



# **Game Reporting Data**

2022 Report

Wild Birds Regulation Unit

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# Introduction

In February 2016, the Government enacted Legal Notice 69 of 2016 (Conservation of Wild Birds (Amendment) Regulations), which paved the way for reform of the system of general hunting licences. Instead of the previous *Carnet de Chasse* reporting system, hunting and live-capturing reports are now submitted through a telephonic game reporting system or mobile app. The data in this report was collated from this game reporting system.

For autumn–winter bird hunting and rabbit hunting/ferreting seasons, licensees were legally required to report their bags before leaving the location where their activity was taking place. For seasons opened under derogation (Spring Hunting and Autumn Live-Capturing), licensees were required to report their bags immediately upon making a catch, thus allowing for real-time data to be gathered. The reports were aggregated in a central database which allows the Wild Birds Regulation Unit to monitor the data at any point in time for both scientific and enforcement purposes.

Live-capturing data for song thrush and golden plover pertains to reports made under derogation. Detailed reports on the outcome of these derogations can be found in the official derogations report available at:

<https://mgoz.gov.mt/en/Pages/WBRU/Reports%20and%20Statistics/Autumn-Live-Capturing-Derogations%E2%80%8B-.aspx>.

Spring hunting derogation reports are also available at:

<https://mgoz.gov.mt/en/Pages/WBRU/Spring-Hunting-Derogation.aspx>.

The table below outlines the number of licences active for each general licence category in 2022. Individual licensees could have one or a combination of multiple categories of these licences. Licensees could only report game caught pertaining to their respective licence categories.

Licence Category	Nº of licences
General Licence for Hunting birds on land	9,884
Special Spring Hunting licence – <i>Quail &amp; Turtle Dove</i>	8,041
General Licence for Hunting birds at sea	273
General Licence for Hunting of wild rabbit	2,970
General Licence for Capture of wild rabbit with nets	65
General Licence for Live-Capturing of birds	4,046
Special Autumn Live-Capturing Licence – <i>Song Thrush and Golden Plover</i>	1,277

In order to practice hunting during the reporting period, in addition to their general hunting licences, licensees were required to have a valid weapons permit issued by the Police, a valid insurance cover, and a paid membership in a recognised hunting organisation.

During the reporting period, a total of 16,809 specimens belonging to huntable species were reported hunted and a total of 1,706 specimens were reported captured under Article 9(1)(c) live-capturing derogations. The system received a total of 5,914 telephonic reports from 1,269 individuals.

The following table lists the reports submitted by licensees within each licence category and the corresponding total number of specimens reported. The number of licensees submitting a report as a percentage of the total number of licences within each category is also provided.

<b>Licence Category</b>	<b>Total licences</b>	<b>Nº of licensees participating in game reporting</b>	<b>Percentage of total licences within category (%)</b>	<b>Nº of reports received</b>	<b>Specimens reported</b>
General Licence for Hunting birds on land	9,884	387	3.9	2,148	4,763
Special Spring Hunting licence – <i>Quail &amp; Turtle Dove</i>	8,041	530	6.6	1,057	1,150
General Licence for Hunting birds at sea	273	1	0.4	2	3
General Licence for Hunting of wild rabbit	2,970	17	0.6	27	31
General Licence for Capture of wild rabbit with nets	65	2	3.1	2	3
General Licence for Live-Capturing of birds	4,046	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Special Autumn Live-Capturing Licence – <i>Song Thrush and Golden Plover</i>	1,277	296	23.2	978	1,714

# Hunting Data

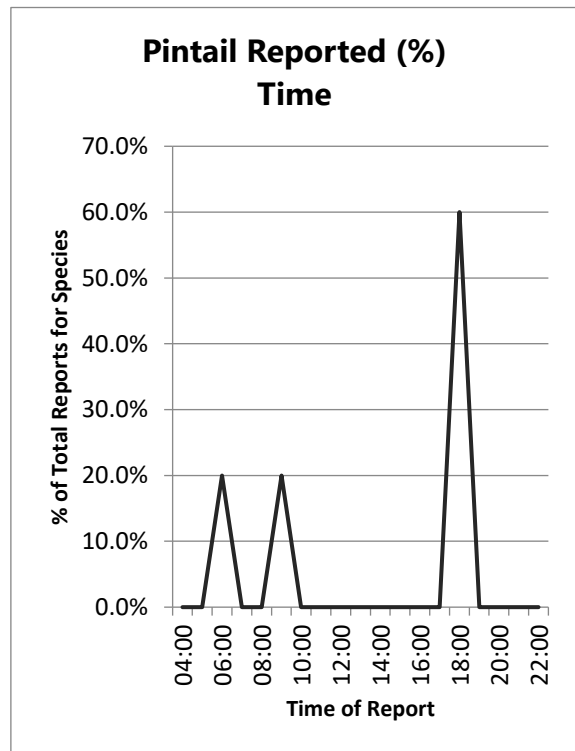
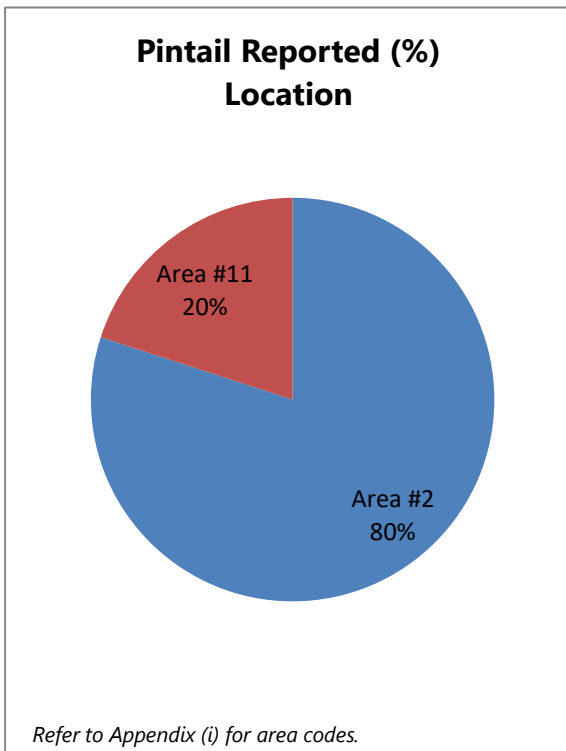
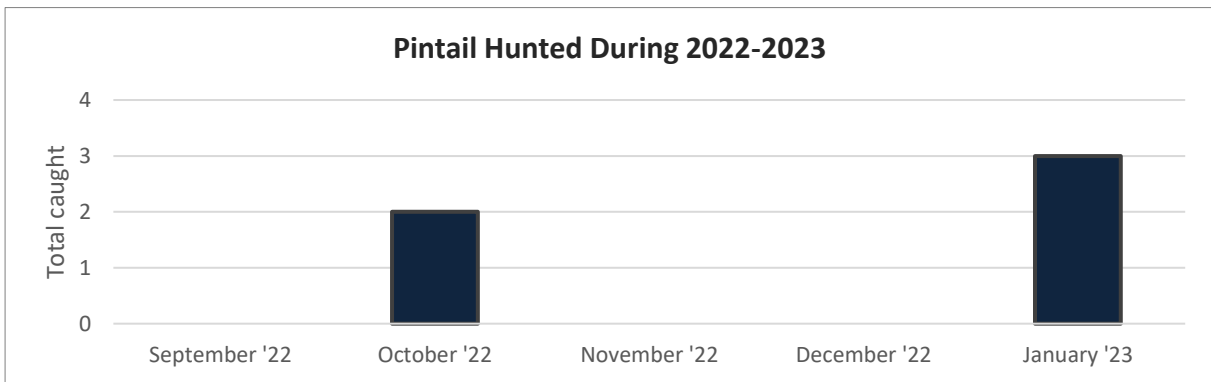
2022 Report

*Anas acuta*

**Pintail**

Silfjun

September '22	0
October '22	2
November '22	0
December '22	0
January '23	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>



Anseriformes

- Anatidae

Month

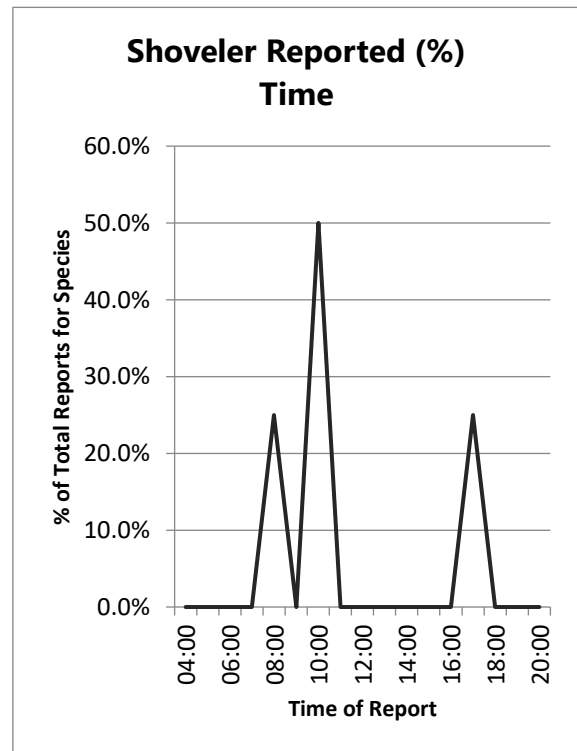
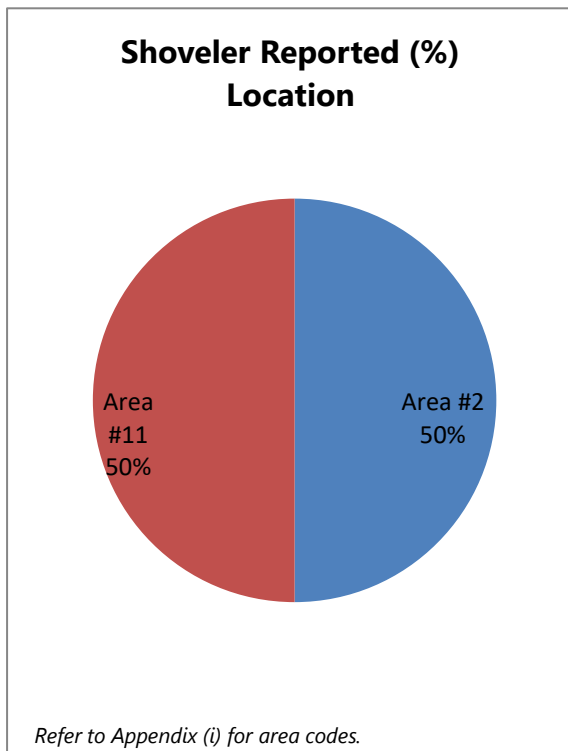
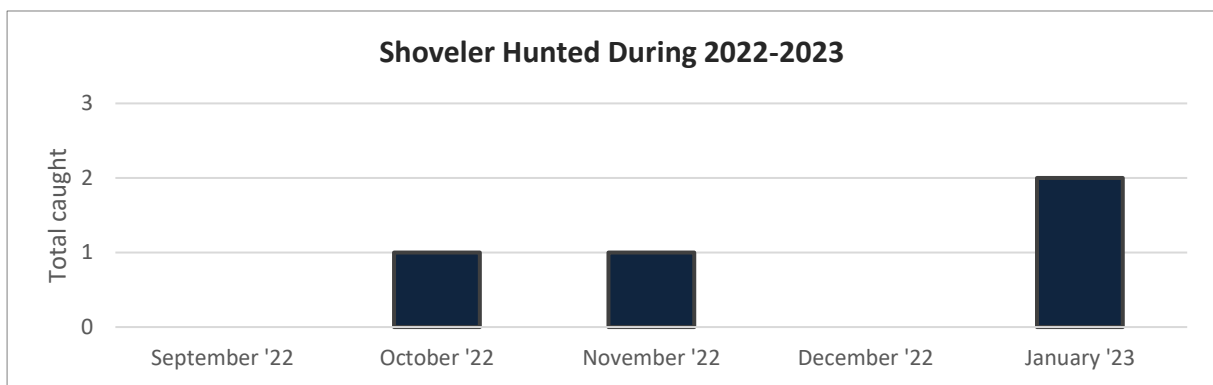
Specimens Hunted

*Anas clypeata*

**Shoveler**

Palettuna

September '22	0
October '22	1
November '22	1
December '22	0
January '23	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

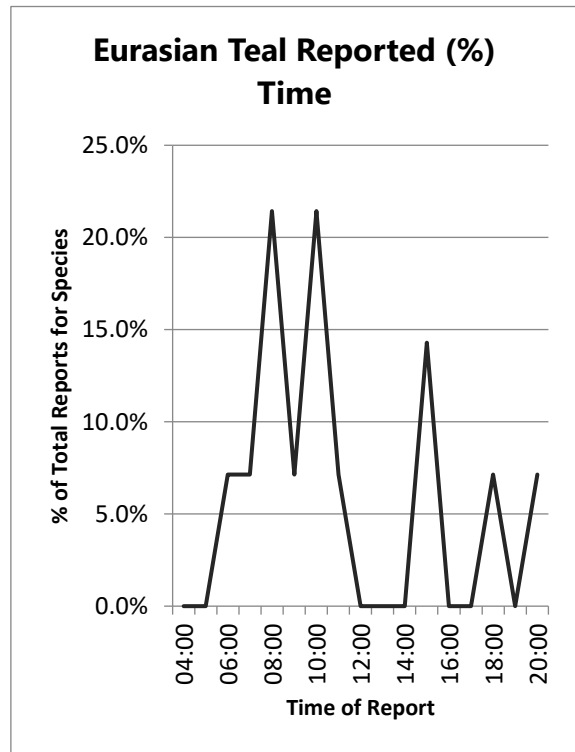
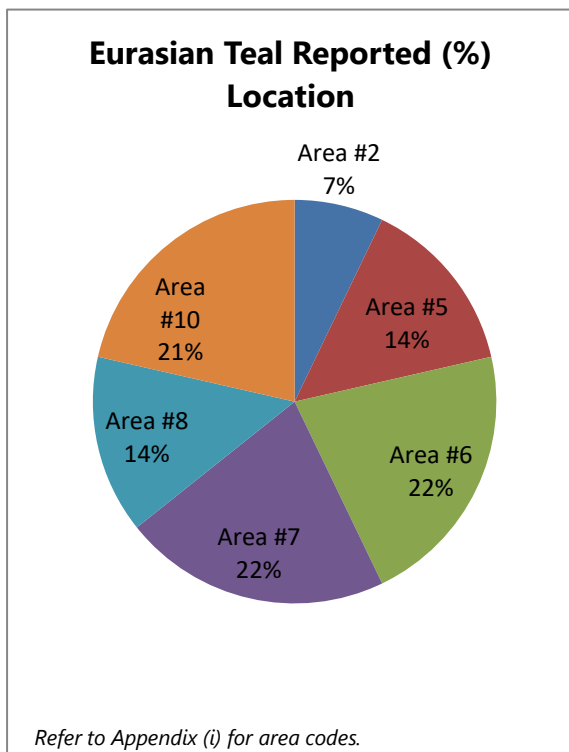


*Anas crecca*

**Eurasian Teal**

Sarsella

September '22	8
October '22	4
November '22	2
December '22	0
January '23	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>



Anseriformes

- Anatidae

Month

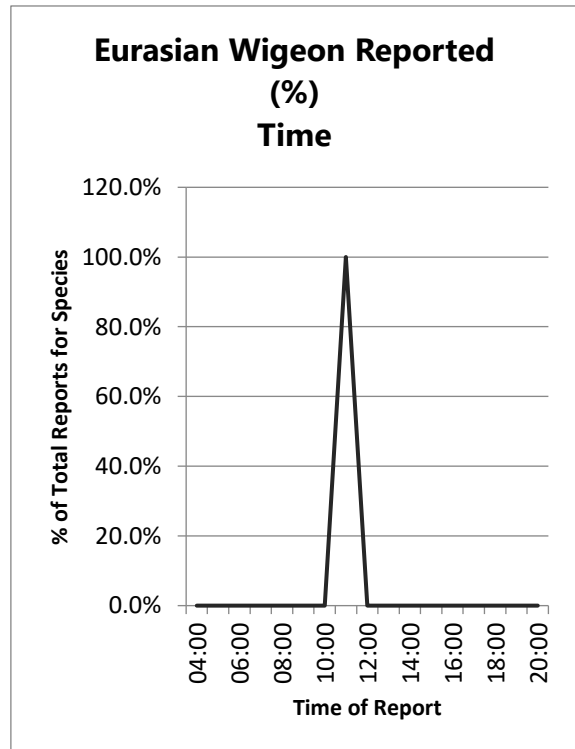
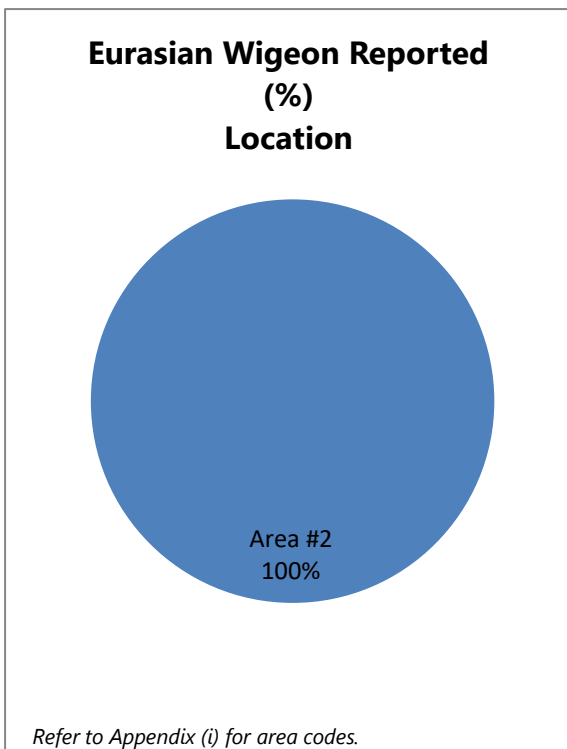
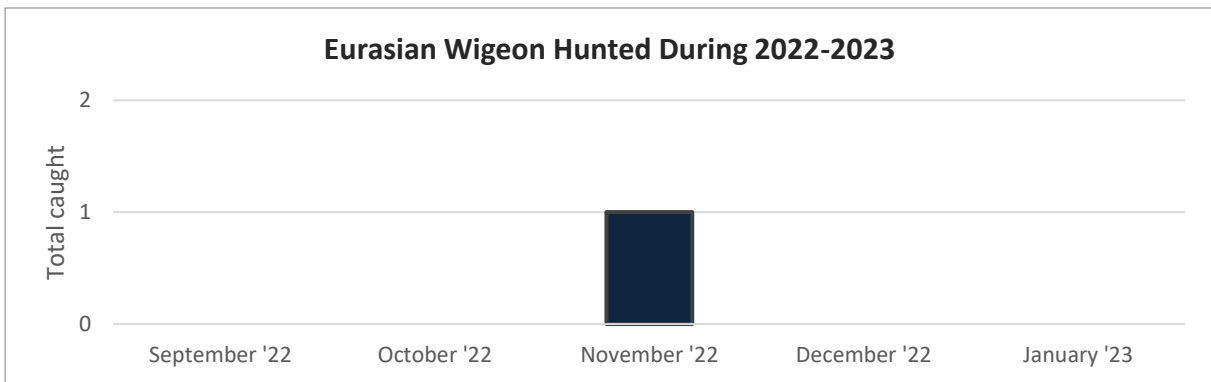
Specimens Hunted

