

Plan for the Restoration of Habitats of Red and Amber-listed Birds of Conservation Concern A Summary



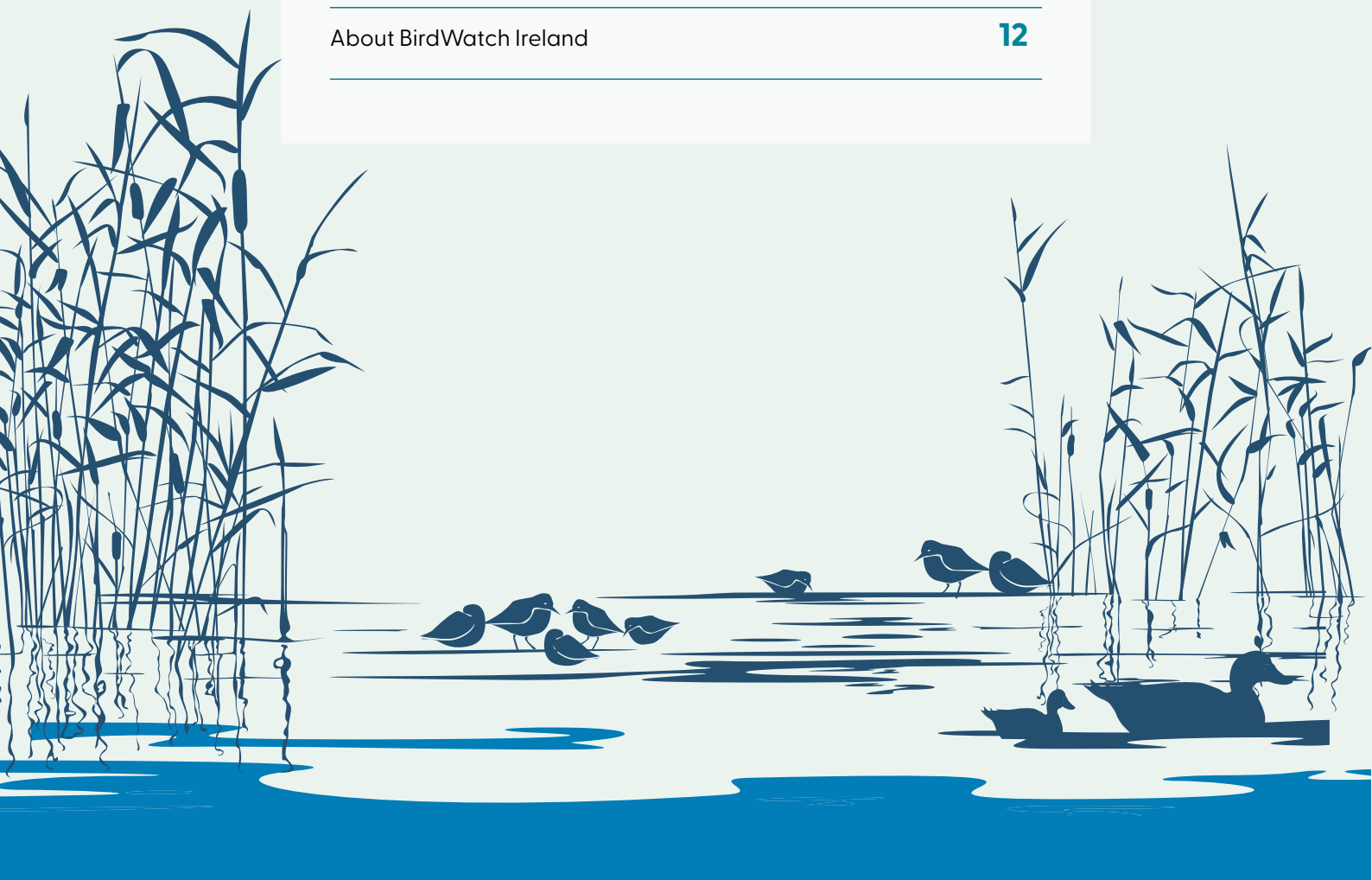
BirdWatchIreland
protecting birds and biodiversity





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An Opportunity for People, Nature and our Future

Ireland is our home, our legacy. But humans aren't the only ones to call this place home – Ireland is also home to a rich diversity of wildlife. We have been given a once in a generation opportunity that will shape the future of our communities, landscapes and nation. An opportunity to maintain and restore the place we, and so many other species, call home. An opportunity for hope.

Across Europe, EU Member States, including Ireland, have agreed to restore nature for people and wildlife by 2050 through the Nature Restoration Regulation. It requires the restoration of at least 20% of EU land and sea habitats by 2030, 60% by 2040 and all ecosystems by 2050. The Regulation also requires the restoration of “sufficient quality and quantity of habitats for birds” to restore and sustain populations.

