

KNOW YOUR REDSHANK



Redshank *Tringa totanus*

Summer: 22,000 pairs
Winter: 100,000

UK conservation status: **Amber**
Protected by The Wildlife and
Countryside Act 1981.

Movements and Migration

Half of the UK wintering population is from Iceland, with others from Greenland, and some from Scandinavia. Some UK breeding birds stay year round, other move into France and Spain. Young Redshank tend to travel further than adults.

Voice

Noisy and nervous wader that alerts other birds to approaching danger with ringing 'tew, tew' call. In spring, has a yodelling 'tu-udle, tu-udle' that accompanies display flight.

Food

In coastal areas feeds on shrimps, small fish, shellfish such as cockles, marine snails, small crabs, ragworms and other marine worms. Inland feeds on earthworms, crane fly larvae, beetles, flies and spiders.

Threats

Cold winters increase mortality, as do dry summers when young find it difficult to feed. Drainage of agricultural land, and overgrazing of coastal marshes has caused loss of breeding and feeding grounds.

Migration:
1,185-1,950 miles

**Flight Initiation
Distance:**
59 metres

Wingspan:
62 cm

Oldest Bird:
26 years