*Anas penelope*

**Eurasian Wigeon**

Silfjun Ewropew

September '22	0
October '22	0
November '22	1
December '22	0
January '23	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>

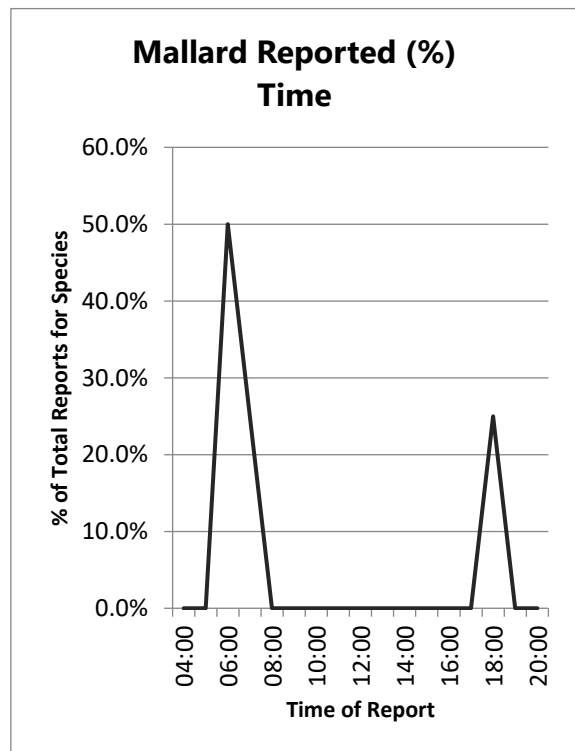
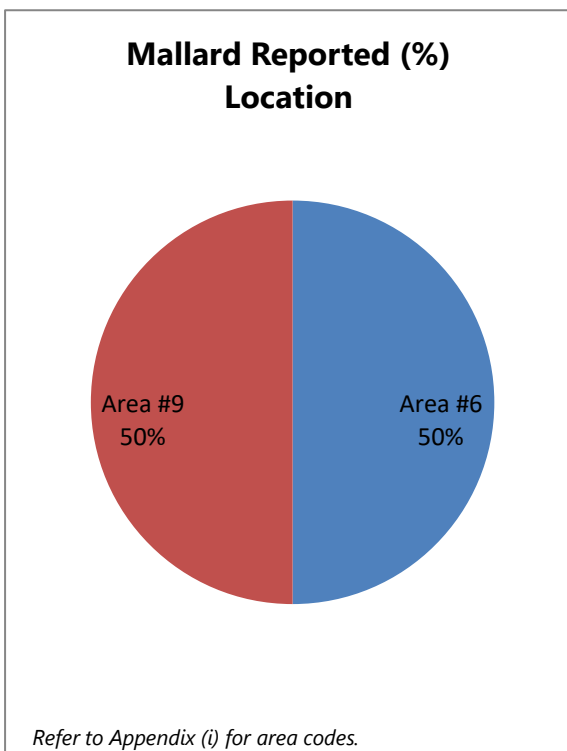
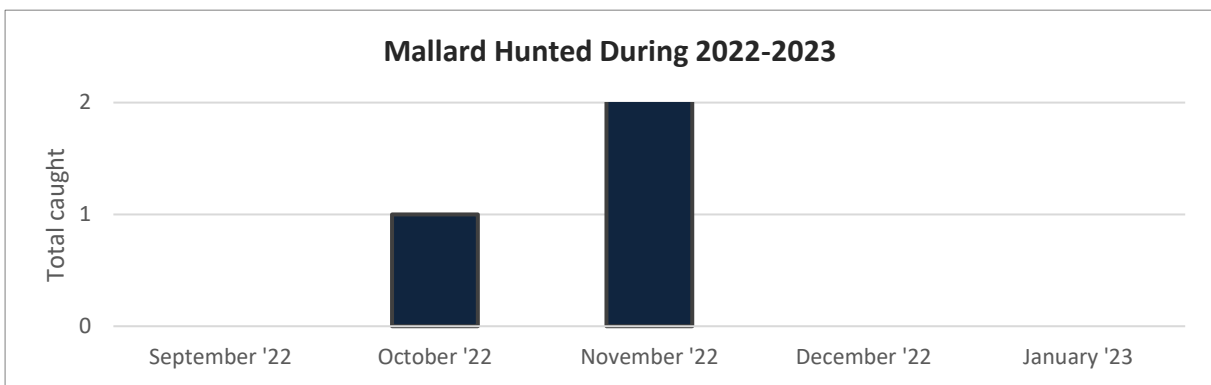


*Anas platyrhynchos*

**Mallard**

Kuluvert

September '22	0
October '22	1
November '22	3
December '22	0
January '23	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

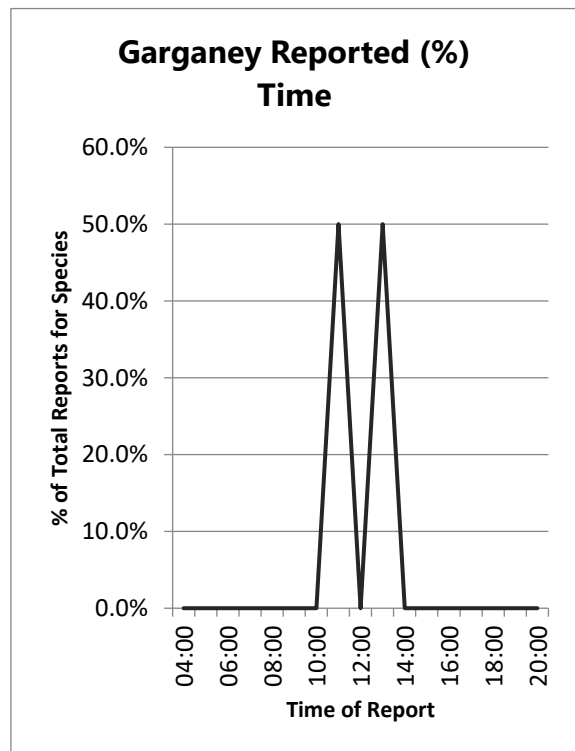
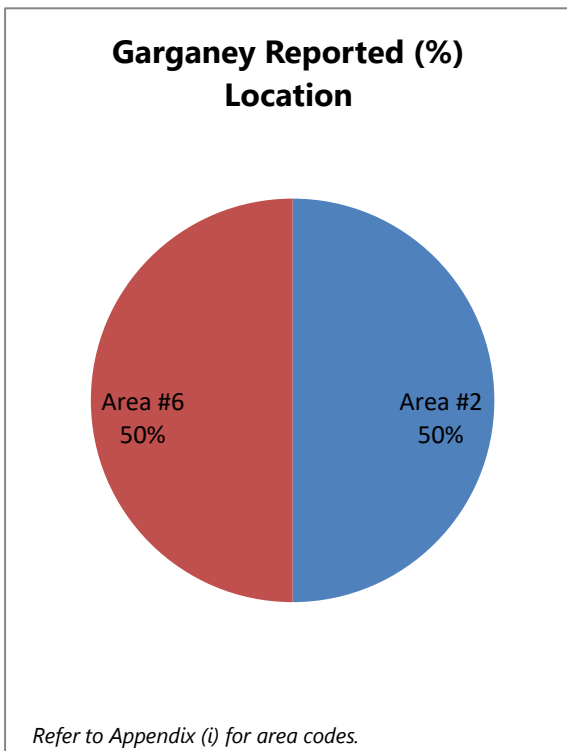
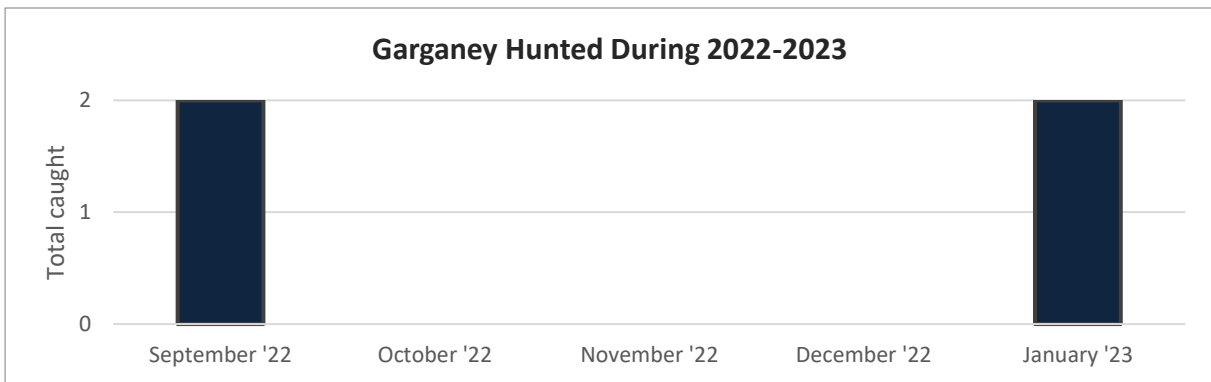


*Anas querquedula*

**Garganey**

Sarsella Hamra

September '22	2
October '22	0
November '22	0
December '22	0
January '23	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

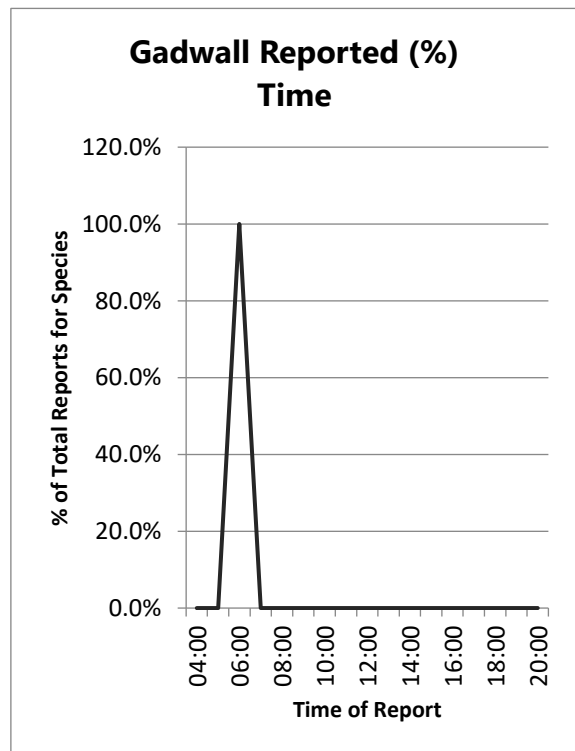
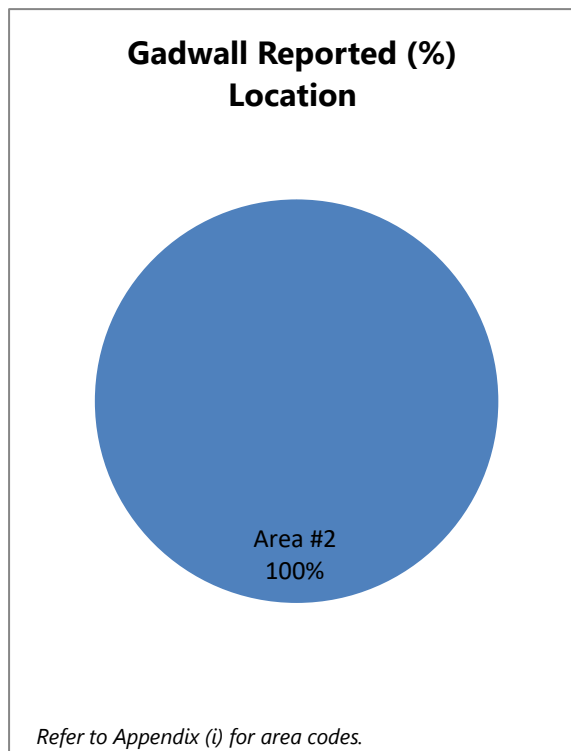
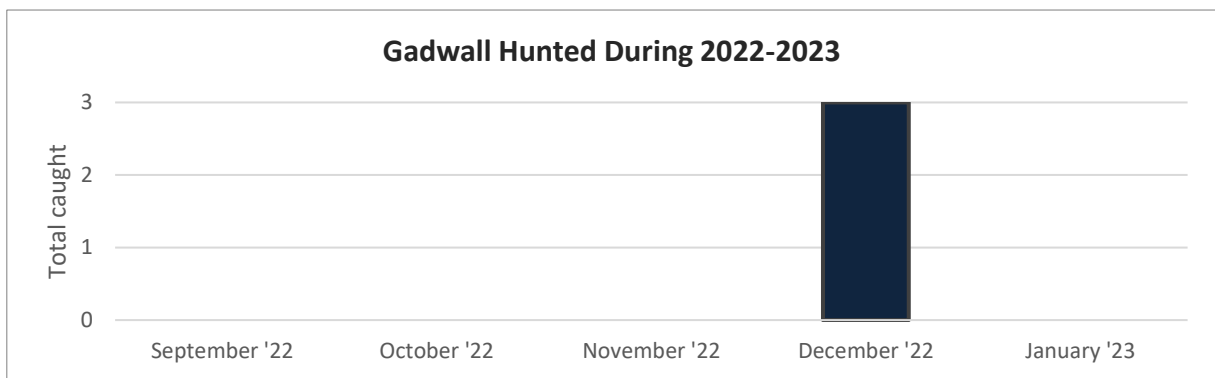


*Anas strepera*

**Gadwall**

Kuluvert Griz

Month	Specimens Hunted
September '22	0
October '22	0
November '22	0
December '22	3
January '23	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>



Anseriformes	- Anatidae	Month	Specimens Hunted
<i>Anser anser</i>			
<b>Greylag Goose</b>			
<i>Wizza Griza</i>			
		September '22	0
		October '22	0
		November '22	0
		December '22	0
		January '23	0
		<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

Anseriformes - Anatidae	Month	Specimens Hunted
<i>Anser fabalis</i>		
<b>Taiga Bean Goose</b>		
Wizza tal-Ful		
	September '22	0
	October '22	0
	November '22	0
	December '22	0
	January '23	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

Anseriformes	- Anatidae	Month	Specimens Hunted
<i>Aythya ferina</i>			
<b>Pochard</b>			
Brajmla			
		September '22	0
		October '22	0
		November '22	0
		December '22	0
		January '23	0
		<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

Anseriformes - Anatidae	Month	Specimens Hunted
<i>Aythya fuligula</i>		
<b>Tufted Duck</b>		
Brajmla tat-Toppu		
	September '22	0
	October '22	0
	November '22	0
	December '22	0
	January '23	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

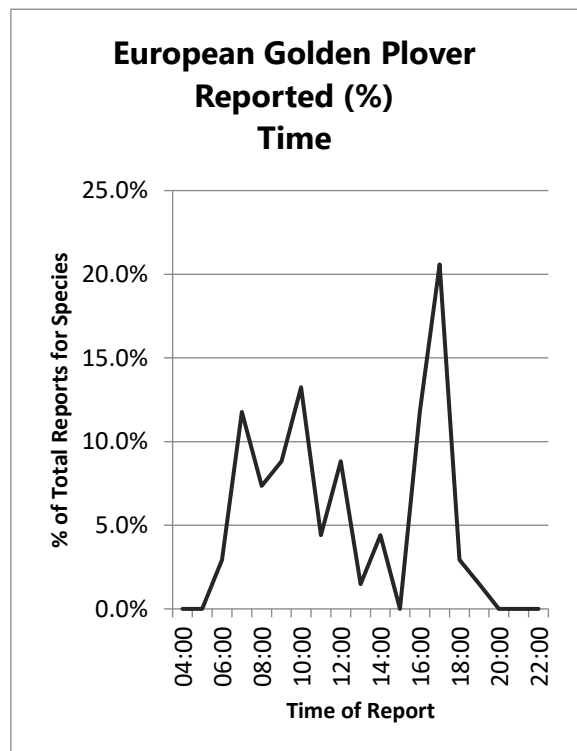
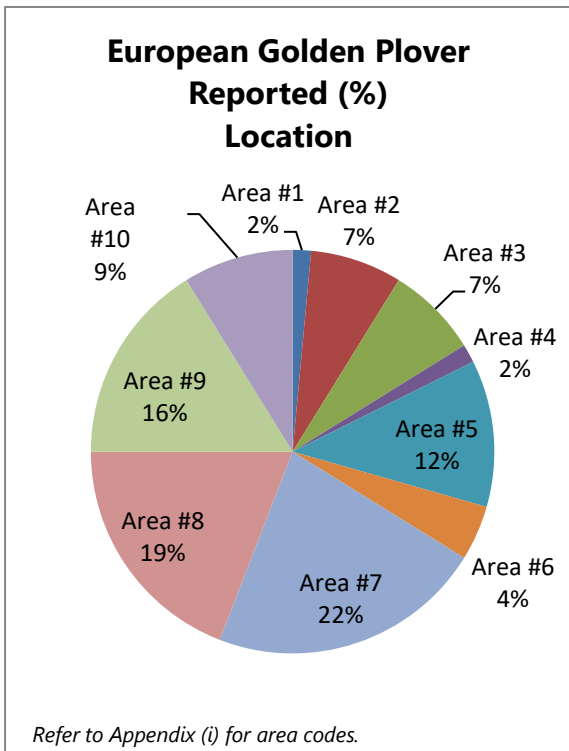
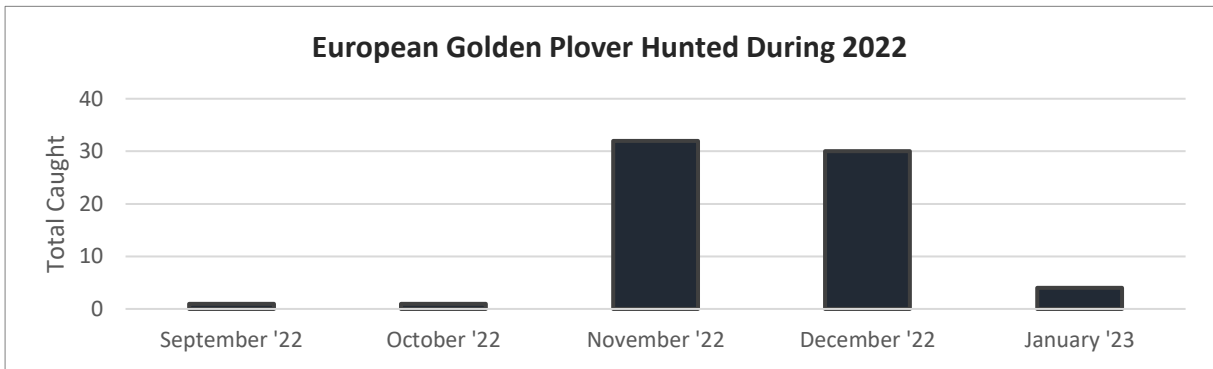
*Pluvialis apricaria*

