



**Change in Seabird Breeding Occupancy for Habitats Regulations Reporting
2019–2024**

JNCC

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1. Summary

This document presents a visual summary of changes in breeding occupancy of 25 seabird species in the UK. Distribution maps were derived from the Seabirds Count census of Britain and Ireland undertaken between 2015–2021 (Burnell *et al.* 2023). Distribution is mapped at a 10 km² resolution.

Each map shows the distribution and changes in breeding bird occupancy, comparing current breeding distributions (Burnell *et al.* 2023) with historical baselines (Mitchell *et al.* 2004). Change in distribution is colour-coded as follows.

- Red squares: Areas previously occupied but now unoccupied (loss)
- Light blue squares: Areas with continued occupancy (no change)
- Dark blue squares: Newly occupied areas (gain)

Distribution change maps for Herring Gull and Lesser Black-backed Gull include only the breeding distributions of birds nesting in natural locations (coastal or inland), not of birds nesting on human-made structures. It was not possible to assess change in breeding distribution for urban nesters.

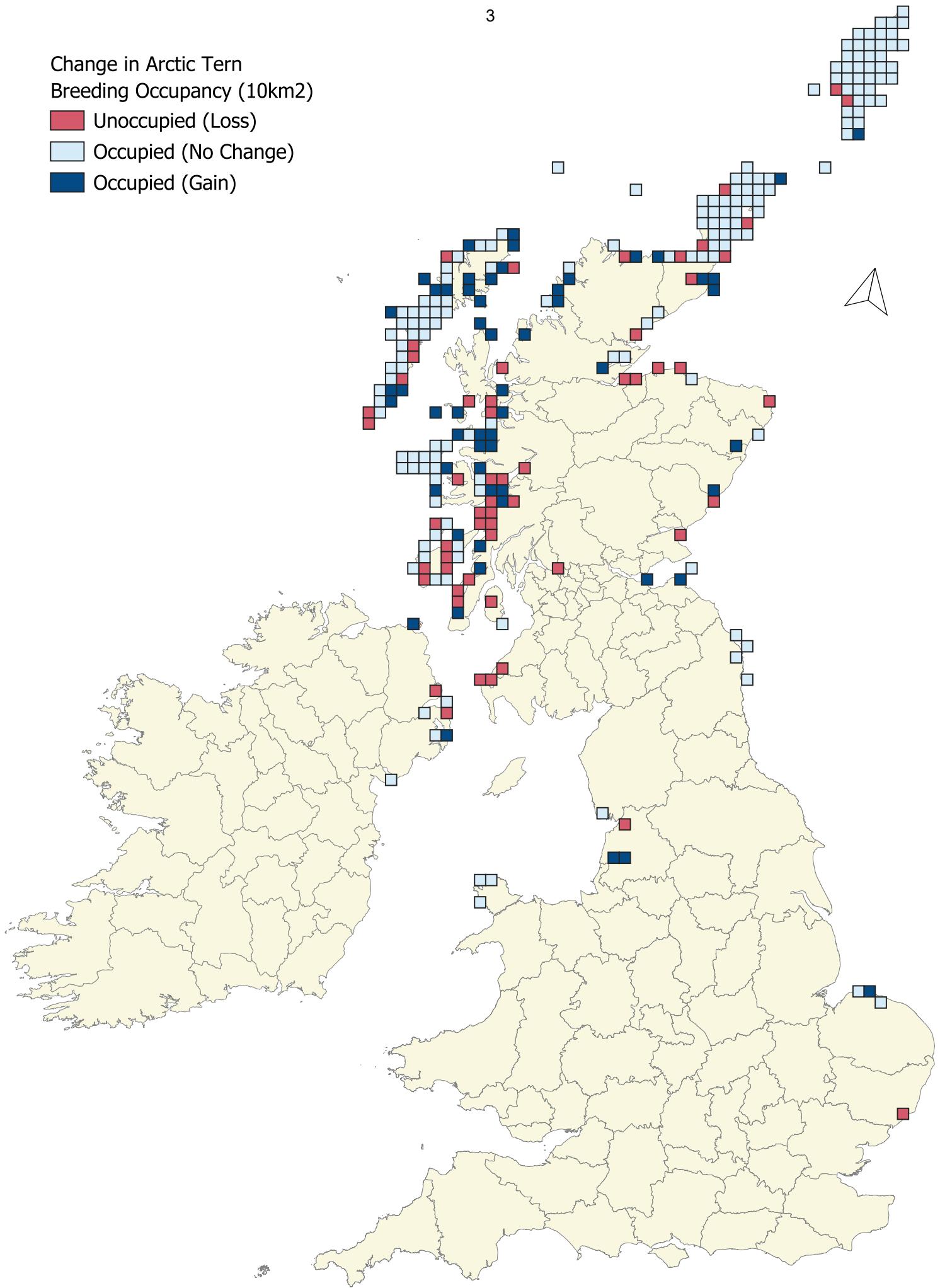
2. Species included

For 2019-2024 Habitats Regulations Reporting, change in breeding occupancy maps were produced for the following 25 seabird species:

Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea*
Atlantic Puffin *Fratercula arctica*
Black Guillemot *Cephus grylle*
Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*
Black-legged Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*
Common Guillemot *Uria aalge*
Common Gull (Mew Gull) *Larus canus*
Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*
European Shag *Gulosus aristotelis*
European Storm-petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus*
Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis*
Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*
Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*
Great Skua *Catharacta skua*
Herring Gull *Larus argentatus* (natural-nesting)
Leach's Storm-petrel *Hydrobates leucorhous*
Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus* (natural-nesting)
Little Tern *Sternula albifrons*
Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*
Mediterranean Gull *Ichthyaetus melanocephalus*
Northern Gannet *Morus bassanus*
Parasitic Jaeger (Arctic Skua) *Stercorarius parasiticus*
Razorbill *Alca torda*
Roseate Tern *Sterna dougallii*
Sandwich Tern *Thalasseus sandvicensis*

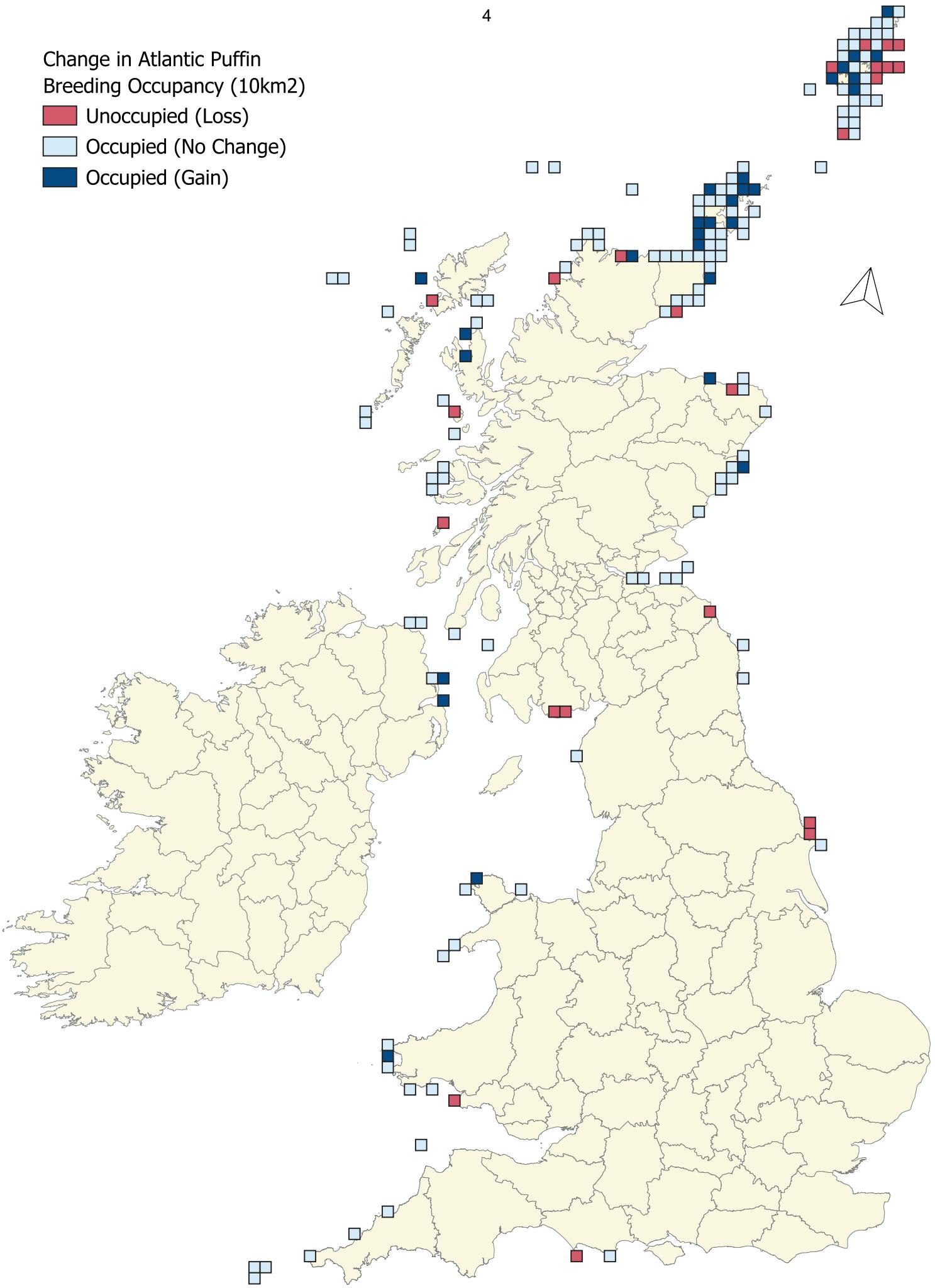
Change in Arctic Tern
Breeding Occupancy (10km²)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



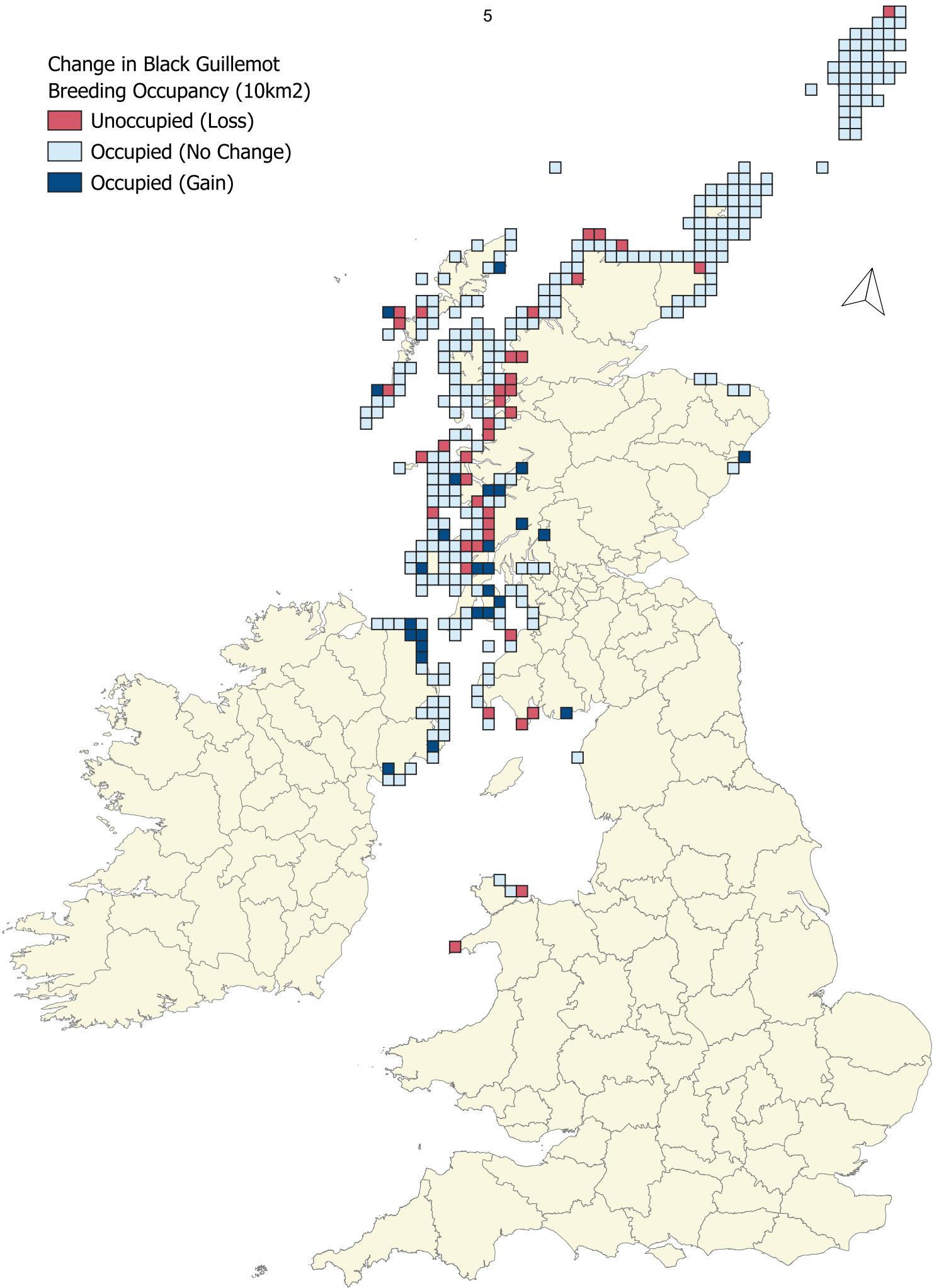
Change in Atlantic Puffin Breeding Occupancy (10km²)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



