

Appendix 4 - Sussex Ornithological Society Breeding Bird Survey of Hollingbury Woods and Burstead Woods, 2011

I carried out a survey of breeding birds during April-June 2011 at the above sites managed by Brighton & Hove City Council. I walked through the sites in the early morning 5 times during the breeding season, marking the positions of singing males and any other contact with birds, noting any breeding evidence obtained. I then compared the resulting maps to arrive at an approximate number of territories (pairs) for each species.

The BTO codes used to denote levels of breeding proof are shown in column 3 and explained below.

The BTO designates species into Red (high), Amber (medium) and Green (low) according to levels of conservation concern. Species with Red or Amber designations are shown in column 4, the remainder are Green.

RESULTS – HOLLINGBURY WOODS

SPECIES	NO. OF PAIRS	HIGHEST BREEDING EVIDENCE	BTO STATUS
WREN	12	FL	
ROBIN	10	FL	
WOODPIGEON	9	P	
BLUE TIT	9	P	
BLACKBIRD	7	FF	
BLACKCAP	5	T	
COLLARED DOVE	5	FL	
GREAT TIT	5	FL	
CHAFFINCH	4	T	
SONG THRUSH	4	T	Red
CHIFFCHAFF	4	T	
DUNNOCK	3	FL	
GREENFINCH	3	T	
STOCK DOVE	3	T	Amber
MAGPIE	2	N	
CARRION CROW	1	T	
GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER	1	T	
JAY	1	FL	
LONG-TAILED TIT	1	FL	
TOTAL SPECIES BREEDING	19		
Confirmed	11		
Probable	8		

In addition, Garden Warbler, Whitethroat, Goldfinch and Mistle Thrush were seen on one date only, the former two were probably migrants passing through, the latter two probably breeding nearby.

RESULTS – BURSTEAD WOODS

SPECIES	NO. OF PAIRS	HIGHEST BREEDING EVIDENCE	BTO STATUS
WREN	5	T	
ROBIN	4	T	

BLACKBIRD	4	T	
BLUE TIT	3	T	
WOODPIGEON	3	T	
BLACKCAP	2	T	
GREAT TIT	2	T	
COLLARED DOVE	2	T	
SONG THRUSH	2	T	Red
GREENFINCH	2	T	
GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER	1	H	
DUNNOCK	1	T	
CHIFFCHAFF	1	T	
WHITETHROAT	1	T	
MAGPIE	1	H	
CHAFFINCH	1	T	
TOTAL SPECIES BREEDING	16		
Confirmed	0		
Probable	14		
Possible	2		

In addition, Lesser Whitethroat was seen on one occasion only, and is therefore best treated as a migrant passing through.

The breeding codes shown in column 3 in the above tables are those used by the BTO to indicate levels of breeding evidence, as follows: (This is not a complete list of the codes, only those obtained during this survey).

Possible Breeding

H – seen in suitable breeding habitat

Probable Breeding

T – bird singing or holding territory one more than one occasion

P – pair seen

N – seen visiting probable nest site

Confirmed Breeding

FF – Bird carrying food or faecal sac

FL – Recently-fledged young seen

The Sussex Ornithological Society can be contacted via their website:

<http://www.sos.org.uk>