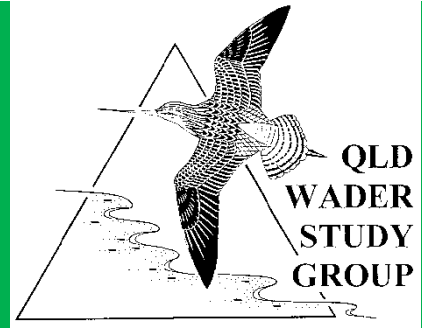


QUEENSLAND WADER



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Port of Brisbane Count Results for 2015

by Linda Cross

QWSG now has data for 13 years of counts conducted by the group for the Port of Brisbane Pty Ltd (PBPL) at the Port of Brisbane complex (formerly known as Bishop or Fisherman Island). As with previous years, the counts were conducted the day after the scheduled monthly count set for the QWSG count programme.

The methodology for the counts has continued as before with numbers being listed under the appropriate habitat that the birds were observed using (dry open area, wet margin, broken ground and bund wall). The overall count for the complex in 2015 was 85,900 waders, 8,023 terns/gulls and 5,506 waterbirds/raptors which do not include the figures for the Visitors Centre Lake (61 waders, 124 terns/gulls and 3,586 waterbirds/raptors). However, these figures of course are not the number of birds using the site at any one time, but the aggregate of the monthly totals.

The following table is the total migratory and resident waders recorded at the complex over the last 13 years.

Note: These figures do not include the Visitors Centre Lake site.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
2015	9132	9233	14299	5618	3380	1737	2089	3352	7460	9994	9653	9953	85900
2014	8701	7673	6520	4809	1075	1022	1513	1839	7007	8145	7329	5567	61200
2013	No count	5897	7377	4312	4553	3989	2709	2934	4089	7793	7331	6506	57490
2012	6214	6676	6476	1335	1624	No count	1098	1267	2862	9461	10029	8389	55431
2011	No count	10173	No count	8108	2112	1552	1236	1488	2004	5430	8738	No count	40841
2010	7345	7099	6709	2864	1256	2145	1648	2568	5205	6942	5904	NC	49685
2009	10072	13243	7192	2293	NC	1200	1245	2439	4372	6478	6182	8003	62719
2008	5179	8935	4394	4204	2202	2793	2700	2724	5468	4069	6617	8286	57571
2007	8853	5264	8307	1120	1989	1543	1752	1629	3885	7609	6165	5664	53780
2006	12323	10573	7055	4230	2142	1969	2250	2635	5296	8051	8995	7514	73033
2005	4751	5609	3572	3317	2162	3034	2436	2096	3790	6173	6745	7731	51416
2004	11650	4528	7398	1607	2416	1617	1328	2410	2974	6026	5976	8194	56124
2003	7445	6922	6126	4021	2286	2107	2041	1720	4466	4118	8054	7996	57302

The following table provides the numbers for migratory and resident waders, terns, waterbirds and raptors for the complex and Visitors Centre Lake each month for 2015.

2015 Month	Port Waders	Port Terns/ Gulls	Port Waterbirds/ Raptors	Lake Waders	Lake Terns	Lake Waterbirds/ Raptors	Totals
January	9132	1083	160	15	0	351	10741
February	9233	1634	134	0	0	124	11125
March	14299	1229	164	1	0	142	15835
April	5618	440	268	3	35	224	6588
May	3380	179	753	0	0	192	4504
June	1737	102	901	0	17	429	3186
July	2089	168	966	3	0	603	3829
August	3352	191	769	6	0	457	4775
September	7460	331	540	8	0	208	8547
October	9994	745	414	5	0	362	11520
November	9653	791	136	6	1	298	10885
December	9953	1130	301	14	71	196	11665
Totals	85900	8023	5506	61	124	3586	103200

This year's total wader figures are the highest recorded since the surveys began in 2003, and the count of 14,299 waders in March was also the highest wader count ever recorded in any month.

Comments on individual count sites for 2015 are as follows: -

S3A & S3B – These 2 older paddocks were removed from the monthly counts in January as works on the site continue to prepare them for development.

R3 – This large riverside paddock had some of the area filled with dirt reducing the suitable wader habitat available, and although pond C3 (directly opposite) drew a lot of birds away from this site for some months, the waders still continued to use R3 as well. In January the site recorded the second highest wader count (6,246) for the year, which was 68% of the total waders recorded on all sites. Some of the larger species numbers for the year were 1,665 Lesser Sand Plover and 1,405 Red-necked Stint in January. Also in January 799 Curlew Sandpiper were recorded and a further 702 were on site in February, but the highest total for this species was 1,540 in October. R3 is the favoured site for Pacific Golden Plover, with 634 recorded in January followed by 254 in February and a return to larger totals of 484 in November. The March count produced 125 Pied Oystercatcher, 912 Grey-tailed Tattler, 230 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper and unusually, 3 Black-tailed Godwit. Red-necked Avocet were recorded on site for 6 months of the year with the highest total count of 825 in August. During the southward migration 472 Red Knot chose this site to refuel before continuing their journey further south and across the Tasman, and a further 448 were recorded in October. Other significant and unusual totals were 33 Grey Plover in January, 62 Greater Sand Plover and 13 Terek Sandpiper in February. In October 867 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper and 106 Far Eastern Curlew were particularly high totals within the complex. R3 site also attracted the highest counts of terns and gulls for 7 months of the year.

C2 – As this site continued to be filled for development, bird numbers were virtually non-existent for the first half of the year and then devoid of species for the rest of 2015. The site only attracted some terns and Silver Gull in January and February.

C3 – Unlike 2014 when bird numbers were low for this paddock, it became very attractive to wader species for most months of this year, and March saw the highest wader count of 8,648 recorded for 2015. Curlew Sandpiper were recorded in the site for 10 months of the year and numbers varied from 732 in January, 600 in February, 611 in March, 308 in September and an exceptionally high total of 1,427 in November. There were also some good totals for Red-necked Stint with 1,079 in January, 2,870 in February, a staggering 5,066 in March and 1,799 in December. Both Lesser and Greater Sand Plover took a liking to the site in February and March with 936 Lesser in February and a very large count of 1,693 in March. Greater Sand Plover numbers were 164 in February, followed by 169 during the March count. For 7 months of the year Sharp-tailed Sandpiper were recorded on site, with 2 high totals of 510 in March and 1,378 in April. Our nomadic resident wader (Red-necked Avocet) created a large raft of white and brown as they grouped together in this pond during the May count, and where the counters could hardly believe the total of 2,652 birds. Avocet numbers dropped to 308 in June, 681 in July and down to 411 in November. Other interesting species totals

were 148 Pied Oystercatcher in January, 33 Grey Plover in February, 12 Whimbrel in June (unusual within the complex), and 5 Broad-billed Sandpiper in April.

BS1 – This first of the bay-side ponds continued to have very low numbers of waders. The highest count was 232 birds in March, of which 100 were Lesser Sand Plover, followed by 68 Red-capped Plover (which was the highest total in 2015 for this species in an individual pond) and 61 Red-necked Stint.

BS2 – Very few waders utilised this pond during the year and only 2 high totals of 793 birds in March and 1,108 in September were significant. The March count included 546 Curlew Sandpiper and 199 Red-necked Stint, while September included 2 Black-tailed Godwit, 290 Curlew Sandpiper and 422 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper.

BS3 – For some reason this site became the third favoured site for the waders (unlike 2014 when very few waders used the site). Red-necked Stint were recorded for 11 months of the year with 4 counts producing more than 600 each and November giving the highest count of 1,815 for this species. Curlew Sandpiper were recorded for 9 months of the year with 4 counts being in excess of 200 birds, while December recorded the highest total of 438. Red-necked Avocet were also attracted to this site for 8 months of the year with 3 of the higher totals being 1,396 in April, 347 in June and 540 in September. Other interesting sightings include 1 Broad-billed Sandpiper in March, 111 White-headed Stilt in April, 204 Grey-tailed Tattler in July, 38 Red Knot in August and 278 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper in November. In July 12 Common Greenshank were seen and recorded, which is quite unusual for this species (and this number) to be seen within the Port of Brisbane reclamation area. Also unusual within the reclamation area was the arrival of Black Swan within the ponds from June through to the end of the year. The highest count was 65 in August in BS3 and a total of 103 within the whole of the reclamation area for that month. The site also attracted quite a number of Teal in the winter months, with 126 Grey Teal and 330 Chestnut Teal in June, 549 Chestnut Teal in July and 249 Chestnut Teal in August. These large numbers of ducks within the Port reclamation area is most unusual.

BS4 – The site failed to attract as many waders as 2014 and the highest total for the year was 1,123 in October. Grey-tailed Tattler remained fairly faithful to the site for 9 months with 640 in August, 1,009 in September, 843 in October and dropping to 174 in November. Ruddy Turnstone numbers for the site were significantly less than last year with only 24 on site in September and increasing to 30 in October. Other records include 51 Pied Oystercatcher in June, 3 Grey Plover in July, 2 Common Greenshank and 3 Terek Sandpiper in September.

FPE Outer – The largest pond within the reclamation area that comprises mainly of water had a slight increase in the number of waders using the site, and a total of 2,677 in December was the highest count for that month within the complex. This site used to be favoured by Pied Oystercatcher, but they were only recorded on site for 5 months, and the highest total only reached 17 during the March count. Ruddy Turnstone continued to be seen using this site and 51 were recorded in February, 53 in March, 48 in October and 37 in November. Other interesting counts include 336 Pacific Golden Plover in March, 507 Grey-tailed Tattler and 759 Red-necked Stint in April, 662 Red-necked Stint in September, 263 Lesser Sand Plover and 183 Red Knot in October. Two Sooty Oystercatcher were counted in February along with an uncommon Wandering Tattler, and another Wandering Tattler was also recorded in September and October.