Birds are indicators of the health of the environment. In Ireland, 63% of our 212 regularly occurring wild bird species are deemed to be at risk of extinction. This is extremely concerning. It means that our environment is significantly deteriorating in quality. On top of that, we know that 90% of our internationally important wildlife habitats are in poor condition. This not only threatens our resilience to cope with climate change but also threatens the many plant and animal species supported by these habitats.

The EU Nature Restoration Regulation requires that the Irish Government develops and implements a National Nature Restoration Plan. If properly funded and implemented, the plan should bring about the long-term and sustained recovery of wildlife on land and sea, as well as improve Ireland's resilience to climate change.

In order to inform the national plan, BirdWatch Ireland has prepared a restoration Plan to help Ireland's birds, which this document summarises. We have identified 71,450 hectares of habitat in protected areas which should be restored for threatened bird species, with over 9,000 hectares in public ownership, offering a great opportunity to start restoration quickly. We also present restoration measures.

In the course of our analysis for the Plan, we found that wetlands were the most important habitat for our most threatened bird species. Ireland's farmland, coastline and even urban areas are also crucial places for birds and nature, and we also identified measures for these habitats. In addition to restoring habitats, many of our suggested restoration actions would also help water quality, mitigate flood risk, help meet climate targets and benefit people.

Our Plan places an emphasis on EU protected habitats in Ireland's network of Special Protection Areas for birds and Special Areas of Conservation (the Natura 2000 sites) and so addresses the government's commitments and legal obligations to 2030. We hope to follow this up with further guidance on restoration areas and measures, including for the habitats outside the Natura 2000 sites, in the coming years.

We call on government to include the areas and measures identified by BirdWatch Ireland in its National Nature Restoration Plan and to ensure this restoration is properly funded and implemented.



The steps we took to develop the Restoration Plan for Birds

Restoration of habitats for birds is an important objective of the BirdWatch Ireland Strategy 2024-2030. Our first step in identifying habitat restoration areas for birds was to examine the 2020-2026 Red and Amber lists of Birds of Conservation Concern in Ireland to identify those species which would most benefit from habitat restoration measures here in Ireland. 52 focal species for both marine and terrestrial (including inter-tidal) habitats were identified; of these, 28 species were identified on the basis of their breeding populations, 16 on the basis of their wintering populations and 8 for both.

After further analysis of the habitats in which these birds are found, we grouped the target species (see Table 1) into four broad protected habitats (i.e. EU Annex I). These habitats are (i) moorland, (ii) lake and turlough habitat, (iii) estuaries & intertidal habitat, and (iv) wet grassland and fen habitat. In addition, we identified those species associated with farmland habitats, as there is a particular requirement in the regulation to protect these, as well birds that breed or overwinter in urban areas. For the marine habitats, we identified 10 priority seabird species for which habitat restoration measures would benefit their populations.

We gathered national bird survey and monitoring data to identify where these target species are found. We also examined data on the locations and conditions of protected habitats. We then layered these datasets and identified the protected areas which had opportunities for habitat restoration that would most benefit the threatened birds. We produced maps of these areas and further

identified land in these areas that was in public ownership, as government has signalled that the State should lead from the front and restore public lands in the first instance.

For moorland, lake/turlough and wet grassland/fen habitats, we identified areas of opportunity for restoration which have high numbers of species, low numbers of species and also additional areas where the creation or rehabilitation of severely degraded areas would most benefit protected birds.

We made recommendations on the habitat restoration measures that should be undertaken in these areas of opportunity to benefit the threatened birds associated with them. We also highlighted the need for monitoring of the effectiveness of restoration actions to chart progress. Finally, we discussed data gaps and the need to fill them.

All of us who live in Ireland have a role to play to restore nature in our everyday lives. Farmers, fishers and foresters have a particularly important role to play in restoration activities, and we call on government adequately to fund incentivisation measures to assist them to do this. This is a golden opportunity to reverse the fate of our most threatened bird species and to secure a more resilient future for ourselves.



Table 1: The four broad categories of protected terrestrial habitats and the threatened bird species that would benefit from their restoration.

See p.10 for list of seabird focal species.

