

Annex A – General report format (Article 12)

0. Member State

UK

1. Main achievements under the Birds Directive

1.1 Text in national language

This general implementation report covers metropolitan UK and Gibraltar. It complements the bird species' status and trends reports under Annex B of the EU reporting format.

There are a number of additional appendices which provide a breakdown of the all-UK summary statistics in Sections 3 and 4 into the constituent metropolitan UK and Gibraltar information.

- Appendix I: Section 3 – Natura 2000 (SPAs) - site classification (Art. 4): summary statistics for metropolitan UK only (based on the UK Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies' method to define marine sites as 'sites with marine components', which is the UK's method for defining the UK Marine Protected Area network)
- Appendix II: Section 3 – Natura 2000 (SPAs) - site classification (Art. 4): summary statistics for metropolitan UK only
- Appendix III: Section 3 – Natura 2000 (SPAs) - site classification (Art. 4): summary statistics for Gibraltar only
- Appendix IV: Section 4 – Set of conservation measures and management plans for Natura 2000 sites (SPAs): summary statistics for metropolitan UK only
- Appendix V: Section 4 – Set of conservation measures and management plans for Natura 2000 sites (SPAs): summary statistics for Gibraltar only

Metropolitan UK

The UK has recently published the third review of its national network of Special Protection Areas (SPAs) under the EU Birds Directive. The review is believed to be the first review of a complete national protected area network assessed against an explicit baseline. Numbers of all qualifying species on SPAs in the 2000s were assessed against their status in the 1990s. SPA provision was assessed in detail for 151 species and full details are in the final review published on JNCC's website (<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-7309>).

For non-breeding waterbirds, the network provides targeted conservation measures for 2,488,000 waterbirds, 37% of the national total, as well as for 70% of UK's breeding seabirds (2,471,000 pairs). For some species, the sites hold the whole UK population including breeding species such as the Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra* (found on northern Scottish peatlands), and the burrow-nesting seabird Leach's Petrel (which nests on remote Atlantic islands). Very large proportions of non-breeding waterbirds also occur within the site network, including over 80% of the UK's Red Knot *Calidris canutus*, Dunlin *Calidris alpina* and Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*, and over 90% of the Svalbard-breeding population of Barnacle Geese which winter on the Solway coast. Some of these sites also hold very significant proportions of species' global populations: the islands of Rum and Skomer, off the western coasts of Scotland and Wales respectively, hold 83% of the world's breeding Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*.

The Review assessed how the sites were monitored; most data (85%) came from counts made by volunteers organised through schemes co-funded by government and a range of non-governmental organisations.

Comparison with numbers in the 1990s showed that some species have undergone substantial changes in their distributions, leading both to increases and decreases within the site network.

The Review was essentially a gap analysis – assessing the sufficiency of the network for relevant species. The second phase of the Review concluded in 2017, with advice being provided to government and its conservation agencies on how identified insufficiencies could be addressed for the species concerned. The third phase is continuing work to implement the recommendations made by the Review.

Alongside the current review of terrestrial SPAs, work continues to classify marine SPAs, with 14 SPAs for seabirds either newly classified or extended into the marine environment since 2013 (listed in section 2.2 below).

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With respect to Article 10, work has continued to consolidate and further improve surveillance of birds in the UK (in both terrestrial and marine environments), typically through support of monitoring schemes co-funded by both government agencies and the non-government sector working in partnership. Bird surveillance and monitoring in the UK depends critically on the inputs of volunteers. Particular emphasis has been given to maintaining levels of surveillance in times of economic constraint which is absolutely essential to maintain basic levels of data collection of value not just for bird conservation but also wider environmental monitoring needs.

A future monitoring programme for marine birds has now been recommended and includes:

1. Continuation and, where appropriate, enhancement of existing monitoring schemes which provide annual trends in abundance and breeding success of seabirds; and trends in the number of waterbirds using coastal sites to breed, stopover on migration or to over-winter;
2. Monitoring and surveillance of inshore and offshore aggregations of seabirds and waterbirds at sea and integration of these with the above surveillance schemes (including coordinated monitoring of the existing/proposed marine SPA network);
3. Integration with assessment of seabird sensitivity and vulnerability, and indicator development work for Marine Strategy Framework Directive (e.g. assessing the scale of marine bird bycatch in fisheries).

