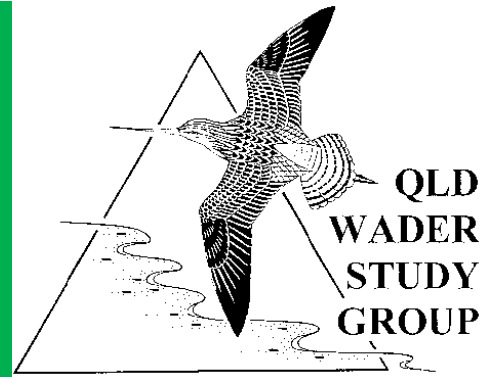


QUEENSLAND WADER



Issue 107

March, April, May 2019

Newsletter of the Queensland Wader Study Group (QWSG), a special interest group of
Queensland Ornithological Society Incorporated. www.waders.org.au
<https://www.facebook.com/QueenslandWaderStudyGroup/>

Chairperson Report to QWSG Annual General Meeting

9th December 2018 by David Edwards

I am pleased to present this report as Chairperson of the Queensland Wader Study Group (QWSG), on behalf of the 2018 QWSG Management Committee. As with so many past reports I start by commenting as to how busy this year has been. The report will highlight some of the achievements and activities of the QWSG over the last 12 months as we continue to promote the protection of wader habitats under threat, and promote the scientific study and conservation of all waders.

However the year had a moment of great sadness with the passing of David Milton, who died in a tragic home accident.

David was a member of the Queensland Wader Study Group (QWSG) as well as Birds Queensland. He was very active within QWSG Committee, becoming the Chairperson for several years.

David's great contribution was through his expertise with data. Through his dealings with the QWSG database he made many important and lasting connections with all levels of government, NGOs and consultants, that only helped his beloved waders. I remember David saying to me that you needed facts, data, reports and results, in order to influence Government. Since his passing we have realised how great was his immaculate handling of our database. Through this network of contacts David helped to establish an on-going relationship between QWSG and the State Government, plus the University of Queensland. He was also co-author on several ornithological papers.

However, David was not just into the database, he was also a very willing participant in all of QWSG's activities from organising and participating in surveys along the east coast of Queensland and Gulf of Carpentaria, taking part in ID days, where he quietly would lead newbies through the maze that is non-breeding wader plumage, to helping with flagging and banding waders at many a cannon or mist-netting outing.

David and his beloved partner Sandra did not limit their love of birds just to waders though, I believe that they were trying to see all of the world's wader species. David's knowledge of waders and his dedication to their conservation will be sorely missed, but he and his dedication will never be forgotten.

We will all miss David for many different reasons, but mainly for the fact that he was a good man.

To Sandra, and to her and David's families we send our on-going deepest sympathies and regards.

One big change in the year was Sheryl Keates's standing down as QWSG Treasurer. Sheryl had two stints (insert joke here) as Treasurer and her dedication and eye for detail cannot be underestimated. She always had the reports ready and helped the editor with up to date details of email addresses and new members. Thanks Sheryl

We were very grateful that Rachelle Harding was able to take over the position. Her knowledge of MYOB has helped bring the Treasurer's work into line with Birds Queensland. We trust that in the near future Rachelle's work will mean that any further changes in personnel will result in a smooth transfer. A huge thank you to Racelle for her first year in the role.

We will have to consider splitting off the Membership from the general finances next year in order to make this huge job manageable as a volunteer position. Many thanks to Wayne Lock and Judith Giles who helped Rachelle

Our collaboration with the Port of Brisbane has also continued this year with the count program continuing and the group continuing to analyse data and provide annual updates and a report for the Port on their shorebird populations. We have also undertaken banding expeditions at the Port. We thank them for their continued interest in waders and their support in many forms.

The newsletter, Queensland Wader, has been presented every quarter with the vast majority of the editions now being sent out as an electronic version. Because of weight restrictions the print version is limited to 18 sides which means that it misses some content, whilst the electronic copy is virtually unlimited, so if you still receive the Newsletter in print form consider the electronic version. Once again, many thanks to Linda and Phil Cross who deliver their content for the Newsletter each quarter and to Arthur Keates for his all contributions on flag sightings, most interesting.

Some of the key activities in 2017, in no particular order of priority are highlighted below:

EDUCATION

As always, a number of wader ID days were held in 2017 with Sheryl and Arthur Keates, Phil and Linda Cross doing the lion's share of the work and coordination at these events. These days are always popular and give an opportunity for not only the education side of the group but also a meet and greet component that is missing at many of our other activities.

The Facebook page is still a very popular addition to our education and information arsenal. Obviously, some pages are a lot more popular than others, but when a page takes off it spreads in many directions seeing our work observed right around the world. A big thank you to Robert Bush's dedication in updating and monitoring the Facebook site, keeping a good balance to the items on offer without overloading it with too many posts. So now visit <https://www.facebook.com/QueenslandWaderStudyGroup/>. Robert is still continuing to produce the school children's wader app and hopes to have it in Android form next year.

This along with Sheryl's work with the Moreton Bay Environmental Centre educating young school children about shorebirds is so exciting and to my mind is key to the future of shorebirds. Using tools like the app to engage with them and reinforcing messaging through other interactions and events will hopefully start developing the next generation of shorebird ambassadors. Sheryl and her helpers have seen 1000+ children this year. Congratulations to all who help in this valuable work.

The QWSG ran a Project Day at the Bower as a BQ event. Although it was a small turn up the attendees were more than keen. The topics covered were the mechanics of doing counts and surveys, wader education, Banding, Flagging and Transmitters and then finishing up with Improving Identification Skills leading to Wader ID.

THE COUNT PROGRAM

Linda Cross again tirelessly organised and managed the count programme in 2018 with monthly counts across a whole range of sites in Moreton Bay and further afield up and down the Queensland coast. Online data entry continues to make life easier in terms of data entry, validation and download and we are looking to improve the user experience further with changes to the online entry of flag sightings. Linda is always looking for new counters so if you know anyone, or would like to count your own site please get in touch with her.

Thanks not only to Linda but to every one of our members who counts as without you, we would not have been able to contribute as much as we have to shorebird conservation and please don't underestimate the value of consistently counting a location over long periods of time. Our count program has been responsible for some very influential discussion on shorebird declines and has influenced opinion throughout the flyway as a result of this dataset and is held in the highest of esteem.

FLAGGING

Many thanks to Phil Cross for his hard work in entering all the flag sightings that come in, not only that but also giving quarterly reports for the Newsletter. I am sure Phil quivers every time he hears Jon is heading out to do a cannon netting trip. As mentioned above we are looking to improve the observer/user experience further with commitment to providing an online entry of flag sightings

BANDING AND GEOLOCATORS

We continued with banding fieldwork throughout the year targeting both migratory and non-migratory shorebirds around Moreton Bay. I thank Jon Coleman for his tireless efforts in preparing for the cannon- and mist-netting days, plus his entering of the resultant data.

The last year was a lot quieter with far fewer birds being caught (see Banding Report). For me the highlight of the year has been seeing the results of the satellite tagged Far Eastern Curlew and Whimbrel and the help from Fudan University in China. It was great to track the progress of these birds. However, it was enlightening to see how the birds moved around Moreton Bay, whether it was before migration or those that stayed. I feel that this sort of local tracking would be of prime importance to our full understanding of our waders, plus give a powerful tool in the protection of waders and their habitat in Moreton Bay.

MEETINGS ATTENDED BY QWSG

State government

During the year the QWSG sent a letter to the Minister to see how Waders (Shorebirds) could be better protected with special reference to 'who has what jurisdiction'. In response to this letter three Committee members met with State Government Mike Ronan and Amelia Selles. There was a very open and frank discussion on a wide range of topics relating to Waders. This has set in train a move to establish a Shorebird Action Plan similar to the Federal Shorebird Action Plan. This work is ongoing.

BirdLife Australia

The QWSG also had a meeting with BirdLife Australia represented by Dan Weller and Connie Lee. Topics discussed included the joint use of data, information for a database of shorebird habitat and any projects for the Gulf or northern Australia.

Yatsu Higata Naturalist Observation Centre's (YNOC) Visit

The QWSG joined with the Brisbane City Council (BCC) to help organise the biannual visit of people from (YNOC). This year represented a combined celebration of the 20th year of the Narashino CC / BCC relationship and the 25th anniversary of the Ramsar Agreement.

13 visitors came out from Narashino, Japan for a very full 4 days that included birding, sightseeing and a mini conference that resulted in the unveiling of a specially commissioned, temporary sculpture, the Flock. This was in three locations and was light up at night.

CVA

CVA lead by Louise Duff organised a shorebird forum that brought together government and NGO to discuss shorebirds in the SE of Queensland. Mark Carey came up from Canberra to represent the Federal Government which showed the level of commitment Canberra has for Shorebirds. There were also representatives from State Government authorities as well as Local Governments present. Gold Coast Waterway Authority and the Port of Brisbane had attendees.

The meeting was broken up into three groups to better discuss topics. I think the outcome was that people were made aware of the overlap of responsibilities and that a political solution is the only long-lasting solution, ie there needs to be clear designation of boundaries, management and enforcement.

QNPS and BCC dog off leash

Preliminary discussions were held to inform us of the projected plans for the trial of dog off leash areas in the BCC area. No areas have been proposed and the process is at the stage of outlines of guidelines. Those present were very aware that it is the waders that are giving areas up, as, at present, dogs should be on leash in nearly all areas of BCC, and there are laws against disturbing migratory waders. We are to be consulted, so we await the guidelines and any announcement of trial areas. We were informed that the University of Queensland will survey and monitor the introduction of any off-leash areas and their surrounds to access the trial.

Other unsung volunteers who don't always make the highlights are Peter Rothlisberg, who maintains our meeting minutes and has the unenviable task of making us all accountable for our actions. To Peter Driscoll who has taken on the Database and has to extract information for various inquiries. To Sandra Harding and Arthur Keates (who's not even a committee member) continue to help draft formal letters and provide advice in relation to legislation, both general and conservation, without whom we would all struggle to understand what is going on. Also, a mention to Arthur of his hard work at maintaining the roost at Manly Boat Harbour, the weeds and Phragmites seem to be endless, but he is slowly winning.

Thank you to every single committee member and also those who undertake non-committee roles such as Flag co-ordinator Phil Cross and Linda Cross our Count Co-ordinator. Thank you also to Rae Clark and BQ for their collaboration throughout the year. We always underestimate the effort required to make a group like this run effectively.

