

Report under The Conservation of Offshore  
Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017  
(as amended), Regulation 6A

**2019-2024**

Conservation status assessment for:

**Marine Birds**

**UK Offshore**



Department of  
Agriculture, Environment  
and Rural Affairs  
An Roinn  
Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil  
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe  
Department o'  
Fairmin, Environment  
an' Kintra Matthers



**For further information please contact:**

Joint Nature Conservation Committee. Quay House, 2 East Station Road, Fletton Quays, Peterborough, PE2 8YY. <https://jncc.gov.uk/>

This report was produced by JNCC in collaboration with the UK Country Nature Conservation Bodies (CNCBs) and country governments.

**This document should be cited as:**

JNCC, Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Natural England, Natural Resources Wales & NatureScot. (2026). Conservation status assessment for marine offshore birds.

This resource and any accompanying material (e.g. maps, data, images) is published by JNCC under the [Open Government Licence](#) (OGLv3.0 for public sector information), unless otherwise stated. Note that some images (maps, tables) may not be copyright JNCC; please check sources for conditions of re-use.

The views and recommendations presented in this resource do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of JNCC.

### **Important note - Please read**

- The information in this document represents the United Kingdom Marine Birds Reporting under The Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), Regulation 6A, for the period 2019-2024.
- It is based on supporting information provided by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee and the UK Country Nature Conservation Bodies (CNCBs), which is documented separately.
- Data on conservation status and extinction risk, population, and breeding distribution were compiled by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC). Data on pressures, measures and species action plans were compiled by the SNCB Reg 9A Birds Reporting Advisory Group (Northern Ireland Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA), JNCC, Natural England, Natural Resources Wales, NatureScot).
- Differences in data availability meant that assessments of conservation status, extinction risk, population size, and breeding distribution covered fewer species and populations than assessments of conservation measures and pressures.
- Information on pressures and conservation measures are filtered to include only those relevant to the UK offshore marine area. All other information applies to both inshore and offshore areas.
- The Habitats Regulations reporting 2019-2024 Approach Document provides details on how this supporting information contributed to the UK Offshore Report.

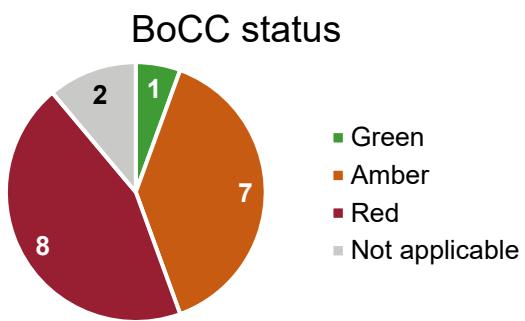
Further details on the approach to the Habitats Regulations Reporting 2019-2024 are available on the [JNCC website](#).

## Assessment Summary: Marine birds

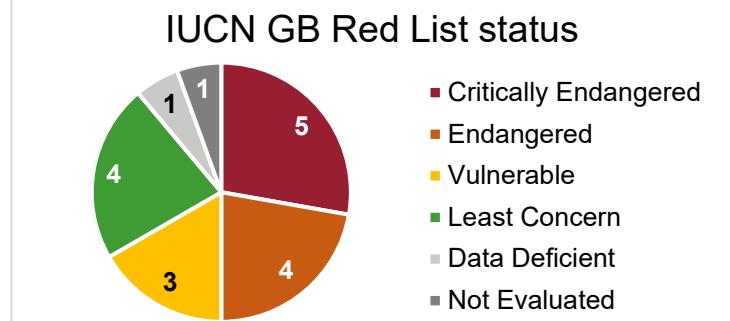
Assessments of conservation status and extinction risk, population, and breeding distribution cover 18 UK populations (14 breeding, 4 wintering) of 15 offshore marine bird species listed in the Annexes of the Birds Directive. See Section 1 for species details.

### Conservation status and extinction risk

Most assessed UK offshore marine bird populations are of conservation concern, with over half listed as Red or Amber under Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC; Figure 1) and two-thirds listed as threatened on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) GB Red List (Figure 2).