PLDE (Lucinda Drive drain east) – This long drain area that was constructed along the southern end of the reclamation area is not ideal wader habitat and only attracted 2 Black-fronted Dotterel in April and again in July. A handful of other waterbirds were recorded using the area at other times of the year,

PBAR (Artificial Roost) – Wader numbers were low for most of the year with the highest total being 654 in October. Although the numbers of waders were low, there were 17 species recorded throughout the year. Some of the higher totals were 173 Red-necked Stint in February, 171 White-headed Stilt in July, 366 Bar-tailed Godwit and 106 Whimbrel in October. In November an Asian Dowitcher was recorded in the flock of 362 Bar-tailed Godwit, and an unusual record of 1 Terek Sandpiper was noted in December. Many species of waterbirds continue to be attracted to this roost.

FICP (Claypan) – This large claypan outside the reclamation area still proved difficult to count due to the Casuarina and mangrove tree growth around the site. Only 4 months of the year wader numbers were in excess of 500 with the highest count being 995 in December. Eastern Curlew were recorded 11 months of the year, and some of the higher totals were 136 in January, 102 in February and 121 in December. Other high totals for the year were 695 Bar-tailed Godwit in February, 136 White-headed Stilt in May, 332 Red-necked Stint in November and 112 Whimbrel in December. Some of the more unusual records include 2 Black-tailed Godwit and 3 Grey Plover in January, 8 Red-necked Avocet in June, which increased to 18 in July, and 5 Red Knot in September.

FIVC (Visitor Centre Lake) – Only 2 wader species (White-headed Stilt and Masked Lapwing) were recorded during the year. White-headed Stilt were recorded 7 times with the highest total being 14 in December, and Masked Lapwing was recorded 6 times with the highest total being 4 birds in January. Waterbirds continued using the site, but in lower numbers than in 2014. For 5 months of the year the site attracted the most waterbirds, and the highest count was 603 in July. Although a number of species were recorded at the Lake every month, duck species were in lower numbers than previous years. The only breeding record for the year was for Dusky Moorhen, with 1 young being observed on a nest in October.

Leg flag sightings: There were 18 green leg-flagged birds seen during the counts, but because these birds have been flagged by our group in Moreton Bay, and have not travelled any significant distance from the banding site, they have not been included in the leg flag sightings. Other leg-flagged and banded birds seen throughout the complex are as follows:

April	Yellow engraved flag on Pied Oystercatcher (flagged New South Wales).
June	Red engraved band 'ACJ' on a Black Swan (flagged Gold Coast, Queensland).
August	Orange engraved flag on a Red-necked Avocet (flagged Victoria).
October	White flag on a Red Knot (flagged New Zealand) and Red engraved band 'ACJ' on Black Swan (flagged Gold Coast, Queensland).

Breeding records:

Pied Oystercatcher – nest with 2 eggs in BS4 in October.
 White-headed Stilt – bird on a nest in the Artificial Roost in October.
 Red-capped Plover – 2 chicks in R3 in April and 2 chicks in BS1 in August.

Some other interesting sightings (not waders) during the counts were:

January	628 Little Tern in R3 – 2 Pacific Reef Heron in PLDE – 1 Nankeen Night Heron in the Lake.
February	790 Little Tern in R3 – 1 Pacific Reef Heron in BS4.
March	290 Silver Gull in R3 – 1 Brown Goshawk (juvenile) in BS2 – 1 Chestnut Teal duckling in PBAR.
April	1 Australian Hobby in BS1 – 3 Australasian Gannet (all juvenile) flying off the Outer FPE.
May	222 Chestnut Teal and 133 Royal Spoonbill in PBAR.
June	330 Chestnut Teal, 2 Black Swan and 126 Grey Teal in BS3 – 2 White-bellied Sea Eagle in PLDE – 17 Little Egret, 117 Royal Spoonbill and 1 Pacific Reef Heron in PBAR – 210 Little Black Cormorant in the Lake.
July	549 Chestnut Teal in BS2 – 16 Black Swan in BS3 – 29 Great Egret in PBAR – 255 Royal Spoonbill in the Lake
August	35 Black Swan (includes 4 juvenile) in R3 – 65 Black Swan in BS3 – 21 Little Egret in PBAR – 8 Australasian Darter in the Lake.
September	57 Black Swan in BS3 – 1 Pacific Reef Heron in PBAR.
October	82 Whiskered Tern in R3 – 3 Chestnut Teal duckling in BS1 – 2 Pacific Reef Heron in the Outer PFE – 8 Chestnut Teal ducklings in PLDE – 295 Chestnut Teal in PBAR.
November	426 Little Tern in R3.
December	794 Little Tern in R3 – 71 Whiskered Tern and 1 Pink-eared Duck in the Lake.

A table showing wader species and numbers at the complex during 2015 (with the exception of the Visitors Centre Lake), has been included. Many other waterbirds were also recorded using the sites; however, lack of space in the newsletter does not allow their inclusion.

QWSG would like to sincerely thank the PBPL for their ongoing support to the group and supplying their staff and vehicles during the counts. Michael Linde, Senior Environmental Advisor, Nadene Perry, Environmental Advisor and Craig Wilson, Environmental Manager for the PBPL shared the role in looking after our welfare and needs during the counts.

We must also sincerely thank the following committed regular counters and other members for helping us obtain the results for the PBPL and the QWSG database in 2015. Without people like these this would not have been possible. My apologies if I have omitted anyone from the list.

Robert Bush, Deirdre Chrzescijanski, Rob Clemens, Jon Coleman, Ken Cowell, Linda Cross, Phil Cross, David Edwards, Paul Finn, Andrew Geering, David Hannah, Sandra Harding, Arthur Keates, Sheryl Keates, Michael Linde (PBPL), Penn Lloyd, David Milton, Glen Pacey, Nadene Perry (PBPL), Peter Rothlisberg, Peter Ryan, Rebecca Ryan, Ged Tranter, Floss Wainwright, Ivell Whyte, Jim Whyte and Craig Wilson (PBPL).

The contract with PBPL continues throughout 2016 and as over half of the regular counters are now retired and taking off on extended holidays we need a bigger support group to help spread the workload, particularly during the spring and summer months. As the PBPL insurance only covers their employees you will need to be either a QWSG or BQ member to attend these counts so their liability insurance will cover you. Please also note that these counts are not recreational outings, but we are always looking for committed counters to join our team. Please contact Peter Rothlisberg or myself if you would like to participate. The dates and meeting times for the counts are listed at the back of this newsletter.

Peter Rothlisberg email: peter.rothlisberg@csiro.au Home: 3822 3759 Work: 3833 5960

Or

Linda Cross email: xenus69@bigpond.com Home: 5495 2758 Mobile: 0490 080 340

VWSG Cannon-netting Saturday 9th April Yallock Creek Report

A large team met at the farm gate on the Sth Gippsland highway and proceeded to the catching site on the Western Port shore where around 2000 Red-necked Stints had been seen on the recce by Dave Cropley the previous day. The plan was to make a large catch of Red-necked Stints. A large catch was necessary as we wanted to deploy 60 geolocators on re-trapped birds. As re-traps it would be more likely that they were site faithful Yallock Creek birds that would hopefully return next autumn when we would be able to retrieve the geolocators.

A good sized team was available.

After team introductions and an outline of the catching plan and safety requirements a small group went to the shore to decide where to set the net. With Dave C's previous day observations and a smarter south west wind it was decided to set two small mesh nets nearly end to end along the shore firing seaward but with expectations of a dry catch. A hide was constructed about 50 metres east of the net to enable a clear sight along the net. We retired for lunch. David W went further west along the shore to see if there were any large group of Red-necked Stints and to move them towards the catching area.

By 1pm we were in the hide, soon around 2000 birds were seen flying and settling on the grass and muddy area behind and west of the net. After about an hour of flying and settling and with some careful car twinkling from Rob P we had a group of what estimated to be 150 Red-necked Stints plus a few Double-banded Plovers in front of the net. With no birds in the safety zone Clive called fire, the net went out beautifully and we had a catch of Red-necked Stints and one Double-banded Plover. The birds were covered in the net, extracted quickly and teams assembled for processing and geocator deployment. Alice R took blood, throat and faeces samples for her ongoing study on gut and blood pathogens and DNA. The catch comprised 298 Red-necked Stints and 1 adult Double-banded Plover. Of the Stints, 193 were new birds and 105 were retraps, i.e. 35%. 61 geolocators were put on the re-trapped birds. Of the Stints 55 were juveniles which at 18% of the flock is twice the expected %, which means that many of the adults had already departed for their northern breeding grounds.

Many thanks to all who attended and especially to those who put up their hands to come again the next day if necessary.