Annex I habitat group	Season	Focal species
Moorland	Breeding	Teal, Red-breasted Merganser, Red Grouse, Hen Harrier, Golden Plover, Curlew, Dunlin, Snipe, Nightjar, Kestrel, Merlin, Chough, Skylark, Ring Ouzel, Whinchat, Meadow Pipit, Twite
	Winter	Greenland White-fronted Goose, Golden Plover
Lakes and turloughs	Breeding	Teal, Pochard, Common Scoter, Red-breasted Merganser, Red-throated Diver, Cormorant, Coot, Lapwing, Curlew, Common Sandpiper, Redshank, Snipe
	Winter	Greenland White-fronted Goose, Wigeon, Mallard, Pintail, Shoveler, Pochard, Tufted Duck, Great Crested Grebe, Coot, Lapwing, Curlew
Estuaries and intertidal	Breeding	Teal, Coot, Snipe
	Winter	Greenland White-fronted Goose, Greylag Goose, Barnacle Goose, Brent Goose, Wigeon, Mallard, Pintail, Shoveler, Pochard, Tufted Duck, Scaup, Great Crested Grebe, Coot, Golden Plover, Grey Plover, Lapwing, Ringed Plover, Curlew, Bar-tailed Godwit, Turnstone, Knot, Dunlin
Wet grassland	Breeding	Teal, Hen Harrier, Corncrake, Golden Plover, Lapwing, Curlew, Dunlin, Redshank, Snipe, Kestrel, Merlin, Skylark, Whinchat, Meadow Pipit, Twite
	Winter	Greenland White-fronted Goose, Wigeon, Mallard, Pintail, Shoveler, Golden Plover, Lapwing

Note: Estuaries and intertidal habitat group includes estuaries (1130¹), tidal mudflats and sandflats (1140), lagoons (1150), saltmarsh (1310-1420). Lakes and turlough habitat group includes oligotrophic isoetid lake habitat (3110), mixed *Najas flexilis* lake habitat (3130), hard-water lake habitat (3140), rich pondweed lake habitat (3150), acid oligotrophic lake habitat (3160), turloughs (3180). Moorland habitat group includes wet heath (4010), dry heath (4030), alpine and subalpine heath (4060), species-rich *Nardus* grasslands (6230), raised bogs (7110-7120), blanket bogs (7130), transition mires (7140). Wet grassland and fen habitat group includes *Molinia* meadows (6410), lowland hay meadows (6510), *Cladium fens* (7210), alkaline fens (7230).

¹ The number following a habitat type refers to EU Habitats Directive code.

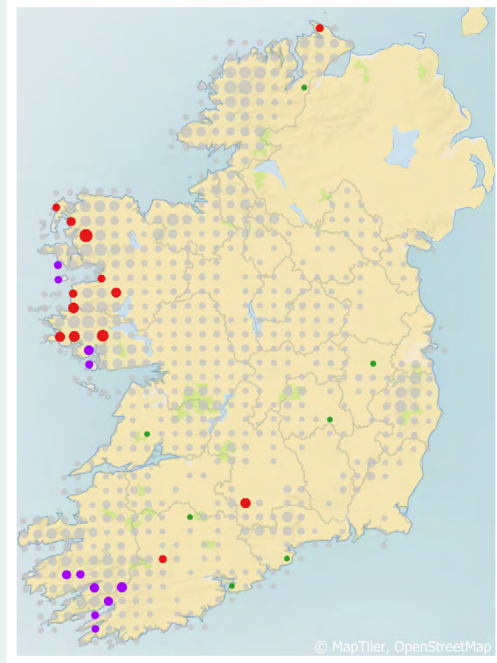
More information including the full Plan detailing the methodology can be found on the BirdWatch Ireland website here: www.birdwatchireland.ie/nature-restoration

Gittings, T., Kennedy, J., Adcock, T., Burke, B., Duggan, O., O'Flaherty, C., Caffrey, B. and Donaghy, A. (2026). Plan for the restoration of habitats of red and amber-listed Birds of Conservation Concern in Ireland under the EU Nature Restoration Regulation. Report prepared by BirdWatch Ireland.

Moorland Habitat

The moorland group includes mostly upland peat-based habitats, including wet and dry heath, blanket bog and upland grassland. These habitats are found where soils are acidic, often wet and nutrient poor, where heather, grasses, sedges and mosses thrive. The long tradition of human influence in the uplands has meant that the plants and animals that live there have evolved alongside the activities of people for thousands of years. However, accelerated changes and activities, including drainage, peat cutting, over grazing, afforestation and wind farms constructed on peat, have reduced the quantity and quality of habitats available to birds, leading to significant declines in some bird populations. Restoration of moorland habitats provides many other benefits, including the prevention of carbon release and improvements to water quality.

Figure 1: Map of Areas of Opportunity for Restoration of Moorland Habitat for Birds (wet and dry heath, blanket bog and upland grassland). Areas of moorland habitat that did not meet our prioritisation exercise criteria at this time, but may in the future, have been greyed out.



