

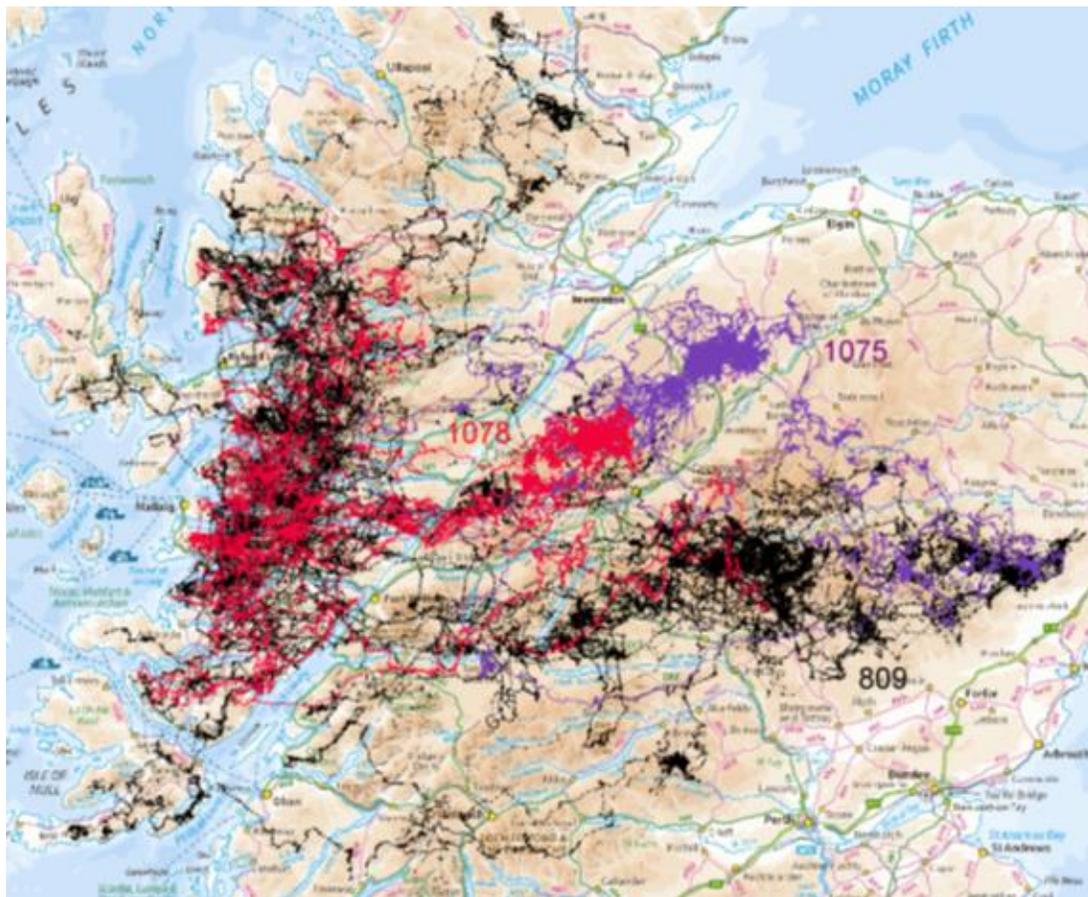
Three birds from the same nest in different years

Three tags (809, 1075 & 1078) were fitted to birds fledged from the same site in the southern Monadhliath. 809 was fitted to a female in summer 2016. The other two were fitted in summer 2019 (male & female respectively).

809 dispersed very early in mid-September 2016. 1075 took a little longer and left his natal range in late October 2019. 1075 was more reticent and remained in her natal range until late January 2020, three months after her sibling. 809 and 1078 were both still transmitting at the end of 2021 but tag 1075 was dropped in summer 2020.

809 was quite adventurous during her dispersal going as far north as Lairg and as far south as Tarbet by Loch Lomond. She also visited several islands, including both Mull and Skye. Predominantly she concentrated on the NW Seaboard and eventually settled in a range there, not too far from Skye, in May 2020, where she remained until May 2022. 1078's dispersal movements are broadly similar to those of 809 but less wide ranging so far. 1075, 1078's sibling, has not followed the same pattern and showed little interest in the NW Seaboard, remaining largely in the Monadhliath and the eastern Cairngorms. Because he dropped his tag quite early we don't know if he would have followed the other two to the NW but it seems unlikely.

The dispersing flights of 809, 1075 & 1078. Lines connect night roosts. (Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2021)



809's range was relatively compact (13km W-E, 11km S-N). There is quite a lot of structure to the range use (see inset box). As with 100, 809 was not averse to having a wander out of his range. The best example was on 15th April 2021 when he went on a 110km flight to the east and back. It took him less than two and half hours. Sadly, he appears to have suffered a broken wing, possibly during the severe storms in Spring 2022. Tracking data showed that he was not moving and he was recovered by animal health charity and euthanised to avoid a fate of slow starvation or predation by a fox or similar.

