

WADER WATCH Phil Cross

Can everyone please remember to use the 'Leg Flag Observation Report' form. **Please email leg flag sightings to Phil on his new email address.** phillipcross50@gmail.com

Can we also please ask people to carefully check which leg the flag is on. If you are not sure, or just see the colour, and do not know which leg it is, please do not make it up. We do record the sighting on the database, even if we do not know which leg it was on. Recording information that you have not seen, or do not know creates extra work for Phil and other people who this information goes to. We would appreciate your cooperation on this issue.

Green leg flag sightings

In each Qld Wader issue there are quite a number of green leg flag sightings recorded within Moreton Bay, which is where the bird was banded originally. As we are now seeing more leg flag combinations from other states and countries, and have limited space available for sightings, we will not be listing each individual sighting of green flag records in Queensland unless there is a significant movement of the bird. Instead, we will list the number of flags for each species and the period in which they were seen.

Sightings in Moreton Bay & Environs totalled 800 in the last three months, the species recorded and the number of observations was as follows. Bar-tailed Godwit 476, Curlew Sandpiper 8, Eastern Curlew 4, Great Knot 116, Grey-tailed Tattler 78, Lesser Sand Plover 13, Pacific Golden Plover 2, Pied Oystercatcher 21, Red-capped Plover 1, Red-necked Stint 60, Red Knot 1, Ruddy Turnstone 6, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper 8, Terek Sandpiper 3, Whimbrel 2, White Headed Stilt 1.

They were sighted by Sarah Beavis, Tony Cotter, Phil Cross, Linda Cross, Kristy Currie, Cameron Davidson, Chris Gregory, Mary Hynes, Arthur Keates, Sheryl Keates, Sue Lee, Penn Lloyd Paul Marty, Greg McLachlan, Greg Nye, David Redhead, Paola Ricceri, Virginia Ridgley, Lee Rossow, Peter Rothlisberg, Michael Strong and Dez Wells.

The following is a list of the individually marked flags that have been seen on these species during this reporting period.

Bar-tailed Godwit – AB, AE, CN, CU, EC, FY, HL, HR, JB, JE, JH, KM, PA, PE, PR, PU, RL, AAA, AAB, AAE, AAH, AAM, ABL, ABR, ACA, ACB, ACJ, ACN, ACR, ACT, ACU, ACX, ACY, ADA, ADB, ADC, ADH, ADK, AEA, AEH, AEJ, AEN, AES, AEU, AEV, AHA, AHC, AHL, AHN, AHS, AHT, AHZ, AJC, AJD, AJE, AJJ, AJL, AJM, AJP, AJS, AJY, AJZ, AKA, AKB, AKK, AKS, ALM, ALV, ALZ, AMA, AMK, AML, ANB, ANL, ANZ, APN, APP, ARD, ARJ, ARN, ART, ARU, ARV, ASA, ASB, ASD, ASE, ASH, ASL, ASM, ASN, ASR, AST, ASU, ASX, ASY, ASZ, ATA, ATB, ATD, AVA, AVB, AVC, AVD, AVH, AVK, AVN, AVP, AVU, AVW, AVX, AVZ, AWA, AWD, AWE, AWH, AXS, AXT, AYA, AYB, AYD, AYN, AYP, AYS, AYU, AYV, AYW, AYX, AZC, AZD, AZX, BAU, BBE, BBJ, BBK, BBL, BBM, BBN, BBP, BBR, BBS, BBU, BBX, BBY, BCB, BCC, BCE, BCK, BCX, BJU, BJW, BJZ, BKJ, BKK, BNA, BND, BNH, BNJ, BNL, BNP, BNS, BNU, BNY, BPB, BPC, BPD, BPF, BPH, BPJ, BPK, BPL, BPN, BPS, BPT, BPU, BPV, BPY, BRJ, BRK, BRL, BRP, BRV, BRX, BSD.

Black-winged Stilt – BWJ.

Curlew Sandpiper – AAK, ACC, AJA, AYU.

