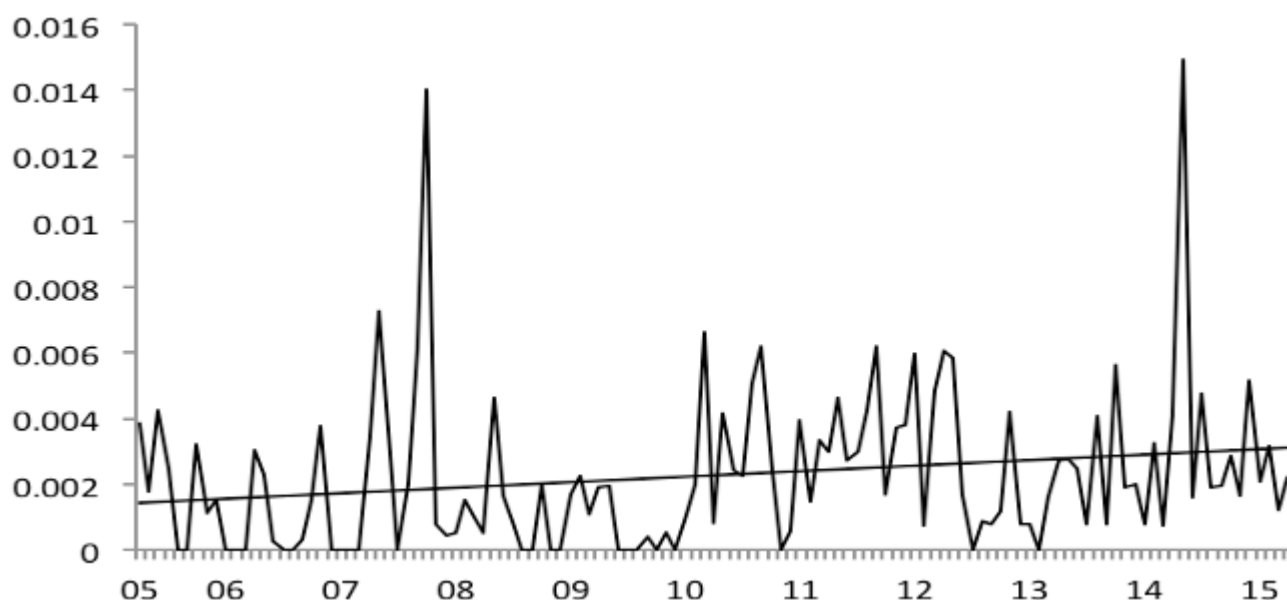
23. WESTERN JACKDAW

Corvus monedula

Status in Jersey **Scarce but increasing resident**

Trend at survey sites **Increasing**

Western Jackdaw appears to have died out in Jersey and recolonised 20-30 years ago. Jackdaws were recorded at all five sites.



Western Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*: FBS results 2005-2015

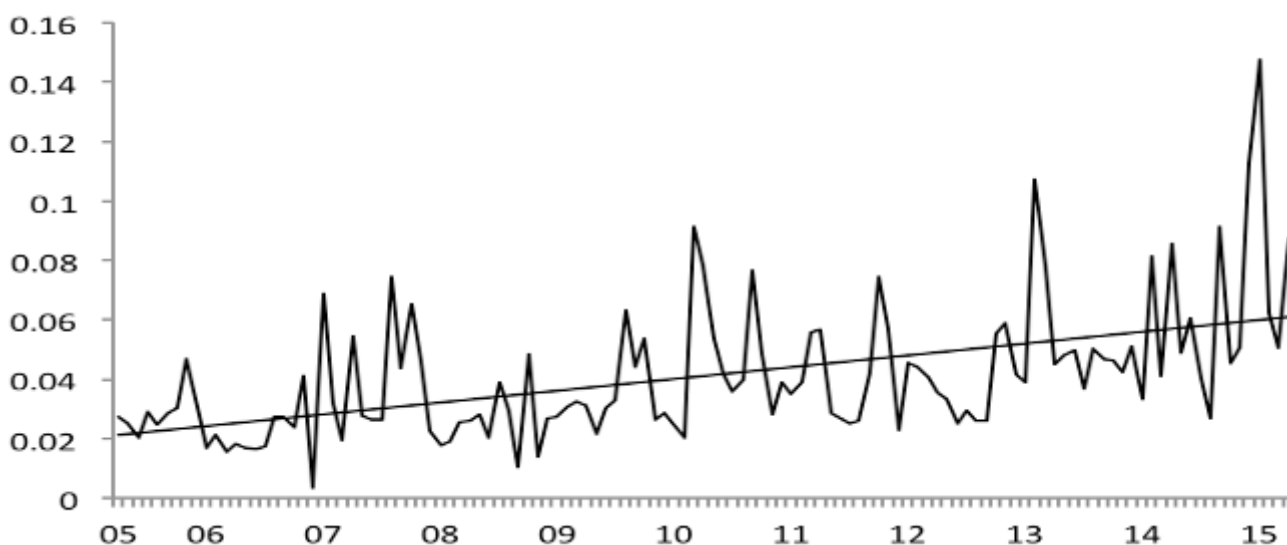
24. CARRION CROW

Corvus corone

Status in Jersey **Abundant resident and migrant (including inter-island)**

Trend at survey sites **Increasing**

The Carrion Crow is a very obvious species and easy to count during surveys. They often feed in flocks or roost at the survey sites and may be much the most obvious bird during bad weather.



Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*: FBS results 2005-2010

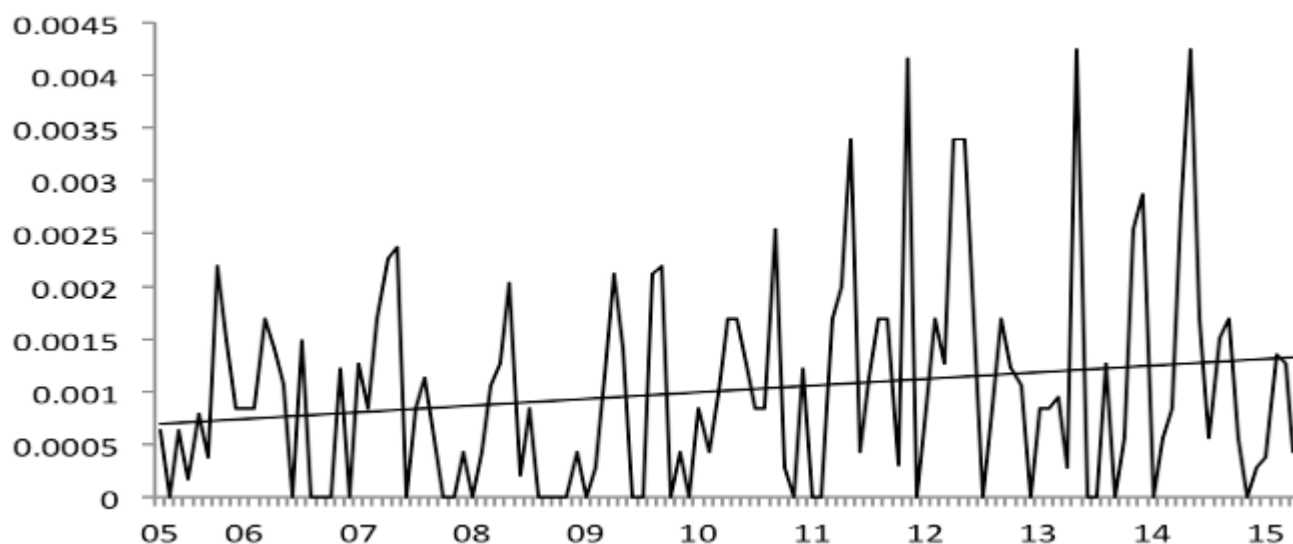
25. COMMON RAVEN

Corvus corax

Status in Jersey **Rare resident** Amber status is given as safeguard to breeding population

Trend at survey sites **Increasing**

An estimated five pairs of Common Raven nest in Jersey each year and birds were regularly recorded at all five sites with nesting pairs close to two.



Common Raven *Corvus corax*: FBS results 2005-2015

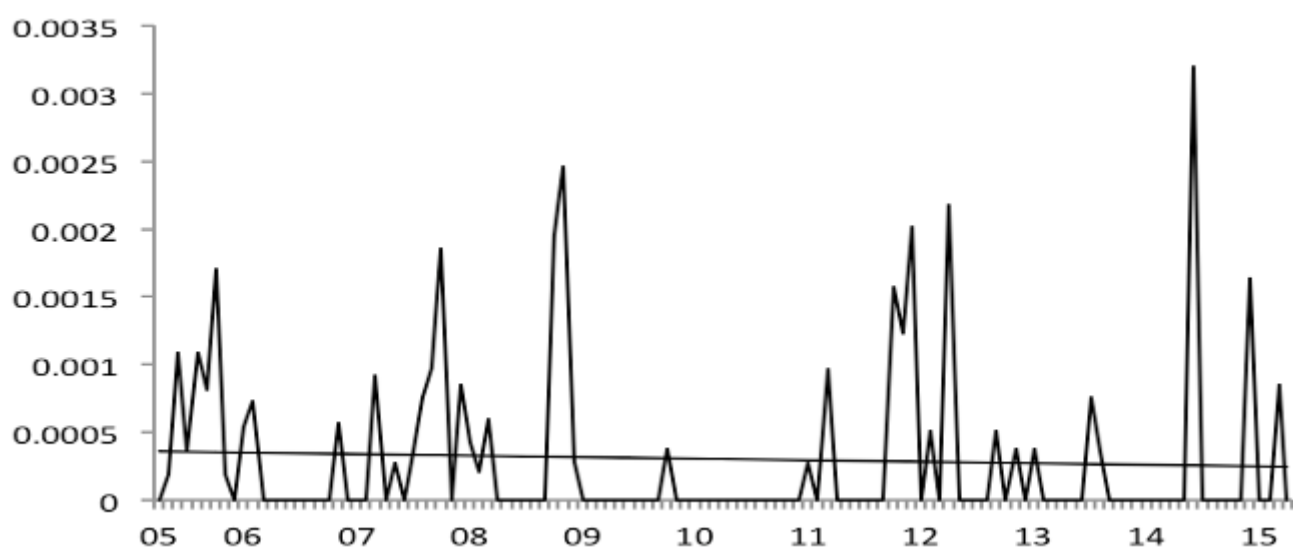
26. GOLDCREST

Regulus regulus

Status in Jersey **Common resident, winter visitor and migrant** Amber status is given as safeguard to breeding population

Trend at survey sites **Stable with possible decrease**

Goldcrest has, in the past, been considered a common bird in Jersey during both the breeding season and during the winter when the population is augmented by birds from elsewhere in Europe. The five survey sites only offered limited suitable habitat for this species.



Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*: FBS results 2005-2015

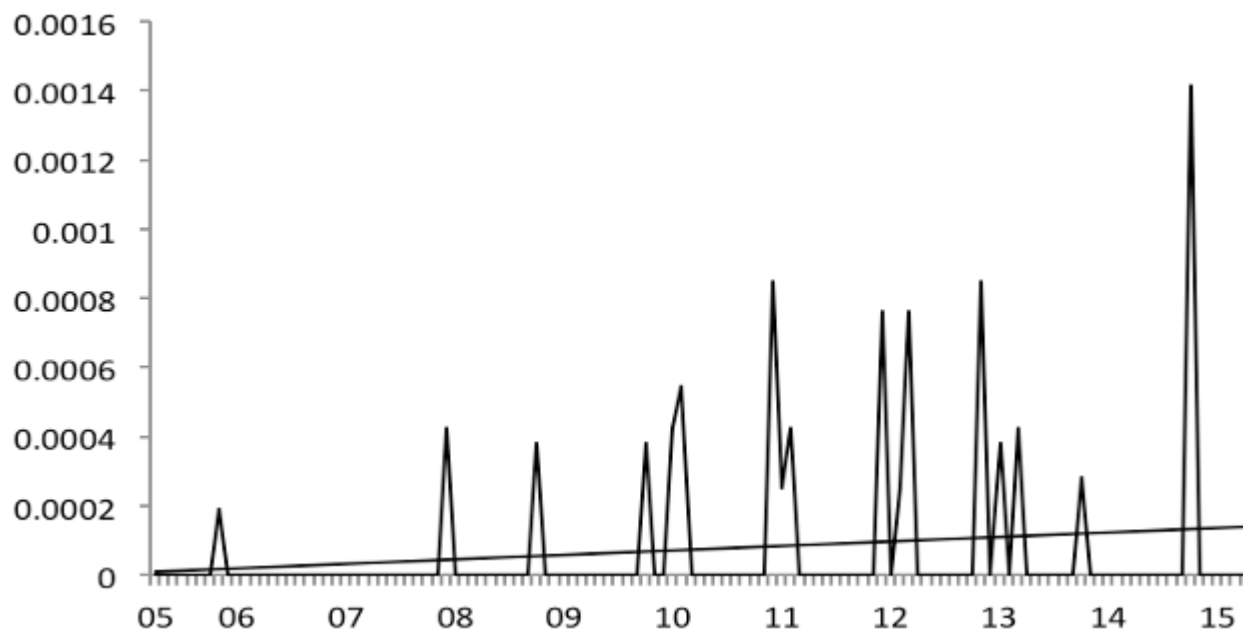
27. FIRECREST

Regulus ignicapilla

Status in Jersey Common, sometimes very common, winter visitor and autumn migrant. First bred 2011 and now annual

Trend at survey sites Increasing

Firecrest was widespread and common in Jersey in winter and were first recorded breeding in 2011. The five survey sites provided more suitable habitat for this species than its close relative the Goldcrest.



Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla*: FBS results 2005-2015

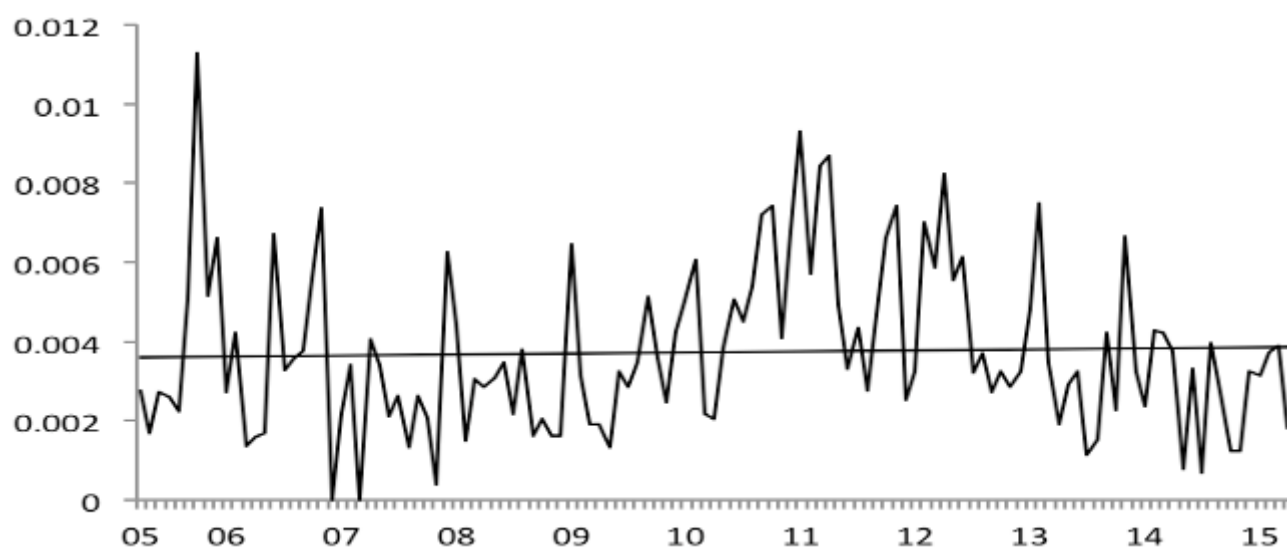
28. BLUE TIT

Cyanistes caeruleus

Status in Jersey Very common resident and scarce (occasionally common) migrant

Trend at survey sites Stable

The five survey sites offered only limited habitat for Blue Tit but the species was still recorded regularly at each one.



Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus*: FBS results 2002-2015



Goldcrest. Photo by Mick Dryden



Firecrest. Photo by Mick Dryden

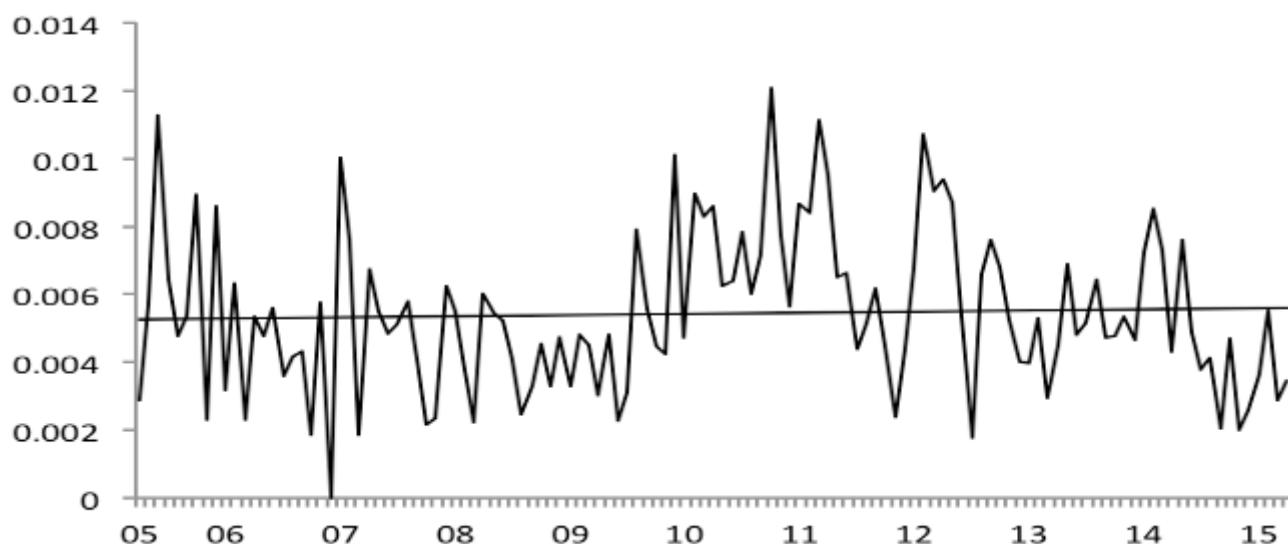
29. GREAT TIT

Parus major

Status in Jersey Common resident and scarce migrant

Trend at survey sites Stable

Great Tit was more often recorded at the five sites than Blue Tit, mostly as this species is more likely to forage in gorse and scrub.



Great Tit *Parus major*: FBS results 2005-2015

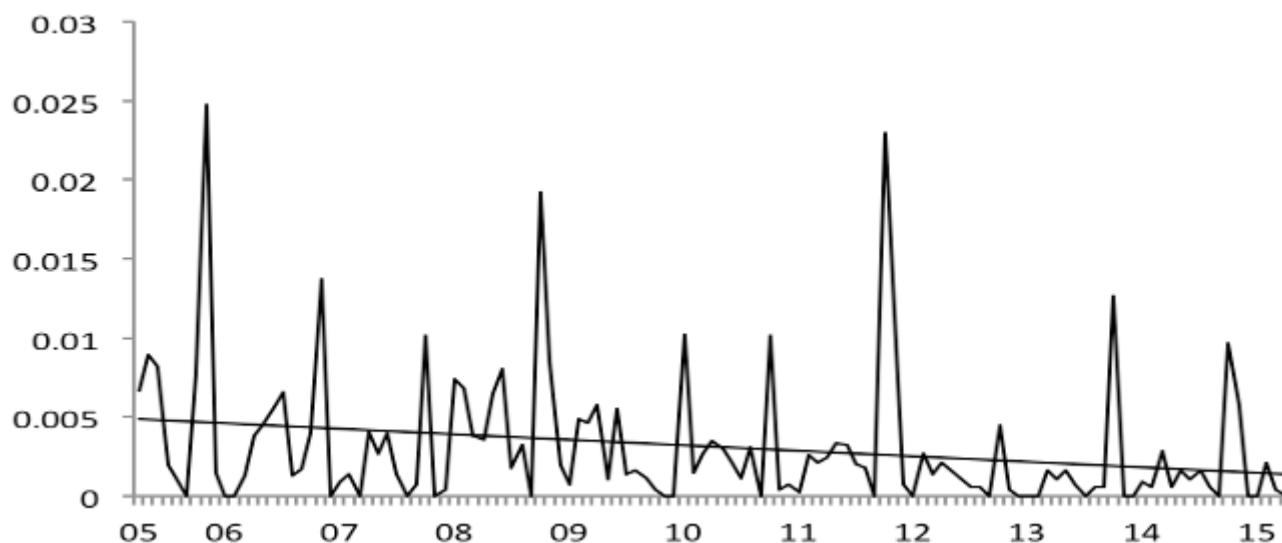
30. SKYLARK

Alauda arvensis

Status in Jersey Scarce and declining resident and spring migrant. Common but decreasing autumn migrant and winter visitor

Trend at survey sites Decreasing

Skylark bred at two sites (Les Blanchés Banques and Les Landes) in 2005 but, with numbers in Jersey declining steadily, at only Les Blanche Banques by 2015. Migrants both overhead and on the ground were recorded in autumn, winter and spring at all five sites.



Skylark *Alauda arvensis*: FBS results 2005-2015

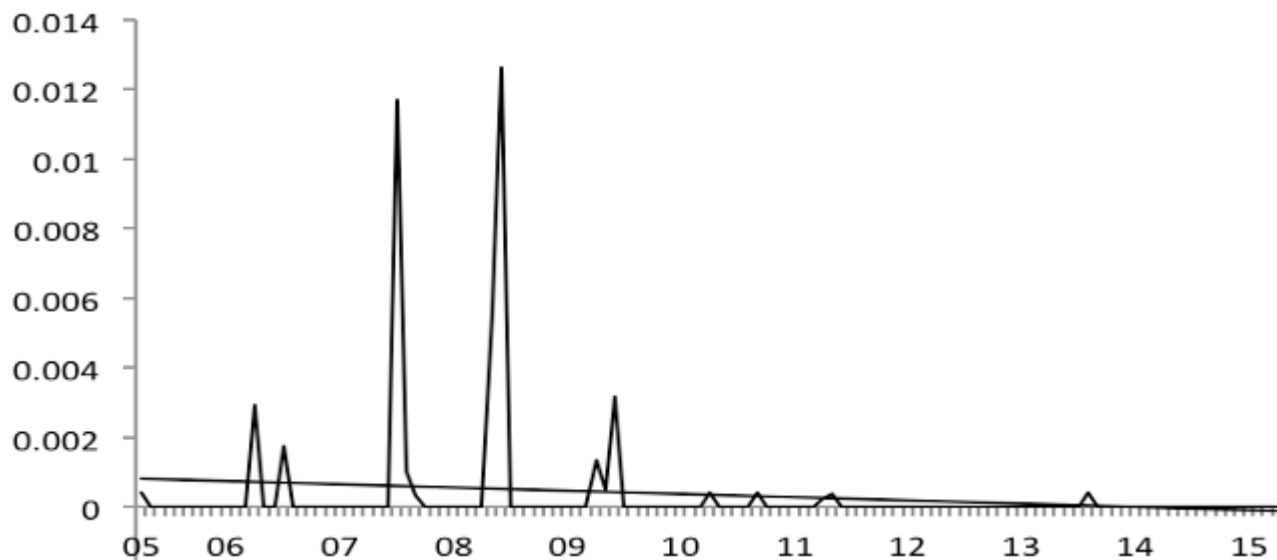
31. SAND MARTIN

Riparia riparia

Status in Jersey Common breeding species (at one site) and very common migrant Amber status is given as safeguard to breeding population restricted to one site

Trend at survey sites Decreasing

Although the single Channel Island colony is adjacent to the Les Blanche Banques survey site, Sand Martin was only rarely recorded.



Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*: FBS results 2005-2015

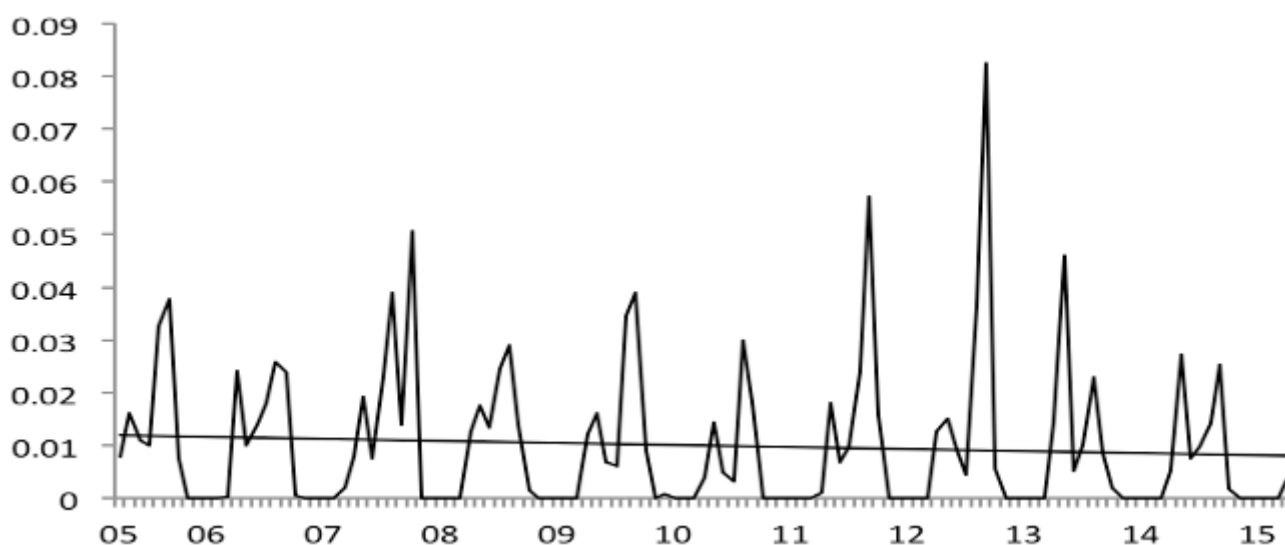
32. BARN SWALLOW

Hirundo rustica

Status in Jersey Common breeding species and very common, occasionally abundant, migrant

Trend at survey sites Stable, possible decrease

Barn Swallow was recorded in good numbers at each site every year with most birds migrating through site. One or two pairs nested close to the transects at Les Landes, Crabbé and Noirmont.



Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*: FBS results 2005-2015

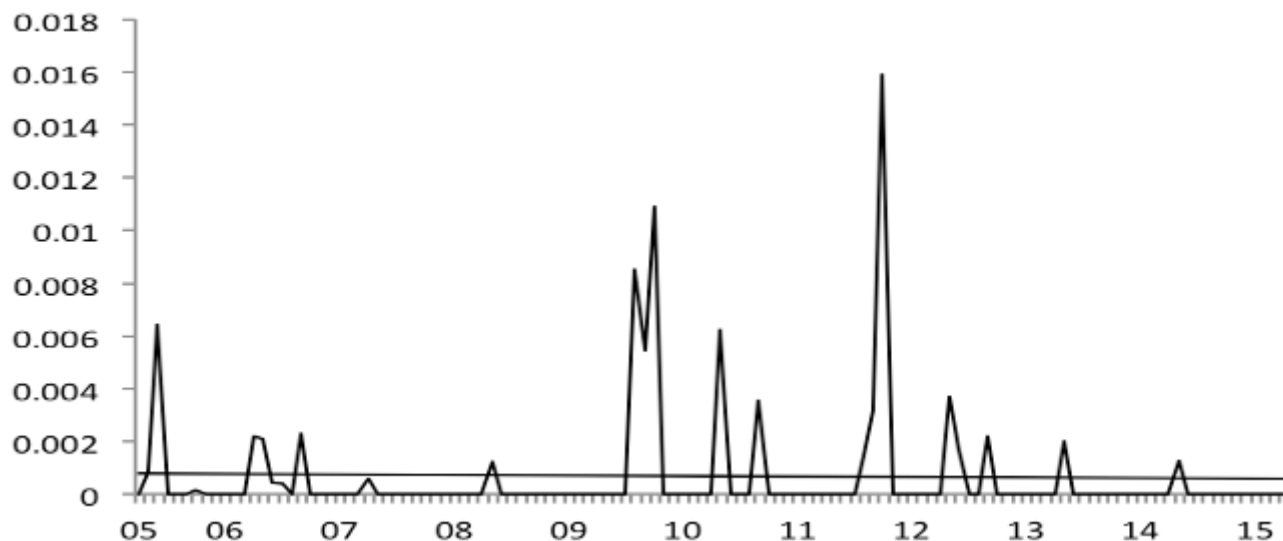
33. HOUSE MARTIN

Delichon urbicum

Status in Jersey Common breeding species and very common, sometimes abundant, migrant Amber status reflects decline in Jersey and vulnerability of nest-sites

Trend at survey sites Stable

House Martin was only likely to be recorded at the five sites during migration with no nesting pairs close to the transects.



House Martin *Delichon urbicum*: FBS results 2005-2015

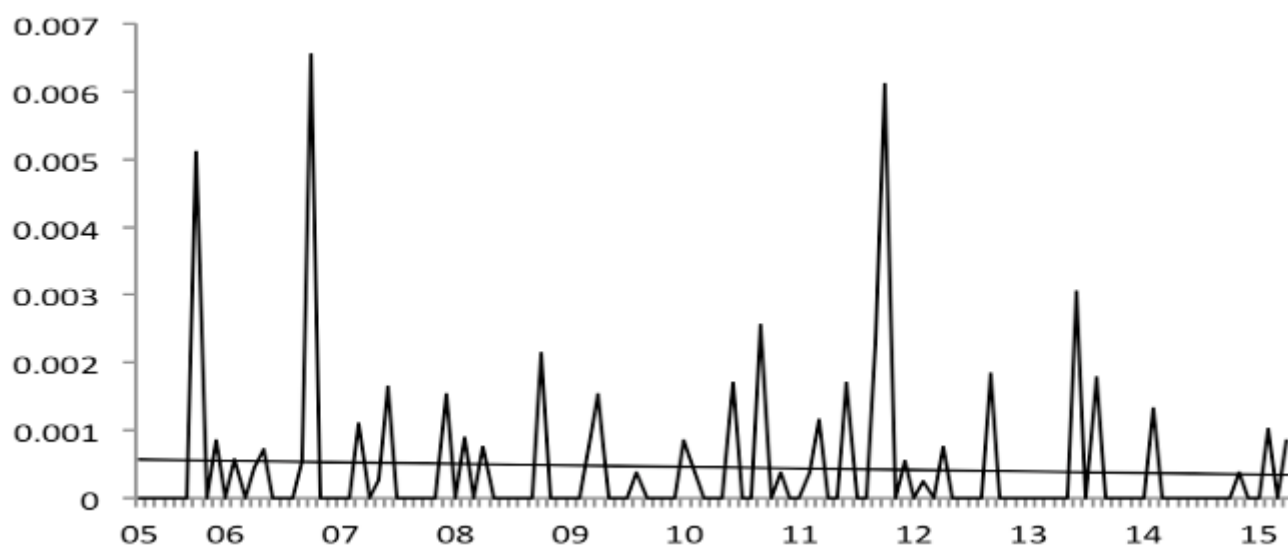
34. LONG-TAILED TIT

Aegithalos caudatus

Status in Jersey Common resident

Trend at survey sites Stable, possibly decreasing

The Long-tailed Tit population in Jersey appears subject to strong fluctuations but there is little suitable habitat at the five survey sites and records were sporadic.



Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*: FBS results 2005-2010

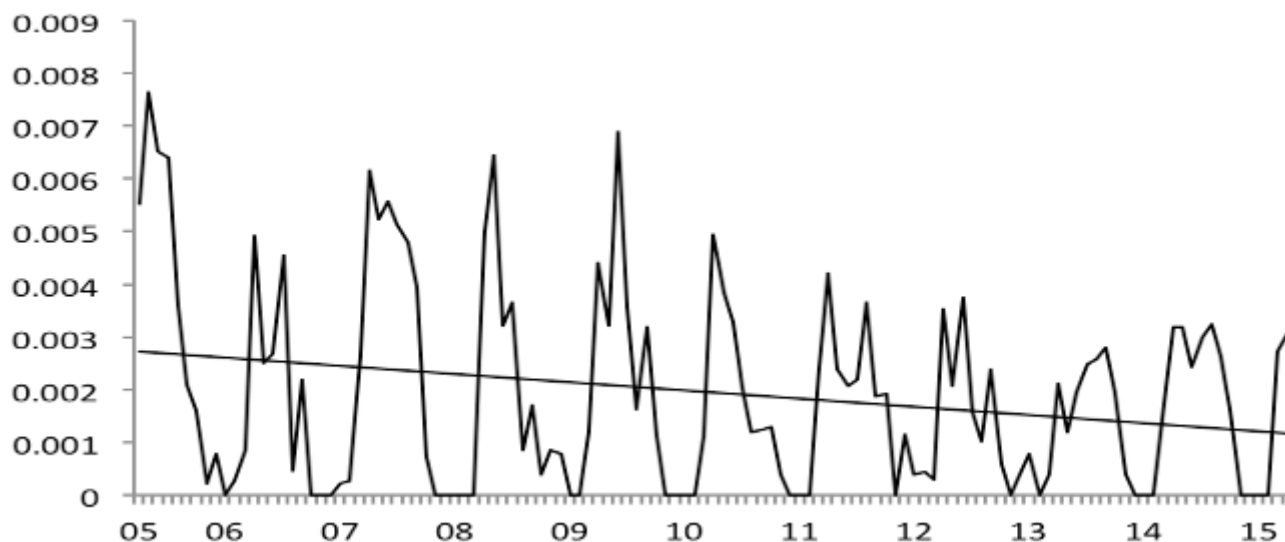
35. COMMON CHIFFCHAFF

Phylloscopus collybita

Status in Jersey More than one subspecies recorded *P. collybita collybita* **Common breeding and winter visitor, very common spring and autumn migrant, occasionally abundant on migration** two other subspecies *P. collybita abietinus* and *P. collybita tristis* reported and may be rare annual visitors

Trend at survey sites Decreasing

Most often recorded during migration, monitoring suggests that numbers of Chiffchaff at the five sites are decreasing.



