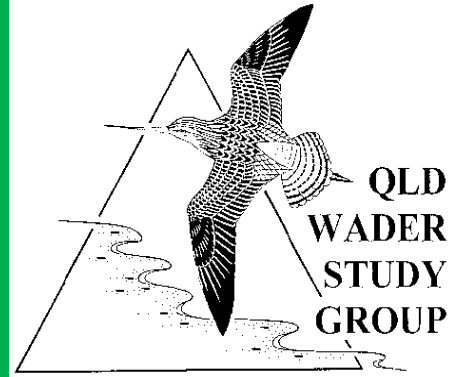


# QUEENSLAND WADER



Issue 117

September, October, November 2021

Newsletter of the Queensland Wader Study Group (QWSG), a Division of  
*Queensland Ornithological Society Incorporated.* [www.waders.org.au](http://www.waders.org.au)  
<https://www.facebook.com/QueenslandWaderStudyGroup/>

## The Shorebird Display at the Moreton Bay Discovery Centre is Installed

I thought I would just let you all know that the Shorebird Display is now installed at the Moreton Bay Discovery Centre in Manly.

What's important to acknowledge is that the idea for the display was adopted by the local community and small businesses in Manly who raised the funds (\$70,000) through donations, gifts and grants over several years. As a result, they have established a sense of ownership and perhaps even a passion for the birds. To me, it has been humbling to watch the Chair of the Chamber of Commerce, a real estate agent and the Publican of the Manly Hotel argue for funds to install the display with government MPs and potential funders. They have become experts at it.

They wanted a display that was world 's best practice, benchmarking off the Scottish Seabird Centre and the Discovery Centre in Bunbury, WA. By employing experts in design and reworking the language of birders, into inspirational words, they have a display that the general public can identify with.

The display makes use of interactive touch screens to take the observer on a journey. The panels lead you through so that you can decide what you want to investigate about shorebirds. Parts of the display link to your smart phone so you can take information away with you.



The camera component, based in the nearby roost site, remains a work in progress and will be added later. Testing on the camera shows that it is operational and fit for purpose but the wireless link to the display has a number of problems that require continued work to find solution to link the camera and the Discovery Centre. This will be worked on over the next months.



Many thanks to those in QWSG who have supported this installation through advice and reading through material.

Worth a visit with the kids and for yourself!

Regards  
Robert Bush

## Getbol, Korean Tidal Flats” inscribed on UNESCO World Heritage List

POSTED ON JULY 26, From eaaflyway.net

On 26th July, 2021, the 44th Session of the World Heritage Committee endorsed the inscription of the Republic of Korea’s tidal flats on the UNESCO World Natural Heritage List, marking an enormous step forward to secure the critical habitats of the Yellow Sea for millions of migratory waterbirds that depend on this area as a vital stopover on their migratory journeys from as far away as Australia and New Zealand to breeding grounds in Arctic Russia and Alaska.

The inscription of the “Getbol”, the Korean name for tidal flats, was announced during the World Heritage Committee meeting held in Fuzhou City, China and follows over 10 years of intensive preparation by the Korean authorities. The four sites included in the Phase I inscription of Seocheon Getbol, Gochang Getbol, Shinan Getbol and Boseong-Suncheon Getbol, collectively cover over 128,000 hectares of coastal wetlands in the Southwestern part of the country. Additional areas will be added as part of a Phase II nomination.





Great Knot and Bar-tailed Godwit ©WH Promotion Team of Korean Tidal Flat

The shallow waters in the Yellow Sea region jointly shared by China, DPR Korea and Ro Korea hold some of the largest and most spectacular intertidal wetlands in the world. These sites support exceptionally rich biodiversity, but are best known for some of the largest congregations of migratory waterbirds in eastern Asia, many of which are globally threatened by habitat loss along their migratory pathways, collectively known as the East Asian – Australasian Flyway. Up to 100,000 shorebirds use the mudflats around Yubu island in the Seocheon Getbol during migration, including the Critically Endangered Spoon-billed Sandpiper and the Endangered Far Eastern Curlew. Other species, such as Vulnerable Saunders's Gull and Endangered Black-faced Spoonbill stay to nest in the coastal wetlands of the Yellow Sea.

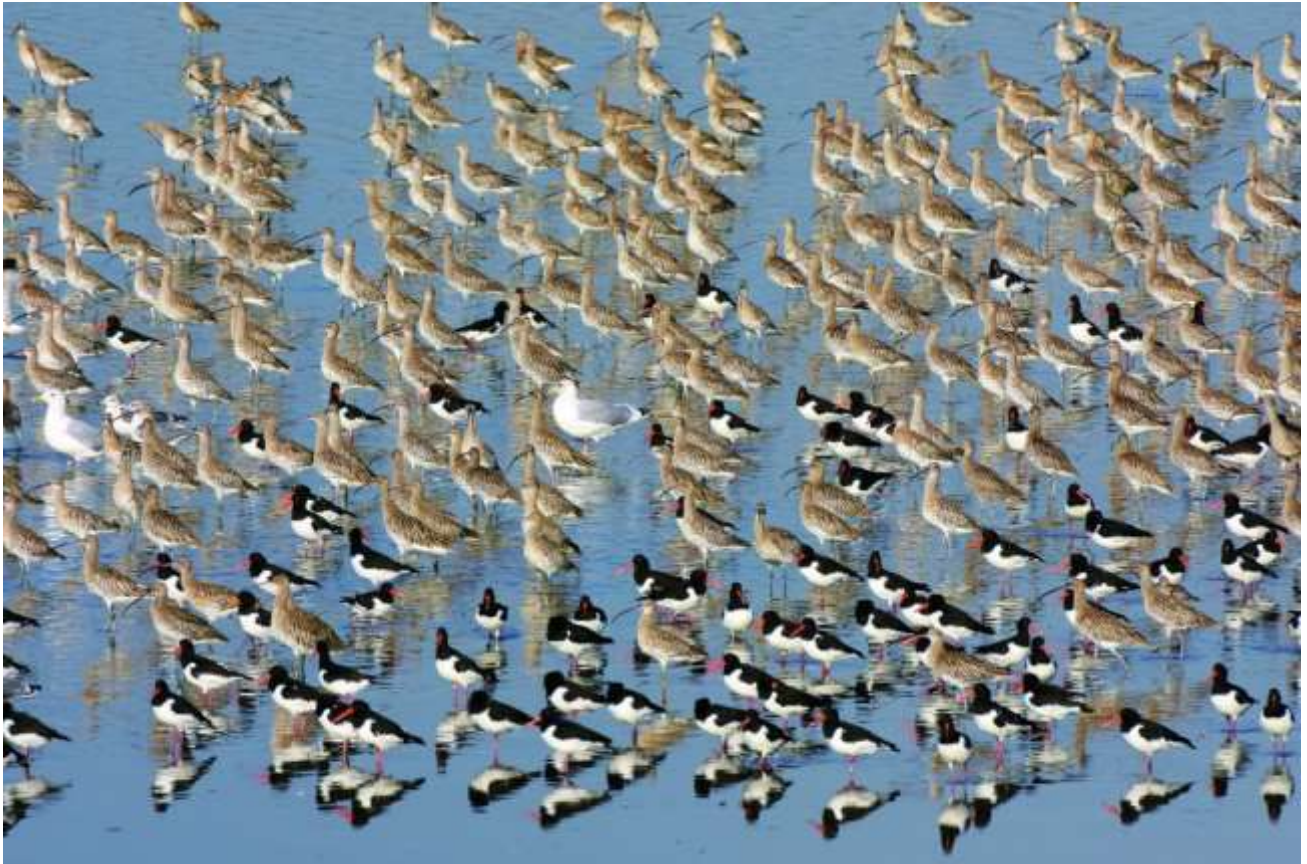
“The inscription of the Getbol in the World Heritage List will mark a great shift of paradigm for Getbol tidal flats protection and management policy, as well as the increasing public awareness. The Getbol's World Heritage inscription means that the tidal flats managed by locals become a shared global property for the next generation of all humanity. All stakeholders involved with the Getbol will make the best effort to complete its Phase II extension and even further in the future.” said Dr. Kyong-O Moon, the Secretary-General of the Korea Getbol World Heritage Promotion Team.