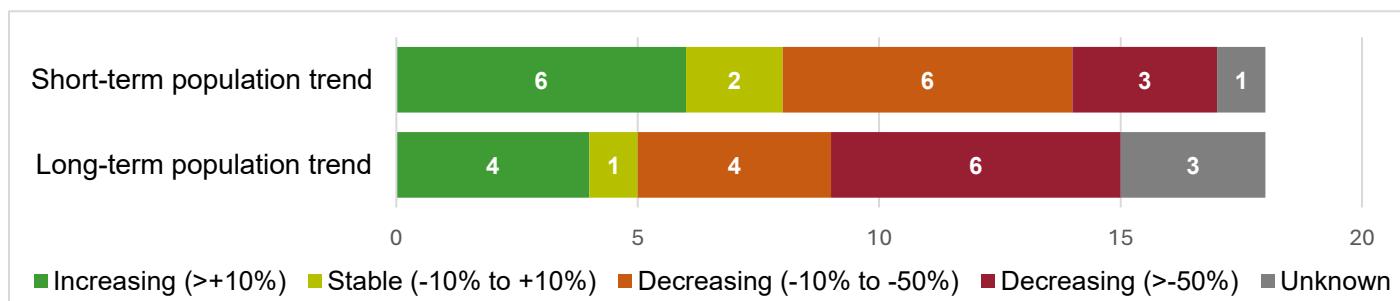
**Figure 1:** BoCC status of UK offshore marine bird populations (Stanbury et al., 2021, 2024).



**Figure 2:** IUCN GB Red List status of UK offshore marine bird populations (Stanbury et al., 2021, 2024).

### Population

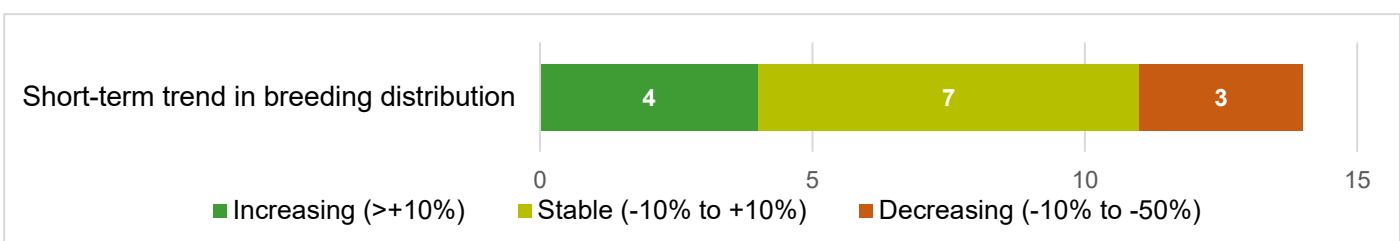
Most of the assessed UK offshore marine bird populations exhibit short-term population declines, three by over 50% (Figure 3). A third of assessed populations are increasing in the short term, with only a few stable or unknown. Long-term trends follow a similar pattern, with more populations decreasing than increasing.



**Figure 3:** Short- and long-term trends in UK offshore marine bird populations. Populations are classified as increasing (>+10%), stable (-10% to +10%), decreasing (-10% to -50%), decreasing (>-50%), or unknown. Trend periods differ between species due to variation in data availability.

