

Bird Surveys and Cormorant Counts

2011 Bird Survey Results

The maximum numbers of birds recorded during the survey work that were utilising the marine part of the site of the proposed development, i.e. sitting or swimming on or in the sea, perched on offshore rocks or buoys, or (in the case of terns or Gannet, for example) diving to fish in the sea, are shown in the table below.

Species	31.03.11	17.04.11	17.05.11	15.06.11	11.07.11
Great Northern Diver	2	7	3	-	-
Red-throated Diver	3	-	-	-	-
Great-crested Grebe	1	-	-	-	-
Cormorant	2	4	1	2	-
Shag	1	3	-	-	3
Manx Shearwater	-	-	-	23	-
Gannet	-	-	-	1	-
Mute Swan	2	7	-	-	-
Brent Goose	-	6	-	-	-
Mallard	-	-	-	-	1
Herring Gull	-	8	-	-	1
Great Black-backed Gull	-	2	-	3	1
Common Gull	-	3	-	-	-
Black-headed Gull	1	-	-	-	-
Common Tern	-	-	-	2	7
Sandwich Tern	-	19	-	13	6

Birds using marine area of site

The maximum numbers of birds recorded using the foreshore and adjacent areas of the harbour park are shown in the table below.

Species	31.03.11	17.04.11	17.05.11	15.06.11	11.07.11
Grey Heron	-	2	2	1	-
Brent Goose	-	6	-	-	-
Herring Gull	-	-	3	5	-
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	2	-	-
Oystercatcher	-	3	-	-	-
Turnstone	-	7	-	-	-
Ringed Plover	3	1	1	-	-
Rock Pipit	1	1	1	-	-
Pied Wagtail	-	1	1	-	1
Hooded Crow	-	2	1	2	-
Jackdaw	-	2	-	-	-
Linnet	-	2	-	-	1
House Martin	-	-	1	2	2

Birds using foreshore and, rock walling and edge of harbour park

Cormorant Counts February 2009 – June 2011

Cormorant counts off Nimmo's Pier, Galway Docks, February 2009 – June 2011	
Date	Birds and Activity
Feb. 21 st 2009	2 diving in water; 2 over flying site
March 29 th 2009	14 diving in water; 5 over flying site
April 26 th 2009	10 diving in water; 6 over flying site
May 24 th 2009	8 diving in water; 1 over flying site
June 21 st 2009	9 diving in water; 3 over flying site
July 19 th 2009	7 diving in water; 3 over flying site
August 30 th 2009	1 diving in water.
September 27 th 2009	5 diving in water
October 11 th 2009	16 diving in water
November 22 nd 2009	8 diving in water; 10 over flying site
December 13 th 2009	10 diving in water; 6 over flying site
January 24 th 2010	12 diving in water; 1 over flying site
February 21 st 2010	11 diving in water; 8 over flying site
March 28 th 2010	20 diving in water; 12 over flying site
March 30 th 2010	18 diving
April 18 th 2010	17 diving in water; 6 over flying site
May 4 th 2010	No cormorants present
May 5 th 2010	2 diving; 8 over flying river
May 6 th 2010	4 diving; 5 over flying river
May 11 th 2010 (am)	No cormorants present
May 11 th 2010(pm)	2 diving
May 13 th 2010	2 diving; 2 over flying
May 19 th 2010	3 diving; 5 over flying
May 21 th 2010	3 diving; 6 over flying
May 25 th 2010	No cormorants present
May 26 th 2010	1 diving
May 27 th 2010	6 over flying
May 31 st 2010	No cormorants present
June 1 st 2010	No cormorants present
June 8 th 2010	No cormorants present
June 10 th 2010	No cormorants present
June 11 th 2010	2 over flying site
June 14 th 2010	1 and 1 flying over
June 15 th 2010	No cormorants present
June 16 th 2010	No cormorants present
June 18 th 2010	No cormorants present
June 20 th 2010	No cormorants present
June 30 th 2010	No cormorants present
July 3 rd 2010	No cormorants present
July 5 th 2010	No cormorants present