If the monitoring programme is approved, it will be implemented during the 2019 – 2025 reporting period.

Considerable emphasis has been given to the development and implementation of agri-environment schemes (AES) to address declines of formerly-common farmland birds. In England, as of May 2018, there were 26,343 AES agreements, covering 3,039,543 ha, and other schemes operate elsewhere in the UK. Such schemes have been of major importance in the recovery of threatened species such as Corncrake *Crex crex* and Cirl Bunting *Emberiza cirius*. Recent research funded by Defra/NE also indicates that agri-environment schemes have been beneficial to a range of priority farmland bird species, showing the potential for these schemes to reverse the national declines if deployed at the appropriate scale across England.

The implementation of Action Plans established under the UK Biodiversity Action Planning (UK BAP) process (<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5155>) helped reverse the formerly negative national trends for several species including Bittern *Botaurus stellaris*, Corncrake, Stone Curlew *Burhinus oedichnemus* and Cirl Bunting and this work continues through the Action for Birds in England programme, run by NE and RSPB and which includes species recovery research underway to benefit Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*, Corn Bunting, Curlew, Ring Ouzel and Willow Tit. Yet other priority species continue to decline - such as Bewick's Swan *Cygnus columbianus bewickii*; Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*; Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis*; Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*; Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris*; Twite *Linaria flavirostris* and Willow Tit *Poecile montanus* – all of which have short-term UK declines of >50% during the current reporting period.

Most work which was previously carried out under the UK BAP is now focused at country level. Further information about the country biodiversity strategies can be found through the country-level biodiversity web-page. The Environment Departments of all four governments in the UK work together through the Four Countries Biodiversity Group. Together they have agreed, and Ministers have signed, a framework of priorities for UK-level work for the Convention on Biological Diversity. Published on 17 July 2012, the 'UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework' covers the period from 2011 to 2020. Information on the UK Biodiversity Framework can be found at http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/UK_Post2010_Bio-Fwork.pdf.

In the marine environment, domestic implementation of both nature Directives through domestic legislation has afforded protection to qualifying species of those SPAs classified for breeding seabirds. Identification of fully marine SPA is now complete, and many sites are classified, with the remainder having been consulted upon. Decisions on designations will be made shortly. This will contribute to the conservation of seabirds (many of which breed within existing terrestrial SPAs) and non-breeding waterbirds.

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The Scottish Government is developing a Seabird Conservation Strategy which will take an overview of pressures and threats facing marine birds, the existing conservation action underway and provide a direction for future policy and management that would most effectively mitigate impacts.

DEFRA published 'Risk assessment of seabird bycatch in UK waters' in 2017. This will help to assess the relative risk to marine birds in UK waters of being caught and killed by commercial fishing gear. More recently, options for assessment and monitoring of seabird bycatch in UK waters have been identified and are being considered by governments. Furthermore, DEFRA has commissioned JNCC to draft a Plan of Action to address seabird bycatch in UK waters, working with Devolved Administrations, the fishing industry and all interested parties. Together these initiatives will enable governments to assess whether bycatch will prevent the achievement of Good Environmental Status (GES) under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD - Directive 2008/56/EC) and to progress the aim of initiatives including the EU Action Plan for reducing bycatch.

Particular priority has been given to actions that seek to reduce human-wildlife conflicts with protected birds given that such conflicts may act as drivers for illegal persecution. These include the continued support of the Partnership against Wildlife Crime (section 2.4 below), and an initiative, formerly led by the Environment Council, to seek solutions to perceived conflicts (where these exist) relating to the presence of Hen Harriers *Circus cyaneus* on moorland managed for Red Grouse *Lagopus lagopus scotica*. Establishment of a practical model of co-existence is being undertaken through the Langholm Moor Demonstration Project launched in 2007. Information can be found at: <http://www.langholmproject.com>. A joint action plan to increase the English Hen Harrier population has been produced by the DEFRA-led Upland Stakeholder Forum Hen Harrier sub-group, and can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/increasing-hen-harrier-populations-in-england-action-plan>.

