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More information on the seabirds of Britain and Ireland can be accessed via  
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Table 1 Numbers of breeding Sandwich Terns (AON) in Britain and Ireland 1969–2002.

| Administrative area<br>or country                                   | Operation<br>Seafarer<br>(1969–70) | SCR Census<br>(1985–88)/<br>All Ireland<br>Tern Survey<br>(1984) <sup>1</sup> | Seabird 2000<br>(1998–2002)/<br>All Ireland<br>Tern Survey<br>(1995) | Percentage<br>change since<br>Seafarer | Percentage<br>change since<br>SCR/ITS<br>1984 | Annual percentage<br>change since<br>SCR/ITS<br>1984 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Shetland                                                            |                                    | 2                                                                             |                                                                      |                                        | –100%                                         |                                                      |
| Orkney                                                              | 293                                | 289                                                                           | 173                                                                  | –41%                                   | –40%                                          | –3.8%                                                |
| West coast Ross & Cromarty                                          |                                    |                                                                               | 1                                                                    |                                        |                                               |                                                      |
| East coast Ross & Cromarty                                          |                                    | 43                                                                            |                                                                      |                                        | –100%                                         |                                                      |
| <i>Ross &amp; Cromarty total</i>                                    | <i>1,000</i>                       | <i>43</i>                                                                     | <i>1</i>                                                             | <i>–100%</i>                           | <i>–98%</i>                                   |                                                      |
| Banff & Buchan                                                      |                                    | 130                                                                           |                                                                      |                                        | –100%                                         |                                                      |
| Gordon                                                              | 740                                | 1,082                                                                         | 524                                                                  | –29%                                   | –52%                                          | –5.4%                                                |
| North East Fife                                                     |                                    |                                                                               | 300                                                                  |                                        |                                               |                                                      |
| Dunfermline                                                         |                                    | 6                                                                             | 0                                                                    |                                        | –100%                                         |                                                      |
| City of Edinburgh                                                   | 270                                | 656                                                                           |                                                                      | –100%                                  | –100%                                         |                                                      |
| Wigtown                                                             |                                    | 2                                                                             | 70                                                                   |                                        | 3400%                                         | 31.3%                                                |
| Kyle & Carrick                                                      | 162                                | 3                                                                             |                                                                      | –100%                                  | –100%                                         |                                                      |
| Cunninghame                                                         |                                    | 1                                                                             |                                                                      |                                        | –100%                                         |                                                      |
| Western Isles–Comhairle nan eilean                                  |                                    | 72                                                                            |                                                                      |                                        |                                               |                                                      |
| <b>Scotland Total</b>                                               | <b>2,465</b>                       | <b>2,286</b>                                                                  | <b>1,068</b>                                                         | <b>–57%</b>                            | <b>–53%</b>                                   | <b>–5.7%</b>                                         |
| Northumberland                                                      | 2,428                              | 4,505                                                                         | 3,676                                                                | 51%                                    | –18%                                          | –1.6%                                                |
| Norfolk                                                             | 3,947                              | 3,564                                                                         | 4,275                                                                | 8%                                     | 20%                                           | 1.4%                                                 |
| Suffolk                                                             | 163                                | 201                                                                           | 7                                                                    | –96%                                   | –97%                                          | –21.3%                                               |
| Essex                                                               | 17                                 | 99                                                                            | 0                                                                    | –100%                                  | –100%                                         |                                                      |
| Kent                                                                |                                    | 350                                                                           | 333                                                                  |                                        | –5%                                           | –0.4%                                                |
| East Sussex                                                         |                                    | 155                                                                           |                                                                      |                                        | –100%                                         |                                                      |