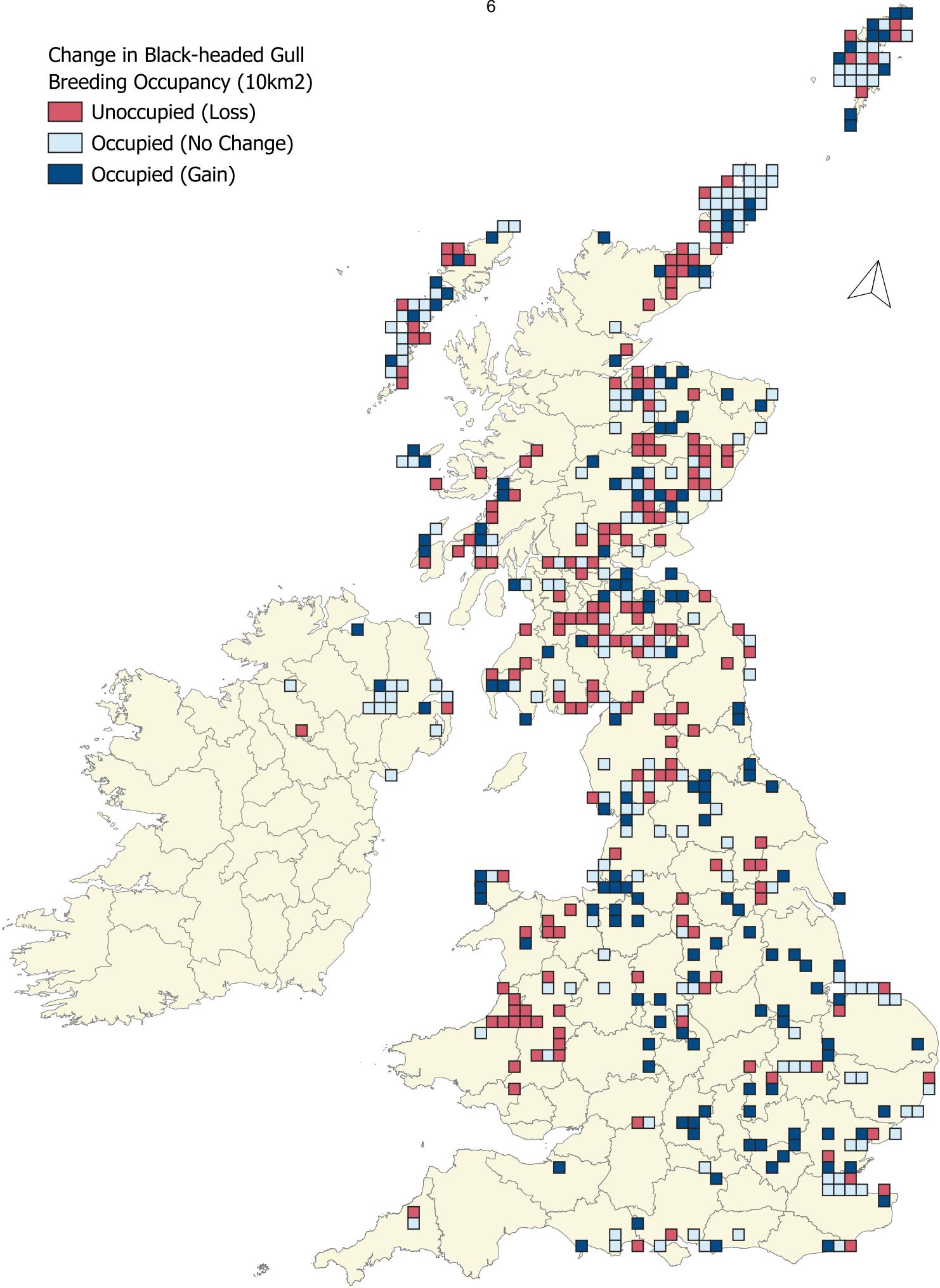
Change in Black Guillemot
Breeding Occupancy (10km2)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



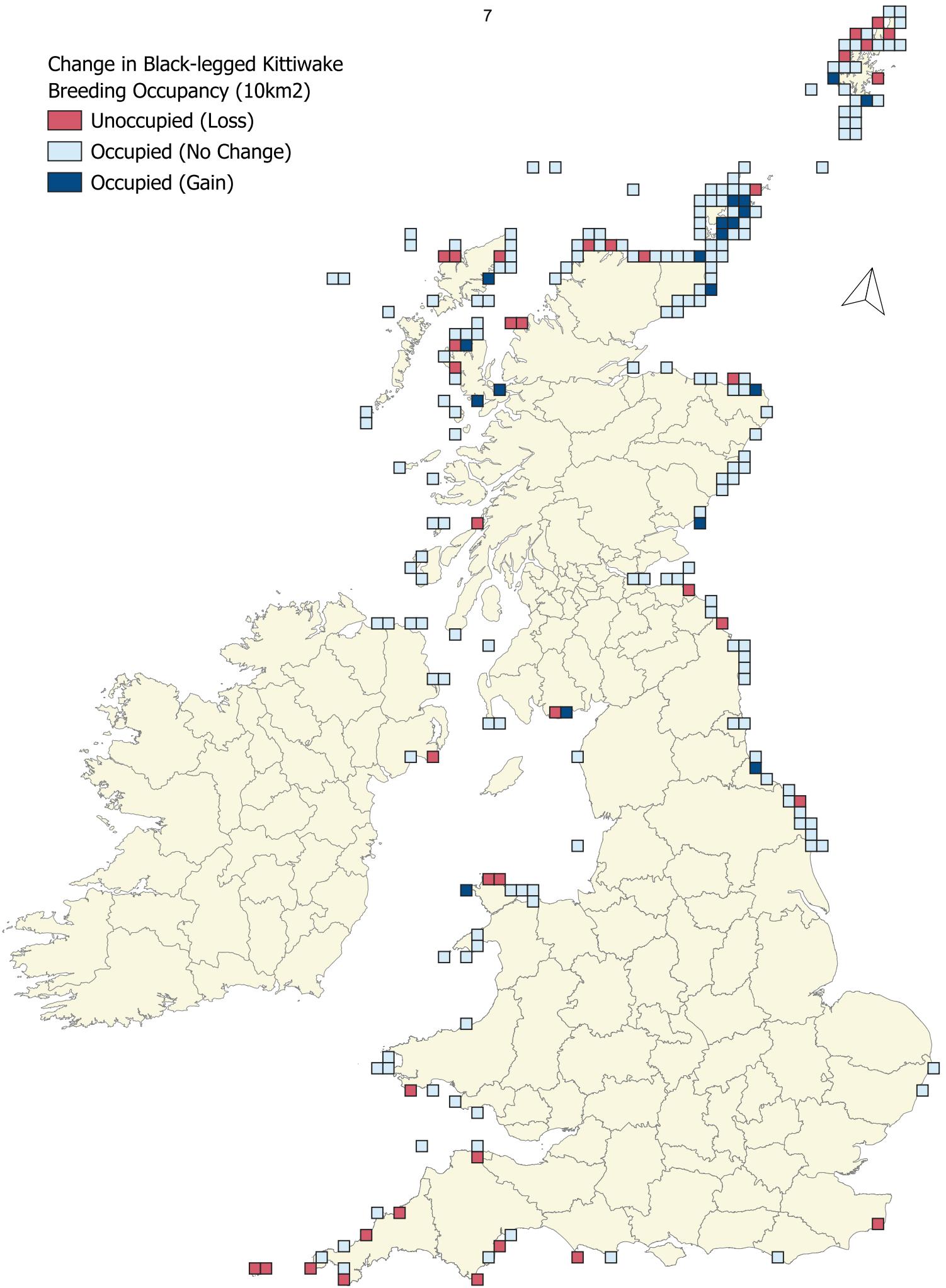
Change in Black-headed Gull Breeding Occupancy (10km²)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



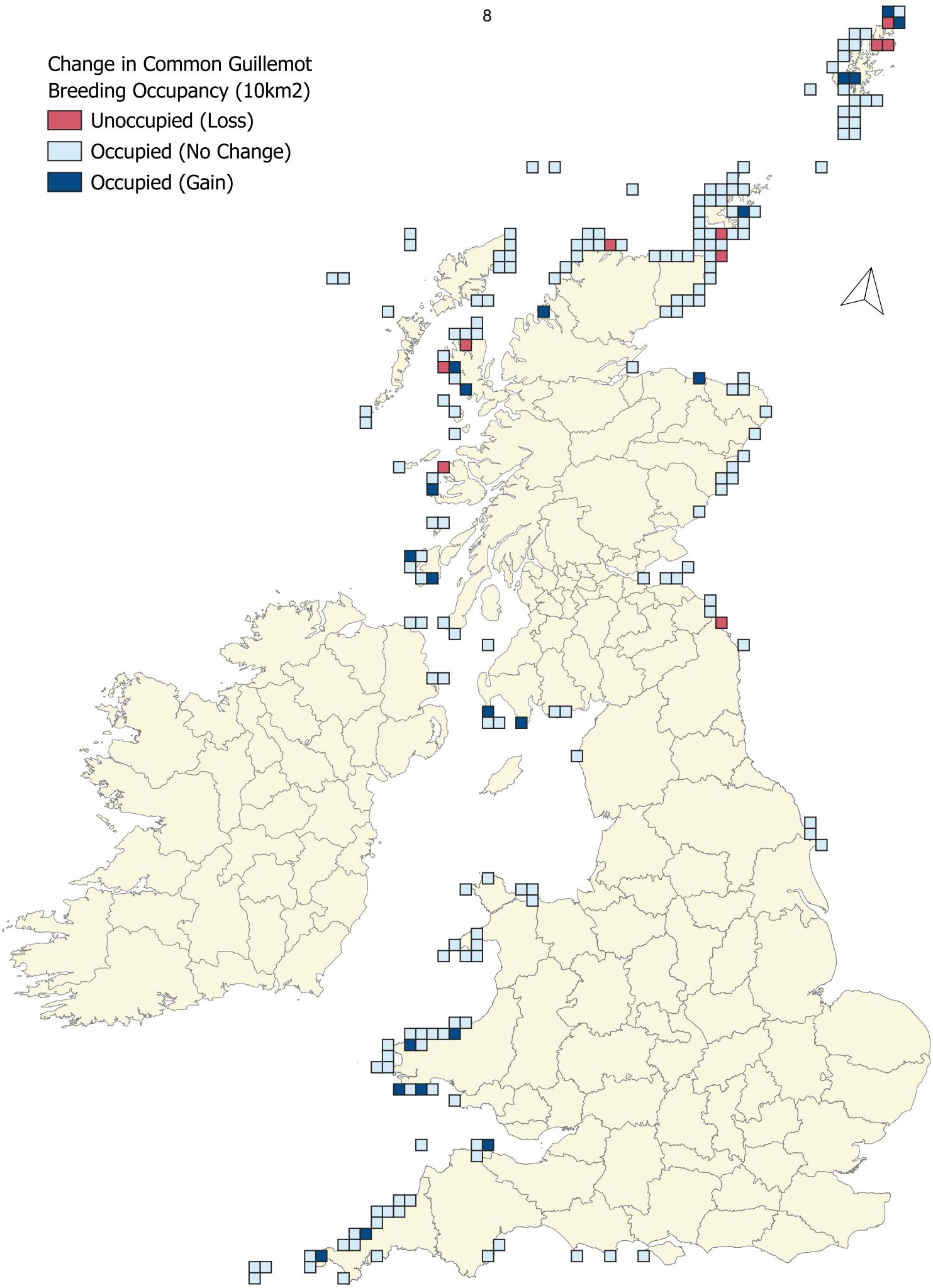
Change in Black-legged Kittiwake Breeding Occupancy (10km²)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