I am sure I have missed someone in this roundup, so to everyone who has contributed to the group in many different ways thank you.

Finally, and most importantly, I have to say thank you to all QWSG members for your support and fieldwork over the last 12 months. Without you we achieve nothing and I hope the 2018 report has shown you how important your support, your counts, and your involvement in everything to do with shorebirds really is.

So here is to a great year for you all, good wader watching.

David Edwards – Chairperson QWSG

9th December 2018

Banding Report to QWSG AGM 9th Dec 2018

2018 was a relatively quiet year in terms of catching effort, for a variety of reasons, but was potentially our most exciting year in terms of results arising from our use of satellite monitoring of both Eastern Curlew and Whimbrel. Catch rates were low early in 2018 as the focus was on catching Eastern Curlew to deploy PTTs and since October, availability of experienced banders due to other commitments have limited the ability to catch birds. 2019 should see a return to more normal numbers being caught.

The number of birds caught was relatively low (see table) and there were visits to Redland Bay (1), Manly Marina (2), Port of Brisbane (2), Coochiemudlo (2), and Geoff Skinner Wetland (1) for catching resulting in 88 birds (including 6 recaptures) caught during the year.

Species	New	Retrap
Bar-tailed Godwit	14	
Broad-billed Sandpiper	1	
Bush Stone-curlew	16	2
Curlew Sandpiper	7	
Eastern Curlew	3	
Great Knot	1	
Greater Sandplover	1	
Pied Oystercatcher	4	1
Red Knot	2	
Red-capped Plover	9	
Red-necked Stint	19	1
Ruddy Turnstone	1	2
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	3	
Whimbrel	1	
White-headed Stilt	82	6

The highlight for 2018 was undoubtedly the success of the tracking effort for both Eastern Curlew, with four trackers deployed, two birds providing a full migration track for both northward and southward migration and one partial northward migration track and Whimbrel. For the latter species 5 devices were deployed with three birds providing full migration tracks to their breeding grounds in northern Russia and back again and two partial tracks for northward migration. Without the involvement and input of UQ as part of their Eastern Curlew research and Fudan University, who provided the devices for Whimbrel this work would not have been anywhere near as successful.

While incredibly informative, and valuable in terms of understanding the issues affecting these birds on migration the most valuable information may have arisen from the local movement data provided by these devices. These movements have provided insights into the utilisation of roosting and feeding behaviour around Moreton Bay which we have only seen brief insights into from leg flag readings. To explore this further we are looking at funding options

to expand this type of monitoring across multiple species to collect much more data on local movements within Moreton Bay.

I won't pre-empt Phil's leg flag report but must acknowledge the efforts of those who regularly read leg flags who have generated many thousands of resightings over the last 12 months. Without this effort the value of the banding is diminished so I remain very grateful to those dedicated recorders who are helping to build a database that will allow us to look at survival rates in some of the more commonly recorded species.

One paper was published last year, with the results of our Grey-tailed tattler leg flag resightings and geolocator results published. This should appear in the next edition of The Stilt. Work on writing up the Pacific Golden Plover Satellite Tracking results has now commenced and this should be submitted for publication during 2019.

Jon Coleman 02-12-2018

Count Coordinator's Report to QWSG AGM 9th Dec 2018

Hardly anything has changed within the count programme during the year, and thankfully our 2017 counter list remained intact with no losses.

There have not been any changes within the count programme during the year. While no new sites have been added, there will probably be one added before the New Year, and a possibility of one old site being resurrected in the New Year. The count list remained intact with only the loss of 2 helpers from 2 sites.

Overall, most sites in the count programme have had been counted monthly, with just the odd month or two when a count was not completed. Unfortunately, no counts have been lodged for Wave Break Sand Island on the Gold Coast this year.

Both Moreton Island and St. Helena Island count sites were surveyed 4 times during the year.

Online entries by counters continued to be excellent and required very few amendments. Sometimes there are lapses of memory about how to enter times and forgetting that one must not hit the "enter" (return) key in the comments box. I have had to remind a few counters that continuous typing is required in this field. The glitches on the website have now been addressed and the site is running very well.

Counts conducted during 2018 are as follows:

- 1,126 counts validated to date and uploaded to database.
- 104 counts validated and waiting to be uploaded to database.
- 1 count waiting to be validated.
- 3 counts to be entered from counters.

That is a total of 1,234 counts (14 more than 2017), for the year from the count programme. There were additional counts added to the database from the Great Sandy Straits survey in January.

Taking the counts conducted figures for 2018, this will give us an approximate number of visits to roosts, which will bring the total to 32,542 since 1992.

Once again, Dez Wells was the most prolific counter with 106 entries followed by Arthur Keates with 82 counts (plus additional Moreton & St. Helena Island counts), which would probably bring his counts to around 100. I was the most prolific enterer of data onto the website with 330 entries.

Manly Harbour was again the most counted site during the year with 38 entries (10 more than last year), and again, Arthur Keates was the reason for 26 of those counts. Kakadu Beach roost on Bribie Island was the second most counted with 35 entries, (10 more than last year), mostly attributed to Michael Strong. The Port of Brisbane Artificial Roost counts for the year totalled 26, followed by 25 counts for Buckley's Hole on Bribie Island.

Without the dedication and tireless work of the counters, the count programme would not exist and QWSG and I sincerely thank them for their efforts.

Regarding to the website, I tried not to bother Jon Coleman too much during the year, but I did need his assistance once or twice to fix a couple of mistakes for me. Yes, I make mistakes too.

I have continued to strive for punctuality with my articles to David Edwards for the newsletter and hope I will do the same in 2019.

My work with Peter Driscoll on the database changeover has been a little hectic at times and another huge learning curve for me, but we appear to be getting on top of things now.

Many thanks to those mentioned above for their assistance during the year, and I would also like to thank the rest of the group (on and off committee) for their committed involvement with the QWSG.

Linda.

Port of Brisbane Report to QWSG AGM 9th Dec 2018

A brief summary of the QWSG's contracted work with the Port of Brisbane Pty Ltd.

I continued to liaise with Sheryl Keates and Rachelle Harding from QWSG, and Jessica Rudd from the Port of Brisbane Pty Ltd (PBPL), to keep the Port counter/induction list up to date, and then ensured Peter Rothlisberg and Nadene Perry (Port of Brisbane) were kept informed accordingly.

In 2017 we were fortunate to have had good weather with only 1 count (October), not taking place due to rain. In total (including today's count), 143 Port counts have been added to the database this year. In addition to the monthly count conducted for the PBPL there have been an additional 14 counts for the Artificial Roost.

Attendance by QWSG members has been quite good, with between 12 and 14 volunteers each month. March and November were exceptions with 18 and 17 respectively in attendance. The highest wader count was recorded in (January), with a total of 9,971 being counted for all sites.

White-out tape is still very much in use when I get the count sheets home to make them readable before I scan and email to the PBPL. Obviously 1 or 2 people still need a lesson before we start counting in 2019.

I would like to thank Craig Wilson, Michael Linde, Nadene Perry and Jessica Rudd from the PBPL for looking after us during the counts.

Thanks also need to go to Peter Rothlisberg for organising the emails and allocating sites, Sheryl Keates and Rachelle Harding for liaising with me on memberships and finally the counters who turn up each month to conduct the count.

Leg Flag Database Report to QWSG AGM 9th Dec 2018

The Qld Wader Study Group leg flag database currently consists of 29,847 records. There have been a huge number of entries added during the last twelve months.

Green Leg flags.

A total of 6034 records of birds with a green flag have been added to the database since the last report, this is quite a significant increase (34%) compared to the equivalent quantity (4490) in the 2017 report. The total recorded in the Moreton Bay region which in this instance includes the Pumicestone Passage was 5897 records, Manly Harbour was the source of 2897 sightings which equates to 49% of the total of green flag sightings recorded in this area. Wynnum Esplanade was the next most productive site for green flags with a quantity of 1153, almost 20% of the total for the area.

Twenty-one different wader species were recorded, numerically the most often entered into the database were Bar-tailed Godwit 1778, Grey-tailed Tattler 1363, Lesser Sand Plover 660, Red-necked Stint 403 and Pied Oystercatcher 322, the cumulative total of these five species is over 76% of the entries for the whole year. The only Grey Plover with a green engraved flag (JT) fitted in this region was recorded 10 times during this period. Pied Oystercatcher AAE was the most often seen and entered into the database, a total of 51 times during the last year.

Plain flags were recorded on 54 entries.

Green flagged birds seen away from Moreton Bay region.

There are 9 records of flagged birds seen at Maaroom, 3 of which were Great Knot AJH and interestingly a Great Knot engraved AJW was seen there in September 2017, this same bird was reported at this location again in September 2018.

Green flagged birds seen interstate.

One Pied Oystercatcher, flag A6, was reported from Iluka in northern New South Wales on two occasions.

Green flags seen overseas.

Overseas sightings of 126 QWSG green leg flags were recorded which is 50 more than last year's quantity of 76. Reports came from 5 different countries as follows:

China – 4 records, all engraved flags on 3 Bar-tailed Godwit and 1 Great Knot.

Japan – 20 records, all engraved flags on 19 Grey-tailed Tattler and 1 Great Knot.

New Zealand – 48 records, all engraved flags on 41 Bar-tailed Godwit and 7 on Red Knot.

South Korea – 53 records, all engraved flags on 48 Bar-tailed Godwit, 2 Great Knot and 3 Ruddy Turnstone. Andreas Kim was the observer for 48 of these sightings. Bar-tailed Godwit AVB was reported 5 times, EC 11 times and PR 10 times.

Taiwan – 1 record of Curlew Sandpiper ACA.

Overseas flagged birds reported as being seen in Queensland.

The number of overseas flagged birds seen in Queensland and added to the database during the last 12 months totalled 316, which is almost double the previous year's quantity.

China.

This year's sightings of birds flagged in China totalled 77 (three more than the previous year).

Black/white combination (Chong Ming-Dao) – 73, of which 46 had engraved white flags.

Green/orange combination (Yalu Jiang) – 1 record on a Bar-tailed Godwit, which was reported from Toorbul.

Green/blue combination (Jiangsu) – 3 sightings of probably the same bird (Lesser Sand Plover) at Manly Harbour on 15th January, 30th March and 7th April 2018.

Japan.

There has been an abundance of Japanese flagged birds this year compared with last year.

Blue (Hokkaido) – 45 records of plain blue flag on left tibia.

Blue/blue combination engraved on right tibia and plain on right tarsus (Lake Komuke Hokkaido) – 2 records from Bushland Beach Townsville.

