

Wallasea Wetland bird monitoring - October-December 2007

This inter-tidal wetland, created on Wallasea Island by DEFRA, is designed to compensate for bird habitat losses elsewhere in SE England. The site is being surveyed for winter bird usage to monitor the success of the scheme. Six counts were carried out in winter 2006/07, with a further 12 planned (two/month) this winter. The counts are being carried out by *CJT Ecology* on behalf of DEFRA.

The following table summarises the results from the six counts carried Oct-Dec 2007 and compares them with the equivalent 2006 count. When comparing 2007 with 2006 it is clear that the majority of species have increased in number, particularly the longer beaked wading birds. There were some high total overall totals in 2006 but these were dominated by the relatively high numbers of both golden plover and lapwing.

	October		November		December	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
Cormorant	9	9	9	9	14	9
Little egret	45	37	10	21	18	6
Shelduck	10	3	1	702	0	557
Teal	7	420	21	134	762	110
Mallard	11	71	110	98	133	146
Goosander	0	0	0	0	0	1
Avocet	0	135	0	52	0	3
Ringed plover	733	507	303	213	167	275
Golden plover	1352	1300	150	655	828	446
Grey plover	11	56	26	84	22	125
Lapwing	1530	762	362	639	1530	940
Little stint	6	2	3	1	3	1
Dunlin	159	762	424	724	514	2222
Black-tailed godwit	0	42	7	183	4	110
Curlew	9	26	12	72	43	83
Redshank	92	338	77	320	62	223
Greenshank	3	22	0	1	0	1
Turnstone	0	1	1	1	0	2
Black-headed gull	62	385	77	320	62	223
Herring gull	2	161	76	92	18	97
Great black-backed gull	1	9	5	10	0	2
Kingfisher	2	1	0	1	0	0
Skylark	23	12	49	14	17	15
Meadow pipit	8	23	17	20	8	12
Rock pipit	1	4	0	3	0	4
Linnet	85	8	2	5	3	12
Reed bunting	2	12	2	6	2	4
Total for all species:	4356	5211	1877	4994	4311	5635

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