### Breeding distribution

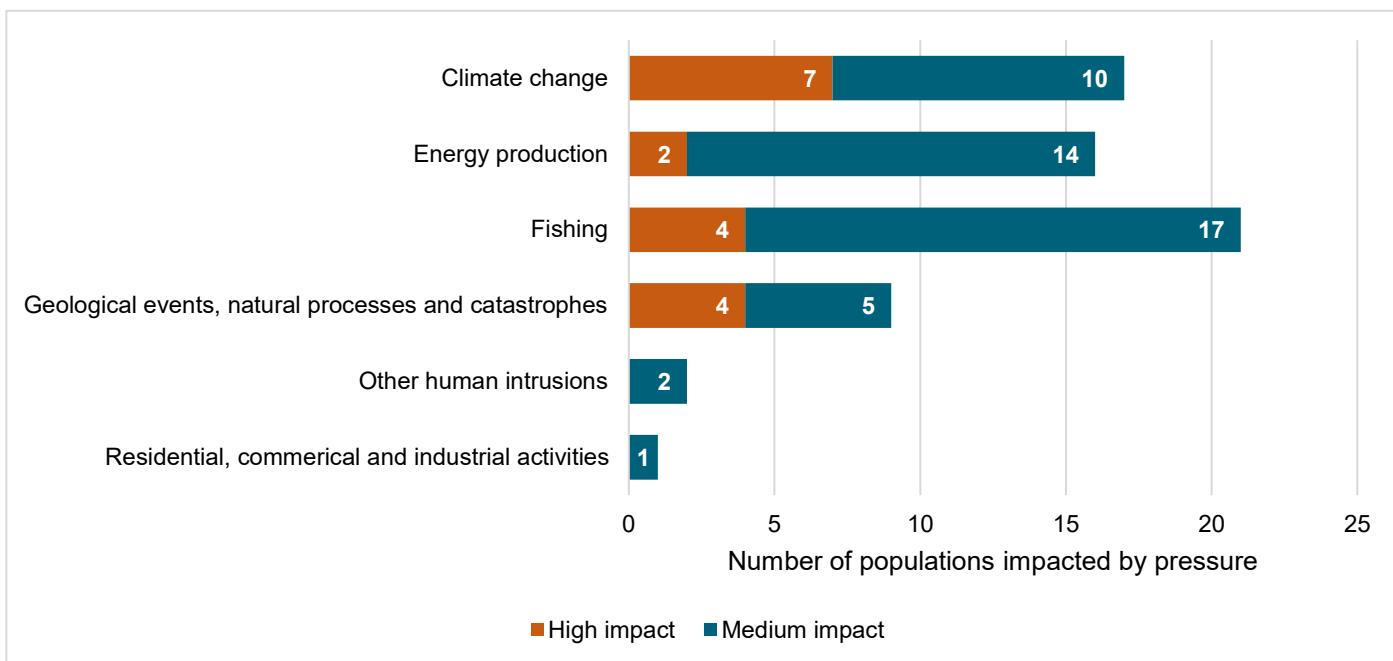
Almost 80% of the breeding distributions assessed have increasing or stable short-term trends, with three populations showing moderate declines (Figure 4).



**Figure 4:** Short-term trends in breeding distribution of UK offshore marine birds. Breeding distribution is categorised as increasing (>+10%, stable (-10% to +10%), or decreasing (-10% to -50%). Trend periods differ between populations due to variation in data availability.

## Pressures

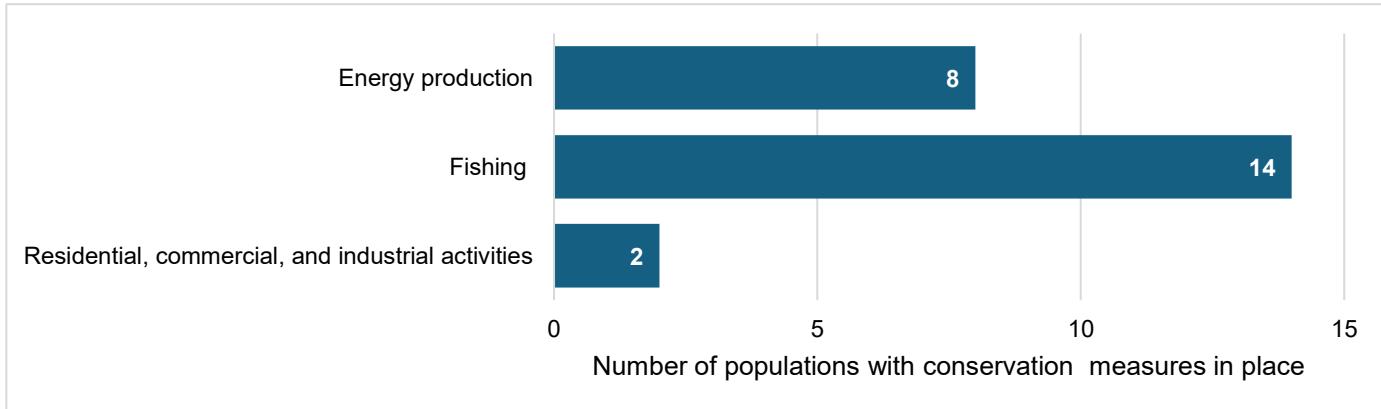
A total of 66 pressures were identified as having a medium or high impact on 30 populations (16 breeding, 12 wintering, 2 passage) of 14 species and 2 sub-species of marine bird in the UK offshore environment (Figure 5). Fishing, renewable energy, and climate change were the most frequently reported pressure categories, together accounting for almost 82% of all identified pressures.



**Figure 5:** Number of medium and high impact pressures recorded across categories affecting marine bird species in the UK offshore environment. These pressures reflect impacts occurring partially or exclusively in UK offshore areas.

