

Nightingale

Luscinia megarhynchos

Species Action Plan

1. Introduction

The nightingale was placed on the Red List in the latest Birds of Conservation Concern assessment (Eaton *et al*, 2015). It has undergone a severe decline in numbers in Worcestershire to the extent that breeding can no longer be confirmed. It is therefore a species of particular conservation concern to the county.

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In 2012-13 the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) conducted a national nightingale survey and the findings for Worcestershire demonstrated that many previously positive sites no longer held breeding birds. Low numbers of singing birds are still recorded in the south of the county each year, centred on the area around Croome and Pirton to the west of Pershore.

2

Loss of coppicing as a woodland management technique, although over the last decade there has been a revival of coppice management within many woodlands in Worcestershire.

Agricultural intensification, in particular past losses of small woodlands, wet scrubby corners and thick hedgerows, the effehick 0B