Blue/white combination (Torinoumi area, Honshu) – 119 records with engraved blue flag.

New Zealand.

In total, 63 entries of birds with either a white or a red flag fitted were found in the database.

Plain White – 1 record on a Red Knot.

White engraved flag – 7 records of Bar-tailed Godwit, 23 of Red Knot.

White flag and 4 band combination – 12 on Bar-tailed Godwit, 18 on Red Knot.

Red flag and 4 coloured band combination – on a Bar-tailed Godwit sighted at Maaroom on 21st October 2017.

Red flag, 4 coloured band combination & geolocator – on a Bar-tailed Godwit sighted at Toorbul on 3rd October 2018, the same bird which hung around for two weeks at the same location in October 2017.

Russia.

Seven records found in the database for this year, one more than last year.

Black/yellow combination – 3 records all on Great Knot with engraved yellow flag (Kamchatka).

Lime green band right tibia (no flag) – 3 records, all on Red Knot (Chukotka).

Yellow/white combination – yellow right tibia and white right tarsus on a Red Knot, flag fitted at Sakhalin Island.

Taiwan.

White/blue combination – Red-necked Stint, which carried an engraved white flag (080) was recorded again at Manly in January 2018, it was seen there in February 2017. We also had two sightings of Greater Sand Plover with plain white over blue flags in the Bushland Beach area early in 2018.

Interstate leg flags seen in Queensland.

Victoria.

A total of 110 sightings of waders with a single orange flag were recorded, which was almost a 50% increase on the 74 reported last year. An engraved leg flag was recorded on 48 of the records, 27 on Bar-tailed Godwit, 4 on Curlew Sandpiper, 1 on Great Knot, 12 on Red Knot and 4 were engraved but unread. A plain orange flag was recorded on 62 entries.

Probably the most unusual record for the whole year was a South Island Pied Oystercatcher (SIPO), with a red flag seen at Clontarf, this species is rarely recorded in Australia. A New Zealand species with a NZ coloured flag would be very surprising in Australia but it becomes more involved when you find out the flag was fitted in Victoria, they have a study in which Pied Oystercatchers are fitted with a red flag. The flag was fitted because the bander had not identified this bird as a SIPO. To further add to this convoluted tale, the observer photographed the bird in September 2017 but did not notice the flag and send me the information until months later, so it appears in this year's report not last years.

New South Wales.

There were 8 reports for engraved yellow flagged Australian Pied Oystercatcher, 4 were on islands in the Moreton Bay region and 4 were on the mainland in the Wynnum & Manly areas.

Western Australia.

This year a huge jump in the quantity of records (11) of yellow flagged birds compared to 1 only in last year's report, Red Knot accounted for 10 entries in a four-week period in September 2018 and 1 was recorded in December 2017.

On behalf of the QWSG, Phil would like to pass on his sincere thanks to all of the 65 people who have taken the time to observe, record and report all of these leg flag sightings to him. Please continue to look for leg flags and report them.

A Huge "Thank You" to Andrew Geering

Andrew Geeing has been associated with the Queensland Wader Study Group from its very early days. As of this year Andrew has had to stand down from the QWSG Committee, this is due to his increasing family and work commitments. Andrew felt that his time, quite naturally, is being taken up more and more with the children, plus the many overseas trips that he has to make, was limiting his ability to contribute fully to the Committee.

Andrew has been on the Committee of the QWSG from those very early pioneering days, helping to establish so much of what is now the day to day running of the Group. Andrew has held most of the executive positions on the Committee culminating in Chairperson.

Andrew was always available to help at the many QWSG functions being seen at ID days etc. He always gave very informative talks at our Wader Courses bringing a scientific outlook to his presentations. He was also instrumental in getting our book, "Shorebirds of Australia" over the line, his organisation and relentless drive made the book happen.

In thanking Andrew, we must also give thanks to Margaret. As the saying goes 'behind every great man there is a great woman', Margaret has always been with Andrew helping to get things done.

Once again "Thank You, Andrew". We will keep a chair ready for you when you return to the Committee. David Edwards, Chairperson for the Committee and QWSG Membership.

Protecting Waterbird Habitats to Combat the Impacts of Climate Change

Wetlands may not look as picturesque as flowery meadows or verdant rainforest, but that doesn't mean they're not important. As well as acting as carbon sinks and shock absorbers for extreme weather events, they are also essential rest and refueling stops for thousands of waterbirds as they migrate along coasts and continents.

That's why the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (especially as Waterfowl Habitat) aims to preserve waterbirds by helping to maintain networks of important bird habitat sites.

In working towards this aim, Wetlands International, in partnership with Governments, Universities and other conservation NGOs (including BirdLife International) has developed the Climate Resilient Flyway (CRF) project.

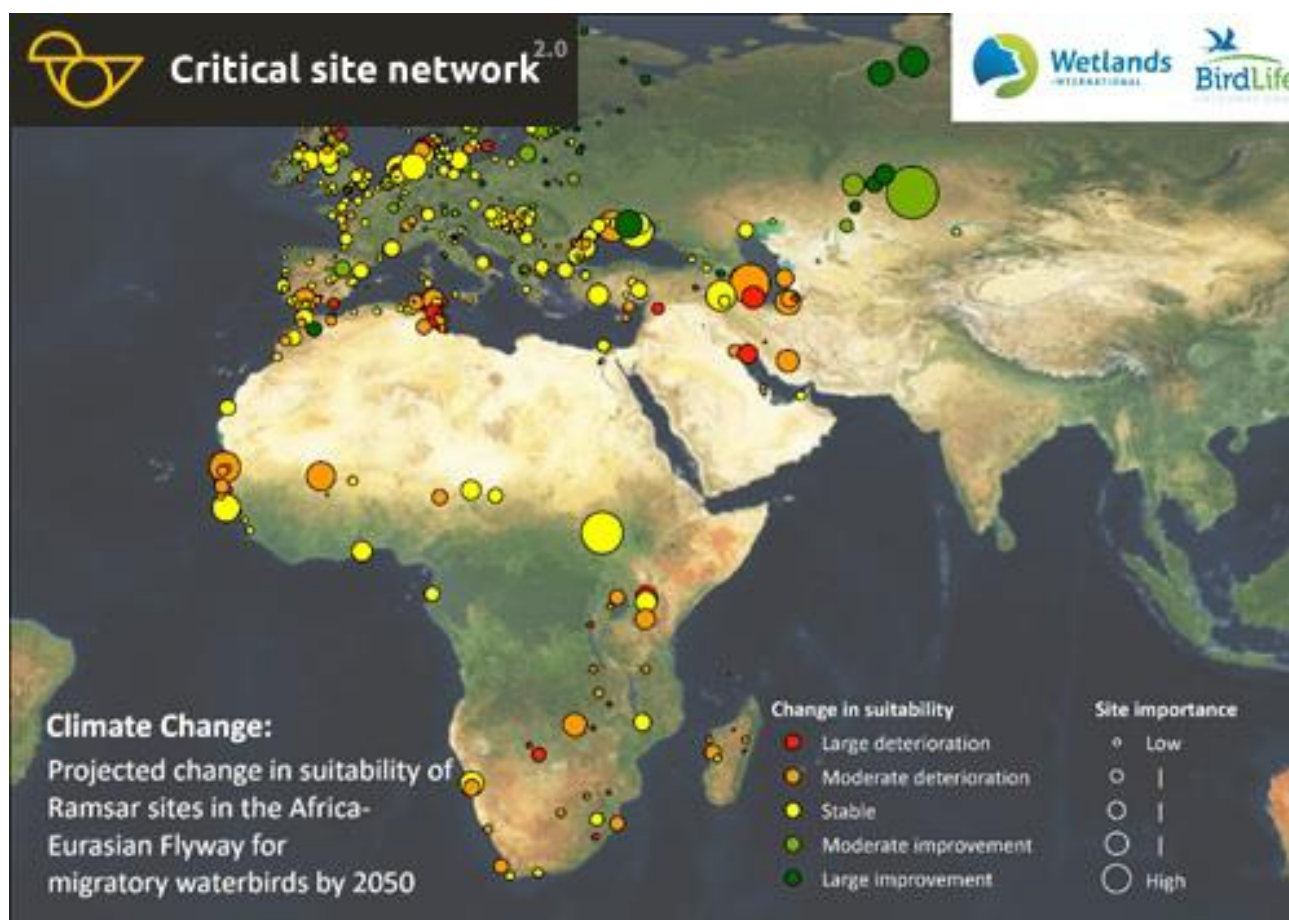
The CRF project assesses the vulnerability of critical waterbird habitats along the African-Eurasian Flyway to the impacts of climate change, and supports National and site-level demonstration projects at the Inner Niger Delta, Mali and at Lake Abijatta, Ethiopia.

Understanding the vulnerability of these 'Critical Sites' helps to ensure their preservation and resilience to climate change. To aid in this process, the CRF project has developed the Critical Sites Network Tool 2.0 (CSN), which uses Ramsar Criteria 2 and 6 to make predictions on the future health of wetlands for their qualifying waterbird species resulting from the impacts of climate change. "To make predictions, the CSN uses a range of waterbird species datasets, such as Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas as identified by BirdLife International, and the IUCN Red List, for which BirdLife is the global authority for birds" said Dr Ashton Berry, BirdLife's Global Climate Change Programme Coordinator.



Hula Valley Reserve is a key stopover for migrating birds on the African-Eurasian Flyway © Protasov AN

Funded by the International Climate Initiative on the basis of a decision adopted by the German Bundestag, the CSN promotes climate change adaptation planning by making information available on predicted changes in freshwater flow and inundation, the distribution of waterbird populations and the suitability of wetlands to form critical sites.



The CSN tool is already proving its value by predicting that at least 30% of Ramsar Sites along the African-Eurasian flyway will be under threat by 2050. The situation is particularly alarming in Africa where almost 60% of the Ramsar Sites are likely to deteriorate, and only one site is likely to improve. Deterioration of these wetlands is linked to the significant range reductions of waterbird populations due to local and long-distance impacts of climate change. Many of the vulnerable sites are situated in arid and semi-arid regions where only small changes in rainfall can have a huge impact.

"We can reduce the impact of climate change on waterbirds by introducing more sustainable management practices, such as reducing the rate of water extraction, and by conserving a comprehensive and coherent network of wetlands across the flyway" said Mr Merijn van Leeuwen, Overall Project Manager of the CRF project. "In many cases, applying nature-based solutions that integrate the requirements of people and nature are the only viable option to maintain a functioning network of wetlands used by waterbirds along their flyway" he said.