A number of LIFE projects have been operational during the reporting period and have continued to help improve the quality of bird habitats. These include:

- Biosecurity for LIFE: Safeguarding the UK's globally important seabird island SPAs from invasive alien species (LIFE17 GIE/UK/000572), August 2018 to July 2022.
- Improvement Programme for England's Natura 2000 Sites (IPENS) (LIFE11 NAT_UK_000384), July 2012 to June 2015. Project website: <http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/designations/sac/ipens2000.aspx>
- Scottish machair - Conserving machair habitats and species in a suite of Scottish Natura sites (Machair Life) (LIFE08 NAT/UK/000204), January 2010 to December 2013. Project website: <http://www.machairlife.org.uk/>
- Securing the Stone-curlew: securing the future of the stone-curlew throughout its range in the UK (LIFE11 INF/UK/000418), September 2012 to August 2016. Project website: <http://www.rspb.org.uk/ourwork/projects/details/342233-EU-LIFE+-Project-Securing-the-future-of-the-stone-curlew-in-the-UK>.
- The Alde-Ore Estuary - Securing a sustainable future for wildlife (Alde-Ore) (LIFE08 NAT/UK/000199), April 2010 to March 2014. Project website: <http://www.lifealdeore.org/>
- MoorLIFE: Active blanket bog restoration in the South Pennine Moors (MoorLIFE) (LIFE08 NAT_UK_000202), April 2010 to April 2015. Project website: <http://www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk/moorlife>
- Reintroducing the Great Bustard *Otis tarda* to southern England (Reintroducing *Otis tarda*) (LIFE09 NAT/UK/000020), September 2010 to August 2015. Project website: http://greatbustard.org/life_project/
- Maintaining and enhancing the Isles of Scilly SPA through the removal of rats from two key islands (Scilly rat removal) (LIFE11 NAT/UK/000387), October 2012 to September 2017. Project website: <http://www.rspb.org.uk/ourwork/projects/details/343296-isles-of-scilly-seabird-recovery-project>
- LIFE Roseate Tern: improving the conservation prospects of the priority species Roseate Tern throughout its range in the UK and Ireland (LIFE14 NAT/UK/000394), October 2015 to September 2020. Project website: <http://roseatetern.org/index.html>
- LIFE Little Terns: improving the conservation status of the Little Tern in the UK through targeted action at the most important colonies (LIFE12 NAT/UK/000869) September 2013 to March 2019. Project website: <https://www.littleternproject.org.uk/>

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Surveys from which the data in this report were derived were funded or organised, inter alia, by the following organisations (and their predecessor bodies): BirdWatch Ireland (BWI), British Trust for Ornithology (BTO); Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (Northern Ireland); Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust; Joint Nature Conservation Committee; Natural Resources Wales; Natural England; Raptor Study Groups in Scotland, England, Wales and Northern Ireland; Royal Society for the Protection of Birds; Scottish Ornithologists Club (SOC); Shetland Oil Terminal Environmental Advisory Group; SNH and the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust. We thank especially BTO, BWI and SOC for the use of data and information from the Britain and Ireland Bird Atlas 2007-2011.

Finally, this assessment would not have been possible without the massive voluntary efforts of many tens of thousands of volunteers who have given their time (and resources) to participate in systematic surveys and monitoring of UK birds since the 1960s. We acknowledge their huge input and interest, without which knowledge of the UK's changing birds would be immeasurably poorer and the implementation of the Directive more difficult.

Gibraltar

Site and habitat specific management plans are in place, with the overall direction managed by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Climate Change (DEHCC) and implemented through agents and contracted specialists in close consultation with local non-governmental organisations, namely the Gibraltar Ornithological and Natural History Society (GONHS).

Significant achievements accomplished in Gibraltar to date which are relevant to the Birds Directive include:

- The classification of the Rock of Gibraltar and the Southern Waters of Gibraltar as Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs).
- Establishing a general scheme of protection for all wild birds under the Nature Protection Act in line with Article 5 of the Birds Directive.
- Species Action Plans for the Lesser Kestrel, European Shag, Peregrine Falcon, Barbary Partridge and the Eagle Owl as elaborated in the Gibraltar Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) produced by the GONHS.
- Expansion of the terrestrial nature reserve extent specifically a 36.85% increase from 2013 to 2019.

1.2. Translation into English

2. General information sources on the implementation of the Birds Directive - links to information sources of the Member State

2.1 General information on the Birds Directive

Metropolitan UK

General information provided on the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) website: <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-1373>

General information provided on the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (Northern Ireland) website: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/special-protection-areas>

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Bensusan, K.J. & Perez, C.E. (2003). A Conservation Action Plan for MOD sites in Gibraltar: Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society. GONHS.