Areas of Opportunity		Hectares
●	Habitat Restoration (many focal bird species)	● 8000 – 9795
●	Habitat Restoration (fewer focal bird species)	● 6000 – 8000
●	Habitat Creation	● 4000 – 6000
		● 2000 – 4000
		● 0 – 2000

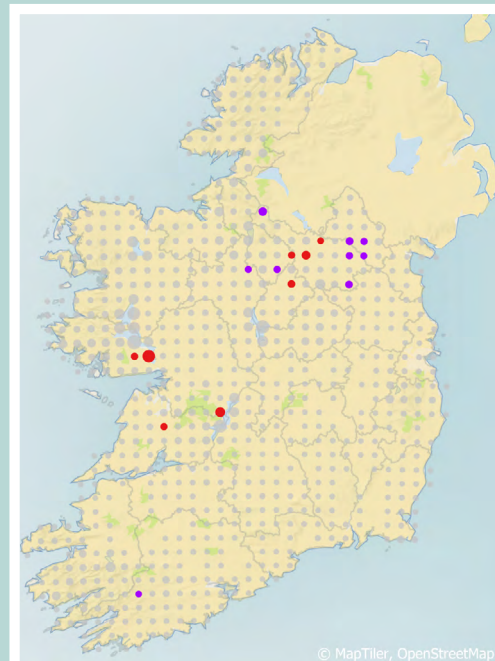


The Focal Bird Species	Breeding Teal, Red-breasted Merganser, Red Grouse, Hen Harrier, Golden Plover, Curlew, Dunlin, Snipe, Nightjar, Kestrel, Merlin, Chough, Skylark, Ring Ouzel, Whinchat, Meadow Pipit, Twite
	Wintering Greenland White-fronted Goose, Golden Plover
Areas of Opportunity for Restoration	We identified 457km ² of moorland habitat in Natura 2000 sites (340km ² in Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and 117km ² of moorland in Special Protection Areas (SPAs) where habitat restoration would most benefit threatened bird species. This is also the habitat group with the most land in public ownership (84km ²), where restoration measures could more easily be targeted. Data on raised bogs in the Midlands need to be further analysed and areas of opportunity for restoration are not included in this report. See Figure 1: Map of Areas of Opportunity for Restoration of Moorland Habitat for Birds.
Restoration Measures	Restoration measures include re-wetting drained peatlands, removing inappropriately planted forestry on peat soils, cessation of peat extraction, restoration of peat-forming vegetation, control of invasive species and scrub encroachment to maintain open conditions, reducing disturbance and predation pressure. Protecting large and connected open habitats is very important.

Lake and Turlough Habitats

Lake habitats comprise a range of specific protected waterbody types found in Ireland, including clear, mountain limestone and peatland lakes, all with unique assemblages of wildlife adapted to different conditions. Turloughs are seasonal lakes, fed by groundwater in limestone areas and usually disappear in the summer. Ireland holds the majority of the world's turloughs. Lake and turlough habitats are important for ducks, divers, geese and swans, collectively known as waterbirds. They form an important wetland habitat stretching across Ireland that provides vital winter refuges for our internationally important populations of wintering waterbirds. In summer, they provide important breeding habitat for many resident species and some migratory (e.g. Red-Throated Diver). The waterbirds will use the different water depths found in lakes and turloughs, and feed on plants and insects that make up healthy habitats and the grassy areas around them.

Figure 2: Map of Areas of Opportunity for Restoration of Lake and Turlough Habitats for Birds. Areas of lake and turlough habitats that did not meet our prioritisation exercise criteria at this time, but may in the future, have been greyed out.

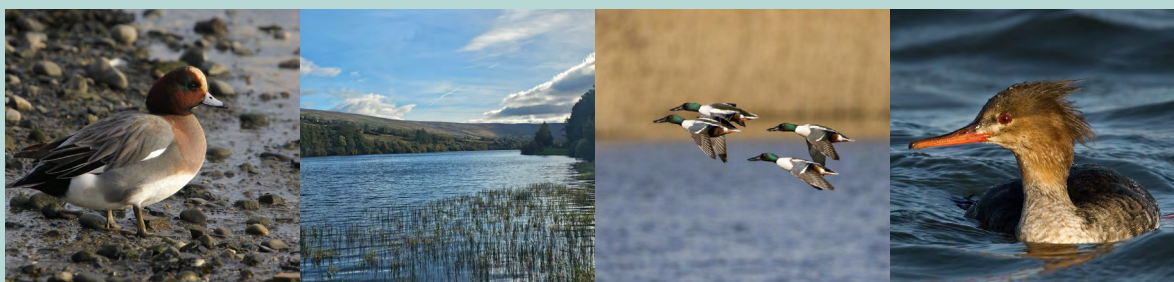


Areas of Opportunity

- Habitat Restoration (many focal bird species)
- Habitat Restoration (fewer focal bird species)

