

Examples from Scottish Natural Heritage

SNH Guidance: Recommended bird survey methods to inform impact assessment of onshore wind farms May 2014 (on internet)

## ANNEX 2 – EXAMPLES OF VP SURVEY RESULTS AND SURVEY VISIT SUMMARY TABLES

Date	Observer	VP	Start	Finish	Length of VP watch (hrs)	Weather
12/6/13	A. Watcher	1	12:00	15:00	3	Sunny intervals, wind SW F4-5, Visibility good
13/6/13	A. Watcher	2	9:00	11:00	2	Overcast then heavy rain curtailing watch, wind S F1-2
14/6/13	A. Watcher	1	06:00	09:00	3	Dry, sunny, wind F1

Species	Date	VP	No of Birds	Flight behaviour/ Age of bird	Time at risk height for flight in secs	Total time at risk height (multiplied where more than one bird involved in the flight)
Curlew	12/3/13	1	1	Display	30	30
Curlew	14/4/13	2	30	Heading north west to farmland off site	15	450
Golden Eagle	15/4/13	1	1	Adult displaying	25	25

**NB: Can be split by season where relevant. Watch data should be recorded and presented in date order to allow ease of assessment**

### TECHNICAL APPENDIX 7.4

Vantage point Recording Sheet Summaries did not include times of surveys but in response to PCC Ecology objections, sheets revised by ADAS on 17.3.15 were submitted by Cunnane on 23.3.15. The revised sheets had (most unlikely for field surveys) precise 3-hour time spans for each survey apart from 23.2.12 but still failed to identify the observer in 4 VP surveys.

Example from Technical Appendix 7.4

17/10/11

VP	Observer	Species	Numbers	Observations
1		Red Kite	11	Multiple sightings of individuals widespread across the site.
		Skylark	1	1 individual north west of VP1.
		Buzzard	6	Multiple sightings of birds in 1s and 2s, concentrated around the south western edge of the site, north of Hendy, with one sighting over the south eastern side of the site.
		Fieldfare	14	Two flocks of 2 and 12 birds sighted south of Nant Brook and north east of VP1.
		Starling	30	A single flock of birds sighted over the south eastern part of the site flying west into the centre.
2		Red Kite	3	Sighting of birds in 1s and 2s over the north eastern part of the site.
		Starling	4	Single flock sighted immediately south east of VP2.

28/10/11

VP	Observer	Species	Numbers	Observations
1		Red Kite	11	Multiple sightings of birds in 1s and 2s over the north western corner of the site.
		Starling	676	Multiple sightings of flocks ranging in size from 11 to 350 over the south western corner of the site.
		Buzzard	5	Multiple sightings of birds in 1s and 2s over the western corner of the site.

The VP surveys show starlings as follows: (our own presentation of Technical Annex 7.4 data)

DATE	VP1	No.	description	VP2	No	description
17.10.11	8.30 – 11.30	30	flock SE of site	12.00-15.00h	4	flock SE of VP2
28.10.11	12.00 - 15.00	676	flocks SW site	8.45 -11.45	3	flocks SE of site flying to centre
17.11.11	9.25 - 12.25	270	flocks SW site	13.10 – 16.10h	65	flocks N site
24.11.11	9.30 - 12.30	669	flocks S site	13.20-16.20h	100	flocks NW site
12.12.11	9.30 - 12.30	40	flocks S site	13.00-16.00h	2600+	preparing to roost N site
12.1.12	10.05 -13.05	87	flocks feeding S site/T1	13.45 – 16.45	1700+	feeding, roosting N site
19.1.12	13.20 - 16.20	48	flocks feeding S/SW			
13.2.12	10.05 -13.05	37	flocks feeding S			
23.2.12				14.02 -18.30	c2200*	“flocks of from 100 to 1200, flying from all over surrounding area to congregate E. of Bwfch-y-cefa. See note below on activity on site.*”
26.10.12	13.19 - 16.19	200+	Central site Llandegley Rhos, Hendy Bank	9.25 to 12.30	5	N of site