“The Korean Getbol inscription complements the “The Migratory Bird Sanctuaries along the Coast of the Yellow Sea-Bohai Gulf of China (Phase I)” World Heritage Site listed in 2019. It will strengthen international collaboration, particularly in the vision of transboundary joint efforts with China and DPR Korea, to conserve the wetlands of the Yellow Sea region, the irreplaceable migration hub for migratory waterbirds shared by the 22 countries in the Flyway,” said Mr. Doug Watkins, Chief Executive of EAAFP, an international partnership to conserve migratory waterbirds along the Flyway.

“The UNESCO World Heritage Convention offers an exceptionally powerful framework to secure the future of globally important biodiversity. The BirdLife International Partnership look forward to working closely with the EAAFP and IUCN to secure the same status for the remaining such areas of the Yellow Sea, and to support the authorities to ensure all receive the best possible management for birds and people.” said Dr. Ding Li Yong, BirdLife International (Asia Division) Flyways Coordinator.

**Decision paper (download at: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/44COM/documents/#amendment> )**





Far Eastern Curlew and others © WH Promotion Team of Korean Tidal Flat



Black-faced Spoonbill © WH Promotion Team of Korean Tidal Flat





Spoon-billed Sandpiper ©WH Promotion Team of Korean Tidal Flat



Hooded Cranes in Suncheon Bay ©WH Promotion Team of Korean Tidal Flat

## Why the Korean Getbol tidal flats need World Heritage status

The Republic of Korea's coastal wetlands are a vital feeding and breeding site for millions of waterbirds, including nine species that are globally threatened with extinction. This July, the World Heritage Committee will decide whether to inscribe these vital habitats onto the UNESCO World Heritage List – the most prestigious of all conservation designations.



Millions of waterbirds depend on the tidal mudflats or 'getbol' in the Republic of Korea. They rely on the abundance of food hidden in the soft mud to refuel on their annual migrations between breeding grounds in the north and non-breeding grounds in Southeast Asia and Australasia. The birds that gather in spectacular flocks on the Getbol mudflats are shared by over 20 countries along the East Asian-Australasian Flyway.

Collectively the coastal zones of the Yellow Sea (or West Sea as it is known in Korea) of the People's Republic of China, the Democratic Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea are the most important staging areas for waterbirds on the flyway. But in the last decades many coastal wetlands have been lost. Of the remaining tidal mudflats in the Republic of Korea, those in the Geum Estuary in Seocheon County (including the low-lying islet of Yubu) are the most important, providing vital roosting and foraging sites for many threatened waterbirds.

The Republic of Korea has nominated four areas to be inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site – the most prestigious conservation status – in the first phase of the 'Getbol, Korean Tidal Flat' serial nomination. At the same time, degraded areas of mudflats are being restored – actions that show that the government is serious about conserving coastal wetlands.

The Getbol sites are not only important for bird migration but also for breeding. It holds more than 1% of the global population of nine species that are globally threatened with extinction. This includes Hooded Crane *Grus monacha*, Saunder's Gull *Saundersilarus saundersi*, and Far Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis*, Spotted Greenshank *Tringa guttifer*, Great Knot *Calidris tenuirostris*, and Spoon-billed Sandpiper *Calidris pygmaea*. Also, the Chinese Egret *Egretta eulophotes* and Black-faced Spoonbill *Platalea minor* breed on small islands off the coast and regularly forage on these flats in spring.

For the Korean Getbol to be awarded World Heritage status, the World Heritage Committee will need to agree that the sites have 'Outstanding Universal Value' for migratory waterbirds. Also, the Republic of Korea will need to extend the areas proposed in the current and next phase, and commit to conserving the key attributes of the sites for generations to come. Once successful, this vital and irreplaceable link in the chain of wetlands will be secured – a big win for flyway conservation in Asia.



### **Far Eastern Curlew - Endangered giant**

The largest shorebird in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway, about 12% of the world Far Eastern Curlew population (over 3,700 birds) gather each year on the tidal flats of the Geum Estuary and Yubu to refuel on their journeys between their northern breeding grounds and Australia, where they spend the northern winter.

### **Hooded Crane - tourism spectacle**

Hooded Crane (Vulnerable) is one of eight species of crane occurring in East Asia. They breed in Russia and Mongolia and spend the northern winter across the Korean Peninsula, Japan, and parts of China. Up to 42% of the world population gather in Suncheon's wetlands. Many people come to enjoy these spectacular congregations.



### **Saunders's Gull - vital feeding station**

The entire population of the Saunders's Gull (Vulnerable) breed along the coast of the Yellow Sea between the Korean Peninsula and eastern China. In the Republic of Korea, Saunders's Gull breeds at Songdo in Incheon City. In the northern winter, approximately 2,000 individuals depend on Seocheon and Suncheon Bay.



## Cabo Verde Waste Water Treatment Plant is Unexpected Bird Haven – Birdlife June 2021

Researchers in Cabo Verde have discovered that a waste water treatment plant is an important stopover site for migrating birds, reminding us that there is still so much left to learn about this African archipelago. Find out how the Biosfera team are working to conserve this artificial wetland.



Eurasian

Spoonbills observed at the Ribeira de Vinha waste water treatment plant © Biosfera  
 By Catelene Monteiro, Isabel Fortes & Nathalie Melo, Biosfera

You may be surprised to learn that a waste water treatment plant on the island of São Vicente, Cabo Verde boasts an impressive diversity of bird species, and is a prime spot for watching waders and welcoming migratory birds.

The Ribeira de Vinha waste water treatment plant provides a precious opportunity to observe birds in their natural habitat. Local conservation NGO [Biosfera](#) – a member of BirdLife's [Cabo Verde Seabird Project](#) – visits the site weekly to identify and count birds and study their behaviour. They are eager to share the joys of nature and birdwatching with the community, and invite groups including tour guides and students to accompany them. Recently, data collected from these activities has made invaluable contributions to our knowledge of migratory routes.



The observation team monitoring birds at the waste water plant © Biosfera



To date, a total of 40 species of waders and migratory birds have been recorded in this area. The ground nesting Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus* already breeds there, and visitors are likely to witness Cattle Egrets *Bubulcus ibis*, Ruddy Turnstones *Arenaria interpres* and Black-winged Stilts *Himantopus himantopus*. Other species appear sporadically and in smaller numbers. Lucky observers may catch a sight of a Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica* (Near Threatened) or Common Redshank *Tringa totanus*.

Sightings often include those of ringed birds, and spectators can use the unique ring number to find the bird's origin and follow their migration using dedicated websites. A particularly memorable observation was that of a flock of 25 Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*. With a little help from the white ring on the right leg of one of the birds, researchers learnt that the ibis was ringed in Algeria in May 2020 and spotted soon after in October 2020 by ornithologist António Araújo at the waste water treatment plant. The flock is still present at the site, information made possible by Biosfera's monitoring work, leading them to believe that the species winters at the waste water treatment plant.