Hectares

- 4000 – 5654
- 2000 – 4000
- 0 – 2000



The Focal Bird Species

Breeding

Teal, Pochard, Common Scoter, Red-breasted Merganser, Red-throated Diver, Cormorant, Coot, Lapwing, Curlew, Common Sandpiper, Redshank, Snipe

Wintering

Greenland White-fronted Goose, Wigeon, Mallard, Pintail, Shoveler, Pochard, Tufted Duck, Great Crested Grebe, Coot, Lapwing, Curlew

Areas of Opportunity for Restoration

Our analysis found that Counties Cavan, Monaghan and Leitrim had the most lakes in poor condition. Our prioritisation exercise identified some protected areas with restoration potential in those counties out to 2030, but there are other areas too in the southern part of Lough Corrib, on the western side of Lough Derg, in mid-Clare and around Lough Allua in west Cork. We identified 118km² of lake habitat area of opportunity in 17 Natura sites (55 km² in 10 SACs and 63km² in 7 SPAs). See Figure 2 : Map of Areas of Opportunity for Restoration of Lake and Turlough Habitats for Birds.

Restoration Measures

Key restoration measures for the lake-associated focal species include protecting and reinstating natural movement of water, improving water quality and maintaining a diverse mix of shallow water, open wet grassland and vegetated margins.

The restoration measures align closely with the conservation objectives for the focal breeding and wintering waterbird species by addressing the key ecological drivers that underpin habitat suitability, productivity and population stability. Measures to restore natural hydrological regimes and improve water quality will restore the water clarity, vegetation structure and invertebrate and fish prey bases that are essential for foraging waterbirds.

Estuaries and Intertidal Habitat

Our estuaries and intertidal areas are the points where freshwater and sea water mix and include lagoons, saltmarshes and mudflats. They are usually very rich in bird life, being especially important for migratory birds that spend the winter in Ireland. These habitats provide food for birds and areas where they can rest. They are also a buffer between land and sea for people. We identified eight estuaries where habitat creation would be beneficial for people and for the wild bird species.

Figure 3: Map of Areas of Opportunity for Restoration in Estuary and Intertidal Habitats

Habitat Creation Opportunity (ha)

- 1500 – 2000
- 1000 – 1500
- 500 – 1000
- 0 – 500



The Focal Bird Species

Breeding

Teal, Coot, Snipe

Wintering

Greenland White-fronted Goose, Greylag Goose, Barnacle Goose, Brent Goose, Wigeon, Mallard, Pintail, Shoveler, Pochard, Tufted Duck, Scaup, Great Crested Grebe, Coot, Golden Plover, Grey Plover, Lapwing, Ringed Plover, Curlew, Bar-tailed Godwit, Turnstone, Knot, Dunlin

Areas of Opportunity for Restoration

In our analysis, we identified eight estuary Areas of Opportunity, away from heavily urbanised areas, which had around 91km² of land potentially suitable for managed realignment and to provide a further buffer between seas and property:

- Dundalk Bay, Co. Louth
- Rogerstown Estuary, Co. Dublin
- Baldoy Bay, Co. Dublin
- Cork Harbour, Co. Cork
- Castlemaine Harbour, Co. Kerry
- Tralee Bay Complex, Co. Kerry
- Inner Galway Bay, Co. Galway
- Lough Swilly, Co. Donegal

See Figure 3: Map of Areas of Opportunity for Restoration in Estuary and Intertidal Habitats.

Restoration Measures

For both people and waterbirds living in some coastal areas, sea level rise is a worrying pressure and a threat that is growing in significance. This is a climate change induced effect caused by warming waters.