Cortes, J.E. (1978). Conservation – A Future? Semi - natural Nature Reserve, Gibraltar: A Management Plan. Gibraltar Ornithological Society.

Cortes, J.E. (1996). Windmill Hill Flats: a good view of migration across the Straits of Gibraltar. *Almoraima* 15:163-184.

Cortes, J.E., Finlayson J.C., Garcia, E.F.J., Mosquera, M.A.J., (1980). The Birds of Gibraltar. The Gibraltar Bookshop.

Environmental Action & Management Plan (2012). Government of Gibraltar. [online] Available at:

https://www.gibraltar.gov.gi/new/sites/default/files/1/15/Environmental_Action_&_Management_Plan_2013.pdf.

Gibraltar Bird Reports (2006 - 2017). Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society. [online] Available at:

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<https://www.gonhs.org/> (available via the News & Info tab – Bird Reports).

Gibraltar Nature News (2006 – 2018). Bi-annual Publication. Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society. [online]

Available at: <https://www.gonhs.org/> (available via the News & Info tab – Nature News).

Nature Protection Act 1991. [online] Available at: <http://www.gibraltarlaws.gov.gi/articles/1991-11o.pdf>.

Perez, C.E. (2013-2018). Reports on the Conservation of Terrestrial Flora & Fauna in Gibraltar (2012). Wildlife (Gibraltar) Ltd.

Perez, C.E. & Bensusan, K. J. (2005). Upper Rock Nature Reserve A Management and Action Plan. Gibraltar: The Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society (GONHS). [online] Available at:

https://www.gibraltar.gov.gi/new/sites/default/files/1/15/Upper_Rock_Nature_Reserve_Management_Action_Plan.pdf.

Perez, C.E. (2006). Biodiversity Action Plan, Gibraltar: Planning for Nature. Gibraltar: Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society (GONHS). [online] Available at: <http://mail.gonhs.org/documents/BiodiversityActionPlan2006web.pdf>.

Department of the Environment, Heritage and Climate Change. 2019. Gibraltar Marine Reserve Management Plan.

Available from:

https://www.gibraltar.gov.gi/uploads/documents/environment/publications/Gibraltar_Marine_Reserve_Management_Plan.pdf.

Department of the Environment, Heritage and Climate Change. 2019. Gibraltar Nature Reserve Management Plan.

Available from:

https://www.gibraltar.gov.gi/uploads/documents/environment/publications/Gibraltar_Nature_Reserve_Management_Plan.pdf.

2.2. Information on the Natura 2000 (SPA) network

Metropolitan UK

Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC): <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-162>.

The three national reviews of the UK SPA Network are available via <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-7307>.

The third network review reported to Ministers in October 2016 (<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-7309>). The formal objective was to “review the current UK network of terrestrial and coastal Special Protection Areas (SPAs) in order to ensure that UK obligations under Article 4 of the European Union’s Directive on the conservation of wild birds (Council Directive 79/409/EEC, as amended) (‘the Birds Directive’) are met”. Identification of fully marine SPA is now complete, and many sites are classified, with the remainder having been consulted upon. Decisions on designations will be made shortly.

The Review assessed network-scale changes between the 1990s (as reported in 2001) and the 2000s.

Statistics used in section 9 derive from that network review and relate to just the totals of each species’ SPA suite – those SPAs selected for each relevant species. It is not the total of qualifying and non-qualifying occurrences within the network as a whole – this latter statistic is not possible to generate. The SPA suite totals are thus presented as minimum values only.

The Joint Nature Conservation Committee, in collaboration with Scottish Natural Heritage, Natural England, Natural Resources Wales and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (Northern Ireland) has undertaken extensive survey and data collection to identify important aggregations of seabirds and waterbirds.

There have been 14 marine SPAs that have been either designated or extended since 2013. In England: Northumberland Marine; Greater Wash; Falmouth to St Austell Bay; Flamborough & Filey Coast; Poole Harbour; Outer Thames Estuary; Dungeness, Romney Marsh & Rye Bay; Morecambe & Duddon Estuary, and Hamford Water. In Wales: Anglesey Terns, Skomer, Skokholm and the Seas off Pembrokeshire; Irish Sea Front and North Cardigan Bay. In both England and Wales: Liverpool Bay.