**European Golden Plover**

Pluviera

(Hunting Data)

September '22	1
October '22	1
November '22	32
December '22	30
January '23	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>

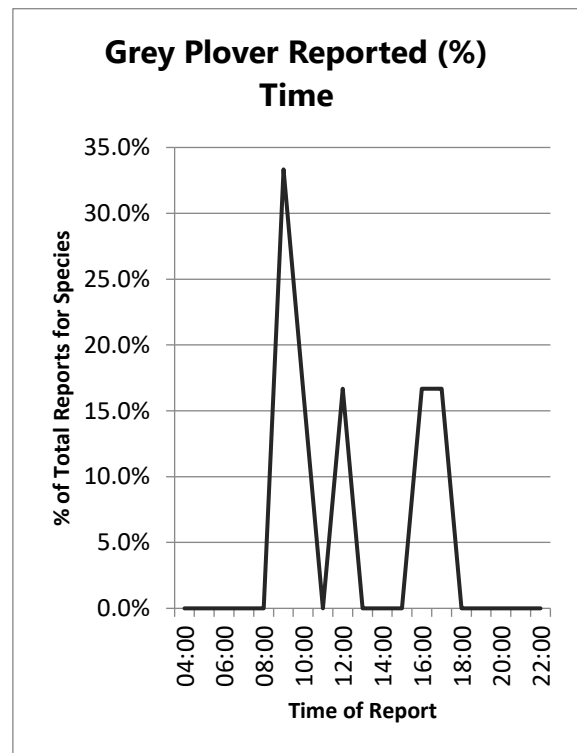
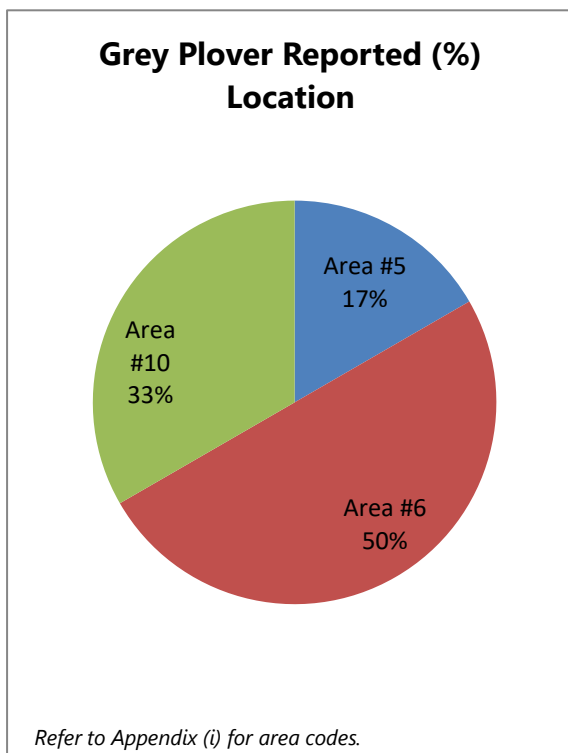
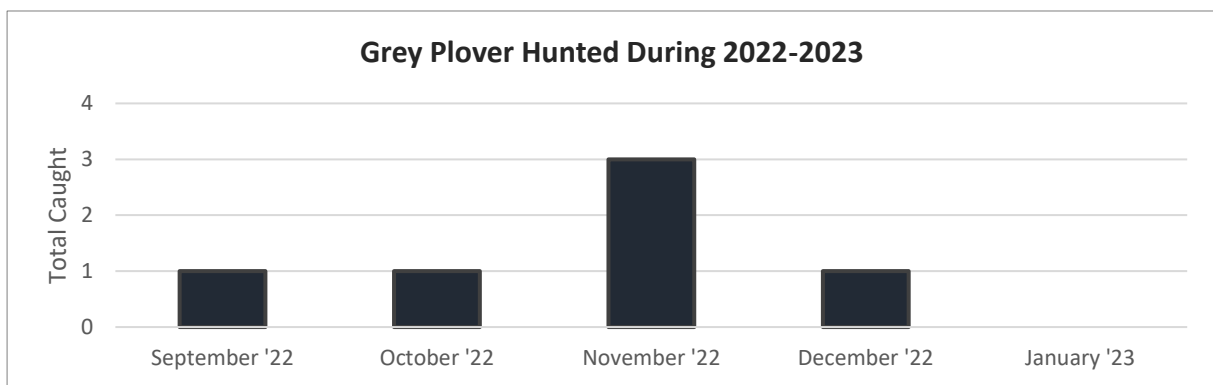


*Pluvialis squatarola*

**Grey Plover**

*Pluviera Pastarda*

September '22	1
October '22	1
November '22	3
December '22	1
January '23	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>

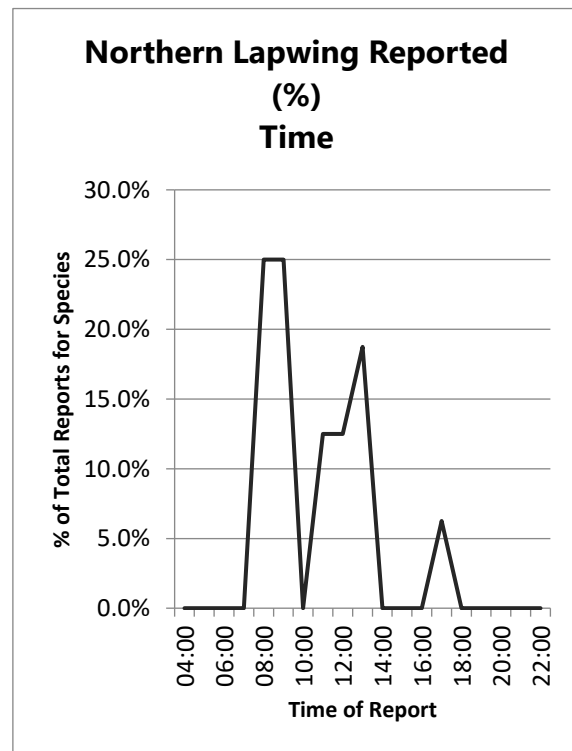
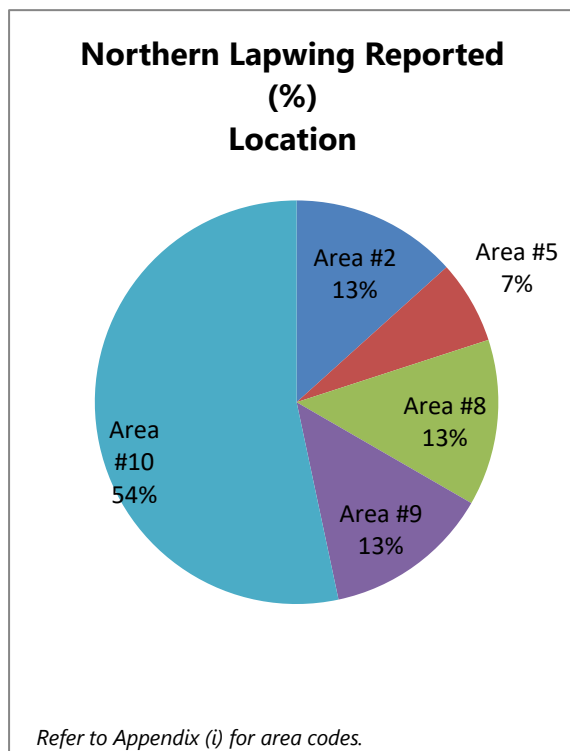
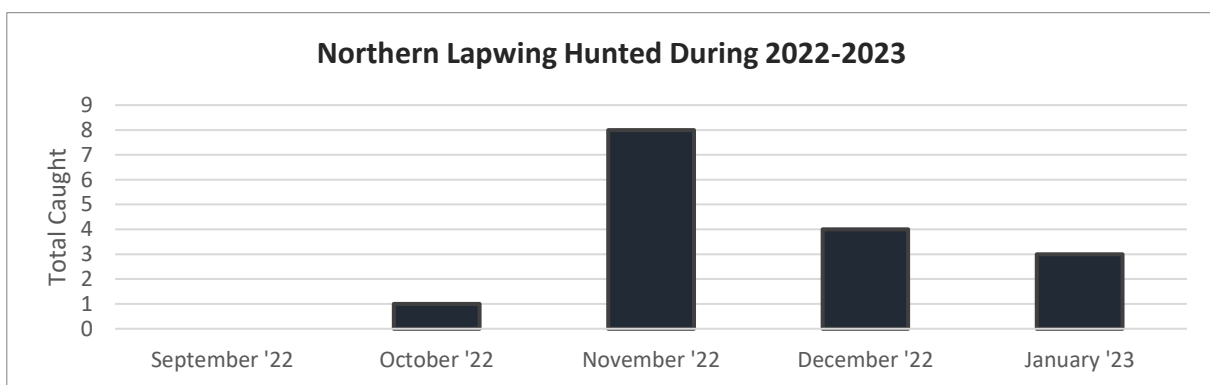


*Vanellus vanellus*

**Northern Lapwing**

Venewwa

Month	Specimens Hunted
September '22	0
October '22	1
November '22	8
December '22	4
January '23	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>

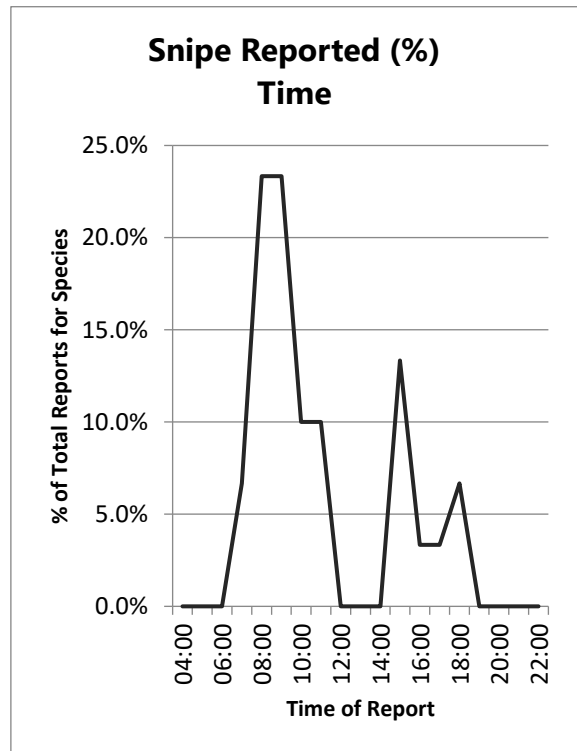
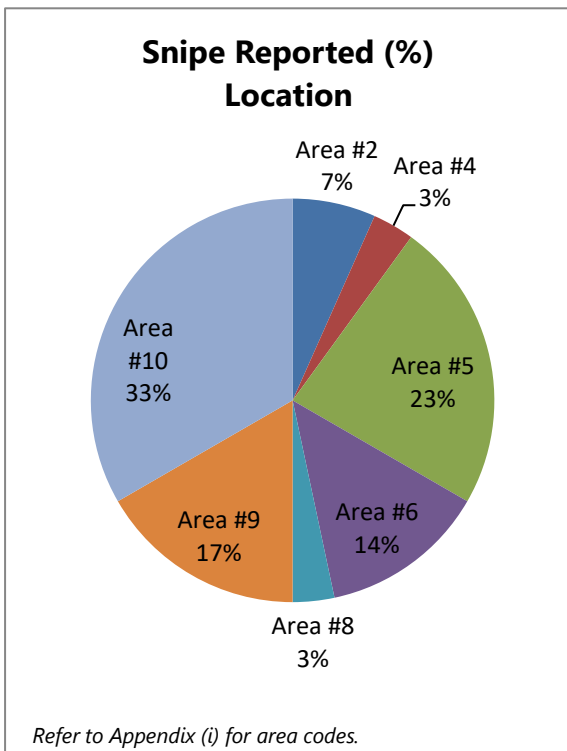
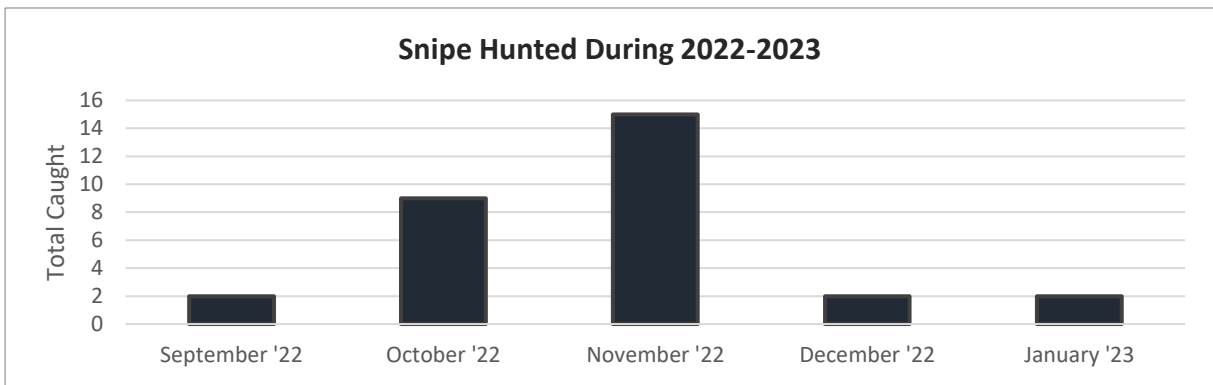


*Gallinago gallinago*

**Snipe**

Беккац

September '22	2
October '22	9
November '22	15
December '22	2
January '23	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>

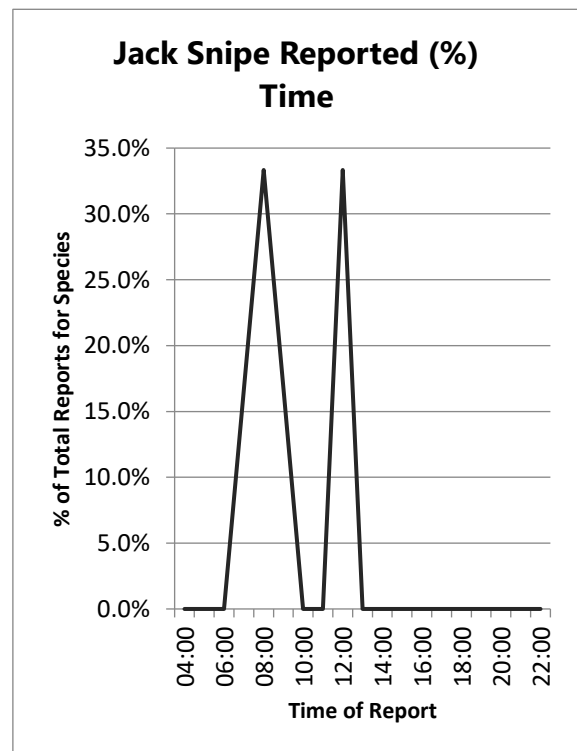
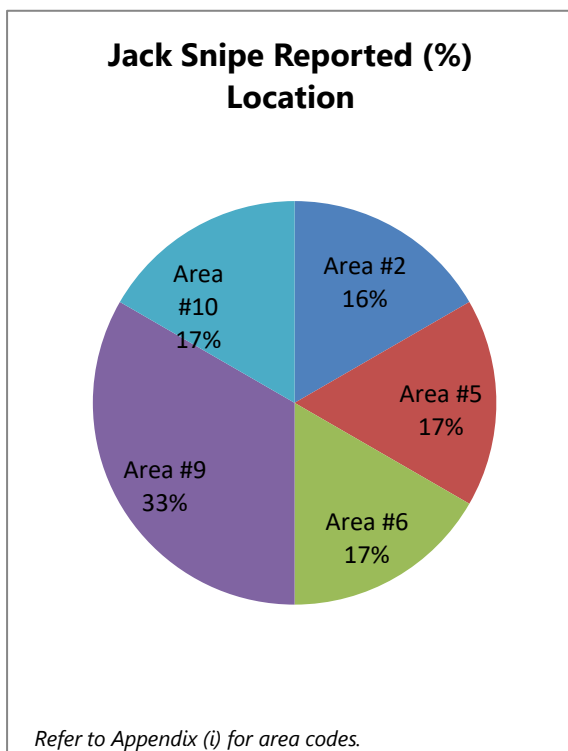
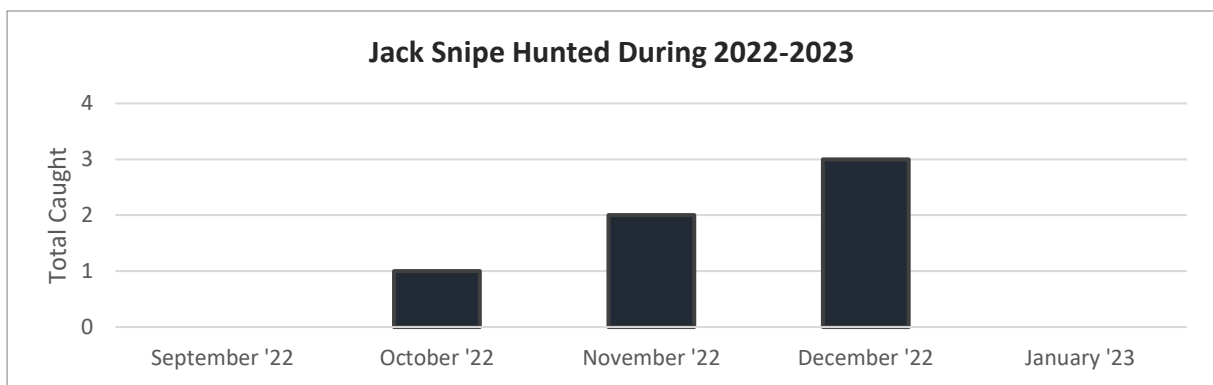