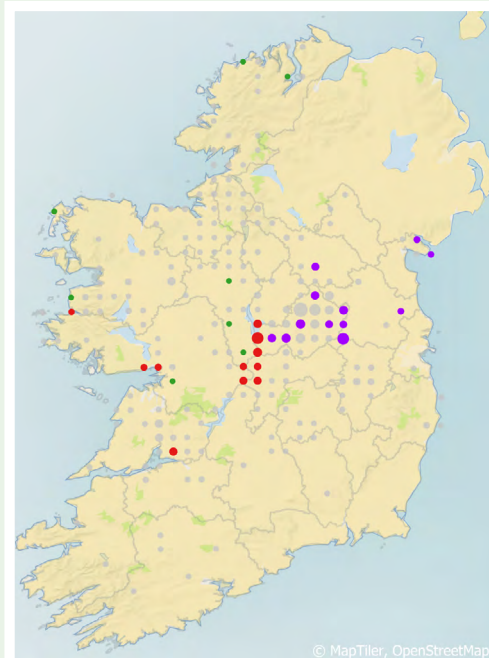
One option to protect people, property and waterbirds from coastal flooding is managed realignment. It is a nature-based solution to flood defence that involves the deliberate landward movement of coastal flood defences, allowing land historically claimed from the sea to revert to natural tidal habitats. This is a long-term solution which needs to be led by careful and sensitive planning and discussion with communities in these coastal areas that are very vulnerable to sea level rise. Habitat re-creation in some coastal areas through managed realignment is the most effective way to assist the bird species to continue to live there.

Wet Grassland and Fen Habitats

Wet grassland habitats are generally low-lying areas and often floodplain grasslands with damp or waterlogged soils for much of the year. In spring, they will often have wet flushes and high ditch water tables and are of great importance for breeding waders such as Lapwing and Redshank. They also support a wide variety of other bird species, as well as grasses, wildflowers and insects. These habitats are important for biodiversity, flood control and grazing livestock.

Fens are peat-forming wetlands fed by groundwater that is rich in minerals. The habitat is comprised of reeds, sedges, mosses and rare plants adapted to constantly wet conditions. They provide valuable habitats for birds such as Snipe and Curlew, as well as for amphibians and insects. Fen habitats also help to store carbon and filter water.

Figure 4: Map of Areas of Opportunity for Restoration of Wet Grassland and Fen Habitats. Areas of wet grassland and fen habitats that did not meet our prioritisation exercise criteria at this time, but may in the future, have been greyed out.



Areas of Opportunity

- Habitat Restoration (many focal bird species)
- Habitat Restoration (fewer focal bird species)
- Habitat Creation

Hectares

- 1000 – 1259
- 500 – 1000
- 0 – 500



The Focal Bird Species

Breeding

Teal, Hen Harrier, Corncrake, Golden Plover, Lapwing, Curlew, Dunlin, Redshank, Snipe, Kestrel, Merlin, Skylark, Whinchat, Meadow Pipit, Twite

Wintering

Greenland White-fronted Goose, Wigeon, Mallard, Pintail, Shoveler, Golden Plover, Lapwing

Areas of Opportunity for Restoration

Floodplain callows, including those on the Shannon and the Little Brosna rivers in the Midlands, have come out as top sites for restoration of both breeding and wintering birds associated with the wet grassland and fen habitat group. We identified 57km² of wet grassland and fen habitat in Natura 2000 sites (40km² in SACs and 17 km² in SPAs) that should be restored to benefit bird species.

See Figure 4: Map of Areas of Opportunity for Restoration of Wet Grassland and Fen Habitats.

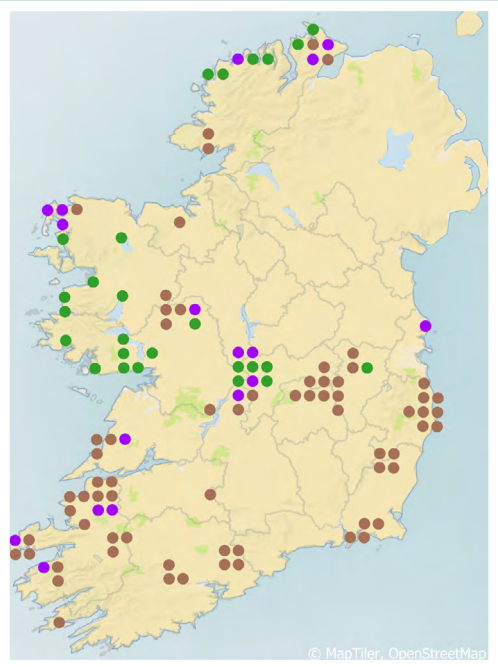
Restoration Measures

Restoration measures include restoring natural hydrology, maintaining shallow winter floods and summer high water tables, creating a mosaic of short and medium sward through carefully timed grazing and mowing, provision of safe roosting and feeding areas and reducing disturbance and predation by corvids and mammals.

Farmland

Farmland in Ireland supports a rich diversity of habitats important for many threatened birds and other wildlife. With the active involvement and support of farmers, habitats such as species-rich grasslands are important for Skylarks, traditional hay meadows shelter breeding Corncrakes and rough grazing areas can be important for Hen Harriers. In winter, too, flooded grasslands support geese and swans and stubble fields can sustain small birds which rely on seeds. We identified 29 species that would benefit from the restoration of farmland habitats. These include rare breeding species which in Ireland now are restricted to just a few places, such as Curlew and increasingly Lapwing, but also those which are more widespread, such as Kestrel and Yellowhammer. Wintering waterbirds, such as Greenland White-fronted Goose, are also included in cases where farmland is an important habitat that supports their populations.