Penny Johns, 10th April 2016

Shorebird species and numbers recorded at the Port of Brisbane during 2015

<i>Species</i>	11.01.15	08.02.15	08.03.15	19.04.15	17.05.15	14.06.15	05.07.15	30.08.15	27.09.15	18.10.15	15.11.15	13.12.15
Pied Oystercatcher	160	102	148	127	66	67	25	48	43	43	17	40
Sooty Oystercatcher	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
White-headed Stilt	67	12	34	201	229	111	226	180	60	58	74	83
Red-necked Avocet	81	87	298	1398	2810	774	747	892	548	5	537	301
Pacific Golden Plover	664	344	403	1	0	0	0	0	182	281	525	144
Grey Plover	38	38	26	3	0	3	3	0	24	11	0	1
Red-capped Plover	62	23	112	30	21	25	40	40	39	20	33	48
Double-banded Plover	0	0	2	12	3	2	15	0	0	0	0	0
Lesser Sand Plover	1915	1380	1929	418	12	41	0	0	177	359	405	1409
Greater Sand Plover	85	226	173	68	0	1	0	0	40	28	210	5
Black-fronted Dotterel	0	1	1	2	0	0	2	1	2	0	0	1
Masked Lapwing	3	0	3	2	0	2	0	9	2	1	4	0
Black-tailed Godwit	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0
Bar-tailed Godwit	1081	1185	903	39	47	80	72	285	1019	1483	1189	1356
Whimbrel	7	20	4	15	6	13	0	0	48	107	66	103
Far Eastern Curlew	137	104	14	53	20	3	75	69	80	109	29	122
Terek Sandpiper	7	14	7	2	0	0	0	0	3	1	3	9
Common Sandpiper	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grey-tailed Tattler	602	601	933	507	12	90	338	643	1012	843	599	251
Wandering Tattler	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
Common Greenshank	2	0	4	0	0	0	12	13	6	2	0	1
Ruddy Turnstone	17	61	62	4	0	2	0	2	51	79	37	17
Asian Dowitcher	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Great Knot	237	144	60	0	0	2	0	170	137	283	355	596
Red Knot	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	492	636	3	0
Sanderling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Red-necked Stint	2692	3322	6669	946	129	324	511	444	1927	2509	3406	4111
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	113	221	832	1518	0	0	1	154	591	1142	565	504
Curlew Sandpiper	1151	1342	1671	267	25	179	22	364	974	1989	1593	849
Broad-billed Sandpiper	6	3	8	5	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0
Unidentified wader	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Wader Species	24	22	24	21	12	18	14	16	24	24	21	22
Total Wader Numbers	9132	9233	14299	5618	3380	1737	2089	3352	7460	9994	9653	9953

Reconciling Recreational Use and Conservation Values in a Coastal Protected Area

Peak abundance of migratory shorebirds in Australia coincides with increased recreational use of coastal areas, resulting in recreational disturbance to foraging shorebirds- several of which are threatened with extinction nationally or globally. This is especially true of Moreton Bay, where there are plenty anecdotal accounts of recreational activities disturbing foraging shorebirds. During the summer of 2014-2015 I undertook an honours research project at the University of Queensland focusing on recreational use of Moreton Bay's mainland foreshore and effects on foraging migratory shorebirds' distribution and abundance, and investigated how the positioning of dog beaches could potentially reduce the amount of disturbance experienced by foraging shorebirds. This research has been provisionally accepted for publication (Stigner MG, Beyer HL, Klein C & Fuller RA (in press, accepted 27th January 2016) Reconciling recreational use and conservation values in a coastal protected area. *Journal of Applied Ecology*.)



With the help of volunteers from QWSG and the Fuller Lab, we completed 812 shorebird surveys covering the intertidal zone from Deception Bay to Lota. We observed 17 species in total, with an estimated average count of 2604 shorebirds present on the intertidal habitats during low tide. Two species accounted for more than half of total shorebird abundance, with bar-tailed godwit and curlew sandpiper representing 32% and 20% of the total shorebird count respectively. An average of 174 people used the intertidal flats within the study region at any one time during each low tide. Accompanying these people, there were on average 72 dogs, of which 84% were unrestrained, potentially posing a substantial source of disturbance to the shorebirds.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Average Count During Low Tide	Percent of total shorebird count (%)
Bar-tailed godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	865.5	32.2
Curlew sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	486.0	19.6
Sharp-tailed sandpiper	<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	325.6	12.5
Red-necked stint	<i>Calidris ruficollis</i>	311.2	12.3
Grey-tailed tattler	<i>Tringa brevipes</i>	142.5	5.1
Pacific golden plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	126.0	4.9
Great knot	<i>Calidris tenuirostris</i>	113.4	4.3
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	93.7	3.6
	<i>Numenius</i>	55.4	
Eastern curlew	<i>madagascariensis</i>		2.1
Lesser sand plover	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>	46.6	1.9
Greater sand plover	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>	13.3	<1.0

Red knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	9.4	<1.0
Common greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	7.5	<1.0
Ruddy turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	4.3	<1.0
Black-tailed godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	2.3	<1.0
Marsh sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	2.0	<1.0
Terek sandpiper	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>	0.1	<1.0

I used the data we collected to ask the question whether the presence of people and or dogs in the intertidal zone reduced the probability of shorebirds being present in a section of foreshore, and also if the presence of dogs and people reduced shorebird abundance. I found that both the presence of people and also dogs significantly reduced the probability of shorebirds occupying a section of foreshore. I also found that the presence of dogs significantly decreased the count of shorebirds along the foreshore, however the presence of people alone did not decrease the count of shorebirds. These results suggest that dogs exert a greater effect on shorebird abundance than people as they not only reduce the probability of birds occupying the intertidal zone, they also reduce the count of birds to a greater extent than people alone.

I then used this information to develop hypothetical land use zoning plans to position potential dog recreation areas in sites which will have the least effect on foraging shorebirds, whilst meeting the needs of recreational users. Using my modelled data, I found that when dogs were allowed full access to all foreshore areas, they displaced 9% of what my predicted shorebird population was for the Bay. This is perhaps a result of a natural separation of the two activities, with sites supporting greater than 500 foraging shorebirds also supporting low recreational use. When we restricted dog recreation to five of the currently most heavily used sites, we found that dogs and people displaced only 2% of the predicted shorebird population. The proposed zoning solutions are not the solution to the problem, instead they should be used within a larger decision-making process.

I am very thankful for the support that the Queensland Wader Study Group provided, both in-kind and also through the Nigel Roberts Student Bursary. Any queries regarding my research, or if you would like a copy of my thesis, please contact me via email: madeleine.stigner@uqconnect.edu.au

Migration Departure – 18th March to 12th April 2016

by Arthur Keates

When shorebirds are getting ready to depart on their migratory journey, they appear excited and agitated, with a lot of chattering, stretching and flapping of wings and quite often lifting slightly above the ground. Assembled birds, in a flock of anything from upward of 5 birds, sometimes take to the air as if doing a practice run, circling and returning but if the conditions are right, eventually they will take off, quickly gaining height and arranging themselves in an aerodynamic v-shaped formation as they set their course. The sight of a flock of shorebirds departing on their northern migration is truly awe inspiring.

Encouraged by QWSG member Dr Jimmy Choi, I spent many hours along the foreshore at Lota, Manly, Wynnum and Lytton hoping to see birds departing on their long and perilous journey. Before each late afternoon visit, I checked the tide charts, wind and weather conditions to see if conditions were favourable. There was no doubt birds were departing as the numbers of birds observed feeding on the tidal flats and at roost sites had dropped noticeably.

Many hours of observations over several sessions often raised expectations of seeing a flock depart only to see the birds gradually disperse to feed on the tidal flats or fly to another feeding area. On 29 March, a line of c 30 Bar-Tailed Godwit on the tidal flats at Fig Tree Point, Lota, seemed to be going through a pre-migration routine while their cohorts and other species fed nearby. On two occasions the birds took off but on each occasion after circling around returned to the tidal flat. Again the godwits took off and started to climb as they headed in a northerly direction strung out in a line and gaining height. Initially this looked like a departure but as they neared Norfolk Point they dropped to just above sea level and disappeared from view. As the tide was receding and the birds were last seen flying low above the water it may well be they were merely going to another feeding ground rather than migrating.

Following is a summary of observations of migration departure.

Manly roost - 2 April 2016

Observer: Arthur Keates

On 2 April, I went to the Manly shorebird roost arriving there at 15:50, 1½ hours before high tide. The chattering of the birds was noticeable. From my position, I could not see most of the birds on the eastern side of the island and so was not aware of their behaviour; I could only hear the mix of bird calls emanating from the site.

Five minutes later, a flock of c 40 Bar-tailed Godwit took to the air, calling loudly. At first, I looked for signs of a raptor or other cause of disturbance but soon realised the majority of the birds remained at the roost site. I watched the flock fly in a northerly direction, gaining height in a spread out line, most likely in a v-shaped formation; the calling had stopped. My binoculars stayed focused on the flock as it climbed higher and higher until it was out of sight. I had no doubt, they were off.

At 16:15, I heard shorebirds calling as they passed overhead. Looking up, I saw 6 Pacific Golden Plover heading north about 10 m high rising to about 20 m before circling back and gracefully dropping back to the dredge spoil handling area. Only 5 minutes later, presumably the same 6 Pacific Golden Plover, flew passed calling but again they returned after a short flight.

It didn't appear as if there was going to be another departure when I left an hour later, the birds had settled, there was less chattering and little activity.

Manly roost - 3 April 2016

Observers: Arthur and Sheryl Keates, Dr Jimmy Choi and Mavis Gan

A very strong ESE wind was blowing as we arrived on site at 15:50, about 2½ hours before high tide. The birds were chattering loudly. On the eastern side of the island, some Bar-tailed Godwit and Great Knot, basking in the sun, fluffing feathers and preening were behaving differently to the roosting shorebirds. At 16:05, c 45 Bar-tailed Godwit and c 15 Great Knot lifted and from that moment it seemed obvious the birds were setting off on migration as they headed north flying higher and higher. We followed them in spotting scopes and binoculars until they were out of sight, slightly to the east of the mouth of the Brisbane River appearing to leave the Port complex behind them.

