



Forestry Commission
Scotland

Woodland birds research needs in Scotland

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December 2009



Woodland birds index Scotland

- Index shows neutral or increasing trend since 1990s
- Project with BTO to increase coverage in BBS
- 6 - 8 species added to index
- Needs to be maintained by enhanced volunteer sampling

Some BAP species may need some more research

Need to know which and why?

(Bear in mind the relative priorities of other groups that have less money spent on them).

- **Predict response to pressures and changes** in the environment (eg climate change, Nitrogen, shading, deer, fragmentation invasives).
- **Assess how birds relate to current and potential future forest management options**
- And possibly: understand if/how birds **indicate** conditions for other species, or overall ecosystem health

- **Model birds responses to forest structures/composition** (already done to some extent?)
- **Relate to silvic options** like LISS, clear fell, SRF, low intensity native woodland.
- Can we find enough sites to **test the models** across GB?