Further information about SPAs in each of the UK’s countries can be found at:

Scotland: <http://www.snh.gov.uk/protecting-scotlands-nature/protected-areas/international-designations/spa/>

Wales: <http://lle.gov.wales/catalogue/item/ProtectedSitesSpecialProtectionAreas/?lang=en>

England: <https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/>

Northern Ireland: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/special-protection-areas>

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Gibraltar currently has two sites within the Natura 2000 network, namely the Rock of Gibraltar and the Southern Waters of Gibraltar. Both of these sites have been designated as dual SPA/SACs.

Copies of the latest Standard Data forms can be downloaded from the following links:

- Rock of Gibraltar, UKGIB0001:

<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/n2kforms/UKGIB0001.pdf>.

- Southern Waters of Gibraltar, UKGIB0002:

<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/n2kforms/UKGIB0002.pdf>.

By way of background, the Rock of Gibraltar, and in particular the Gibraltar Nature Reserve: Upper Rock is mostly dominated by a dense cover of maquis, with some garrigue, and these habitats include many important fruit-bearing shrubs that support large passerine populations during passage periods and in winter (Heath et al. 2000). The slopes of the Rock also serve as a staging site for large numbers of passerine and near-passerine migrants. Most migratory western European species can occur at Gibraltar during the northward or southward migration periods (Cortes 1996). In addition, many migratory birds of prey and storks congregate at the Strait of Gibraltar on their way towards their wintering grounds in Africa. When westerly winds blow across the Strait, Gibraltar itself sees the majority of raptor passage during both the pre-nuptial (northerly) and post-nuptial (southerly) migrations and most of these birds fly directly over the Rock of Gibraltar SPA/SAC.

The Southern Waters of Gibraltar SPA/SAC are also located on an important migration route for seabirds. Many species stop over and feed within the marine SPA/SAC during their migratory journeys and some, such as the Cory's Shearwater, forage in the marine SPA/SAC whilst breeding. Other species rely on the SPA/SAC during the winter in variable numbers depending on weather conditions.

2.3. Monitoring schemes (Art. 4(1) and Art. 10)

Metropolitan UK

Key multi-species monitoring schemes for birds in the UK include:

- Wetland Bird Survey (non-breeding waterbirds) - <http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/webs>
- Goose and Swan Monitoring Programme (non-breeding geese and swans) - http://monitoring.wwt.org.uk/goose_and_swan.php
- Rare Breeding Birds Panel - <http://www.rbbp.org.uk>
- Breeding Birds Survey (common breeding birds) – <http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/bbs>
- Waterways Breeding Bird Survey (common breeding birds of waterway habitats) - <http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/wbbs>
- Constant Effort Sites Scheme (productivity assessment) - <http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/ringing/surveys/ces>
- Ringing Scheme (movements and survival) - <http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/ringing/ringing-scheme>
- Nest Record Scheme (productivity assessment) - <http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/nrs>
- Scottish Raptor Monitoring Scheme (birds of prey in Scotland) - <http://www.scottishraptorstudygroup.org/srms.html>
- Seabird Monitoring Programme (breeding seabird numbers, productivity and survival) - <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-1550>
- Seabird census programmes - <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-4461>
- National Beached Bird Survey (monitoring seabird mortality)
- Predatory Bird Monitoring Scheme (monitoring of pesticide and other pollution residues) <https://wiki.ceh.ac.uk/display/pbms/Home>
- National Game Bag Census (bag records from shooting estates) - http://www.gwct.org.uk/research__surveys/wildlife_surveys_and_ngc/national_gamebag_census_ngc/default.asp
- Avian Influenza monitoring - <http://www.defra.gov.uk/animal-diseases/a-z/bird-flu/>

There are an additional range of single species monitoring programmes not listed here. Information on more general environmental monitoring programmes in the UK – many of which include birds – can be found at <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-3713>

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Gibraltar

Gibraltar has long been known as a key location for observing the migration of birds. In more recent times, the location of the Rock of Gibraltar has been used to research the migration of raptors, seabirds and passerines and near-passerines. Observations from Gibraltar have contributed to a long list of publications on bird migration in the region (e.g. Bernis, 1980; Telleria; 1981; Finlayson & Cortes 1987; Finlayson, 1991; Cortes, 1996; Alectoris Reports, GONHS Bird Reports, etc).

