



New Forest Woodlark Survey 2024

Nigel Matthews
HOS Volunteer

Audience participation!



N Addleton
G Baker
A Baskett
J Baskett
G Batho
J Beck
K Betton
G Bird
M Black
A Blair
J Bloss
M Bradley
J Brandsma
Simon Boswell
Steve Boswell
R Broadway
S Broadway
D Brookes
M Boxall
P Budd
C Chapleo
R Chapman
R Clements
S Clemons
J Craddock
J Craven
P Craven
N Coates
A Colenutt
S Colenutt

R Cordery
M Daniel
T Davis
Janet Dedman
John Dedman
P Durnell
J Ecob
M Edgeller
R Farnworth
J Faulkner
B Fenner
J Fenner
S Fox
O Frampton
P Gibbs
D Gilman
K Godfrey
C Gouldstone
R Groves
I Hampson
S Hartill
M Hinge
A Holding
C Holley
D Houghton
J Hunt
L Jackson
G James
C Johnson
K Kearns

N Kendall
H Kent
S Laycock
S Leishman
R Lemon
N Matthews
J Moseley
R Mould-Ryan
D Munday
L Oakes
S Oakes
M O'Driscoll
N Owen
A Page
A Parker
A Parsonage
K Pearce
D Pearson
P Pearson
P Pires
A Prugel-Bennett
A Pullen
G Pullin
J Puzio
D Radden
S Randall
P Read
N Reid
S Renyard
A Rhodes

D Rogers
C Roseveare
J Ross
D Russell
H Schneider
C Searle
D Smith
R Smith
A Snook
J Snook
T Stone
R Stowe
D Taylor
R Taylor
G Thornton
H Tomlinson
B Vaughan
T Vaughan
M Violette
M Ward
R Webb
J West
B Weston
I Wigley
C Willard
A Yates
A Young

Thank you

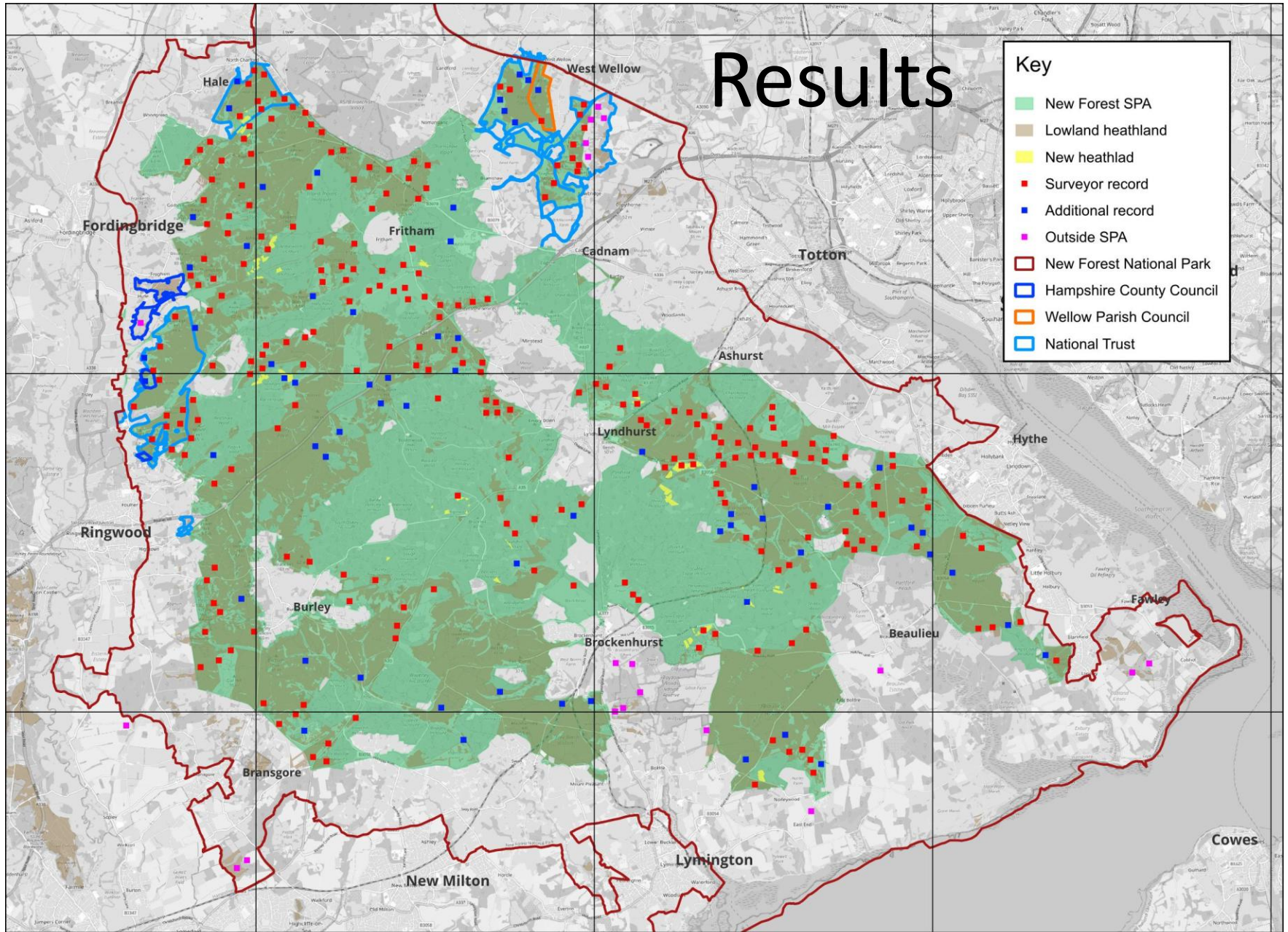
Survey methodology

- 293 1km survey squares within SPA (+14 outside SPA) [cf. 2019: 267 + 4]
- 103 survey volunteers [cf. 60 in 2029]
- 1-10 squares each
- Two survey periods:
 - 15 Feb – 31 Mar
 - 1 Apr – 31 May
- Minimum of 1 visit during each
- Early on mild, dry days with little wind
- All records mapped, especially singing birds
- Small backup team to cover illness etc.

Woodlark breeding habitats



Results



Woodlark territories located in 2024

- Within SPA:
 - **260 found by surveyors in allocated squares (cf. 167 in 2019)**
 - 64 additional territories outside of formal methodology
 - **Total 324**
- Outside SPA
 - 19 (underestimate)
- New Forest (Hampshire only) total: 343+

Why so many more than ever before?

1. More squares surveyed, more volunteers, training given?
2. Regular communication leading to increased survey effort?
3. Changing ground conditions and associated relocation of territories?
4. More breeding habitat due to heavier grazing and heathland creation
5. Mild winters leading to better winter survival

A Good News Story?



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Further information

- Full report:
<https://www.hlsnewforest.org.uk/hls-new-forest-projects/surveys-and-monitoring/>
- Nigel Matthews:
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- Hampshire Ornithological Society:
<https://www.hos.org.uk/>
New members and volunteers welcome!