The information provided by rings can also reveal rare, previously unrecorded visitors. Two Sandwich Terns *Thalasseus sandvicensis* were observed, one of which had a ring on each leg, allowing the researchers to discover that the bird was ringed all the way over in Denmark. The tern was recorded in February and March at the waste water treatment plant, and the ringing entity believe this could be the most westerly recording of the species. These frequent sightings indicate that Cabo Verde is an unknown passage area for birds, where there is still so much to be discovered.

## Global research uncovers mysteries of rare Sociable Lapwing

Birdlife - 16 Jun 2021

Thanks to extensive research over the last 15 years, the Sociable Lapwing has gone from one of the world's more obscure waders to one of its most studied, and it is now widely regarded as a flagship species for the conservation of the Central Asian steppes. We take a look at the work that has uncovered its mysteries and begun to conserve it.



The Sociable Lapwing has been the focus of international research since 2005 © Rob Sheldon By Rob Sheldon

Its breeding grounds once stretched from Ukraine in the west to as far east as Xinjiang in China, and north into southern Siberia. But with the loss of much of the natural steppe in Ukraine in the nineteenth century through conversion to cereal production, and profound changes to agricultural management during the Soviet period, the breeding range of the Sociable Lapwing *Vanellus gregarius* contracted to an increasingly small area of Kazakhstan. In 2004, BirdLife up-listed the species to Critically Endangered following severe population declines, with some reports suggesting that just a few hundred breeding pairs may survive.

But why was the Sociable Lapwing teetering on the brink of extinction? Under the auspices of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA), an international species action plan was developed by collaborating experts on the species and its habitats to help determine the reasons.

In the same year, a pilot study suggested that low breeding success due to trampling of nests by livestock could be a primary factor. All this culminated in the establishment of a comprehensive research project based around the small town of Korgalzhyn, some 130 km south-west of Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan's capital.

In May 2005, scientists from the Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan (ACBK, BirdLife Partner), the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB, BirdLife in the UK) and research students from Germany and Kazakhstan set out to locate as many Sociable Lapwing colonies as possible. As population size was considered critically low and breeding success poor, the team aimed to collect vital data on the species and also look at potential emergency conservation measures.



*Researchers use any available vantage points to scan the vast steppe landscape © Rob Sheldon*

The first few weeks were spent locating Sociable Lapwings and trialling the idea of using nest protectors to reduce livestock trampling. Real nests were far too precious to test this on, so experimental nests using quails' eggs were established. The project team purchased what seemed to be the whole season's supply of quail eggs from the capital, and when those ran out, resorted to painting chicken eggs! However, by mid-May the research was starting to reveal that breeding success wasn't as bad as first thought, and many of the Sociable Lapwing nests that the team had found were hatching.

The next research phase involved catching and fitting chicks with unique combinations of colour rings so that they could be observed to estimate their survival rates. The teams spent hours in the field monitoring chicks as they tried to hide in the steppe vegetation, but it became clear that the number surviving through to fledging was also reasonably high.

Around the end of June, Sociable Lapwings start to form post-breeding flocks and many of these included a high proportion of colour-ringed birds. The same relatively high levels of breeding success were replicated in subsequent years, but the results began to show that adult survival was low. With nothing indicating a source of high mortality on the breeding grounds, it became clear that to find the cause of the population decline, the researchers needed to look elsewhere.

### **Migration mysteries**

Winter in Kazakhstan can be harsh, and Sociable Lapwings migrate south to escape snow-covered steppes and sub-zero temperatures. Historical sightings from north-east Africa, the Middle East and India suggested that the species has more than one migratory population, but little was known about the different routes they took.



As international awareness of the plight of the species grew, many organisations and individuals helped to look for migrating flocks. A Dutch team working with Syrian ornithologists with support from the Syrian Society for the Conservation of Wildlife (SSCW, BirdLife Partner) undertook surveys across Syria in February and March 2007. This team made several key discoveries, not only recording up to 2,000 individuals – suggesting some global population estimates at the time were too pessimistic – but also that Sociable Lapwings may be targeted illegally by hunters. This was confirmed the following spring by an RSPB team surveying in the country, as well as by images appearing on social media with Sociable Lapwings being displayed across hunters' car bonnets.

Three birds were fitted with satellite tags on the breeding grounds in May 2007, and these led to a number of breakthroughs in the understanding of key sites and migratory routes. In October 2007, ornithologists at Doğa Derneği (BirdLife in Turkey) made the amazing discovery of some 3,200 Sociable Lapwings in the Ceylanpinar area on the Syrian border, again demonstrating that the population was not as low as first feared.



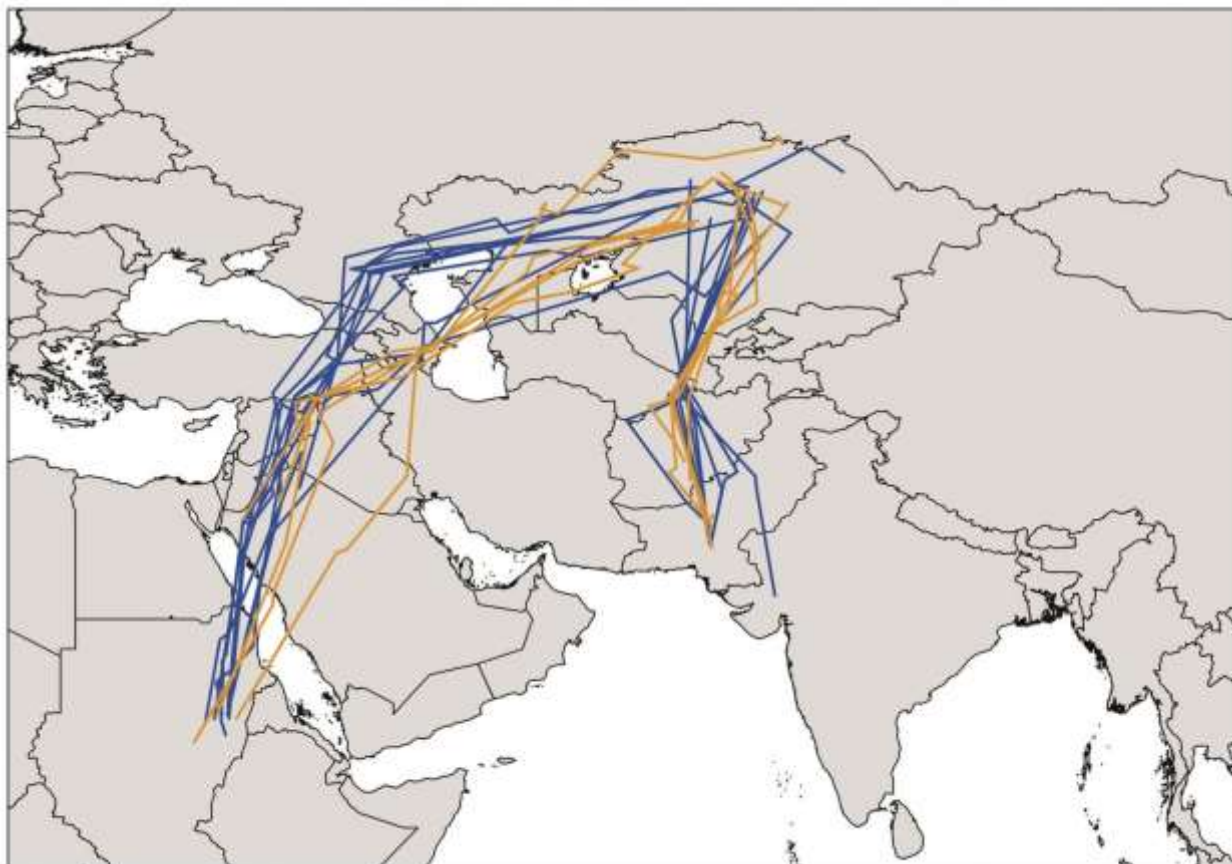
Subsequent surveys confirmed that this area on both sides of the Turkey-Syria border is a key stopover site for the species in both spring and autumn. Two of the satellite-tagged birds continued their journeys south and were eventually tracked to Sudan, where they spent the winter months; one returned to the same area for two additional winters. These were the first records of Sociable Lapwings in Sudan for more than 80 years.