Please contact Wetlands International (Szabolcs.Nagy@wetlands.org) or BirdLife International (science@birdlife.org) if you would like to discover more about these tools.

This article was first published by BirdLife International on 01 Feb 2019.

Leading scientists call for re-evaluation of funding models

In the wake of statistics that reveal NGOs have some of the most highly-cited scientific papers, scientists from BirdLife, the RSPB and the BTO are calling for a re-evaluation of UK funding models.



An

RSPB researcher setting a trail camera © rspb-images By Stuart Butchart

In the field of biodiversity conservation, you might think that scientific research happens in universities, whereas charities and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) run campaigns and implement actions on the ground. However, this traditional perspective is no longer valid. Some academics get directly involved in conservation projects and engage in policy design and implementation, while nature conservation NGOs increasingly undertake research themselves. Indeed, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) launched the RSPB Centre for Conservation Science in 2014, and BirdLife International's science division has doubled over the last decade, while the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) is an institution dedicated to undertaking research and monitoring to inform the public and decision-makers.

So where is the highest impact research on biodiversity conservation undertaken? One measure of the impact of a paper in a scientific journal is the number of times that other researchers refer to it in their papers. Influential research papers gain more citations. Averaging the number of citations across all papers published by scientists from a particular institution provides one metric of the overall impact of that institution's research.

Such statistics are conveniently compiled by Web of Science. Its 'InCites Essential Science Indicators' show that for papers published in the field of 'environment/ecology' during the last decade, five of the top six highest ranking UK institutions (out of the 61 located in the UK) are NGOs or institutions other than universities. BirdLife International ranks 1st, the RSPB ranks 4th and the BTO ranks 6th. While the volume of outputs from these organisations may be smaller, their research tends to have greater impact – using this particular metric – than that of virtually all UK universities.

UK rank	Institution	Global rank	Mean citations/paper in Environment/ecology
1	BirdLife International	24	38.70
2	Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew	28	36.69
3	Zoological Society of London	50	32.29
4	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds	52	32.25
5	University of Reading	59	31.63
6	British Trust for Ornithology	60	31.49
7	University of East Anglia	68	30.12
8	University of Leeds	77	29.65
9	University of Aberdeen	81	29.36
10	University of Birmingham	91	28.92

Data from Web of Science InCites Essential Science Indicators

Scientific research in the UK is primarily funded by seven disciplinary research councils, which were recently merged into a single body, UK Research and Innovation, to boost efficiency and increase impact of its £6 billion annual budget. One of these bodies, the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), funds research on the physical, chemical and biological processes on which our planet and life itself depends.

Given that one of NERC's strategic aims is to support research with the greatest societal impact, it would be reasonable to assume that a fair chunk of their funding in the field of environment/ecology is directed to NGOs undertaking this sort of research, given the statistics above showing that their papers in this field are cited more highly than those of nearly all UK universities.

The numbers tell a very different story, however. NERC's net expenditure was £1.86 billion over the last five years. Considerably less than one tenth of one percent (0.025%) was granted to the BTO, RSPB and BirdLife over this period.

Part of the explanation for this may be because NERC's guidance asks grant reviewers to assess 'originality, quality and significance' and whether 'extremely important scientific questions' are addressed. The research needed to inform biodiversity conservation need not be particularly original or important from a purely scientific perspective, yet is of considerable societal interest.

In a letter to Nature published this week, leading scientists from BirdLife International, RSPB and BTO suggest that NERC could better deliver its strategy by directing greater resources to non-governmental and other organisations outside traditional universities that deliver societal impact through research enhancing the conservation of biodiversity upon which people depend.

This could be achieved by asking grant reviewers to increase the weight given to the potential societal significance of proposed research relative to its scientific originality, and/or by targeting funding through directed programmes specifically addressing conservation issues.

Even a fractional adjustment could substantially strengthen UK research on biodiversity conservation issues, and benefit nature worldwide.

Editor's Note: from BirdLife 13th Feb 2019. A great incentive to keep getting out there and doing your counts for science and for our waders.

Interesting Oystercatcher from New Zealand

I have been assured that the photographers are reputable, so it is not a PhotoShop, then what is it.

Here is an explanation from Gordana Pozvek: It may be that the genetic mutation causing the short-legged trait in this Pied Oystercatcher is a form of achondroplasia which is typically associated with short legs.

Achondroplasia is a bone growth disorder that causes dwarfism. In humans with this condition, there is a problem in the ossification process that converts cartilage to bone. Mutations in the FGFR3 gene that is involved in the development and maintenance of bone cause achondroplasia.



Manly Roost on the King Tide 20th Feb 2019

From Arthur and Sheryl Keates – attached are photos taken at Manly roost yesterday. The smaller species, sand plovers and stints along with golden plover and oystercatcher as well as some curlew sandpipers were in the dry dredge spoil area.





Very interesting. Maybe we will need lots of floating roosts with climate change. I wonder what the predicted sea level rise is for Manly. From Sandra Harding.



If Oma keeps coming the way she is, there might not be any birds, or anywhere for us to walk at Manly on Sunday!!! From Linda Cross, worried about the ID day

Count Programme - Linda Cross

Following on from previous newsletters, I have continued recording wader species and numbers in the table below for the last 7 sites within the count programme. Although not in Queensland, all but 1 of the sites have been in the count programme since early 1994. List as per IOC taxonomic order.

Species	TWEN 3 Jan 19	TWTI 3 Jan 19	TWSB 3 Jan 19	TWLI 3 Jan 19	TWTR 3 Jan 19	TWGR 3 Jan 19
Pied Oystercatcher	2			2		
Sooty Oystercatcher	1					
Pied Stilt				6	103	1
Red-necked Avocet					28	
Masked Lapwing						
Pacific Golden Plover	2					
Bar-tailed Godwit					14	29
Whimbrel		1		5	5	1
Far Eastern Curlew		2	2	3	12	1

TWEN – Tweed River Entrance

TWTI – Tony's Island, Tweed Heads

TWLI – Lillis Island, Tweed Heads

TWGR – The Grange, Tweed Heads

TWUP – Ukerebagh Passage, Tweed Heads

TWSB – Shallow Bay, Tweed Heads

TWTR – Trute's Bay, Tweed Heads

The 7 Tweed Heads sites are counted by the following people: Laurel Allsopp, Faye Hill, Rob Mackenzie, Helen Manning and Kathy Wilk. No waders were recorded at Ukerebagh Passage site during the January count. In addition to wader species there are many waterbirds recorded on all sites

There were some records of juvenile Bar-tailed Godwit within flocks that did not make the last newsletter, which I have included below. The proportion of juvenile to adults reported for 2018 are very low compared to 2017 records.

Site	Date	Number of Bar-tailed Godwits	Juveniles in flock	%
Port of Brisbane complex	01.11.18	235	2	0.008
Port of Brisbane complex	02.11.18	247	3	0.012
Port of Brisbane complex	09.11.18	334	4	0.012
Lytton	09.11.18	44	0	0.000
Kakadu Beach Bribie Island	24.11.18	586	4	0.007
Toorbul	24.11.18	663	5	0.007
Manly Harbour	01.12.18	950	2	0.002
Caboolture River Mouth	07.12.18	175	2	0.011
Port of Brisbane complex	22.12.18	1262	3	0.002

The only other additional records of juvenile species within flocks reported are in the table below.

Site	Date	Species	Number of birds	Juveniles in flock	%
Port of Brisbane complex	09.11.18	Pacific Golden Plover	4	1	0.25
Kianawah Road Wetland	09.11.18	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	9	1	0.11
Port of Brisbane complex	09.11.18	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	182	<8	0.04
Noosa River Sandbanks	10.12.18	Ruddy Turnstone	3	1	0.03

This summer season continued to bring rarer species to count sites within the count programme. The artificial roost at the Port of Brisbane Pty Ltd (PBPL), complex has played host to a few of them bringing a flurry of twitchers from around the states to view them. They have also been first records for the PBPL database. One species in particular (Buff-breasted Sandpiper), which is possibly the same bird that made a brief appearance to Pine Rivers wetlands area on 27.10.18, was spotted at the artificial roost on 15 December 2018, and has been recorded at the site on many occasions since that date. The bird was also recorded at the site during our recent surveys at the PBPL complex on 10.02.19.



Along with the Buff-breasted Sandpiper there have been regular sightings of an Asian Dowitcher and Broad-billed Sandpipers, making the site more attractive to twitchers. On 12.01.19 a Long-toed Stint was also recorded on site, but then moved on to another area of Brisbane. The first record for Beach Stone-curlew was also recorded at the artificial roost in the PBPL complex on 06.11.18.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper

Photograph by Sean Nolan at Port of Brisbane complex on 16.12.18

Another Asian Dowitcher has also been recorded 3 times in the Pumicestone Passage using the Toorbul roost and the Kakadu Beach roost on Bribie Island during the month of November.

Pectoral Sandpiper is also a rarer species, and has been recorded during the summer period, appearing at the following sites:

- 1 at Garnet's Lagoon No. 1, Hervey Bay on 10.11.18
- 2 at Garnet's Lagoon No. 1 and No. 2, Hervey Bay on 08.12.18
- 1 at Pine Rivers Wetland Reserve on 08.12.18
- 1 at Dohle's Rock's Road Pond (opposite Osprey House), on 13.12.18
- 1 at Queensland Aluminium entrance pond, Gladstone on 10.01.19
- 1 at Garnet's Lagoon No. 1 on 12.01.19



Asian Dowitcher

Photograph by Gillian Matthew
At Toorbul on 05.01.19



Pectoral Sandpiper

Photograph by John Knight at Garnet's Lagoons,
Hervey Bay on 10.11.18

With the very dry conditions most of Queensland experienced before and during the day set down for the National Summer Count, it was no surprise to see several comments saying, "No Birds" (including 2 of our own sites), recorded on count entries. Some well-known sites (such as Buckley's Hole), are the driest they have been for a long time. However, the lower water levels attracted Latham's Snipe to these sites where they were recorded for the count programme.

Some of the counters have commented on species starting to colour-up, which is a clear indication that northward migration is about to begin. Viewing the waders in the various stages of breeding plumage makes a pleasant change from looking at them for months in non-breeding plumage.

