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More information on the seabirds of Britain and Ireland can be accessed via  
<http://www.jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-1530>.

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*Table 1a* Numbers of breeding Great Skuas (AOT) in Scotland and Ireland 1969–2002.

Administrative area or country	Operation Seafarer (1969–70)	SCR Census (1985–88)	Seabird 2000 (1998–2002)	Percentage change since Seafarer	Percentage change since SCR
Shetland	2,968	5,447	6,846	131%	26%
Orkney	88	2,000 <sup>1</sup>	2,209	2410%	10%
Western Isles— Comhairle nan eilean	19	113	345	1716%	205%
Caithness	0	2	5		150%
Sutherland	4	82	216	5300%	163%
Ross & Cromarty	0	1	8		700%
Lochaber	0	0	2		
Argyll & Bute	0	0	3		
<b>Scotland Total</b>	<b>3,079</b>	<b>7,645</b>	<b>9,634</b>	<b>213%</b>	<b>26%</b>
Co. Mayo	0	0	1		
<b>Ireland Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>		
<b>Britain and Ireland Total</b>	<b>3,079</b>	<b>7,645</b>	<b>9,635</b>	<b>213%</b>	<b>26%</b>

**Note**

<sup>1</sup> Extrapolated from a count of 1,652 AOT in 1982 (Meek *et al.*, 1985) using previous trend data (Furness, 1986) to estimate numbers in 1986 (see Lloyd *et al.*, 1991).

Table 1b: Numbers of breeding Great Skuas (AOT) in Orkney in 1982, 1992 and Seabird 2000 (1998–2002). ID corresponds to areas shown in Fig. 1b.

ID	Local area	1982 <sup>1</sup>	1992 <sup>2</sup>	Seabird 2000 (1998–2002)	Percentage change since 1982	Percentage change since 1992
1	Auskerry	1	1	1	0%	0%
2	Burray (Hunda)	0	2	1		-50%
3	Calf of Eday	4	3	10	150%	233%
4	Cava	nc	1	1		0%
5	Eday	4	9	16	300%	78%
6	Eynhallow	1	3	4	300%	33%
7	Fara	6	7	5	-17%	-29%
8	Flotta	0	2	9		350%
9	Gairsay	3	2	2	-33%	0%
10	Hoy & South Walls	1,573	1,900	1,973	25%	4%
11	Mainland	24	25	50	108%	100%
12	Papa Westray	2	3	8	300%	167%
13	Rousay	13	31	81	523%	161%
14	Shapinsay	nc	1	2		100%
15	South Ronaldsay	2	2	5	150%	150%
16	Stronsay (Including Linga Holm)	8	15	22	175%	47%
17	Sule Skerry	nc	nc	1		
18	Swona	nc	nc	3		
19	Westray	6	12	15	150%	25%
	Total	1,647	2,019	2,209	34%	9%

#### Notes

<sup>1</sup> Totals derived from raw data held in Seabird Colony Register database. Meek *et al.* (1985) gave a total of 1,652 AOT.

<sup>2</sup> Totals derived from raw data held in Seabird Colony Register database except the count for Burray (Hunda), which is taken from Meek *et al.* (1994). Meek *et al.* (1994) gave a total of 2,018.

nc not counted

Table 1c Numbers of breeding Great Skuas (AOT) in Shetland in 1985–86, 1992 and Seabird 2000 (1998–2002). ID corresponds to areas shown in Fig 1b.

ID	Local area	1985–86 <sup>1</sup>	1992 <sup>2</sup>	Seabird 2000 (1998–2002)	Percentage change since 1982	Percentage change since 1992
1	East Mainland	110	118	103	-6%	-13%
2	Fair Isle	84	110	143	70%	30%
3	Fetlar	291	523	593	104%	13%
4	Foula	2495	2174	2293	-8%	5%
5	North Mainland	348	218	293	-16%	34%
6	Papa Stour	14	24	48	243%	100%
7	South Mainland	421	1019	1454	245%	43%
8	Unst	1274	1567	1385	9%	-12%
9	West Mainland	96	73	135	41%	85%
10	Whalsay	1	2	15	1400%	650%
11	Yell	313	308	384	23%	25%
	Total	5447	6136	6846	26%	12%

#### Notes

<sup>1</sup> Data derived from raw data held in Seabird Colony Register database. Sears *et al.* (1992) gave a total of 5,647 AOT.

<sup>2</sup> Data taken from Sears *et al.* (1992).

Table 2 Changes in the number of breeding Great Skuas (AOT) at major colonies or areas 1969–2002.