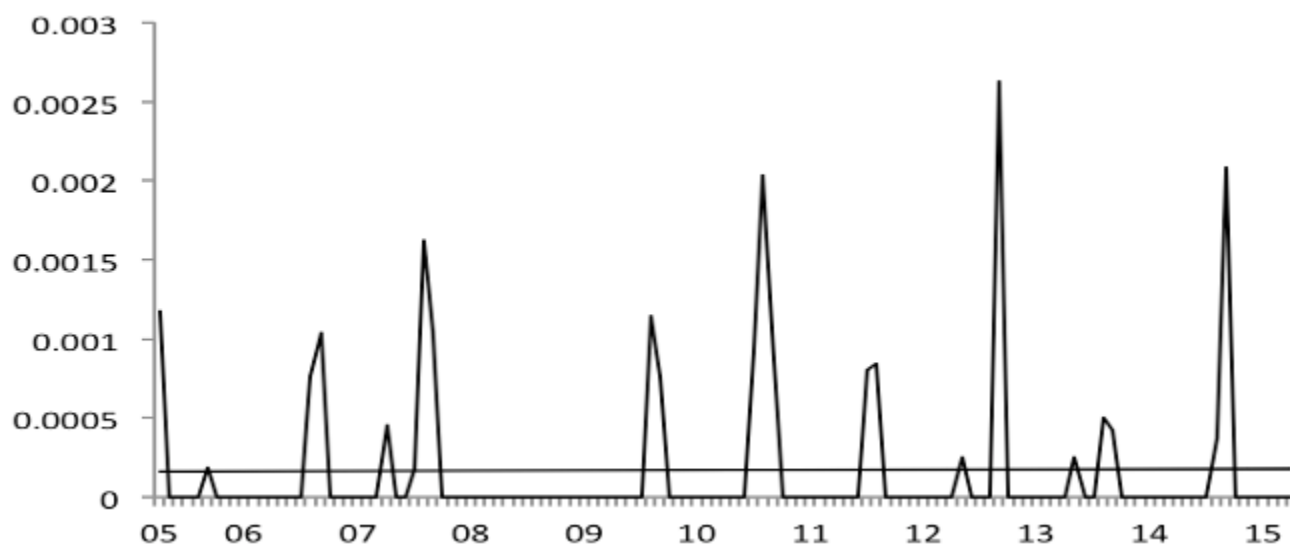
36. WILLOW WARBLER

Phylloscopus trochilus

Status in Jersey Common spring and very common autumn migrant, formerly bred

Trend at survey sites Stable

Much less frequent at the five survey sites than Common Chiffchaff, this former breeding species was only recorded on migration.



Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*: FBS results 1996-2015

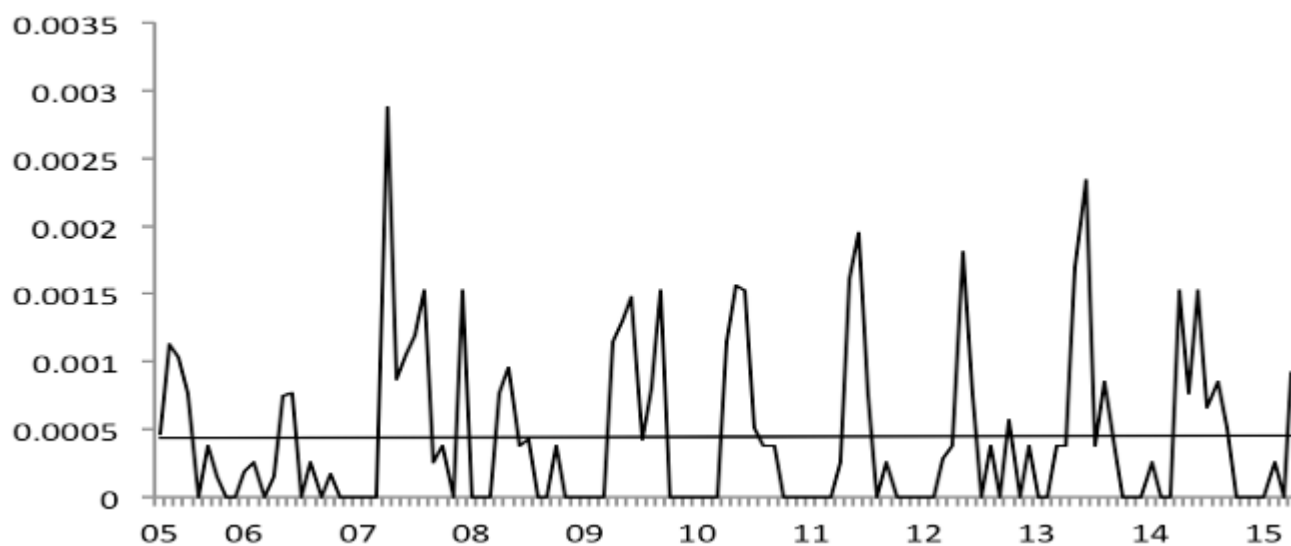
37. BLACKCAP

Sylvia atricapilla

Status in Jersey **Common resident, migrant and winter visitor**

Trend at survey sites **Stable**

Although suitable habitat at the five sites is limited, Blackcap was recorded quite frequently with pairs breeding in the vicinity of each site.



Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*: FBS results 2005-2010

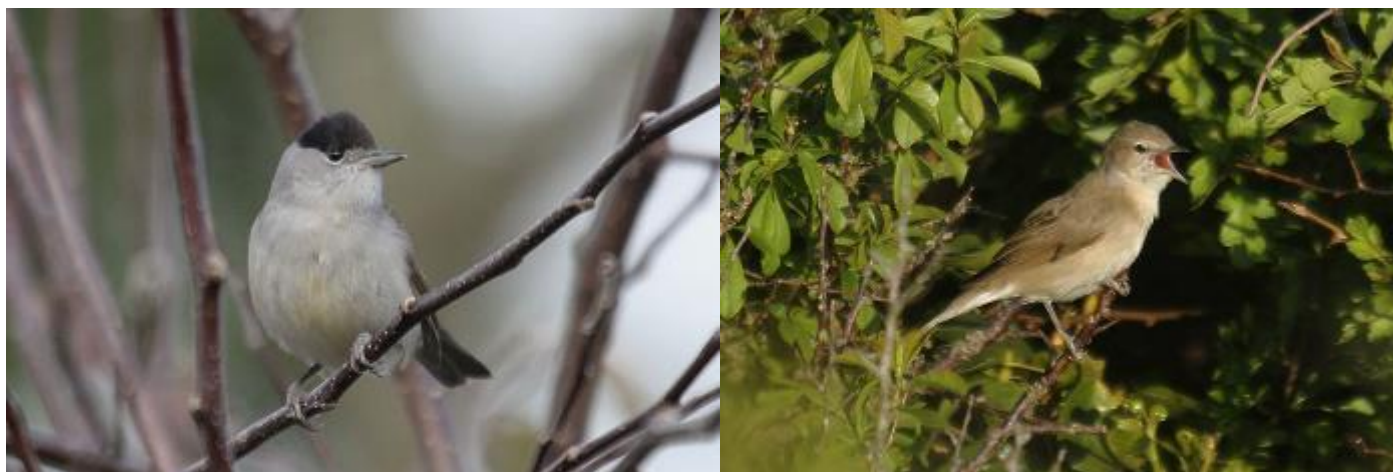
38. GARDEN WARBLER

Sylvia borin

Status in Jersey **Scarce breeder, scarce spring and autumn migrant**

Trend at survey sites **No trend discernible**

Garden Warbler was only recorded very infrequently at the five sites with most records from Crabbé when a pair bred some years near the transect.



Blackcap male (left) and Garden Warbler. Photos by Mick Dryden.

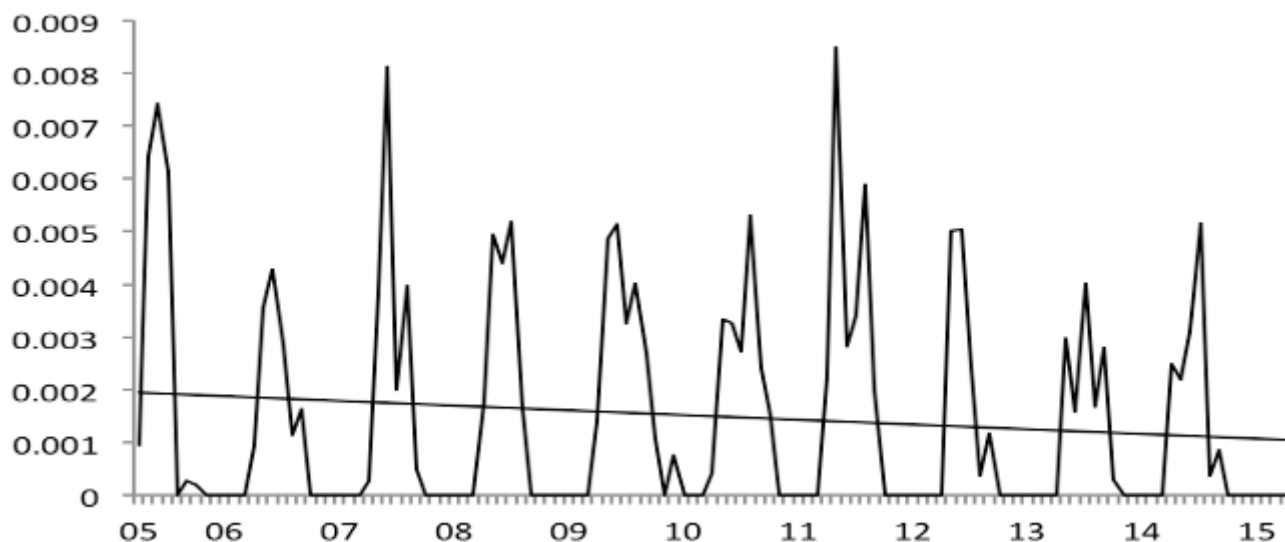
39. COMMON WHITETHROAT

Sylvia communis

Status in Jersey **Common breeding species, common spring and autumn migrant**

Trend at survey sites **Decreasing**

Common Whitethroat probably bred each year at all five sites. Slight decrease in overall numbers recorded is most likely caused by fewer migrants or because of peak numbers in some years.



Common Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*: FBS results 2005-2015

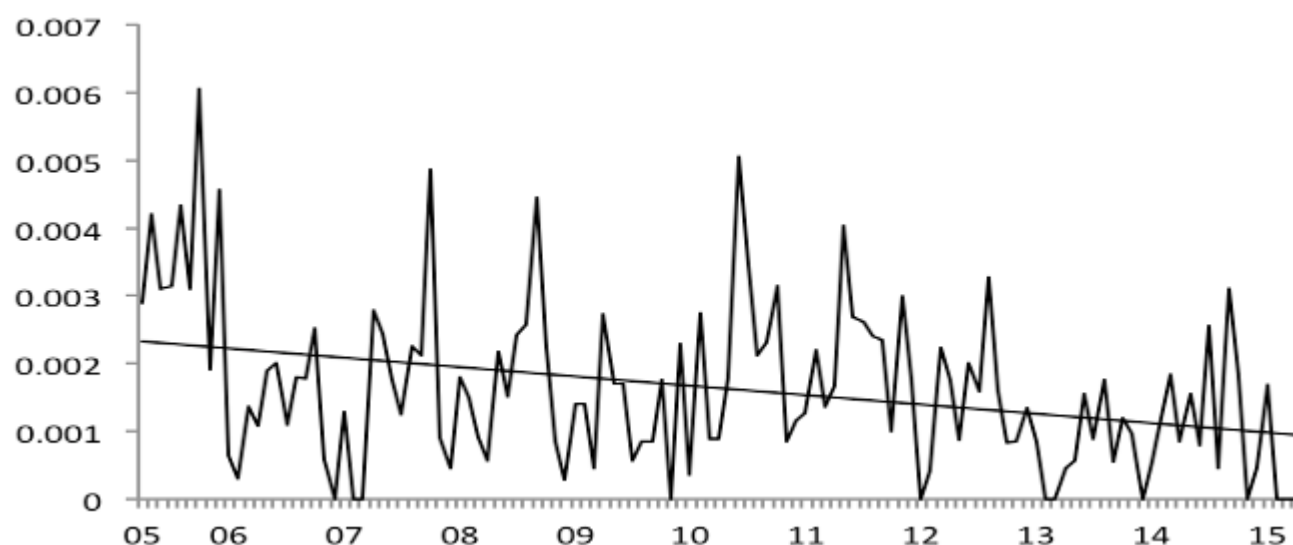
40. DARTFORD WARBLER

Sylvia undata

Status in Jersey **Scarce resident IUCN Globally Threatened Species (Vulnerable), Species of European Conservation Concern**

Trend at survey sites **Decreasing**

Although a gorse heath specialist, Dartford Warbler was recorded at all five sites with regular breeding only at Noirmont and Les Landes. Population is prone to fluctuations with habitat quality and climate but apparent decreases will need to be watched closely over the next few years.



Dartford Warbler *Sylvia undata*: FBS results 2005-2015

41. FAN-TAILED WARBLER

Cisticola juncidis

Status in Jersey **Rare, first recorded in 1996 and most years since 2002: bred in 2005**

Trend at survey sites **No trend discernible**

Fan-tailed Warbler first bred in 2005 at Les Creux adjacent to the transect. However, although adults and young apparently survived the winter there have not been any further breeding attempts. There have not been sufficient records since early 2006 to develop a trend

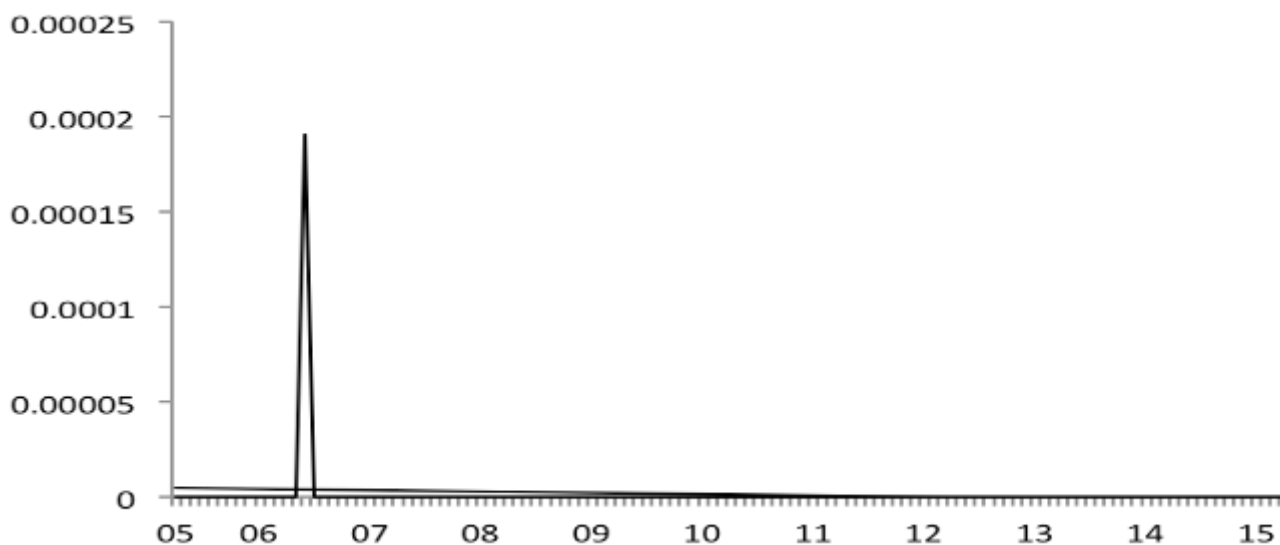
42. SHORT-TOED TREECREEPER

Certhia brachydactyla

Status in Jersey **Common resident**

Trend at survey sites **No trend discernible**

Like other woodland specialists there is insufficient habitat for this species at the five survey sites. Almost all of the very few records of this bird are from Les Creux