Surveys by the Sudanese Wildlife Society located several small wintering flocks, including one of the satellite-tagged individuals. The largest group was 38 birds in January 2009. It is thought that once Sociable Lapwings reach their wintering grounds they disperse into smaller flocks, making them less conspicuous.

“Sociable Lapwings require closely-cropped sward so they can have a good view of predators; it’s like nesting on a billiard table. Finding them in the unspeakably vast Central Steppes of Asia is a challenge. When partners in Sudan found our tagged birds, we were over the moon. This work, of over a decade, is a fantastic example of international collaboration within and beyond the BirdLife Partnership,” says Paul Donald, Senior Researcher, BirdLife International (and previously RSPB).

More birds were tagged in Kazakhstan in 2010, and again birds were tracked through the Middle East and into Africa. A further significant discovery was made when satellite-tagged birds spent the winter in northern Saudi Arabia. Additional surveys in the Tabuk area of northern Saudi and Haradh in the Eastern Province have confirmed that small numbers are now wintering in the country.

The vast majority of Sociable Lapwing sightings in the Arabian Peninsula are on irrigated fields. The artificial habitat that these fields provide is a relatively recent phenomenon, and it could be that their presence has changed the migratory behaviour of Sociable Lapwings – why continue migrating south to Africa when new food-rich sources are available?



*The Sociable Lapwing's migratory routes (brown in spring, blue in autumn). Map © Paul Donald*

### **A passage to India**

A big gap in our knowledge was understanding the importance of the eastern migratory route, where birds head from the Kazakh breeding grounds towards India. From 2010-2015, seven tagged birds took this route and consistently stopped on the Turkmenistan-Uzbekistan border, suggesting the presence of a regular stopover site. A survey in October 2014 by the Uzbekistan Society for the Protection of Birds (UzSPB, BirdLife in Uzbekistan) recorded up to 400 Sociable Lapwings using the area known as Talimarzhan, an Important Bird & Biodiversity Area, which at the time was the largest count of the species made in Uzbekistan, or indeed anywhere on the southern route.

In autumn 2015 an expedition involving teams on both sides of this border recorded a single day maximum count of 4,225 birds, and the total number estimated to be using the area was between 6,000-8,000. This amazing discovery again highlighted that the global population of Sociable Lapwings was much higher than previously thought, and also suggested that the eastern migratory route was just as important, if not more so, than the western flyway.

Of all the countries in which Sociable Lapwings are known to winter, India has the most records, mainly in the north-west (especially Gujarat and Rajasthan). In December 2010, 90 birds were counted near Ahmedabad – one of the largest wintering flocks ever recorded. Satellite tracking also highlighted the importance of Pakistan as a wintering site, and this was again confirmed by ground-based surveys. In early 2016, a team from the Saiban Development Organisation located a record flock of 200 Sociable Lapwings along the Indus River valley, and the following winter over 500 birds were found in Sindh, including a single flock of 365 birds which (there's a theme here) was the largest wintering flock ever recorded in Pakistan.

"The Sociable Lapwing lives up to its name not only because it is gregarious, but also because it has brought together so many professionals and experts from different countries. Our international team is an example of a long-term and sustainable partnership aimed at conserving this unique species," says Ruslan Urazaliyev, Research fellow, ACBK, who has worked on the Sociable Lapwing project since 2008.





### Ongoing threats

With records of hunting from several countries along the western flyway, combined with low annual survival estimated from long-term survival data, it seems very likely that the key threat to the Sociable Lapwing is illegal killing. Hunting has not been recorded along the eastern route but can't be discounted as a threat.

Changes in land use may also be a significant threat. A survey in Sudan in December 2018 didn't locate any Sociable Lapwings in an area where tagged birds had previously been recorded. The main crop under cultivation was sorghum, which grows too tall to be used by Sociable Lapwings, and the stubble remaining once harvested is too dense. In recent years concerns have been raised about the sustainability of extensive areas of irrigated pivot fields in parts of the Middle East, and it is likely that restrictions will be put in place to limit this type of agricultural management in the future. This will almost certainly mean Sociable Lapwings will have to continue south in search of suitable wintering grounds.



*Images on social media suggested that illegal killing was a key threat in parts of the Middle East*

On the breeding grounds in Kazakhstan, we know that Sociable Lapwings are strongly associated with villages, as these are where domestic livestock are concentrated. Grazing cattle and sheep create the short swards required for their nests. Any changes in how livestock are managed could have profound impacts, both positive and negative, on the suitability of the steppes for breeding.

Satellite tracking and field surveys have shown that migrating Sociable Lapwings are reliant on just a small number of key sites, especially those that take the eastern route, where probably the whole flyway population spends at least a month each year at Talimerzhan. Protection of these sites will clearly be crucial to the long-term survival of the species.

The situation for the Sociable Lapwing is not as dire as it was in 2004. The global population may be in the region of 24,000 individuals, but whether there is an ongoing decline is less clear. The Manych Depression in south-west Russia is the only key stopover site for which there is long-term monitoring data. In September 2010 the maximum single day count was 1,070 birds, with a steady annual decline to just four birds in 2019.

On the breeding grounds of Kazakhstan, repeat surveys in 2018-2019 found a maximum of 15 nests compared to between 83-126 nests from the same study area in 2005-2011. It is not clear how these declines on the breeding grounds and the western migration route are representative of the global population, but they are a cause for concern. It seems that this enigmatic steppe wanderer faces pressures in all parts of its vast range, and its story is far from over.



Locating

and monitoring nests was vital to help understand breeding success © Rob Sheldon

*This work was partly funded by grants from the Darwin Initiative of the UK Government. Additional funding was provided through the BirdLife Preventing Extinctions Programme by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and Swarovski Optik; plus the African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement, the German Ornithological Society, the Mohammed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund, and the Ornithological Society of the Middle East, the Caucasus & Central Asia.*



## Count Programme by Linda Cross

The 2021 National Winter count was scheduled for 17 July. In total, 97 sites were counted which included 4 sites at Queensland Aluminium Limited in Gladstone that have not been counted since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic and 8 additional sites in the Burdekin River area that have recently been added to the count programme. Of these, 50 were counted on the count day and most other counts were surveyed on the day before, or within 2 days of the actual count day. Moreton Island count took place on 14 July, Caloundra on 20 July and Burdekin River on 21 July respectively. Regrettably, 5 sites were not counted. The count produced a total of 9,308 waders.

In the table below are the results for the National Winter count. Species listed as per IOC checklist January 2021. Also included in the last column are the totals for the 2020 winter count for comparison.