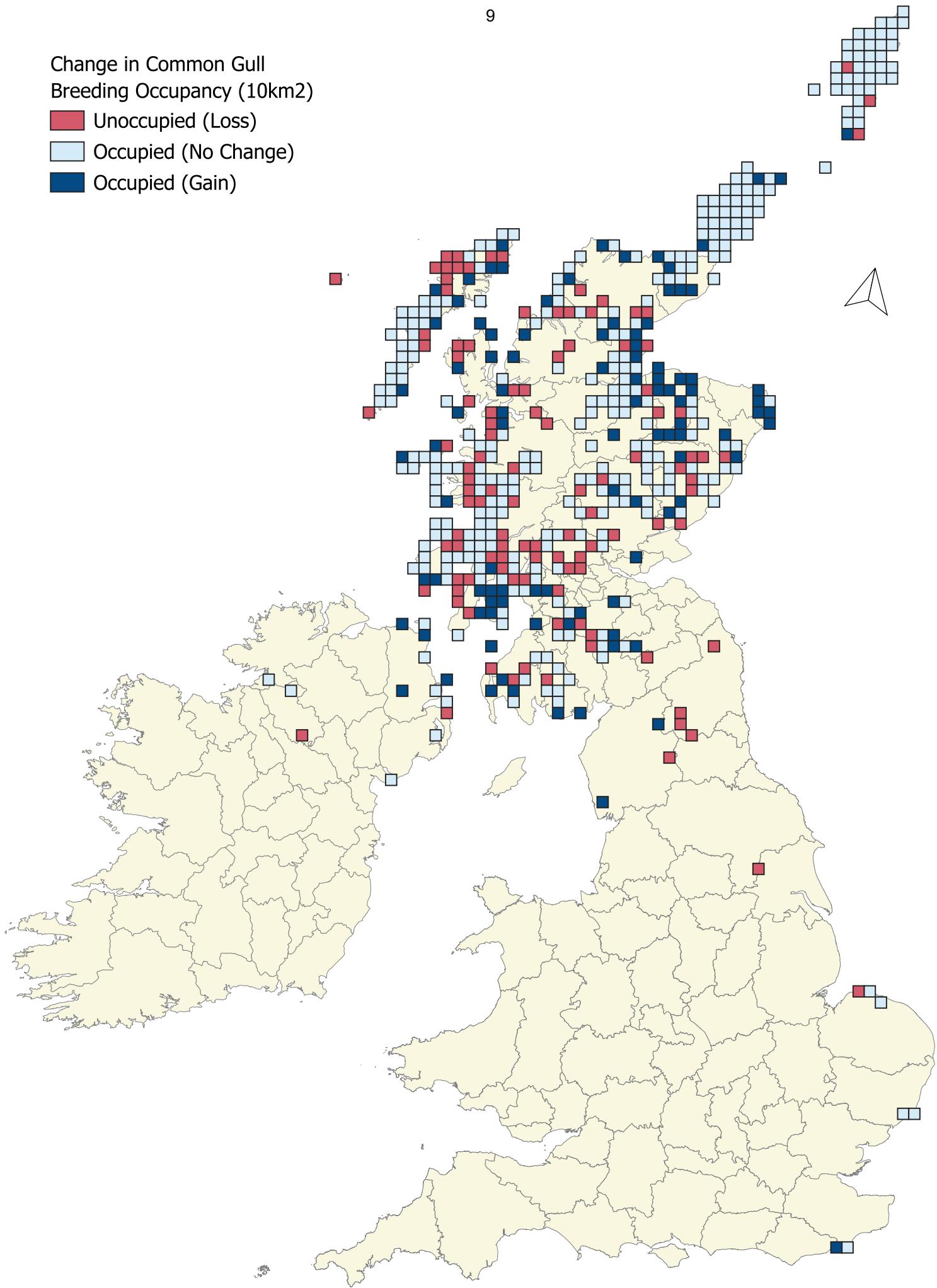
Change in Common Guillemot
Breeding Occupancy (10km²)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



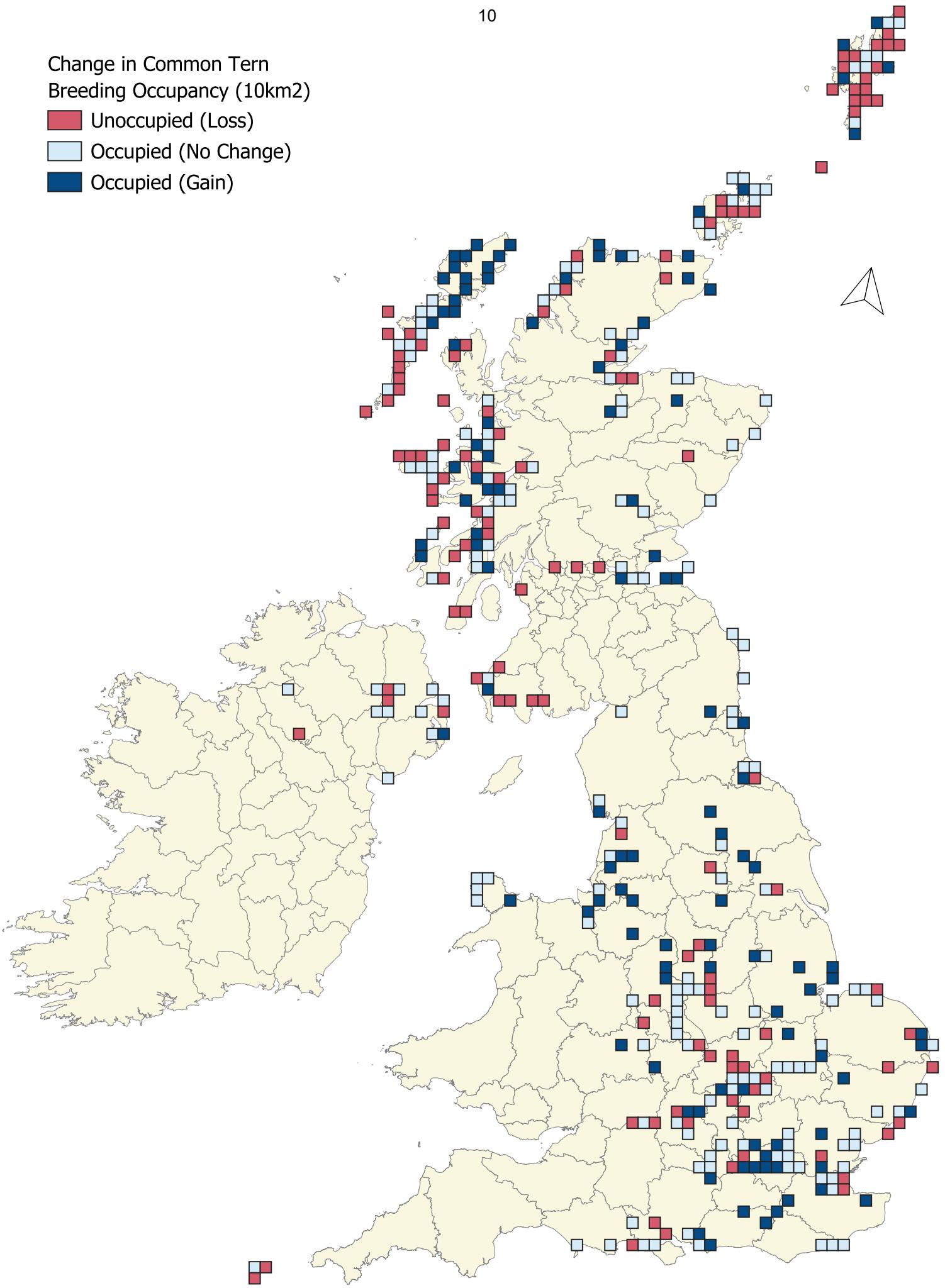
Change in Common Gull
Breeding Occupancy (10km²)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



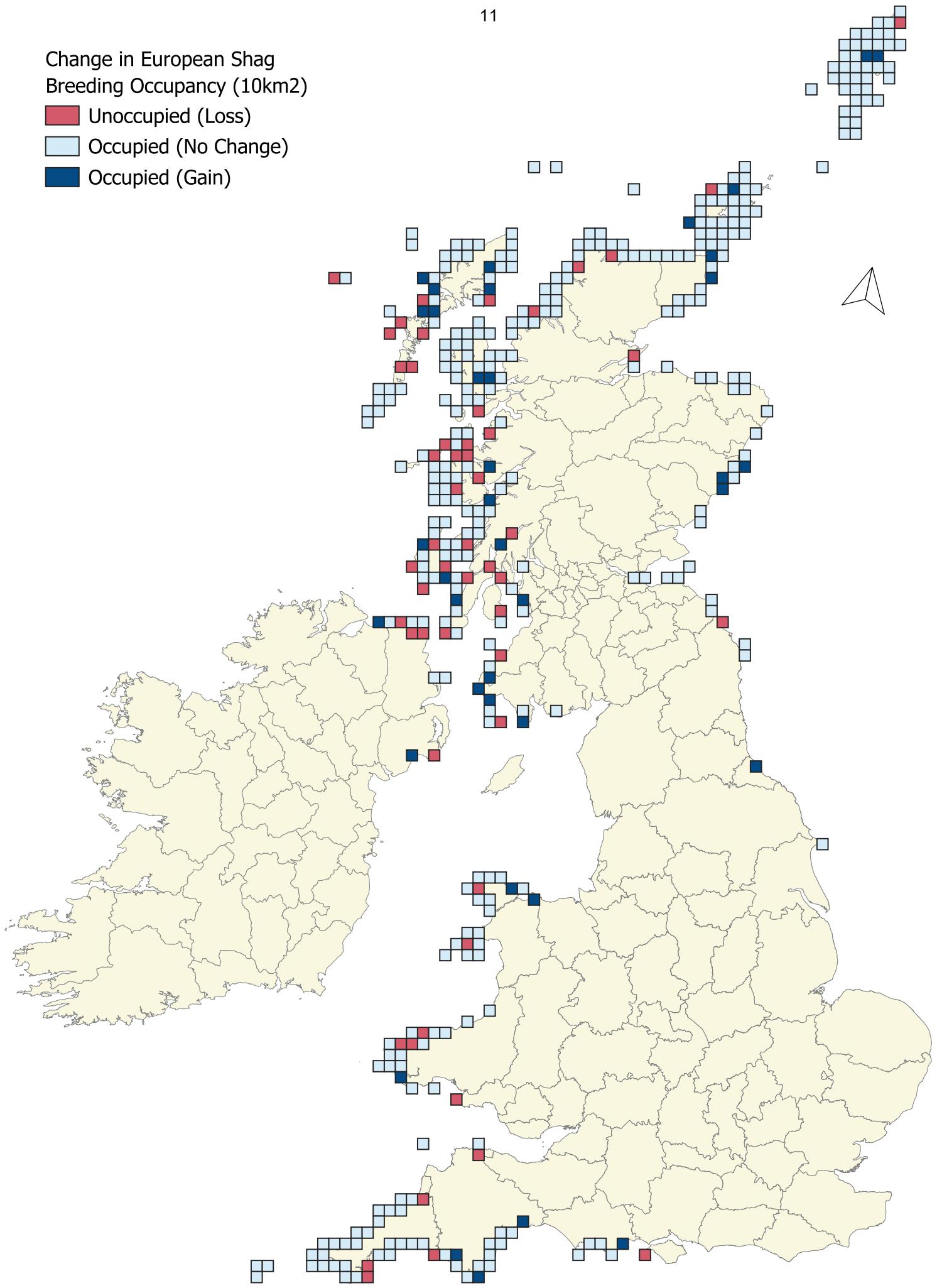
Change in Common Tern
Breeding Occupancy (10km²)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



