

Species	Breeding season dates for key breeding species in Scotland											
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Red-throated diver												
Black-throated diver												
Little grebe												
Great crested grebe												
Slavonian grebe												
Black-necked grebe												
Fulmar												
Manx shearwater												
European storm petrel												
Leach's storm petrel												
Gannet												
Cormorant												
Shag												
Heron												
Mute swan												
Greylag goose												
Shelduck												
Wigeon												
Gadwall												
Teal												
Mallard												
Pintail												
Shoveler												
Pochard												
Tufted Duck												
Eider												
Common Scoter												
Goldeneye												
Red-breasted merganser												
Goosander												
Honey Buzzard												
Red kite												
White-tailed eagle												
Marsh harrier												
Hen harrier												
Goshawk												
Sparrowhawk												
Buzzard												
Golden eagle												
Osprey												
Kestrel												
Merlin												
Hobby												

**NOTES**

The attached table shows 'sensitive' time periods, equating to the beginning and end of a bird's breeding season in Scotland. The start of the breeding season is defined here as the approximate earliest start date for territory/nest site establishment and egg laying, and end of the breeding season is defined by the end of chick rearing to fledging. There will be some inter-annual variability in timings and the dates provided here will not always represent (and therefore include) extremes of variability. The dates are divided into two week blocks so that each month is composed of two, two-week blocks of time. This is to cover latitudinal and longitudinal variation across Scotland. The data were pulled together by Phil Whitfield and Rhys Bullman in SNH and taken from various sources including Birds of the Western Palearctic (BWP), but modified as appropriate, based on knowledge and experience of SNH ornithology staff.

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