Great Knot – AAP, AAT, AAU, ADA, ADC, AED, AEE, AEJ, AEK, AEL, AEV, AEX, AHA, AHC, AHS, AHY, AHZ, AJE, AJM, AJS, AJU, AJX, ALA, ALH, ALL, ALS, ALU, AMJ, ATH, ATJ, ATK, ATL, ATM, ATN, ATT, ATU, ATV, ATW, ATZ, AUA, AUD, AUJ, AUL,

AVX, AWE, AWK, AYR, AYU, AYV, AYW, AZE, BAV, BAZ, BBE, BBH, BBJ, BBL, BBU, BBX, BBZ, BCK, BCN, BCP, BCY, BCZ, BRJ, BRP, BRY.

Grey-tailed Tattler – AK, BT, BX, EJ, EN, HK, HT, JD, JE, JZ, RM, RY, AAC, ABD, ABN, ACD, ADE, ADH, AKC, AKS, AKV, APD, APN, APP, APS, APT, APU, ARE, ARV, ASE, ASL, ASZ, ATL, AUT, AUZ, AVC, AVL, AWP, AWT, AWV, AXH, AXL, AXX, AYD, BAD, BAJ.

(Tattler, APD, AVC and BAD, have green flag right tibia, yellow flag and geolocator on left tibia and metal band left tarsus).

Lesser Sand Plover – ALU, ANP, ANV, APB, APT.

Pacific Golden Plover – BTC.

Pied Oystercatcher – B2, C4, D8, H7, AAD, AAK, AAT, AAU.

Red-capped Plover – AP.

Red-necked Stint – B2, B9, C6, D7, F8, H2, J3, J5, K7, L8, M5, M9, N3, N9, NE, P9, S8, U3, UL, V6, VT, VZ, X3, XD, XX, Y5, Y9, YX, Z8, ZF, ZU, ZZ.

Ruddy Turnstone – ABY, AKW, AKX, AXY, AYH.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – ACY, AEL, AJJ, AJR, AJS, AKB, ALL.

Terek Sandpiper – ACK, AJN, ALD.

Whimbrel – AAD.

Interstate & overseas Green leg flag sightings

Pied Oystercatcher

1 Pied Oystercatcher (A8 on flag) – Patch's Beach NSW – Bo Totterman -20.11.2015

Curlew Sandpiper

1 (engraved flag unread) – Fu-Pao wetland Changhua County, Taiwan – Chung-Yu Chiang – 4.5.2015.

Red-necked Stint

1 – Wang-Gong Changhua County, Taiwan – Chung-Yu Chiang – 23.8.2015.

Orange (Victoria) leg flag sightings

Bar-tailed Godwit

Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates – 30.11.2015, 7 & 10.1.2016

Toorbul – Dez Wells – 16.1.2016

Great Knot

Kakadu Beach – Michael Strong – 29.11.2015

Toorbul – Linda Cross & Arthur Keates – 4.12.2015

Sandfly Bay – Linda Cross & Arthur Keates – 2.1.2016

Red Knot

Kakadu Beach – Michael Strong – 27.11.2015

Black over white or white over black (Shanghai, China) leg flag sightings

Great Knot

Port of Brisbane – Jon Coleman – 22.11.2015

Port of Brisbane – Jon Coleman – (L75 on white flag) -22.11.2015 – flagged Chongcho Lake Sokcho City

Port of Brisbane – Arthur Keates & Penn Lloyd – 17.1.2016

2 birds Maaroom – Chris Barnes – 27.11.2015

Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates – (J62 on white flag) – 30.11.2015

Terek Sandpiper

Burnett Heads – Chris Barnes – 2 & 14 & 15.12 .2015

Burnett Heads – Kim & Rachel Cumes – 30.12 .2015

Burnett Heads – Chris Barnes – 20.1.2016

Greater Sand Plover

Point Vernon Hervey Bay – Lee Mason – 26.12.2015

White (New Zealand) leg flag sightings

Bar-tailed Godwit – white flag right tarsus, white over red band left tarsus, red over yellow band right tarsus – Inskip Point – Brian McCauley – 5.11.2015

Blue (Japanese) leg flag sightings – use four combinations

Bar-tailed Godwit

Toorbul – Paul Marty – 30.1.2016 (flagged Hokkaido)

