

Much Marcle Bird Ringing Report 2018

The Constant Effort Sites (CES) scheme is the first national standardised ringing programme within the [BTO Ringing Scheme](#) and has been running since 1983. Ringers operate the same nets in the same locations over the same time period at regular intervals through the breeding season at over 130 sites throughout Britain and Ireland.

The Scheme provides valuable trend information on abundance of adults and juveniles, productivity and also adult survival rates for 24 species of common songbird.

The CES has run at Much Marcle now for over twenty years, is the only CES in Herefordshire, and has contributed important data to the national scheme, especially for reed Warblers and Spotted Flycatchers.

The 2018 season was unusual, with a cold and wet start after a very cold spring, followed by a hot and dry summer. Reed growth was late, followed by rapid and luxuriant growth. The dry summer however, led to a poor growth of aphids on the reeds, the presence or absence of which greatly influences the number of birds using the site later in the season. All twelve of the main survey visits were completed successfully, and a further twelve additional visits were made to complement the CES visits and to monitor autumn usage of the site prior to migration.

As will be seen from the tables below, although it was a late breeding season, it was a particularly successful breeding season for the main bird of the site – Reed Warbler. Other species fared reasonably well with most having an average catch. More Sedge warblers than usual were caught, and fewer Garden Warblers than usual trapped.

A total of 1430 birds were handled during the season, of 33 species.

CES Submission Summary Sheet

Site No: **827** Ringer/Group: **Mervyn Greening**

Year: **2018**

Site Name: **Much Marcle CES**

County: **GBHER**

Grid Ref: **SO6533**

Species	Visits 1 to 6			Visits 1 to 12			Additional Visits			Captures in CES season without a visit	Total
	Adult	Juv	Age 2	Adult	Juv	Age 2	Adult	Juv	Age 2		
GRESA	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
WOODP	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
KINGF	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0
GRSWO	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
SWALL	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
HOUMA	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	5	0	0	0
WREN	3	9	0	5	25	0	1	9	0	0	0
DUNNO	8	13	0	12	18	0	1	3	0	0	0
ROBIN	4	7	0	8	16	0	1	7	0	0	0
REDST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
BLABI	17	4	0	26	23	0	2	2	0	0	0
SONTH	1	0	0	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
SEDWA	0	0	0	2	8	0	0	10	0	0	0
REEWA	54	7	0	75	109	0	4	37	0	0	0
LESWH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
WHITE	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
GARWA	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0
BLACA	9	4	0	15	56	0	2	51	0	0	0
CHIFF	2	2	0	6	61	0	6	52	0	0	0
WILWA	0	0	0	10	45	0	9	18	0	0	0
SPOFL	1	0	0	3	5	0	2	3	0	0	0
LOTTI	2	0	0	3	5	0	0	0	9	0	0
COATI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
BLUTI	15	7	0	19	29	0	6	19	0	0	0
GRETI	6	17	0	7	29	0	1	6	0	0	0
TREEC	2	1	0	2	5	0	0	1	0	0	0
JAY	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHAFF	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0
GOLDF	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
BULLF	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
REEBU	2	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	127	73	0	207	454	0	38	232	9	0	2

New Birds ringed during CES sessions: **535**

and additional nets/visits: **296**

Visit Details

Total captures (in standard or additional nets) per visit were as follows:

Visit no.	Capture total	Date	Times (start-finish)	Footage of std net	Weather						Catch affected?	Notes/ additional nets
					First half of visit			2nd half of visit				
01	21	9/5	06:00-11:00	420	R 0	W 1	C 2	R 0	W 2	C 2	N	
02	28	23/5	05:30-11:00	420	R 0	W 1	C 2	R 0	W 1	C 1	N	
03	40	2/6	05:30-11:00	420	R 0	W 2	C 2	R 0	W 2	C 0	N	
04	51	9/6	05:15-11:00	420	R 0	W 0	C 3	R 0	W 1	C 3	N	
05	54	24/6	05:15-11:00	420	R 0	W 0	C 0	R 0	W 1	C 1	N	
06	50	4/7	05:25-11:00	420	R 0	W 2	C 2	R 0	W 1	C 2	N	
07	48	12/7	05:40-11:00	420	R 0	W 1	C 2	R 0	W 1	C 2	N	
08	110	20/7	05:40-11:00	420	R 0	W 1	C 2	R 0	W 2	C 2	N	
09	102	1/8	06:10-11:00	420	R 0	W 1	C 2	R 0	W 1	C 2	N	
10	130	11/8	06:30-11:00	420	R 0	W 1	C 2	R 0	W 2	C 2	N	
11	93	18/8	06:30-11:00	420	R 0	W 2	C 1	R 0	W 1	C 1	N	
12	97	30/8	07:00-11:00	420	R 0	W 2	C 2	R 0	W 1	C 2	N	
A	109	24/7	05:50-11:00	420	R 0	W 1	C 2	R 0	W 2	C 2	N	
B	102	25/8	06:45-11:00	420	R 0	W 1	C 1	R 0	W 1	C 2	N	
C	71	1/9	07:00-11:00	420	R 0	W 1	C 1	R 0	W 1	C 1	N	
D	134	6/9	07:00-11:00	420	R 0	W 2	C 2	R 1	W 1	C 3		

Rain (R): 0 = None; 1 = Drizzle; 2 = Showers; 3 = Heavy
 Wind (W): 0 = Calm; 1 = Light; 2 = Breezy; 3 = Strong

Additional nets - give footage and one of following codes:
 a = all standard nets only
 b = all standard nets and some additional nets
 c = not all standard nets and some additional nets

The table below gives the totals of birds caught and processed in the 2018 season including CES main visits and additional monitoring visits.

Totals Summary

	Full grown	Pulli	Retraps/ Recoveries	Total
Green Sandpiper	1	0	0	1
Woodpigeon	1	2	0	3
Kingfisher	3	0	0	3
Great Spotted Woodpecker	4	0	1	5
Swallow	4	0	0	4
House Martin	9	0	0	9
Grey Wagtail	2	0	0	2
Pied/White Wagtail	1	0	0	1
Wren	41	0	22	63
Dunnock	28	0	33	61

Robin	29	0	15	44
Redstart	1	0	0	1
Blackbird	48	0	24	72
Song Thrush	8	0	1	9
Sedge Warbler	22	0	2	24
Reed Warbler	172	0	203	375
Lesser Whitethroat	1	0	0	1
Whitethroat	1	0	0	1
Garden Warbler	4	0	0	4
Blackcap	156	0	10	166
Chiffchaff	171	0	61	232
Willow Warbler	84	0	9	93
Spotted Flycatcher	13	0	0	13
Long-tailed Tit	17	0	13	30
Coal Tit	1	0	0	1
Blue Tit	70	0	44	114
Great Tit	45	0	9	54
Treecreeper	7	0	8	15
Jay	1	0	0	1
Chaffinch	7	0	0	7
Goldfinch	12	0	0	12
Bullfinch	2	0	0	2
Reed Bunting	7	0	0	7
Total:	973	2	455	1430

Thanks go to all the volunteers who took part in the surveys, and to Weston's for their permission to use the site. It is particularly nice to note that all the staff on site and locals who walk around the site, stop for a chat and show much interest in the ringing work, and give support and encouragement.

Any questions about the above please contact Mervyn Greening (mervyngreening@btinternet.com)

Mervyn Greening. 01/02/2019.