At 17:05, 3 Terek Sandpiper took off and flew a short distance eastward and back over the roost site where they joined 8 Bar-tailed Godwit that had just taken off. We observed the small flock until at 17:12 we lost sight of them at a very high altitude on the same flight path as the previous departing flock.

At 17:25, a further 12 Bar-tailed Godwit departed, flying the same route north. Like the previous departing flocks, it was clear they were taking advantage of the wind and weather conditions to start migrating.

Lota tidal flats and Manly Roost - 4 April 2016

Observers: Arthur and Sheryl Keates

A strong ESE wind and offshore showers greeted us at Fig Tree Point, Lota, 4 hours before high tide. While counting 56 Great Knot feeding on the tidal flats, our attention was drawn to 12 Pacific Golden Plover lined up, preening, and fluffing feathers. Most of the plovers had strong breeding plumage as did a similar number of others feeding nearby. At 15:45, 9 of the lined-up group took off and flew low over the water, apparently going to the Manly roost.

As the showers passed and the weather cleared, we went to Manly roost where, at 16:20, 8 Pacific Golden Plover flying from direction of the Lota tidal flats passed the roost calling, climbing higher and higher as they headed north out of site on the same flight path as the previous day's departing shorebirds. Interestingly, this was the only migration departure we observed from the tidal flats as with departures we have witnessed at Roebuck Bay.

Waving the waders goodbye, a string of questions come to mind. Have they stored enough fuel to get them to their first stopover? Where will it be, the Yellow Sea region of China? Will there be enough food for them to refuel for the next leg of their journey to the breeding grounds? Will they have timed their arrival on the breeding grounds to coincide with the snow melt and the abundance of insects to feed on? In the short window of opportunity, will they successfully establish and defend a territory, mate and breed? Will they have the strength to make the return journey and overcome all the threats they face along the way?

Shore Birds Population Facing Dramatic Decline in Face of Habitat Destruction, UQ Scientists Say

By Stephanie Smail

From ABC at 10:49amSun 17 Apr 2016, 10:49am

Habitat destruction is pushing the world's migratory shore birds to the brink, Queensland scientists say.

KEY POINTS:

- Habitat critical to shore bird migration, scientists say
- Loss of habitat putting many species on brink of extinction, conservationist says
- Particular concern for survival of eastern curlew

University of Queensland researcher Rob Clemens said the evidence was clear and that many of the species were in dramatic decline. "You can look at any bit of data in the country whether it's a nice pristine site or a depleted site you're going to see this decline right across the continent," he said.

Shore birds, which migrate up to 12,000 kilometres in one trip to and from places like Siberia or Alaska, use sites such as the Toondah Harbour tidal flats in Moreton Bay to fatten up over summer and rest for their epic journeys.

But BirdLife Southern Queensland convenor Judith Hoyle is worried the tidal flats will be threatened by a \$1.3 billion proposal that would take over a small part of Moreton Bay's internationally significant Ramsar wetland. "We've got this concept that it's OK to nibble away, that if we just take this little bit it doesn't matter," she said. "But right along the eastern seaboard this is happening and if we don't start to say 'every little piece of habitat matters' then these birds will become extinct in my life time."

There was particular concern for the world's largest migratory shorebird the eastern curlew.



Photo: The Walker Corporation has promised to restore roosting habitat and create new conservation areas.
(Supplied: Chris Walker)

Surveys by the Queensland Wader Study Group already show a steep decline in the numbers on the Toondah tidal flats, and experts say the picture is similar across the country.

The Redland City Council and the Queensland Government said the development was important for job creation and the region's growth.

"We're looking at things such as hotels, the ferry terminal itself. There'll be construction jobs about 1,000 construction jobs a year for 15 years and 500 jobs from thereafter," Redland City Mayor Karen Williams said.

The Walker Corporation, that would build the development, said only a tiny part of the birds feeding ground would go.

It has promised to restore roosting habitat and create new conservation areas.

Better cooperation with countries like China, South Korea, and Japan is key to the birds' survival, experts say.

Associate Professor Richard Fuller said huge habitat loss in the Yellow Sea was the most pressing issue. "There are enormous barriers and challenges to cooperation. There's been agreements in place between Australia and other countries in the fly away for many years and during that period we've seen continuing declines in these birds. So clearly something's not working and we need step up our efforts," he said.

The Federal Government vowed to help, appointing the Threatened Species Commissioner, Gregory Andrews, to negotiate.

Ms Hoyle said bird groups were hoping that sentiment will carry through during environmental assessments of developments like Toondah Harbour.

Australia Plan to Protect 'Long-Haul' Birds

They are the international travellers who come to Australia each year to rest and feast, but migratory birds face a perilous journey, officials said Friday as they launched a plan to help protect them. Feathered tourists such as the grey plover, red knot and common sandpiper commonly spend several months each year Down Under after their breeding season in the northern hemisphere, travelling thousands of kilometres to get here.

"Shorebirds such as the female bar-tailed godwit match the incredible long-haul range of an Airbus A380," Environment Minister Greg Hunt said in a statement. "But the perilous nature of migration, where birds cross multiple national boundaries, means shorebirds face a multitude of threats."

Hunt said a new plan, designed to help protect some 35 species, recognised that some populations of these birds were in decline.



© Provided by AFP A Bar-tailed Godwit is shown feeding on a sandbar in Merimbula in southern New South Wales in this photo from Birdlife Australia

"There is a growing need to reduce the threats to their habitat," he said, adding that this was critical for the birds' continued survival.

Australia's coastal and freshwater wetlands are a resting and feeding zone for the migratory shorebirds -- with some travelling up to 11,500 kilometres (7,146 miles) non-stop to journey south. Many travel along the East Asian-Australasian Flyway which extends from breeding grounds in the Russian tundra, Mongolia and Alaska south through Asia to non-breeding areas in Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Australia and New Zealand.

Hunt said cooperation between countries was required to protect the birds and the new Wildlife Conservation Plan for Migratory Shorebirds provided the foundation for this.

"This plan is guiding our bilateral talks with Japan, China and the Republic of Korea on how threats to migratory shorebirds in the Yellow Sea region can be managed with the help of local communities," he said.

The plan notes that habitat loss as a result of development is the most significant threat to migratory birds in Australia.



© Provided by AFP Australia's coastal and freshwater wetlands are a resting and feeding zone for the migratory shorebirds -- with some travelling up to 11,500 kilometres (7,146 miles) non-stop to journey south

Along the route it said coastal development in stop-over areas in the Yellow Sea region bordered by North Korea, China and South Korea was of particular concern and the plan aimed to protect remaining tidal flats in the Yellow Sea.

Chris Purnell from BirdLife Australia welcomed the plan but said there was still work to be done studying wetlands in Australia given gaps in the existing knowledge.

FAA Aims to Save Millions of Birds by Changing Static Red Airport Lights

In an attempt to save some of the millions of birds that die each year after being bewildered by airport illumination, changes will be made to the US lighting towers that warn approaching pilots. The Federal Aviation Administration said it will change the lighting on towers across the US after its research found that birds are attracted to steady red lights that highlight obstructions to pilots at night. The FAA said its changes will save thousands of birds each year.

The research found that static red lights attract birds – often in large migratory flocks – which then circle the light repeatedly, often collapsing of exhaustion and dying on the ground. Some birds perish after hitting towers or surrounding wires.



In addition to the millions of birds killed due to confusing tower lighting, about 13,000 a year are killed when they hit aircraft in flight. Photograph: Avpics/Alamy

It's thought that constant red lights disorientate birds far more than blue, white or flashing lights. A 2012 study estimated that 6.8 million birds a year die in the US and Canada due to this confusion – up to four times the amount that are killed by shooting.

The FAA conducted a trial in Michigan to compare different lights and found a large decrease in bird fatalities when flashing lights were deployed. The federal regulator has now instructed all new towers to be fitted with flashing lights, with operators of existing towers required to transition to the new system.

“This looks like a very good step forward and I'm glad to see the FAA is responding to the research,” said Steve Holmer, senior policy adviser at the American Bird Conservancy. “There are lots of mortality events involving lighting on towers, it's an issue when there are large flocks. Hopefully they won't be attracted to them as much now.”

In addition to the millions of birds killed due to confusing tower lighting, about 13,000 a year are killed when they hit aircraft in flight. Globally, bird strikes have also resulted in more than 258 people dying from 245 plane crashes since 1988. Perhaps the most famous bird strike upon a plane occurred in January 2009, when a US Airways flight was safely ditched in New York's Hudson River, saving the lives on those on board, after Canada geese were ingested in both engines.

Researchers are still looking at ways that bird strikes can be avoided.

This article was first published by The Guardian on 24 Mar 2016.

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 fitted to. 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 – Moreton Bay area

In each Qld Wader issue there are quite a number of green leg flag sightings recorded within the Moreton Bay area, which is where the bird was banded originally, however depending on the space available we may not be listing each individual sighting of engraved green flag in the printed version of this newsletter. A complete list of all engraved flags reported in the last three months will be loaded on to the website.

Sightings in Moreton Bay & Environs totalled 676 since the last newsletter three months ago, the species recorded and the number of observations was as follows. Bar-tailed Godwit 234, Curlew Sandpiper 16, Eastern Curlew 2, Great Knot 32, Grey Plover 1, Grey-tailed Tattler 279, Lesser Sand Plover 17, Pacific Golden Plover 11, Pied Oystercatcher 26, Red-capped Plover 1, Red-necked Stint 28, Ruddy Turnstone 5, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper 7, Terek Sandpiper 13, Whimbrel 2, White Headed Stilt 2.