Kakadu Beach – Michael Strong – blue flag left tibia, orange flag left tarsus – 27.11.2015 – flagged Arao Coast Kyushu Japan

Toorbul – Arthur Keates – blue flag left tibia, white flag left tarsus – 4.12.2015 – flagged Yatsu Tokyo Bay

Toorbul – Dez Wells – blue flag left tibia, white flag left tarsus – 16.1.2016 – flagged Yatsu Tokyo Bay

Wynnum Esplanade – Tony Cotter – engraved blue flag left tarsus, white flag left tarsus 28.12.2015 (flagged Torinoumi)

Port of Brisbane – Linda Cross – blue flag left tarsus, white flag left tarsus 17.1.2016 (flagged Torinoumi)

Grey-tailed Tattler

Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates – 7.1.2016 (flagged Hokkaido)

Lytton Roost – Arthur Keates – 28.1 & 31.1.2016 (flagged Hokkaido)

Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates – blue flag left tarsus, white flag left tarsus 30.11.2015 (flagged Torinoumi)

2 birds Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates – engraved blue flag left tarsus, white flag left tarsus 7.1.2016 (flagged Torinoumi)

Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates – 315 on blue flag left tarsus, white flag left tarsus 10.1.2016 (flagged Torinoumi)

Green over orange (Yalu Jiang Nature Reserve, China) leg flag sightings

Bar-tailed Godwit

Blue over white band left tarsus, yellow over yellow band right tarsus. Seven sightings of this same bird at these sites and dates:

Toorbul – Linda Cross & Sheryl Keates – 4.12.2015

- Dez Wells – 16.1.2016

- Arthur Keates & Kevin Donoghue – 30.1.2016

Sandfly Bay – Linda Cross & Paola Ricceri – 2.1.2016

Kakadu Beach – Michael Strong – 29.12.2015 & 24.1.2016.

- Lee Rossow – 12.1.2016

Green over blue (Jiangsu China) leg flag sightings

Red-necked Stint

Curtis Island – Bob Black – 7.1.2016

Bundaberg Port Swamp – Chris Barnes – 10 & 16.1.2016

White over blue (Taiwan) leg flag sightings

Greater Sand Plover

Burnett Heads – Chris Barnes – 10, 12 & 20.1.2016

Burnett Heads – Chris Barnes – 19.12.2015, 2 & 3.1.2016. Only the white flag was seen on these last three sightings, it is thought they were flagged in Taiwan as some of their birds have lost the blue flag since being fitted.

Yellow over White (Sakhalin Island Russia) leg flag sightings

Other wader leg flag and banded sightings

The three Pacific Golden Plover listed below have bands only (no flags) they have been identified as being banded in Alaska USA. The blue over green banded bird has been seen in this region twice previously, at Bundaberg in December 2012 and at Burnett Heads in March 2015.

Pacific Golden Plover – orange band right tibia, white band right tarsus, and orange band left tibia – O'Reagan Creek Hervey Bay – Marilyn Sweetnam – 14.11.2015

Pacific Golden Plover – purple band right tibia, yellow over pink band left tibia – Cape Edgumbe Bowen – Marlis Schoeb – 1.12.2015

Pacific Golden Plover – blue band over green band right tibia – Burnett Heads – Chris Barnes & Brandon Hewitt – 10.1.2016

Great Knot - (AJW on green flag) – Maaroom Great Sandy – Chris Barnes – 27.11.2015

Pied Oystercatcher 2 digit Yellow leg flag sightings

The following sightings of yellow flagged oystercatchers are not birds flagged in North West Western Australia, as per the flagging protocol. They are another project being run from Victoria and New South Wales. Birds flagged in Victoria will have a yellow flag on the right tibia and inscribed with two digits. New South Wales birds will have the yellow flag on the left tibia and inscribed with two digits.

No sightings.

Other leg flag sightings and banded birds

Caspian Tern

1 (E6) on orange flag left tarsus, metal band right tarsus – Buckley's Hole Bribie Island – Dez Wells – 14.11.2015

1 orange flag right tarsus, metal band left tarsus – Toorbul – Michael Strong – 16.01.2016

1 orange flag left tarsus – Kakadu Beach Bribie Island – Michael Strong – 24.01.2016