

Greylag Goose

Anser anser

Category A, C

A regular winter visitor and passage migrant, with most presumably relating to the increasing feral populations within the county. At least one early record, and possibly some others, relate to genuine wild birds. Has been recorded in summer in suitable habitat but breeding has not been confirmed.

There is an increasingly widespread feral population within the county. A recent article in British Birds (105: 498-505) proposed that, for conservation management purposes, the remnant native Scottish and more widespread feral populations should be merged to form a new British Greylag Goose population. As a result of recent large increases in the abundance and distribution of both populations, there are now numerous areas where birds of mixed or uncertain provenance occur, making it impractical to continue to treat them as separate populations.



Greylag Geese at Nickoll's Quarry (Ian Roberts)

The full species account will follow but the breeding and wintering distribution maps based on the 2007 – 2012 BTO / KOS atlas are provided below.

The distribution of breeding records recorded in the BTO/KOS Atlas (2007 – 2012) is shown in figure 1.

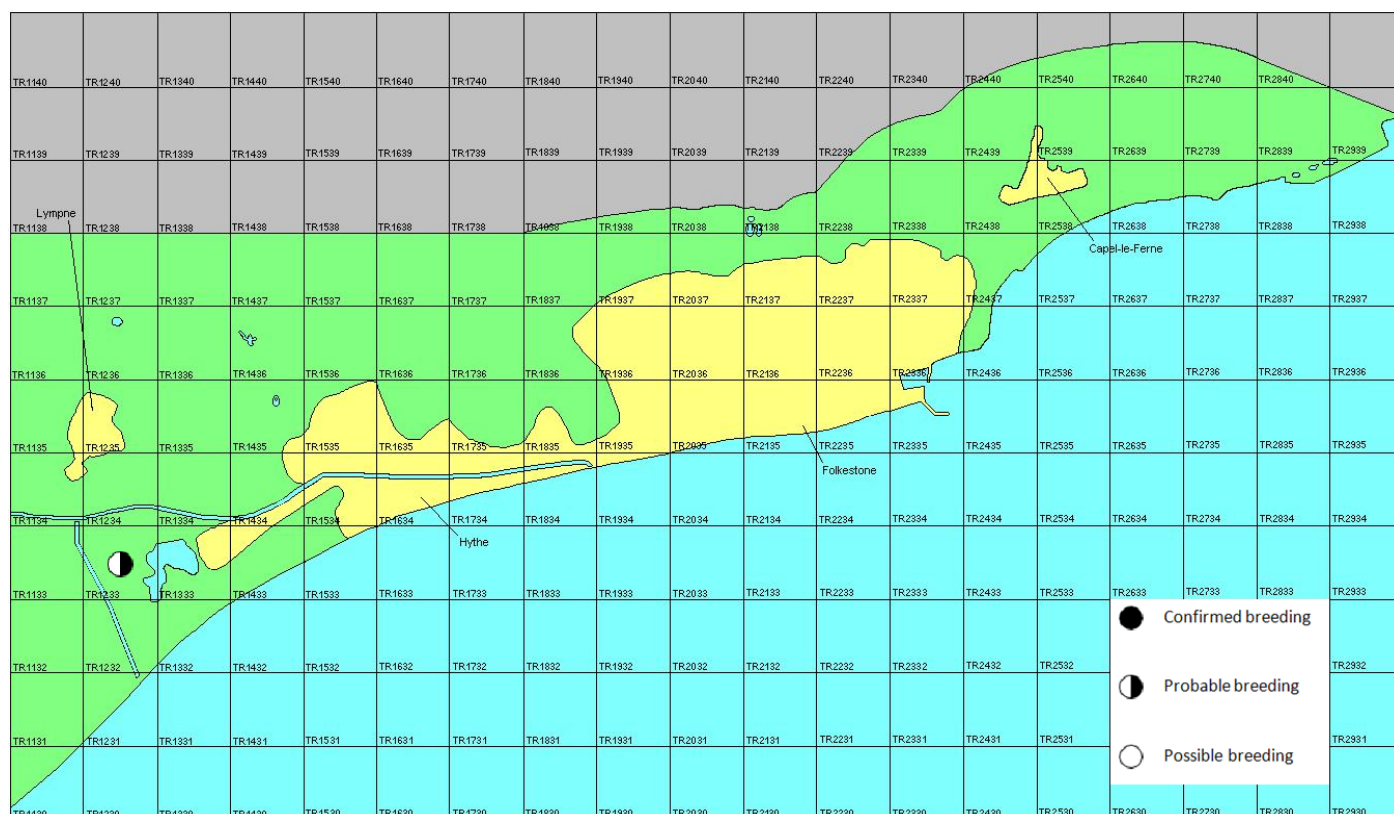


Figure 1: Breeding distribution of Greylag Goose at Folkestone and Hythe by 1km square

The distribution of winter records recorded in the BTO/KOS Atlas (2007 – 2012) is shown in figure 2.

