



Curlew Country 2020 and 2021 Update for Curlew Forum

2020 Breeding Season:

We reluctantly took the decision to postpone fieldwork for the year. This was following consultation with partners and volunteers and mindful of guidance from others such as the BTO. We did install Curlew Cam and once again attracted record audiences for outreach work. We were aware of nests in many of the usual territories, from farmer information and volunteers taking exercise within regulations, but were unable to monitor all but 2 nests closely.

We continued environmental and business resilience work including training with farmers through a series of films and new farmers area of the website.



2021 Breeding Season:

We have received multiple reports from volunteers and the public of Curlew sightings with many birds seen in usual territories and some new sightings being investigated. Tony continues his colour ringing work.

We will be searching for and monitoring behaviour any of returning chicks headstarted in years 2017, 2018 and 2019. One chick of the six 2017 headstarted chicks was seen attempting to breed in a local hotspot in 2019.

We will be headstarting with the help of volunteers including 2 young trainees.

We will continue habitat work in partnership with farmers when possible.

A small number of nests will be fenced including the Curlew Cam nest.

A student will be analysing Curlew habitat use in relation to current agri-environment payments.

Subject to funding we have a few sub projects that we wish to undertake but funds are extremely tight for the season.

We continue to apply for funds to achieve landscape scale natural nest success through:

More habitat management trials

Implementing a plan of strategic predation control

Working with farmers on the wider environmental issues associated with managing for Curlews

