

Spurn Bird Observatory Data Requests

The Spurn Bird Observatory has amassed over 70 years of records relating to the natural history of the Spurn Peninsula.

The great majority of these are of migrant and resident birds, though there is also material relating to insects (especially moths and butterflies) and mammals. These records have been compiled over hundreds of thousands of hours by thousands of (largely amateur) birdwatchers and ornithologists. They have historically been carried in a long sequence of hand-written logbooks; more recently, they have been kept in digital form.

Raw data concerning birds from the original logs have been extracted, digitised, and added to create a digital archive going back to 1946 which is updated yearly. Observatory bird ringing data is also digitalised.

The logs themselves, which are annotated and give detail 'beyond the numbers', together with a range of other material (including Lepidoptera and Mammalia, as well as housekeeping and other matters) some of it illustrated with drawings or photographs, have been moved to the East Riding Archives at the Treasure House in Beverley, where they await cataloguing.

Spurn Bird Observatory is administered by the Spurn Bird Observatory Trust (hereafter SBOT), which is happy to make its data available to *bona fide* researchers. Other than in exceptional circumstances the data will be made available free of charge, though a charitable donation, of whatever size, would always be welcome.

Data are made available on the following terms:

- 1) that the data are not shared with third parties without written permission from SBOT;
- 2) that SBOT accepts no responsibility for the outcomes of the use of their data;
- 3) that SBOT is acknowledged as the data provider in every output for which the data are used;
- 4) that SBOT's Science and Research Sub-Committee be given a chance to review publications derived from SBOT data, and that a member of the Sub-Committee responsible for the review and honing of publications is offered the opportunity to be included as a co-author.



Those wishing to access the digital data should contact:

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For more information on our work, please visit www.spurnbirdobservatory.co.uk