I have been told that watching birds take off and depart on their northward migration is an inspiring and emotional experience. To witness this natural phenomenon, a little bit of planning is essential. The optimum period is from the end of March through to the end of April, although of course birds will depart before and after that period. Check the tide times when the mudflats are exposed in the late afternoon, ideally on an incoming tide. On the chosen days, favourable weather conditions, particularly a southerly or south-easterly wind, are what the birds will be wanting to help them on their way. Pick a vantage point from where you can see the birds on the mudflats and have an unimpeded view of their likely northerly route. While birds are feeding on the mudflats, look for birds behaving differently. The birds' pre-migration involves bathing, preening, wing-stretching and often lifting off the ground. If you are close enough, you will hear the birds chattering. If you see a flock with this behaviour, keep watching them. When the birds sense the time and conditions are right, they will take off, possibly circle overhead, before climbing higher and setting off. Make sure the birds are not merely flying to a nearby roost or other feeding grounds (in which case they will fly closer to the surface of the water or mudflats). Several attempts may be required before seeing a flock depart. Thanks to Arthur Keates for writing this paragraph for me to place in this article. I must make the effort to witness this special event myself sometime.

As the waders we have been looking at through the summer head north, eyes should be trained on the smaller waders from now on for the arrival of those cross Tasman visitors (Double-banded Plover), that come to our shores to escape the winter conditions in New Zealand. A count entry on the website from Arthur Keates dated 14.02.18 records the first arrival of 1 bird to the Manly Harbour roost.

Listed below are some high migratory wader counts extracted from the count programme for the last few months. Additional high migratory and resident wader counts can be found in the "Interesting wader sighting" section.

677 Far Eastern Curlew – East Geoff Skinner Reserve – 09.02.19
 653 Far Eastern Curlew – George Bishop Causeway Toorbul – 09.02.19
 424 Far Eastern Curlew – site1 and site 2 combined, Boonooroo – 09.02.19
 382 Whimbrel – Toorbul – 24.11.18
 4,762 Bar-tailed Godwit – Dead Tree Beach, Moreton Island – 07.01.19
 2,700 Bar-tailed Godwit – Kakadu Beach roost, Bribie Island – 23.12.18
 380 Black-tailed Godwit – Dohle's Rocks Road Pond (opposite Osprey House) – 13.12.18
 68 Grey Plover – site 1 Boonooroo – 09.02.19
 49 Grey Plover – Mirapool Beach, Moreton Island – 07.01.19
 836 Pacific Golden Plover – Port of Brisbane complex – 10.02.19
 28 Common Greenshank – site 3 Boonooroo – 11.01.19
 26 Common Greenshank – West Geoff Skinner Reserve – 08.12.18
 6 Latham's Snipe – Garnet's Lagoons No.1 and No. 2 combined, Hervey Bay – 10.11.18
 4 Latham's Snipe – Buckley's Hole, Bribie Island – 03.02.19
 690 Great Knot – Maaroom – 09.02.19
 149 Red Knot – site 1 and site 2 combined, Boonooroo – 07.11.18 (possibly the southward migration stragglers)
 82 Marsh Sandpiper – Maaroom – 12.01.19 (81 birds recorded on site 09.02.19)
 90 Ruddy Turnstone – Port of Brisbane complex – 13.01.19
 569 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – Port of Brisbane complex – 09.12.18
 559 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – Luggage Point – 11.11.18
 500 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – Bundaberg Port – 18.11.18
 122 Sanderling – Mirapool Beach, Moreton Island – 07.01.19
 971 Grey-tailed Tattler – Manly Harbour – 19.01.19
 2 Wandering Tattler – Gable's Point Rocks, Hervey Bay – 07.12.18
 1 Common Sandpiper – Endeavour River Mouth, Cooktown – 12.01.19
 851 Grey-tailed Tattler – Port of Brisbane complex – 11.11.18
 75 Terek Sandpiper – Manly Harbour – 01.12.18
 223 Greater Sand Plover – Port of Brisbane complex – 09.12.18
 898 Lesser Sand Plover – Port of Brisbane complex – 09.12.18
 2,224 Curlew Sandpiper – Port of Brisbane complex – 11.11.18
 38 Broad-billed Sandpiper – Port of Brisbane complex – 09.12.18
 30 Broad-billed Sandpiper – Manly Harbour – 08.12.18
 2,706 Red-necked Stint – Port of Brisbane complex – 11.11.18
 2,122 Red-necked Stint – Luggage Point – 11.11.18

There was an amusing note in the comments section next to an entry for Pied Oystercatcher on the Maroochy River Goat Island count for 12.11.18 written by Robbie Leslie. It said "Pecking at plastic snakes on pontoon. These snakes are supposed to discourage the birds!"

Breeding records:

Beach Stone-curlew – chick hatched at Kakadu Beach roost, Bribie Island on 07.11.18 but was reported dead on 10.11.18. Kakadu Beach roost birds bred again and 1 large chick with adults reported on 03.02.19.

Bush stone-curlew – 2 chicks with adults at Luggage Point on 09.12.18.

Pied Oystercatcher – 2 chicks at Port of Brisbane complex on 06.11.18, a juvenile bird at Queensland Aluminium Limited complex Gladstone on 09.11.18, an immature bird at Oyster Point on 10.12.18, nesting at Kakadu Beach roost, Bribie Island on 23.12.18 and 1 juvenile at Dead Tree Beach, Moreton Island on 07.01.19.

Pied Stilt – a bird on a nest at Port of Brisbane complex on 09.11.18 and 3 nests at Queensland Aluminium Limited complex, Gladstone on 10.01.19.

Masked Lapwing – 2-week-old chick with adult at Maaroom on 10.11.18 and nesting at Kakadu Beach roost, Bribie Island on 23.12.18.

Black-fronted Dotterel – adult pair with 1 runner at Dohle's Rocks Road Pond (opposite Osprey House), on 12.01.19

Red-capped Plover – broken wing display by pair (suggesting nesting), at Mirapool Beach, Moreton Island and 1 chick at Endeavour River Claypan in Cooktown on 10.01.19.

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 myself for the Leg Flag Observation Report Form.

Happy counting.
Linda Cross.

Interesting wader sightings

- 387 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – Cairns Esplanade – 08.12.18
- 367 Curlew Sandpiper – Manly Harbour – 08.12.18
- 4 Beach Stone-curlew – Kakadu Beach roost, Bribie Island – 03.02.19
- 4 Bush Stone-curlew – Dunwich 1-mile, North Stradbroke Island – 30.11.18
- 229 Pied Oystercatcher – Port of Brisbane complex – 10.02.19
- 2 Sooty Oystercatcher – Tweed River Entrance, Tweed Heads – 29.12.18
- 410 Pied Stilt – Kakadu Beach roost, Bribie Island – 06.01.19
- 398 Pied Stilt – Nathan Road East, Redcliffe – 12.01.19
- 285 Red-necked Avocet – Kedron Brook Wetlands – 09.12.18
- 189 Red-necked Avocet – Trute's Bay, Tweed Heads – 18.11.18
- 44 Comb-crested Jacana – Garnet's Lagoons No. 1 and No.2 combined, Hervey Bay – 10.11.18
- 195 Red-capped Plover – Shellgrit Creek Entrance, Mackay – 06.11.18
- 189 Red-capped Plover – Queensland Aluminium Limited complex, Gladstone – 07.12.18
- 53 Red-kneed Dotterel – Garnet's Lagoons No 1 and No.2 combined, Hervey Bay – 08.12.18
- 19 Black-fronted Dotterel – Queensland Aluminium Limited complex, Gladstone – 07.12.18

Not waders but of interest anyway

- 1,257 Little Tern – Port of Brisbane complex – 10.02.19
- 750 Whiskered Tern – Bundaberg Port Swamp – 18.11.18
- 337 Whiskered Tern – Luggage Point – 09.12.18
- 256 Whiskered Tern – Garnet's Lagoons No 1 and No. 2 combined, Hervey Bay – 10.11.18
- 5 White-winged Black Tern – O'Regan's Creek Westside, Hervey Bay – 08.12.18
- 2 White-winged Black Tern – Port of Brisbane complex – 09.12.18
- 600 Common Tern – Maroochy River Northshore – 12.01.19
- 1,307 Crested Tern – Noosa River sandbanks – 15.11.18
- 317 Gull-billed Tern – West Geoff Skinner Reserve – 08.12.18
- 20 Yellow-billed Spoonbill – Garnet's Lagoon No 1, Hervey Bay – 12.01.19
- 3 Black Bittern – Endeavour River Claypan, Cooktown – 04.02.19
- 3 Pied Heron – Endeavour River Claypan, Cooktown – 04.02.19
- 1 Spotted Crake – Bundaberg Port – 18.11.18

3 Buff-banded Rail – Luggage Point – 11.11.18
 2 Brolga – Kinka Wetlands, Yeppoon – 12.01.19
 2 Black-necked Stork (1 adult and 1 immature) – Endeavour River Claypan, Cooktown – 07.11.18
 21 Wandering Whistling Duck – Endeavour River Claypan, Cooktown – 19.12.18
 2 Pink-eared Duck – Nathan Road East, Redcliffe – 12.01.19
 40 Magpie Goose – Bundaberg Port – 18.11.18
 31 Magpie Goose – Bundaberg Port complex – 10.02.19
 12 Magpie Goose gosling observed with 4 adults – Port of Brisbane complex – 09.12.18
 254 Black Swan – Pelican Waters, Caloundra – 12.01.19
 2,400 Pied Cormorant – Sandbank off Amity Point – 07.01.19
 5 Great Cormorant – The Grange, Tweed Heads – 29.12.18
 54 Glossy Ibis – Nathan Road Wetland, Redcliffe – 10.11.18
 51 Glossy Ibis – Garnet's Lagoons No. 1 and No. 2 combined, Hervey Bay – 12.01.19
 7 Black Kite – Kinka Wetlands Yeppoon – 09.02.19
 1 Black Kite (unusual) – West Geoff Skinner Reserve – 09.02.19
 1 Black Kite (unusual) – Maroochy River Northshore – 12.01.19



Kelp Gull (3rd year immature) at
 Kinka Beach Sandbar, Yeppoon on
 12.01.19.

Photograph by Debra Corbet

IMPORTANT NOTE

Remember that if you do a count of a site that is not on one of the QWSG official count days you can still submit that count to the Count Co-ordinator. We would ask that you do it under the same protocols as on Count Day. It would be great to get as much info as possible, there are more and more threats to waders and their habitat and we need all information to help protect the birds and their sites both roosting and feeding. Also, if you do upload a count to eBird, could you put in comments it was for QWSG, that would be a great call out for us all.