| West Sussex                                                         |                                    | 27                                                                            |                                                                      |                                        | –100%                                         |                                                      |
| Hampshire                                                           | 228                                | 299                                                                           | 356                                                                  | 56%                                    | 19%                                           | 1.4%                                                 |
| Isle of Wight                                                       |                                    | 2                                                                             |                                                                      |                                        | –100%                                         |                                                      |
| Dorset                                                              |                                    | 25                                                                            | 31                                                                   |                                        | 24%                                           | 1.5%                                                 |
| Channel Islands                                                     |                                    | 2                                                                             |                                                                      | –100%                                  | –100%                                         |                                                      |
| Isles of Scilly                                                     |                                    | 20                                                                            |                                                                      |                                        | –100%                                         |                                                      |
| Cumbria                                                             |                                    | 595                                                                           | 340                                                                  |                                        | –43%                                          | –4.2%                                                |
| <b>England, Isle of Man<br/>and Channel Isles Total</b>             | <b>7,392</b>                       | <b>9,844</b>                                                                  | <b>9,018</b>                                                         | <b>22%</b>                             | <b>–8%</b>                                    | <b>–0.6%</b>                                         |
| Gwynedd                                                             |                                    | 450                                                                           | 450                                                                  |                                        | 0%                                            | 0.0%                                                 |
| <b>Wales Total</b>                                                  | <b>0</b>                           | <b>450</b>                                                                    | <b>450</b>                                                           |                                        | <b>0%</b>                                     | <b>0.0%</b>                                          |
| <b>Great Britain,<br/>Isle of Man and<br/>Channel Islands Total</b> | <b>9,857</b>                       | <b>12,580</b>                                                                 | <b>10,536</b>                                                        | <b>7%</b>                              | <b>–16%</b>                                   | <b>–1.3%</b>                                         |
| Co. Antrim                                                          |                                    | 149                                                                           | 348                                                                  |                                        | 134%                                          | 5.4                                                  |
| Co. Down                                                            | 1,211                              | 1,959                                                                         | 1,555                                                                | 28%                                    | –21%                                          | –1.4                                                 |
| Co. Fermanagh                                                       |                                    | 78                                                                            | 51                                                                   |                                        | –35%                                          | –2.6                                                 |
| Co. Wexford                                                         | 475                                | 241                                                                           | 1,048                                                                | 121%                                   | 335%                                          | 9.6                                                  |
| Co. Kerry                                                           | 63                                 |                                                                               |                                                                      | –100%                                  |                                               |                                                      |
| Co. Clare                                                           |                                    | 7                                                                             | 34 <sup>2</sup>                                                      |                                        | 386%                                          | 15.5                                                 |
| Co. Galway                                                          | 210                                | 443                                                                           | 304 <sup>2</sup>                                                     | 45%                                    | –31%                                          | –3.4                                                 |
| Co. Mayo                                                            | 56                                 | 385                                                                           | 151 <sup>2</sup>                                                     | 170%                                   | –61%                                          | –8.2                                                 |
| Co. Donegal                                                         | 201                                | 205                                                                           | 225 <sup>2</sup>                                                     | 12%                                    | 10%                                           | 0.8                                                  |
| <b>All–Ireland Total</b>                                            | <b>2,216</b>                       | <b>3,467</b>                                                                  | <b>3,716</b>                                                         | <b>68%</b>                             | <b>7%</b>                                     |                                                      |
| <b>Britain and Ireland<br/>Total</b>                                | <b>12,073</b>                      | <b>16,047</b>                                                                 | <b>14,252</b>                                                        | <b>18%</b>                             | <b>–11%</b>                                   |                                                      |