Species	FNQ	CQ	GSS	SC	NMB	CMB	SMB	GC/TH	Totals 2021	Totals 2020
Bush Stone-curlew	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Beach Stone-curlew	-	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	8	7
Pied Oystercatcher	71	4	22	21	64	72	155	12	421	282
Sooty Oystercatcher	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	2
Pied Stilt	8	140	331	13	581	1183	811	61	3128	1366
Red-necked Avocet	-	-	17	-	-	949	151	71	1188	-
Masked Lapwing	9	28	38	16	192	72	64	17	436	257
Red-kneed Dotterel	-	-	6	-	-	-	2	-	8	-
Pacific Golden Plover	-	-	-	11	4	34	6	-	55	22
Grey Plover	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	26
Red-capped Plover	35	124	85	11	99	232	57	-	643	582
Double-banded Plover	-	-	4	-	175	31	125	-	335	142
Lesser Sand Plover	-	-	10	-	66	60	6	-	142	249
Greater Sand Plover	1	1	1	-	-	4	-	-	7	24
Black-fronted Dotterel	7	25	-	-	18	13	16	-	79	42
Comb-crested Jacana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Eurasian Whimbrel	116	-	4	3	31	5	-	1	160	240
Far Eastern Curlew	60	3	41	-	133	68	98	1	404	368
Bar-tailed Godwit	94	-	195	8	400	446	146	-	1289	1929
Black-tailed Godwit	-	-	1	-	-	-	19	-	20	2
Ruddy Turnstone	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Great Knot	118	-	9	-	-	52	11	-	190	192
Red Knot	-	-	27	-	-	-	-	-	27	3
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Curlew Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	121	-	-	121	2
Red-necked Stint	28	79	1	-	43	333	84	-	568	847
Terek Sandpiper	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	20
Grey-tailed Tattler	10	-	2	-	-	21	-	-	33	519
Marsh Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3	3
Common Greenshank	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	3	12
Unidentified Sand Plover	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Unidentified small wader	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	12	-
Unidentified med wader	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3	-
<b>Total Wader Species</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Total Wader Numbers</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>795</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>1810</b>	<b>3704</b>	<b>1751</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>9308</b>	<b>7185</b>

FNQ – Far North Queensland – Burdekin River, Cairns and Cooktown (11 sites).

CQ – Central Queensland – Gladstone and Yeppoon (7 sites). (No counts for Bundaberg or Mackay)

GSS – Great Sandy Strait – Tin Can Bay, Boonooroo, Maaroom and Hervey Bay (12 sites).

SC – Sunshine Coast – Caloundra, Maroochy River and Noosa River (10 sites).

NMB – North Moreton Bay – Moreton Island, Redcliffe, Deception Bay, Bribie Island and Toorbul (24 sites).

CMB – Central Moreton Bay – Port of Brisbane, St. Helena Island, Kedron Brook and Pine River (11 sites).

SMB – Southern Moreton Bay – Victoria Point, Thornlands, Cleveland, North Stradbroke Island, Wellington Point, Thorneside, Manly and Lytton (16 sites).

GC/TH – Tweed Heads NSW (6 sites).

It should be noted that there are 14 sub sites within the Port of Brisbane complex but recorded as 1 site in the above explanation.

In comparison to the 2020 winter count, totals for 7 of the 9 resident wader species recorded are notably higher with stilts and avocets producing the bulk of the increase. In the migratory species, Bar-tailed Godwit and Red-necked Stint numbers were slightly lower and Grey-tailed Tattler numbers were absent from favoured roosts during the counts.

In the table, 18 migratory (1 less than last year) and 9 resident species (same as last year) were recorded during the winter count. Migratory waders accounted for 36.5% (3,395) of the count. Of those migratory wader numbers, 38% were Bar-tailed Godwit, Red-necked Stint nearly 17% and Far Eastern Curlew just under 12%. Resident wader numbers were 63.5% (5,913) of the count with Pied Stilt accounting for 53% of the resident species followed by Red-necked Avocet with 20% and Red-capped Plover with 11%. The combined south, central and north Moreton Bay sites recorded 78% of the total winter count.

As mentioned in the opening paragraph of this article, 8 additional sites were added to the count programme from the Burdekin River area (Bowling Green south of Townsville). Earlier this year (March) QWSG members visited the area to undertake survey work as part of funding from the Queensland Government's Community Sustainability Action grant program, and during the survey they were fortunate to recruit 2 new members (Denise and Graham Holder) into the count programme. The counts that Denise and Graham will undertake at numerous sites in the Burdekin River area will be a valuable contribution to the QWSG database and we extend our thanks to them both for joining the count programme. Having already undertaken 2 counts in July, we welcome them both and look forward to a continued relationship with them.

A few resident wader species (stilts, avocets and dotterels) and water birds that have been notably missing for many months of counts have recently started to be recorded in large numbers at some sites. Although Australian Tern are being recorded in large numbers, it appears that ducks and cormorants are still in small numbers.

Pied Stilt (including numerous immature) was recorded at 37 sites during the last few months. Some of the higher counts include Port of Brisbane complex (1,070) on 09.05.21, Toorbul sites combined (523) on 17.07.21, Manly Harbour (428) on 30.05.21, Maaroom (385) on 08.05.21, Kedron Brook Wetlands (383) on 08.05.21, Lytton Claypan No. 1 (380) on 17.07.21 and Dohle's Rock's Road Pond Pine River (343) on 17.07.21. Between 100 to 300 birds were recorded at 5 other sites.

Red-necked Avocet have only been recorded at 4 sites in July. Port of Brisbane complex (523) on 18.07.21, Gregory Road Hay's Inlet (426) on 17.07.21, Lytton Claypan No. 1 (151) on 18.07.21 and Maaroom (17) on 17.07.21.

Black-fronted Dotterel have been recorded at 12 sites since early May with the highest counts coming from King Street Mudflat Thornlands (29) on 10.05.21, Queensland Aluminium Ltd, Pond 7 (19) on 16.07.21, Deception Bay claypan (14) on 16.07.21 and Kedron Brook Wetlands (11) on 18.07.21. Other counts recorded birds in single figures from Cooktown, Cairns, Gladstone, Great Sandy Strait and Moreton Bay.

Double-banded Plover will soon be leaving our shores to return to their breeding grounds on the South Island of New Zealand. Records came from 11 sites from May through to the end of July, with comments in the latter month about the birds being in full to near full breeding plumage. Some of the highest counts came from Reeder's Point Moreton Island (155) on 14.07.21, East Geoff Skinner Reserve (97) on 17.07.21, Port of Brisbane complex (31) on 18.07.21, King Street Mudflat Thornlands (20) on 17.07.21, Redcliffe airport north side (10) on 16.07.21 and Kakadu Beach Bribie Island (9) on 18.07.21.

The Nordman's Greenshank that dropped into Cairns at the beginning of the year was last recorded on a count received for 09.05.21 and has not been seen since early May, suggesting that it undertook northward migration.

A few extracts from counts appear below. Additional extracts (migratory and resident) can be found in the "Interesting wader sightings" section of the newsletter.

Pacific Golden Plover: Port of Brisbane complex (34) on 18.07.21

Grey Plover: Burdekin River 1 (2) on 24.07.21

Eurasian Whimbrel: Peters Island north bank east (55) on 21.07.21, Toorbul (30) on 17.07.21

Far Eastern Curlew: Maaroom (117) on 08.05.21, Port of Brisbane complex (116) on 09.05.21, Toorbul (115) on 17.07.21

Bar-tailed Godwit: Port of Brisbane complex (768) on 29.05.21, Manly Harbour (652) on 08.07.21, Maaroom (520) on 08.05.21

Black-tailed Godwit: Lytton Claypan No. 1 (19) on 18.07.21, Maaroom (1) on 17.07.21

Great Knot: Maaroom (356) on 12.06.21

Red Knot: Maaroom (27) on 18.07.21

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper: Port of Brisbane complex (44) on 18.07.21 and Queensland Aluminium Ltd Pond 7 Gladstone (1) on 16.07.21



Curlew Sandpiper: Port of Brisbane complex (121) on 18.07.21  
 Red-necked Stint: Port of Brisbane complex (500) on 09.05.21 and (331) on 18.07.21  
 Terek Sandpiper: Burdekin River 1 (20) on 24.07.21, Maaroom (7) on 08.05.21  
 Marsh Sandpiper: Pine Rivers Wetland Reserve (2) on 17.07.21, Lytton Claypan No.1 (1) on 17.07.21  
 Common Greenshank: Pine Rivers Wetland Reserve (2) on 17.07.11 and Maaroom (1) on 17.07.21.