Cormorant counts off Nimmo's Pier, Galway Docks, February 2009 – June 2011

Date	Birds and Activity
July 14 th 2010	1 in water, 4 overflying site
August 10 th 2010	3 diving
August 19 th 2010	2 diving 3 overflying site
September 3 rd 2010	No cormorants seen
September 21 st 2010	4 diving
October 5 th 2010	3 diving 3 overflying site
October 10 th 2010	33 diving 3 overflying site
November 10 th 2010	17 diving .
November 26 th 2010	18 diving
December 1 st 2010	Ca 43 diving
December 20 th 2010	Ca 26 diving
January 6 th 2011	Ca. 21 diving
January 19 th 2011	14 diving
January 31 st 2011	No birds seen
February 10 th 2011	12 diving
February 28 th 2011	3 over flying site
March 11 th 2011	No birds seen
March 19 th 2011	No birds seen
March 29 th 2011	5 overflying site.
April 5 th 2011	2 diving and 5 overflying the site.
April 6 th 2011	No birds seen
April 7 th 2011	No birds seen
April 12 th 2011	3
April 15 th 2011	2
April 18 ^h 2011	0
April 21 st 2011	3
April 27 ^h 2011	2
April 29 ⁿ 2011	4
May 3 rd 2011	1
May 5 th 2011	0
May 10 th 2011	3
May 11 th 2011	2
May 13 th 2011	2
May 16 th 2011	0
May 18 th 2011	1
May 23 rd 2011	4
May 25 th 2011	3
May 26 th 2011	0
May 30 th 2011	4
June 1 st 2011	0
June 6 th 2011	2
June 8 th 2011	4
June 13 th 2011	1
June 14 th 2011	2
June 16 th 2011	0
June 20 th 2011	1
June 21 st 2011	4
June 22 nd 2011	1

2011 – 2012 Bird Survey Results – Appendix 7.15

Development site survey details

Date	Start Time	Finish Time	Length	High tide	Low tide	Description
31-Mar-11	15:20	18:20	3 hours	16:50		High tide
17-Apr-11	09:40	12:40	3 hours		11:10	Low tide
17-May-11	10:03	13:03	3 hours		11:33	Low tide
15-Jun-11	09:44	12:44	3 hours		11:14	Low tide
11-Jul-11	13:15	16:15	3 hours	14:45		High tide
11-Aug-11	09:31	12:31	3 hours		11:01	Low tide
26-Sep-11	09:14	12:14	3 hours		10:44	Low tide
12-Oct-11	10:19	13:19	3 hours		11:49	Low tide
11-Nov-11	09:30	13:30	3 hours		10:59	Low tide
03-Dec-11	09:48	12:48	3 hours	11:18		High tide
29-Dec-11	12:30	15:30	3 hours		13:51	Low tide
01-Jan-12	12:30	15:30	3 hours	10:22	16:12	Mid tide, falling
13-Jan-12	09:00	17:00	8 hours	07:39	13:33	Falling after high tide until half tide after low.
20-Jan-12	09:00	17:00	8 hours	14:53	08:26	Just after low through to two hours after high
05-Feb-12	09:00	17:00	8 hours	15:55	09:30	Low tide through to an hour after high
28-Feb-12	10:00	18:00	8 hours	09:00	14:34	One hour after high tide through to half tide after low.
06-Mar-12	09:30	17:30	8 hours	16:09	09:43	Low tide through to an hour and a half after high
25-Mar-12	09:00	17:00	8 hours	07:48	13:23	One hour after high tide through to half tide after low.