Colony/Area	AOT				Rank			
	Operation Seafarer (1969–70)	1982/85–86	1992	Seabird 2000 (1998–2002)	Seabird 2000 (1998–2002)	1992	1982/85–86	Operation Seafarer (1969–70)
Foula	1,786	2,495	2,174	2,293	1	1	1	1
Hoy	72	1,563	1,900	1,973	2	2	2	7
Unst	384	1,508	1,569	1,385	3	3	3	2
Fetlar	275	291	523	593	4	4	6	3
Noss	210	378	424	432	5	5	4	4
Yell	125	313	308	384	6	6	5	5
Fitful Head	13	c.200	c.300	327	7	7	7	9
North Roe	62	140	133	299	8	9	8	8
Bressay	92	115	248	275	9	8	9	6
St Kilda	10 <sup>1</sup>	54	112	240 <sup>2</sup>	10	10	12	10
Handa	3	66	103	195	11	12	11	12
Fair Isle	8 <sup>3</sup>	84	110	143	12	11	10	11

#### Notes

<sup>1</sup> 1971

<sup>2</sup> 2000, Phillips (unpubl.)

<sup>3</sup> Fair Isle bird report

Table 3 International context.

<i>Country or region</i>	<i>Number of pairs</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Source</i>
Great Britain (Scotland)	9,600	1999–2002	Seabird 2000
Republic of Ireland	1	1999–2000	Seabird 2000
Faeroes	270	1980s–1990s	del Hoyo <i>et al.</i> (1996); Hagemeijer & Blair (1997)
Iceland	5,400	1984–85	Lund-Hansen & Lange (1991)
Norway	80	1995	Anker-Nilssen <i>et al.</i> (2000); Vader (1994); R.T. Barrett ( <i>in litt.</i> )
Norway (Bear Island)	50	1995	Anker-Nilssen <i>et al.</i> (2000)
Norway (Jan Mayen)	10	1995	Gabrielsen <i>et al.</i> (1997)
Norway (Svalbard)	300	1995	Anker-Nilssen <i>et al.</i> (2000)
Russia	10	1995	Hagemeijer & Blair (1997); Anker-Nilssen <i>et al.</i> (2000)

<i>Biogeographic region</i>	<i>Number of pairs</i>	<i>% GB</i>
World*	16,000	60.0%

\* Stroud *et al.* (2001)

