

The Muirburn Code 2017 – Supplementary Information 3

Safe working distances and breeding season dates for key bird species that might be affected by muirburn in Scotland.

There will always be some geographical and annual variation in breeding dates. Safe working distances are only available for some species.

Species	Safe working distance (metres)	Breeding season											
		J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Black grouse	100-150 (lek 500-750)												
Curlew													
Dunlin	750-1000												
Golden eagle													
Golden plover	500-750												
Hen harrier													
Meadow pipit	300-500												
Merlin													
Raven	300-500												
Red grouse													
Ring ouzel	300-500												
Short-eared owl													
Skylark	500-750												
Snipe													
Stonechat	500-750												
Twite													
Wheatear	500-750												
Whinchat													
White-tailed eagle	500-750												

This table is based on information in:

1. Ruddock, M. & Whitfield, D. P. (2007) A review of disturbance distances in selected bird species. Report to Scottish Natural Heritage. <http://www.snh.gov.uk/docs/B313999.pdf>
2. SNH (2014) Breeding season dates for key breeding species in Scotland. <http://www.snh.gov.uk/about-scotlands-nature/species/birds/scotlands-birds/>