Short-toed Treecreeper *Certhia brachydactyla*: FBS results 2005-2015



Short-toed Treecreeper. Photo by Mick Dryden

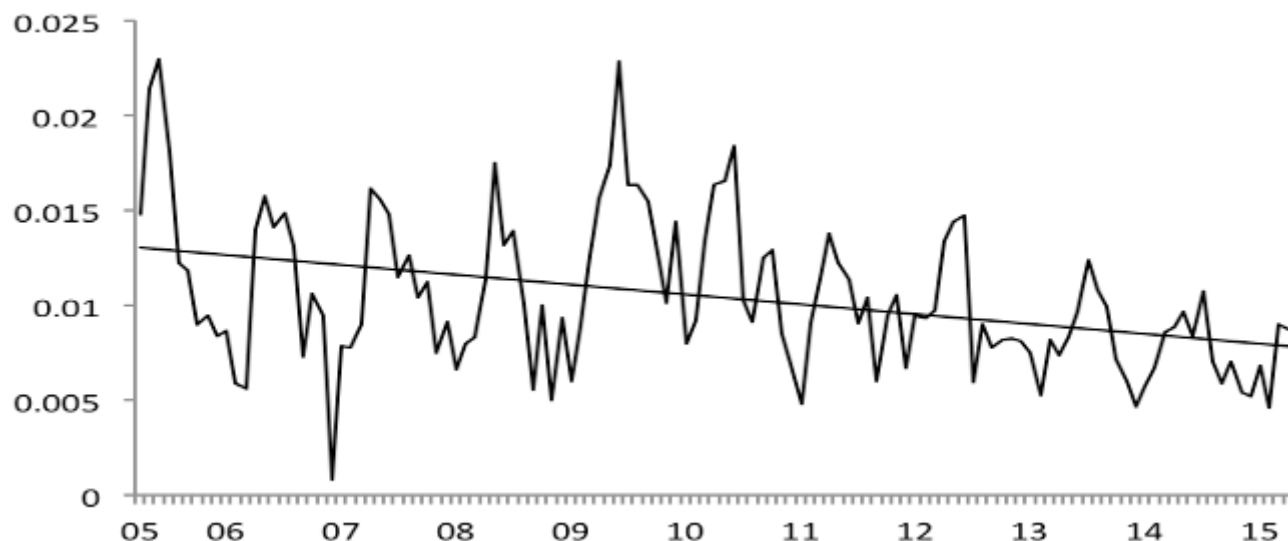
43. WREN

Troglodytes troglodytes

Status in Jersey Abundant resident and occasional migrant More than one subspecies likely

Trend at survey sites Decreasing

Wren are typically an easy bird to record on surveys and, while population size may not be so easy to establish, trends can be seen. Surprisingly there seems to be a steady decline across the survey sites.



Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*: FBS results 2005-2015

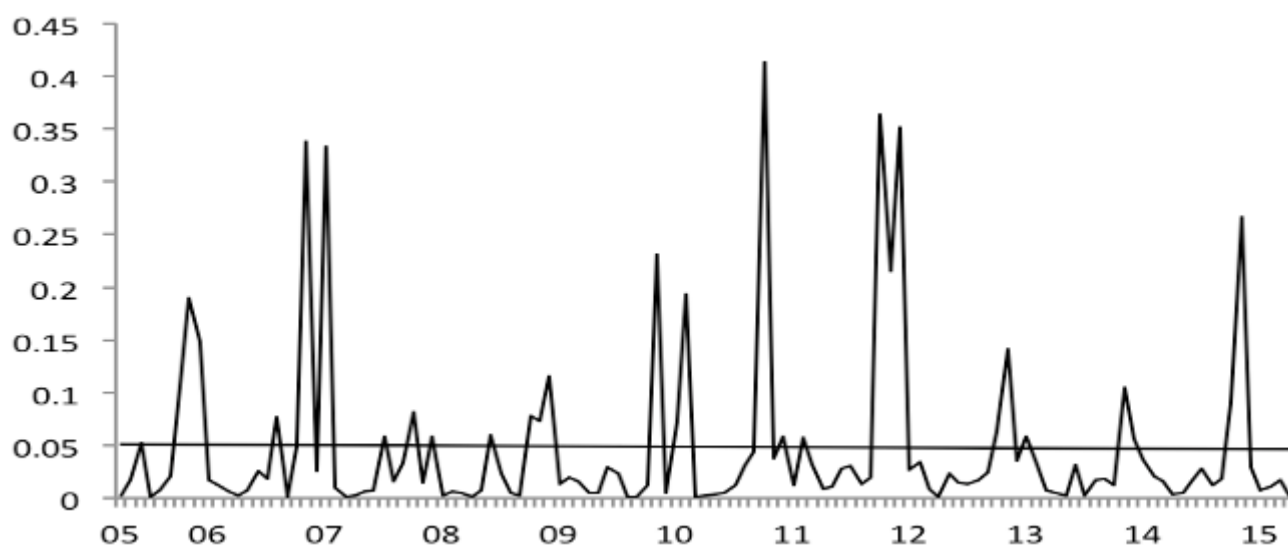
44. COMMON STARLING

Sturnus vulgaris

Status in Jersey Common but declining resident, winter visitor and abundant migrant. Red status is given as safeguard to breeding and non-breeding population

Trend at survey sites Stable

Common Starling has undergone a dramatic and very obvious decline in Jersey as both a breeding and a wintering species. Although no longer recorded in big numbers the population at the survey sites appears stable.



Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*: FBS results 2005-2015

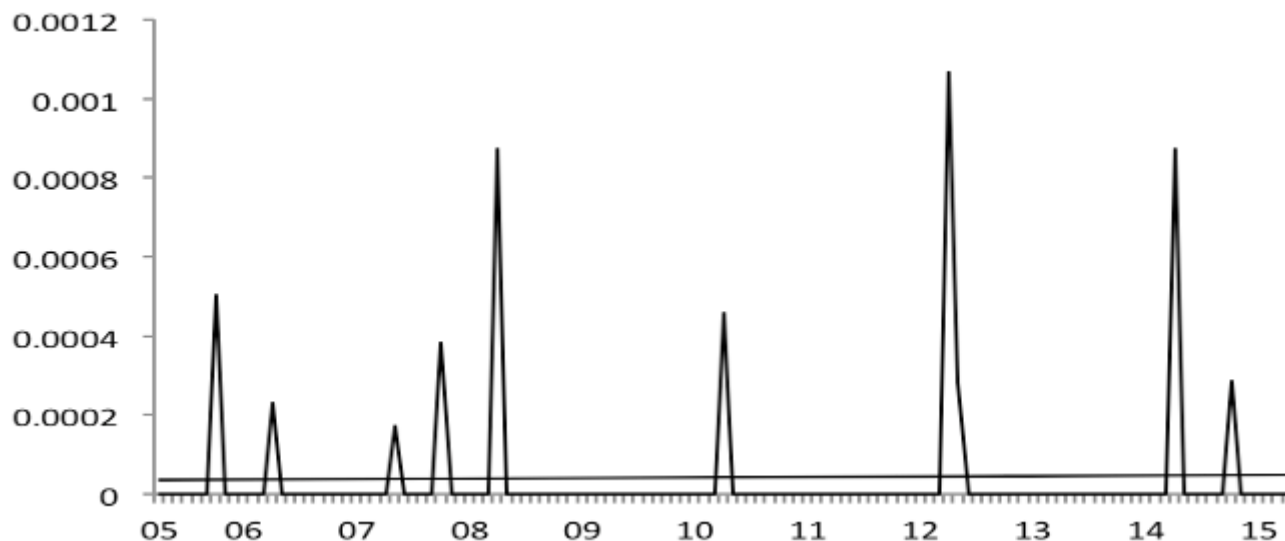
45. RING OUZEL

Turdus torquatus

Status in Jersey Rare spring and autumn migrant. May be common some years As a regular migrant, amber status is given as safeguard to birds regularly occurring at a small number of sites

Trend at survey sites Stable

Ring Ouzel is a rare migrant in Jersey but, often favouring open and coastal areas, was recorded at all five survey sites.



Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*: all records 2005-2015

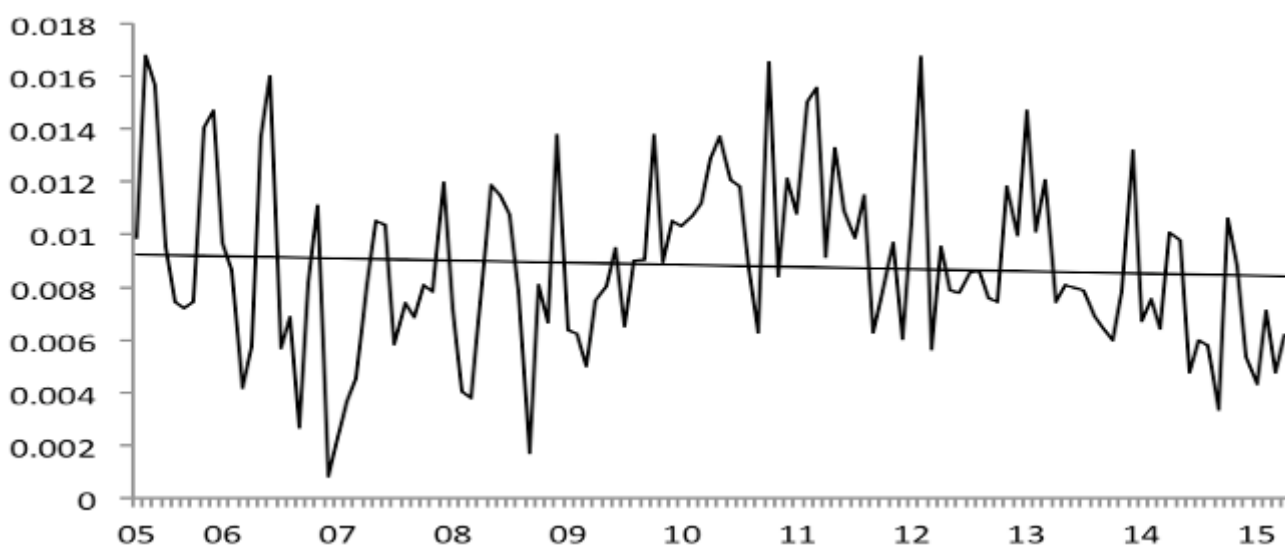
46. COMMON BLACKBIRD

Turdus merula

Status in Jersey Abundant resident and common autumn migrant

Trend at survey sites Stable

Only small numbers of breeding birds were recorded at the five survey sites; however, much higher numbers could be expected at all five sites during migration and in winter.



Common Blackbird *Turdus merula*: FBS results 2005-2015

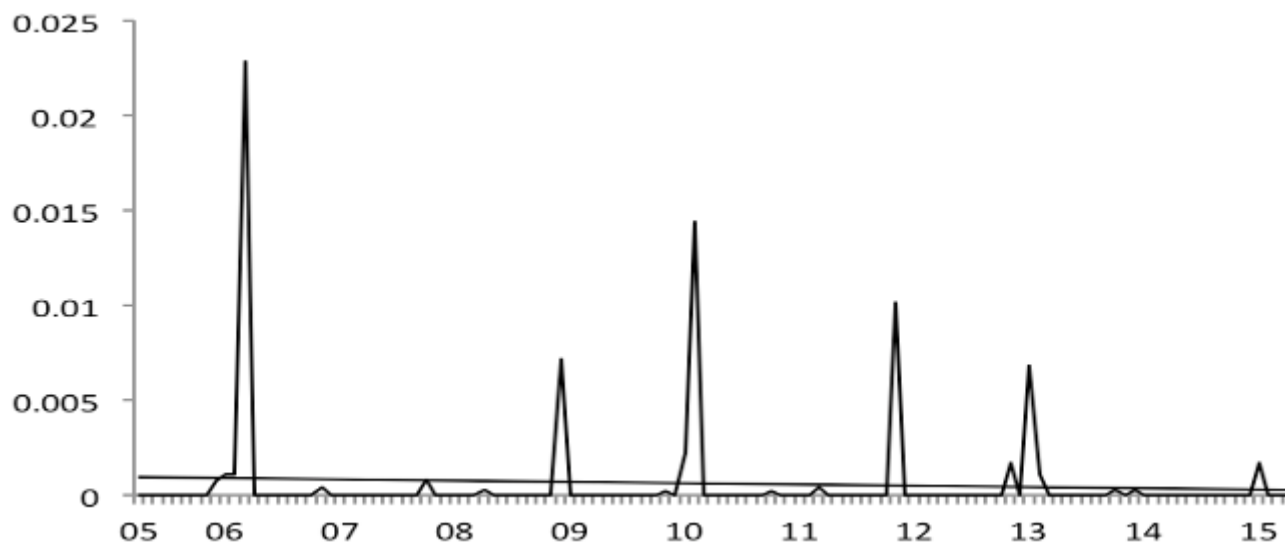
47. FIELDFARE

Turdus pilaris

Status in Jersey **Common, mainly autumn, migrant and scarce winter visitor**

Trend at survey sites **Possibly decreasing**

As the climate changes there has been a steady decrease in wintering Fieldfare seen in Jersey. Fluctuations in numbers recorded at the survey sites are quite apparent as numbers are affected by continental weather.



Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*: FBS results 2005-2015

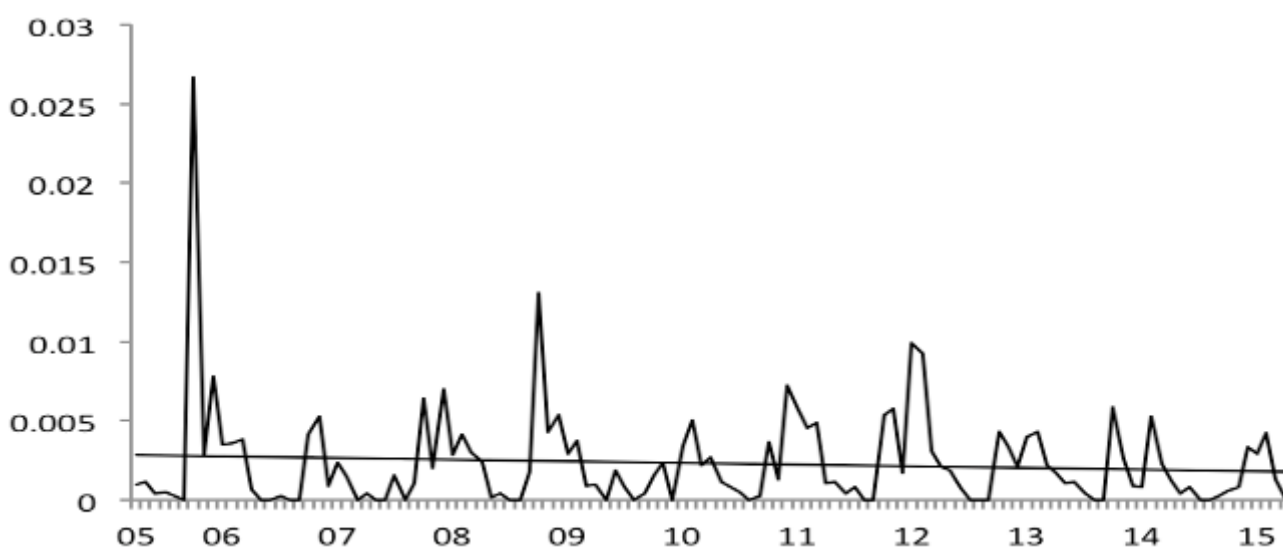
48. SONG THRUSH

Turdus philomelos

Status in Jersey **Common but declining resident and autumn migrant** Amber status is given as safeguard to breeding population

Trend at survey sites **Stable**

Only very few Song Thrushes are likely to breed at or close to the survey sites (singing males can be heard over long distances). The majority of birds recorded were migrating or wintering birds.



Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*: FBS results 2005-2015

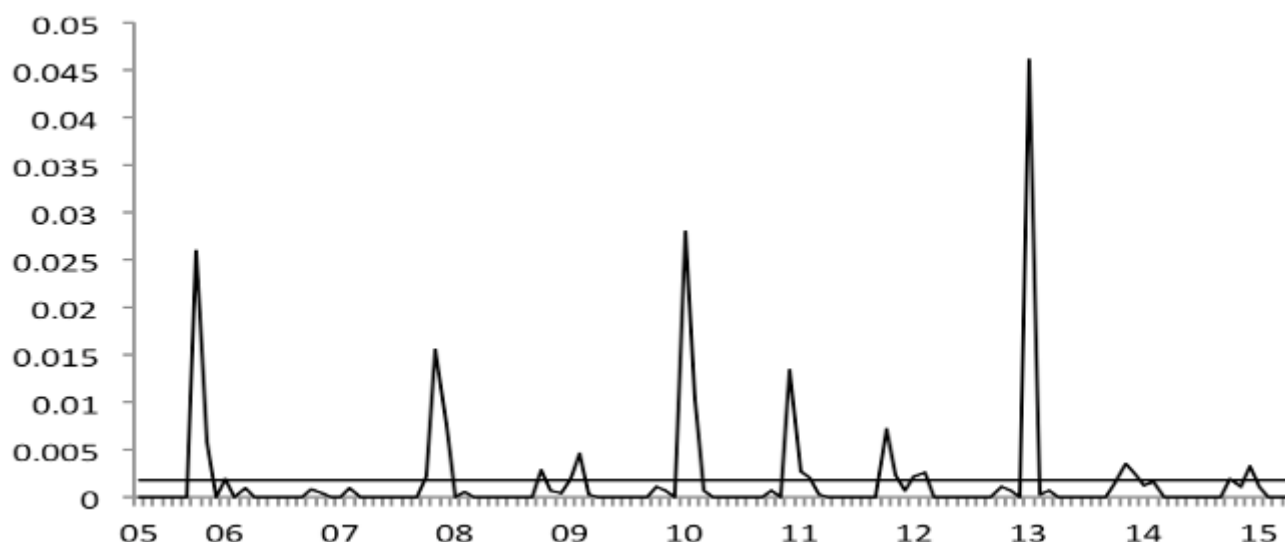
49. REDWING

Turdus iliacus

Status in Jersey Very common, occasionally abundant, winter visitor and migrant. **IUCN Globally Threatened Species (Near Threatened)**

Trend at survey sites Stable

Redwing numbers each winter are highly dependent on winter conditions further north and as the climate changes there has been a steady decrease in wintering birds seen in Jersey. Recorded at all five survey sites, annual numbers recorded in recent years appear stable.



Redwing *Turdus iliacus*: FBS results 2005-2015

50. MISTLE THRUSH

Turdus viscivorus

Status in Jersey Rare, declining resident and migrant

Trend at survey sites No trend discernible

Once a relatively common breeding species, extinction in Jersey seems likely with only one or two pairs located in recent years. Small numbers of migrants were recorded at the survey sites.

51. SPOTTED FLYCATCHER

Muscicapa striata

Status in Jersey Rare and declining breeder and spring migrant; scarce in autumn

Trend at survey sites No trend discernible

Like Mistle Thrush, Spotted Flycatcher was formerly a common breeding species which now only nests occasionally. This migrant was only recorded sporadically at the survey sites and no trend was discernible.



Mistle Thrush (left) and Spotted Flycatcher. Photos by Mick Dryden

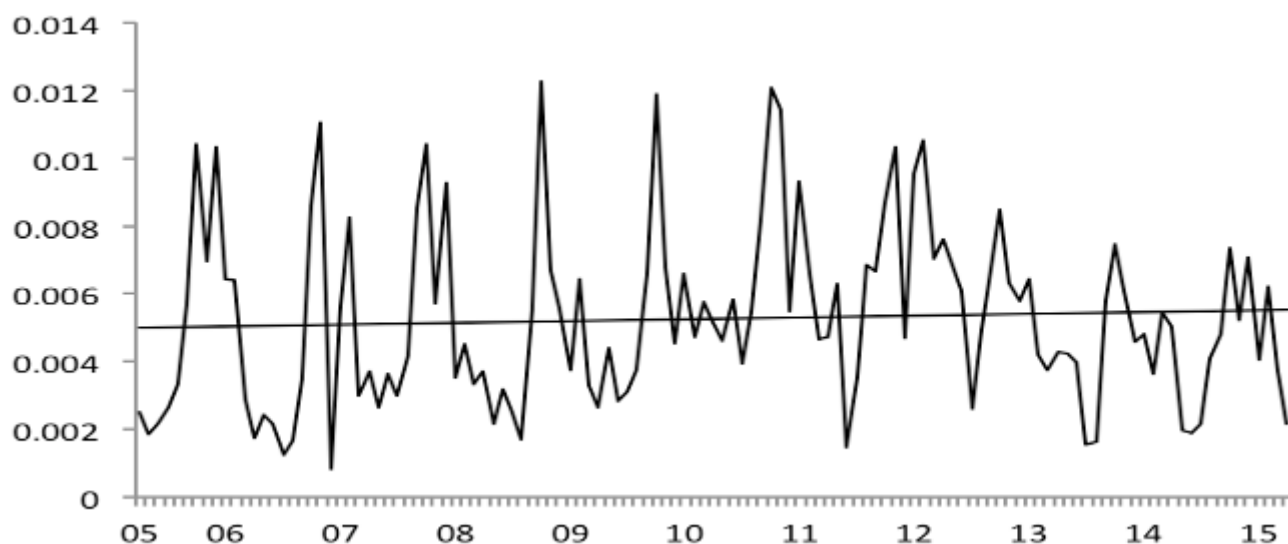
52. EUROPEAN ROBIN

Erithacus rubecula

Status in Jersey Abundant resident and common autumn migrant

Trend at survey sites Stable, possible increase

European Robin numbers appear fairly stable in Jersey and annual fluctuations in overall numbers through arrival of passage and winter migrants are obvious in this survey.



European Robin *Erithacus rubecula*: FBS results 2005-2015

53. BLACK REDSTART

Phoenicurus ochruros

Status in Jersey Occasional breeding species, scarce winter visitor and late autumn migrant

Trend at survey sites No trend discernible

Black Redstart is a regular wintering bird in Jersey and was recorded sporadically at the survey sites. One pair bred at Noirmont in 2013. No trend was detectable.

54. COMMON REDSTART

Phoenicurus phoenicurus

Status in Jersey Scarce spring and common autumn migrant

Trend at survey sites No trend discernible

Common Redstart was recorded annually on migration but only in very small numbers. No trend was discernible.



Robin (left). Photo by Mick Dryden

Black Redstart (right). Photo by Romano da Costa

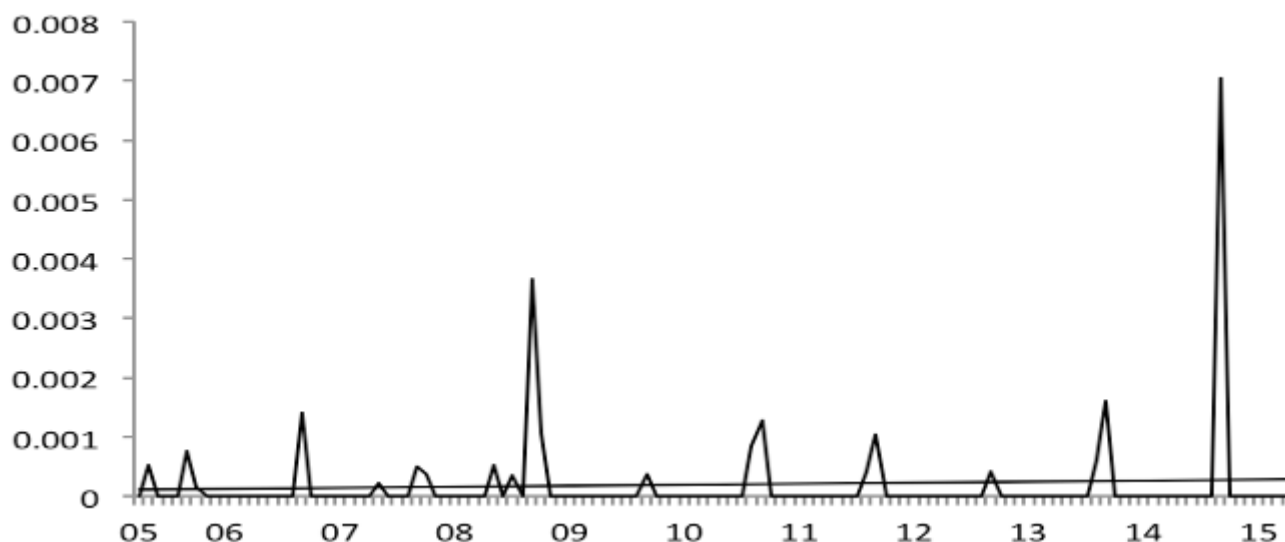
55. WHINCHAT

Saxicola rubetra

Status in Jersey Scarce spring and common, sometimes very common, autumn migrant

Trend at survey sites Stable

Whinchat are not a particularly common migrant in Jersey and annual numbers fluctuate possibly through weather conditions during migration periods.



Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*: FBS records 2005 –2015

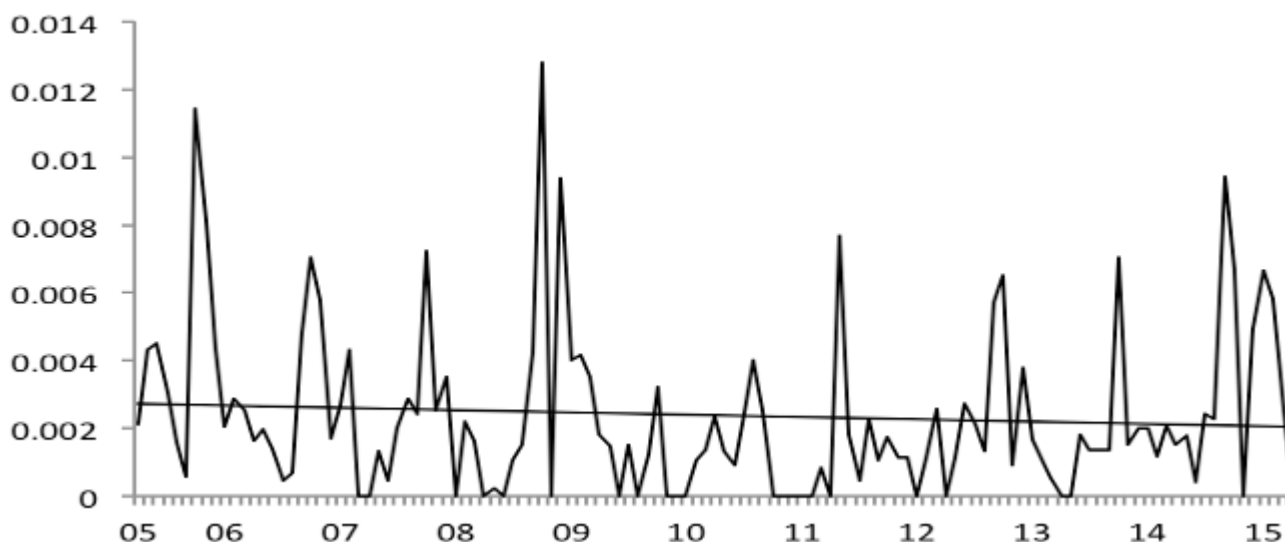
56. COMMON STONECHAT

Saxicola rubicola

Status in Jersey Rare resident (has declined, formerly common), common winter visitor and migrant

Trend at survey sites Decreasing

The full extent of the decline in Jersey of Common stonechat is not wholly apparent from the survey results as possibly the majority of the remaining few breeding pairs (Les Blanche Banques, Les Landes) and the larger numbers of migrants and winter visitors are seen each year on the five survey sites.



Common Stonechat *Saxicola rubicola*: FBS results 2005-2015

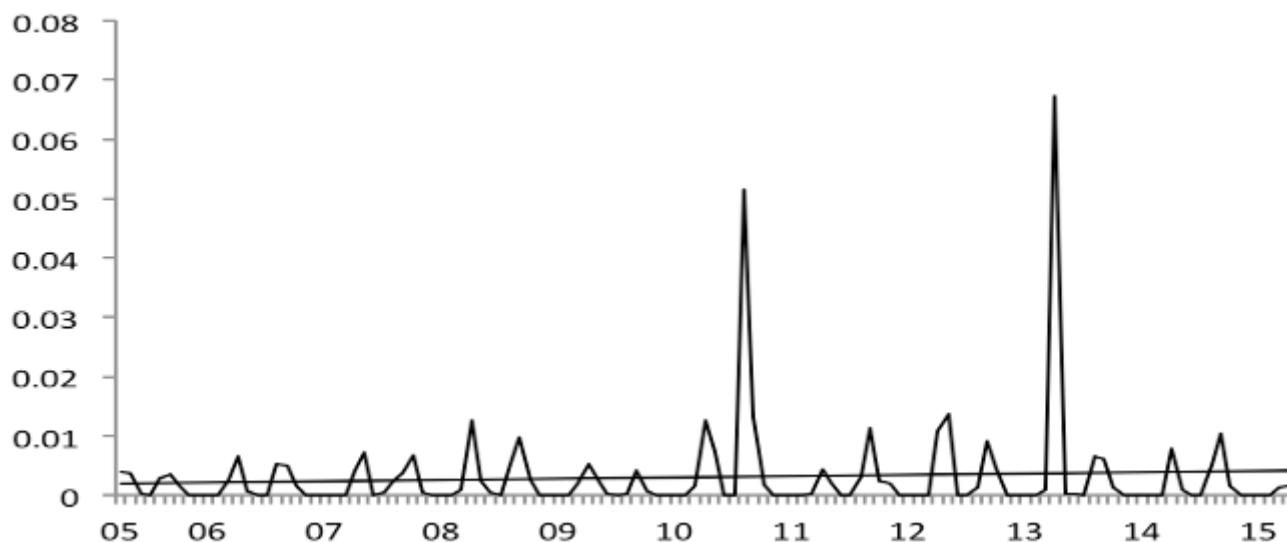
57. NORTHERN WHEATEAR

Oenanthe oenanthe

Status in Jersey Two subspecies recorded. *O. oenanthe oenanthe*: occasional breeding species (last bred 1999) and very common migrant, and Greenland Wheatear *O. oenanthe leucorrhoa*: scarce migrant. Red status is given to safeguard breeding population

Trend at survey sites Stable

Northern Wheatear is a common migrant and particularly recorded at the five survey sites. While there is a feeling locally that numbers seen annually have declined, the population at the survey sites remains stable but may fluctuate.



Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*: FBS results 2005-2015

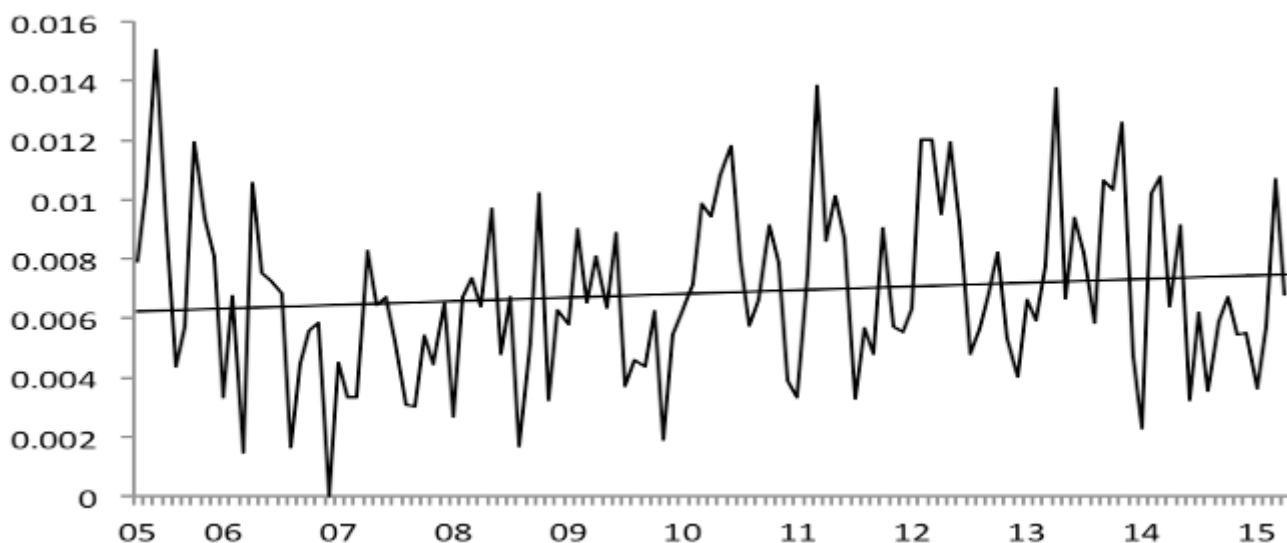
58. DUNNOCK

Prunella modularis

Status in Jersey Abundant resident and occasional migrant

Trend at survey sites Increasing

Dunnock is a common bird in most Jersey habitats and found across all five survey sites. Numbers at the sites are gradually increasing.