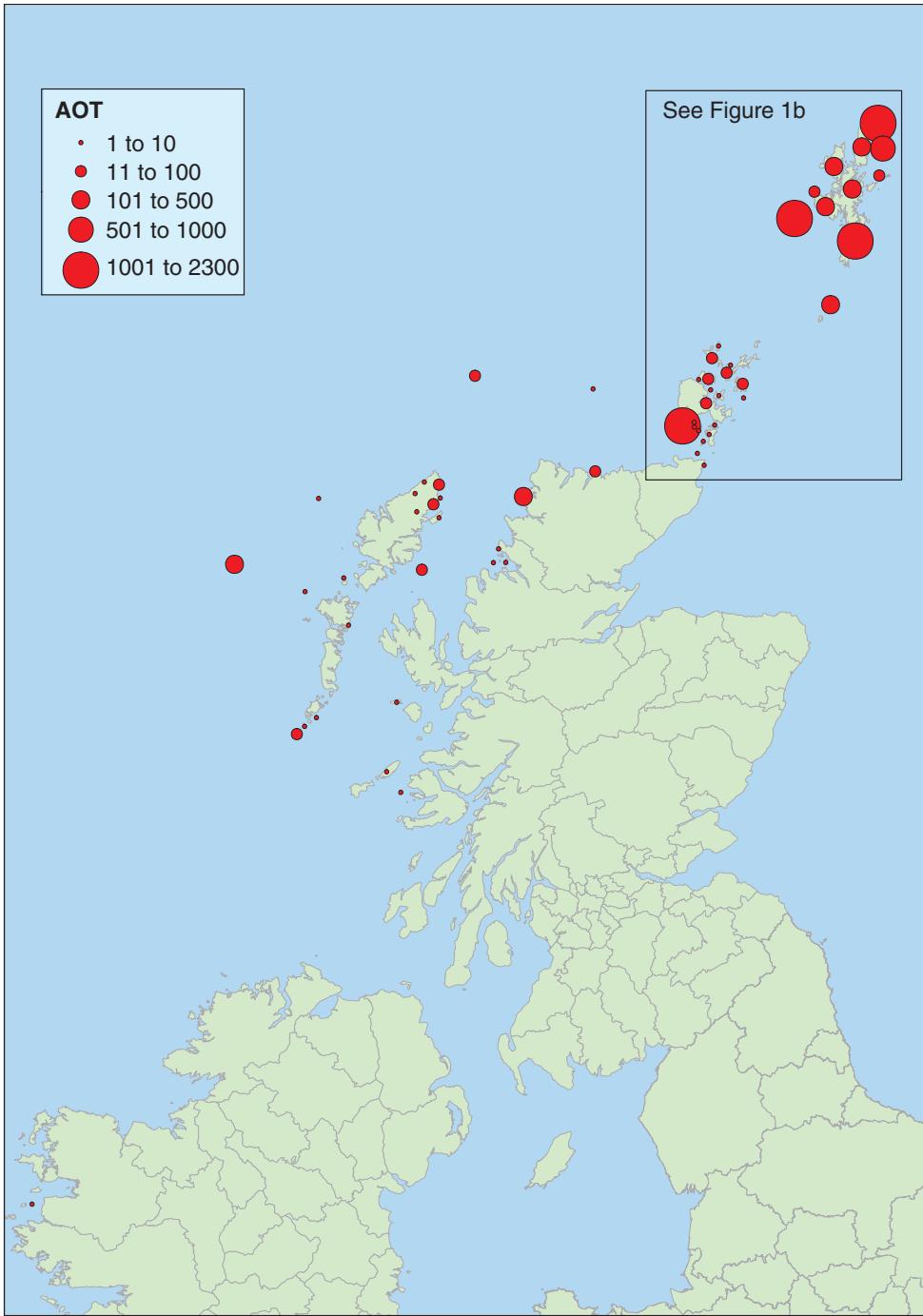


Figure 1a Abundance and distribution of breeding Great Skuas in Britain and Ireland 1998–2002.

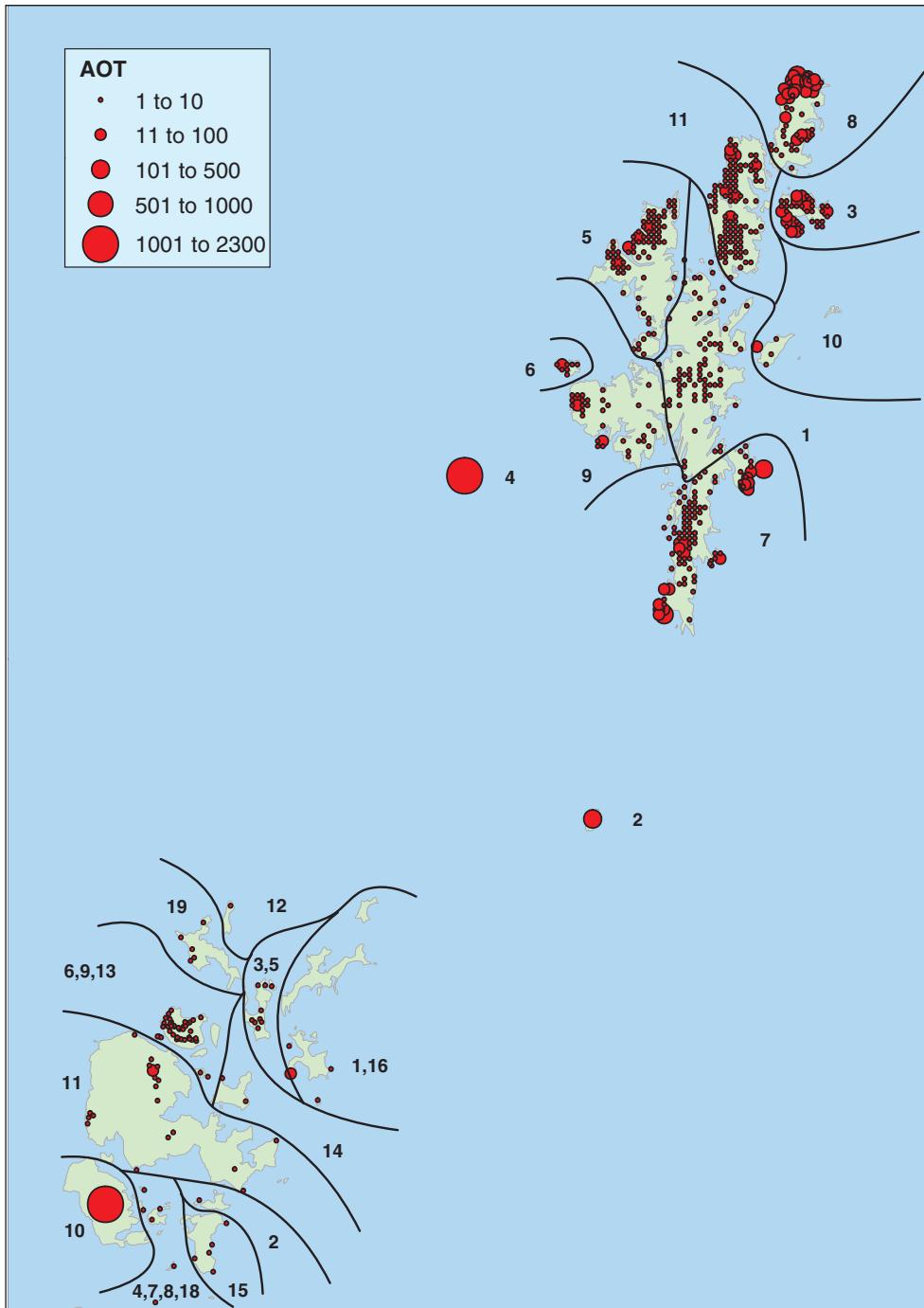


Figure 1b Abundance and distribution of breeding Great Skuas (AOT) in Orkney and Shetland 1998–2002. Numbers correspond to areas listed in Tables 1b, c; except Sule Skerry (no. 17, Orkney) that is situated 60km west of Orkney (see fig 1a).