*Lymnocyptes minimus*

**Jack Snipe**

Činkonja

September '22	0
October '22	1
November '22	2
December '22	3
January '23	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>

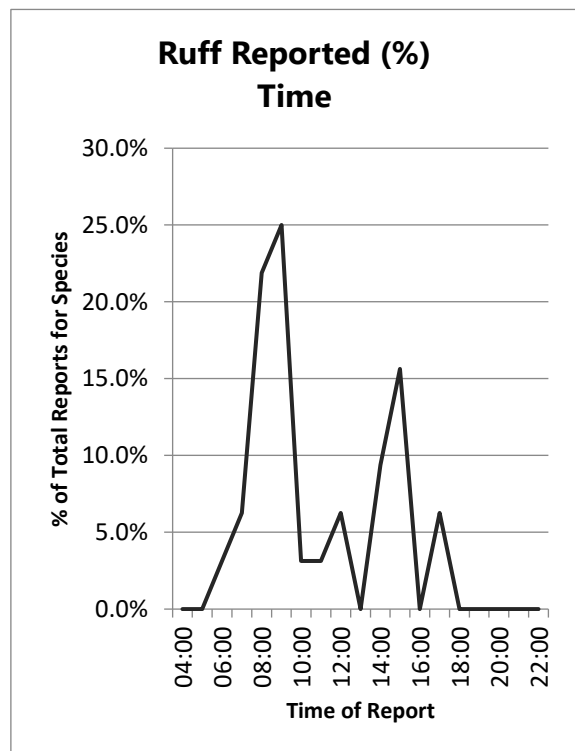
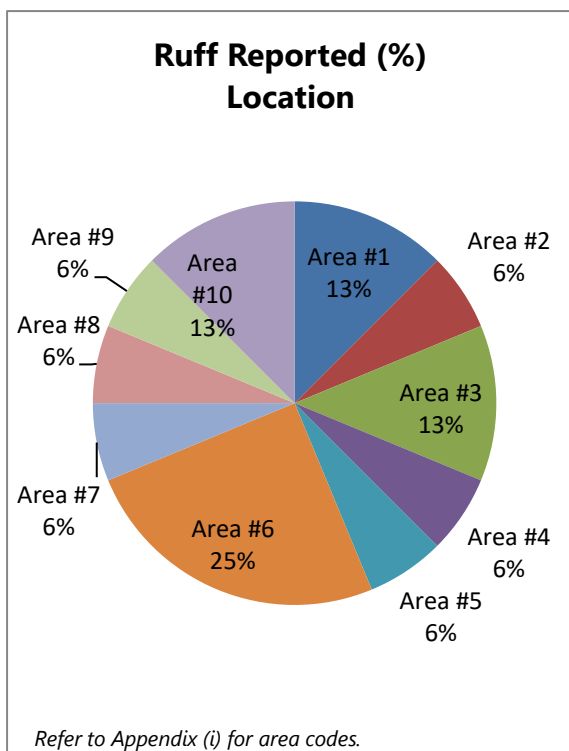
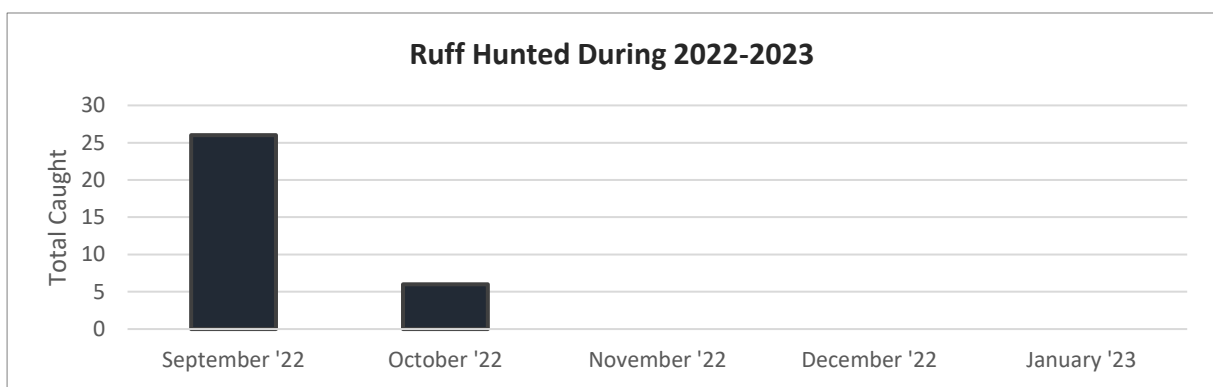


*Philomachus pugnax*

**Ruff**

Girviel

Month	Specimens Hunted
September '22	26
October '22	6
November '22	0
December '22	0
January '23	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

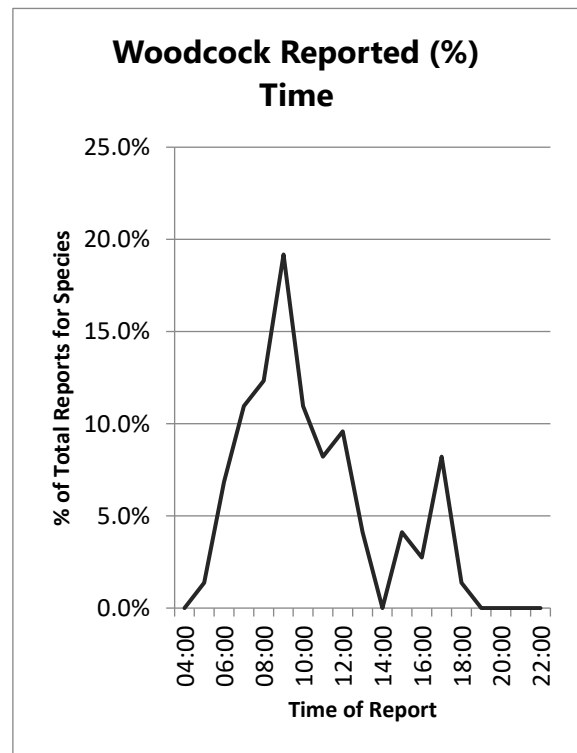
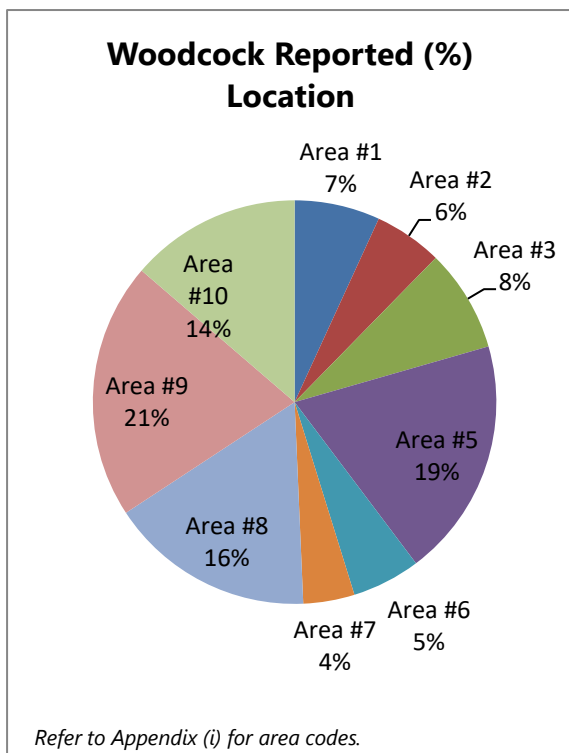
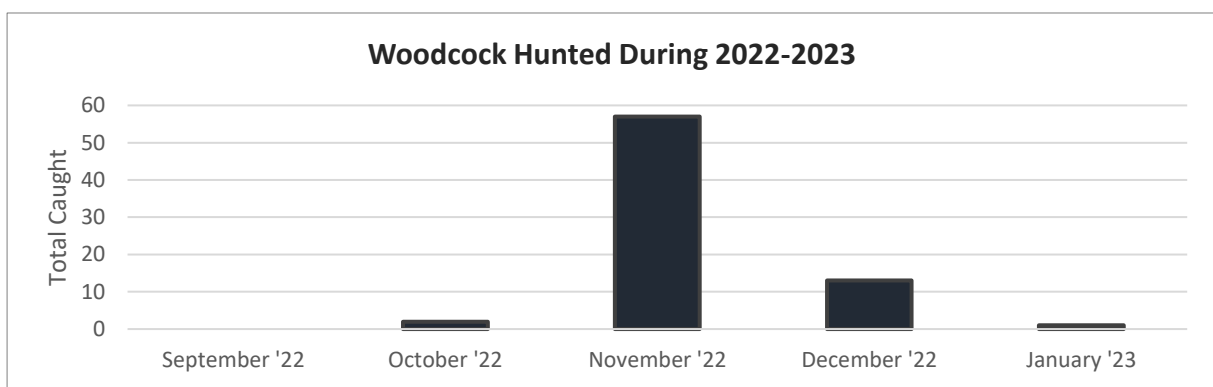


*Scolopax rusticola*

**Woodcock**

Gallina

Month	Specimens Hunted
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October '22	2
November '22	57
December '22	13
January '23	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>73</b>

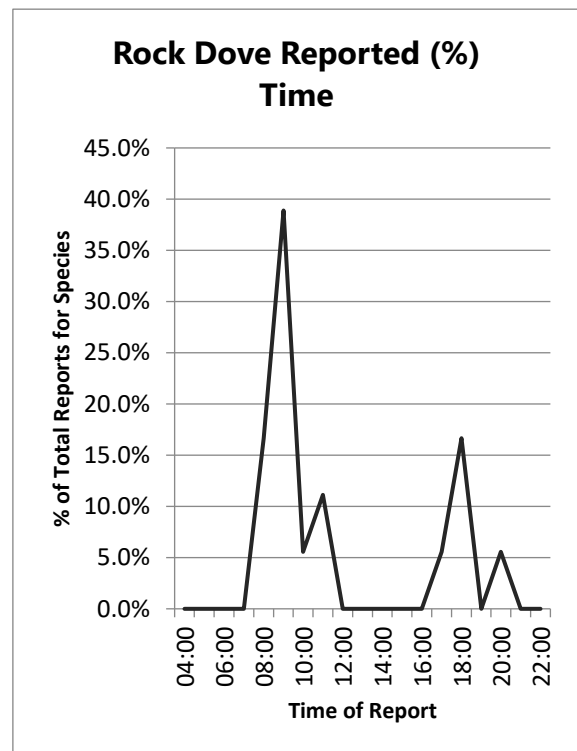
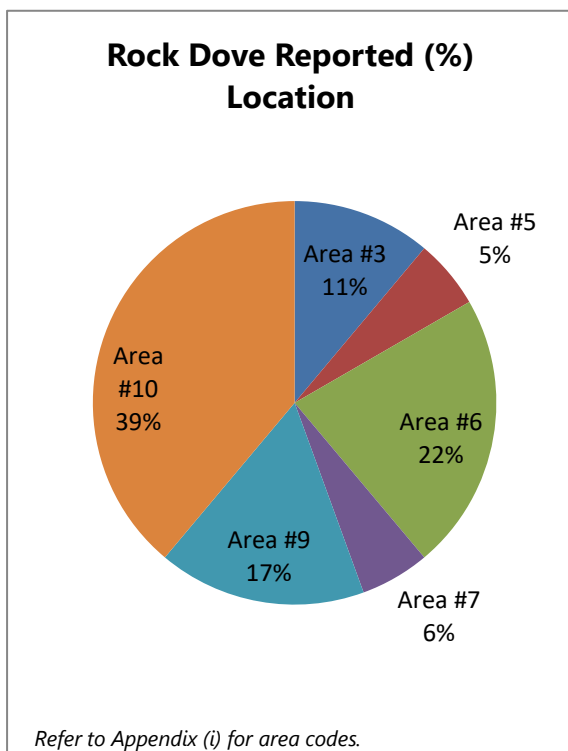
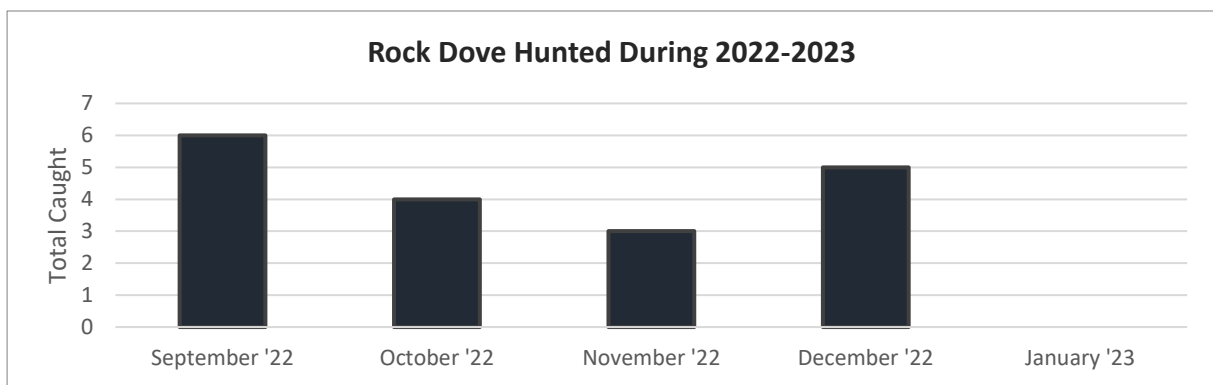


*Columba livia*

**Rock Dove**

Tudun tal-Ġebel

September '22	6
October '22	4
November '22	3
December '22	5
January '23	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>

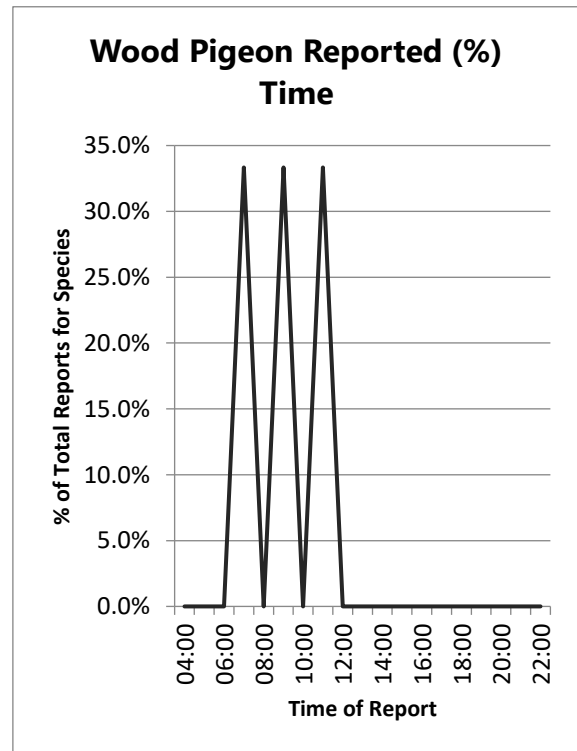
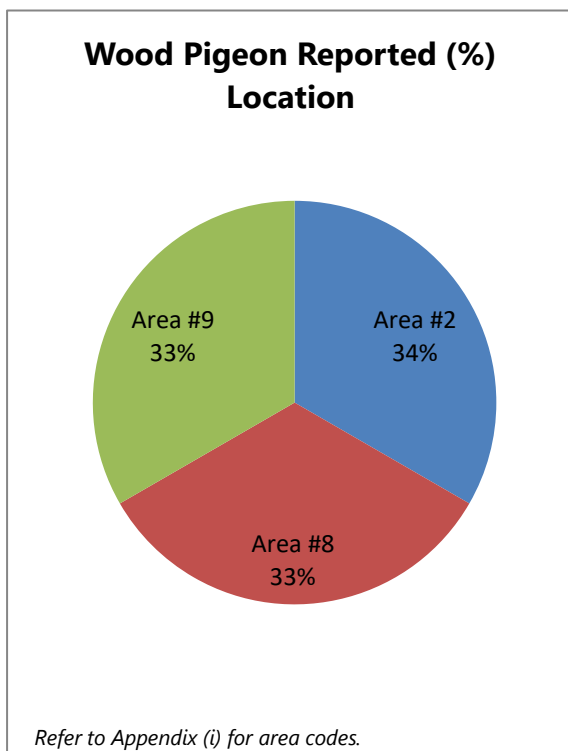
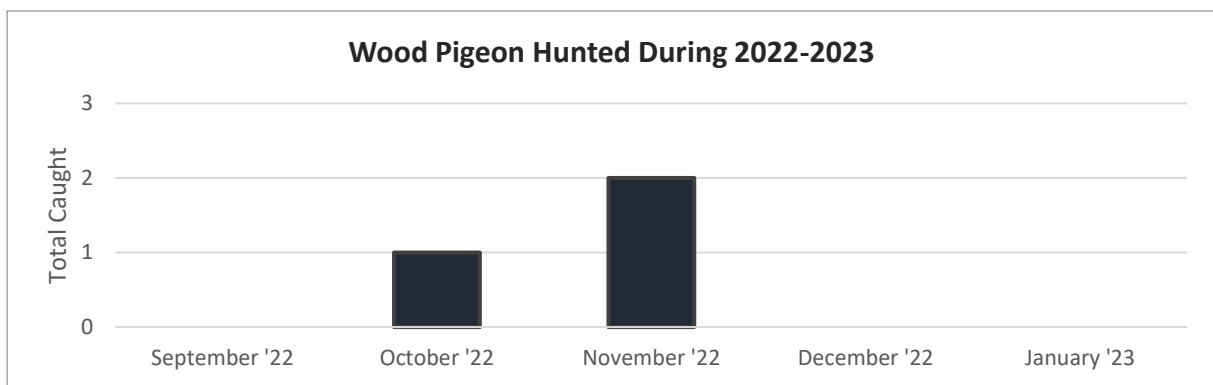