Dunnock *Prunella modularis*: FBS results 2005-2015

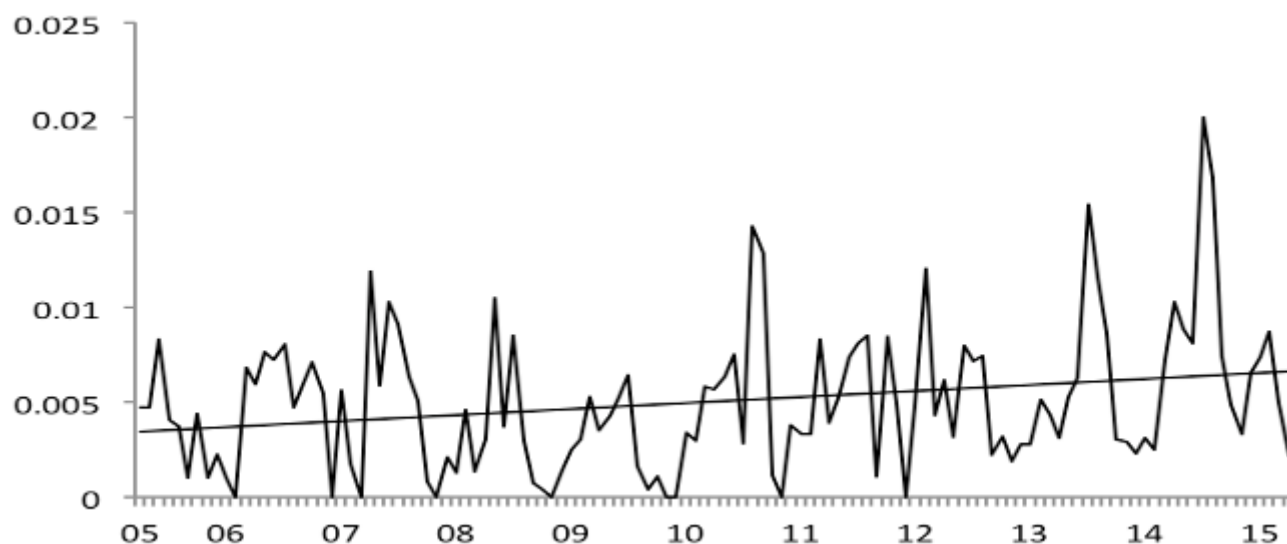
59. HOUSE SPARROW

Passer domesticus

Status in Jersey **Very common resident** Amber status is given as safeguard to breeding population

Trend at survey sites **Increasing**

House Sparrow has undergone declines in Jersey in common with elsewhere in north-west Europe. However, colonies where secure appear to be quite stable. This species is highly associated with urban dwellings and farm buildings and, therefore, typically not recorded right across the survey sites. Interesting fluctuations are recorded at the sites including apparent disappearances in winter.



House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*: FBS results 2005-2015

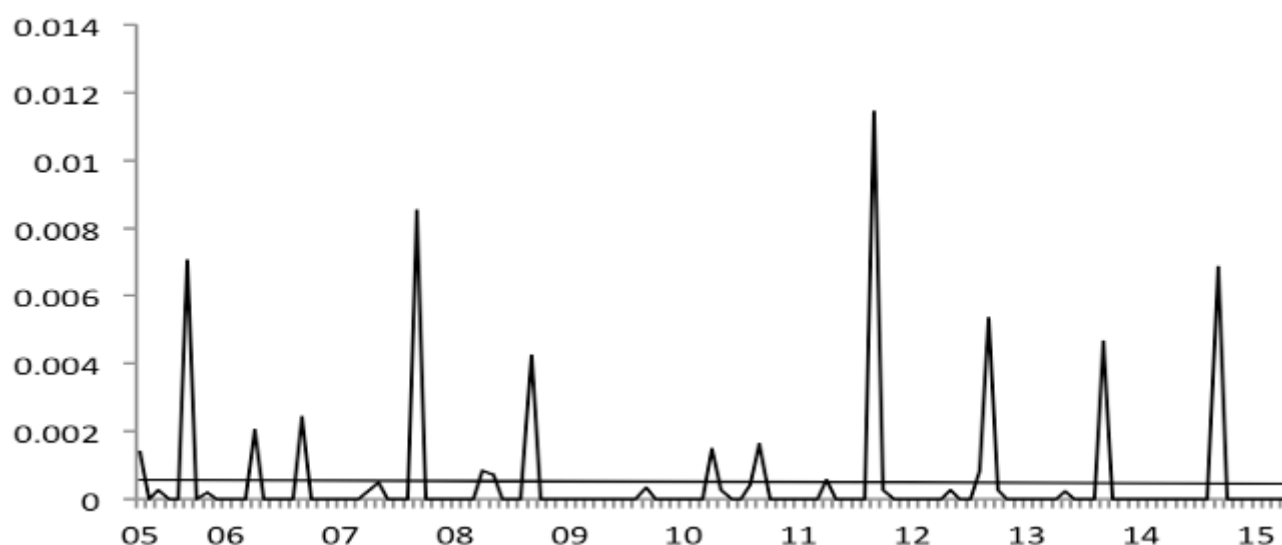
60. YELLOW WAGTAIL

Motacilla flava

Status in Jersey Four subspecies recorded. Yellow Wagtail *M. flava flavissima*: common spring and autumn migrant. Blue-headed Wagtail *M. flava flava*: rare spring and autumn migrant. Grey-headed Wagtail *M. flava thunbergi* and Black-headed Wagtail *M. flava feldegg* also recorded

Trend at survey sites **Stable**

Yellow Wagtail is a conspicuous migrant and many of the Island's annual records come from the survey sites. Numbers recorded fluctuate widely but the trend remains stable.



Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*: FBS results 2005-2015

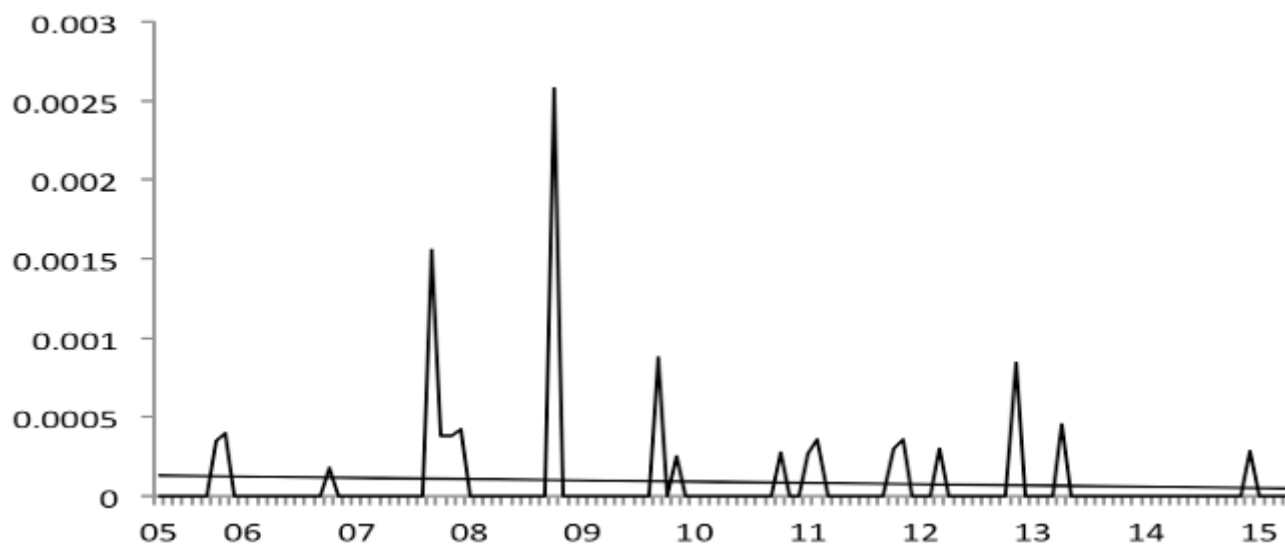
61. GREY WAGTAIL

Motacilla cinerea

Status in Jersey Occasional breeding species, common winter visitor and scarce migrant

Trend at survey sites Stable

Grey Wagtail is a typically riparian species and mostly recorded at the survey sites as an overflying migrant. The trend appears mostly stable despite large variations. However, numbers recorded are very small.



Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*: FBS results 2005-2015

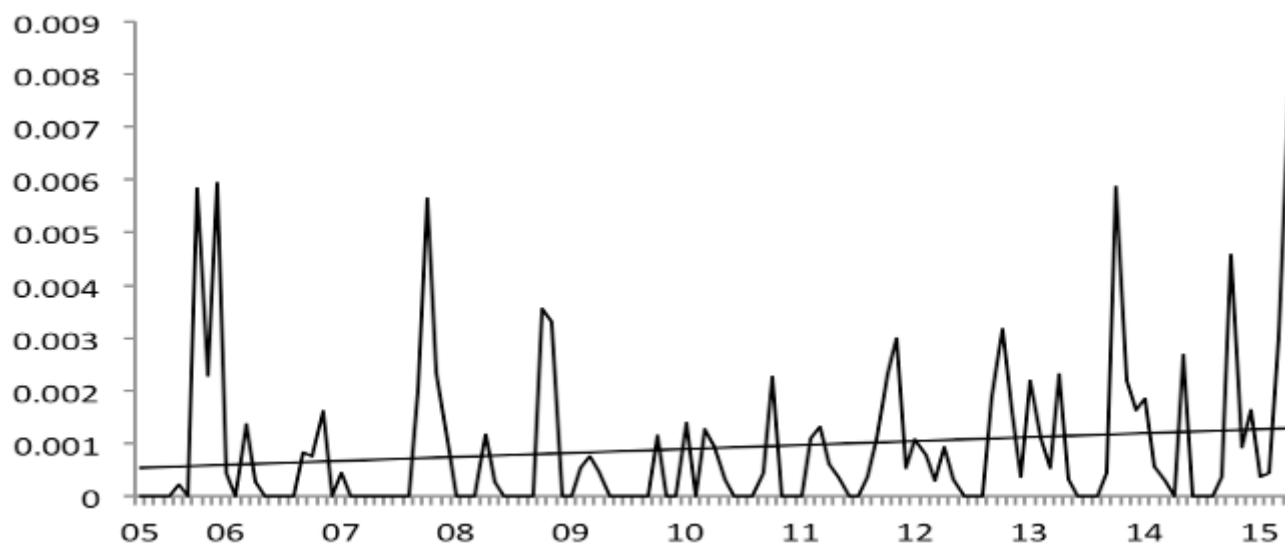
62. PIED/WHITE WAGTAIL

Motacilla alba

Status in Jersey Two subspecies recorded. Pied Wagtail *M. alba yarrellii*: very common winter visitor, common spring and autumn migrant, and White Wagtail *M. alba alba*: rare but annual breeder and common spring and autumn migrant and scarce winter visitor. **NOTE White wagtail is give Amber status in Jersey to protect its breeding status**

Trend at survey sites (two races, and birds not assigned to race, combined) Increasing

Both subspecies of Pied/White Wagtail are recorded at the survey sites each year with Pied mostly a common migrant and winter visitor and White Wagtail mostly a scarce breeder. Both subspecies and (mostly) birds not assigned to sub-species are combined in the graph.



Pied/White Wagtail *Motacilla alba*: FBS results 2005-2015

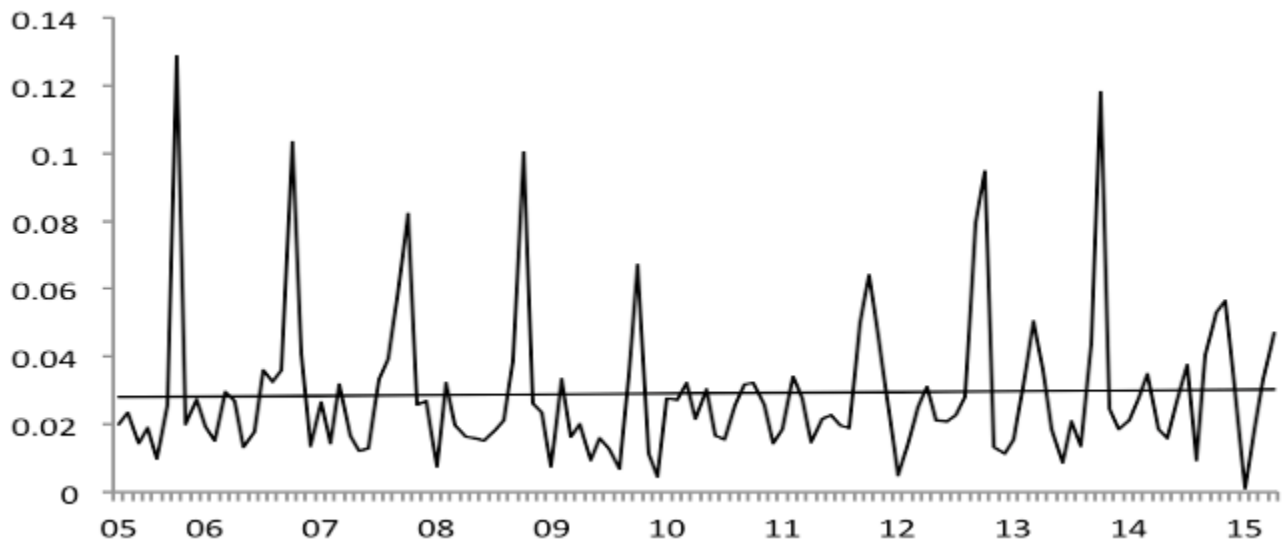
63. MEADOW PIPIT

Anthus pratensis

Status in Jersey Common resident, winter visitor and abundant migrant Amber status is given as safeguard to very localised breeding population. **IUCN Globally Threatened Species (Near Threatened), Species of European Conservation Concern**

Trend at survey sites Stable

Meadow Pipit breeds in only a limited number of sites in Jersey with the majority at Les Landes. Often very large numbers of migrants are recorded each year, typically also at the survey sites.



Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*: FBS results 2005-2015



Meadow Pipit. Photo by Mick Dryden

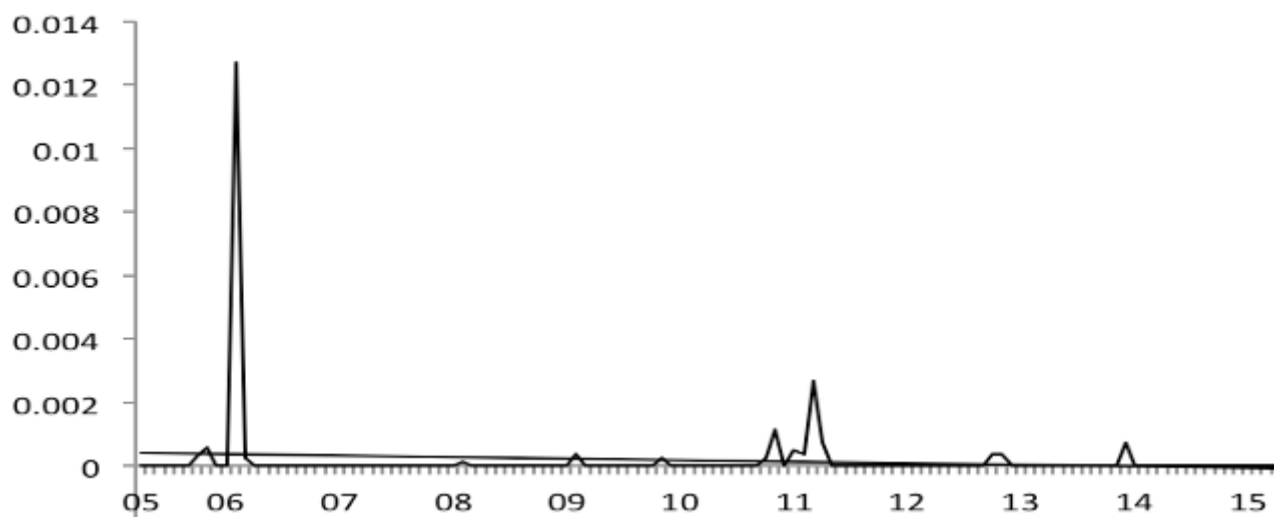
64. BRAMBLING

Fringilla montifringilla

Status in Jersey Scarce winter visitor and autumn migrant, may be common in some years

Trend at survey sites No trend discernible

Brambling are only infrequently recorded at the survey sites, often at Les Creux. Annual numbers in Jersey are highly variable probably through their relationship with continental weather patterns.



Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*: FBS records 2005-2015

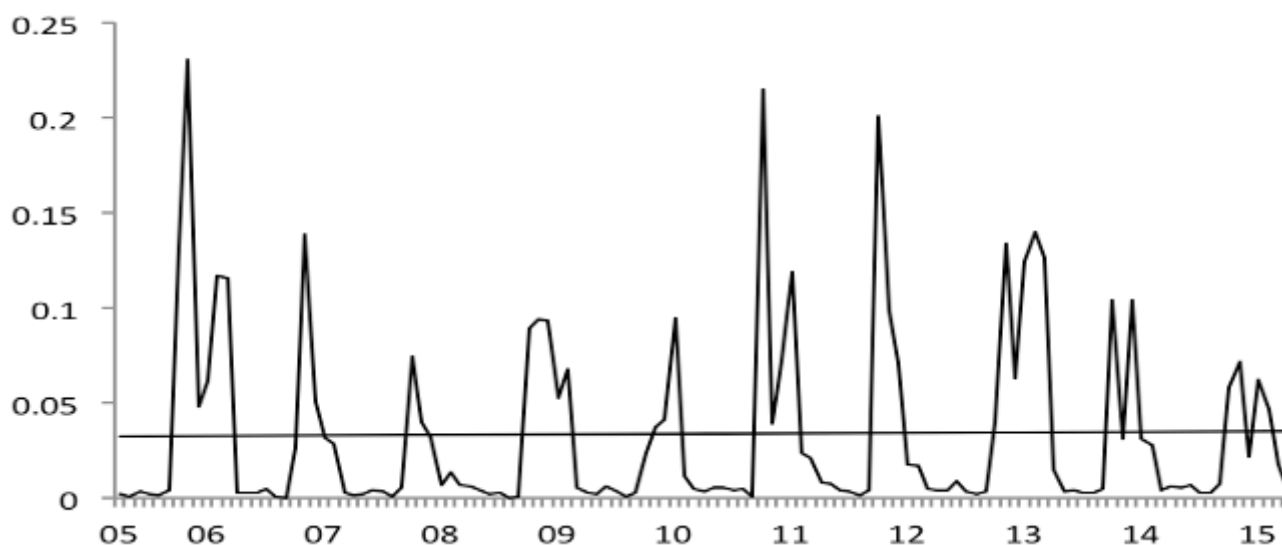
65. COMMON CHAFFINCH

Fringilla coelebs

Status in Jersey Common resident and winter visitor, very common, often abundant, migrant

Trend at survey sites Stable

Only very small numbers of Chaffinch breed at or close to the survey sites. However, often, very large numbers of migrants and wintering birds are recorded each year.



Common Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*: FBS results 2005-2015

66. BULLFINCH

Pyrrhula pyrrhula

Status in Jersey Scarce and declining resident

Trend at survey sites No trend discernible

With limited suitable habitat at the survey sites Bullfinch was only occasionally recorded and no trend could be discerned at these sites.



Male Bullfinch. Photo by
Romano da Costa

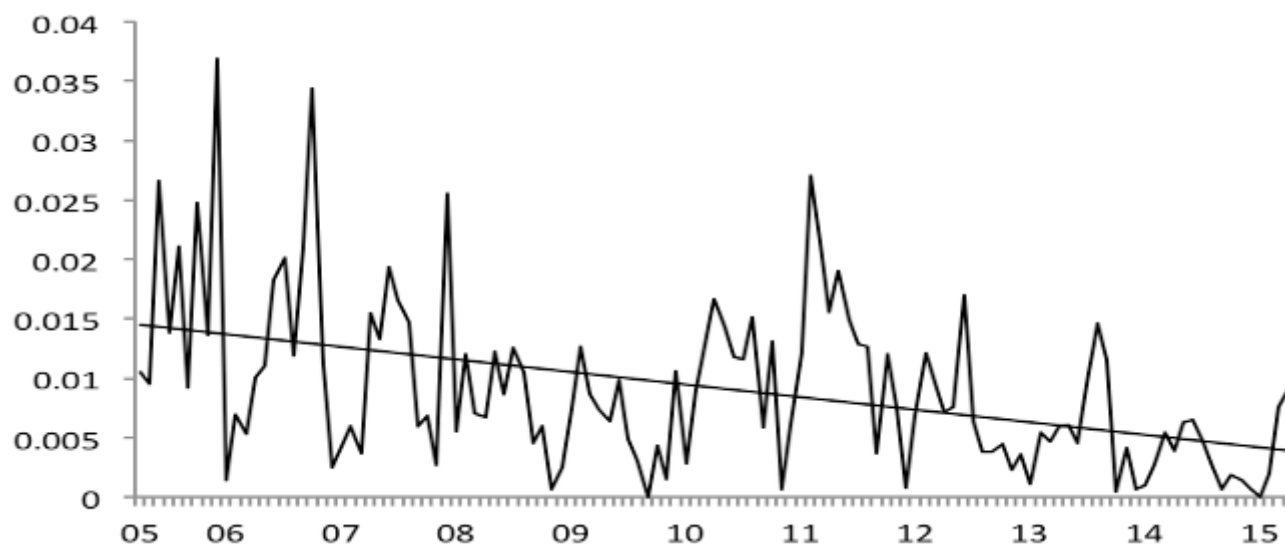
67. GREENFINCH

Carduelis chloris

Status in Jersey Common, declining, resident and very common migrant

Trend at survey sites Decreasing

Regional declines through disease in Greenfinch have been well documented outside of Jersey and these declines can be seen repeated here. Some pairs may nest in some years on or close to the transects; however, many recorded are migrants.



Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris*: FBS results 2005-2015

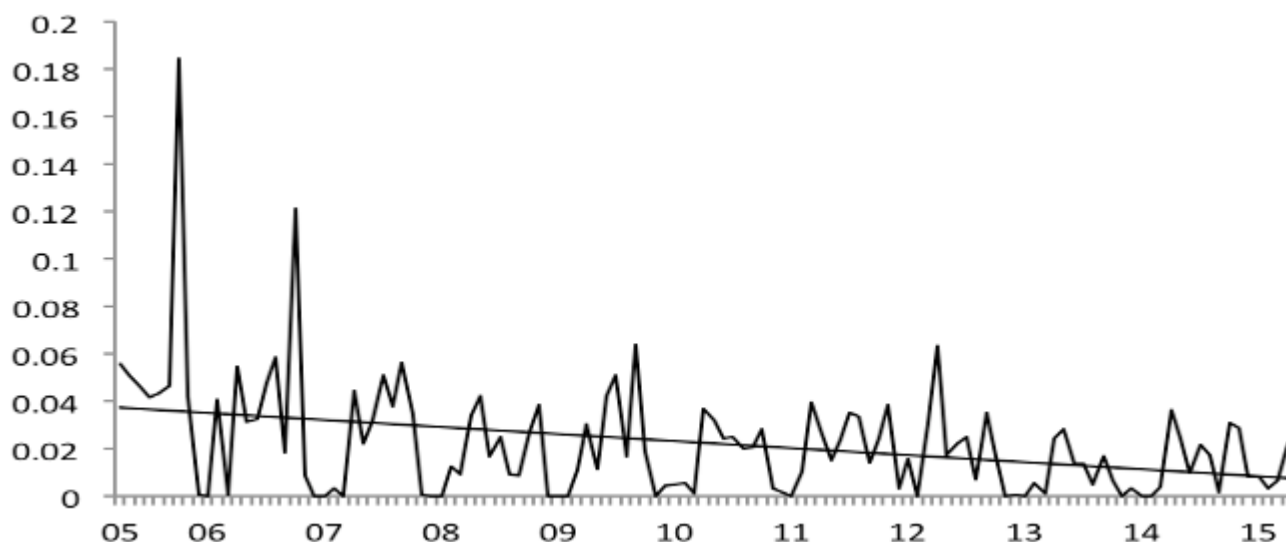
68. LINNET

Linaria cannabina

Status in Jersey Common but declining breeder and migrant. Increasing numbers overwinter Amber status is given as safeguard to localised breeding and non-breeding populations

Trend at survey sites Decreasing

Linnet breeds at a very limited number of sites with highest numbers at Les Landes. This species formerly 'disappeared' in winter but birds are increasingly being seen at conservation fields throughout the colder months and it is hoped that the decline in Jersey will be stabilised.



Linnet *Linaria cannabina*: FBS results 2005-2015

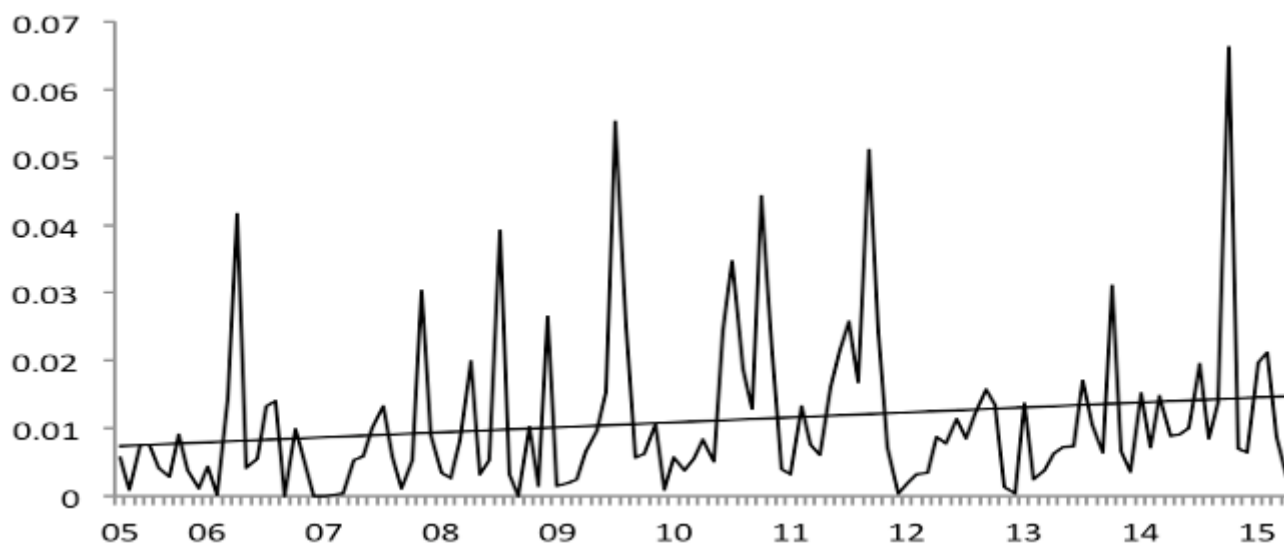
69. GOLDFINCH

Carduelis carduelis

Status in Jersey Abundant resident and very common migrant

Trend at survey sites Increasing

Some Goldfinch pairs may nest close to the transects at each site; however, most birds recorded are families foraging after breeding and wintering flocks.



Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*: FBS results 2005-2015

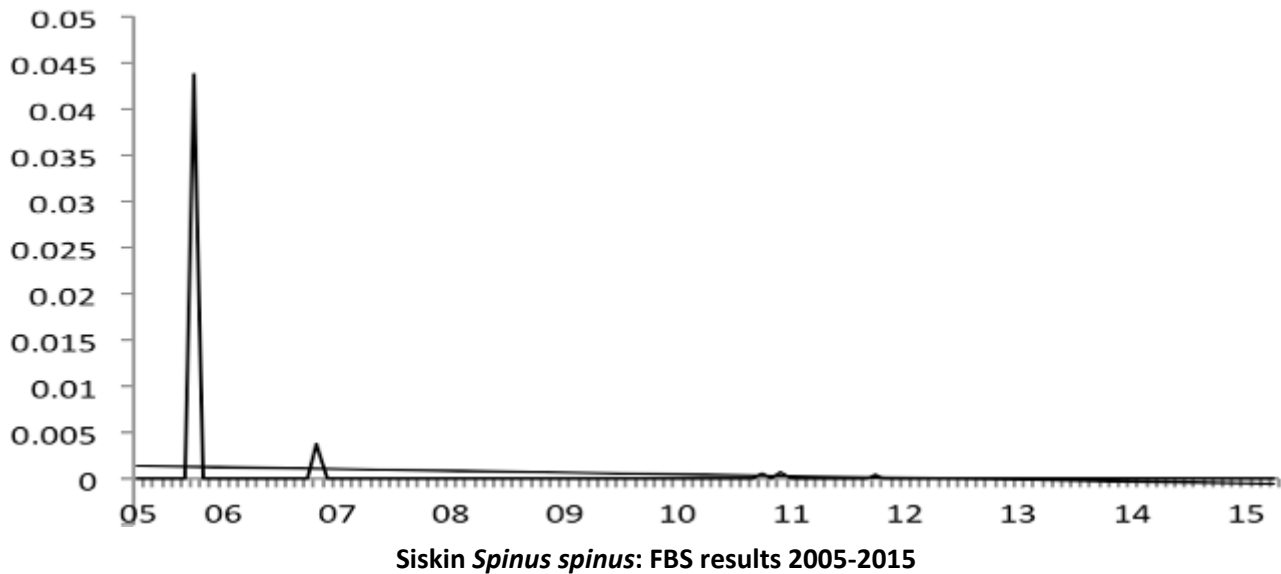
70. SISKIN

Spinus spinus

Status in Jersey Common winter visitor and common, occasionally abundant, autumn migrant

Trends at survey sites No trend discernible

Siskin occurs in Jersey in highly variable numbers most commonly associated with weather conditions during its autumn migration or conditions with its favoured food trees. High numbers were recorded during the 2005-2006 winter, mostly as over-flying migrants but since then very few have been seen at the survey sites.



71. YELLOWHAMMER

Emberiza citrinella

Status in Jersey Former resident probably became extinct as a breeding species in 2005. Now rare spring and autumn migrant

Trend at survey sites Decreasing/extinct

The survey site at Crabbé was chosen in 2005 in part because of the remnant Yellowhammer population here. However, the pair at this site in that year was the last recorded in Jersey and no further birds have been recorded during the survey.



One of Jersey's last breeding Yellowhammers at Crabbé in 2005. Photo by Romano da Costa

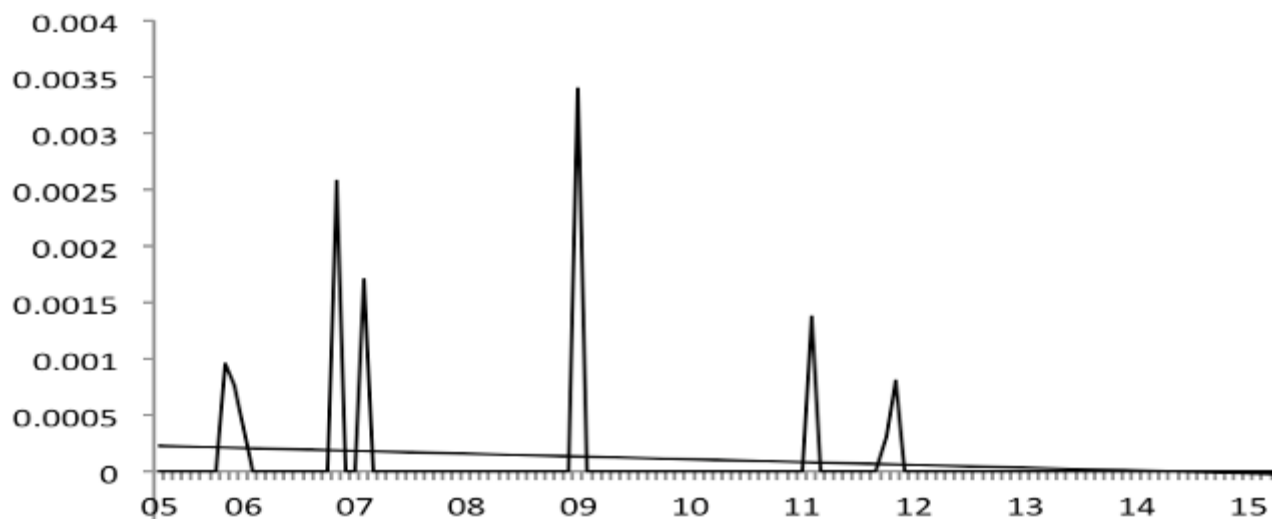
72. REED BUNTING

Emberiza schoeniclus

Status in Jersey Common migrant and winter visitor, former breeding species

Trend at survey sites Decreasing

Reed bunting was only recorded at the survey sites during the winter or as a migrant. For some years small numbers were found in winter at Les Creux; however, the species disappearance from here may follow genuine decline or be through success of conservation fields that have attracted numbers of this species in recent years.