Figure 5: Map of Areas of Opportunity for Restoration of Farmland Habitats



Areas of Opportunity

- Areas important for both widespread and scarce farmland birds
- Areas important for mainly scarce farmland birds
- Areas important for mainly widespread farmland birds



The Focal Bird Species	Breeding <i>Scarce:</i> Red Grouse, Hen Harrier, Corncrake, Lapwing, Curlew, Dunlin, Barn Owl, Chough, <i>More widespread:</i> Stock Dove, Kestrel, Skylark, Swallow, Yellowhammer
Areas of Opportunity for Restoration	Most of these farmland bird species are found on a range of habitats across Ireland and there is often less detailed information on their specific locations, making the identification of the Areas of Opportunity more challenging. However, using information from the Bird Atlases, together with more detailed spatial data where available, we were able to identify those 10km squares which had a high number of the focal species, and therefore where measures to protect and restore farmland habitats would be most beneficial. Areas where there are higher numbers of scarce breeding species include the midland bogs and wetlands of the River Shannon from Lough Ree to Lough Derg, parts of Connemara and north Co. Donegal. Areas important for wintering waterbirds associated with farmland occur around many of the main estuaries, including Lough Swilly, Dundalk Bay, the Shannon/Fergus Estuary and the Wexford Slob. Areas with higher numbers of the more widespread target species are distributed across Ireland, therefore measures to restore farmland habitats, particularly through agri-environment schemes, which focus on measures to support these species, will be generally beneficial. See Figure 5: Map of Areas of Opportunity for Restoration of Farmland Habitats

Restoration Measures

Restoration measures for the target farmland bird species in general should focus on maintaining and restoring the ecological support networks that provide sufficient nesting, roosting and feeding areas to allow populations to recover to sustainable levels. As most farmland in Ireland is in private ownership, agri-environment schemes are the main way in which farmers can be incentivised to undertake measures to benefit farmland birds. For birds of prey such as Kestrel and Barn Owl, this includes measures to provide prey-rich habitats, such as extensively managed grasslands, rough grass margins and high-quality hedgerows, as well as providing appropriately sited nest boxes.

For small farmland birds such as Yellowhammer, measures such as leaving winter stubbles or providing wild bird cover crops can provide seeds to help them survive the winter. These measure will also benefit Stock Doves, together with retaining mature trees that can provide nest sites.

For breeding waders, reducing predation of nests and chicks is the most important measure. This can be through predator-proof fencing and targeted predator control. Other measures include providing wet areas such as scrapes or wet flushes in spring and low intensity grazing management of extensive pastures.

For wintering farmland birds, including geese and wintering waders, providing undisturbed areas of wetland is key, including coastal pastures and floodplain grasslands. These areas should be left undisturbed overwinter, with low intensity management.

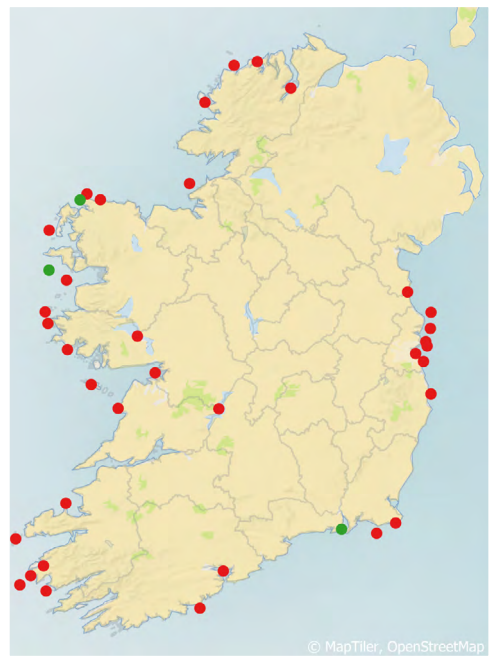
The Areas of Opportunity in Figure 5 indicate the areas where agri-environment schemes with measures which provide these and other habitats beneficial to threatened farmland birds should be targeted.



Seabirds

Ireland is internationally important for breeding seabirds and holds globally significant breeding populations of several species. We host 23% of the international breeding population of European Storm Petrel; 13.5% of the international population of breeding Manx Shearwater and more than 85% of the north-west European population of Roseate Tern. Restoration of habitats for seabirds will require conservation efforts to improve habitat suitability both at coastal terrestrial breeding colonies and also habitats in the broader marine environment where they feed. Both aspects are crucial to the survival and reproductive success of seabird species.

