



Comisiwn Coedwigaeth Cymru  
Forestry Commission Wales

# Woodland Birds and Policy in FCWales

Chris Tucker

Biodiversity Policy manager

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# Opportunities

- Outcomes of the Woodlands for Wales Strategy are a more diverse woodland resource in Wales
  - Native Woodlands
  - Tree Species composition
  - Structural diversity
- Wales Biodiversity Partnership new working structure
  - Woodland Ecosystem Group and Species Experts Group
  - Co-ordination of species management into habitat management to deliver



# Barriers

- Knowledge base for Wales
  - BBS squares don't sufficiently representative of all woodland types (more conifer and upland sites needed) or of the rarer species (if some are too rare to be picked up by BBS can we carry out specific surveys for these birds?)
  - Evidence base for the effects of different woodland types and management regimes. (RSPB study at Lake Vyrnwy)



## Policy Questions

- What are the effects of more LISS, less clearfell/restock on the key woodland bird species?
- Likewise how will our push to diversify woodlands affect the key species.
- How will climate change impact upon those key species?
- In Wales our top priority is increasing bird survey effort for the Wales **WILDbird indicator** (woodland birds make up part of this indicator) and distribution mapping.



## Policy Influence

- Guidance including spatial indication of woodland types and silvicultural systems that will support woodland birds
- Targeting of woodland expansion, conversion to increase opportunities for woodland bird species at risk from climate change
- Grant schemes can be adapted to provide incentives for these



Thank you