## Conservation measures

A total of 24 conservation measures are in place to protect 12 populations (11 breeding, 1 wintering) of 11 species of marine bird from pressures in the UK offshore environment (Figure 6). Over 90% of these measures are associated with two of the key pressure categories in the offshore marine environment: fishing and energy production.



**Figure 6:** Number of conservation measures recorded across categories protecting marine bird species in the UK offshore environment. These conservation measures occur partially or exclusively in UK offshore areas.

## Species action plans and projects

The OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (OSPAR, 2024) contains actions pertaining to 21 populations (10 breeding, 10 wintering, 1 passage) of 12 species of UK offshore marine bird. Four high-level UK projects were identified: Biosecurity for LIFE, the Marine Protected Area Management and Monitoring Programme, Rathlin Acting For Tomorrow, the Seabirds Count, and the UK Winter Gull Survey.

## List of Sections

4. General information .....	7
5. Population .....	8
6. Breeding distribution .....	10
7. Pressures .....	11
8. Conservation measures.....	14
9. Species action plans and projects .....	15
10. Change in conservation status and extinction risk.....	20

## 4. General information

**Table 1:** Marine bird species assessed under Regulation 6A of The Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), including common and alternative names, scientific names, seasonal occurrence (breeding or wintering), and species identifiers (species and EURING codes).

Common name	Alternative species name	Species scientific name	Season	Species code	EURING code
Atlantic Puffin	Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	Breeding	A204	6540
Black-legged Kittiwake	Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	Breeding	A188	6020
Common Guillemot	Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>	Breeding	A887	6340
European Storm-petrel	Storm Petrel	<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>	Breeding	A014	520
Fulmar		<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	Breeding	A009	220
Great Black-backed Gull		<i>Larus marinus</i>	Breeding	A187	6000
Great Black-backed Gull		<i>Larus marinus</i>	Wintering	A187	6000
Great Skua		<i>Catharacta skua</i>	Breeding	A175	5690
Herring Gull		<i>Larus argentatus argenteus</i>	Breeding	A895	5928
Herring Gull		<i>Larus argentatus argenteus</i>	Wintering	A895	5928
Leach's Storm-petrel	Leach's Petrel	<i>Hydrobates leucorhous</i>	Breeding	A854	550
Lesser Black-backed Gull		<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Breeding	A489	5910
Lesser Black-backed Gull		<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Wintering	A489	5910
Little Auk		<i>Alle alle</i>	Wintering	A203	6470
Manx Shearwater		<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	Breeding	A013	460
Northern Gannet	Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	Breeding	A016	710
Parasitic Jaeger	Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	Breeding	A173	5670
Razorbill		<i>Alca torda</i>	Breeding	A200	6360

## 5. Population

**Table 2:** Best single values for total UK marine bird population sizes and short- and long-term trend period, direction and magnitude. Brackets around values denote low certainty. For methodological details and data sources, refer to the UK offshore marine birds reporting spreadsheet.

Common name	Season	Year or period	Population size unit	Population	Short-term trend period	Short-term trend direction	Short-term trend magnitude	Long-term trend period	Long-term trend direction	Long-term trend magnitude		
Atlantic Puffin	Breeding	2015-2021	number of pairs	474679	1998-2002 to 2015-2021	Decreasing	⬇️	-14%	1985-2021	Stable	—	-3%
Black-legged Kittiwake	Breeding	2015-2021	number of pairs	215913	2012-2022	Increasing	⬆️	30%	1985-2021	Decreasing	⬇️	-58%
Common Guillemot	Breeding	2015-2021	number of individuals	1265888	2012-2022	Increasing	⬆️	23%	1985-2021	Increasing	⬆️	17%
European Storm-petrel	Breeding	2015-2021	number of pairs	37655	2000-2021	Increasing	⬆️	(41%)	2000-2021	Increasing	⬆️	(+41%)
Fulmar	Breeding	2015-2021	number of pairs	319508	2012-2022	Decreasing	⬇️	-11%	1985-2021	Decreasing	⬇️	-38%
Great Black-backed Gull	Breeding	2015-2021	number of pairs	8021	2012-2022	Stable	—	-4%	1985-2021	Decreasing	⬇️	-54%
Great Black-backed Gull	Wintering	2003-2006	number of individuals	77000	2012-2023	Decreasing	⬇️	-52%	1997-2023	Decreasing	⬇️	-55%
Great Skua	Breeding	2023	number of pairs	2962	2000-2023	Decreasing	⬇️	-73%	1985-2023	Decreasing	⬇️	-61%
Herring Gull	Breeding	2015-2021	number of pairs	237573		Stable	—	1.5%		Unknown	?	
Herring Gull	Wintering	2003-2006	number of individuals	740000	2012-2023	Decreasing	⬇️	-23%	1997-2023	Decreasing	⬇️	-26%

