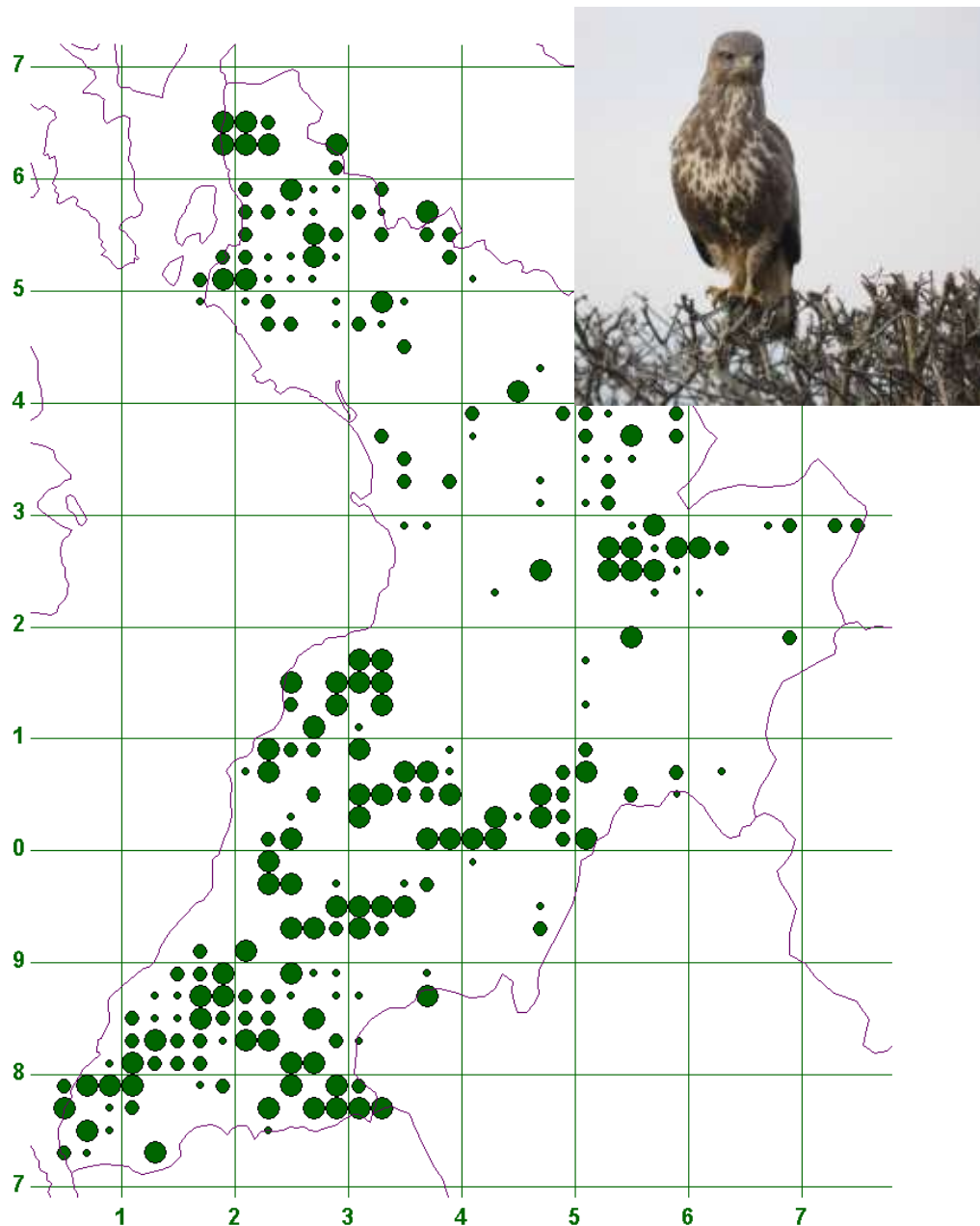


Common Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*)



Status: Common breeder

Current trend: Common Buzzard represents a success story in the re-building of a Scottish raptor's population. As recently as 1983 the Ayrshire breeding population was estimated at just over 30 pairs, with serious problems such as continued illegal persecution (in all its hideous forms), the main limiting factor. As a result of both improved legislation and education, the bird has spread its numbers from mainly upland areas into tracts of lowland farmland, joining Sparrowhawk as our commonest bird of prey.

Follow up: Continuing vigilance on the issue of persecution, with close monitoring of the breeding population.