*Columba palumbus*

**Wood Pigeon**

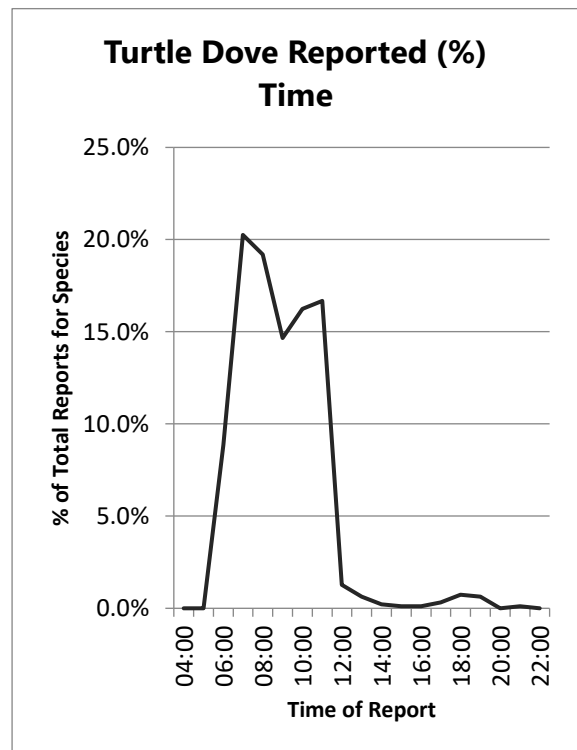
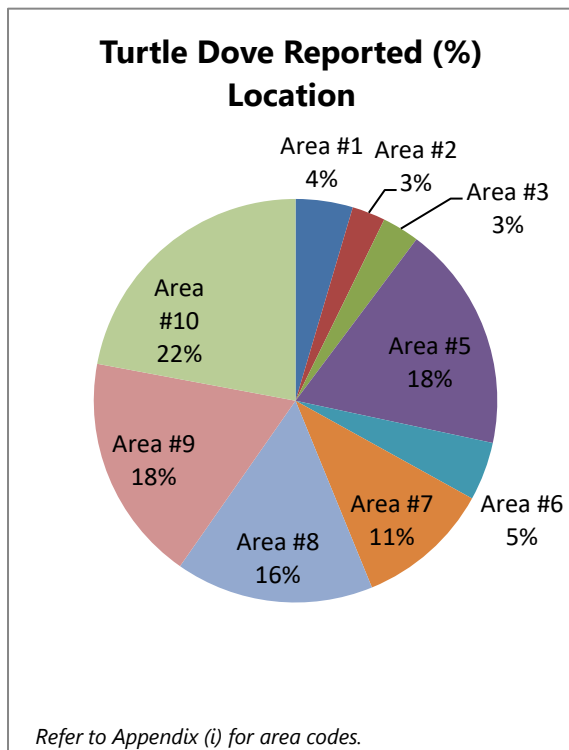
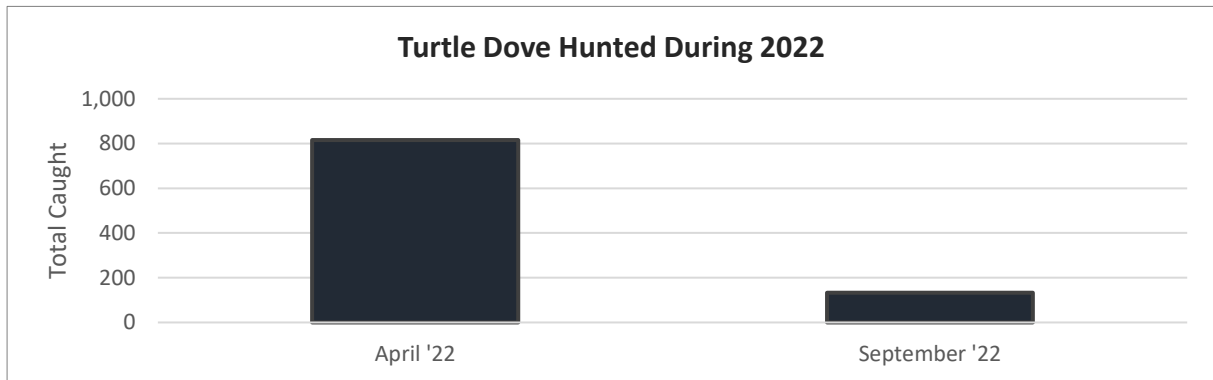
Tudun

September '22	0
October '22	1
November '22	2
December '22	0
January '23	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>



Columbiformes	Columbidae	Month	Specimens Hunted
<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>			
<b>European Turtle-dove</b>			
Gamiema			

April '22	816
September '22	133
<b>Total</b>	<b>948</b>



**Note:** Hunting of this species in spring was authorised through derogation by virtue of [L.N. 116 of 2022](#). Full details on the application of this derogation are available at <https://mgoz.gov.mt/en/Pages/WBRU/Spring-Hunting-Derogation.aspx>.

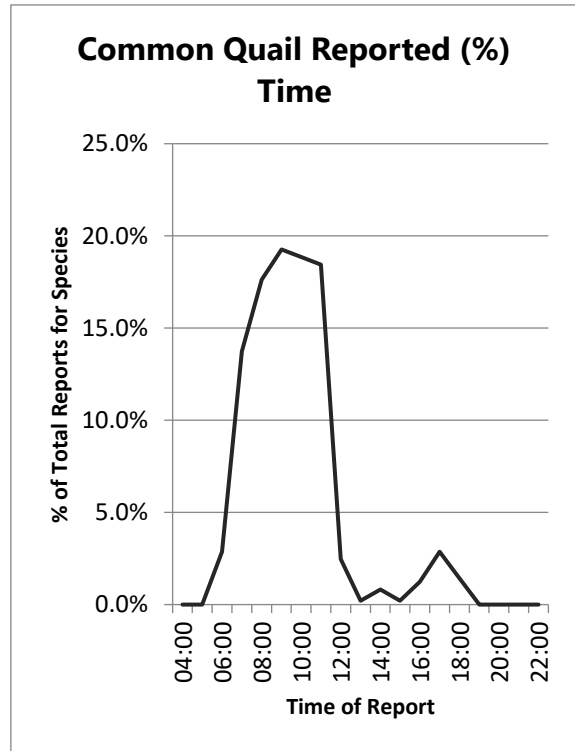
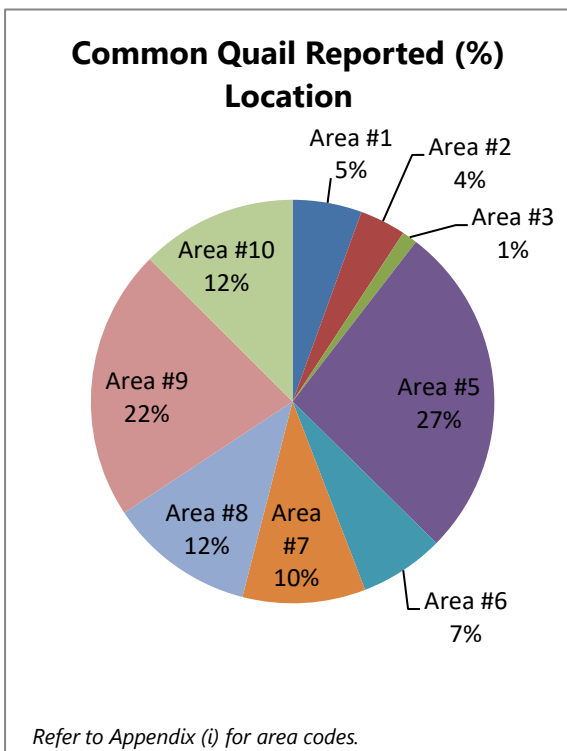
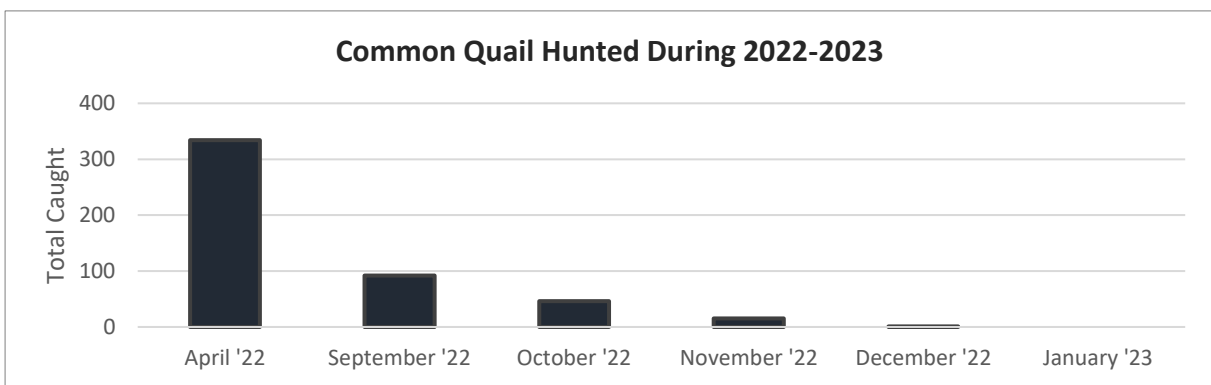
**Note:** Hunting of this species in September is governed through L.N. 341 of 2021. Full details on this are available at <https://legislation.mt/eli/ln/2021/341/eng>.

*Coturnix coturnix*

**Common Quail**

Summiena

April '22	334
September '22	92
October '22	46
November '22	15
December '22	1
January '23	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>488</b>



**Note:** Hunting of this species in spring was authorised through derogation by virtue of [L.N. 116 of 2022](#). Full details on the application of this derogation are available at <https://mgoz.gov.mt/en/Pages/WBRU/Spring-Hunting-Derogation.aspx>.

Gruiformes

- Rallidae

Month

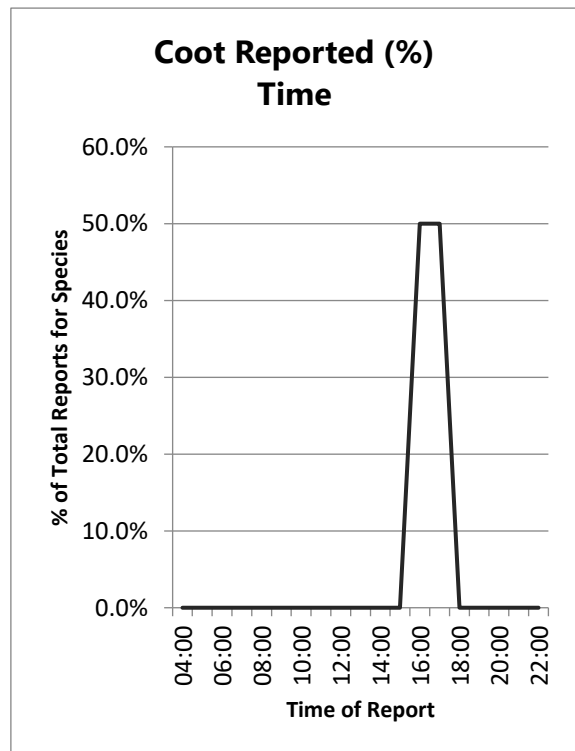
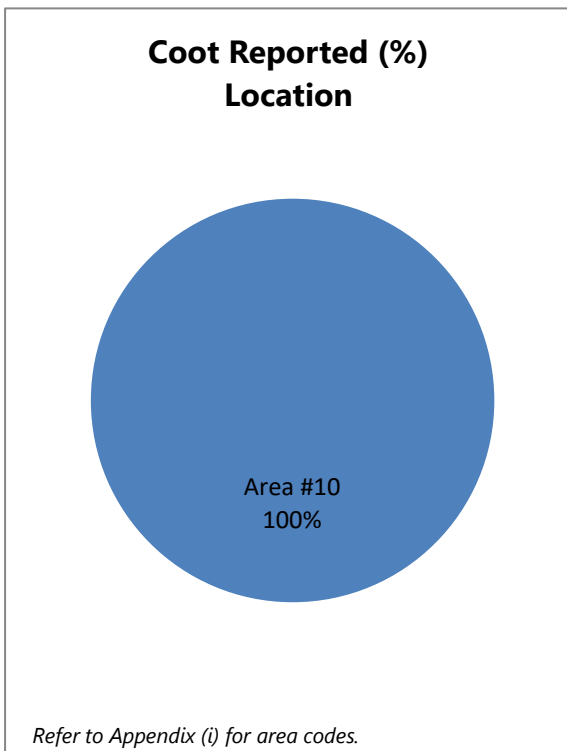
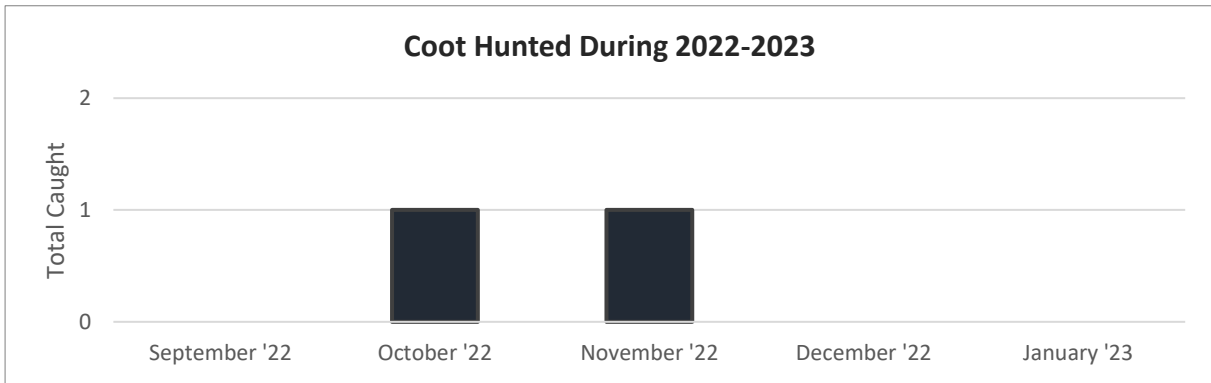
Specimens Hunted

*Fulica atra*

**Coot**

Tigiega tal-Baħar

September '22	0
October '22	1
November '22	1
December '22	0
January '23	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>

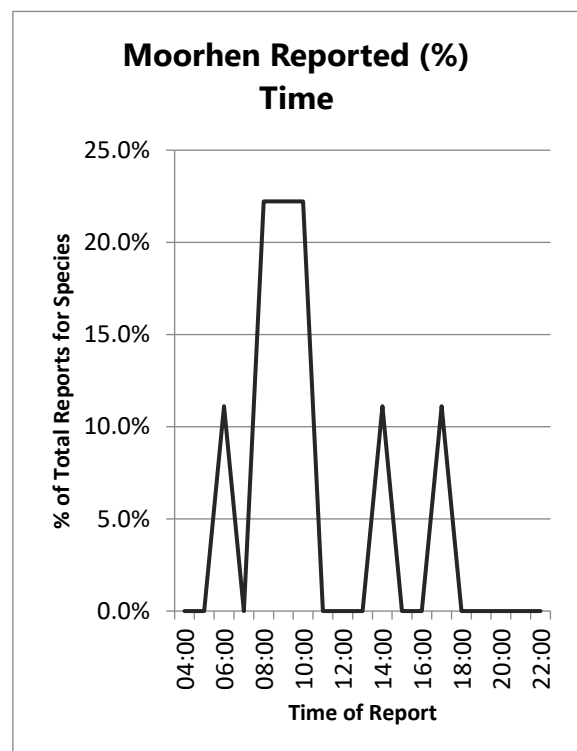
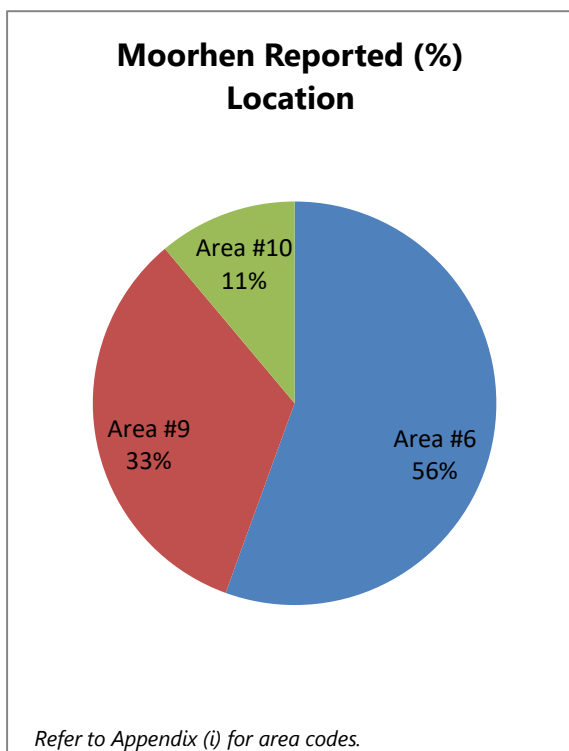
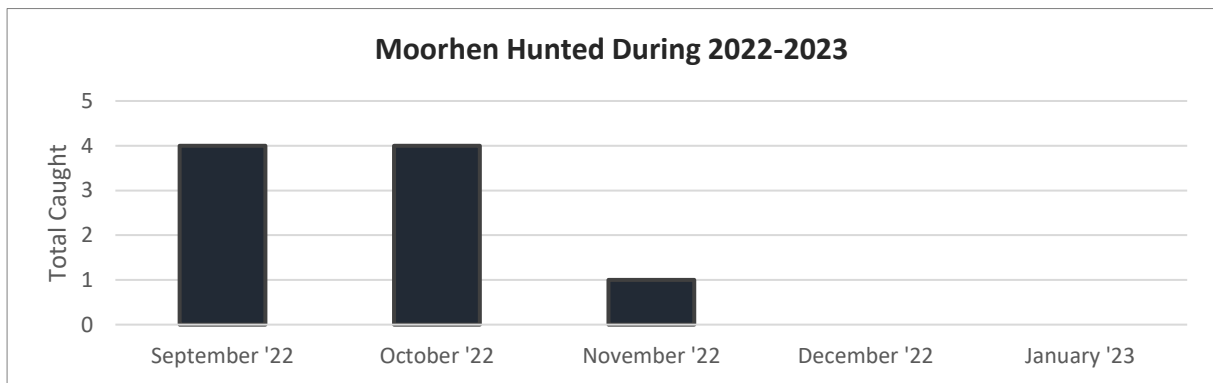