Development site survey details

Date	Sea state	Cloud	Wind	Temp	Visibility (km)	Rain
31-Mar-11	2		50% SW, Beaufort 4	10	3/4	None
17-Apr-11	0/1		30% SE, Beaufort 1	12	5 +	None
17-May-11	1		100% SW, Beaufort 2	15	5 +	Occ. Drizzle
15-Jun-11	1/2		95% W, Beaufort 2/3	17	5 +	None
11-Jul-11	0		100% Beaufort 0	18	5 +	None
11-Aug-11	1/2		100% NW, Beaufort 2	17	2	Occ. Drizzle
26-Sep-11	2/3		70% S, Beaufort 3	10	5 +	None
12-Oct-11	1		75% WNW, Beaufort 1	15	2	None
11-Nov-11	2		80% ESE, SE, Beaufort 3/4	8	4/5	None
03-Dec-11	1	50-100%	W, Beaufort 2/3	5	5 +	None
29-Dec-11	2	100%	SW, Beaufort 3/4	5	2/3	Occ. Short squalls
01-Jan-12	1/2	33%	SW, Beaufort 2/3	8	5 +	None
13-Jan-12	1	100%	SE, Beaufort 0/1	10	5+	None
20-Jan-12	1	100%	SW, Beaufort 2	11	3/4	Occ. Drizzle
05-Feb-12	0/1	100%	SW, Beaufort 0/1	7	2/4	Occ. Drizzle
28-Feb-12	1	100%	W, Beaufort 1/2	11	5 +	None
06-Mar-12	1	100%	S, Beaufort 1/2	8	5 +	None
25-Mar-12	0/1	0% (but haze)	Beaufort 0	17	3 +	None

Development site shore counts

Species	31 March 2011	17 April 2011	17 May 2011	15 June 2011	11 July 2011
Black-headed Gull					
Brent Goose					

Common Gull				
Cormorant				
Curlew				
Great Black-backed Gull			1	
Greenshank				
Grey Heron		2	2	1
Herring Gull			3	2
Iceland Gull				
Little Egret				
Oystercatcher		3		
Redshank				
Shag				
Turnstone		7		
Wigeon				

Development site shore counts

Species	11 August 2011	26 September 2011	12 October 2011	11 November 2011	03 December 2011
Black-headed Gull		4	1	2	
Brent Goose					
Common Gull			2		
Cormorant			1	1	
Curlew	1	1	3	1	
Great Black-backed Gull	1			1	
Greenshank					
Grey Heron	1	1	1	2	
Herring Gull	4	2	4	2	
Iceland Gull					
Little Egret				1	
Oystercatcher	3	7	6	4	
Redshank	1	1	1	1	
Shag		2	2	1	
Turnstone		6	11	5	
Wigeon					

Development site shore counts

Species	29 December 2011	01 January 2012	13 January 2012	20 January 2012	05 February 2012
Black-headed Gull			2		
Brent Goose			4		
Common Gull	1		2		1
Cormorant	2				
Curlew	1		2		
Great Black-backed Gull	1		2		
Greenshank	1				
Grey Heron	1		2	1	1
Herring Gull	1		1		
Iceland Gull			1		
Little Egret	1				
Oystercatcher	4	2	4	4	3
Redshank	1		1		
Shag			1		

Turnstone	1	5	1	6	10
Wigeon					

Development site shore counts

Species	28 February 2012	06 March 2012	25 March 2012
Black-headed Gull			
Brent Goose	16	1	
Common Gull			
Cormorant	1		
Curlew			
Great Black-backed Gull	1		
Greenshank			
Grey Heron		1	
Herring Gull	2		1
Iceland Gull			
Little Egret			
Oystercatcher	4	3	2
Redshank	1		
Shag	1		
Turnstone	19	16	10
Wigeon	2	2	

Development site marine counts

Species	31 March 2011	17 April 2011	17 May 2011	15 June 2011	11 July 2011
Black-headed Gull	1				
Brent Goose		6			
Common Gull		2			
Common Tern				2	2
Cormorant	2	4	2	1	
Forster's Tern		1			
Gannet				1	
Great Black-backed Gull	1	2		1	1
Great-crested Grebe	1				
Great Northern Diver	2	4	3		
Guillemot					
Herring Gull		8			1
Iceland Gull					
Kittiwake					
Mallard					1
Manx Shearwater				13	
Mute Swan	2	7			
Razorbill					
Red-breasted Merganser					
Red-throated Diver	2				
Sandwich Tern		13		4	2
Shag	1	2			3
Wigeon					