The Ministry for the Environment relies on the data collected by the non-governmental organisation the Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society (GONHS), which continuously assesses which Annex I or regularly occurring migratory bird species occur in Gibraltar. Ornithological research within GONHS is co-ordinated by the Strait of Gibraltar Bird Observatory. This is divided into monitoring and research of passerines and non-passerines, with emphasis on the migration of passerines, seabirds and raptors and an annual passerine ringing programme. The GONHS has a database of records dating back to the 1960's and publishes an annual account of avian records in Gibraltar, including those within the Rock of Gibraltar and the Southern Waters of Gibraltar, which is available online [<http://www.gonhs.org/records.htm>].

Since the creation in 1987 by the Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society of the Strait of Gibraltar Bird Observatory, observations have increasingly become more systematic. Between 1987 and 1992 regular observations were made of seabirds passing Europa Point, an observation point overlooking the Strait of Gibraltar. Between 1987 and 1990 regular transects were made of Windmill Hill Flats to record grounded migrants (Cortes, 1996). Bird of prey observations have also been made regularly, in particular since 1987. From 1991 to the present there has been an increase in bird ringing studies, with contributions to the Piccole Isole project and the European Science Foundation (ESF) programme on Palaeartic-African migrants.

Methods

Observations of birds of prey are carried out from well-established points in the Rock of Gibraltar SPA/SAC, overlooking the Straits during the northward passage and overlooking the Isthmus to the North during the southward passage. Bird ringing takes place at the Jews' Gate Field Centre with the Upper Rock Nature Reserve. Ringing is carried out on days of suitable weather from February to June and August to November every year.

Information gathered by the Strait of Gibraltar Bird Observatory is vastly contributing to increasing the knowledge of bird migration and ecology in the wider region of the Straits of Gibraltar.

2.4. Protection of species (Art. 5-8)

Metropolitan UK

Information regarding the protection of species (Articles 5-8), which includes international conventions and agreements, conservation listing, priority species, protected areas, surveillance and monitoring, indicators, reporting, and advice can be found here:

<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-1742>

The Partnership against Wildlife Crime <http://www.defra.gov.uk/paw/> is a key mechanism for establishing inter-organisational priorities in tackling illegal acts against birds and other wildlife.

Also - Partnership against Wildlife Crime in Scotland - <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Wildlife-Habitats/paw-scotland/>

Partnership for Action Against Wildlife Crime in Northern Ireland – <https://www.wildlifecrimeni.org/>

Gibraltar

A comprehensive Surveillance Programme operated by the DEHCC and the local non-governmental organisation GONHS, ensures that both SPAs are routinely monitored. In terms of legislation, the Nature Protection Act (NPA) 1991 provides a strict regime that adequately protects all bird species in Gibraltar. The NPA transposes all the relevant obligations of the Birds Directive amongst other applicable legislative instruments.

2.5. Transposition of the Directive (legal texts)

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Information regarding the transposition of the Directive into UK legislation can be found here:

<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-1373>

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Nature Protection Act 1991, last amended 5.12.2013.

Legal text available at: <http://www.gibraltarlaws.gov.gi/articles/1991-11o.pdf>

3. Natura 2000 (SPAs) - site classification (Art. 4)

	Number of SPAs	Surface area of SPAs
3.1 All SPAs	276	37663.67
3.2 Terrestrial area of sites (excluding marine areas)		16014.31
3.3 Marine sites	138	21649.36
3.4 Date of database used	01-09-2018	

4. Set of conservation measures and management plans for Natura 2000 sites (SPA)

	Number of SPAs for which	Proportion (%) of the SPA network area for which
4.1 Necessary conservation measures have been established and are applied	182	43.6
4.2 Conservation measures have been set out in a comprehensive management plan or a similar instrument	113	58.7

5. Measures taken in relation to approval of plans and projects (Art. 6.4 and Art. 7 of the Habitats Directive)

5.1 Site code	UK9006111
5.2 Site name	Humber Estuary SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	Green Port Development Hull
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2013

5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2015
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

5.1 Site code	UK9011061
5.2 Site name	Solent and Southampton Water SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	ABP — Southampton Approach Channel Dredge
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2013

5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2013
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

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5.1 Site code	UK9009121
5.2 Site name	Stour and Orwell Estuaries SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan (SMP 8)
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2013
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2012
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

5.1 Site code	UK9009131
5.2 Site name	Hamford Water SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan (SMP 8)
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2013
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2012
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