*Gallinula chloropus*

**Moorhen**

Gallozz Iswed

September '22	4
October '22	4
November '22	1
December '22	0
January '23	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>

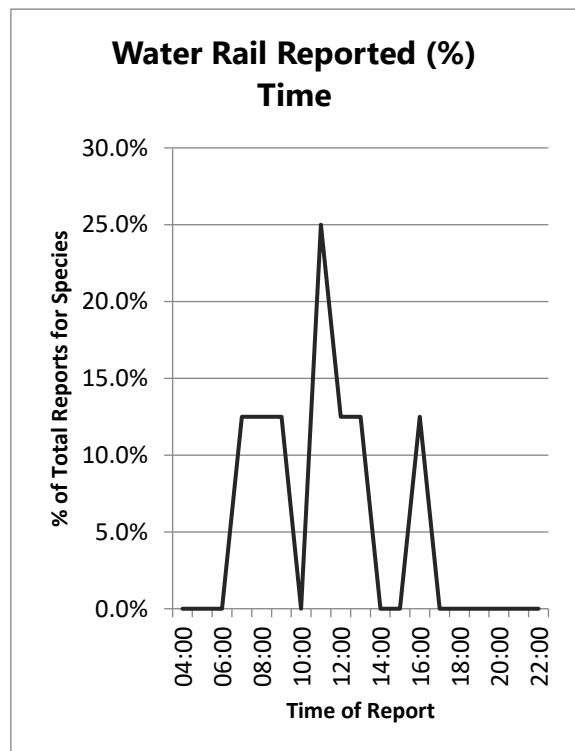
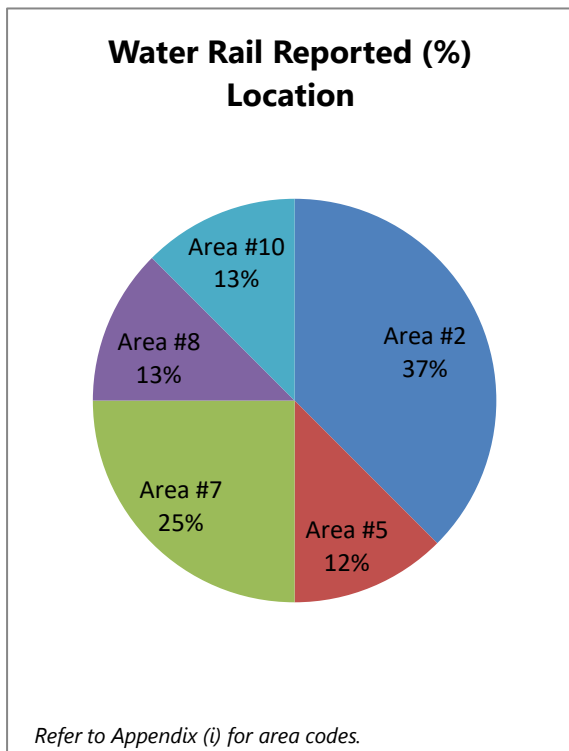
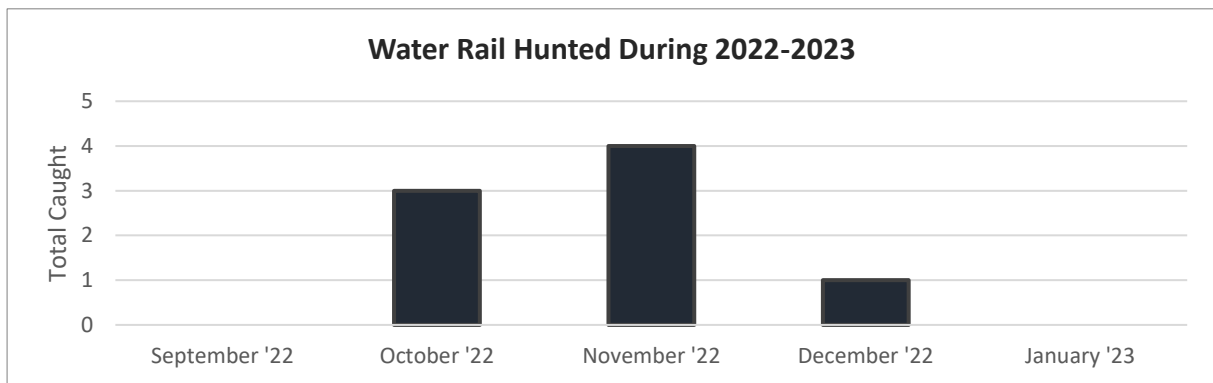


*Rallus aquaticus*

**Water Rail**

Gallozz tax-Xitwa

Month	Specimens Hunted
September '22	0
October '22	3
November '22	4
December '22	1
January '23	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>

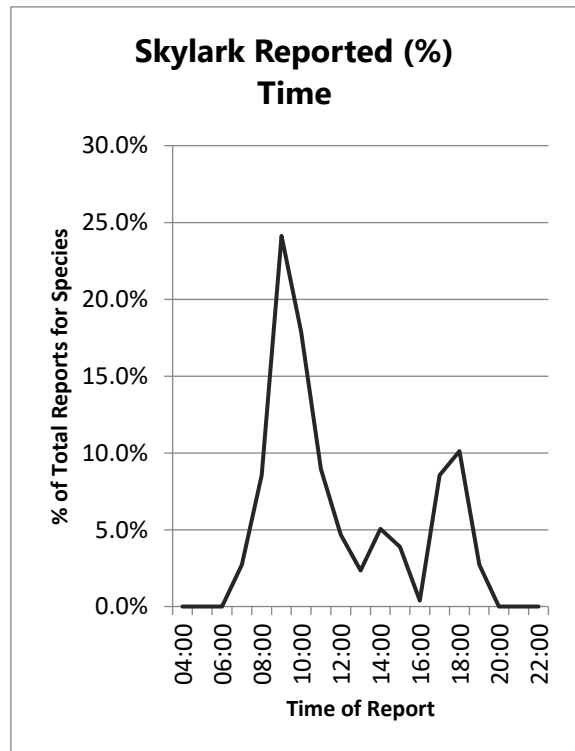
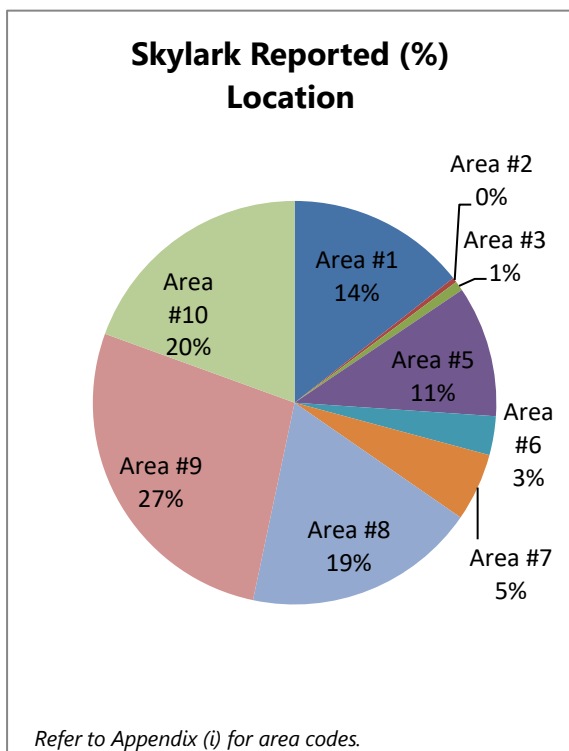
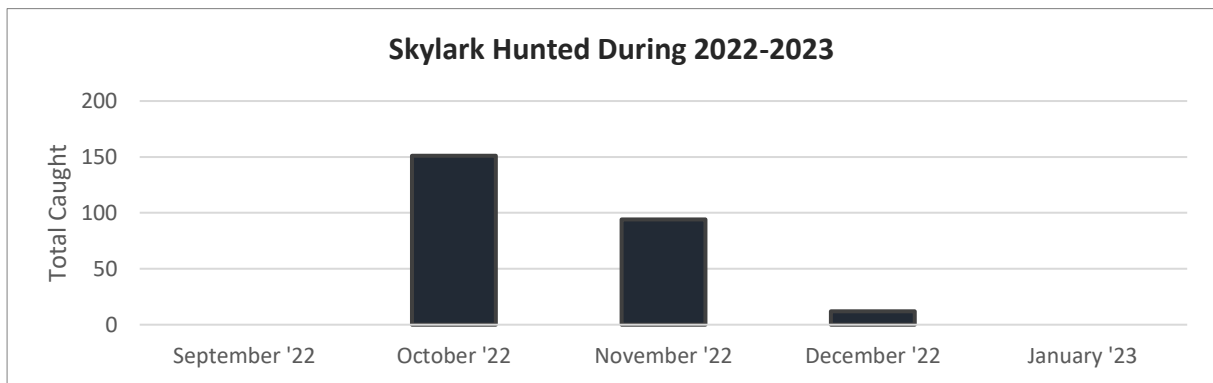


*Alauda arvensis*

**Skylark**

Alwetta

Month	Specimens Hunted
September '22	0
October '22	151
November '22	94
December '22	12
January '23	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>257</b>

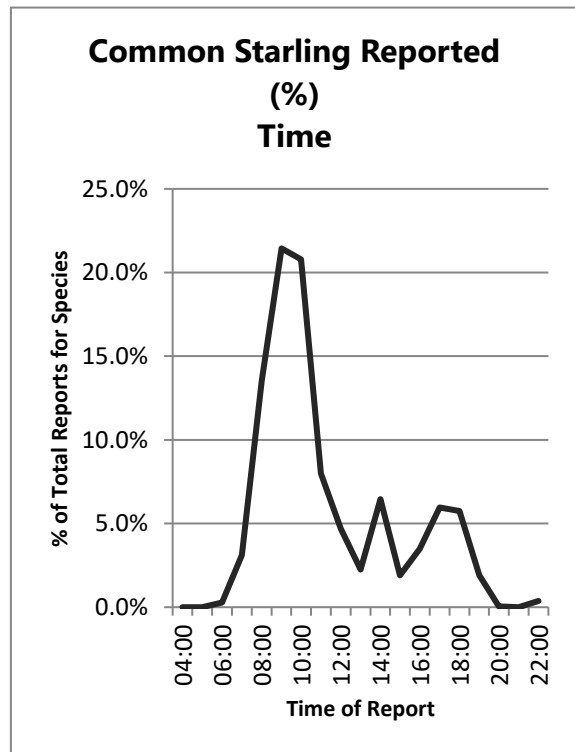
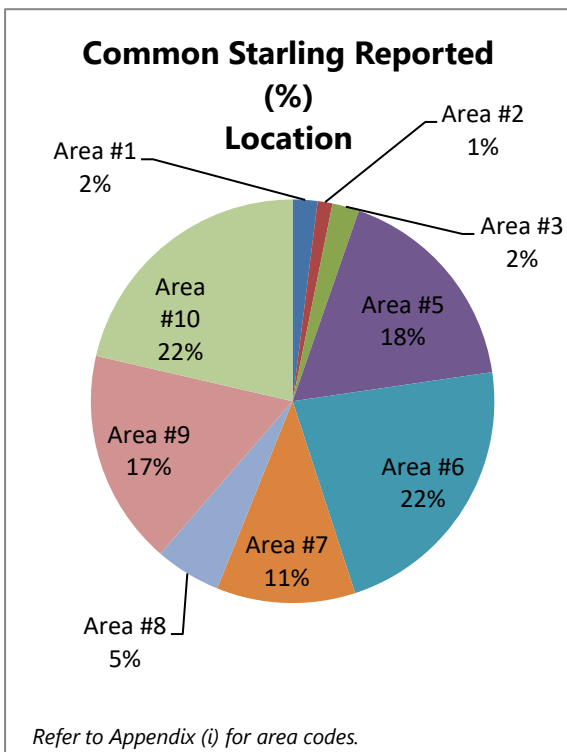
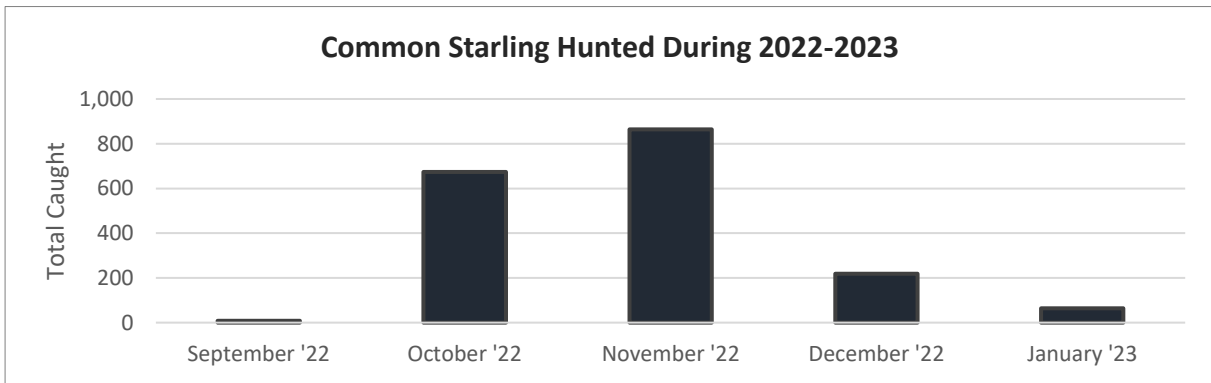


*Sturnus vulgaris*

**Common Starling**

**Sturnell**

September '22	8
October '22	673
November '22	864
December '22	219
January '23	64
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,828</b>

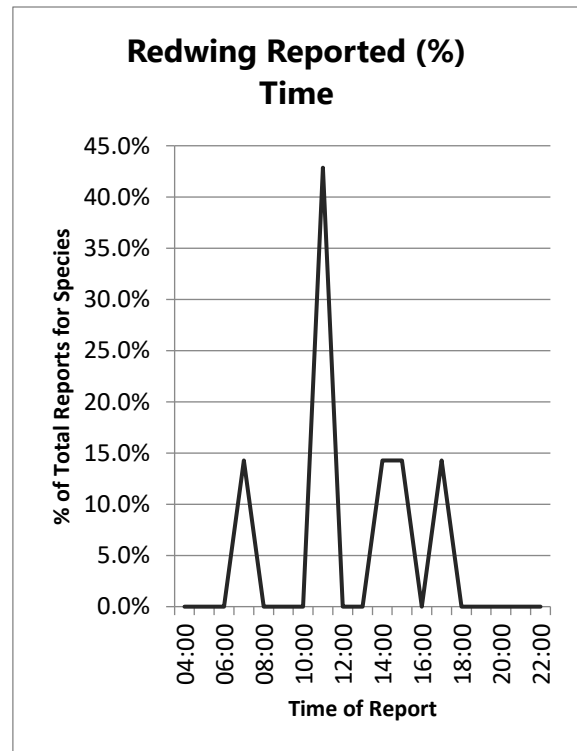
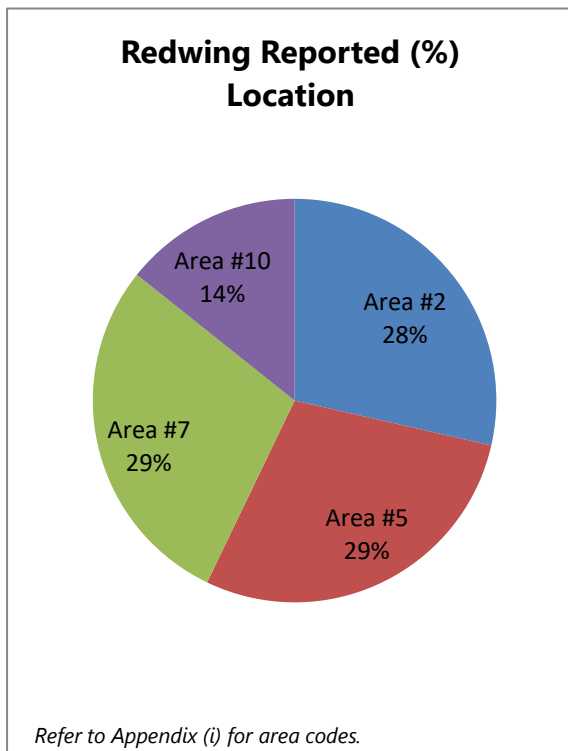
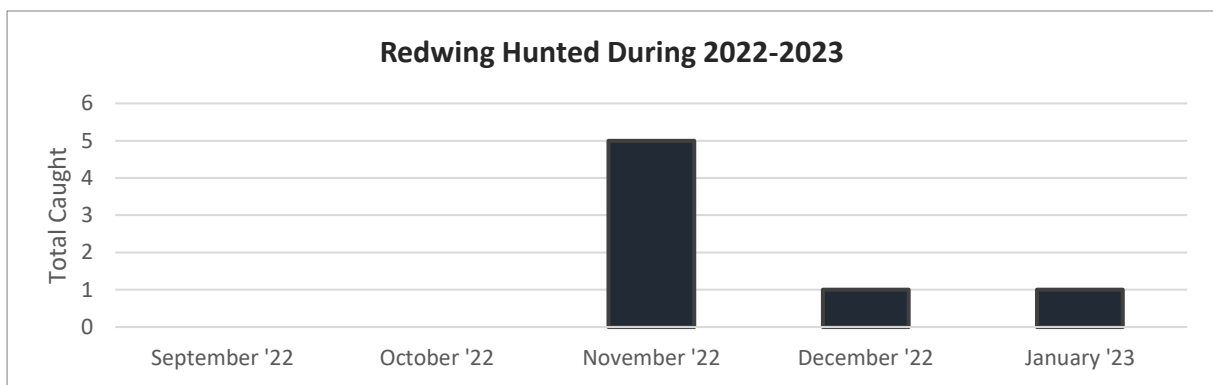