They were sighted by Susan Chisholm, Jimmy Choi, Deidre Chrzescijanski, Judith Coles, Tony Cotter, Phil Cross, Linda Cross, Kristy Currie, Mavis Gan, Renate Hottmann-Schaefer, Mary Hynes, Yifei Jia, Arthur Keates, Sheryl Keates, Penn Lloyd, Virginia Ridgley, Peter Rothlisberg, Michael Strong, Mike Vincent, Chris Walker and Melissa Whitby.

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

Bar-tailed Godwit – AE, AR, BC, CN, CS, CU, CX, ET, EU, FJ, FM, FY, HL, JA, JE, JH, JJ, JY, KM, KN, NC, NV, NZ, PA, PD, PP, PR, PU, PV, PY, RL, RM, RN, RP, RY, AAB, AAH, AAL, AAM, ABJ, ACA, ACJ, ACL, ADV, ADW, ADX, AEB, AEJ, AEN, AEU, AHL, AHN, AHT, AHZ, AJM, AKD, AKN, AKS, AKY, ALL, ALM, ALU, ALV, AMD, ANA, ANB, ANH, ANW, ANX, APJ, APP, ARD, ARJ, ARU, ARV, ASA, ASM, ASR, ASU, ASZ, ATD, AVA, AVB, AXU, AXV, AYD, AYU, AZB, AZC, AZR, AZS, AZT, AZU, AZV, BAB, BAE, BAK, BAP, BAW, BAX, BAZ, BBA, BBD, BBJ, BBN, BBX, BCB, BCE, BCX, BJN, BJU, BJZ, BKJ, BKK, BKM, BKP, BKR, BKS, BNA, BNJ, BPC, BPL, BPS, BRB, BRP, BRT, BRX, BTA, BTB, BTH, BTK, BTL, BTN, BTT, BTY, BTZ, BUA, BUD, BUF, BUH, CPT .

Black-winged Stilt – AAS, BB.

Curlew Sandpiper – FN, AAM, ACR, ACZ, ADJ, AJA, AJL, AJU, AKJ, ASC, ASJ.

Great Knot – NA, AAP, AJU, ALA, ATL, BAZ, BBE, BCN, BCP, BRY, BTL, CMJ, CMX, CMY.

Grey Plover – JT.

Grey-tailed Tattler – AR, AV, AX, BN, BT, CA, CD, CU, DV, EM, EN, HK, HV, JC, JD, JN, JX, JY, JZ, KA, KV, KX, KZ, LH, LN, RH, RM, RU, RY, AAC, AAD, AAE, AAK, AAR, AAZ, ABD, ABE, ABU, ACD, ACE, ACJ, ACK, ACN, ACU, ACX, ADH, ADT, ADY, AKC, AKJ, AKU, AKV, AKX, AKZ, AMB, ANN, ANT, APD, APJ, APL, APP, APS, APT, APV, APW, APY, ARD, ARL, ARP, ART, ARV, ASE, ASL, ASU, ATB, ATE, ATM, ATP, ATS, ATV, ATW, AUA, AUB, AUH, AUN, AUP, AUS, AUT, AUU, AUY, AUZ, AVB, AVC, AVD, AVE, AVH, AVL, AVN, AVT, AWL, AWP, AWV, AXB, AXE, AXL, AXP, AXR, AXS, AXW, AXX, AYD, AZL, AZU, AZX, BAD, BAJ, BAL, BAM, BCJ, BDC, BDD, BDH, BDJ, BDK, BDM, BDN.

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

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

Pacific Golden Plover – BUB, BUN, BUP, BUU, BUY, BVD, BVL, BVP, BVT, BVY.

Pied Oystercatcher – B6, C4, AAE, AAH, AAK, AAT, AAU, ABC, ABE.

Red-capped Plover – AH.

Red-necked Stint – H2, M3, N3, S8, S9, U3, X4, X5, Y5, Z2, TT, VL, ZN, ZU, ZZ.

Ruddy Turnstone – HE, ABX, AKX, ALC, AYH.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – ACW, ACX, ACY, AJS, AXC.

Terek Sandpiper – AV, DY, EE, EJ, HD, ACK, ACU, AJN, ALB.

Whimbrel – UH.

Green leg flag sightings - Outside Moreton Bay area

Great Knot – ELF unable to read - Maaroom – Arthur Keates – 21.2.2016.

Green leg flag sightings – seen Overseas.

China

Great Knot – Plain flag - Tongzhou Bay – Zhang Lin – 16.4.2016

Japan

Bar-tailed Godwit

ARB on flag – Yoshino River Estuary Tokushima – Kouhei Shinomiya – 20.4.2014

BTC on flag – Sone Tidal Flat Kitakyushu-shi Fukuoka – Yoshibumi Shiroi – 10.4.2016

CPC on flag – Saga Japan – Sayaka Nakamura – 10.4.2016

Great Knot

CMC on flag – Asa River Estuary Santo Onoda-shi Yamaguchi-kin – Nobuhiro Hashimoto 13.4.2016

Grey-tailed Tattler

AXH on flag – Arai Motomiya-shi Fukushima – Yukio Arakawa – 8.5.2014

CD on flag – Mihara River Matsuhokita Minamiwaji Hyogo – Kensuke Ariga – 10.5.2014

ATL on flag – Mouth of Onosato River Sennan Osaka – Tsuyoshi Nakagawa – 2.9.2015

Pacific Golden Plover

BUA on flag – Ibaraki Prefecture – Utaka Godo – 24.4.2016

New Zealand

Bar-tailed Godwit – Plain flag – Tasman Bay Nelson Haven – Rob Schuckard – 8.2.2016

Red Knot

ELF unable to read – Big Sand Island Kaipara Harbour Auckland – Tony Habraken – 2.1.2015

ABE on flag - Big Sand Island Kaipara Harbour Auckland – Tony Habraken – 28.2.2015

ELF unable to read – Big Sand Island Kaipara Harbour Auckland – Tony Habraken – 8.11.2015

Palau Micronesia

Great Knot

BEA on flag – Ngimal – Glenn McKinlay – 8th, 9th & 11.4.2016

Taiwan

Curlew Sandpiper

ACA on flag – Hanbou ChangHwa County – Chung-Yu Chiang – 7.4.2016

Great Knot

BBB on flag – Wang-Gong Chang-Hua County – Chung-Yu Chiang – 7.4.2016

South Korea

Bar-tailed Godwit – all seen at Aphae Island South – Andreas Kim

ABM – 4th & 9.4.2016

ABW – 4.4.2016

ADA – 6.4.2016

AEA - 11th & 18.4.2016

AET – 23, 28, 31.3.2016, & 3rd, 4th & 9.4.2016

AEU – 24.4.2016

AHZ – 19, 21, 22 & 24.4.2016

AJM – 8.4.2016

AJY – 8.4.2016

ALV – 8, 9, 11, 14, 18, 19, 22, 24, 26 & 30.4.2016

ATA – 11, 18, 24 & 26.4.2016

AVB – 6, 15, 22 & 30.4.2016

AWE – 6.4.2016

AX – 8, 9 & 22.4.2016

AYB – 4, 14 & 24.4.2016

AYD – 14, 15, 21, 22 & 26.4.2016

BAP – 11, 19, 26 & 30.4.2016

BCC – 18.4.2016

BJE – 11, 14 & 15.4.2016

BPY – 8, 9 & 11.4.2016

BRN – 11 & 15.4.2016

BSD – 15 & 19.4.2016

BTF – 11.4.2016

BTY – 11.4.2016

CDC – 3, 6, 8, 9 & 14.4.2016

EC – 9, 11, 14, 15, 21, 24 & 26.4.2016

NC – 14.4.2016

PN – 8 & 9.4.2016

PR – 9, 11, 15, 18, 21, 22, 24 & 26.4.2016 & 2.5.2016

ELF – unable to read – 6.4.2016

ELF – unable to read – 8.4.2016

Plain green flag – 8, 9, 11, 14 & 18

Plain green flag – Geum Barrage – Nial Moores & Tim Edelsten – 25.4.2016

BX – Songdo Mudflat Incheon – Eugene Cheah - 1.5.2016

Great Knot

AEL – Aphae Island South – Andreas Kim – 9 & 11.4.2016

BNL - Aphae Island South – Andreas Kim – 8.4.2016

ELF- unable to read - Aphae Island South – Andreas Kim – 8.4.2016

Ruddy Turnstone

EY – Mokpo Namhang Tidal Flat – Andreas Kim – 30.4.2016

BIRDS FLAGGED OVERSEAS - sighted in Qld

Black over Yellow (Kamchatka Peninsula, Russia) leg flag sightings

Great Knot – Lucinda near Hinchbrook – Annette Sibson – 21.2.2016

Lesser Sand Plover – Sandgate – Renate Hottmann-Schaefer - 15.3.2016

White over blue (Taiwan) leg flag sightings

Greater Sand Plover

Burnett Heads – Chris Barnes – 11.2.2016

Black over white or white over black (Shanghai, China) leg flag sightingsBlack-tailed Godwit

Lytton Roost – Arthur & Sheryl Keates – 12, 15 & 16.3.2016

Great Knot

L75 on white flag - Port of Brisbane – Arthur & Sheryl Keates, Barbara Collier & Diedre Chrzescijanski – 14.2.2016

