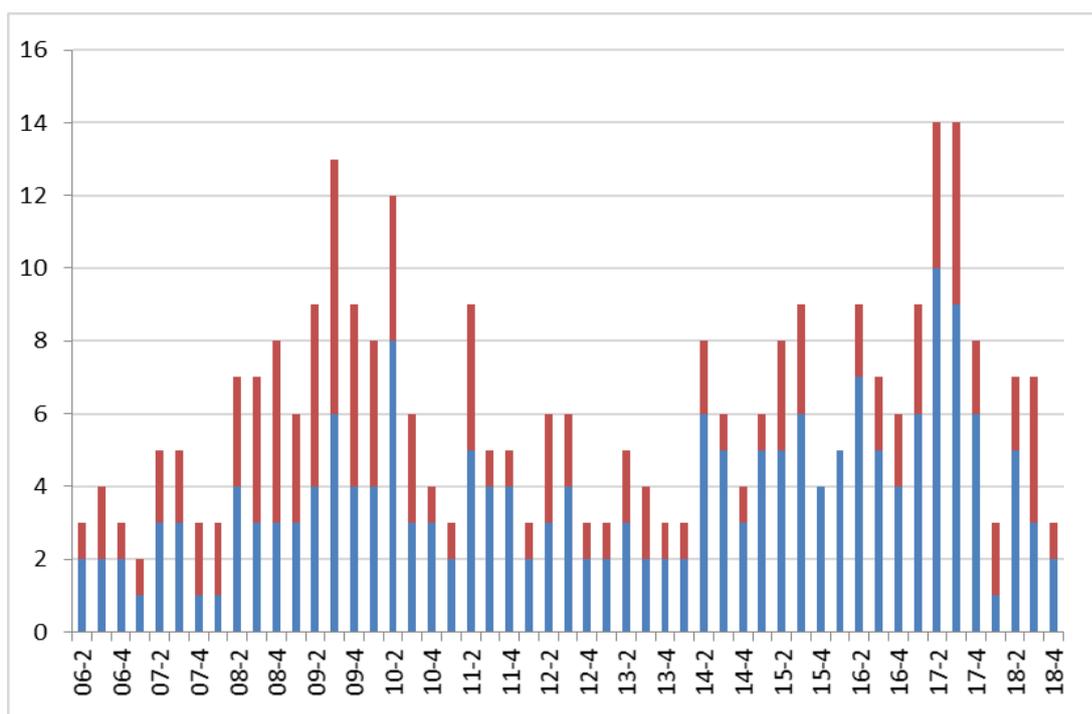


## Wicken Reedbed Cetti's Warblers: update April 2019

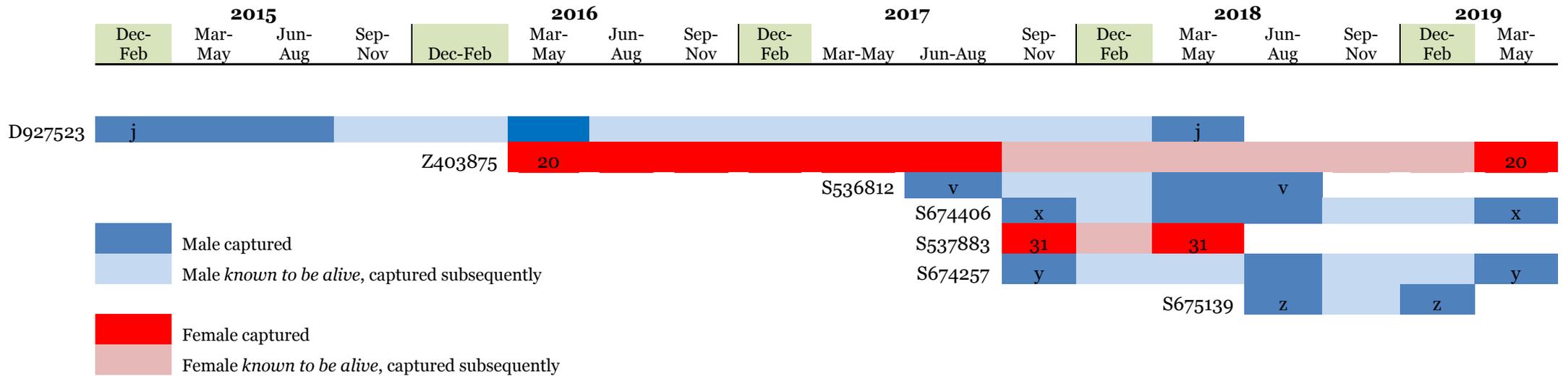
This is the sixth analysis of the breeding population of Cetti's Warblers at the Wicken Fen Reedbed. The most recent previous account, from 2018, is at <http://cambridgeshirebirdringing.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Wicken-Reedbed-Cettis-Warblers-update-March-2018.pdf>

That last one was a rather full account. For this time, the methodology and background remain unchanged, so none of that background is repeated here. The focus continues to be on attempting to assess the number of breeding adults, and on the overall productivity of each breeding season. This entails an assessment of how many Cetti's – adults and juveniles, and of which sex – were *known to be alive* in any three-month period. Birds *known to be alive* will have either been captured at some point within a three-month period or captured at a later date. All birds caught in Q2 (March to May) are treated as adults even though some will have been aged.

As usual, the numbers tail off at the end of the chart below, which shows adults only (blue for males, red for females). There is still plenty of time – with further recaptures – for more birds to be proved to have been alive during 2017 and 2018 if they have stayed around or are still alive to be caught in 2019. We did, after all, handle 51 different Cetti's (mainly short-lived juveniles) in the project area during 2018. Equally, the February 2018 cold snap might prove to have been an issue.



Finally, here is the usual 'hut chart'. This shows which birds are likely to feature in the 2019 breeding season. It shows all the birds which have survived beyond one three-month period since the end of 2017. Birds caught only within a single quarter are excluded, since they will most likely have died or moved away.



Michael Holdsworth  
 April 2019