Unfortunately, it is not always possible to include all articles in the paper version of the newsletter as there is a page limit for posting, so "Interesting wader sightings" and "Not waders but of interest anyway" sections may not appear. However, if you have an email address, please ask for the electronic version, which has all the articles that could not be included in the paper version. The electronic version is also in colour.

### Breeding records:

Pied Oystercatcher: Manly Harbour (pair nesting on island) on 29.07.21  
 Masked Lapwing: Maaroom (nesting on Esplanade Road) on 18.07.21, Manly Harbour (pair nesting in dredge spoil area) on 27.06.21  
 Black-fronted Dotterel: Kedron Brook Wetlands (3 young) on 27.06.21  
 Pied Stilt: Manly Harbour (3 chicks) on 08.06.21 and (a pair with 3 chicks only a few days old) on 30.05.21

We would like to remind members that the new counter for Tweed Heads (Erina Forrest) is looking for anyone in the Gold Coast/Tweed Heads area that would be willing to help her conduct the counts. Please contact Erina by email at [erina.forrest@gmail.com](mailto:erina.forrest@gmail.com)

Counters not entering their counts online, please continue to send them to me at my email or postal address as follows: [xenus69@bigpond.com](mailto:xenus69@bigpond.com)

Snail mail: 40 Thompson Road, Bellmere. Qld 4510 Phone: 5495 2758 Mobile: 0490 080 340

**A reminder that Leg flag sightings must not be entered online during count entry. Please note that you can now enter flagged and banded sightings on the new website. If you prefer, you can still email sightings to his email address [phillipcross50@gmail.com](mailto:phillipcross50@gmail.com) Please contact Phil or myself for the Leg Flag Observation Report Form.**

Happy counting.  
 Linda Cross.

## Interesting Sightings

### Interesting wader sightings – as per IOC species list January 2021

Beach Stone-curlew: Noosa River Mouth sandbanks (3) on 15.07.21, Reeder's Point Moreton Island (3) on 14.07.21, Buckley's Hole Bribie Island (3) on 08.05.21, Maroochy River sand bar (1) on 17.07.21 and Gables Point Rocks Hervey Bay (1) on 09.05.21  
 Pied Oystercatcher: Dunwich North Stradbroke (one mile) (98) on 17.07.21  
 Sooty Oystercatcher: Wickham Point (2) on 20.07.21 and Toorbul sandfly (1) on 26.06.21  
 Masked Lapwing: Bishop's Marsh Toorbul (90) on 17.07.21  
 Red-kneed Dotterel: Garnett's Lagoon 1 Susan River (5) on 17.07.2 and Lytton Claypan No 1 (2) on 18.07.21  
 Red-capped Plover: Port of Brisbane complex (154) on 18.07.21, Queensland Aluminium Ltd ponds combined (84) on 16.07.21, O'Reagan's Creek Hervey Bay W side (70) on 08.05.21 and Reeder's Point Moreton Island (69) on 14.07.21.

### Not waders but of interest anyway – as per IOC species list January 2021

Plumed Whistling Duck: Bishop's Marsh, Toorbul (135) on 26.06.21  
 Australasian Shoveler: Garnett's Lagoon 1 and 2 combined, Susan River (6) on 17.07.21  
 Pacific Black Duck: Kinka Wetlands Yeppoon (204) on 17.07.21  
 Buff-banded Rail: Dohle's Rock's Road Pond Pine River (1) on 17.07.21  
 Brolga: Kinka Wetlands Yeppoon (19 – includes 3 juvenile birds) on 17.07.21, Garnett's Lagoon 2 Susan River (6) on 17.07.21, Redcliffe airport north side (1) on 16.07.21  
 Silver Gull: Port of Brisbane complex (227) on 09.05.21, Kakadu Beach Bribie Island (156 - includes several juvenile) on 11.07.21  
 Gull-billed Tern: Godwin Beach (1) on 06.06.21, Toorbul (1) on 08.05.21  
 Australian Tern: Kakadu Beach Bribie Island (496) on 18.07.21, Maaroom (390) on 18.07.21  
 Lesser Crested Tern: Burdekin River 1 (29) on 21.07.21, Peters Island north bank east (12) on 21.07.21, Manly Harbour (12) on 30.05.21, O'Reagan's Creek Hervey Bay W side (8) on 17.07.21  
 Whiskered Tern: Maroochy River sand bar (4) on 07.05.21 and Kedron Brook Wetlands (1) on 27.06.21

White-winged Tern: Maroochy River sand bar (4) on 07.05.21  
 Black-necked Stork: Burdekin River 4 (2) on 21.07.21, Bishop's Marsh Toorbul (2) on 17.07.21, Endeavour River claypan Cooktown (1) on 09.07.21 Buckley's Hole Bribie Island (1) on 06.06.21, Cairns Esplanade (1) on 14.05.21, Kedron Brook Wetlands (1) on 08.05.21, Garnett's Lagoon 2 Susan River (3 – 2 adults, 1 immature) on 08.05.21  
 Australasian Gannet: Wickham Point (3) 20.07.21  
 Australian Pied Cormorant: Queensland Aluminium Ltd, Pond 4 Gladstone (300 – breeding colony, predominately young birds) on 16.07.21  
 Great Cormorant: Kedron Brook Wetlands (2) on 08.05.21  
 Australian White Ibis: Port of Brisbane complex (140) on 18.07.21, Godwin Beach (117) on 06.06.21  
 Straw-necked Ibis: Garnett's Lagoon 1 and 2 combined Susan River (202) on 08.05.21  
 Glossy Ibis: Nathan Road Redcliffe (26) on 16.07.21, Kedron Brook Wetlands (14) on 27.06.21, Garnet's Lagoon 1 and 2 combined Susan River (8) on 17.07.21, Kinka Wetlands Yeppoon (3) on 08.05.21, Dohle's Rock's Road Pond Pine River (1) on 17.07.21  
 Yellow-billed Spoonbill: Garnett's Lagoon.1 and 2 combined Susan River (2) on 08.05.21  
 Eastern Cattle Egret: Garnett's Lagoon 1 and 2 combined Susan River (208) on 17.07.21  
 White-necked Heron: Toorbul George Bishop causeway claypan (1) on 17.07.21  
 White-faced Heron: Redcliffe airport north side (75) on 16.07.21  
 Pacific Reef Heron: Goat Island SE Moreton Bay (7 -1 white, 6 grey) on 14.07.21  
 Little Eagle: Pine Rivers Wetland Reserve (1) on 17.07.21 and Maaroom (1) on 17.07.21.

## Wader Watch by Phil Cross

The updated QWSG website now has a tab to 'report a banded / leg flag sighting' on the main page, you may have to scroll down the page to find it.

### **GREEN leg flag sightings seen in QLD**

A quantity of 90 flag sightings have been added to the database since the last newsletter.

A total of 7 different species with a flag were recorded - Bar-tailed Godwit, Bush Stone-curlew, Great Knot, Grey-tailed Tattler, Pied Oystercatcher, Pied Stilt and Ruddy Turnstone.

Thank you to the observers who reported these sightings – Mary Barram, Tony Cotter, Linda Cross, Phil Cross, Sandra Harding, Geoffrey Hui, Arthur Keates, Penn Lloyd, Mary Riek, Peter Rothlisberg, Daniel Townend, Dez Wells and Melissa Whitby.