Notes

<sup>1</sup> All SCR counts in Ireland were conducted during the All Ireland Tern Survey in 1984 (Whilde, 1985)

<sup>2</sup> All counts in this administrative area were conducted during the All Ireland Tern Survey in 1995 (Hannon *et al.*, 1997)

Table 2 International context.

| Country or region                                  | Subspecies          | Number of pairs |         | Year             | Source                               |               |               |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------|------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                                    |                     | Min             | Max     |                  |                                      |               |               |
| Great Britain,<br>Isle of Man and<br>Channel Isles | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 11,000          | 11,000  | 2000             | Seabird 2000                         |               |               |
| All-Ireland                                        | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 3,700           | 3,700   | 1995, 1999, 2000 | Seabird 2000                         |               |               |
| Belguim                                            | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 1,550           | 1,550   | 2000             | Stienen pers. comm.                  |               |               |
| Bulgaria                                           | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 100             | 1,500   | 1990–97          | BirdLife International / EBCC (2000) |               |               |
| Denmark                                            | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 4,500           | 4,500   | 1993–96          | Grell (1998)                         |               |               |
| Estonia                                            | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 800             | 800     |                  | BirdLife International / EBCC (2000) |               |               |
| Finland                                            | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 1,100           | 1,100   |                  | Lloyd <i>et al.</i> (1991)           |               |               |
| France                                             | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 6,700           | 6,700   | 2000             | Yésou & Sadou (2003)                 |               |               |
| Germany                                            | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 9,700           | 9,700   | 1998             | Hälterlein <i>et al.</i> (2000)      |               |               |
| Greece                                             | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 0               | 50      |                  | BirdLife International / EBCC (2000) |               |               |
| Italy                                              | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 138             | 696     | 1988–97          | BirdLife International / EBCC (2000) |               |               |
| Netherlands                                        | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 14,500          | 14,500  | 1998–2000        | Stienen (2002)                       |               |               |
| Norway                                             | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 0               | 5       | 1990             | BirdLife International / EBCC (2000) |               |               |
| Poland                                             | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 0               | 300     |                  | BirdLife International / EBCC (2000) |               |               |
| Romania                                            | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 500             | 500     | 98               | BirdLife International / EBCC (2000) |               |               |
| Russia                                             | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 4,000           | 6,000   | 1984–88          | BirdLife International / EBCC (2000) |               |               |
| Spain                                              | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 755             | 755     | 1989             | BirdLife International / EBCC (2000) |               |               |
| Sweden                                             | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 300             | 400     | 1989             | BirdLife International / EBCC (2000) |               |               |
| Ukraine                                            | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 9,900           | 15,600  | 1998             | BirdLife International / EBCC (2000) |               |               |
| Turkmenistan                                       | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 22,000          | 22,000  | 1976             | Golovkin (1984)                      |               |               |
| USA                                                | <i>acuflavidus</i>  | 46,945          | 46,945  | 1975–95          | Shealer (1999)                       |               |               |
| Carribean                                          | <i>acuflavidus</i>  | 2,100           | 3,000   |                  | Norton (2000)                        |               |               |
| Carribean                                          | <i>eurygnatha</i>   | 9,100           | 9,100   |                  | Norton (2000)                        |               |               |
| Venezuela                                          | <i>eurygnatha</i>   | 1,100           | 1,900   |                  | Norton (2000)                        |               |               |
| Guyana                                             | <i>eurygnatha</i>   | 1,400           | 2,000   |                  | Norton (2000)                        |               |               |
| Brazil                                             | <i>eurygnatha</i>   | 500             | 1,000   | 1988             | Antas (1991)                         |               |               |
| Argentina                                          | <i>eurygnatha</i>   | 2,800           | 2,800   | 1993–95          | Yori <i>et al.</i> (1999)            |               |               |
| Biogeographic region                               | Subspecies          | Min             | Max     | Min % GB         | Max % GB                             | Min % Ireland | Max % Ireland |
| Europe*                                            | <i>sandvicensis</i> | 69,000          | 79,000  | 13.9%            | 15.9%                                | 4.7%          | 5.4%          |
| World                                              | All                 | 160,000         | 170,000 | 6.5%             | 6.9%                                 | 2.2%          | 2.3%          |

\*Stroud *et al.* (2000)