5.1 Site code	UK9009243
5.2 Site name	Colne Estuary SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan (SMP 8)
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2013
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2012
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

5.1 Site code	UK9009245
5.2 Site name	Blackwater Estuary SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan (SMP 8)
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2013
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2012
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

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5.1 Site code	UK9009242
5.2 Site name	Dengie SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan (SMP 8)
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2013
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2012
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

5.1 Site code	UK9009244
5.2 Site name	Crouch and Roach Estuaries SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan (SMP 8)
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2013
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2012
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

5.1 Site code	UK9009246
5.2 Site name	Foulness SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan (SMP 8)
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2013
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2012
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

5.1 Site code	UK9006111
5.2 Site name	Humber Estuary SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	Humber Estuary Flood Risk Managemenet Strategy
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2014
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2008
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

Annex A – General report format (Article 12)

5.1 Site code	UK9009101
5.2 Site name	Minsmere-Walberswick SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	Blyth Estuary Flood Risk Management Strategy
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2014
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2011
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

5.1 Site code	UK9011051
5.2 Site name	Portsmouth Harbour SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	Portchester Castle to Emsworth Flood Risk Management Strategy
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2014
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2013
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

5.1 Site code	UK9011011
5.2 Site name	Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	Portchester Castle to Emsworth Flood Risk Management Strategy
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2014
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2013
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

5.1 Site code	UK9006111
5.2 Site name	Humber Estuary SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	Able Marine Energy Park
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2015
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

Annex A – General report format (Article 12)

5.1 Site code	UK9014091
5.2 Site name	Carmarthen Bay SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	Penclawdd Flood Risk Management Strategy
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2015
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2015
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	
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5.1 Site code	UK9015011
5.2 Site name	Burry Inlet SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	Penclawdd Flood Risk Management Strategy
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2015
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2015
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	
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5.1 Site code	UK9015022
5.2 Site name	Severn Estuary SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	Severn Estuary and North Devon and Somerset Shoreline Management Plan
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2016
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2016
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	
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5.1 Site code	UK9010031
5.2 Site name	Somerset Levels and Moors SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	Severn Estuary and North Devon and Somerset Shoreline Management Plan
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2016
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2016
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

Annex A – General report format (Article 12)

5.1 Site code	UK9013011
5.2 Site name	Dee Estuary SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	North West England and North Wales Shoreline Management Plan
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2016
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2014
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

5.1 Site code	UK9005131
5.2 Site name	Mersey Estuary SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	North West England and North Wales Shoreline Management Plan
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2016
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2014
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

5.1 Site code	UK9020287
5.2 Site name	Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	North West England and North Wales Shoreline Management Plan
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2016
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2014
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

5.1 Site code	UK9005081
5.2 Site name	Morecambe Bay SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	North West England and North Wales Shoreline Management Plan
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2016
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2014
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

Annex A – General report format (Article 12)

5.1 Site code	UK9005031
5.2 Site name	Duddon Estuary SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	North West England and North Wales Shoreline Management Plan
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2016
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2014
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

5.1 Site code	UK9005012
5.2 Site name	Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA
5.3 Title of project/plan	North West England and North Wales Shoreline Management Plan
5.4 Year Commission was informed of compensatory measures	2016
5.5 Year of project/plan was started	2014
5.6 Impact of projects requiring compensatory measures on relevant bird species	

6. Research and work required as a basis for the protection, management and sustainable use of

6.1 National bird atlas

6.1.1 Title	Bird Atlas 2007-11: The Breeding and Wintering Birds of Britain and Ireland
6.1.2 Year of publication	2013
6.1.3 Web-link and/or bibliographic reference	http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/birdatlas

6.2 National bird monitoring overview

Balmer, B., Gillings, S., Caffrey, B., Swann, R., Downie, I. & Fuller, R.J. 2013. Bird Atlas 2007-11: the breeding and wintering birds of Britain and Ireland. British Trust for Ornithology, Thetford, UK. 720 pp.

Information about previous bird atlases in the UK is at <http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/birdatlas/about/history-atlases>

6.2.1 Title or similar plus short description	The State of UK's Birds 2017
6.2.2 Year of publication	2017
6.2.3 Web-link and/or bibliographic reference	http://www.rspb.org.uk/ourwork/science/sotukb/ for reports from 2013-2017.

