

Wader & Clough woodland surveys

I realise this is short notice and maybe not possible at this late stage, but I wondering if you might know of anyone who would be interested in undertaking wader surveys on a voluntary basis.

There are a couple of farms on which we would like to monitor waders using O'Brien & Smith lowland breeding wader survey methodology; one near Glossop and the other near Strines Moor.

Additionally, as you are probably aware the National Trust on its High Peak Estate has proposed a number of sites for clough woodland planting/fencing, most of which have not yet started. It would be very useful to monitor bird usage of these habitats now so that we have a baseline, and also monitor any impacts on breeding waders.

I have been debating the best way forward with these, since it would really involve two separate survey methodologies, which would double the amount of volunteer effort required. Consequently, I propose that volunteers carry out a CBC survey through each area –cloughs and clough tops (3 visits over the breeding season) and to also incorporate a wider surrounding area if feasible to pick up waders. (However this may mean a lot of ground per person to cover and would depend on the area of each site, TBC). I am willing to change the methodology proposed if anyone has a better idea.

To keep you updated of other monitoring in the Dark peak, we have contracted a surveyor to survey 8 mostly inbye habitat sites around Upper Midhope, Broomhead, Windlden/Dunford, Low Lathe/Hazlehead, Flight Hill/Law Head and Longside Edge. A volunteer will survey Hathersage Moor for Moors for the future. I have recruited a volunteer to survey a number of sites around Holme and all gamekeepers have agreed to carry out a breeding wader survey(mostly presence/absence methodology). Farmers will survey sites at Moscar and Abney Moor. I am happy to send you the results from all of these after the season.

Will it be possible for you to spread the word amongst your club and ask any interested individuals to contact me?

Thank you very much

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