J74 on white flag – Port of Brisbane – Arthur Keates – 24.2.2016

J62 on white flag – Toorbul – Arthur Keates – 27.2.2016

Boonooroo – Arthur Keates – 20.2.2016

Seaforth Beach near Mackay – Denise Holder – 29.2.2016

Pelican Island Claremont Isles National Park – Andrew McDougall – 8.3.2016

Pacific Golden Plover

Bushland Beach near Townsville – Mark Horvath – 19.3.2016

Green over orange (Yalu Jiang Nature Reserve, China) leg flag sightingsBar-tailed Godwit

Toorbul – Alison Nisbett – 21.12.2015

Blue over white band left tarsus, yellow over yellow band right tarsus - three sightings of this same bird at this site on these dates:

Toorbul – Judith Coles – 23.2.2016

- Arthur & Sheryl Keates, Linda & Phil Cross – 27.2.2016

- Brian Coates – 28.3.2016

Blue (Japanese) leg flag sightings – use four combinationsBar-tailed Godwit

Toorbul – Alison Nisbett – blue flag left tibia, orange flag left tarsus – 30.12.2015 – flagged Arao Coast Kyushu Japan

Broad-billed Sandpiper

Port of Brisbane – Arthur Keates - blue flag right tibia, blue flag right tarsus – 29.2.2016 – (flagged Komuke Lake, Hokkaido)

Grey-tailed Tattler

2 birds Lytton Roost – Arthur Keates – 13.2 & 2.3.2016 (flagged Hokkaido)

1 bird Lytton Roost – Arthur Keates, Jimmy Choi, Mavis Gan, Yifei Jia – 6.3.2016 (flagged Hokkaido)

1 bird Lytton Roost – Arthur & Sheryl Keates – 13 & 15.3.2016 (flagged Hokkaido)

1 bird Lytton Roost – Arthur Keates – 16.3.2016 (flagged Hokkaido)

Wellington Point – Renate Hottmann-Schaefer – 20.3.2016 (flagged Hokkaido)

Wynnum Esplanade – Tony Cotter – 4, 5, 16 & 17.4.2016 (flagged Hokkaido)

Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates – 26.4.2016 (flagged Hokkaido)

2 birds Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates – 21.4.2016 (flagged Hokkaido)

Manly Lota Esplanade – Arthur Keates – 12 & 17.4.2016 (flagged Hokkaido)

2 birds Wynnum Esplanade – Tony Cotter – 23.4.2016 (flagged Hokkaido)

Manly Lota Esplanade – Arthur Keates – blue & white flag left tarsus 17.4.2016 (flagged Hokkaido)

Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates – blue & white flag left tarsus 19 & 21.4.2016 (flagged Hokkaido)

Cairns Esplanade – Julia Hazel – 22.4.2016

Toorbul – Linda Cross & Arthur Keates – 23.4.2016

White over orange (Korea) leg flag sightingsLesser Sand Plover

Pelican Island Claremont Isles Nat Park – Andrew McDougall – 8.3.2016

BIRDS FLAGGED INTERSTATE - sighted in Qld**Orange (Victoria) leg flag sightings**Bar-tailed Godwit

CHH – Oyster Point – Penn Lloyd – 11.11.2015

CHH – Oyster Point – Penn Lloyd – 22.3.2016

Plain flag – Boonooroo – Arthur Keates – 20.2.2016

Plain flag – Boonooroo – Linda Cross – 21.2.2016

Plain flag - Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates – 23.2.2016
 Plain flag - Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates, Jimmy Choi, Mavis Gan – 6.3.2016
 Plain flag - Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates, Melissa Whitby – 26.3.2016
 Plain flag – Thornside Queens Esplanade – Kristy Currie – 12.3.2016

Great Knot
 Plain flag – Toorbul – Alison Nisbett – 21.12.2015

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
 Plain flag – Bundaberg Port - Chris Barnes – 20.3.2016

Yellow (Western Australia) leg flag sightings

Great Knot
 Plain flag – Maaroom – Arthur Keates Sheryl Keates – 21.2.2016

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 two other projects 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.

C4 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates & Melissa Whitby – 26.3.2016
 C4 – Wynnum Esplanade – Tony Cotter – 8.4.2016

Other leg flag sightings and banded birds

Caspian Tern

E1 on orange flag left tarsus - Kakadu Beach – Michael Strong – 21.2.2016
 1 orange flag left tarsus – Kakadu Beach Bribie Island – Michael Strong – 6.3.2016
 E6 on orange flag left tarsus – Toorbul – Mary Hynes – 2.4.2016
 E6 on orange flag left tarsus – Toorbul – Linda Cross & Arthur Keates – 23.4.2016
 E3 on orange flag left tarsus - Kakadu Beach – Michael Strong – 10.4 & 8.5.2016
 47 on orange flag right tarsus – Toorbul – Linda & Phil Cross – 11 & 23.4.2016
 37 on orange flag right tarsus – Toorbul – Linda & Phil Cross – 23.4.2016
 24 on orange flag right tarsus – Buckleys Hole Sandbar – Michael Strong – 24.4.2016
 1 orange flag right tarsus – Buckleys Hole Sandbar – Michael Strong – 24.4.2016
 ELF orange flag unable to read – Port of Brisbane – Arthur & Sheryl Keates – 10.4.2016

Little Tern

Green flag ALX – South Ballina Beach NSW – Steve McBride – 16.4.2016
 Green flag ALX – Evan's Head NSW – Steve McBride – 30.4.2016

Count Programme - Linda Cross

Thank you for your patience once again during my backlog of work and recent bereavement. All counts up to the end of April are now validated and ready to upload into the database.

I would like to remind counters that the National Winter Count is set down for 4 June. Ideally we would like everyone to survey their site on this important count date. If you are unable to complete the survey, can you please let me know and I will try to arrange for someone to do the count for you (if there is someone available). There is also a reasonable tide height to conduct a count in July as well, so if you have the time to do a survey we would appreciate receiving as many counts as possible.

I have to apologise for not welcoming a new counter to the Count Programme in the previous newsletter. Judith Coles has taken over Wickham Point from Barb Dickson. Judith has been a stand-in counter for Barb for quite some time, but took over completely in January this year. We also would like to welcome 3 other new counters to the programme. Bill Price, Peter Tierney and Cecile Espigole have already submitted counts for

3 sites in Boonooroo and also Thangawan Creek which is situated between Boonooroo and Maaroom. Bill has been assisting John Bell at the Maaroom site for a number of years, and has also done the counts when John has been away. Peter hails from Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and was regularly involved in the Great Sandy Strait surveys QWSG has conducted for many years, but now Peter is in retirement he has more time to devote to wader counts. Joining both Bill and Peter during the counts is Cecile, who is new to waders but learning very fast with two good teachers. It is Cecile's responsibility to enter the counts on the website, and she is doing an excellent job as I don't have any queries to ask her about the entries. Boonooroo sites have not been counted on a regular basis for many years, and as these 3 sites hold a good variety and number of species it will be beneficial to have more records for the database. We look forward to a long relationship with Judith, Bill, Peter and Cecile, and we hope you will enjoy the experience.

Some of the less common species that have appeared on counts the last couple of months include:

87 Sanderling – Mirapool Beach, Moreton Island – 08.04.16
2 Asian Dowitcher – Maaroom – 21.02.16 (1 on site the day before)
1 Wandering Tattler – Point Vernon, Hervey Bay – 21.02.16
2 Wood Sandpiper – Garnet's Lagoons, Hervey Bay – 21.02.16 (1 bird still on site during the March and April counts).

Following are some migratory species numbers extracted from counts:

Double-banded Plover – The earliest record for this winter visitor from across the Tasman was 12 March (count day) when it was recorded at 6 sites, increasing to 12 sites in April. Most records are in very low numbers, with the highest count being 15 at the sandbank off Amity Point on 08.04.16. The next best total was 14 at Manly Harbour on 03.04.16 and 12 at Mirapool Beach, Moreton Island on 08.04.16. Hopefully the winter counts will produce greater numbers.

Eastern Curlew – As recorded in the previous newsletter, Geoff Skinner Reserve again recorded the highest count for this species with 341 recorded on 13.02.16, and numbers dropped to 230 during the March count. The next best count was 194 at King Street mudflat at Thornlands followed by 163 at Kakadu Beach roost, Bribie Island.

Whimbrel – Numbers in excess of 100 have been recorded at 8 sites, but the best counts came from Geoff Skinner Reserve west with 286 on 09.04.16, while 364 were recorded at the sandbank off Amity Point on 08.04.16 and 374 at Reeder's Point, Moreton Island on 08.04.16. However, records show that Toorbul is a favoured site for this species with counts of 329 on 15.03.16 followed by the highest total of 395 on 11.04.16 and 239 were still on site on 23.04.16.

Bar-tailed Godwit – The largest count for this species was 2,100 at Kakadu Beach roost, Bribie Island on 21.02.16. Maaroom had the next highest count of 2,070 on 13.02.16 and 2,000 on 13.03.16. The only other count in excess of 1,000 birds was at Toorbul on 15.03.16 where 1,250 birds were recorded.

Black-tailed Godwit – Although this species were recorded at 11 sites from February to April, the counts were less than 5 at half the sites and less than 10 at the others. The highest count was 42 at Lytton on 12.03.16 followed by 30 at Dohles Rocks/Osprey House on 15.02.16.

Grey Plover – There are only a few sites that this species are recorded at throughout the state. Port of Brisbane recorded the highest total of 52 on 14.02.16, followed by 26 at Adair Street (site 1) in Boonooroo and 11 at Shellgrit Creek entrance in Mackay on 09.03.16.