David Edwards, Chairperson QWSG

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@xxxxxx.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 seen in QLD

A quantity of 17 plain flag together with 66 unread engraved flag and 1687 engraved green flag records have been added to the database in the last 3 months. The species recorded and the number of observations were as follows. Bar-tailed Godwit 821, Broad-billed Sandpiper 1, Curlew Sandpiper 47, Far Eastern Curlew 20, Great Knot 57, Greater Sand Plover 34, Grey Plover 10, Grey-tailed Tattler 365, Lesser Sand Plover 112, Pacific Golden Plover 51, Pied Oystercatcher 49, Pied Stilt 20, Red-capped Plover 2, Red Knot 1, Red-necked Stint 97, Ruddy Turnstone 36, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper 21, Terek Sandpiper 11 and Whimbrel 15.

They were sighted by Jeremiah Abberdan, Mick Barker, Chris Barnes, John Bell, Ken Bissett, Frank Burch, Terry Burgess, Tony Cotter, Ken Cowell, Linda Cross, Phil Cross, Graham Donaldson, Sandra Harding, Renate Hottmann-Schaefer, Arthur Keates, Sheryl Keates, Penn Lloyd, Gillie Matthew, Wayne Matthews, Stewart Melton, Gordana Pozvek, Zac Robba, Ruby Rosenfield, Peter Rothlisberg, Michael Strong, Nicola Udy, Melissa Whitby, Craig Wilson and Brad Woodworth.

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

Bar-tailed Godwit – AAA, AAB, AAH, AAM, ACL, ACX, ADD, ADH, ADK, ADN, ADX, ADY, ADZ, AEA, AED, AEH, AEU, AEV, AEW, AHL, AHT, AHV, AJM, AJX, AKA, AKB, AKD, AKE, AKJ, AKN, AKR, AKS, AKW, AKY, ALN, ALU, ALZ, AMH, AMK, ANK, ANM, ANV, ANW, ANX, APH, APM, APP, ARN, ASB, ASE, ASH, ASK, ASL, ASP, ASR, ASZ, AUP, AUR, AUZ, AVA, AVB, AVC, AVE, AVJ, AVK, AVX, AVY, AVZ, AXD, AXH, AXU, AYD, AYN, AYW, AYZ, AZB, AZM, AZS, AZT, AZV, BAA, BAB, BAJ, BAN, BAS, BAW, BAX, BBA, BBD, BBK, BBL, BBS, BBU, BBV, BBY, BC, BCE, BCN, BCP, BCV, BDA, BDH, BDJ, BDL, BDS, BDT, BDV, BDW, BDX, BDY, BDZ, BER, BEU, BEV, BEW, BEX, BHB, BHC, BHD, BHH, BHJ, BHK, BHP, BHU, BHV, BJN, BJP, BKC, BKJ, BKK, BKL, BKM, BKP, BKR, BKU, BKV, BKX, BKY, BKZ, BLA, BNK, BNP, BPB, BPF, BPH, BPS, BPU, BPY, BRL, BRP, BRS, BRT, BRU, BSB, BSX, BSZ, BTA, BTD, BTF, BTJ, BTL, BTP, BTV, BTY, BTZ, BUA, BUJ, BUK, BUX, BUY, BVB, BVC, BX, BZA, BZD, BZF, BZK, BZL, BZU, BZY, CAB, CAD, CAF, CAK, CAL, CAS, CAU, CAV, CAY, CBA, CBB, CBD, CBK, CBL, CBN, CBT, CBX, CBY, CCD, CCJ, CCL, CCV, CCY, CCZ, CJB, CJC, CJD, CJF, CJK, CJL, CJN, CN, CPM, CS, CU, CX, DBB, DBD, DBJ, DBK, DCV, DCX, DCY, DDA, DDB, DDD, DN, DU, EC, EL, ET, FA, FJ, FM, HL, HP, HR, HU, JA, JB, JE, JH, JJ, JP, KM, PA, PC, PD, PE, PJ, PP, PR, PU, RL, RM, RP & quantity 27 unread.

Broad-billed Sandpiper – BFA.

Curlew Sandpiper – AAM, AAY, ABC, ABD, ACL, ACT, ACU, AHA, AHM, AJL, AKH, AKL, ANU, APD, ASH, ATB, ATC, AUB, AVF, AXA, AYB, AYF, AYP, AYS, AZV, BDY, BDZ and quantity 1 unread.

Far Eastern Curlew – AAD, AAL, AAN, AAP, AHA, AR, CB & quantity 2 unread.

Great Knot – AAP, AEH, AEK, AEL, AEV, AJH, ALN, BBB, BBE, BBH, BBZ, BEC, BEU, BEW, BHR, BHT, BRD, BRN, BTF, BTJ, BTT, BTX, CMA, CMJ, CNA, CNV & 11 unread.

Greater Sand Plover – CAC, CAD, CAF, CCB, CCC, CSB, CVB, CVH, CVJ & 2 unread.

Grey Plover – JT.

Grey-Tailed Tattler – AAC, AAK, AAR, ABD, ACD, ACE, ACK, ACW, ACY, ADH, ADZ, AKC, AKJ, AKL, AKP, AKR, AKU, AKV, AKW, AMA, AMB, ANN, ANT, APS, APU, APY, AR, ARD, ARH, ARJ, ARL, ARW, ARY, ASE, ASL, ASU, ASZ, ATA, ATC, ATD, ATE, ATH, ATJ, ATL, ATW, AUA, AUK, AUS, AUT, AUX, AUY, AUZ, AVC, AVN, AWU, AWV, AWW, AWZ, AXB, AXE, AXH, AXP, AXW, AXX, AYA, AZP, AZT, AZY, BAD, BAJ, BAL, BAM, BDB, BDJ, BDL, BDN, BHE, BHP, BHV, BN, BPY, BSN, BSP, BSS, BST, BT, BXB, BXD, BXH, BXJ, BXL, BXP, BXS, BXT, DAD, HK, HV, HY, JN, JU, JX, JY, JZ, KM, KV, KX, KZ, LM, LN, RU & quantity 5 unread.

Lesser Sand Plover – AEL, AEN, AER, AES, AEU, AEX, AEZ, AKV, ALU, AMA, AMB, AMD, AMH, ANP, AUC, AUH, AUS, AUX, AUY, AVA, AVN, AVP, AVS, AVV, AVX, AVZ, AXC, AXD, AXH, AXK, AXN, AXS, AXU, AXV, AXY, AXZ, AYT, AYV, AYZ, BUA, BUC, BUD, BUH, CVD, HZ & quantity 4 unread.

Pacific Golden Plover – BHK, BHN, BHU, BHW, BHY, BHZ, BJA, BJB, BSB, BSC, BSD, BSH, BSJ, & quantity 1 unread.

Pied Oystercatcher – AAC, AAE, AAK, AAY, ABC, ABD, ABE, ABL, ALA, AML, B3, B4, B6, C4, EX, H7 & quantity 2 unread.

Pied Stilt – BEE, BEH, BEJ, BEP, BEZ, BWA, BWB, BZC.

Red Knot – 1 unread.

Red-capped Plover – CP, JH.

Red-necked Stint – 2B, 2P, 2U, 3A, 3B, 3D, 3V, 4B, 4H, 4J, 4L, 4T, 4U, 4Y, 4Z, 5D, 5F, 5V, 6F, 6H, 6X, 7B, 7D, 7F, 7P, 7X, 8A, 8D, 8M, 8N, 8T, 8V, 8Y, D4, J2, K3, K7, N3, SX, TP, V9, VL, VT, X2, Y4, YF, Z2, Z6, ZZ & quantity 3 unread.

Ruddy Turnstone – ABY, AKW, AKX, APJ, ATA, ATB, ATD, ATK, ATL, ATN, ATT, ATU, ATY, AUC, AUF, AYH, CSA, CSD & quantity 3 unread.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – AEL, AKB, ALL, APT, AUN, AXN, AXP, AXZ, CCD, CTM & CVK.

Terek Sandpiper – ACU, DX, HD & quantity 1 unread.

Whimbrel – BXD, BXX, DAM, DAX, DBN, DBP, DBS, DBZ, DCC, DJD, DJH, DJS, & quantity 2 unread.

GREEN leg flag sightings seen INTERSTATE

None

GREEN leg flag sightings seen OVERSEAS

In Japan

Grey-tailed Tattler

APY on flag - 12.8.2018 – Ii-shinden, Ikawadu-chom, Tahara-shi, Aichi-ken – Yoshihiro Kurahashi

AXD on flag - 12.8.2018 – Hama Koshien Nishinominya Hyogo – Fumiyo Komatsu

In New Zealand

Bar-tailed Godwit

CJS on flag - 23.9.2018 – Bells Island, Waimea Inlet, Nelson – Willie Cook

CJS on flag - 8.12.2018 – Rabbit Island, Waimea Inlet, Nelson – David Melville

BDY on flag - 25.11.2018 – Farewell Spit, Gobi, Nelson – Steve Wood

ORANGE (Victoria) leg flag sightings seen in QLD.

Bar-tailed Godwit

AMB on flag - 12.5.2018 – Maaroom – John Bell

CPE on flag - 26.9.2018 – Maaroom – John Bell

CHH on flag - 15.11.2018 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates & Gordana Pozvek

CHH on flag - 4.12.2018 & 5.1.2019 – Oyster Point – Mick Barker

CHH on flag - 6 & 12.1.2019 – Manly Lota Esplanade – Tony Cotter

Plain flag - 17.9.2016 & 26.9.2018 – Maaroom – John Bell

Plain flag - 22.1.2019 – Christine St Boonooroo – Chris Barnes

Great Knot

Plain flag - 21.10.2017 & 26.9.2018 – Maaroom – John Bell

Plain flag - 5.11.2018 to 9.2.2019 on 9 occasions – Manly Harbour – various observers

Plain flag - 30.12.2018 to 2.2.2019 on 6 occasions – Manly/Lota Esplanade – Tony Cotter

Plain flag - 6.1.2019 – Kakadu Beach – Michael Strong

Plain flag - 2.12.2018 – Thorneside – Ken Bissett

Plain flag - 29.12.2018 – Wynnum Esplanade – Tony Cotter

Red Knot

1C on flag - 17.9.2016 – Maaroom – John Bell

CY on flag - 27.5.2017 – Maaroom – John Bell

Plain flag - 26.9.2018 – Maaroom – John Bell

Plain flag - 11.11.2018 – Port of Brisbane – Arthur Keates

Red-necked Stint

Plain flag - 18.11.2018 – Bundaberg Port Swamp – Chris Barnes & Nev Capell

YELLOW (Western Australia) leg flag sightings seen in QLD.