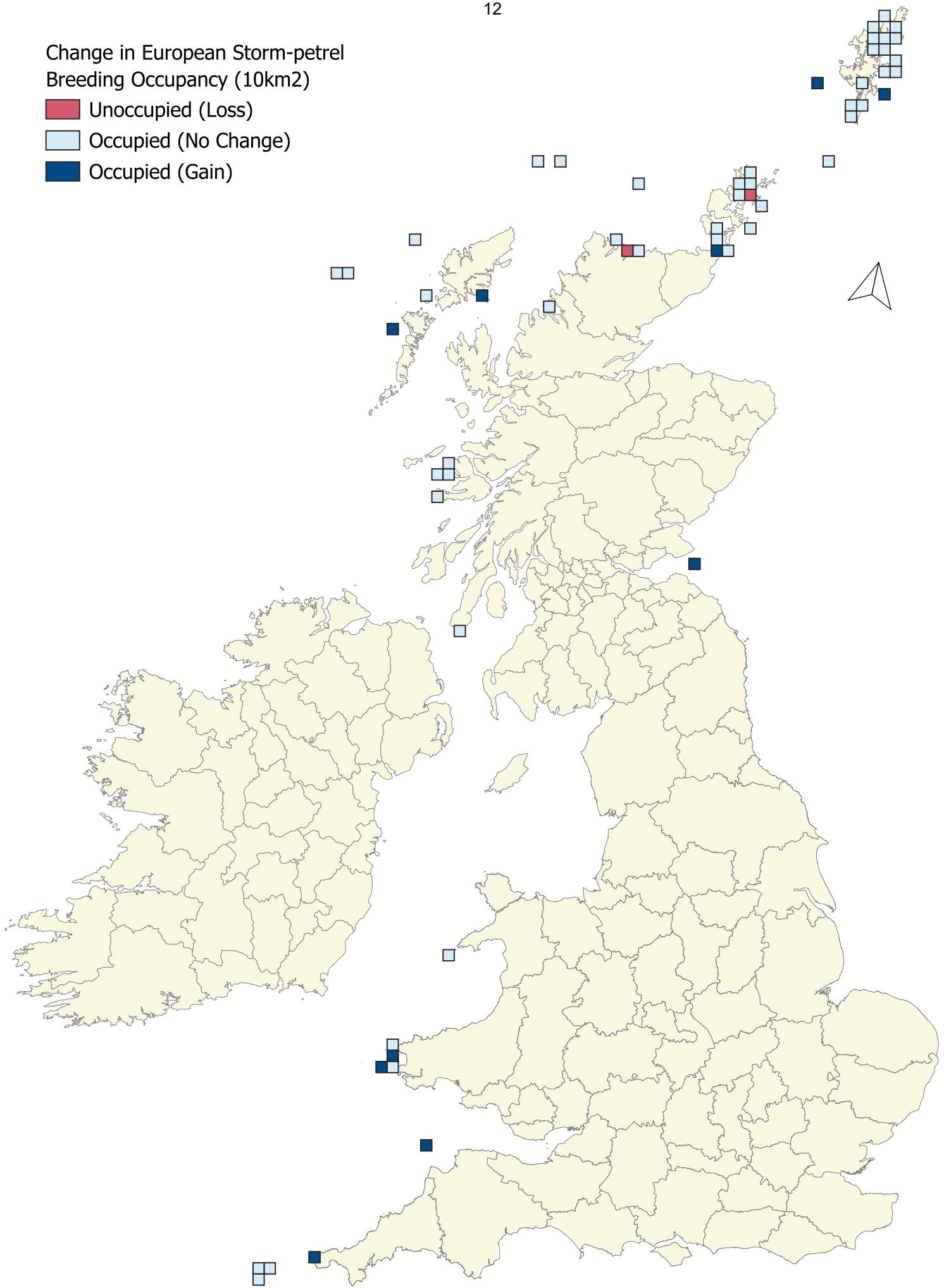
Change in European Shag Breeding Occupancy (10km2)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



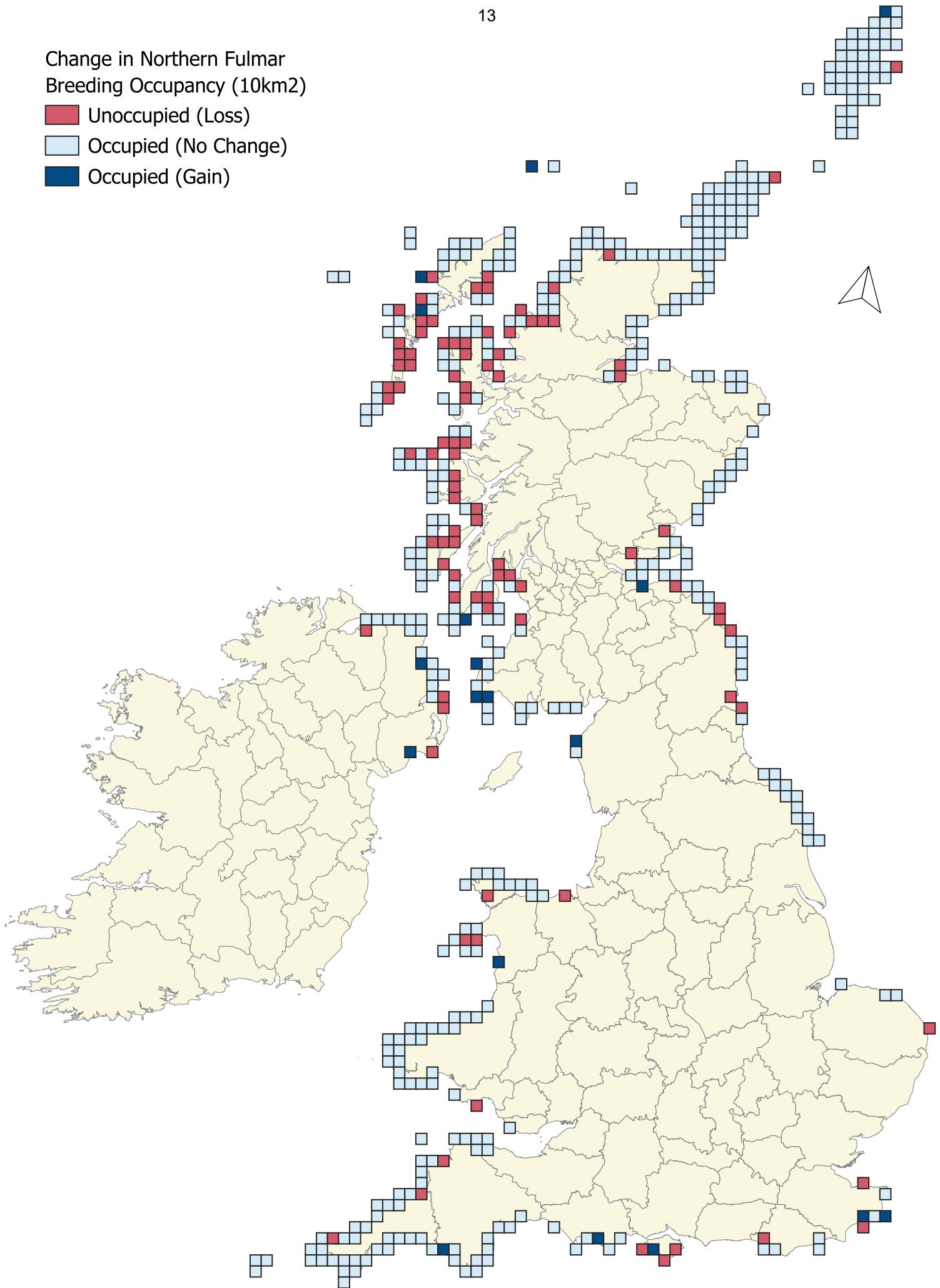
Change in European Storm-petrel Breeding Occupancy (10km²)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



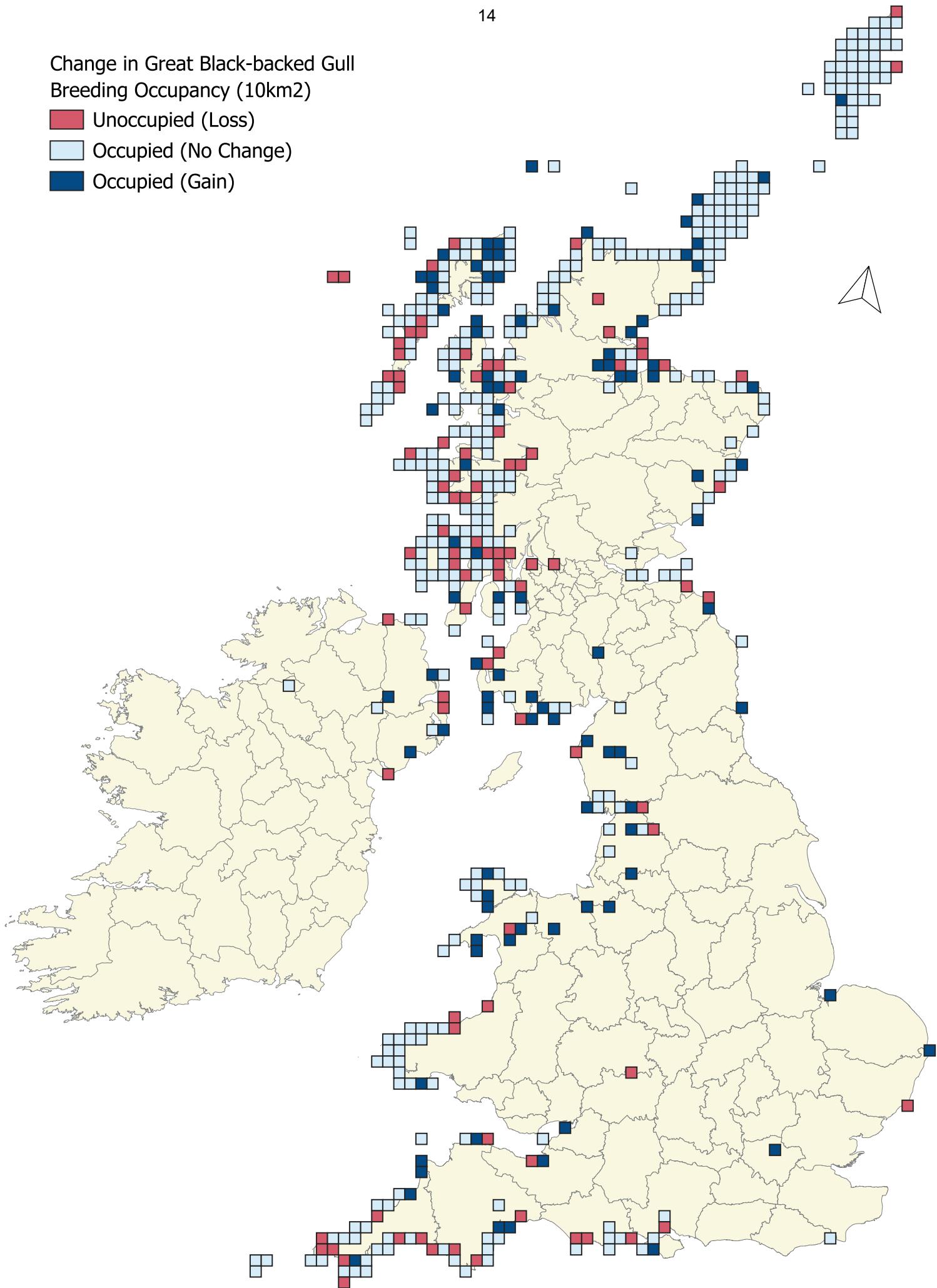
Change in Northern Fulmar Breeding Occupancy (10km2)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