Pacific Golden Plover – This species is recorded at many count programme sites, but the better totals came from Luggage Point with a total of 234 on 13.03.16, followed by Shellgrit Creek entrance in Mackay with 278 on 09.03.16 and the best total of 548 at the Port of Brisbane, which is a favoured site for this species in Moreton Bay. One bird was recorded at Bishop's Marsh at Toorbul on 13.02.16, which is unusual for this site.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – Quite a few good counts were recorded for this species with the highest total being 519 at Bundaberg Port on 14.02.16, followed by 507 at Pine Rivers Wetland Reserve on 13.02.16. Other counts include 368 at Redcliffe Airport northside on 13.02.16 and 332 at Bundaberg Port on 13.03.16. An albinistic bird was seen and photographed at Garnet's Lagoons in Hervey Bay in February and March.

Grey-tailed Tattler – The favoured sites for this species in Moreton Bay are Port of Brisbane, Manly Harbour, Toorbul and Lytton. The highest count for Lytton was 302 on 02.03.16, followed by 604 at Toorbul on 11.04.16.

Manly Harbour recorded 636 on 09.04.16 and Port of Brisbane had two large counts of 1,175 on 14.02.16 before the numbers dropped to 947 on 13.03.16.

Terek Sandpiper – It is not often that we get reasonable numbers for this small wader, but there were high counts at both Maaroom and Manly Harbour. Maaroom recorded 180 on 21.02.16 before numbers decreased to 125 on 13.03.16. At Manly Harbour 110 were counted on 06.03.16 and then fell to 85 on 12.03.16, 70 on 03.04.16, then finally to 62 on 09.04.16.

Curlew Sandpiper – The best counts for the species came from the Port of Brisbane on 14.02.16 with 808 recorded, followed by 564 at Lytton No.1 claypan on 09.04.16 and 325 again at the Port of Brisbane on 13.03.16

Broad-billed Sandpiper – This rarer species was recorded at Manly Harbour, Lytton No.1 claypan, the Port of Brisbane reclamation area, the Port of Brisbane artificial roost and Bundaberg Port during February, March and April. Numbers were less than 10 on 5 counts; however, 11 were recorded at Manly Harbour on 12.03.16, 16 at the Port of Brisbane reclamation area on 13.03.16, 39 at the Port of Brisbane artificial roost on 14.02.16 increasing to 43 on 15.02.16, and the largest count being 95 in the Port of Brisbane reclamation area on 10.04.16.

Red-necked Stint – In excess of 600 birds were recorded at 6 sites during the last 3 months, with some of the higher totals being 1,813 at the Port of Brisbane on 13.03.16, 1,408 at Geoff Skinner Reserve east on 09.04.16, 1,013 at Reeder's Point, Moreton Island on 08.04.16 and 852 at Bermuda Avenue claypan, Deception Bay on 11.03.16.

Other individual migratory species sightings are as follows:

17 Common Greenshank – Bundaberg Port – 14.02.16
 1,060 Great Knot – Maaroom – 20.02.16
 37 Marsh Sandpiper – Bundaberg Port – 13.03.16
 31 Red Knot – Maaroom – 21.02.16
 127 Ruddy Turnstone – the Port of Brisbane – 13.03.16
 1,168 Lesser Sand Plover – the Port of Brisbane – 14.02.16

Other totals for waders and interesting sightings are listed under 'Interesting wader sightings' and 'Not waders but of interest anyway' section of this newsletter. Unfortunately due to the limited number of pages allowed for the paper version of this newsletter, the above mentioned section may not appear. However, it should appear in the electronic version.

Breeding records.

Beach Stone-curlew – 1 juvenile reported with two adults at Wave Break Island, Gold Coast on 22.02.16
 Pied Oystercatcher – 6 juvenile at Manly Harbour on 13.02.16 (not necessarily bred on site, in large flock of adults)
 White-headed Stilt – nesting and some chicks at Bundaberg Port on 14.02.16
 Comb-crested Jacana – 2 juvenile at Buckley's Hole, Bribie Island on 13.03.16

Red-capped Plover – 2 chicks at Kinka Beach sandbar, Yeppoon on 09.04.16. One bird displaying at Noosa River sandbanks on 15.02.16 and breeding recorded at Bundaberg Port on 10.04.16.

Counters not entering their counts online, please continue to send them to me at my email or postal address as follows: xenus69@bigpond.com
 Snail mail: 40 Thompson Road, Bellmere. Qld 4510 Phone: 5495 2758

A reminder that Leg flag sightings must not be entered online during count entry. Please also note that flag sightings emailed to Phil should be sent to his new email address phillipcross50@gmail.com
 Please contact Phil or me for the Leg Flag Observation Report Form

Happy counting.
 Linda Cross.

Interesting wader sightings from previous quarter

305 Red-necked Avocet – the Port of Brisbane – 10.04.16
 2 Latham's Snipe – Buckley's Hole, Bribie Island – 13.03.16
 2 Latham's Snipe – Nathan Road, Kippa-ring – 13.02.16
 518 White-headed Stilt – Luggage Point – 13.03.16
 396 White-headed Stilt – Bundaberg Port – 13.03.16
 24 Marsh Sandpiper – Redcliffe Airport northside, Kippa-ring – 18.02.16
 21 Marsh Sandpiper – Bundaberg Port – 14.02.16
 133 Greater Sand Plover – the Port of Brisbane – 14.02.16
 147 Pied Oystercatcher – the Port of Brisbane – 10.04.16
 6 Sooty Oystercatcher – Wickham Point – 09.04.16
 5 Sooty Oystercatcher – Shellgrit Creek entrance, Mackay – 09.04.16
 7 Black-fronted Dotterel – Garnet's Lagoons, Hervey Bay – 12.03.16
 1 Ruddy Turnstone – Toorbul – 23.04.16 (it has been a long time since one of this species has been recorded at this site).

Not waders but of interest anyway

3 Yellow Wagtail – Luggage Point – 13.03.16 (1 seen on 07.02.13)
 2 Black Bittern (one a juvenile) – Endeavour River claypan, Cooktown – 11.02.16
 2 Radjah Shelduck – Buckley's Hole, Bribie Island – 09.04.16
 1 Australasian Shoveler – Bundaberg Port – 14.02.16
 115 Hardhead – Kinka Wetlands, Yeppoon – 12.03.16
 8 Wandering Whistling Duck – Buckley's Hole, Bribie Island – 16.03.16
 1 Black Kite – Lillis Island, Tweed Heads – 13.04.16 (unusual at site)
 1 Brown Falcon – Bermuda Ave, Deception Bay – 11.03.16 (unusual at site)
 1 Pacific Reef Heron – Thornlands – 09.04.16 (unusual at site)
 3 Black-necked Stork – Bundaberg Port – 13.03.16 & 10.04.16
 1 Common Noddy – Noosa River sandbanks – 15.02.16
 3,800 Common Tern – Noosa River sandbanks – 16.03.16
 1,200 Crested Tern – Nojoor Road, Maroochy River – 14.03.16
 939 Little Tern – the Port of Brisbane – 13.03.16
 450 White-winged Black Tern – Nojoor Road, Maroochy River – 14.03.16
 2 Whiskered Tern – Ewan Maddock Dam – 14.02.16
 3 Glossy Ibis – Kinka Wetlands, Yeppoon – 09.04.16
 1 Spotless Crake – Buckley's Hole, Bribie Island – 13.03.16
 1 Buff-banded Rail – Toorbul north sandspit – 13.02.16 (unusual at site)
 5 Brolga – Kinka Wetlands, Yeppoon – 12.03.16
 3 White-necked Heron – Bundaberg Port – 13.03.16
 3 White-necked Heron – Kinka Wetland, Yeppoon – 09.04.16
 18 Lesser Crested Tern – O'Regans Creek westside, Hervey Bay – 09.04.16. Other sightings of this species include 12 at sandbank off Amity Point on 08.04.16, 9 at Finlayson Point north of Mackay on 11.03.16, 3 at St. Helena Island pier on 12.04.16 and 2 at Seaforth Beach creek mouth north of Mackay on 11.03.16.

Wader ID Reports 2016**Manly Harbour Report 20 March 2016**

by Arthur & Sheryl Keates

The 16 BQ and QWSG members attending this outing were treated to excellent views of 14 species of migratory shorebirds and 5 resident species.

On arriving on site, the shorebirds were roosting on the southern end of the island and track, nearest to observers. The glare from the early morning light was not favourable but it was not long before some light cloud cover and a south-easterly provided ideal conditions for viewing the birds.

Hundreds of Bar-tailed Godwit made up the majority of the migratory species, many of them in advanced stages of breeding plumage and looking in good physical condition prompting one to wonder how much longer it would be before they set off on the first leg of their northern migration. Most of the Great Knot were also in advanced breeding plumage and quite chubby.

Looking absolutely resplendent in breeding plumage were good numbers of Lesser Sand Plover in contrast to the 6 Double-banded Plover in non-breeding plumage, a first sighting for some observers of the trans-Tasman migrant. Unfortunately, not all observers were able to get onto a Greater Sand Plover lurking among the plovers and stints.

Queensland green engraved leg flags were observed on Bar-tailed Godwit, Great Knot, Terek Sandpiper, Ruddy Turnstone and Red-necked Stint but no interstate or overseas leg flags were seen.