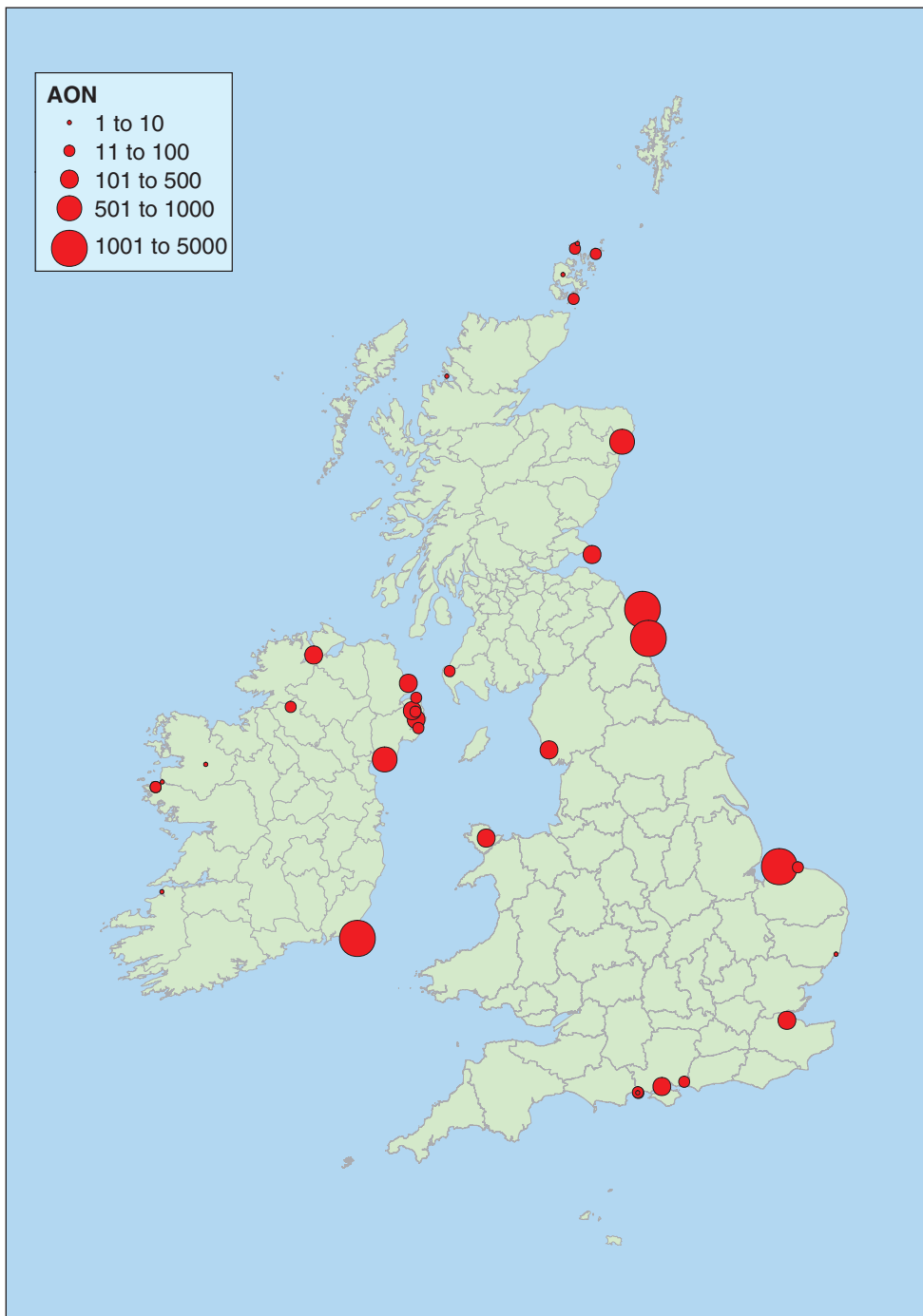


Figure 1 Abundance and distribution of breeding Sandwich Terns in Britain and Ireland 1998–2002.