*Turdus iliacus*

**Redwing**

Malvizz Aħmar

Month	Specimens Hunted
September '22	0
October '22	0
November '22	5
December '22	1
January '23	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>

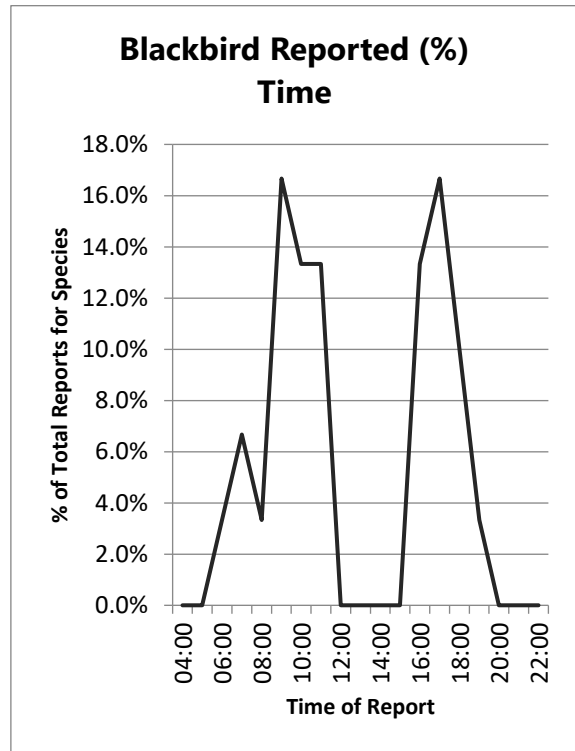
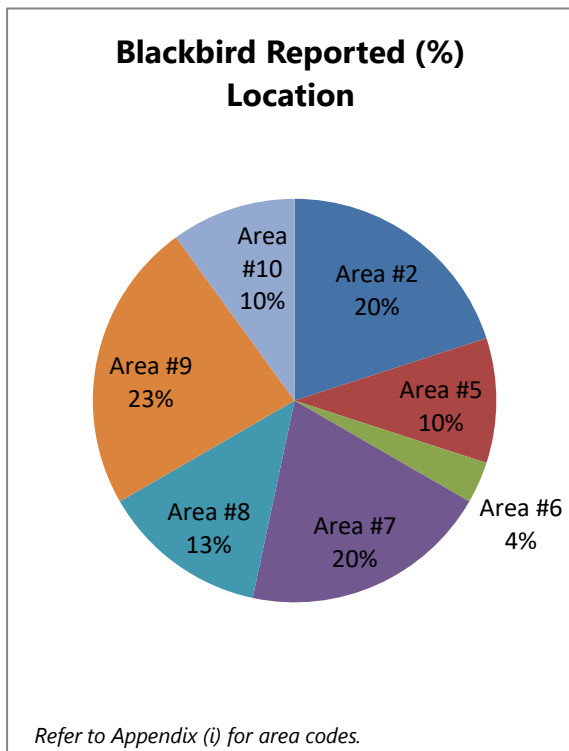
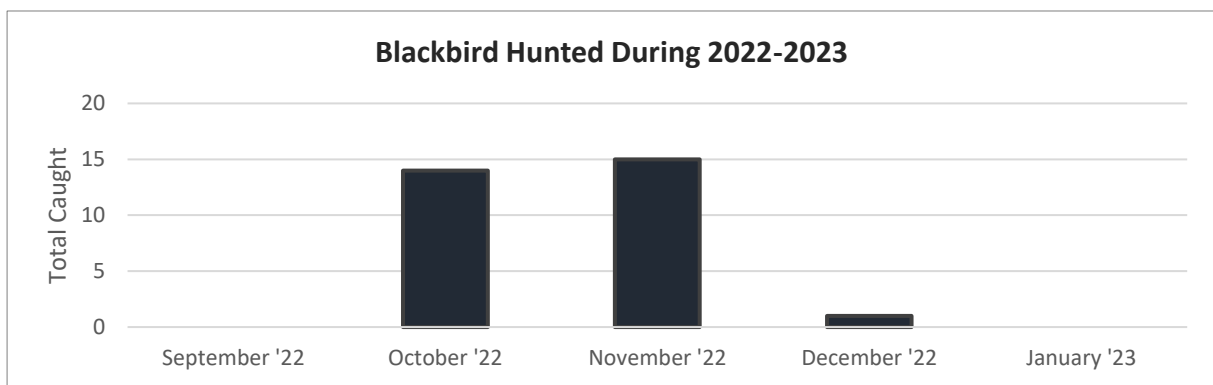


*Turdus merula*

**Blackbird**

Malvizz Iswed

Month	Specimens Hunted
September '22	0
October '22	14
November '22	15
December '22	1
January '23	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>



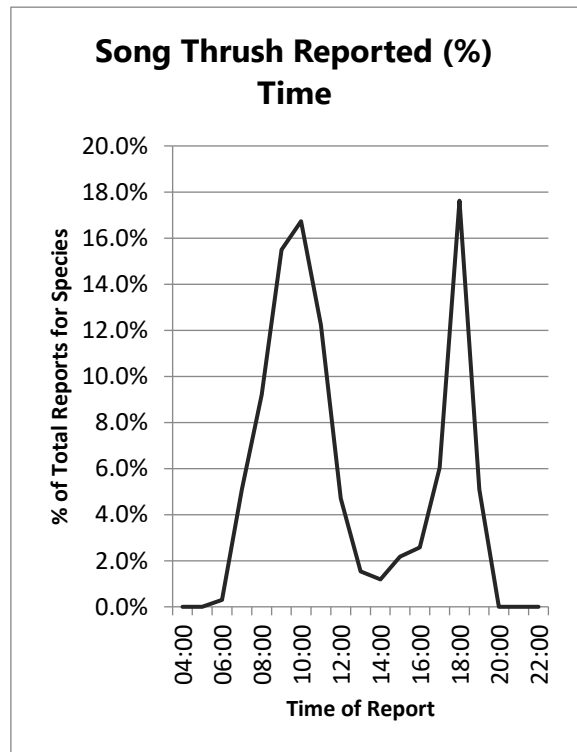
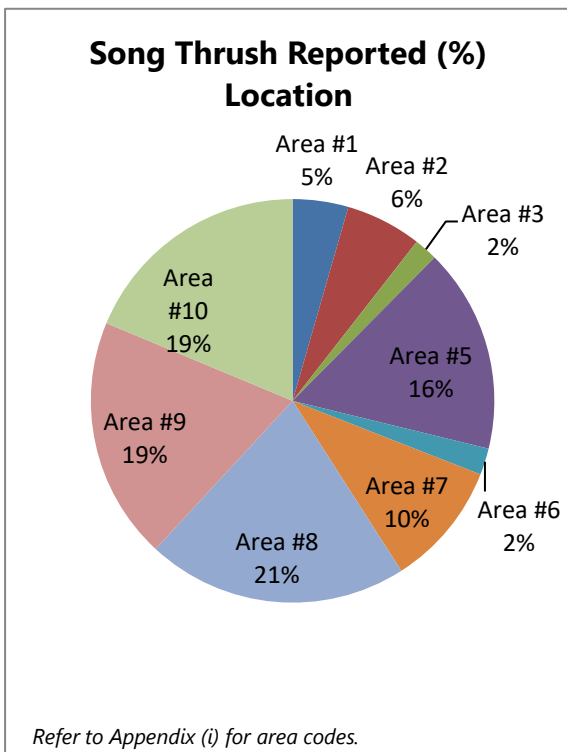
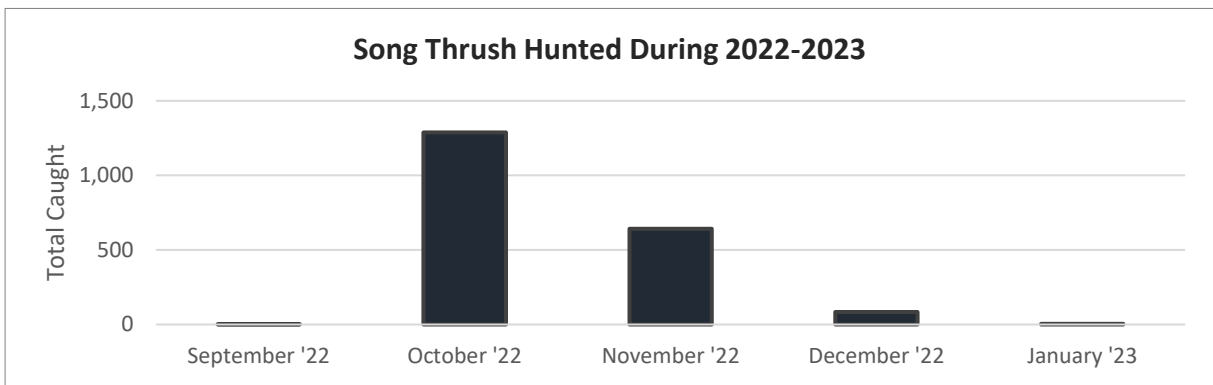
*Turdus philomelos*

**Song Thrush**

Malvizz

(Hunting Data)

September '22	1
October '22	1,288
November '22	642
December '22	84
January '23	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,020</b>

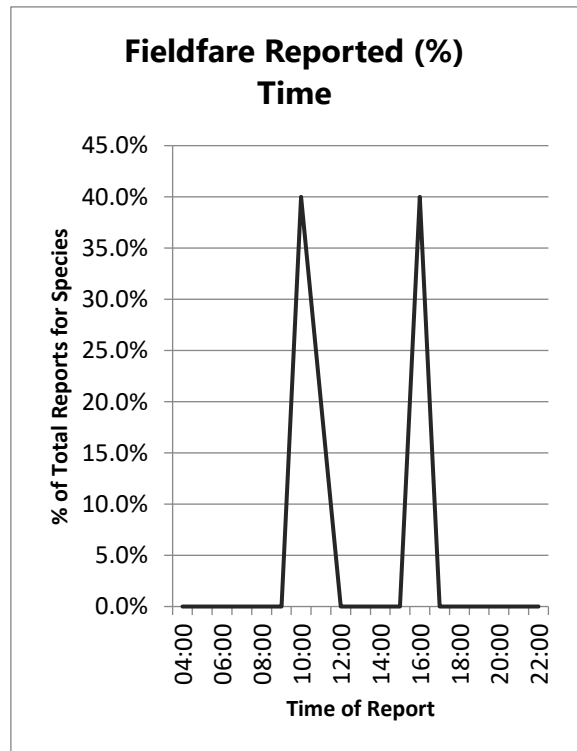
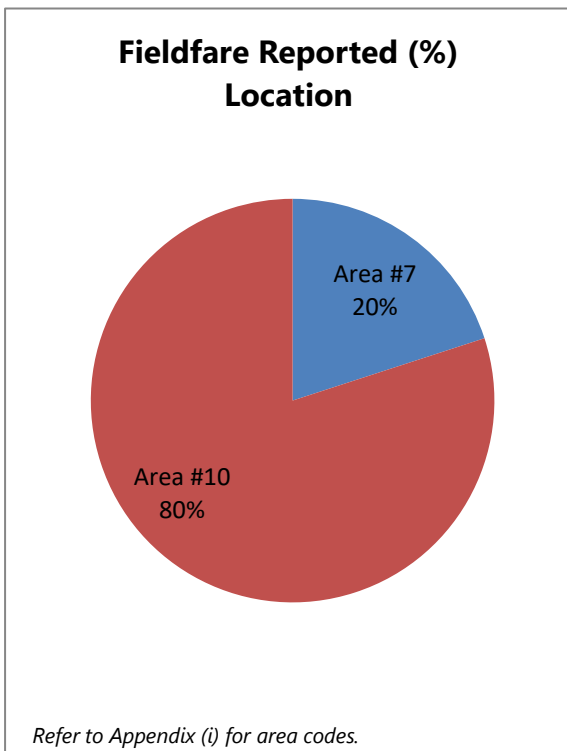
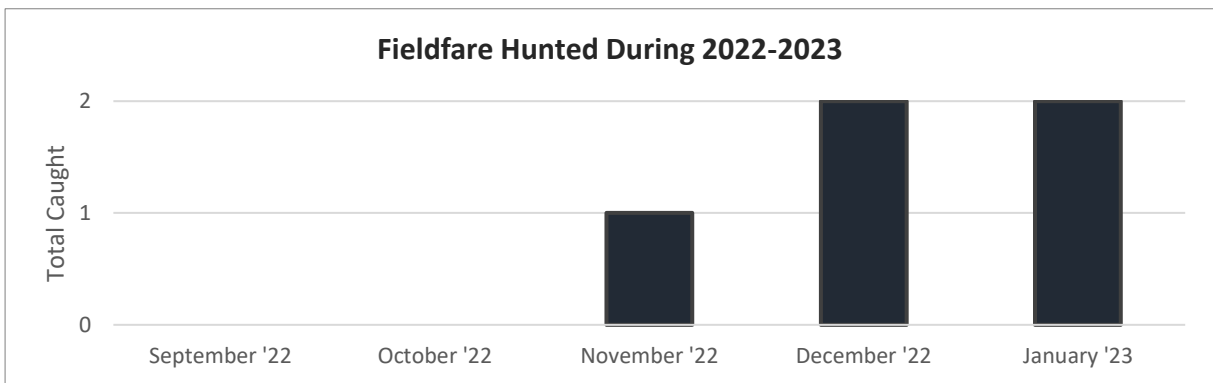


*Turdus pilaris*

**Fieldfare**

Malvizz tal-Qtajja'

September '22	0
October '22	0
November '22	1
December '22	2
January '23	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>

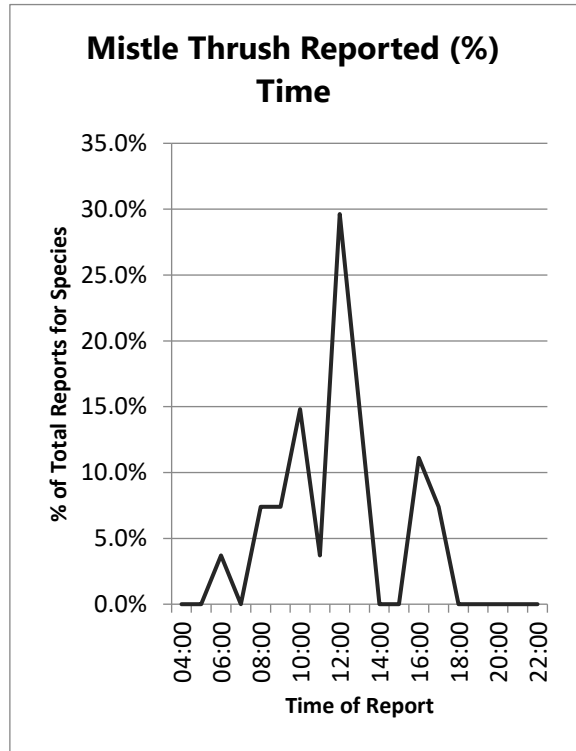
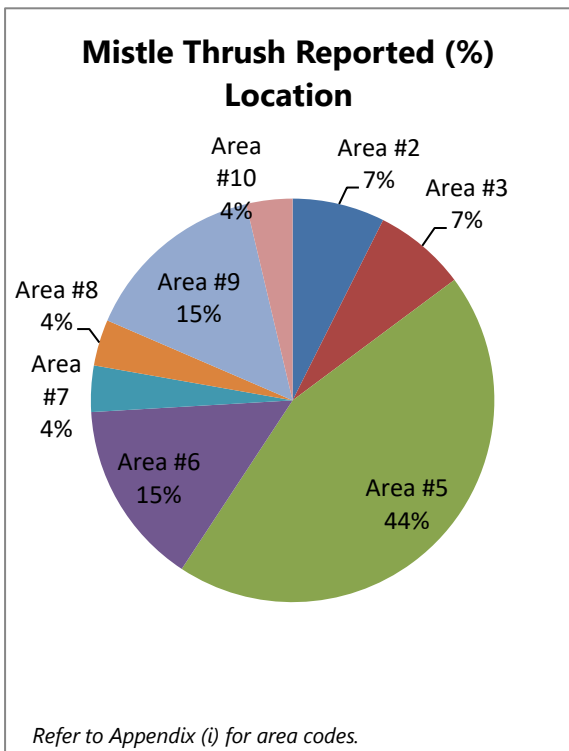
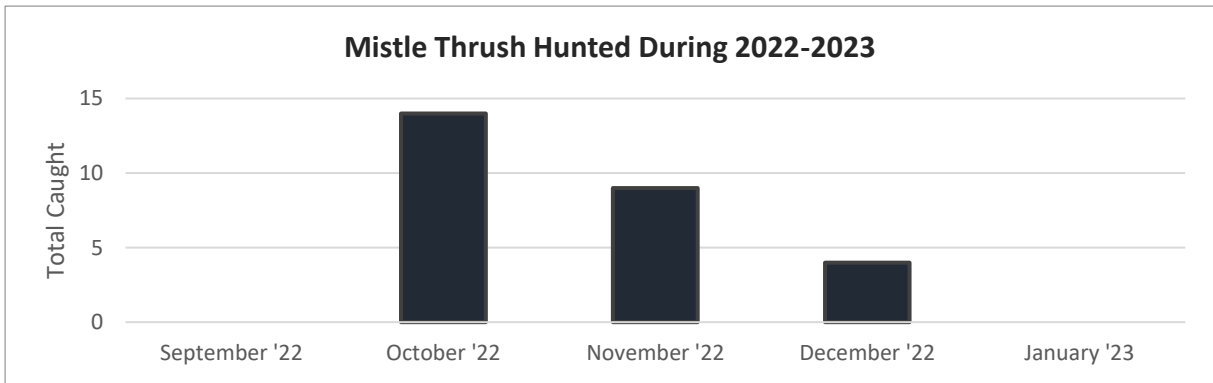