The following species were seen at the roost site:

Chestnut Teal, Australian Pelican, Little Pied Cormorant, Little Black Cormorant, White-faced Heron, Little Egret, Australian White Ibis, Eastern Osprey, White-bellied Sea-eagle, Pied Oystercatcher, Sooty Oystercatcher, White-headed Stilt, Pacific Golden Plover, Red-capped Plover, Double-banded Plover, Lesser Sand Plover, Greater Sand Plover, Masked Lapwing, Bar-tailed Godwit, Whimbrel, Far Eastern Curlew, Terek Sandpiper, Grey-tailed Tattler, Ruddy Turnstone, Great Knot, Red-necked Stint, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Curlew Sandpiper, Silver Gull, Little Tern, Gull-billed Tern, Caspian Tern and Crested Tern.

Toorbul Wader ID Day Report 23 April 2016

By Linda Cross

The weather was pleasant for our early morning ID session, with a blue sky and calm at first, before a light prevailing south-easterly wind for the rest of the viewing period.

Although it was a long weekend 16 people attended, this included a couple of new members on their first outing and two non members who had seen the outing on the website and asked if they could join us.

The birds were a little flighty, an immature White-bellied Sea Eagle flying over the roost put the birds to flight, as did a couple of other raptors, two planes and other un-known causes of disturbance.

Eleven species of waders were viewed during the few hours we spent at the main roost. Unlike the previous two ID sessions held at this roost, Grey-tailed Tattler were present (and in large numbers), with quite a lot in breeding plumage and looking ready to take to the air for their northern migration. This species is one of the last migratory waders to leave south-east Queensland. Whimbrel numbers were also quite high (239) for this time of year.

A lone Red Knot was seen with the Great Knot and one Ruddy Turnstone was also present, which is unusual for this site.

Most of the Gull-billed Tern present were in breeding plumage, but there was a few in non-breeding along with a young juvenile bird showing the spotting on the wings, which was of interest to some of the group.

There were a number of waders sporting engraved green leg flags (flagged in south-east Queensland), but only three were able to be read.

Other flagged birds included a Grey-tailed Tattler with a blue flag on the left tibia and a metal band on the right tibia (flagged in Japan), and three Caspian Tern with orange engraved leg flags, 37, 47 and E6 (all flagged in Victoria).

Birds seen at Toorbul Roost and environs (F/O – flying over):

Black Swan in the passage, 2 Maned Duck, 1 Australian White Ibis, 1 Royal Spoonbill, 1 White-faced Heron (F/O), 1 Little Egret, 4 Australian Pelican, 1 Eastern Osprey, 1 Whistling Kite (F/O), 1 Brahminy Kite (F/O), 1 White-bellied Sea Eagle (F/O), 6 Pied Oystercatcher, 159 White-headed Stilt, 2 Masked Lapwing, 221 Bar-tailed Godwit, 239 Whimbrel, 64 Far Eastern Curlew, 3 Common Greenshank, 660+ Grey-tailed Tattler, 1 Ruddy Turnstone, 42 Great Knot, 1 Red Knot, 58 Gull-billed Tern, 30 Caspian Tern, Crested Pigeon, Topknot Pigeon (c50 flock flying over to the south), Laughing Kookaburra, Sacred Kingfisher, Rainbow Bee-eater, Galah, Rainbow Lorikeet, Scaly-breasted Lorikeet, Brown Honeyeater, Blue-faced Honeyeater, Noisy Miner, Lewin's Honeyeater, Striated Pardalote, Black-faced Cuckooshrike, Grey Shrikethrush, Spangled Drongo, Willie Wagtail, Grey Fantail, Magpie-lark, Torresian Crow, Welcome Swallow, Common Myna and Mistletoebird..

Bishop's Marsh was dry and not surveyed.

Linda Cross.

Other Conservation Activities of Interest



QWSG is a special interest group of the Birds Queensland Inc. whose object is:
 "To promote the scientific study and conservation of birds by all means possible, with particular reference to the birds of Queensland".

Separate membership is required.

Contacts: President, Jill Brown
 Secretary,
 Treasurer, Wayne Lock

president@birdsqueensland.org.au

secretary@birdsqueensland.org.au

treasurer@birdsqueensland.org.au

Monthly Meetings

Birds Queensland

1st Thursday each month except January, when there is no meeting.

Royal Geographical Society Meeting Room, 237 Milton Road, Milton.

Arrive after 7:15pm for a 7:30pm start.

Dog Disturbance on Shorelines

When people see dogs chasing or disturbing shorebirds,
 Phone the BCC Call Centre 3403 8888 and request a RAPID RESPONSE TEAM be sent.
 Add the number to your mobile.

QWSG MERCHANDISE

Should you wish to purchase any of the QWSG merchandise, Contact Vicki Campbell Phone 07 3378 2964 or email vicki.campbell@cogentia.com.au

Postage is **not** included in prices quoted.

BOOKS	\$35.00	Shorebirds of Australia
METAL BADGES	\$6.50	Metal QWSG logo badges.
CLOTH BADGES	\$8.00	QWSG logo on rectangular bottle-green or sand background

POLO SHIRTS \$42.00.

Our cotton polo shirts are available.
 The locally made shirts are plain bottle or sky
 with contrast collar in sand, or tri-coloured
 sand / cocoa / sky and sand / cocoa / bottle.

Men's sizes: SM - XL



NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members who have joined recently:

Mandy	LISSON
Sree	AIYAR
Gus	DALY
Paul	DALY
Phillipa	CANNON
Tony	ASHWORTH
Ofalia	HO
Austin	NEIL
Samuel	PRICE
Daniel	PHILLIPS
Christine	HENDRY and Family
Cecile	ESPIGOLE
Faye	SMITH
Jane	BARNES
Finn	ROFF-MARSH
Alexander	BLANCO INFANTE
Philip	GESTIER
Ashley	LAWSON

A reminder to members, please let the Treasurer know if you change your email address. If you do please make sure that it does allow delivery and not send downloads to spam.

Many thanks too to those who have included a donation with their renewal or membership fee. This is greatly appreciated as such donations make on-going work possible.

QWSG CONTACTS

QUEENSLAND WADER

www.waders.org.au

The Official Quarterly Publication of
Queensland Wader Study Group

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<u>MERCHANDISE</u>	Vicki Campbell	07 3378 2964	Email vicki.campbell@cogentia.com.au
<u>BQ PRESIDENT</u>	Richard Noske	07 3300 2757	

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All correspondence to:
The QWSG Chairperson,
22 Parker Street,
SHAILER PARK
QLD 4128

CHANGE OF ADDRESS Please notify the Treasurer as soon as possible of any change of address so that your Newsletter can be dispatched correctly.

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A receipt will be forwarded if required.

Forward application to:

QWSG Treasurer,
5 Stanmere St,
CARINDALE,
QLD 4152

Members are reminded their membership expires on the date shown on the newsletter address label, and the membership joining/renewal form is now on the back page. **Note:** that your subscription will fall due twelve (12) months after date of joining the QWSG or date of renewal, and only one further newsletter will be sent after expiry of your subscription.

Copy Deadline for the next issue of Queensland Wader is **August 18th 2016**

Contributions should be addressed to:

David Edwards, the QWSG Editor, 54 Elliott Street, Clayfield, Qld 4011

or E-mail to: gouldian@ozemail.com.au

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admin@jrdsons.com.au



Count Activities – 2016

QWSG High Tide – Monthly Count Program – 2016

Sat 4th Jun	2.11m at 08:32	National Winter Count	Sat 15 th Oct	2.26m at 08:36
Sat 23 rd Jul	1.98m at 11:48		Sat 12th Nov	2.22m at 07:26
Sat 20 th Aug	2.10m at 10:47		Sat 3rd Dec	2.31m at 11:43
Sat 17 th Sep	2.21m at 09:43			

Port of Brisbane Count Dates – 2016

Sun 5th Jun	2.06m at 09:25	Meet	07:35	Nat Winter Count
Sun 24th Jul	1.98m at 12:36	Meet	10:45	
Sun 21st Aug	2.13m at 11:32	Meet	09:40	
Sun 18 th Sep	2.28m at 10:29	Meet	08:40	
Sun 16 th Oct	2.38m at 09:24	Meet	07:35	
Sun 13th Nov	2.39m at 08:17	Meet	06:25	
Sun 4 th Dec	2.26m at 12:22	Meet	10:30	

The Port of Brisbane is a work site and we are doing the survey for the Port and ourselves. Unfortunately we cannot accept people who turn up on the day for a bird watching day.

PLEASE CHECK TO SEE IF YOUR RENEWAL IS DUE!

MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION

A reminder to members: please check to see if your renewal is due and please let the Treasurer know if you change your contact details.

I / We wish to join / renew: (Single: \$15; Family: \$25; Student/Pensioner: \$10)

Title:..... First name:Surname:

Address:..... Membership: \$.....
..... Postcode:..... Donation: \$.....
Payment enclosed: \$.....

Do you require a receipt? Yes / No

Phone: (Home) (Work)(Mobile).....

Email Fax.....

How did you hear about QWSG?.....

Are you a member of Birds Queensland?

What activities do you wish to participate in? (Please circle)

WADER COUNTS, FIELD TRIPS, SCIENTIFIC DATA COLLECTION, SURVEYS, CLERICAL,
OTHER (specify:.....)

Would you like to receive your newsletter (colour version) by E-mail?.....

Signature Date:.....

Please email this form to: membership@waders.org.au

Direct funds transfer to:

Qld Wader Study Group

BSB: 313 140

Account number: 08305297

or

Please post this form to: QWSG Treasurer, 5 Stanmere St CARINDALE QLD 4152.

Cheques to be made out to: Qld Wader Study Group