

MONITORING BREEDING BIRDS

at

RIVER BREAMISH CARAVAN CLUB SITE

TENTH ANNIVERSARY OVERVIEW *by* PHILIP HANMER

Philip and Hugh Hanmer have now been monitoring the breeding birds at the River Breamish Caravan Club Site over 10 seasons; it's right next to the Branton Pools and shares some of its birds. The attached tables show that 2014 was the best year yet, with 118 birds ringed (many in nest boxes although not all). The next best year was back in 2006 when 101 were ringed and the worst 2008 when it was only 46. All these variations can be traced back to the late winter/spring weather in the years in question.

In this most recent year of 2014 the birds were able to start breeding early with almost everything over by the end of May! Always an early breeder the resident female Tawny Owl (she has been on the site since at least 2005) raised 3 owlets. Tree Sparrows used boxes on the site for the first time and a Wren misguidedly tried to nest in the trailer of the Caravan Site Warden and perhaps not surprisingly only hatched and raised one pulli (chick) to fledge. Anyone interested in learning to bird ring is invited to contact Philip on e-mail: tytoalbas@btinternet.com

Philip Hanmer

Natural History Society of Northumbria (Hancock Museum), Ringing Group



Breamish (Powburn) Caravan Site next to Branton Pools

All captures (mostly new ringed pulli plus a few adults/retraps)

Species	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Tawny Owl		4			3	2	4	3	2	4
Swallow			5							
Pied Wagtail		4								
Blackbird	3			4	5	4			5	3
Spotted Flycatcher			4						4	
Blue Tit	46	47	36	27	36	45	24	49	39	48
Great Tit	37	46	36	7	30	20	22	34	40	50
Coal Tit										1
Jackdaw				2						
Wren										1
Robin						6				
Tree Sparrow										11
Willow Warbler (natural site)				6						
Total=	86	101	81	46	74	77	50	86	90	118

Detail for 2014

Species	Adult	Adult retrap	Pulli	Total
Tawny Owl		1	3	4
Blackbird			3	3
Spotted Flycatcher				
Blue Tit	1	3	44	48
Great Tit		1	49	50
Coal Tit	1			1
Wren			1	1
Tree Sparrow			11	11
Total=	2	5	111	118

