

6 June UPDATE

The windy conditions persisting through May and, with the exception of one or two nights, through early June have kept the Corncrakes quiet at night, hard to hear and so under-reported. Corncrakes are at many of the traditional sites on the Erris Peninsula, such as Carne Hill, Glebe, Corclogh West (one in front of The Eagle Bar, handily), Glosh, Surgeview and Fallmore, as well as on the outskirts of Belmullet and in the village of Barrack. The first Corncrake in several years has also been reported calling opposite the church at Pollagh, near Keel, on Achill.

The weather has been so poor that a systematic count hasn't been possible yet. A provisional count based on records and reliable reports received so far suggests there are at least 18 to 20 in Erris. This compares with 23 at season's end last year. In the Louisburgh area, just two have been reported at Aghany. Elsewhere, there are 50 plus in Donegal, with 22 confirmed on Inishbofin (up from 18 last year). In Connemara, there are probably at least 14 (up from 10 last year), with one being located in the Callows near Shannonbridge.

We expect to find more if/when the weather allows. All reports gratefully received – via this site's email, or phone 095 44941.