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| Nota di contenuto       | Cover; Contents; List of Figures; List of Tables; Introduction and acknowledgements; 1. Puffins and auks; 2. Studies of Puffins; 3. Appearance, development and moult; 4. Distribution and status in Britain, Ireland and France; 5. Distribution and status in Iceland, the Faeroe Islands, Norway, Russia, Svalbard, Greenland and the western Atlantic; 6. Colony attendance and incubation; 7. Chick rearing and breeding success; 8. Puffin behaviour (by Kenny Taylor); 9. Food and feeding; 10. Predators, pirates, parasites and competitors; 11. Survival of Puffins and the Isle of May population<br>12. Puffins away from the colony<br>13. Puffins and people; 14. Other threats to Puffins; 15. Overview and the future; Appendix 1. Measurements of Puffins throughout the range; Appendix 2. Sources of counts and estimates and general background information used in Chapters 4 and 5; Appendix 3. First and last dates of Puffins in Grampian, on the Isle of May and Fair Isle; Appendix 4. Dates when Puffins were first seen on the sea and ashore and were last recorded ashore or carrying fish on Skokholm; Appendix 5. Timing of breeding |

of Puffins on the Isle of May and the Farne Islands  
Appendix 6. Measurements of eggs of Puffins throughout the range  
Appendix 7. Annual peak and fledgling weights, age at fledgling and growth rates of Puffins on the Isle of May, 1974-2010; Appendix 8. Breeding success of Puffins on the Isle of May, 1973-2010; Appendix 9. Numbers of fish brought to young Puffins on the Isle of May, 1973-2010; Appendix 10. Diet by weight of young Puffins on the Isle of May, 1973-2010; Appendix 11. Lengths of sandeels, rockling and other Gadidae dropped by Puffins on the Isle of May, 1973-2010  
Appendix 12. Lengths of sprat, herring and unidentified Clupeidae dropped by Puffins on the Isle of May, 1973-2010  
Appendix 13. Annual mean weights of loads of fish, number of fish per load and frequency of feeds brought to young Puffins on the Isle of May, 1973-2010;  
Appendix 14. Scientific names of birds, mammals and amphibians mentioned in the text; References; Index; Colour Picture Section

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#### Sommario/riassunto

With its colourful beak and fast, whirring flight, the Atlantic Puffin is the most recognisable and popular of all North Atlantic seabirds. Puffins spend most of the year at sea, but for a few months of the year they come to shore, nesting in burrows on steep cliffs or on inaccessible islands. Awe-inspiring numbers of these birds can sometimes be seen bobbing on the sea or flying in vast wheels over the colony, bringing fish in their beaks back to the chicks. However, the species has declined sharply over the last decade; this is due to a collapse in fish stocks caused by overfishing and global

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