



### Project updates

27/03/2016  
The headstarting programme has started!  
Keep your eyes peeled for...



Black-tailed  
godwits at  
WWT Welney





Project Godwit:  
headstarting kit  
coming soon ...



Project Goshawk:  
incubator coming  
soon...



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## Black-tailed godwits

### Under threat



**1800s**  
extinct  
in its  
native  
habitat

**1930s**  
returned  
to breed  
and stayed for  
500 years

**1950s**  
breeding  
regularly  
in the restored  
habitats of the  
Ouse Washes

**1970s**  
a record  
04 pairs  
bred on the  
Ouse Washes

**1990s**  
numbers  
crash  
by more than  
**95%**  
it got here naturally  
following a period of  
spring floods

**Today**  
Black-tailed godwits  
are now  
classified as  
"endangered"  
in the UK  
and  
"vulnerable"  
in Europe  
The Fens  
**85%** of the UK's  
black-tailed godwits  
are now  
dependent on  
conservation  
measures  
we need your help

Conservation in action: Project Godwit

**Project updates** 27/03/2018

The headstarting portakabin has arrived!  
Keep your eyes peeled for further news soon...

## Black-tailed godwits

### A helping hand

**Habitat**

Black-tailed godwits are dependent on the Ouse Washes, a wetland area of reedbeds and grasses. The Washes are a vital part of the Fens, a low-lying area of land that has been reclaimed from the sea.

**Headstarting**

Headstarting is the process of raising young birds in a controlled environment. This allows us to protect them from predators and ensure they have the best chance of survival.

**Kinging**

Kinging is the process of releasing young birds back into the wild. This allows us to monitor their progress and ensure they are able to survive on their own.



Conservation in action: Project Godwit

**Talks and tours**

Details of Project Godwit events coming soon...

## Black-tailed godwits

### Throughout the year

**March**  
April

godwits return to the Ouse Washes and start to breed.

The first eggs are laid in late March or early April.

**May**  
Headstarting

Young godwits are raised in a controlled environment.

They are released back into the wild in May.

**June**  
Kinging

Young godwits are released back into the wild.

They are monitored to ensure they are able to survive on their own.

**July**  
Breeding

Godwits return to the Ouse Washes and start to breed again.

The cycle repeats itself throughout the year.



Conservation in action: Project Godwit

**Find out more**

For more information or to book a visit to the Ouse Washes, visit [www.projectgodwit.org.uk](http://www.projectgodwit.org.uk)



Farland Worlds

Reception  
Visitor Centre  
Auditorium  
Shop



Conservation in action:  
Project Godwit