### **GREEN leg flag sightings seen INTERSTATE**

Nil

### **GREEN leg flag sightings seen OVERSEAS**

#### **China**

##### **Red Knot**

AYX on flag – 24.4.21 – Bohai China – Chris Hassell  
 Engraved flag unread – 16.4.21 – Bohai China – Chris Hassell  
 Engraved flag unread – 21 & 28.5.21 – Bohai China – Chris Hassell

##### **Curlew Sandpiper**

BHC on flag – 12.5.21 – Hangu China – Chris Hassell  
 ATF on flag – 19.5.21 – Hangu China – Chris Hassell

##### **Great Knot**

Engraved flag unread – 5.5.21 – Zuidong near Tanshang Hebei Prov Bohai China – Chris Hassell  
 Engraved flag unread – 6.5.21 – Bohai China – Chris Hassell

#### **Japan**

##### **Bar-tailed Godwit**

BJV on flag – 9.5.20 – Arao Beach Arao-shi Kumamoto Kyushu – Hiroshi Noishiki

##### **Grey-tailed Tattler**

APY on flag – 19.8.2015 – Ikawazu Tidal Flat Tahara-shi Aichi-ken – Tsunomura Kenichi  
 APY on flag – 11.5.2016 – Ikawazu Tidal Flat Tahara-shi Aichi-ken – Tsunomura Kenichi  
 APY on flag – 17.5.2017 – Ikawazu Tidal Flat Tahara-shi Aichi-ken – Tsunomura Kenichi  
 APY on flag – 20.5.2020 – Ikawazu Tidal Flat Tahara-shi Aichi-ken – Tsunomura Kenichi  
 AZK on flag – 3.8.2019 – Ano Beach Tokoname-shi Aichi-ken – Takabumi Suzuki  
 BXD on flag – 20.5.2020 – Sohara-cho Matsusak-shi Mie-ken – Kazumi Miyagoe  
 BZB on flag – 8.5.2020 – Matsubara Mikata Gun Mihamo Cho Fukui-ken – Masumi Takeda  
 CBV on flag – 14.5.2020 – Sohara-cho Matsusak-shi Mie-ken – Yoko Tanaka



CKX on flag – 18.5.2020 – Sakata-shi Yamagata-ken – Masahiro Ichihara

CPZ on flag – 10.5.2020 – Kirara Beach Nature Reserve Ajisu Yamaguchi-shi Yamaguchi-ken – Akihiro Teramoto

CYP on flag – 29.4.20 – Irino Hata Gun Kuroshio Cho Kochi Ken – Takahide Mori

CKZ on flag – 9 & 14.5.21 – Sanbanze Tidal Flat Funabashi Chiba – Shota Sawamoto

CZM on flag – 24.5.20 – Yoshitaka Inzai-shi Chiba – Kazuo Naganuma

CZN on flag – 23.5.20 – Ohiramachi Kurai Tochigi-shi Tochigi-ken – Noboru Komeda

KZ on flag – 9.5.20 – Zaimokuza Kamakura-shi Kanagawa-ken – Hideo Ike

#### Pacific Golden Plover

Engraved flag unread – 12.4.20 – Kagamicho Kishimoto Konan Shi Kochi Ken – Dai Ikeuchi

#### Ruddy Turnstone

CCN on flag – 5.5.20 – Komesu Beach Itoman-shi Okinawa – Takashi Sakurai

### **South Korea**

#### Bar-tailed Godwit

All below seen at Aphae Island (south) by Andreas Kim

AVB on flag – 8 & 12.5.21

EC on flag – 25, 26, 27 & 29.4.21

EC on flag – 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12 & 14.5.21

PR on flag – 25, 26, 27 & 29.4.21

PR on flag – 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11 & 12.5.21

#### Terek Sandpiper

AEX on flag – 6.9.20 – Aphae Island (South) – Andreas Kim

### **YELLOW (WA) leg flag sightings seen in Qld**

Nil

### **ORANGE (Victoria) leg flag sightings seen in QLD.**

Nil

### **Caspian Tern Orange flag (Victoria)**

U8 on flag – 8.5.21 -Buckley's Hole Bribie – Dez Wells

### **OVERSEAS FLAGGED birds seen in QLD**

#### **BLACK over WHITE (Shanghai, China) leg flag sightings**

##### Great Knot

Plain flags – 6.2.21 – Burdekin River mouth – Denise & Graham Holder

Plain flags – 8.2.21 – Burdekin River mouth – Denise & Graham Holder

##### Red Knot

Plain flags – 25.11.19 – Burdekin River mouth – Denise & Graham Holder

#### **BLACK over YELLOW (Kamchatka, Russia) leg flag sightings**

##### Great Knot

L2 on yellow flag – 6.2.21 – Burdekin River mouth – Denise & Graham Holder

#### **WHITE over BLUE (Taiwan, China) leg flag sightings**

##### Greater Sand Plover

Plain flags – 23.2.21 – Burdekin River mouth – Denise & Graham Holder

##### Curlew Sandpiper

Engraved flag unread – 27.2.21 – Burdekin River mouth – Denise & Graham Holder

##### Red-necked Stint

J39 on white flag – 25.11.19 – Burdekin River mouth – Denise & Graham Holder

#### **BLUE ( Hokkaido, Japan ) leg flag sightings**

Nil

#### **BLUE & WHITE ( Torinoumi Japan ) leg flag sightings**

Nil

#### **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.

##### Flagged in NSW

C4 on flag – 16.7.21 – St Helena Island – Franziska Speck

C4 on flag – 19.7.21 – St Helena Island – Robert Bush

## Wader ID Days

### **Manly Boat Harbour**

Sunday 26 September - meeting time 12:30  
 Sunday 10 October - meeting time 12:30  
 Sunday 28 November - meeting time 15:45

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

The gate will be locked after we enter the site and late arrivals will not be able to enter. Participants must wear enclosed footwear and will be required to sign a form acknowledging responsibility for their own health and safety. Anyone who does not comply with conditions will not be allowed to enter the site or asked to leave.

**Participation in a field trip is strictly limited to those whose registration with the leaders is confirmed by the leaders.**

Leaders: Arthur and Sheryl Keates 04 9095 1661.

### **Toorbul**

Tuesday 21 September Meeting time 8:45  
 2.06m high tide at 10:13.  
 Tuesday 26 October Meeting time 11:45  
 2.11m high tide at 13:15.  
 Thursday 25 November Meeting time 12:00  
 2.17m high tide at 13:34.

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.

Leaders: Phil & Linda Cross 5495 2758 if you have any questions. Linda's mobile: 0490 080 340

### **Kakadu Beach roost Bribie Island**

Saturday 6 November Meeting time 08:45 onwards  
 2.56m high tide at 10:26. .

Take the Bruce Highway north from Brisbane and take the Bribie Island exit. Continue on this road to Bribie Island and follow the signs to Banksia Beach. When you arrive at the T-junction at Banksia Beach turn left and after a short distance turn right into the car park for the roost. A bird hide is positioned at both ends of the roost.

We are hoping that the king tide will help produce a variety of birds onto this roost as the large tide may push the waders off other roosts.

Leaders: Phil & Linda Cross 5495 2758 if you have any questions. Linda's mobile: 0490 080 340

### **To register for an outing**

Please send a text message to the leaders stating your name and email address. The leaders will, in accordance with BQ's COVID-19 safety practices, keep an attendance register of participants including these details for tracing purposes.

Participants will be required to sign the attendance register acknowledging they have read, and agree to comply with, the COVID-19 safe practices outlined in BQ's website:

<https://www.birdsqueensland.org.au/covid-19.php>

PLEASE NOTE: As the outings are subject to any restrictions applying in relation to COVID-19, please confirm attendance with the leaders the day before the outing.