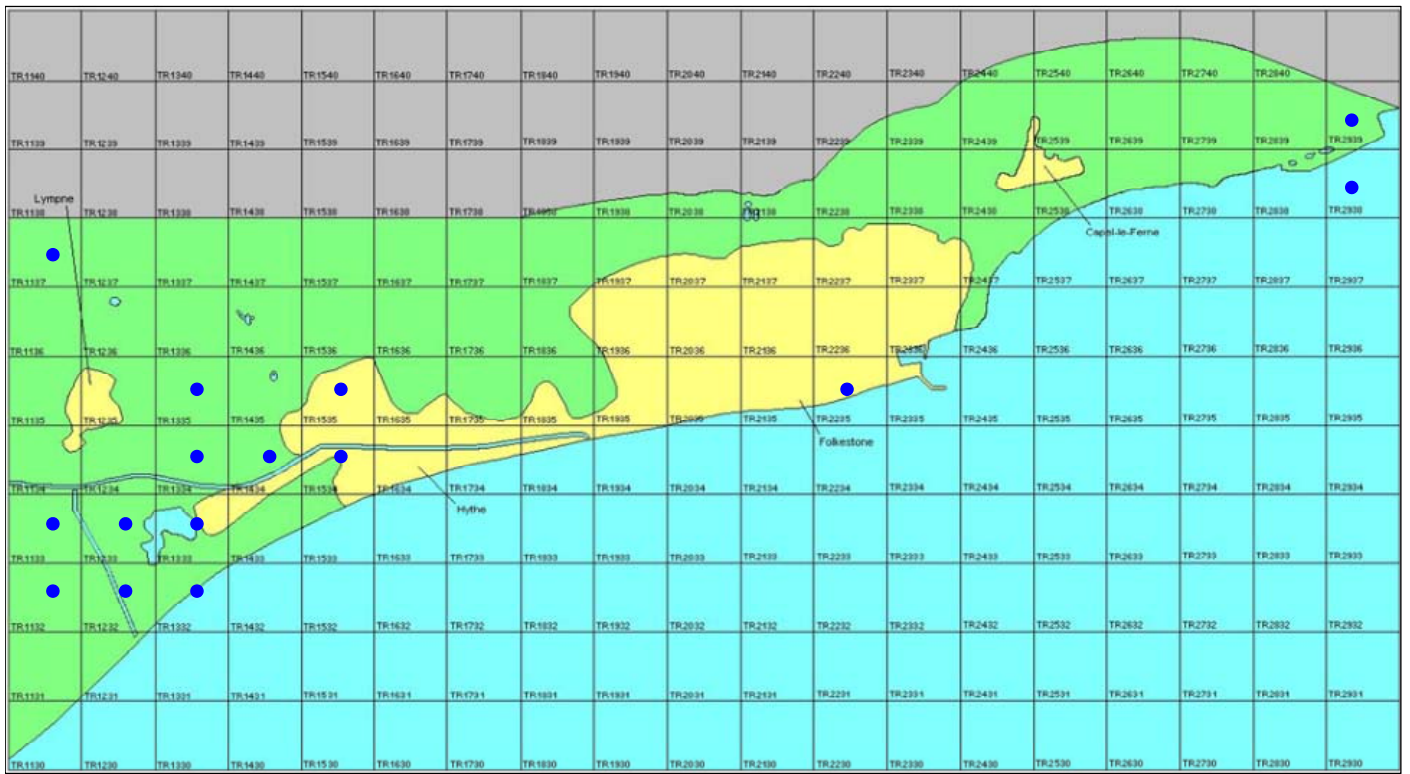


Figure 2: Wintering distribution of Greylag Goose at Folkestone and Hythe by 1km square