

# Willow Tit survey – breeding, habitat & species codes

<i>Woodland types</i>	
Broadleaved woodland	May contain up to 10% conifer.
Coniferous woodland	May contain up to 10% broadleaved.
Mixed woodland	A woodland containing more than 10% conifer or 10% broadleaved.
Scrub	Vegetation dominated by locally native shrubs, usually less than 5m tall, occasionally with a few scattered trees. (e.g. Hazel, Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Bramble, shrub willow species,). Stands of young trees or stump regrowth less than 5m high.
Hedge	

<i>Breeding evidence codes</i>	
T	permanent Territory, evidenced by territorial behaviour (breeding calls or song) in response to the lure recording or another Willow Tit(s)
D	courtship and Display in the breeding season in suitable breeding habitat (use for a mating pair)
A	Agitated behaviour or anxiety calls from adults, suggesting the presence of a nest or young
B	nest Building (e.g. pairs excavating new nesting cavities in dead or rotting wood, typically less than 2m from the ground). Wood chippings may be visible on ground
ON	Adults entering or leaving nest site in circumstances indicating an Occupied Nest. If a hole is discovered move away to prevent disturbance and <b>DO NOT APPROACH</b>
FF	Adult carrying Faecal sac or Food for young
NY	Nest with Young seen or heard. It is unlikely that nest contents will be visible. If adults are noticed entering or you hear chicks move away immediately in order to prevent disturbance and <b>DO NOT APPROACH</b>

<i>Additional bird species to record</i>					
B.	Blackbird	GS	Great Spotted Woodpecker	LT	Long-tailed Tit
BT	Blue Tit	GT	Great Tit	R.	Robin
CC	Chiffchaff	LS	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	SH	Sparrowhawk
CH	Chaffinch	LE	Long-eared Owl	WW	Willow Warbler

*Primary canopy species to record (mature trees)*

Al	Alder	Ha	Hawthorn	Ro	Rowan
As	Ash	La	Larch	Oa	Oak
Ap	Aspen	Li	Lime	SC	Sweet Chesnut
Be	Beech	HC	Horse Chesnut	Sy	Sycamore
Bi	Birch	FM	Field Maple	Ye	Yew
BC	Bird Cherry	Ma	Maple	CW	Crack Willow
Ch	Cherry	Pi	Pine	Go	Goat Willow
Co	Conifer	Pl	Plane	Gr	Grey Willow
Ed	Elder	Po	Poplar sp.	WW	White Willow
Em	Elm	Wp	White Poplar	Wi	Willow sp.

*Understorey (shrub layer)*

Bl	Blackthorn	Ha	Hawthorn	Rs	Rose
Ed	Elder	Ho	Holly	Go	Goat Willow
Hl	Hazel	Rh	Rhododendron	Gr	Grey Willow
		Ro	Rowan		

*Ground cover plants*

Bb	Bluebell	Gr	Grasses	Mo	Mosses
Bk	Bracken	HB	Himalayan Balsam	Ra	Ramsons (wild garlic)
Br	Bramble	Iv	Ivy	Se	Sedges
Fe	Ferns	Ne	Nettles	Wi	Willowherb Sp.

*Open habitats within the 200m square (see habitat photo guide)*

B	Grassland and marsh	E2	Flushes and springs
C	Tall herb and fen	F1	Swamp
D	Heathland	F2	Marginal and inundation
E	Mire (including bogs and fens)	J1	Arable / cultivated ground

<i>Water bodies within the 200m square</i>				
<i>Code</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Maximum dimensions</i>	<i>Area (ha)</i>	<i>Maximum area (m<sup>2</sup>)</i>
SP	Small pond	<10m x 10m or 20m x 5m	<0.1 ha	<1000
LP	Large pond	200m x 100m or 400m x 50m	0.1 - 2.0 ha	20,000
SL	Small lake	500m x 100m or 200m x 250m	>2.0 - 5.0 ha	50,000
LL	Large lake		>5.0 ha	
LR	Lined reservoir			
GP	Gravel / sand pit			
DI	Ditch with water <2m wide			
S	Brook or stream < 3m wide			
RI	River > 3m wide			
CA	Canal > 2m wide			

<i>Wood rot score (measured using a knife with a pointed blade approx. 6cm long)</i>	
1	Knife penetrates 0 - 0.5cm
2	Knife penetrates 0.5 - 2cm
3	Knife penetrates 2 - 5cm
4	Knife penetrates over 5cm but wood cannot be broken by hand
5	Full knife penetration and the wood can easily be pulled apart in the hand

<i>Horizontal visibility / vegetation density</i>		
1	Open	Trees / shrubs very widely spaced. Clear visibility through and beyond trees.
2	Light	Trees generally wider apart than arm length and some large clear areas present at ground level and at canopy level.
3	Medium	Most trees about arm length apart. Easy to walk and see between individual trees. Possible to see quite a long way into the
4	Thick	Possible to walk between trees / shrubs in some places but close enough to restrict visibility into the woodland.
5	Impenetrable	Vegetation too dense to walk through and very little visibility beyond closest vegetation.

<i>Soil moisture</i>		
1	Dry	Dusty / crumbly with little moisture
2	Moist	Damp soil
3	Wet	Looks and feels wet to touch
4	Very wet	Saturated (water drips/squeezes out/sticks to shoes)
5	Standing water/deep wet mud	Ground immersed in water or deep wet mud

