## Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits

## Special Protection Area TOP TRUM

The Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits Special Protection Area (SPA) is an internationally important wetland area that runs from Northampton to Thrapston. The series of gravel pits and wetland habitats provide valuable resting and feeding conditions for huge concentrations of wintering waterbirds, especially ducks and waders. The gravel pits attract over 20,000 overwintering water birds each vear.

Many of the birds that visit the Nene Valley are facing declines worldwide, as well as a loss of suitable places to feed and breed. The Nene Valley is a vital place for these globallythreatened species to thrive and we are very lucky that they visit us right on our doorstep.















Unfortunately, human activity including dog walking, cycling and running can unintentionally disturb the birds, affecting their feeding both near and on the shoreline, and within the surrounding arassland. When birds are disturbed, they might not visit otherwise suitable areas again, or be able to eat enough to survive. In winter the shorter daylight hours mean feeding time is even more precious.

By making sure that we are aware of the possible effects of our behaviour on these wonderful birds, we can limit the damage caused. And by working together to look after the Nene Valley, we can make sure the wildlife continues to thrive for us all to

Here are a few ways you can help make this an area for birds and people to enjoy:

- Stay on existing pathways and viewing areas to prevent disturbance
- Look out for birds resting or feeding and move away if birds become alert or stop feeding
- Cycle on the specially designed greenway route
- Keep dogs on leads
- Exercise dogs away from the birds
- Fish in the designated areas only
- Clean up after your dog

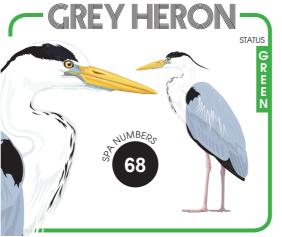
You can visit the many country parks situated outside of the SPA, such as Fermyn Woods, Barnwell and Irchester Country Parks. For information on country parks near you, visit www.northamptonshireparks.co.uk



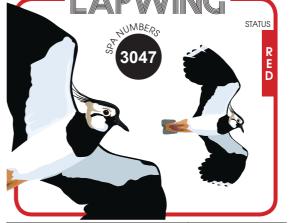
Average migration (miles)	1400	
UK population	440,000	Hughes
Weight (g)	700	MIKe
Wingspan (cm)	80	Artwork
Average bill length (mm)	34.7	



Average migration (miles)	530	
UK population	19,000	li sodo o o
Weight (g)	1045	100
Wingspan (cm)	88	Awhormalic
Average bill length (mm)	51.8	



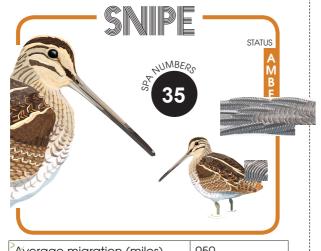
Average migration (miles)	320
UK population	63,000
Weight (g)	1750
Wingspan (cm)	185
Average bill length (mm)	120



Average migration (miles)	750	
UK population	650,000	Hughes
Weight (g)	230	MKe
Wingspan (cm)	84	Artwork
Average bill length (mm)	24.1	



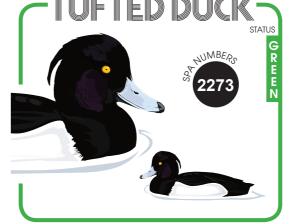
Average migration (miles)	1600	
UK population	180,000	Hughes
Weight (g)	700	Artwork: Mike H
Wingspan (cm)	77	Artwor
Average bill length (mm)	66.1	



Average migration (miles)	950
UK population	1,000,000
Weight (g)	100
Wingspan (cm)	46
Average bill length (mm)	66.6



4		
	Average migration (miles)	1020
	UK population	210,000
	Weight (g)	300
	Wingspan (cm)	61
	Average bill length (mm)	53.0



Average migration (miles)	1200
UK population	110,000
Weight (g)	725
Wingspan (cm)	70
Average bill length (mm)	39.9

Average migration (miles)	30	
UK population	74,000	Hughes
Weight (g)	11,000	k: Mike H
Wingspan (cm)	223	Artwor
Average bill length (mm)	80.6	



Average migration (miles)	580
UK population	600
Weight (g)	1250
Wingspan (cm)	130
Average bill length (mm)	69.1

## ORMORANT

Average migration (miles)	80
UK population	41,000
Weight (g)	2300
Wingspan (cm)	145
Average bill length (mm)	69.6



Average migration (miles)	430
UK population	190,000
Weight (g)	750
Wingspan (cm)	75
Average bill length (mm)	29



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r Nene Valley

















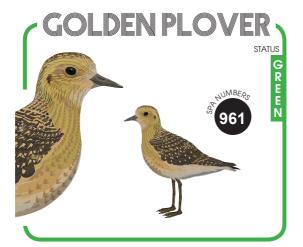
Protection







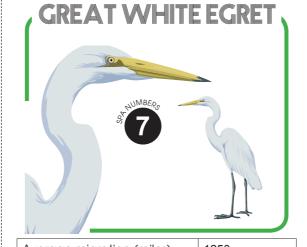
Average migration (miles)	1110	
UK population	25,000	nghes
Weight (g)	775	k: Mike H
Wingspan (cm)	90	Artwor
Average bill length (mm)	42.4	



Average migration (miles)	1110	
UK population	420,000	
Weight (g)	220	
Wingspan (cm)	72	
Average bill length (mm)	23.1	



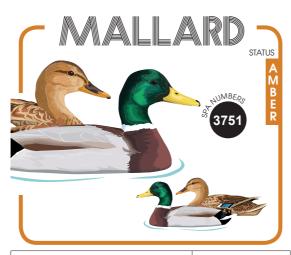
1050
12,000
1500
90
55.8



Average migration (miles)	1250
UK population	72
Weight (g)	870
Wingspan (cm)	155
Average bill length (mm)	142.2

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Average migration (miles)	600	
UK population	4500	ughes
Weight (g)	450	:: Mike H
Wingspan (cm)	92	Artworl
Average bill length (mm)	84.4	



Average migration (miles)	1080
UK population	710,000
Weight (g)	1110
Wingspan (cm)	90
Average bill length (mm)	55.4



Average migration (miles)	1080
UK population	38,000
Weight (g)	930
Wingspan (cm)	77
Average bill length (mm)	47.1



Average migration (miles)	1500	
UK population	180	Hudhes
Weight (g)	650	Mike
Wingspan (cm)	62	Arhvork
Average bill length (mm)	29.6	