

Little owl research



The Trust is supporting new PhD research into little owls, which began in January 2008.

The species has declined in recent years and research biologist Emily Joachim looking at the owl's ecology, breeding and distribution to identify reasons for this.

For her study she is drawing on nestboxes on Salisbury Plain. The 18 occupied little owl boxes in various habitats on or near the plain are part of the Imber Conservation Group nestbox project initiated by Hawk and Owl Trust trustee Major Nigel Lewis. He and his team monitor the boxes. It is still fairly rare for little owls to breed in nestboxes, so these are a valuable resource for the research

Emily, who has a zoology degree from Reading, is supervised by the university's head of environmental biology, Dr Graham Holloway, with some fieldwork supervision from Nigel Lewis and Hawk and Owl Trust conservation officer Chris

Sperring.

The project has been awarded a Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council CASE studentship and is sponsored by the Hawk and Owl Trust and The World Owl Trust.

research update

- [January 2009](#)

update on the 2008 season

- [January 2010](#)

update on the 2009 season

- [Nestbox views](#)

Clips of little owls in the study