Common name	Season	Year or period	Population size unit	Population	Short-term trend period	Short-term trend direction	Short-term trend magnitude	Long-term trend period	Long-term trend direction		Long-term trend magnitude
Leach's Storm-petrel	Breeding	2015-2021	number of pairs	9903	2000-2021	Decreasing	⬇️	-79%	2000-2021	Decreasing	⬇️ -79%
Lesser Black-backed Gull	Breeding	2015-2021	number of pairs	324465	2012-2022	Decreasing	⬇️	-30%		Unknown	?
Lesser Black-backed Gull	Wintering	2003-2006	number of individuals	130000	2012-2023	Decreasing	⬇️	-35%	1997-2023	Decreasing	⬇️ -46%
Little Auk	Wintering	2013-2018	number of individuals	Unknown		Unknown	?			Unknown	?
Manx Shearwater	Breeding	2015-2021	number of pairs	786743	1998-2002 to 2015-2021	Increasing	⬆️	(163%)	2000-2021	Increasing	⬆️ (+163%)
Northern Gannet	Breeding	2021	number of pairs	337858	2005 to 2013-2021	Increasing	⬆️	39%	1970-2021	Increasing	⬆️ 199%
Parasitic Jaeger	Breeding	2015-2021	number of pairs	727	2012-2022	Decreasing*	⬇️	-21%	1985-2021	Decreasing	⬇️ -79%
Razorbill	Breeding	2015-2021	number of individuals	225015	2012-2022	Increasing	⬆️	66%	1985-2021	Increasing	⬆️ 46%

## 6. Breeding distribution

**Table 3:** UK breeding distribution surface area and short-term trend period, direction, and trend magnitude estimates for offshore marine bird species. For methodological details and data sources, refer to the UK offshore marine birds reporting spreadsheet.

Common name	Breeding distribution period	Breeding distribution surface area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Short-term trend period	Short-term trend direction		Trend magnitude estimate
Atlantic Puffin	2015-2021	14600	2000-2020	Stable	—	3.50%
Black-legged Kittiwake	2015-2021	19900	2000-2020	Stable	—	-8.70%
Common Guillemot	2007-2011	20000	2000-2020	Stable	—	5.80%
European Storm-petrel	2015-2021	5600	2000-2020	Increasing	↑	16.70%
Fulmar	2015-2021	41700	2000-2020	Decreasing	↓	-15.10%
Great Black-backed Gull	2015-2021	44900	2000-2020	Stable	—	1.40%
Great Skua	2015-2021	14100	2000-2020	Increasing		43.90%
Herring Gull	2015-2021	53800*	2000-2020	Stable**	—	-5.10%
Leach's Storm-petrel	2015-2021	600	2000-2020	Decreasing	↓	-25%
Lesser Black-backed Gull	2015-2021	29000*	2000-2020	Stable**	—	-7.60%
Manx Shearwater	2015-2021	1800	2000-2020	Increasing	↑	12.50%
Northern Gannet	2015-2021	1900	2000-2020	Increasing	↑	26.70%
Parasitic Jaeger	2015-2021	8400	2000-2020	Decreasing	↓	-10.60%
Razorbill	2015-2021	22600	2000-2020	Stable	—	-1.30%

\* Value includes urban and natural nesting sites.

\*\* Short-term trend values refer only to natural nesting sites.

## 7. Pressures

**Table 4:** Pressures impacting breeding (B), wintering (W), and passage (P) populations of UK offshore marine bird species. Pressure categories and codes are taken from EU Birds Directive 2019-2024 reporting guidelines. For additional information and data sources, refer to the UK offshore marine birds reporting spreadsheet.