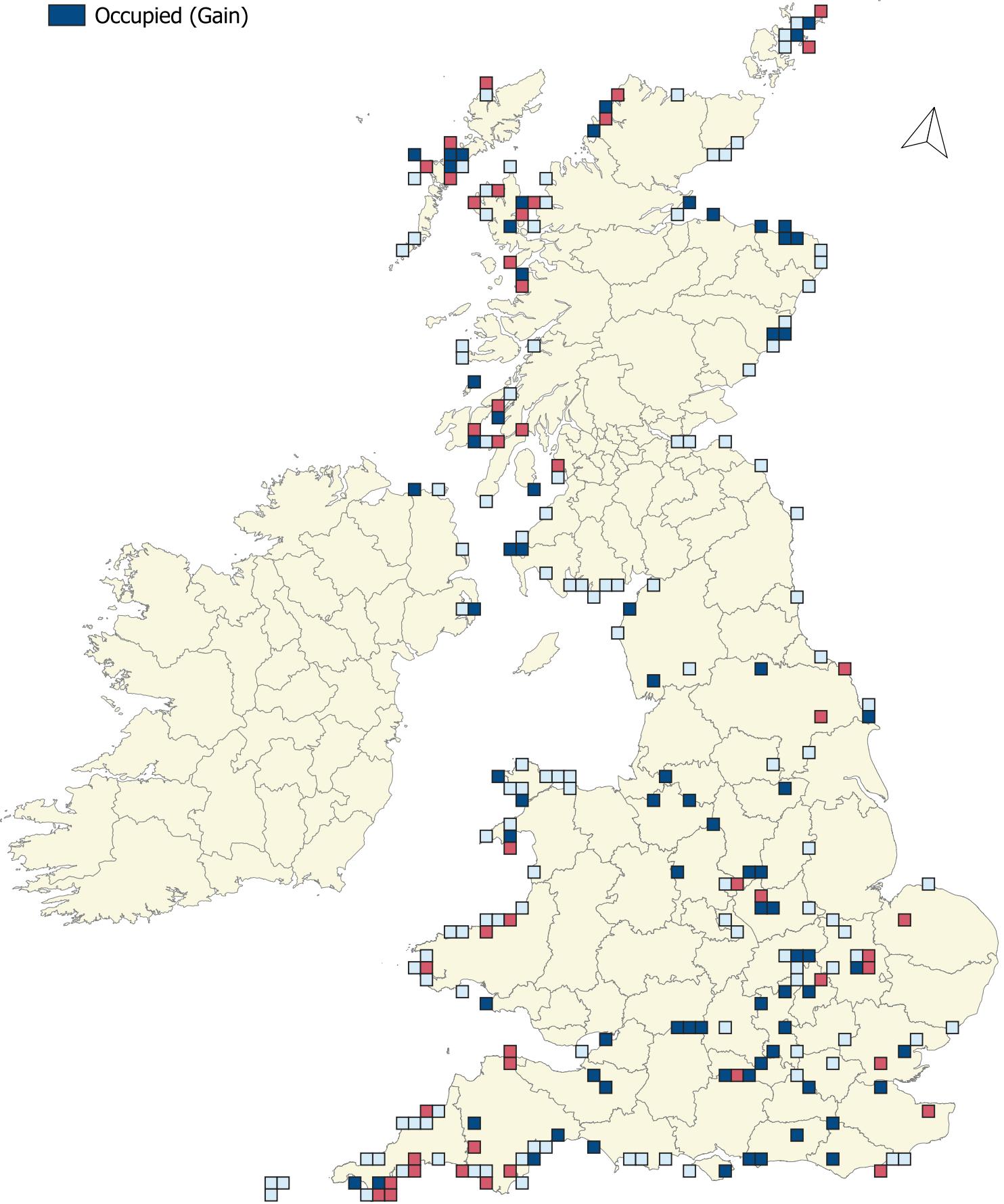
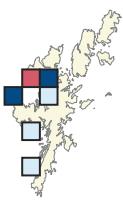
Change in Great Black-backed Gull Breeding Occupancy (10km²)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



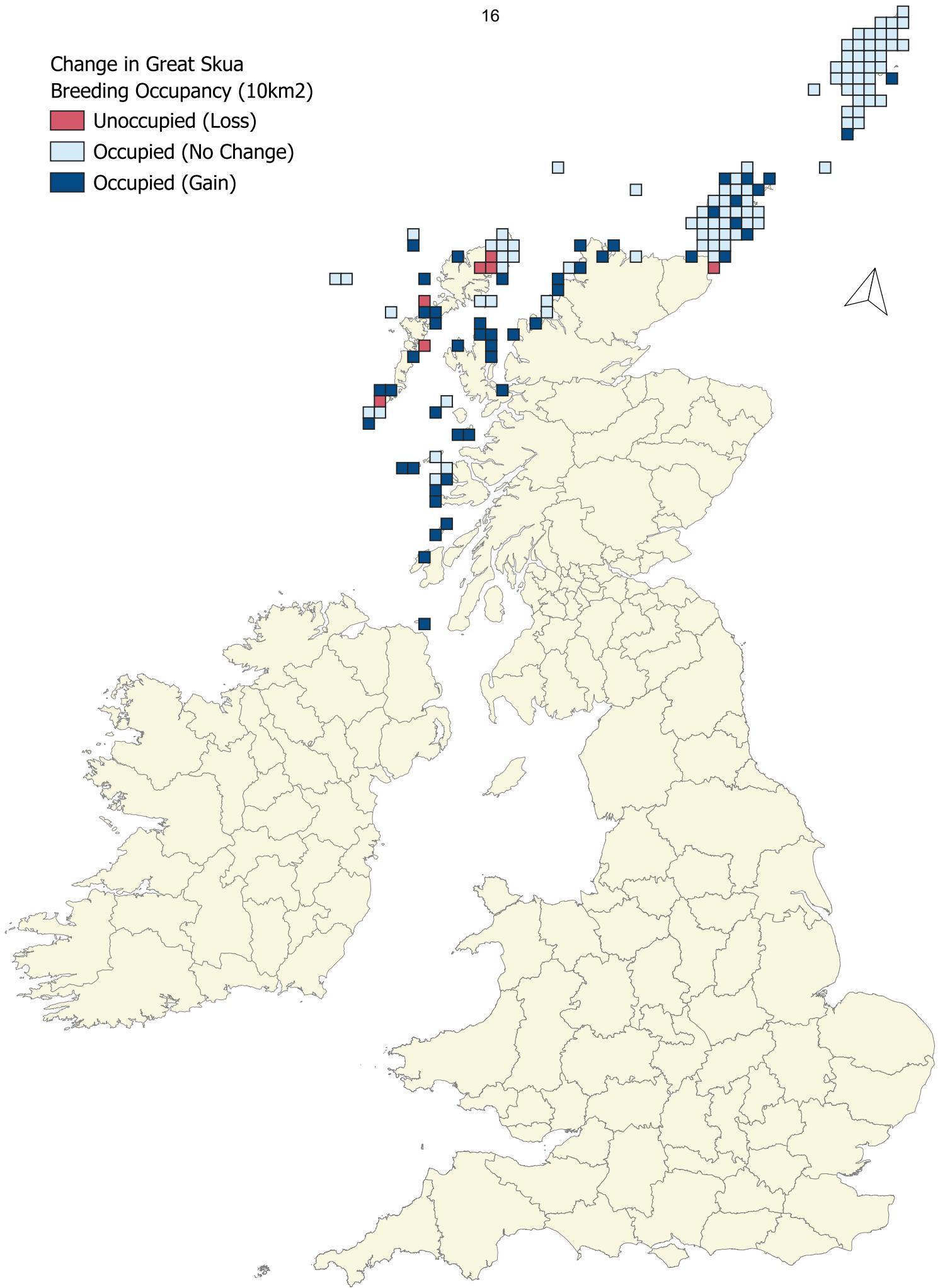
Change in Great Cormorant Breeding Occupancy (10km²)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



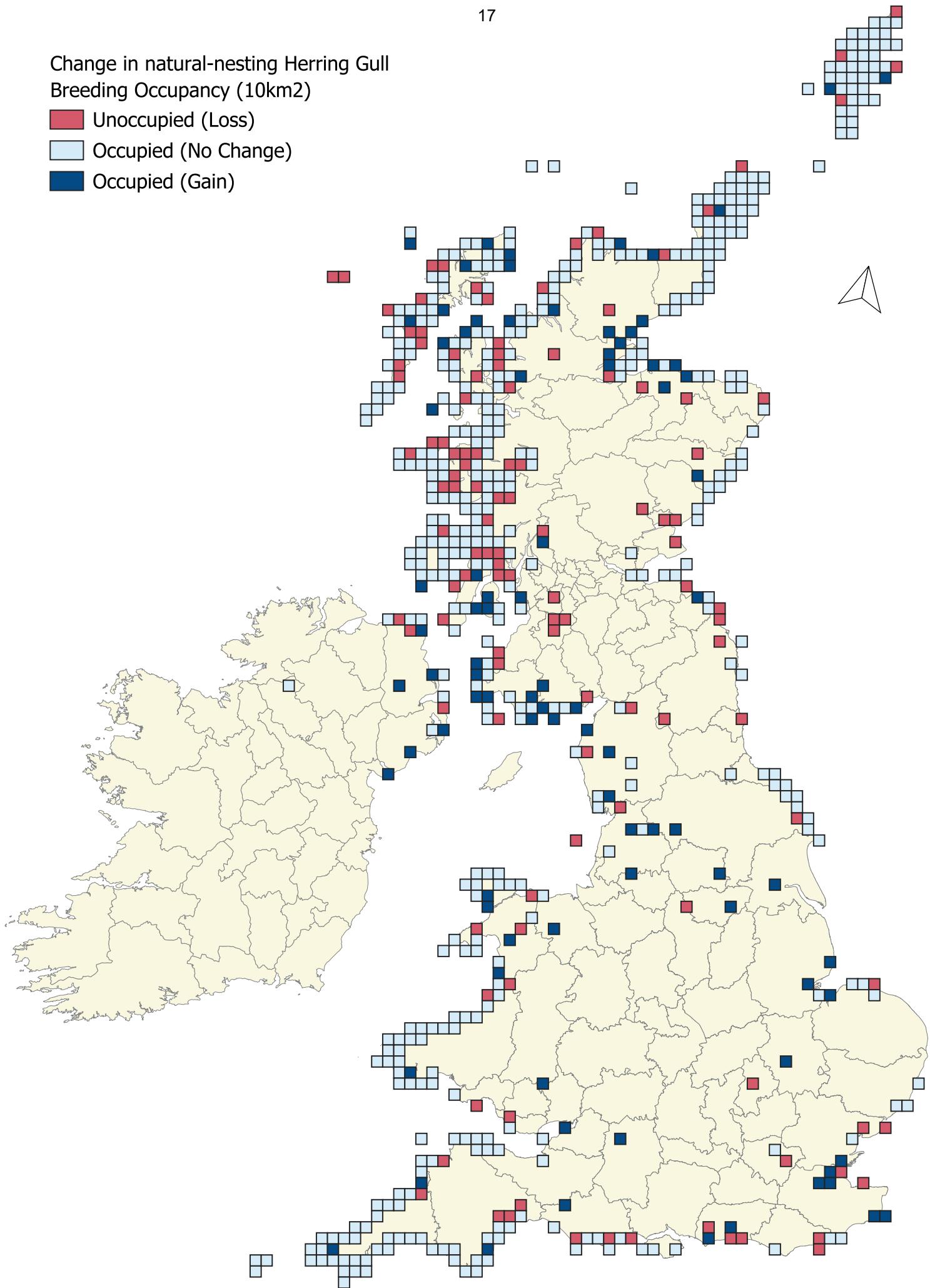
Change in Great Skua
Breeding Occupancy (10km²)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



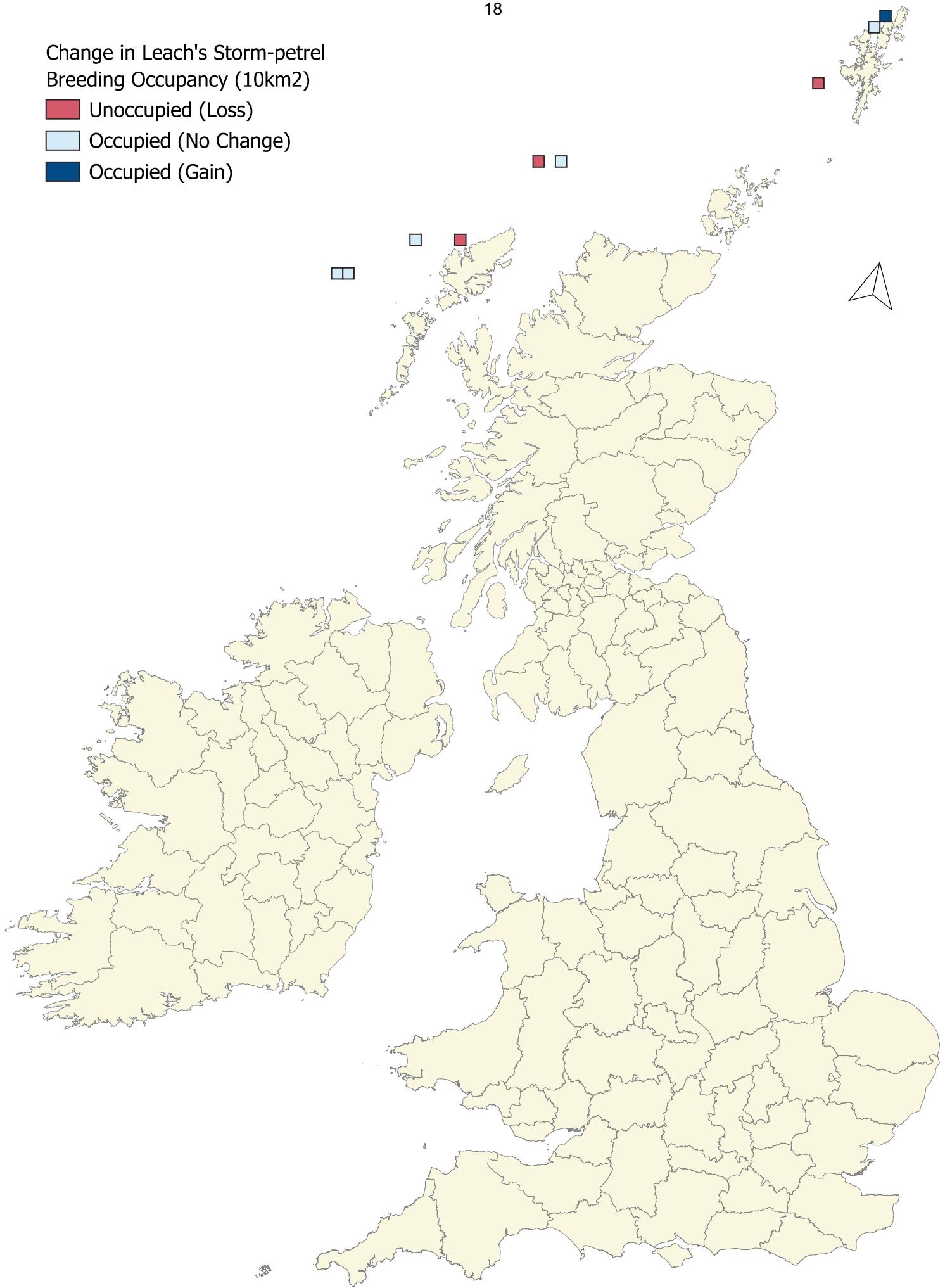
Change in natural-nesting Herring Gull Breeding Occupancy (10km²)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