Great Knot

Plain flag - 17.12.2017 – Maaroom – John Bell

Red Knot

Plain flag - 26.9.2018 – Thorneside – Mick Barker

OVERSEAS FLAGGED birds seen in QLD**Black over white or white over black (Shanghai, China) leg flag sightings**Great Knot

Plain flags – 17.9.2016 & 17.12.2017 – Maaroom – John Bell
 Plain flags – 20.10.2018 - Tuan – Mary Hynes
 Plain flags – 11.11.2018 – Port of Brisbane – Arthur Keates
 Plain flags - 4.1.2019 - Bushland Beach Townsville – John Lowry
 Plain flags – 22.1.2019 – Maaroom – Chris Barnes
 Plain flags – 2 birds – 22.1.2019 – Christine St Boonooroo – Chris Barnes
 E40 on white flag – 22.1.2019 - Christine St Boonooroo – Chris Barnes
 X61 on white flag – 22.1.2019 - Christine St Boonooroo – Chris Barnes
 A94 on white flag – 4.1.2019 – Bushland Beach Townsville – John Lowry
 J62 on white flag – 15.11.2018 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates & Gordana Pozvek
 J62 on white flag – 1 & 29.12.2018 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates
 J62 on white flag – 2, 14, 19 & 31.1.2019 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates
 J62 on white flag – 27.1.2019 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates & Terry Burgess
 J62 on white flag – 28.1.2019 – Manly Harbour – Tony Cotter & Arthur Keates
 J62 on white flag – 2.2.2019 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates
 J62 on white flag – 9.2.2019 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates & Brad Woodworth
 J62 on white flag – 29.11.2018 – Wynnum Esplanade – Tony Cotter
 J62 on white flag – 13.1.2019 – Thorneside – Michael Daley
 J62 on white flag – 10.2.2019 – Wynnum Esplanade – Tony Cotter
 J62 on white flag – 12, 17 & 27.1.2019 – Manly/Lota Esplanade – Tony Cotter
 J74 on white flag – 2.1.2019 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates

Lesser Sand Plover

Plain flags – 25.11.2018 – Point Vernon Hervey Bay – Jane Barnes

Terek Sandpiper

Plain flags – 1.1.2019 – Burnett River mudflats – Chris Barnes

Green over Blue (Jiangsu, China) leg flag sightingsRed-necked Stint

Plain flags – 30.12.2018 – O'Reagans Creek Hervey Bay – Sally Sheldon
 Plain flags – 23.12.2018 – West Geoff Skinner Reserve – Michael Daley

Black over Yellow (Kamchatka Russia) leg flag sightingsGreat Knot

1K on yellow flag – 16.12.2018 – Port of Brisbane – Arthur Keates, Melissa Whitby, Robert Bush & Peter Rothlisberg
 1K on yellow flag – 2.1.2019 – Manly Harbour - Arthur Keates
 ZB on yellow flag – 2.1.2019 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates
 EH on yellow flag – 4.1.2019 – Bushland Beach Townsville – John Lowry
 L2 on yellow flag – 4.1.2019 – Bushland Beach Townsville – John Lowry
 Y0 on yellow flag – 4.1.2019 – Bushland Beach Townsville – John Lowry

Yellow over White (Sakhalin Island Russia) leg flag sightingsGreat Knot

Plain flags – 22.1.2019 – Maaroom – Chris Barnes

White (New Zealand) leg flag sightingsBar-tailed Godwit

White flag & bands (2BRRB) – 17.9.2016 – Maaroom – John Bell
 Plain flag – 25.9.2018 – Oyster Point – Mick Barker
 Red flag & bands – 21.10.2017 – Maaroom – John Bell

Red Knot

ECL on flag – 26.9.2018 – Maaroom – John Bell

EEL on flag – 26.9.2018 – Maaroom – John Bell

Blue (Japanese) leg flag sightings – (use four colour combinations)Grey-tailed Tattler

Plain flag - 15.11.2018 – Manly Harbour - Arthur Keates, Gordana Pozvek

Plain flag – 6 & 26.1.2019 – Wynnum Esplanade – Tony Cotter

Plain flag – 2.2.2019 – Manly Harbour - Arthur Keates

Blue over White (Japanese) leg flag sightingsGrey-tailed Tattler

667 on blue flag – 5.11.2018 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates, Melissa Whitby

667 on blue flag – 15.11.2018 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates, Gordana Pozvek

667 on blue flag – 20.11.2018 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates

667 on blue flag – 29.12.2018 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates

667 on blue flag – 28 & 30.1.2019 – Manly Harbour – Tony Cotter, Arthur Keates

667 on blue flag – 2.2.2019 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates

667 on blue flag – 27.1.2019 – Manly Lota Esplanade – Tony Cotter

568 on blue flag – 5.11.2018 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates, Melissa Whitby

568 on blue flag – 15.11.2018 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates, Gordana Pozvek

315 on blue flag – 15.11.2018 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates, Gordana Pozvek

315 on blue flag – 29.12.2018 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates

315 on blue flag – 2.1.2019 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates

Engraved flag unread – 1.12.2018 – Manly – Arthur Keates, Sheryl Keates, Gordana Pozvek

Engraved flag unread – 15.12.2018 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates, Gordana Pozvek

Engraved flag unread – 27.1.2019 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates, Terry Burgess

Engraved flag unread – 30.1.2019 – Manly Harbour - Tony Cotter, Arthur Keates

Engraved flag unread – 10.2.2019 – Wynnum Esplanade – Tony Cotter

Engraved flag unread – 26.1.2019 – Manly/Lota Esplanade – Tony Cotter

Bar-tailed Godwit

C2 on flag – 16.12.2018 – Port of Brisbane – Arthur Keates, Melissa Whitby, Robert Bush, Peter Rothlisberg

Red-necked Stint

CA7 on flag - 5.11.2018 – Cairns Esplanade – Hidetoshi Kudo

CA7 on flag - 15.11.2018 – Cairns Esplanade – Hidetoshi Kudo

White over Blue (Taiwan) leg flag sightingsRed-necked Stint

White flag unread – 30.1.2019 – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates & Tony Cotter

No flag (bands only) Alaska USAPacific Golden Plover

Blue over green band – 10.1.2019 – Burnett River Heads mudflat – Chris Barnes

Pied Oystercatcher Yellow leg flag (2 digit) 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.

C4 on flag – 14.11.2018 – St Helena Island – Ken Cowell, Sandra Harding, Wayne Matthews

Engraved flag unread – 2.12.2018 – Oyster Point – Mick Barker

S6 on flag – 4.12.2018 – Oyster Point – Mick Barker

R1 on flag – 16.12.2018 – Oyster Point Mick Barker

Engraved flag unread – 7.1.2019 – Reeders Point Moreton Island – Melissa Whitby

Caspian Tern Orange flag (Victoria)

K9 on flag - 15.12.2018 – Toorbul – Brian Russell

U8 on flag - 15.12.2018 – Toorbul – Brian Russell

Wader ID Days 2019**Tuesday 12th March 2019 at Toorbul**

High tide at 12.47pm (plus 30 minutes later for Toorbul 1:17pm), with a height of 1.96m. Meeting time 11.45am.

Take the Bruce Highway north from Brisbane to the Donnybrook/Toorbul exit. Turn off here and head east over the highway overpass. Continue on this road to Toorbul. Turn right at the T-junction then first left and then right, which brings you onto the Esplanade. Follow this road to the end (approximately 2kms); we will be on the left.

Bring water, food and a chair. It is a good idea to have a hat, sunscreen and insect repellent. Most importantly bring your binoculars or telescopes. Hopefully we can provide the answers to all your questions.

Please contact any of the following people if you have any questions. Leaders Phil & Linda Cross

Saturday 13th April 2019 at Manly Harbour

1.67 m high tide at 16:06. Meeting time 14:45.

Meeting Place: At the end of Davenport Dr on the southern boundary of the Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron Clubhouse.

QWSG has an access agreement for the wader roost. Under the conditions of the agreement, participants must wear enclosed footwear and will be required to sign a form acknowledging responsibility for their own health and safety, including:

- wearing protective clothing at all times (eg. hat, sunglasses) and using sunscreen
- drinking water to avoid dehydration
- using insect repellent if necessary
- telling a leader about any health issues that may affect taking part in the field trip
- if feeling unwell, or concerned about someone else being unwell, immediately telling a group leader or another participant
- immediately telling a group leader or another participant about any injury suffered (including a slip, trip, fall and snake bite) or hazard that may cause injury to someone.

Anyone who does not comply with these conditions will not be allowed to enter the site or asked to leave. The gate will be locked after we enter the site and late arrivals will not be able to enter.

Participation in this field trip is strictly limited to those who have registered with the leaders. Please do not just turn up on the day without registering.

Leaders: Arthur and Sheryl Keates.

Wader ID Day Reports**Manly Shorebird Roost Report 1st December 2018** by Arthur & Sheryl Keates

In contrast to the last outing to the roost, viewing conditions were ideal, the late afternoon light giving observers very good views of 18 species of migratory shorebirds and 3 species of resident shorebirds.

As was the case with the last outing a lone Far Eastern Curlew was found among the Whimbrel but unlike the last outing when no Terek Sandpiper were found, at least 75 were seen on the main island.

As usual Bar-tailed Godwit, was the abundant species, several in juvenile plumage, while a dozen Black-tailed Godwit were found to compare those species. Good views of both of the knot species roosting together enabled observers to look at their diagnostic features.

At least 11 Broad-billed Sandpiper were seen feeding in shallow water, one of them an individual that had been banded and fitted with an engraved leg flag at the Port of Brisbane complex on 28th February 2016. The pair of Pied Oystercatcher that bred on the island were seen with their 2 young. A surprise find was a White-winged Tern roosting among the large flock of Little Tern.

Several species fitted with leg flags were seen, including:

Great Knot with a black flag above a white engraved leg flag (banded at Chongming Island, China)

Grey-tailed Tattler with an engraved blue flag above a white flag (banded at Tori-No-Umi, Watari-cho, Miyagi Prefecture, Japan)

Several birds banded in south-east Queensland, including a Grey-tailed Tattler fitted with a geolocator and a Grey Plover banded on 16 January 2010 making it at least 10 years old.