Category	Pressure	Pressure ranking	Pressure timing	Populations impacted
Energy production processes and related infrastructure development	PD01: Wind, wave and tidal power (including infrastructure)	High	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	Black-legged Kittiwake (W), Northern Gannet (B)
		Medium	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	Atlantic Puffin (B+W), Black-legged Kittiwake (B), Common Guillemot (B), Great Black-backed Gull (B+W), Great Skua (P), Herring Gull (B), Lesser Black-backed Gull (B+W), Northern Gannet (W), Razorbill (B+W)
	PD05: Development and operation of energy production plants (including infrastructure)	Medium	Only in future	European Storm-petrel (B)
Development, construction and use of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas	PF10: Residential, commercial and industrial activities and structures generating marine pollution	Medium	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	Manx Shearwater (W)
Extraction and cultivation of biological living resources (other than agriculture and forestry)	PG01: Marine fish and shellfish harvesting causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species (professional)	High	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	Atlantic Puffin (B), Black-legged Kittiwake (B)
		Medium	Ongoing	Atlantic Puffin (W)
		Medium	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	Common Guillemot (W), Fulmar (B), Razorbill (B+W)
		Medium	Only in future	Common Guillemot subspecies <i>aalge</i> (W)
	PG13: Bycatch and incidental killing (due to	High	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	Fulmar (B+W)

Category	Pressure	Pressure ranking	Pressure timing	Populations impacted
	fishing and hunting activities)	Medium	Ongoing	Atlantic Puffin (W), Great Black-backed Gull (B+W), Great Skua (P), Lesser Black-backed Gull (W), Razorbill (W)
			Ongoing and likely to be in the future	Common Guillemot (B+W), Lesser Black-backed Gull (B), Northern Gannet (B+W)
Military action, public safety measures, and other human intrusions	PH08: Other human intrusions and disturbance not mentioned above	Medium	Ongoing	Lesser Black-backed Gull (B)
			Ongoing and likely to be in the future	Herring Gull (B)
Climate change	PJ01: Temperature changes and extremes due to climate change	High	Ongoing	Parasitic Jaeger (B)
			Ongoing and likely to be in the future	Black-legged Kittiwake (B+W), Great Black-backed Gull (B)
		Medium	Only in future	Herring Gull (B), Lesser Black-backed Gull (B)
			Ongoing and likely to be in the future	Atlantic Puffin (B), Fulmar (B), Leach's Storm-petrel (B)
			Only in future	Common Guillemot (B), Common Guillemot subspecies <i>aalge</i> (B)
	PJ11: Desynchronisation of biological / ecological processes due to climate change	Medium	Only in future	Common Guillemot (B), Common Guillemot subspecies <i>aalge</i> (B) and <i>albionis</i> (B)
	PJ12: Decline or extinction of related species (e.g. food source / prey, predator / parasite, symbiote, etc.) due to climate change	High	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	Parasitic Jaeger (B)
Geological events, natural processes and catastrophes	PM07: Natural processes without direct or indirect influence from human	High	Only in future	Common Guillemot (B), Common Guillemot subspecies <i>aalge</i> (B)
			Ongoing	Parasitic Jaeger (B)
			Ongoing and likely to be in the future	European Storm-petrel (B), Leach's Storm-petrel (B), Manx Shearwater (B)

Category	Pressure	Pressure ranking	Pressure timing	Populations impacted
activities or climate change		Medium	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	Atlantic Puffin (W), Common Guillemot (W), Herring Gull (B), Razorbill (W)
			Only in future	Common Guillemot subspecies <i>aalge</i> (W)

## 8. Conservation measures

**Table 5:** Conservation measures in place to protect breeding (B) and wintering (W) populations of UK offshore marine bird species. Conservation measure categories and codes are taken from EU Birds Directive 2019-2024 reporting guidelines. Little Auk has no associated pressures identified and thus no conservation measures are reported. For additional information on conservation measures, refer to the UK offshore marine birds reporting spreadsheet.

Category	Conservation measure	Associated species populations
Resource extraction and energy production	MC03: Adapt/manage renewable energy installation, facilities and operation (excl. hydropower and abstraction activities)	Atlantic Puffin (B), Black-legged Kittiwake (B), Common Guillemot (B), Great Black-backed Gull (B), Herring Gull (B), Lesser Black-backed Gull (B), Northern Gannet (B), Razorbill (B)
Residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructures, operations and activities	MF06: Reduce/eliminate marine pollution from industrial, commercial, residential and recreational areas and activities (incl. contamination with litter)	Fulmar (B), Northern Gannet (B)
Extraction and cultivation of biological living resources	MG01: Management of professional/commercial fishing, shellfish and seaweed harvesting (incl. restoration of habitats)	Atlantic Puffin (B), Black-legged Kittiwake (B), Common Guillemot (B), Fulmar (B), Northern Gannet (B+W), Parasitic Jaeger (B), Razorbill (B)
	MG05: Reduce bycatch and incidental killing of non-target species	Atlantic Puffin (B), Common Guillemot (B), Great Skua (B), Northern Gannet (B), Northern Gannet (W), Razorbill (B)

## 9. Species action plans and projects

**Table 6.** UK and UK-signed international species action plans and high-level projects for breeding, wintering, and passage populations of offshore marine bird species during the 2019–2024 reporting period.