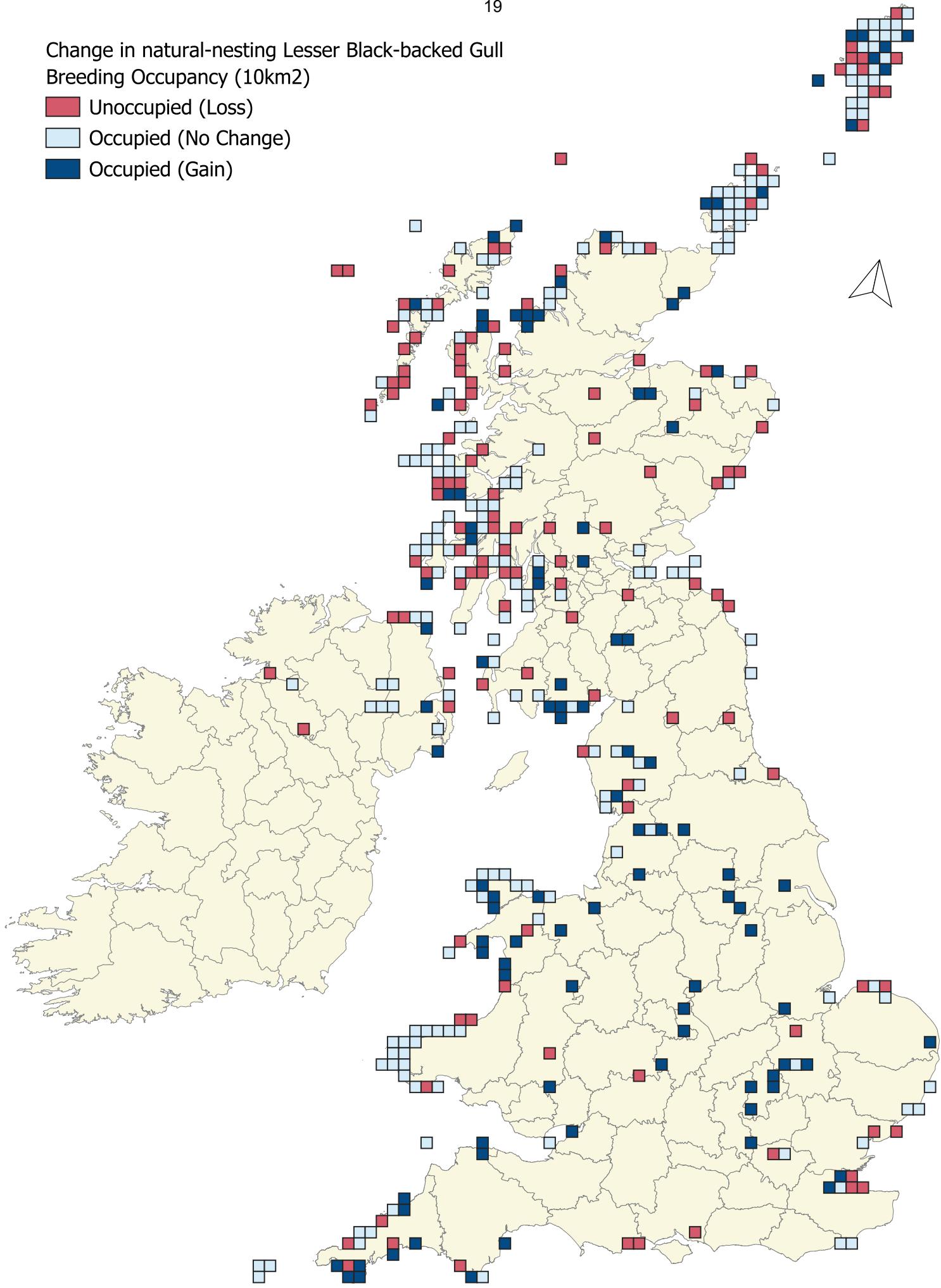
Change in Leach's Storm-petrel Breeding Occupancy (10km²)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



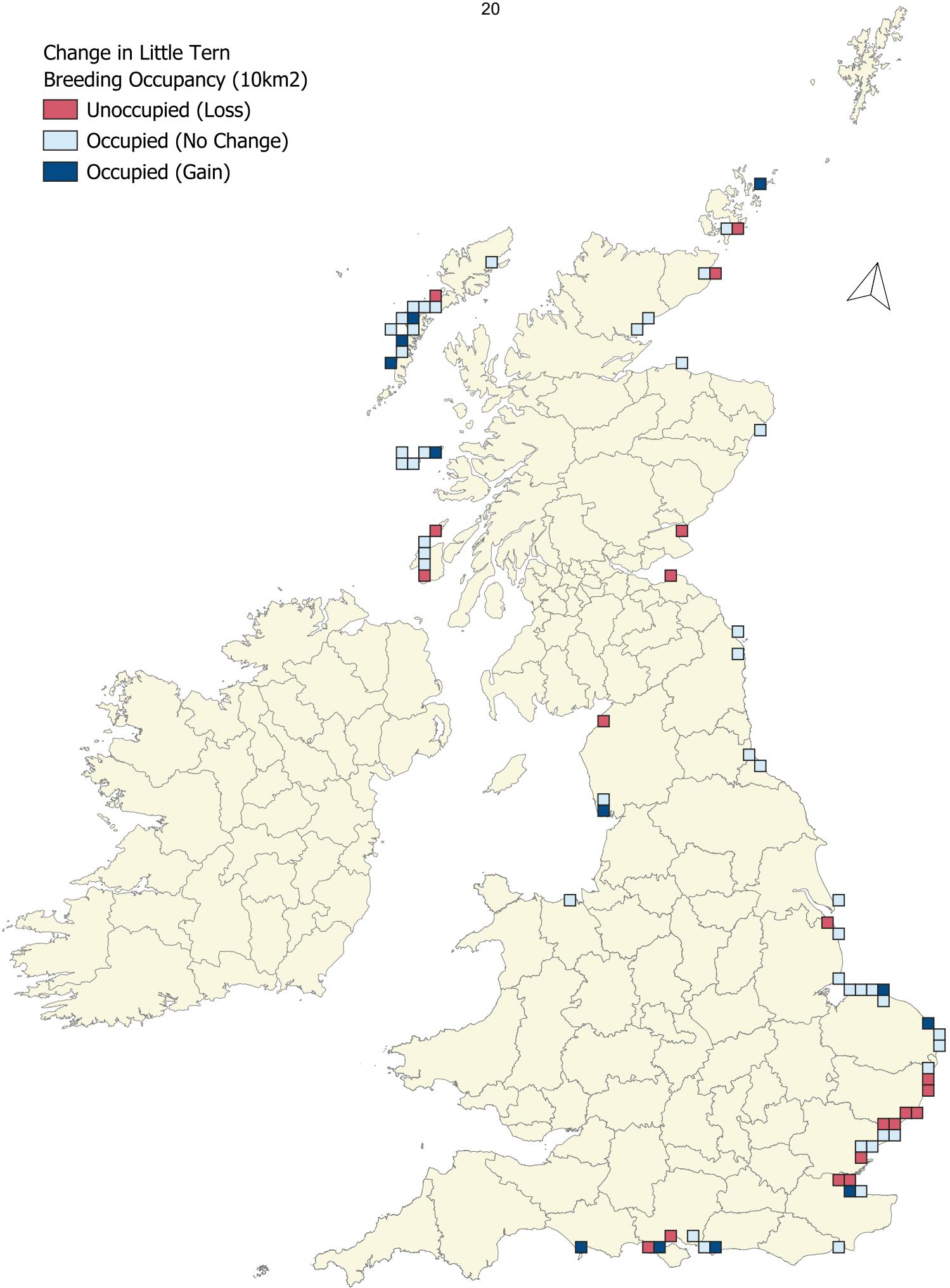
Change in natural-nesting Lesser Black-backed Gull Breeding Occupancy (10km2)

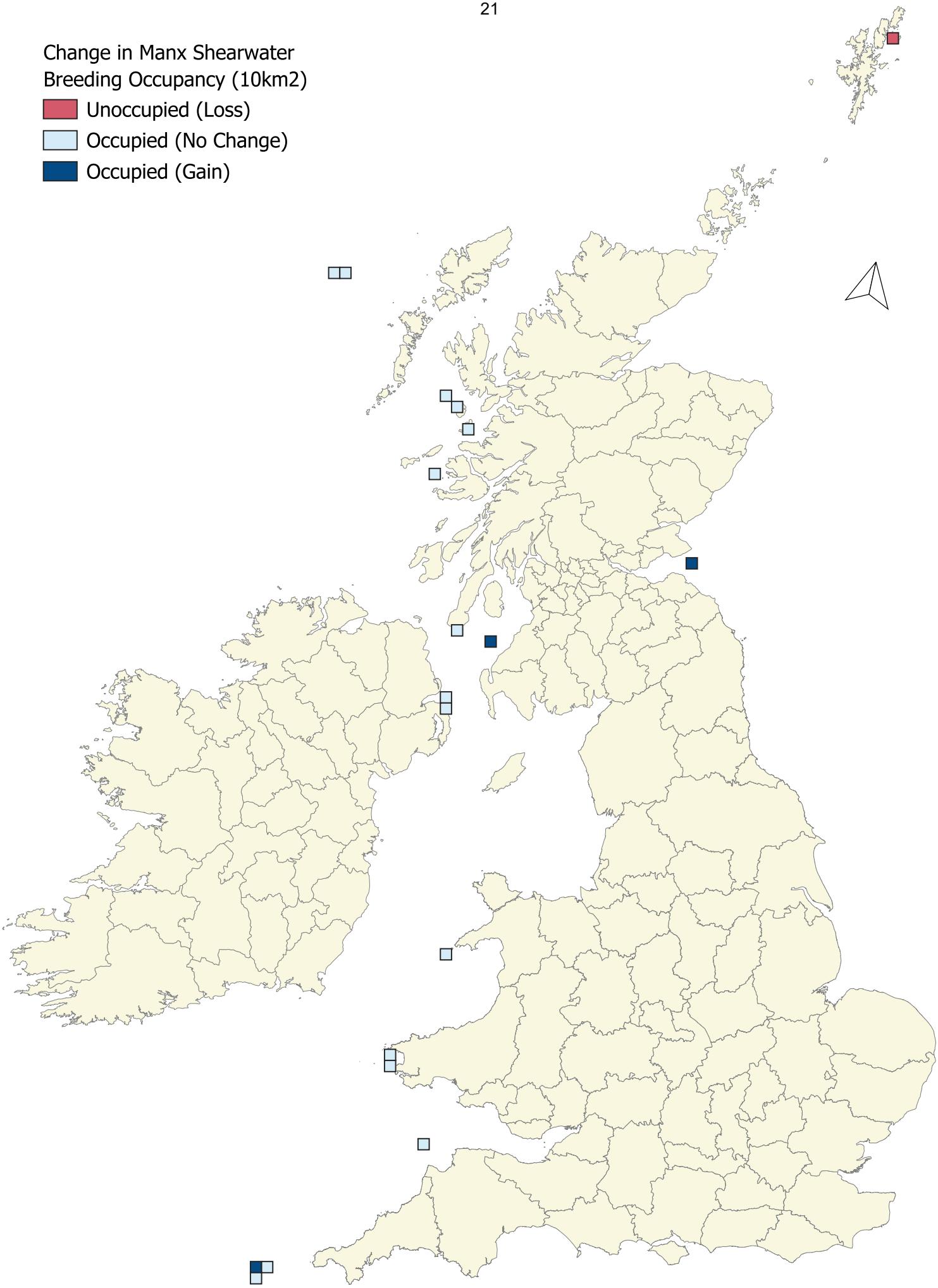
- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



