

Yvonne

Hopefully, this puts the value of the site into context ...

This is a great area for the study of farmland birds, particularly for Skylark, Yellowhammer and Reed Bunting. There are very few sites for which the BTO holds long runs of data on these species. The colour ringing study of Yellowhammers is particularly important; if we are to conserve declining farmland species we need to know how far they are prepared to travel in search of food. Yellowhammers ringed on The Commons are flying into the nature reserve from farmland up to 1.5km away. We have lost over half (our estimate is 55%) of the UK population of Yellowhammers since 1967 - and this is a red listed species of conservation concern.

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