Common name	Season	UK or UK-signed international species action plan	High-level UK projects
Atlantic Puffin	Breeding	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Biosecurity for LIFE: Safeguarding the UK's globally important seabird island SPAs from invasive alien species</li> <li>2. Marine Protected Area Management and Monitoring Programme (MarPAMM)</li> <li>3. Rathlin Acting For Tomorrow: Removing invasive non-native ferrets and rats from the Rathlin Island SPA</li> <li>4. Seabirds Count: A census of breeding seabirds in Britain and Ireland (2015-2021)</li> </ol>
Atlantic Puffin	Wintering	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	
Black-legged Kittiwake	Breeding	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Biosecurity for LIFE: Safeguarding the UK's globally important seabird island SPAs from invasive alien species</li> <li>2. Marine Protected Area Management and Monitoring Programme (MarPAMM)</li> <li>3. Rathlin Acting For Tomorrow: Removing invasive non-native ferrets and rats from the Rathlin Island SPA</li> <li>4. Seabirds Count: A census of breeding seabirds in Britain and Ireland (2015-2021)</li> </ol>
Black-legged Kittiwake	Wintering	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	

Common name	Season	UK or UK-signed international species action plan	High-level UK projects
Common Guillemot	Breeding	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Biosecurity for LIFE: Safeguarding the UK's globally important seabird island SPAs from invasive alien species</li> <li>2. Marine Protected Area Management and Monitoring Programme (MarPAMM)</li> <li>3. Rathlin Acting For Tomorrow: Removing invasive non-native ferrets and rats from the Rathlin Island SPA</li> <li>4. Seabirds Count: A census of breeding seabirds in Britain and Ireland (2015-2021)</li> </ol>
Common Guillemot	Wintering	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	
European Storm-petrel	Breeding	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Biosecurity for LIFE: Safeguarding the UK's globally important seabird island SPAs from invasive alien species</li> <li>2. Marine Protected Area Management and Monitoring Programme (MarPAMM)</li> <li>3. Seabirds Count: A census of breeding seabirds in Britain and Ireland (2015-2021)</li> </ol>
Fulmar	Breeding	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Biosecurity for LIFE: Safeguarding the UK's globally important seabird island SPAs from invasive alien species</li> <li>2. Marine Protected Area Management and Monitoring Programme (MarPAMM)</li> <li>3. Rathlin Acting For Tomorrow: Removing invasive non-native ferrets and rats from the Rathlin Island SPA</li> <li>4. Seabirds Count: A census of breeding seabirds in Britain and Ireland (2015-2021)</li> </ol>
Fulmar	Wintering	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	
Great Black-backed Gull	Breeding	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Biosecurity for LIFE: Safeguarding the UK's globally important seabird island SPAs from invasive alien species</li> <li>2. Marine Protected Area Management and Monitoring Programme (MarPAMM)</li> <li>3. Seabirds Count: A census of breeding seabirds in Britain and Ireland (2015-2021)</li> </ol>

Common name	Season	UK or UK-signed international species action plan	High-level UK projects
Great Black-backed Gull	Wintering	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	UK Winter Gull Survey (WinGS) 2023/24-2024/25
Great Skua	Wintering	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	
Herring Gull	Breeding	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Biosecurity for LIFE: Safeguarding the UK's globally important seabird island SPAs from invasive alien species</li> <li>2. Marine Protected Area Management and Monitoring Programme (MarPAMM). €6.4 million EU funded cross-border environment project (2018 to 2022)</li> <li>3. Rathlin Acting For Tomorrow: Removing invasive non-native ferrets and rats from the Rathlin Island SPA</li> <li>4. Seabirds Count: A census of breeding seabirds in Britain and Ireland (2015-2021)</li> </ol>
Herring Gull	Wintering	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	UK Winter Gull Survey (WinGS) 2023/24-2024/25
Lesser Black-backed Gull	Breeding	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Biosecurity for LIFE: Safeguarding the UK's globally important seabird island SPAs from invasive alien species</li> <li>2. Marine Protected Area Management and Monitoring Programme (MarPAMM)</li> <li>3. Rathlin Acting For Tomorrow: Removing invasive non-native ferrets and rats from the Rathlin Island SPA</li> <li>4. Seabirds Count: A census of breeding seabirds in Britain and Ireland (2015-2021)</li> </ol>
Lesser Black-backed Gull	Wintering	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	UK Winter Gull Survey (WinGS) 2023/24-2024/25