Figure 6: Map of Areas of Opportunity for Restoration of Habitats for Seabirds



Areas of Opportunity

- Special Protection Area important for seabirds
- Important Bird and Biodiversity Area for Seabirds



The Focal Bird Species	There are 10 seabirds for whom habitat restoration in Ireland would be particularly beneficial: Manx Shearwater, European Storm Petrel, Black-headed Gull, Kittiwake, Sandwich Tern, Roseate Tern, Common Tern, Arctic Tern, Little Tern, Puffin.
Areas of Opportunity for Restoration	We identified 60 priority seabird breeding colonies at 38 locations all around Ireland’s coast that require a range of restoration measures. Three of these locations require legal protection in the first instance and all require specific action to assist the seabirds to breed successfully. See Figure 6: Map of Areas of Opportunity for Restoration of Habitats for Seabirds.
Restoration Measures	In 2025, BirdWatch Ireland identified the most important sites for seabirds – our network of Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas for Seabirds in Ireland. Many of these have already been designated as Special Protection Areas, but some have not and these sites should be designated as soon as possible in order to protect them. Measures to improve breeding success at island sites, in particular, include the control of invasive alien species, such as rats and American Mink; eradicating these is essential to stop these predators from eating eggs and chicks. Wardening at breeding colonies with high visitor numbers to prevent disturbance from people and the cessation of damaging fishing activities at sea, which affect the food supply of many seabirds, are also critical. Minimising the impacts from offshore renewables into the future will also be very important.

Birds that frequent our towns and cities

The Nature Restoration Regulation has specific requirements for urban ecosystems, including greening and tree planting. Urban areas are also very important for bird species. We have focused on two species which are particularly important: The Swift and the Brent Goose.



The Focal Bird Species

Swifts are migratory birds that nest in buildings. They are in serious trouble due to loss of nest sites as a consequence of construction works and retrofitting. Ireland hosts approximately 95% of the East Canadian High Arctic Population of Brent Goose. This species eats the grass of playing pitches and amenity grasslands in the greater Dublin area when supplies of eelgrass run low in the estuaries. They are also vulnerable to human disturbance in highly urbanised environments.

Restoration Measures

The Nature Restoration Regulation requires greening measures in urban centres and this is important for many reasons. However greening should be appropriate to the area and the biodiversity that is already supported there. For example Brent Geese like open areas and tree planting would not be appropriate in areas where they feed. Any tree planting that is planned should be of native species and Irish grown. Restoration of seagrass in estuaries that Brent Geese eat should also be trialled and undertaken.

It is critical that the nest sites of Swifts are retained when works are carried out. Swift bricks could also be introduced in new buildings especially on public buildings while Swift boxes can help too on existing private and public buildings.



About BirdWatch Ireland

BirdWatch Ireland is the largest independent conservation organisation in Ireland. A registered charity, its aim is the conservation of wild birds and their natural habitats. Established in 1968, it has over 15,000 members, thousands of volunteers and a growing network of over 25 local branches. It manages nature reserves which protect threatened habitats and the wildlife that relies on them, works to conserve Ireland's biodiversity, undertakes surveys and monitoring of bird populations, produces a range of media to raise wider awareness of nature conservation in Ireland, and carries out important advocacy, education, survey and research work.

BirdWatch Ireland is the official Irish partner of BirdLife International, the world's largest partnership of conservation organisations, which strives to conserve birds, their habitats and global biodiversity.

Over to you!

There are several important ways in which you can help us to help Ireland's birds and biodiversity:

1. Become a member of BirdWatch Ireland and help provide us with sustained support. Find more info here <https://birdwatchireland.ie/get-involved/join-us-become-a-member/>
2. We can all be advocates for nature.
 - a. Tell your elected representatives that nature is important to you. And tell them often.
 - b. Ask them to fund nature restoration locally and nationally.
3. Support environmental organisations like us who are fighting for a healthy environment every day of the week. Sign up to receive our newsletter here: www.birdwatchireland.ie/ewings
4. Become a BirdWatch Ireland volunteer and help us on our nature reserves or at one of our national events.
5. Participate in our citizen science surveys, gathering data that helps to inform our conservation priorities and assess the health of Ireland's habitats, and submit your bird sightings to our BirdTrack recording portal (www.birdtrack.net).
6. Support your local BirdWatch Ireland branch, attend their talks and guided nature walks.

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protecting birds and biodiversity

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