Change in Little Tern Breeding Occupancy (10km2)

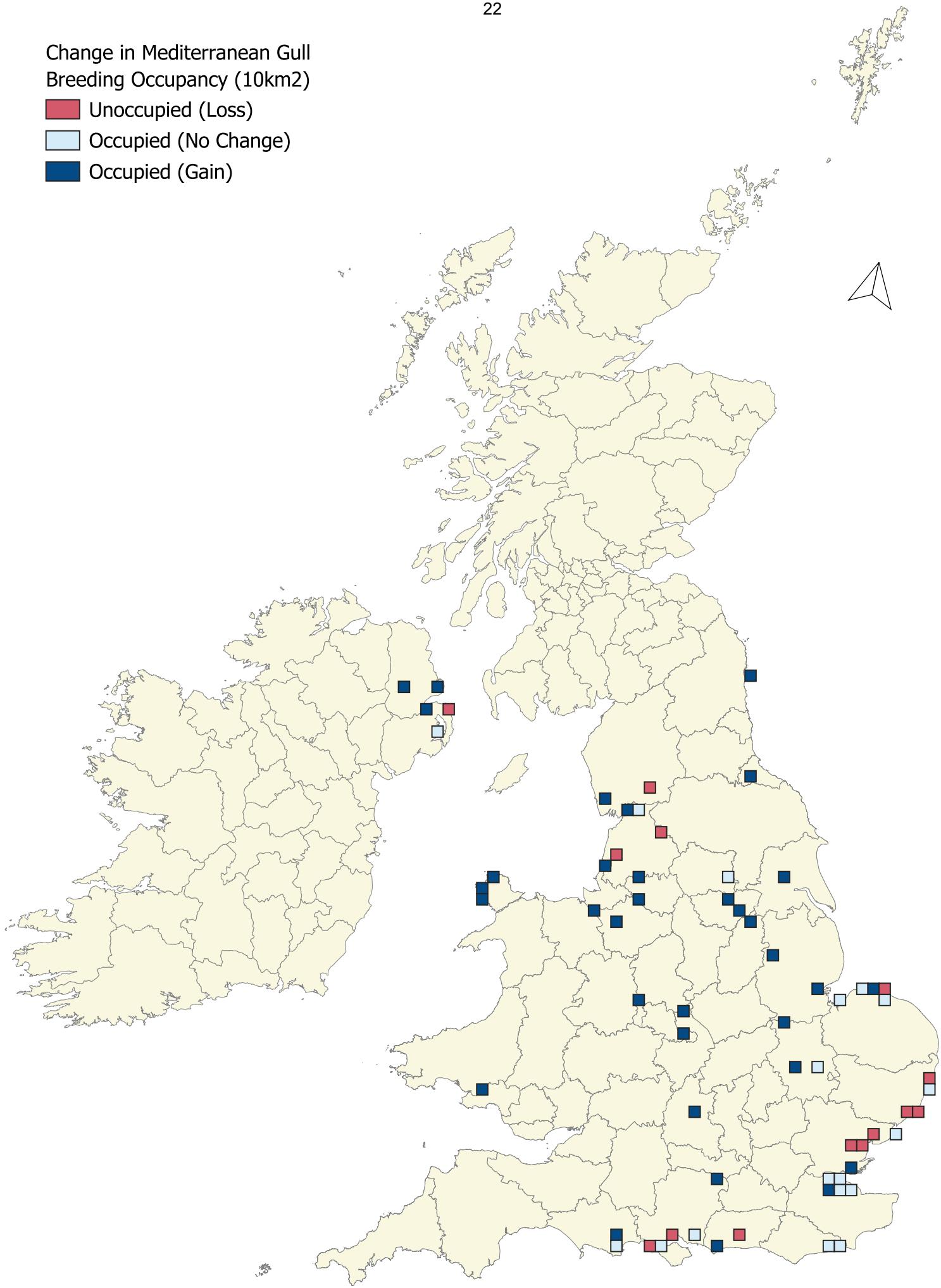
- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)





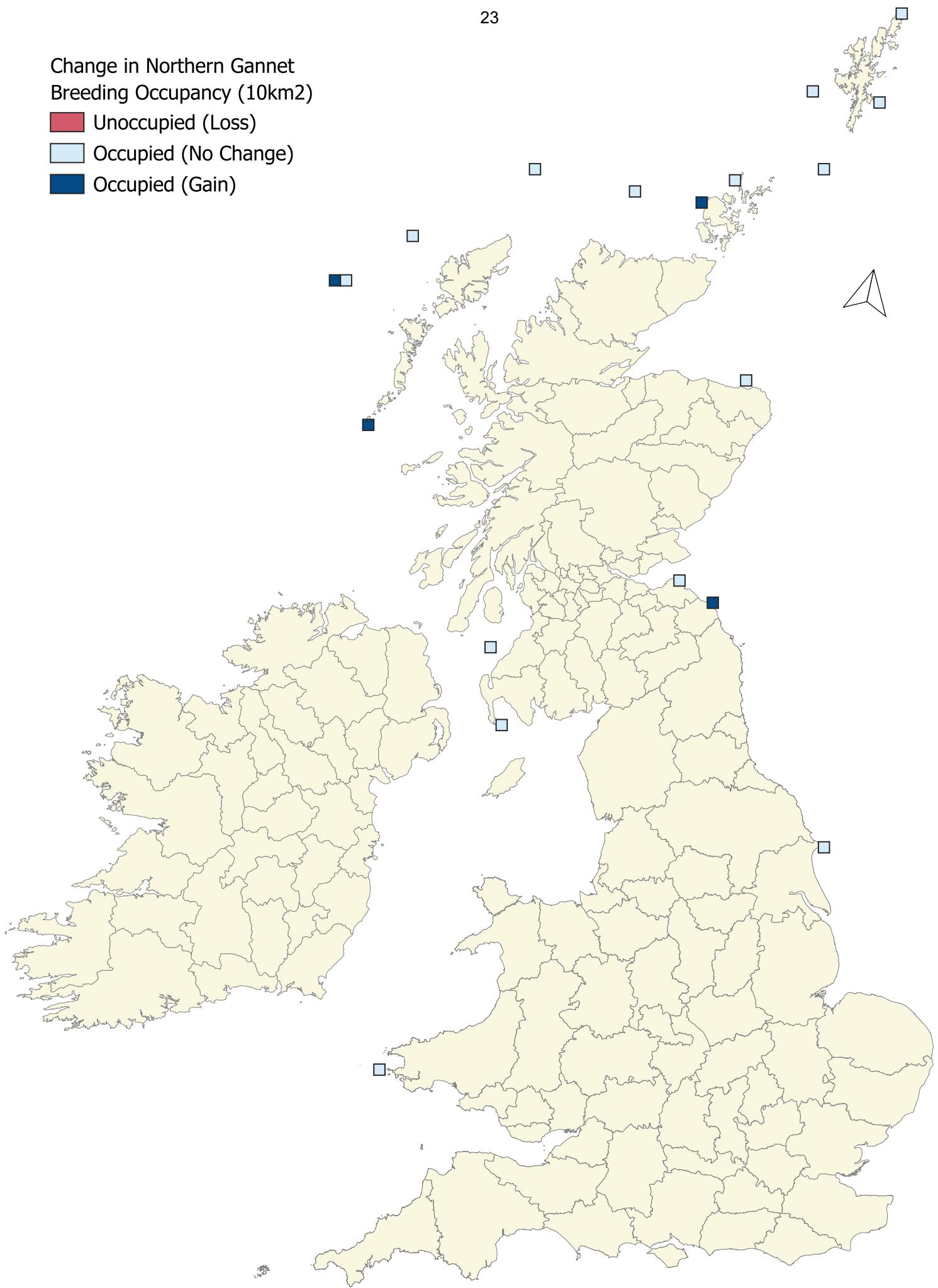
Change in Mediterranean Gull Breeding Occupancy (10km²)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



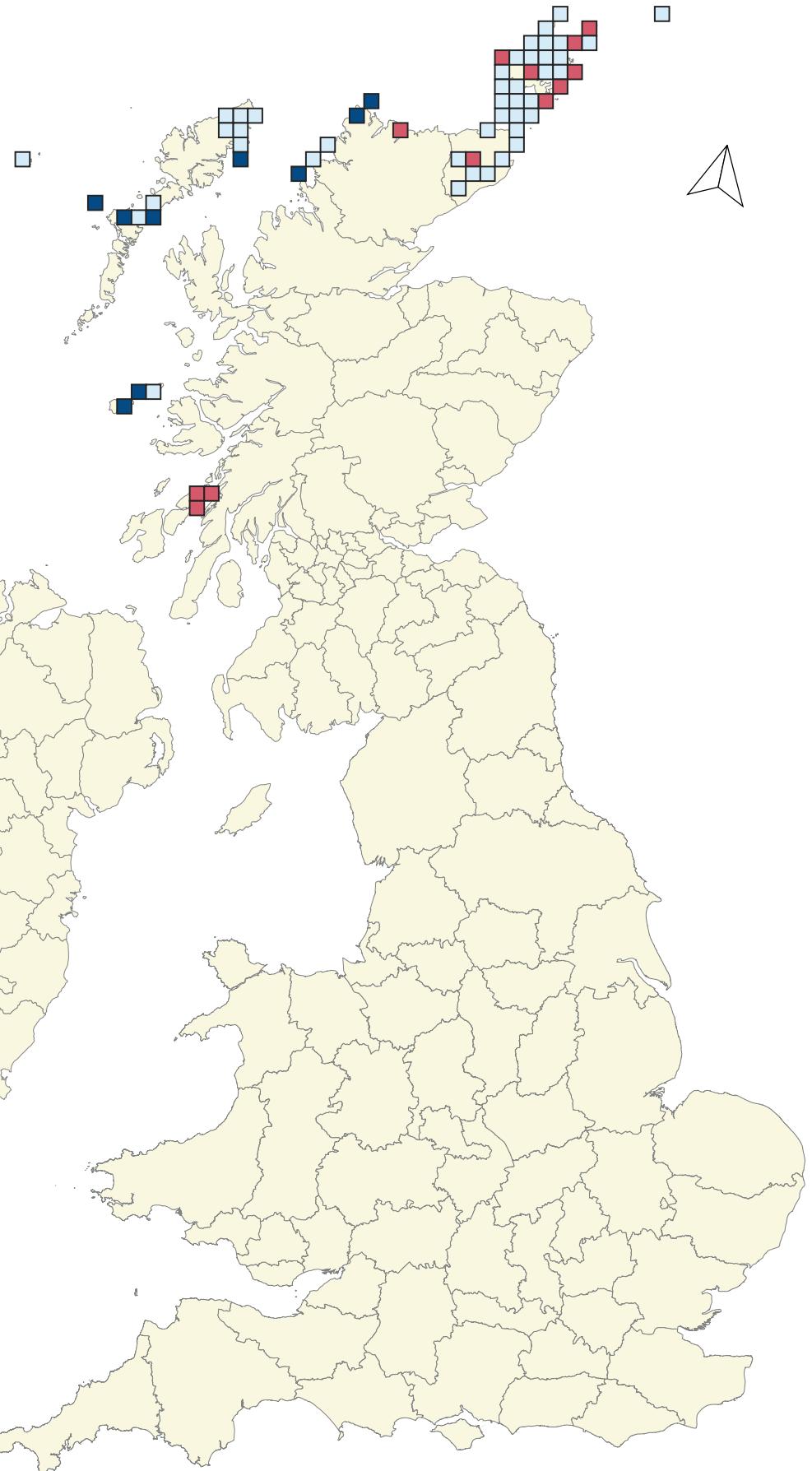
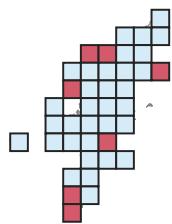
Change in Northern Gannet Breeding Occupancy (10km²)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



