The Movements of Lossit in 2009

26th February 2009

Caught and released in wooded valley below and to the east of Lossit Farm. Later that day had moved west to the winter covert wood near Bridgend, and then the next night back near Ballygrant.

March 2009

Many of the fixes were of a B quality - which is a result of low sunlight in late winter on Islay and the fact that woodcocks hide in woods and bushes during the day, and come out onto fields at night. The map below shows the best fixes and show that Lossit ranged between Islay House estate and Dunlossit.
22 March 2009

Two poor quality signals received during the night from Kintyre and Loch Long - so it is likely that Lossit left Islay that night and stopped in mainland Scotland.

25 March 2009

Lossit was near Glasgow, at 05.27am north of Old Kirkpatrick and at 07.21am apparently on Renfrew Golf Course.

27 March 2009

Again there were three low quality signals in the early evening through to 10pm, and the best location was in the Fintry Hills.
30 March 2009

Lossit had crossed the North Sea. At 1118GMT, he was just south of Stavangar airport in southern Norway. His migration from the Fintry Hills was 685 kilometres to the NE.

04 April 2009

4th April Lossit had flown 155 kilometres to the SE and was on a promontory about 11 kilometres east of Mandal.

20 April 2009

5th - 20th April: The weather during the second week was poor with rain and cloudy conditions - signals have come in for southern Norway within 100 kilometres, suggesting he is either in his summer quarters or waiting to travel further.
25 April 2009

Lossit’s position is still near Mandal in southern Norway in wooded country - the signals are not giving good fixes probably because of the bird being hidden in woodland,

28 April 2009

Situation similar - it could be his breeding grounds.

06 May 2009

Still same area - poor quality signals so presumably in woods and probably breeding.
08 May 2009

A good signal came in between Mandal and Sogne in good woodcock breeding habitat.

16 May 2009

Lossit still in same area - near the local road called Fugleviksveien (I wonder if it named for woodcock road). This is the last signal we have received - this is good woodcock breeding habitat and there are various possibilities for lack of signals. The best would be that he is in deep cover of woodland and the sun is not charging the solar battery. Alternatively, there’s a possibility that the transmitter has failed or that he has been killed by predators or accident. If any signals are received this page will be updated.

27 July 2009

No new signals - don't know whether Lossit is dead in woodland, or the transmitter has failed, or a slight chance that he is in deep woodland during the day, and the battery has not charged.
07 August 2009

Philip Maclennan, a woodcock enthusiast, was recently holidaying near Mandal in Norway and went to Lossit’s last known location and kindly sent the following photographs which show the habitat available for woodcock.