Hayhow, D.B., Ausden, M.A., Bradbury, R.B., Burnell, D., Copeland, A.I., Crick, H.Q.P., Eaton, M.A., Frost, T., Grice, P.V., Hall, C., Harris, S.J., Morecroft, M.D., Noble, D.G., Pearce-Higgins, J.W., Watts, O. & Williams, J.M. 2017. The state of the UK's birds 2017. The RSPB, BTO, WWT, DAERA, JNCC, NE and NRW, Sandy, Bedfordshire.

Annex A – General report format (Article 12)

6.2.1 Title or similar plus short description	Waterbirds in the UK – annual report of the national Wetland Bird Survey
6.2.2 Year of publication	2018
6.2.3 Web-link and/or bibliographic reference	See http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/webs/publications/annual-reports Frost, T.M., Austin, G.E., Calbrade, N.A., Mellan, H.J., Hearn, R.D., Stroud, D.A., Wotton, S.R. & Balmer, D.E. 2018. Waterbirds in the UK 2016/17: The Wetland Bird Survey. BTO, RSPB and JNCC, in association with WWT. British Trust for Ornithology, Thetford. 40 pp.
6.2.1 Title or similar plus short description	Seabird Population Trends and Causes of Change: 1986-2015 - results of Seabird Monitoring Programme
6.2.2 Year of publication	2016
6.2.3 Web-link and/or bibliographic reference	JNCC 2016. Seabird Population Trends and Causes of Change: 1986-2015 Report (http://www.jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-3201). Joint Nature Conservation Committee. Updated September 2016.
6.2.1 Title or similar plus short description	Annual report of the national Breeding Bird Survey
6.2.2 Year of publication	2018
6.2.3 Web-link and/or bibliographic reference	See http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/bbs/bbs-publications/bbs-reports for annual reports from 2007-2017. Harris, S.J., Massimino, D., Gillings, S., Eaton, M.A., Noble, D.G., Balmer, D.E., Procter, D., Pearce-Higgins, J.W. & Woodcock, P. 2018. The Breeding Bird Survey 2017. BTO Research Report 706. British Trust for Ornithology, Thetford.
6.2.1 Title or similar plus short description	Annual report of the national Rare Breeding Birds Panel
6.2.2 Year of publication	2016
6.2.3 Web-link and/or bibliographic reference	See http://www.rbbp.org.uk/rbbp-reports-03-latest.htm Holling, M. & the Rare Breeding Birds Panel 2018. Rare breeding birds in the United Kingdom in 2016. British Birds 111: 644-694.

Annex A – General report format (Article 12)

6.2.1 Title or similar plus short description	Bird Trends 2017
6.2.2 Year of publication	2017
6.2.3 Web-link and/or bibliographic reference	See www.bto.org/birdtrends

Massimino, D., Woodward, I.D., Hammond, M.J., Harris, S.J., Leech, D.I., Noble, D.G., Walker, R.H., Barimore, C., Dadam, D., Eglinton, S.M., Marchant, J.H., Sullivan, M.J.P., Baillie, S.R. & Robinson, R.A. 2017. BirdTrends 2017: trends in numbers, breeding success and survival for UK breeding birds. Research Report 704. BTO, Thetford.

6.3 National bird red list

6.3.1 Title	Birds of Conservation Concern 4
6.3.2 Year of publication	2015
6.3.3 Web-link and/or bibliographic reference	https://britishbirds.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/BoCC4.pdf

Eaton, M.A., Aebischer, N.J., Brown, A.F., Hearn, R.D., Lock, L., Musgrove, A.J., Noble, D.G., Stroud, D.A. & Gregory, R.D. 2015. Birds of Conservation Concern 4: the population status of birds in the United Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man. *British Birds* 108: 708-746.

6.4 Other publications of EU-wide interest (e.g. national overview of action for threatened species)

6.4.1 Title or similar plus short description	An assessment of the risk of extinction for birds in Great Britain.
6.4.2 Year of publication	2017
6.4.3 Web-link and/or bibliographic reference	Stanbury, A., Brown, A., Eaton, M., Aebischer, N., Gillings, S., Hearn, H., Noble, D., Stroud, D.A. & Gregory, R. (2017). An assessment of the risk of extinction for birds in Great Britain. <i>British Birds</i> 110: 502-517.

7. Non-native bird species (Art. 11)