Development site marine counts

Species	11 August 2011	26 September 2011	12 October 2011	11 November 2011	03 December 2011
Black-headed Gull	1	3			1
Brent Goose					
Common Gull		1	2		
Common Tern	4				
Cormorant	2	6	3	1	5
Forster's Tern					
Gannet		1			
Great Black-backed Gull		1	4		1
Great-crested Grebe			2		4
Great Northern Diver		1		1	8
Guillemot			1		2
Herring Gull			31		6
Iceland Gull					
Kittiwake					
Mallard					
Manx Shearwater					
Mute Swan			2		
Razorbill					
Red-breasted Merganser					1
Red-throated Diver			1	1	1
Sandwich Tern	7				
Shag		2	3	1	6
Wigeon					

Development site marine counts

Species	29 December 2011	01 January 2012	13 January 2012	20 January 2012	05 February 2012
Black-headed Gull					69
Brent Goose					
Common Gull					7
Common Tern					
Cormorant	4	1	1	1	2
Forster's Tern					
Gannet					
Great Black-backed Gull	1				
Great-crested Grebe					8
Great Northern Diver	2	3	7	4	4
Guillemot	1	2			
Herring Gull	9				4
Iceland Gull					1
Kittiwake					
Mallard					
Manx Shearwater					
Mute Swan					3
Razorbill					
Red-breasted Merganser					
Red-throated Diver					1
Sandwich Tern					
Shag	5	1	8	2	4

Wigeon 2

Development site marine counts

Species	28 February 2012	06 March 2012	25 March 2012
Black-headed Gull	12		
Brent Goose	5		
Common Gull		1	
Common Tern			
Cormorant	2	1	2
Forster's Tern			
Gannet		3	
Great Black-backed Gull	2		
Great-crested Grebe	1		5
Great Northern Diver	2	2	2
Guillemot			
Herring Gull	6	3	10
Iceland Gull		1	
Kittiwake	1		
Mallard	3		
Manx Shearwater			
Mute Swan	2	2	
Razorbill	1	4	4
Red-breasted Merganser	3	2	
Red-throated Diver	1	1	
Sandwich Tern	2		
Shag	6		
Wigeon	12	3	

Traught survey details

Date	Start Time	Finish Time	Length	High tide	Low tide	Description
25-Nov-11	09:00	12:00	3 hours		10:25	Low tide
04-Dec-11	11:00	14:00	3 hours	12:23		High tide
06-Jan-12	09:00	12:00	3 hours	15:30	09:06	Falling after low tide to mid tide.
16-Jan-12	09:00	17:00	8 hours	10:01	15:57	One hour before high to one hour after low.
06-Feb-12	09:00	17:00	8 hours	16:34	10:10	One hour before low to half hour after high.
13-Mar-12	09:00	17:00	8 hours	08:26	14:16	Half hour after high to half tide after low.

Traught survey details

Date	Sea	Cloud	Wind	Temp	Visibility (km)	Rain
25-Nov-11	3/4	50%	WNW, Beaufort 3/4	9	5 +	None
04-Dec-11	4	90%	W, Beaufort 3/4	6	5 +	Occ. Showers
06-Jan-12	1/2	100%	NNW, Beaufort 1/2	10	3/4	None
16-Jan-12	0/1	100-50%	SE, Beaufort 1	8	5 +	None
06-Feb-12	1/2	100%	W, Beaufort 1/2	10	3 +	Occ. Drizzle
13-Mar-12	0	100%	Beaufort 0	11	5 +	None

Traught marine counts

Species	25 November 2011	04 December 2011	06 January 2012	16 January 2012	06 February 2012	13 March 2012
Black Guillemot		1	1	1	4	24
Black-headed Gull					200	1100

Black-throated Diver	2		1			1
Brent Goose					12	4
Common Gull					77	4
Common Scoter	2					111
Cormorant	3	3	1	1		1
Great-crested Grebe			1			
Great Northern Diver	15	10	8	20	25	13
Guillemot				2		
Herring Gull						2
Long-tailed Duck				1	2	3
Razorbill					2	3
Red-breasted Merganser	5	9		5	6	11
Red-throated Diver						19
Sandwich Tern					2	
Shag	31	51	5	13	4	7

Cormorant Photos – Deer Island



Photo 1: Cormorant colony on Deer Island, Off the Clare coast



Photo 2: Cormorants nesting on Deer Island



Photo 3: Close up of a cormorant regurgitate seen on Deer Island



Photo. 4: Close up of a cormorant regurgitate seen on Deer Island