Common name	Season	UK or UK-signed international species action plan	High-level UK projects
Manx Shearwater	Breeding	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Biosecurity for LIFE: Safeguarding the UK's globally important seabird island SPAs from invasive alien species</li> <li>2. Marine Protected Area Management and Monitoring Programme (MarPAMM)</li> <li>3. Seabirds Count: A census of breeding seabirds in Britain and Ireland (2015-2021)</li> </ol>
Manx Shearwater	Wintering	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	
Northern Gannet	Breeding	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Biosecurity for LIFE: Safeguarding the UK's globally important seabird island SPAs from invasive alien species</li> <li>2. Marine Protected Area Management and Monitoring Programme (MarPAMM)</li> <li>3. Seabirds Count: A census of breeding seabirds in Britain and Ireland (2015-2021)</li> </ol>
Northern Gannet	Wintering	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	
Parasitic Jaeger	Wintering /Passage	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	
Razorbill	Breeding	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Biosecurity for LIFE: Safeguarding the UK's globally important seabird island SPAs from invasive alien species</li> <li>2. Marine Protected Area Management and Monitoring Programme (MarPAMM)</li> <li>3. Rathlin Acting For Tomorrow: Removing invasive non-native ferrets and rats from the Rathlin Island SPA</li> <li>4. Seabirds Count: A census of breeding seabirds in Britain and Ireland (2015-2021)</li> </ol>
Razorbill	Wintering	OSPAR Regional Action Plan for marine birds in the North-east	

Common name	Season	UK or UK-signed international species action plan	High-level UK projects
		Atlantic (2024-2030). 2024. OSPAR.	

## 10. Change in conservation status and extinction risk

**Table 7:** Conservation status of UK offshore marine bird species based on BoCC and IUCN GB Red List assessments. The most recent BoCC5/5a and IUCN GB2/2a status classifications for breeding and wintering populations are provided alongside changes since previous assessments: BoCC4 (Eaton *et al.*, 2015) and GB1 (Stanbury *et al.*, 2017). A value of 0 means no change since BoCC4/GB1. Negative numbers denote the number of categories the population has moved towards a higher level of concern (e.g., from Amber to Red). Status categories follow Stanbury *et al.*'s BoCC5a and IUCN GB2a assessments (2024), with the exception of Little Auk, which was last assessed in 2021 (BoCC 5/IUCN GB2).

Common name	Season	BoCC5/5a UK status	Change since BoCC4 UK	IUCN GB2/2a status	Change since GB1
Atlantic Puffin	Breeding	Red	0	Critically Endangered	-4
Black-legged Kittiwake	Breeding	Red	0	Endangered	1
Common Guillemot	Breeding	Amber	0	Vulnerable	-2
European Storm-petrel	Breeding	Amber	0	Least Concern	0
Fulmar	Breeding	Amber	0	Critically Endangered	-4
Great Black-backed Gull	Breeding	Red	-1	Critically Endangered	-4
Great Black-backed Gull	Wintering	N/A	N/A	Endangered	0
Great Skua	Breeding	Red	-1	Vulnerable	-2
Herring Gull	Breeding	Red	0	Endangered	N/A*
Herring Gull	Wintering	Red	0	Endangered	0
Leach's Storm-petrel	Breeding	Red	-1	Critically Endangered	-4
Lesser Black-backed Gull	Breeding	Amber	0	Least Concern	N/A
Lesser Black-backed Gull	Wintering	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A*

Common name	Season	BoCC5/5a UK status	Change since BoCC4 UK	IUCN GB2/2a status	Change since GB1
Little Auk	Wintering	Green	0	Data Deficient	N/A
Manx Shearwater	Breeding	Amber	0	Least Concern	0
Northern Gannet	Breeding	Amber	0	Least Concern	0
Parasitic Jaeger	Breeding	Red	0	Critically Endangered	0
Razorbill	Breeding	Amber	0	Vulnerable	-2