*Turdus viscivorus*

**Mistle Thrush**

Malvizzun Prim

September '22	0
October '22	14
November '22	9
December '22	4
January '23	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>



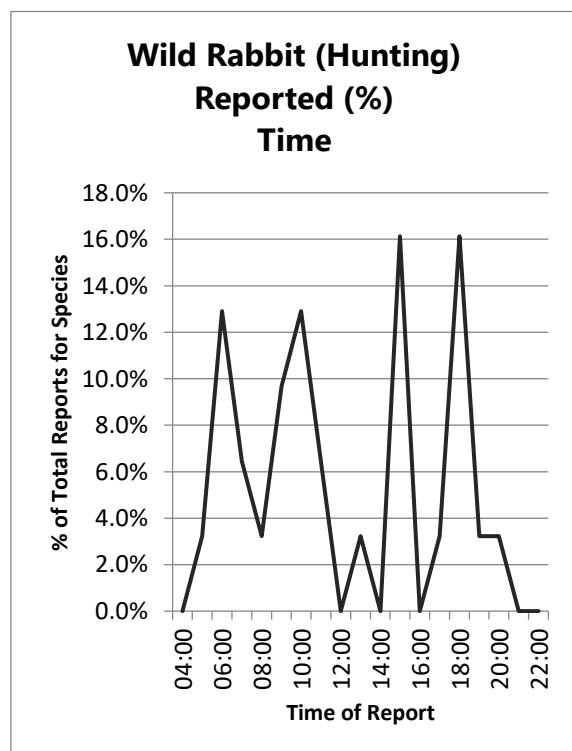
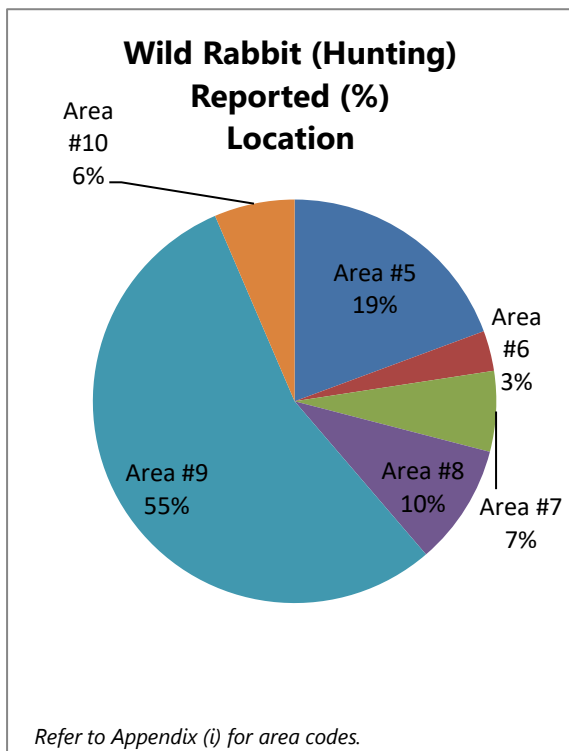
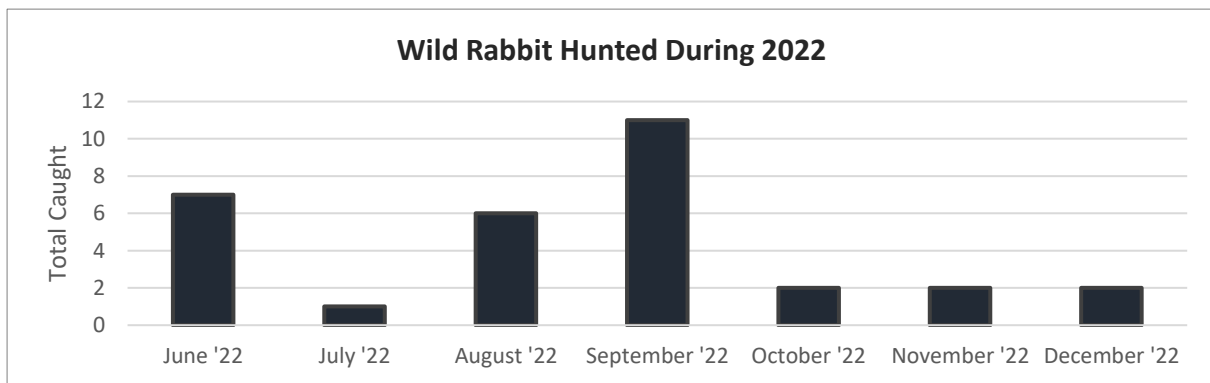
*Oryctolagus cuniculus*

**Wild Rabbit**

Fenek Selvağg

(Hunting for Wild Rabbit)

June '22	7
July '22	1
August '22	6
September '22	11
October '22	2
November '22	2
December '22	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>



Lagomorpha - Leporidae Month Specimens Caught

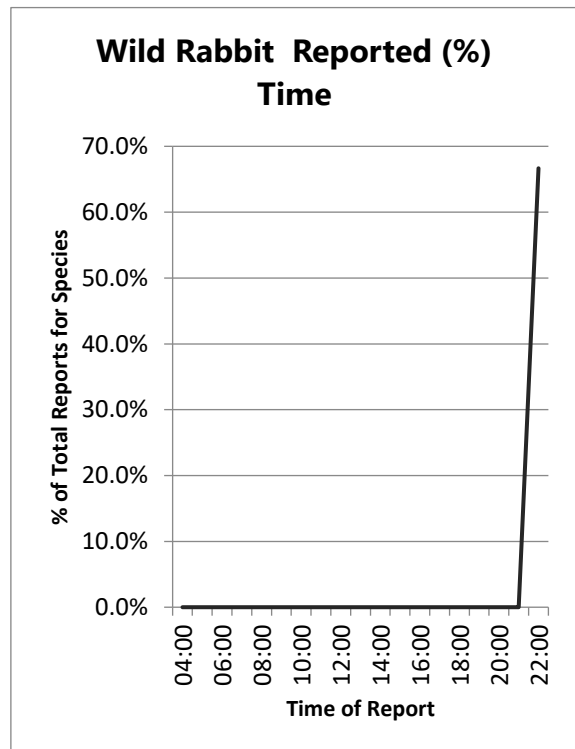
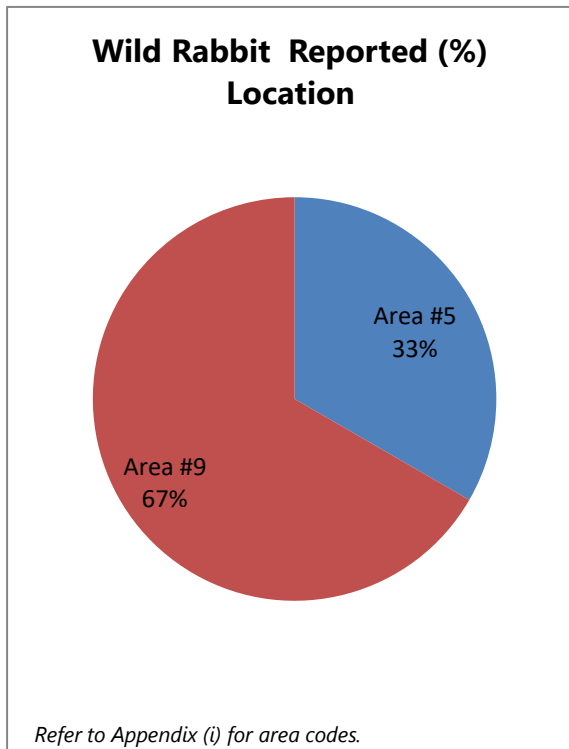
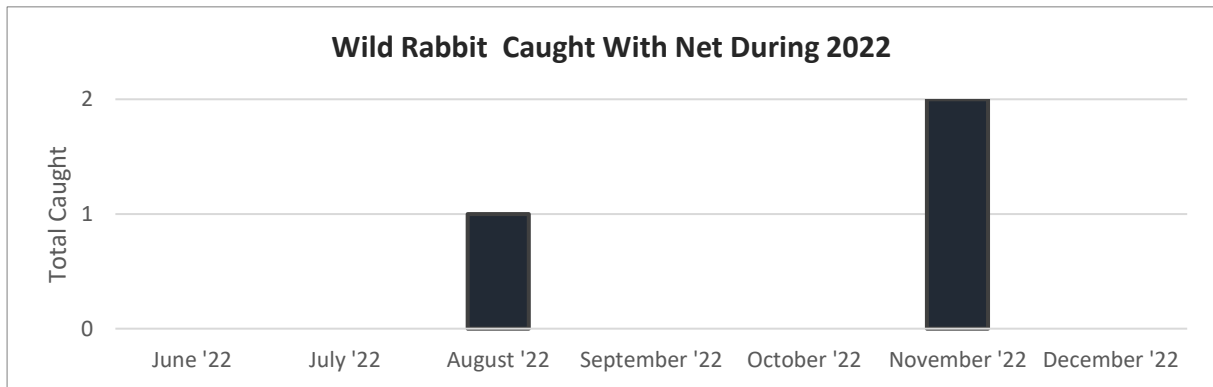
*Oryctolagus cuniculus*

**Wild Rabbit**

Fenek Selvağg

(Capture of Wild Rabbit with nets [ferreting])

June '22	0
July '22	0
August '22	1
September '22	0
October '22	0
November '22	2
December '22	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>



# Live-Capturing Data

## 2022 Report

Note: Since live-capturing applications are submitted alongside registered site-plans, individuals were not required to report location on the game reporting system.

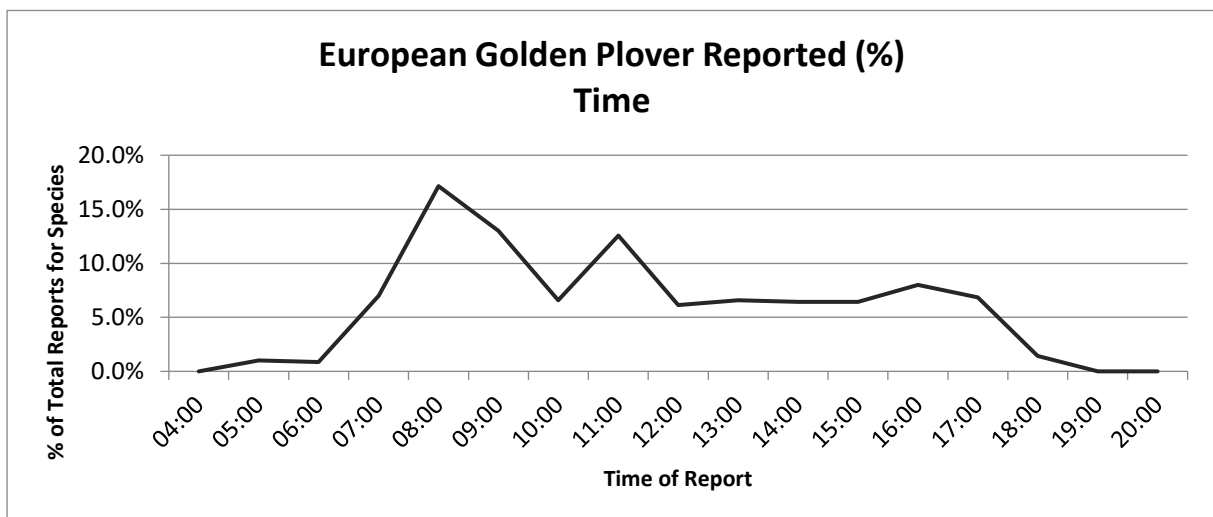
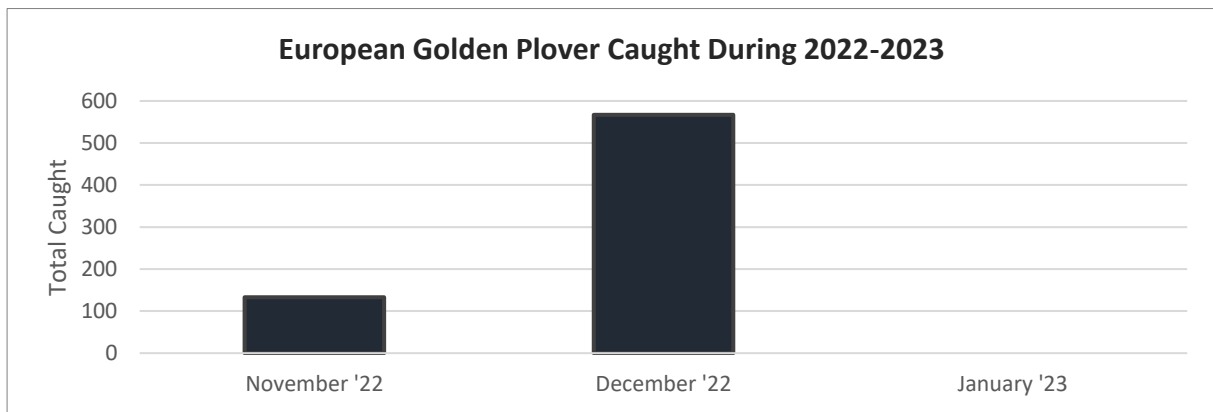
*Pluvialis apricaria*

**European Golden Plover**

Pluviera

(Live-Capturing Data)

November '22	133
December '22	567
January '23	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>700</b>



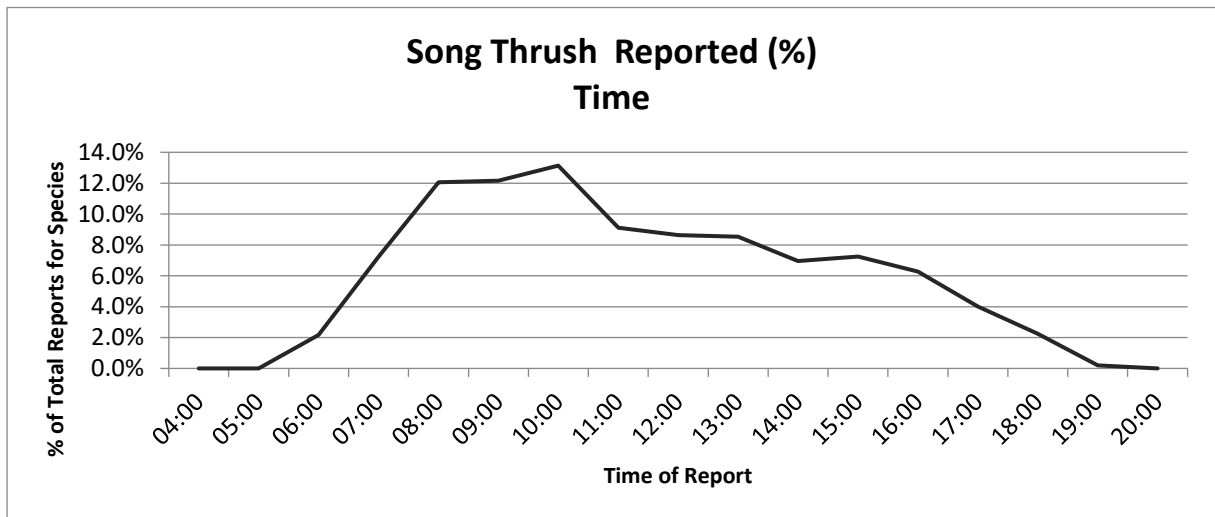
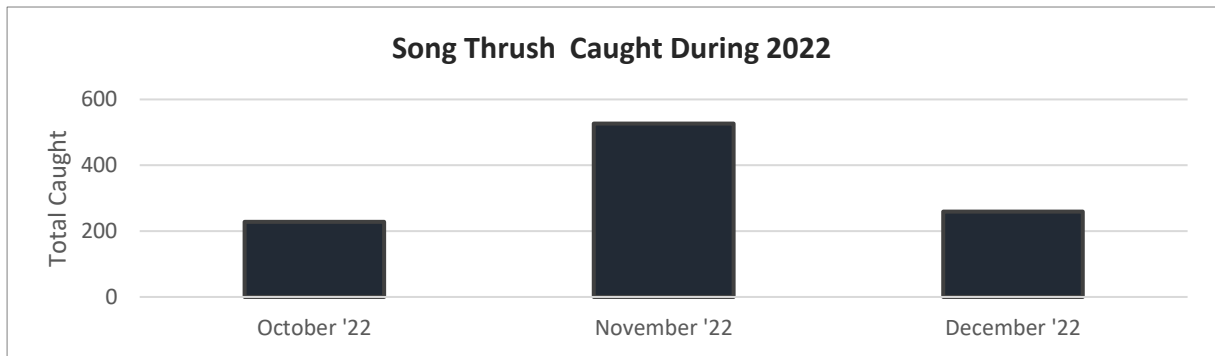
*Turdus philomelos*

**Song Thrush**

Malvizz

(Live-Capturing Data)

October '22	228
November '22	527
December '22	259
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,014</b>



# Appendix (i): Area codes

**Note:** Birds hunted under the 'Hunting birds at sea' licence are marked as **Area #11**