Reed bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus* : FBS results 2005-2015



Reed Bunting. Photo by Mick Dryden

APPENDIX 1. Sites

1. Les Blanche Banques

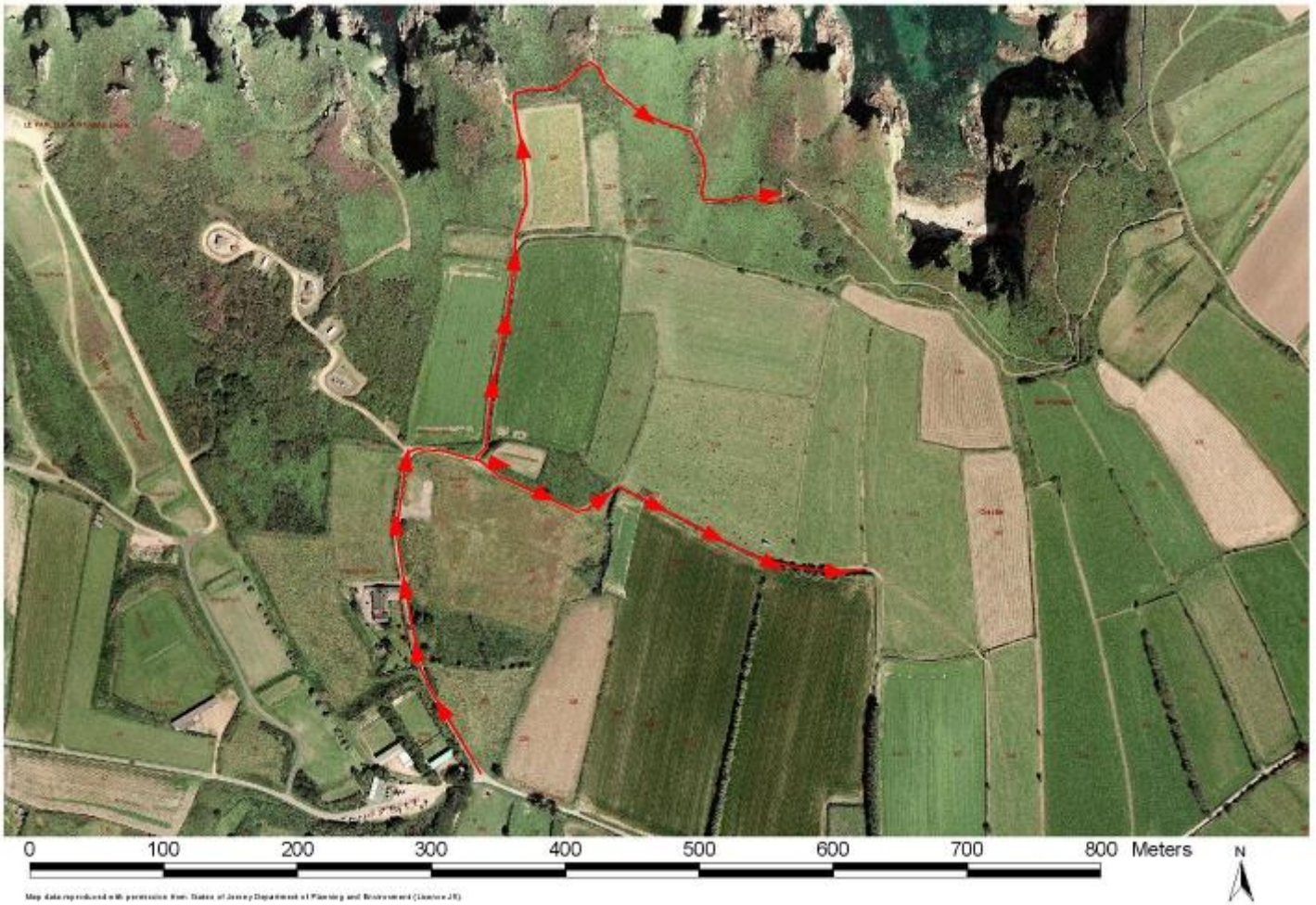


Route of the Les Blanch Banques transect. Transect is 938m in length.



Les Blanche Banques. Photos by H G Young

2. Crabbé

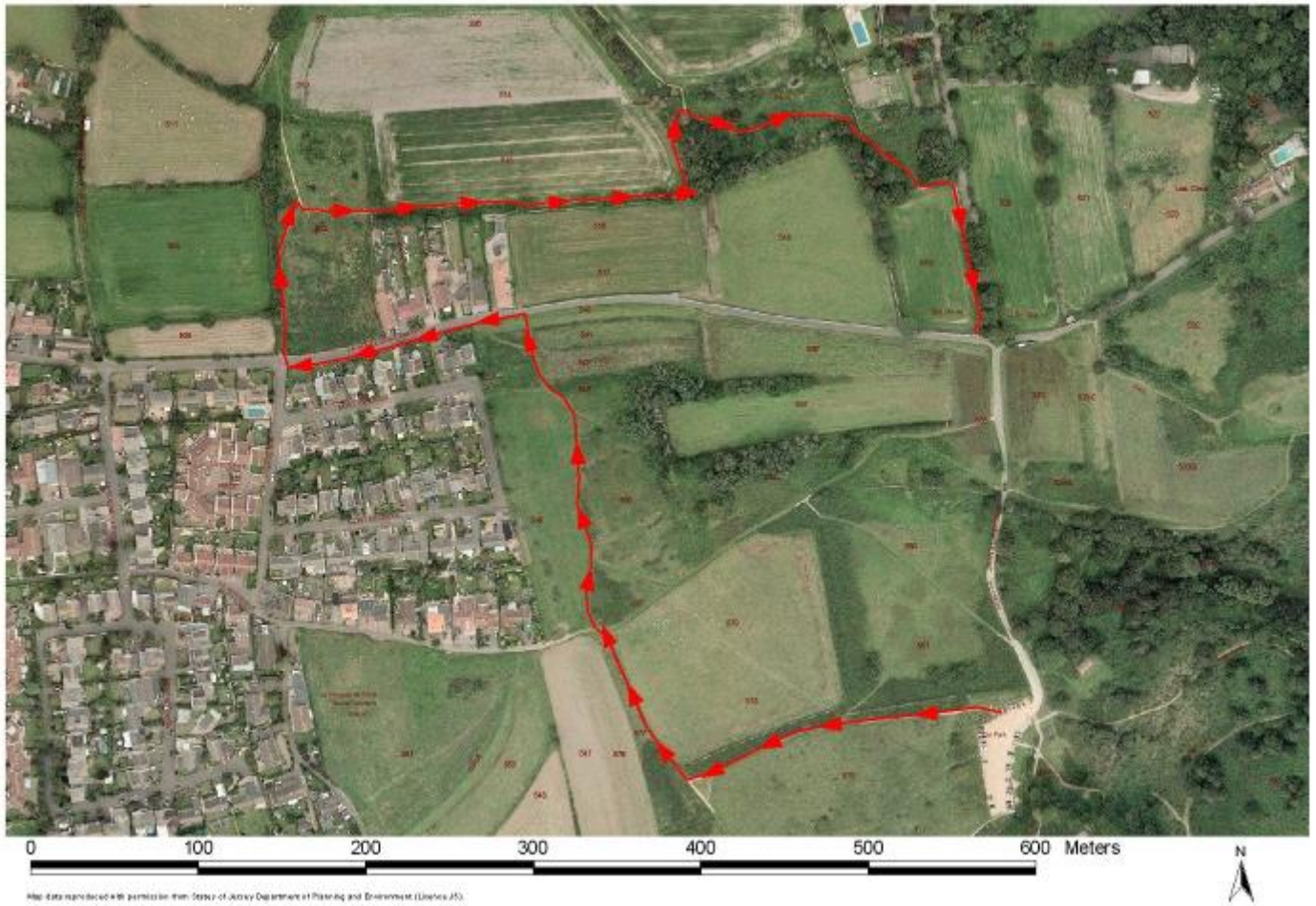


Route of the Crabbé transect. Transect is 1,177m in length.



Crabbé. Photos by H G Young

3. Les Creux

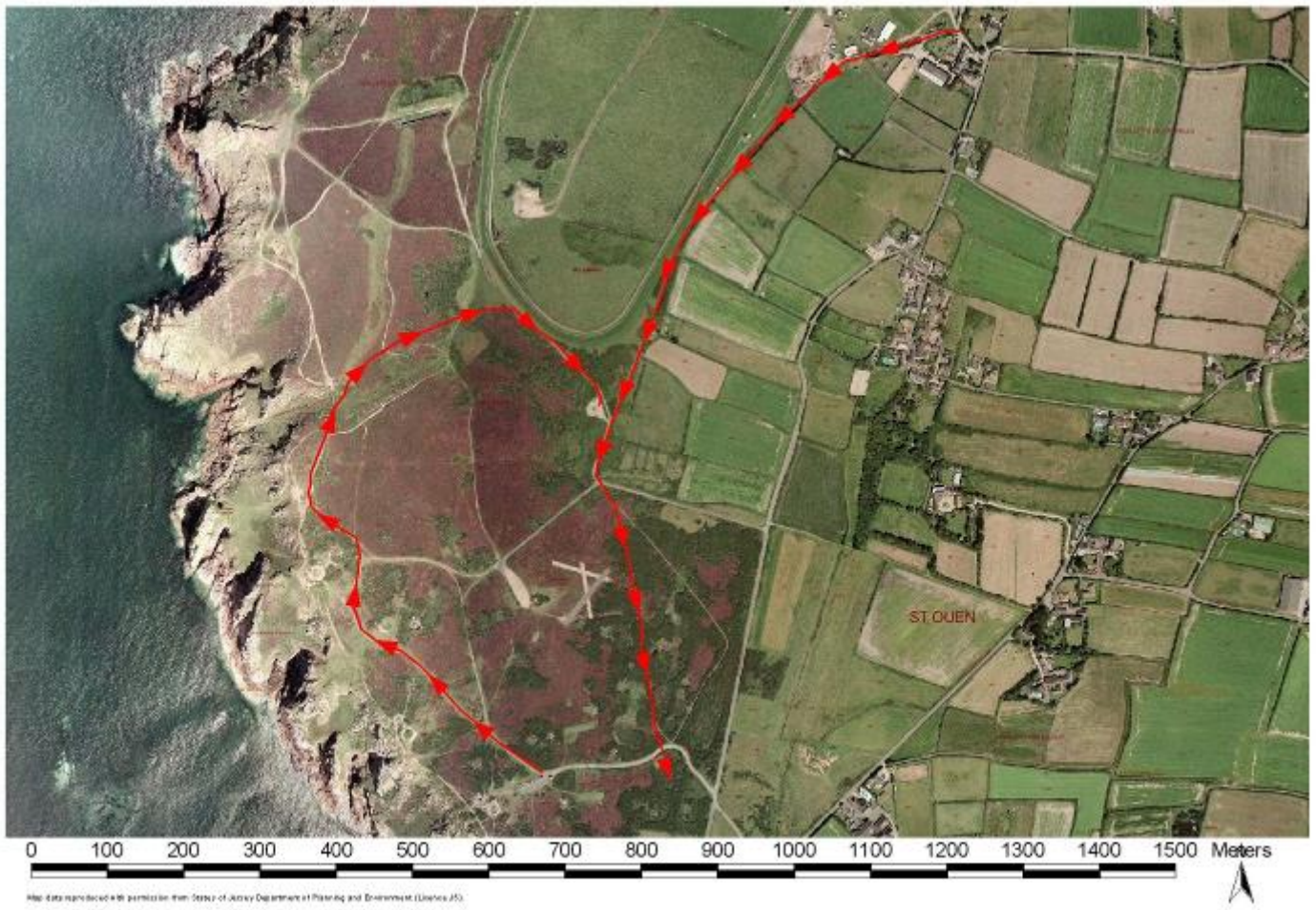


Route of the Les Creux transect. Transect is 1,311m in length.



Les Creux. Photos by H G Young

4. Les Landes

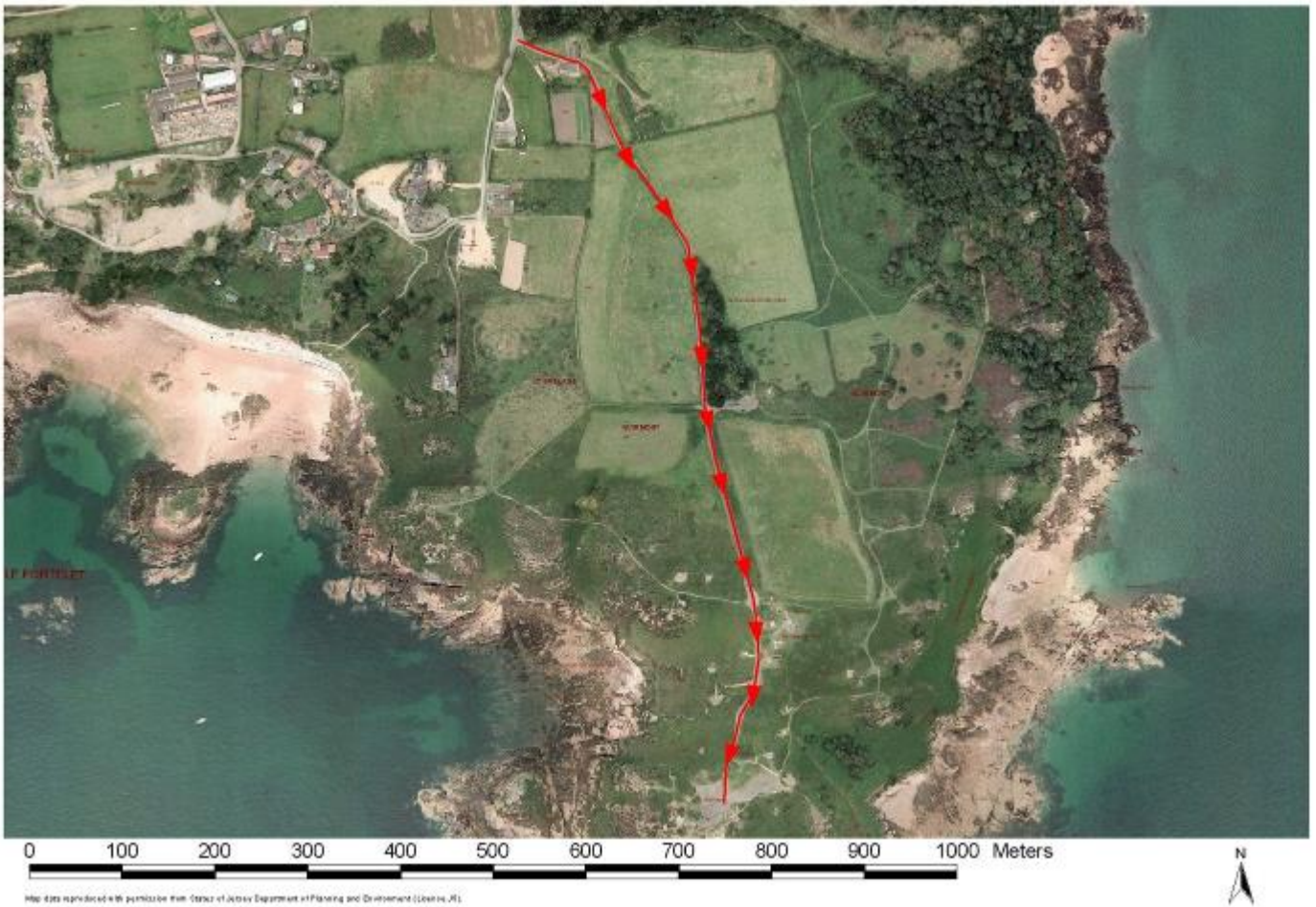


Route of the Les Landes transects. Transects combined are 2,271m in length.



Les Landes. Photos by H G Young

5. Noirmont



Route of the Noirmont transect. Transect is 917m in length.



Noirmont. Photos by Mick Dryden

APPENDIX 2. *Pro forma* check-sheet

Site Transect No. Date Recorder
 Weather Start time Finish time

Record numbers of birds above 9 in a circle i.e.

11

Bird species	Left of transect				Right of transect				
	100 m +	50-100 m	25-50 m	0-25 m	0-25 m	25-50m	50-100 m	100 m +	Extra birds
Skylark									
Stonechat									
Dartford Warbler									
Mallard									
Pheasant									
Wood Pigeon									
Stock Dove									
Rock dove									
Collared Dove									
Kestrel									
Marsh Harrier									
Great-spotted wood									
Swift									
Meadow Pipit									
Pied Wagtail									
Swallow									
Carriion Crow									
Magpie									
Jay									
Blackbird									
Song thrush									
Redwing									
Robin									
Dunnoek									
Wren									
Great Tit									
Blue Tit									
Long-tailed Tit									
Chiffchaff									
Blackcap									
Whitethroat									
Goldcrest									
Chaffinch									
Greenfinch									
Goldfinch									
Linnet									
Starling									
House Sparrow									

APPENDIX 3. Entry page from Microsoft Access database

The screenshot displays two overlapping Microsoft Access windows. The background window, titled "switchboard", features a sidebar menu for "Jersey farmland bird obser..." with options such as "Enter bird records", "All routes", "Summaries", "Units of CPU", and "Database". The foreground window, titled "Bird form", contains a data entry form with fields for "Year", "Day", "Start time", "End time", "Observer 1", "Observer 2", "Observer 3", "TL", "Precipitation", "Cloud/mist/fog etc.", "Wind", and "Seagull scale wind force". Below the form is a table named "bird records ribbon" with columns "Species", "Group size", and "Distance". The table lists various bird species and their group sizes and distances.

Species	Group size	Distance
Skyline	1	25-50
Wood pigeon	1	25-50
Wood pigeon	1	25-50
Meadow pipit	1	0-25
Meadow pipit	1	0-25
Meadow pipit	1	0-25
Meadow pipit	2	0-25
Meadow pipit	1	25-50
Meadow pipit	1	50-100
Canyon crow	1	0-25
Canyon crow	1	0-25
Canyon crow	2	0-25
Canyon crow	4	0-25
Canyon crow	1	25-50
Canyon crow	3	50-100
Maggie	2	0-25
Wren	1	25-50
Wren	1	50-100
Goldfinch	1	0-25
Goldfinch	1	0-25
Goldfinch	4	0-25
Goldfinch	10	0-25
Goldfinch	1	25-50
Goldfinch	1	25-50
Goldfinch	2	25-50