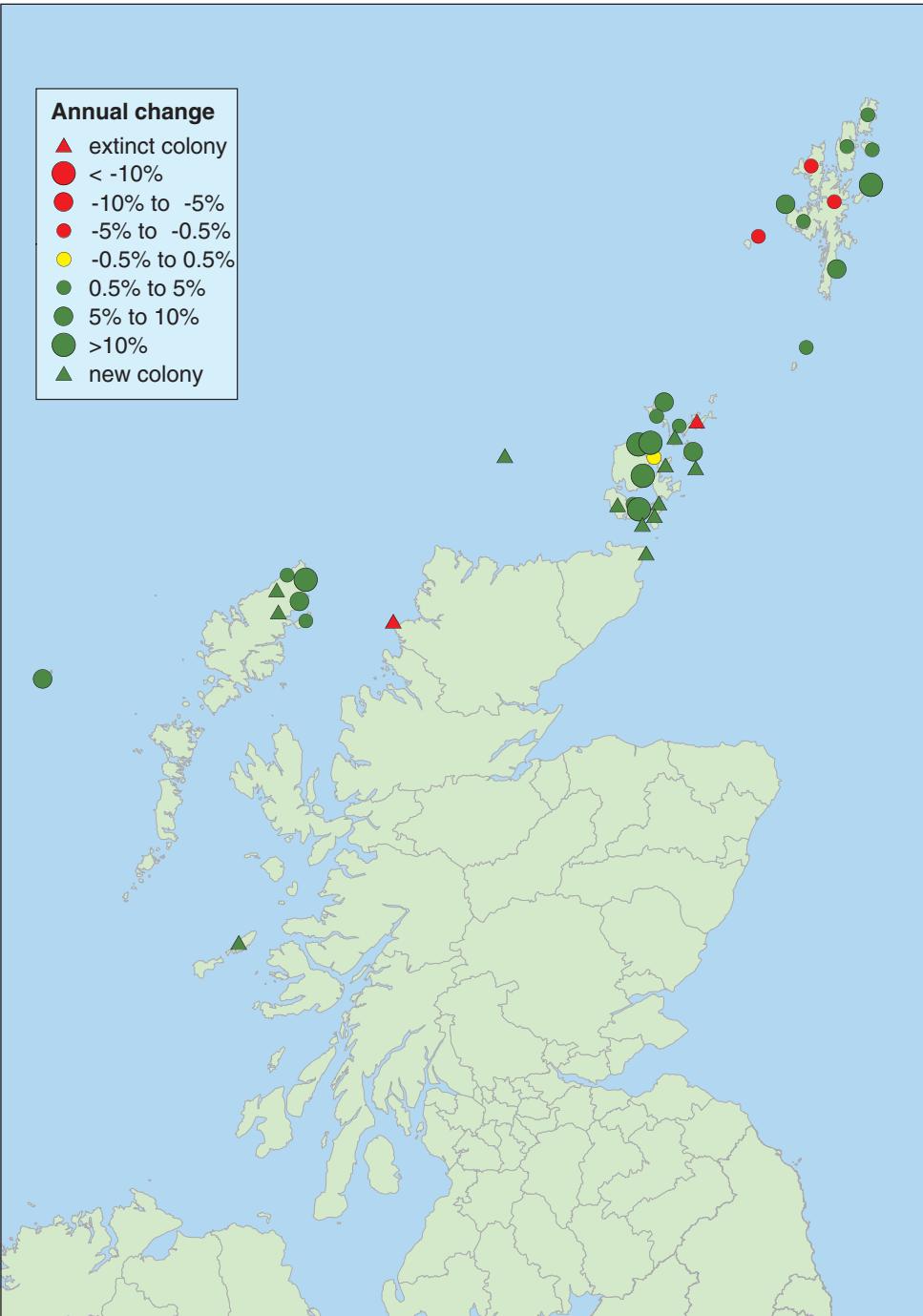


Figure 2 Changes in the number of breeding Great Skuas (AOT) at all colonies (except in Orkney and Shetland where change is denoted for each count area—see Fig. 1b and Tables 1b, c for definitions) from 1979–88 to 1998–2002.