The following species were observed at the roost:

Little Pied Cormorant, Australian Pelican, Pied Oystercatcher, Pied Stilt, Grey Plover, Pacific Golden Plover, Red-capped Plover, Lesser Sand Plover, Greater Sand Plover, Black-tailed Godwit, Bar-tailed Godwit, Whimbrel, Far Eastern Curlew, Marsh Sandpiper, Common Greenshank, Grey-tailed Tattler, Terek Sandpiper, Ruddy Turnstone, Great Knot, Red-necked Stint, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Curlew Sandpiper, Broad-billed Sandpiper, Silver Gull, Gull-billed Tern, Caspian Tern, Little Tern and White-winged Tern.

Kakadu Roost Report, Bribie Island 23rd January 2019

By Linda Cross.

With a predicted high tide of 2.76-m at 11:17, it was no surprise to see birds already congregated at the roost when we arrived at 09:30. Fine, dry, hot, and slightly humid conditions greeted the 15 attendees who joined Phil and myself to view the waders. However, the 2 bird hides at this roost provided welcome shade and a north-east breeze kept us a little cooler as the temperature rose during the next 3 hours of viewing.

Attendees observed 6 migratory wader species and 5 resident species at the roost, but 1 person was lucky enough to see a Sooty Oystercatcher fly past and continue up Dux Creek. The largest concentration of species was Bar-tailed Godwit, which included a few with the start of breeding plumage.

There were several disturbances during the viewing, with the flock taking off, but thankfully they returned each time. During the flock disturbance eyes were trained on them looking for Black-tailed Godwit, but none were seen.

As most of the birds were at the southern end of the roost, we decided to move to the southern hide to get better views of them. Closer views of the Beach Stone-curlew and Great Knot were welcomed, and we had given up on trying to find Black-tailed Godwit until I decided to do 1 more scan of the godwits before we left. It was less than a minute later that I found 1 (much to the surprise of a couple of people), and thankfully we could at least explain the differences between the 2 godwits to those in attendance.

A few people got to see a Buff-banded Rail out on the path after midday, which was surprising given the heat conditions. By 13:00 hours the attendees decided to disperse.

Numerous engraved green leg flags were seen on Bar-tailed Godwit, but most were too distant to read them.

Many thanks to Scott Pascoe who diligently kept a record of the species and numbers for me, which will be added to the database.

Birds seen:

1 Australasian Darter F/O, 1 Striated Heron, 1 White-faced Heron, 1 Australian White Ibis, 1 Whistling Kite F/O, 1 White-bellied Sea-Eagle (immature) F/O, 1 Buff-banded Rail, 2 Beach Stone-curlew, 4 Pied Oystercatcher, 1 Sooty Oystercatcher F/B, 188 Pied Stilt, 7 Red-capped Plover, 15 Lesser Sand Plover, 4 Masked Lapwing, 1 Black-tailed Godwit, 1274 Bar-tailed Godwit, 4 Far Eastern Curlew, 35 Great Knot, 41 Red-necked Stint, 12 Gull-billed Tern and 34 Silver Gull.

(F/O) – fly over, (F/B) – fly by.

Manly Shorebird Roost 27th January 2019

by Arthur & Sheryl Keates

It was clear as we arrived on site that the birds were unsettled and the reason immediately became obvious as a kite surfer came too close to the outer rock wall for the birds' liking. This was to happen again and a juvenile White-bellied Sea-eagle flying over also put the birds to flight. Skittish as they were, after each disturbance the birds returned to the roost giving observers relatively good views of 14 species of migratory shorebirds and 3 species of resident shorebirds. Notable species not observed were Pacific Golden Plover, Lesser Sand Plover, Greater Sand Plover, and, most surprisingly, Curlew Sandpiper.

The highlight of the day, and a new species for some observers, was an Asian Dowitcher, well spotted by Gary Kane among the knots and godwits. Several of the male Bar-tailed Godwit showed traces of breeding plumage as did some of the Great Knot.

Several species fitted with leg flags were seen, including:

- 1 Great Knot with a black flag above a white engraved leg flag (banded at Chongming Island, China)
- 1 Grey-tailed Tattler with an engraved blue flag above a white flag (banded at Tori-No-Umi, Watari-cho, Miyagi Prefecture, Japan)
- several birds banded in south-east Queensland, including a Grey-tailed Tattler fitted with a geolocator and a Grey Plover banded on 16 January 2010 making it at least 11 years old.

The following species were observed at the roost:

Eastern Great Egret, Little Pied Cormorant, Australian Pelican, Pied Oystercatcher, Pied Stilt, Grey Plover, Red-capped Plover, Asian Dowitcher, Black-tailed Godwit, Bar-tailed Godwit, Whimbrel, Far Eastern Curlew, Common Greenshank, Grey-tailed Tattler, Terek Sandpiper, Ruddy Turnstone, Great Knot, Red Knot, Red-necked Stint, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Broad-billed Sandpiper, Silver Gull, Gull-billed Tern, Caspian Tern, Great Crested Tern and Little Tern.

Treasurer's Position

We are on the hunt for a new Treasurer.

Due to increased work commitments and a very busy home life, Rachelle, our present Treasurer, has indicated that she will have to relinquish the position. Rachelle has given us plenty of notice but we would like to appoint someone, as soon as possible, so we can have a good period of hand over.

The position requires knowledge of MYOB, or a keenness to learn. The duties will cover incoming and outgoing payments, issuing invoices and receipts, plus the presentation of accounts at the bi-monthly Committee Meetings and the Annual General Meeting. Also, there is the running of the membership data set, new members, reminders to established members and some general inquiries.

Of course, you would not be thrown into the deep end, and will be assisted to understand the operation and have an outline of the duties.

This is a big job and we all appreciate how daunting it must seem. If you feel you could help or persuade someone in to the role please contact myself as Chairperson, Rachelle as Treasurer or someone from the Committee to have discuss

David Edwards, Chairperson QWSG

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, Rae Clark	president@birdsqueensland.org.au
Secretary, Robert Bush	secretary@birdsqueensland.org.au
Treasurer, Judith Giles	treasurer@birdsqueensland.org.au

Monthly Meetings Birds Queensland

1st Thursday each month except January, when there is no meeting.
 Brunswick Room, Merthyr Road Uniting Church, 52 Merthyr Road, New Farm.
 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.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members who have joined recently:

Ms Sylvia ALEXANDER, Mr John ARMSTRONG, Ms Rebecca BENNETT,
 Ms Annette BOURKE, Dr Phoebe CHAPMAN, Ms Vicki CRONAN,
 Ms Cecily DEAN, Miss Laura DEE, Ms Pamela DOUGLAS,
 Mr Chris GANTE, Dr Rod GARDNER, Ms Deanne GASKILL,
 Miss Rachel GAZZARD, Mr Max GIAROLI, Miss Mia GREEN,
 Miss Casey HAMBRECHT, Mr Lenn ISIDORE, Mrs Heather KAY,
 Ms Bianca KEYS, Mr/Mrs Greg & Judy LITTLE, Ms Libby MORTON,
 Mr Reisuke SHIMOMURA, Mr/s Peter & Rae WEAR,
 Penelope WEBSTER, Mr Ian YEO

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

The Official Quarterly Publication of Queensland Wader Study Group

Website www.waders.org.au

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/QueenslandWaderStudyGroup/>

MEMBERS of the MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE of the QWSG

<u>CHAIRPERSON:</u>	David Edwards	chairperson@waders.org.au
<u>TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP</u>	Rachelle Harding	membership@waders.org.au
<u>SECRETARY:</u>	Peter Rothlisberg	secretary@waders.org.au
<u>NEWSLETTER EDITOR:</u>	David Edwards	gouldian@ozemail.com.au
<u>COMMITTEE</u>		
	Robert Bush	Jon Coleman
	Paul Finn	Sandra Harding
	Sheryl Keates	Andrew Moss
	Gordana Pozvek	Brad Woodworth

COUNT COORDINATOR: Linda Cross
LEG FLAG COORDINATOR Phil Cross

BQ PRESIDENT Rae Clark Email president@birdsqueensland.org.au

CORRESPONDENCE All correspondence to:
 The QWSG Chairperson,
 54, Elliott Street,
 CLAYFIELD,
 QLD 4011

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

SUBSCRIPTIONS Annual subscription rates:
 Single: \$15:00
 Student/Pensioner: \$10:00
 Family: \$25:00
 A receipt will be forwarded if required.

Forward application to:

QWSG Treasurer,
 309 Edelsten Road,
 JIMBOOMBA
 QLD 4280

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 **May 18th 2019**

Contributions should be addressed to:

David Edwards, the QWSG Editor, 54 Elliott Street, Clayfield, Qld 4011
 or E-mail to: gouldian@ozemail.com.au

Opinions expressed in Queensland Wader are those of the individual contributors and are not necessarily those of the Queensland Waders Study Group, nor Birds Queensland.

Advertising Rates are \$20:00 for one-quarter page and \$25:00 for a third of a page.

PRINTED BY: Mr Bob Durrington of J.R. Durrington & Sons Pty Ltd.
admin@jrdsons.com.au



Count Activities – 2019

QWSG High Tide – Monthly Count Program 2019

Sat 9th Mar	2.28m at 11:08	Sat 6th Apr	2.24m at 10:08	National Winter Count
Sat 4th May	2.15m at 09:01	Sat 1st Jun	2.04m at 07:44	
Sat 6th Jul	1.90m at 12:17	Sat 3rd Aug	2.01m at 11:12	
Sat 31st Aug	2.10m at 10:07	Sat 28th Sep	2.16m at 09:02	
Sat 19th Oct	2.15m at 12:50	Sat 16th Nov	2.35m at 11:52	
Sat 14th Dec	2.53m at 10:59			

Port of Brisbane Count Dates 2019

Sun 10th Mar	2.19m at 11:39	Meet 09:50	Sun 7th Apr	2.17m at 10:39	Meet 08:50	Nat Winter Count
Sun 5th May	2.11m at 09:37	Meet 07:50	Sun 2nd Jun	2.02m at 08:27	Meet 07:10	
Sun 7th Jul	1.89m at 13:12	Meet 11:20	Sun 4th Aug	2.03m at 12:02	Meet 10:10	
Sun 1st Sep	2.16m at 10:55	Meet 09:05	Sun 29th Sep	2.26m at 09:49	Meet 08:00	
Sun 20th Oct	2.11m at 13:44	Meet 11:55	Sun 17th Nov	2.31m at 12:38	Meet 10:50	
Sun 15th Dec	2.52m at 11:43	Meet 09:55				

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 (Bank Australia)

Account number: 08305297

or

Please post this form to: QWSG Treasurer PO Box 3138, SOUTH BRISBANE, QLD 4101

Cheques to be made out to: Qld Wader Study Group