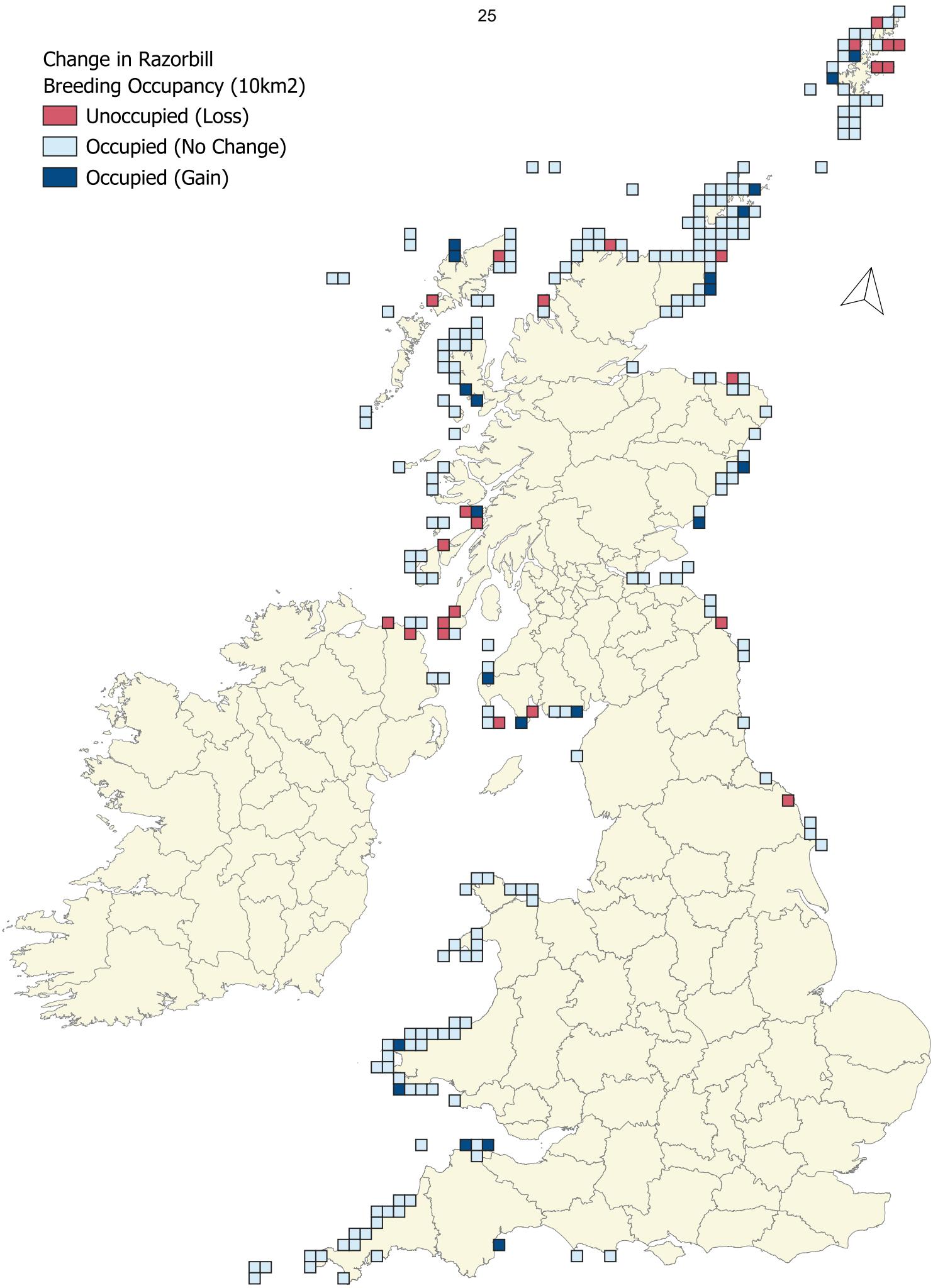
Change in Arctic Skua
Breeding Occupancy (10km²)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



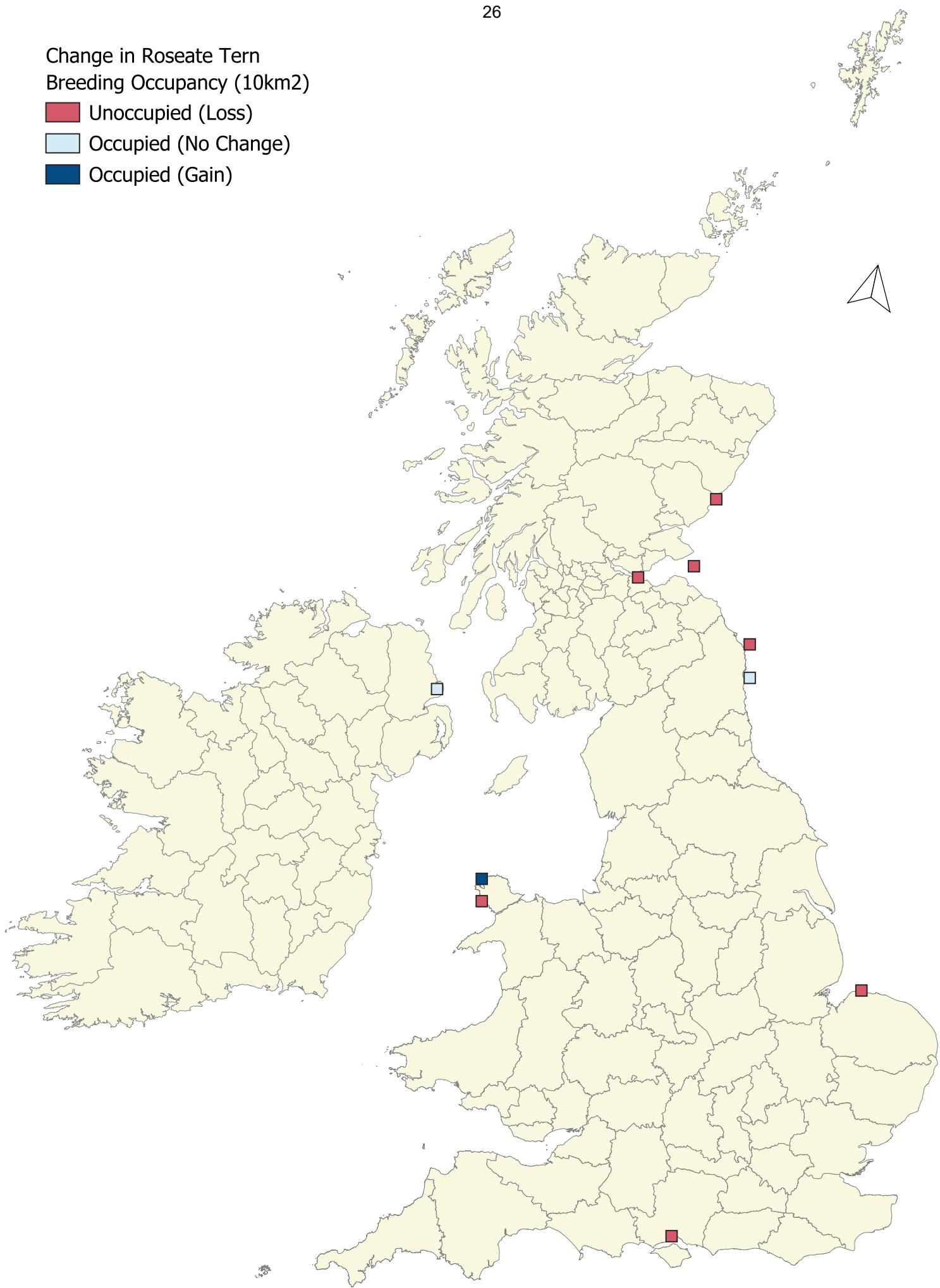
Change in Razorbill
Breeding Occupancy (10km2)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



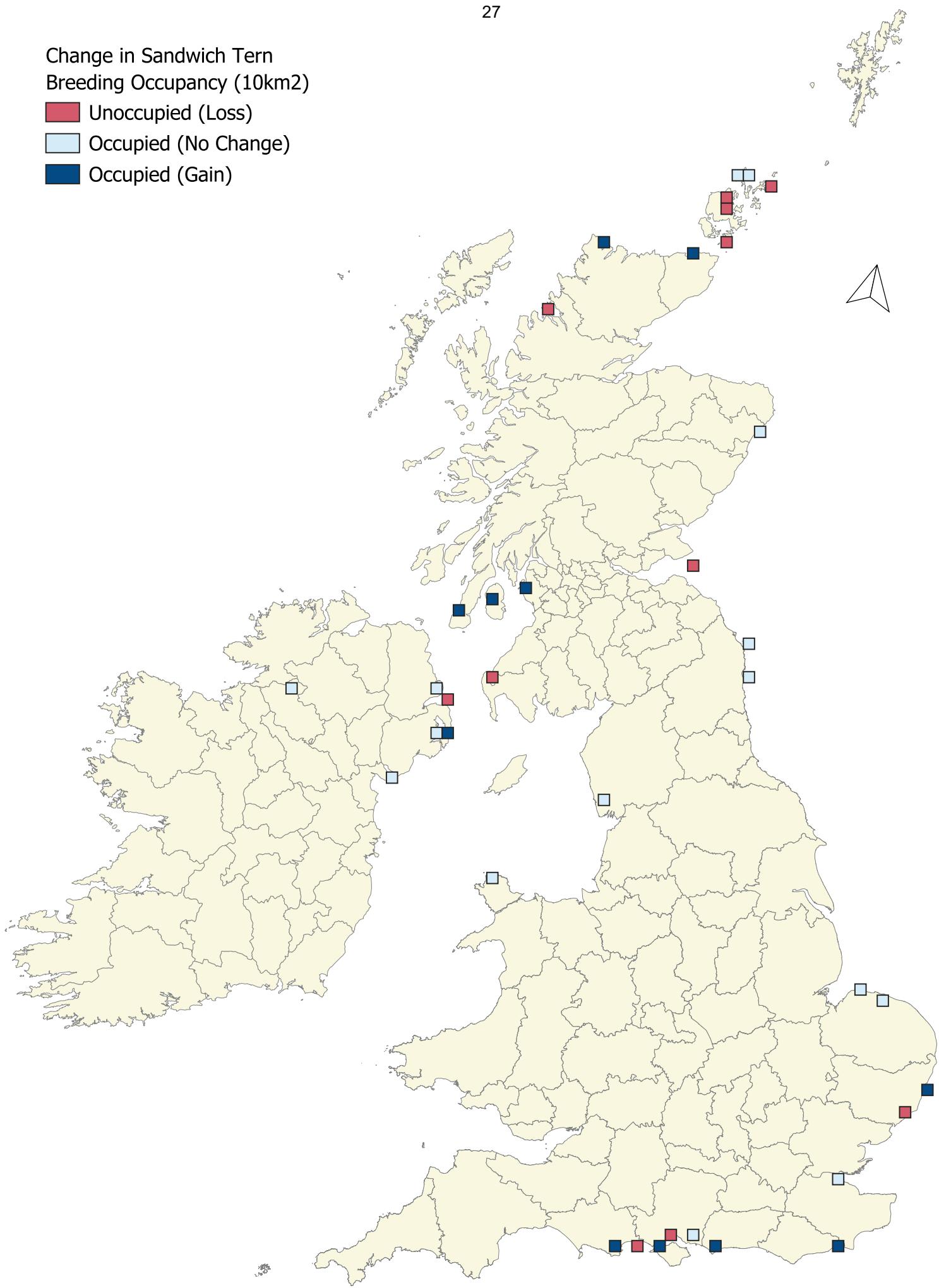
Change in Roseate Tern Breeding Occupancy (10km2)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



Change in Sandwich Tern Breeding Occupancy (10km²)

- Unoccupied (Loss)
- Occupied (No Change)
- Occupied (Gain)



References

Burnell, D., Perkins, A.J., Newton, S.F., Bolton, M., Tierney, T.D. and Dunn, T.E. 2023. *Seabirds Count: A census of breeding seabirds in Britain and Ireland (2015–2021)*. Lynx Nature Books, Cerdanyola del Vallès.

Mitchell, P.I., Newton, S.F., Ratcliffe, N. & Dunn, T.E. (eds). 2004. *Seabird Populations of Britain and Ireland*. Poyser, London.