An abstract about Waders

## Temperature and density influence survival in a rapidly declining migratory shorebird

Aonghais S.C.P.Cook<sup>a</sup>Niall H.K.Burton<sup>a</sup>Stephen G.Dodd<sup>b,c</sup>Simon Foster<sup>d</sup>Robert J.Pell<sup>e</sup>Robin M.Ward<sup>f,1</sup>Lucy J.Wright<sup>ae,2</sup>Robert A.Robinson<sup>ae</sup>

### Abstract

Migratory species face geographically dispersed pressures over the course of their annual cycles. Designing effective conservation strategies for these species requires a detailed understanding of how these different pressures affect demographic rates throughout the annual cycle. As a long-lived species, population trends in the rapidly declining Eurasian curlew *Numenius arquata* are likely to be highly sensitive to impacts on adult survival. We combine data from multiple sources to analyse survival rates of overlapping populations that breed and/or winter in the United Kingdom. Our analyses demonstrate that curlew survival rates are reduced by cold weather and at high density; however, overall survival rates are high and have increased in recent years. Current population declines are, therefore, likely to be driven by low productivity. As such, efforts to stabilise and reverse declines should focus on increasing breeding success from current estimated levels of 0.25 chicks nest<sup>-1</sup> to 0.43 chicks nest<sup>-1</sup>. In addition to increasing productivity, effective conservation strategies will need to maintain high levels of survival, which requires an improved understanding of population connectivity and demographic variation throughout the annual cycle.

### Keywords

Survival, Eurasian curlew, Demography, Numeniini, Climate, Full annual cycle

## 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, Stephen Prowse [president@birdsqueensland.org.au](mailto:president@birdsqueensland.org.au)  
 Secretary, Janette Thurley [secretary@birdsqueensland.org.au](mailto:secretary@birdsqueensland.org.au)  
 Treasurer, Wayne Lock [treasurer@birdsqueensland.org.au](mailto:treasurer@birdsqueensland.org.au)

## NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members who have joined recently:

Kaya Barry, Neil Bruce, Mark Clarke & Randelle Best, Tiarna Coughlin,  
 Paul Fisk, Judy Galville, Kate Hallen, Patrick Hennessy, Robert Hocker,  
 Denise and Graham Holder, Tara Hunter, Tony Longson, John Lowry,  
 Linda McMahon, Gary Morris, Gavin O'Meara & Judith Hoyle, Jan Parr,  
 Jaylan Schabrod, Carolyn Scott, Hannah Sherlock, Tony Stokes,  
 Colin Trainor, Alison Woodley

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.

**PLEASE CHECK TO SEE IF YOUR RENEWAL IS DUE!**

## Chairperson Note re: AGM and New Committee Members

It is coming up to that time of year for the AGM and leading up to this period the Committee is looking to find out who wishes to stay or leave. As ever we are hoping to get new blood on to the Committee.

We are finding that we are an ever aging and have a concern about the future running of our group.

It might seem to be a daunting prospect to join a group of people who have been working together for a long time. We would really like to see some new faces with new ideas and experiences. You are not expected to be thrown in at the deep end but can learn on the job.

If you are interested, please contact one of the Committee to see what is involved in being part of the Committee. All are welcome.

In anticipation David Edwards, Chairperson QWSG

## Notice of the QWSG's AGM for 2021

The 2021 QWSG AGM will be held on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 2021 at 2:30 pm at Swan Lake Parking Area at the Port of Brisbane, on Lucinda Way

If a Covid Lock down is called we will make arrangements for a Zoom meeting to take place instead.

Please email the chairperson if you are coming along, plus let me know if you require a nomination form for a committee position. [chairperson@waders.org.au](mailto:chairperson@waders.org.au) or [secretary@waders.org.au](mailto:secretary@waders.org.au)

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### NOMINATION FOR POSITION ON QWSG MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Name of Nominee: .....

Position: .....

Name of Proposer: .....

Name of Seconder: .....

(Note: Nominees, proposers and seconders must have current QWSG membership).

I accept the nomination for the position on the management committee of the Queensland Wader Study Group as indicated.

## QWSG CONTACTS

### QUEENSLAND WADER

The Official Quarterly Publication of Queensland Wader Study Group

Website [www.waders.org.au](http://www.waders.org.au)

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

### MEMBERS of the MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE of the QWSG

<u>CHAIRPERSON:</u>	David Edwards	(07) 3262 2017	<a href="mailto:chairperson@waders.org.au">chairperson@waders.org.au</a>
<u>TREASURER</u>	Judith Giles	0409 062 310	<a href="mailto:treasurer@waders.org.au">treasurer@waders.org.au</a>
<u>SECRETARY:</u>	Peter Rothlisberg	(07) 3822 3759	<a href="mailto:secretary@waders.org.au">secretary@waders.org.au</a>
<u>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY</u>	Brenda Smith		<a href="mailto:membership@waders.org.au">membership@waders.org.au</a>
<u>NEWSLETTER EDITOR:</u>	David Edwards	(07) 3262 2017	<a href="mailto:gouldian6@bigpond.com">gouldian6@bigpond.com</a>

### QWSG COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Robert Bush	0404 805 558	Jon Coleman	(07) 3299 2780
Peter Driscoll	0418 212 627	Paul Finn	0480 177 792
Ross McMillan		Brad Woodworth	0439 577 551

<u>COUNT COORDINATOR:</u>	Linda Cross	07 5495 2758	Email	<a href="mailto:counts@waders.org.au">counts@waders.org.au</a>
<u>LEG FLAG COORDINATOR</u>	Phil Cross	07 5495 2758	Email	<a href="mailto:legflags@waders.org.au">legflags@waders.org.au</a>

BQ PRESIDENT Stephen Prowse Email [president@birdsqueensland.org.au](mailto:president@birdsqueensland.org.au)

CORRESPONDENCE All correspondence to:  
The QWSG Secretary,  
PO Box 3138,  
SOUTH BRISBANE,  
QLD 4101.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS Please notify the Membership Secretary 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:  
Membership Secretary or QWSG Treasurer,  
PO Box 3138,  
SOUTH BRISBANE,  
QLD 4101.

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 **November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

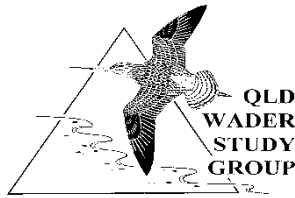
Contributions should be addressed to:

David Edwards, the QWSG Editor, 54 Elliott Street, Clayfield, Qld 4011  
or E-mail to: [gouldian6@bigpond.com](mailto:gouldian6@bigpond.com)

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

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## Count Activities – 2021

### QWSG High Tide – Monthly Count Program 2021

Sat 11<sup>th</sup> Sep 2.17m at 12:32  
 Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct 2.27m at 10:57  
 Sat 20<sup>th</sup> Nov 2.38m at 10:00  
 Sat 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 2.15m at 15:25

Counters Rockhampton and north – please select a date as close as possible to the count programme day with suitable tides to enable you to complete your counts.

### Port of Brisbane Count Dates 2021

Sun 12<sup>th</sup> Sep 2.15m at 13:24 Meet 12:05  
 Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Oct 2.24m at 11:30 Meet 10:10  
 Sun 21<sup>st</sup> Nov 2.37m at 10:33 Meet 09:10  
 Sun 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 2.05m at 16:23 Meet 15:00

Because of the ever-present worry of Covid please check to see what Government restrictions apply

### 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 .....

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 :.....)

You will receive your newsletter (colour version) by E-mail.....

Signature ..... Date:.....

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

Direct funds transfer to: **OR Please post this form to:** QWSG Membership Secretary

Qld Wader Study Group

PO Box 3138,

BSB: 313 140 (Bank Australia)

SOUTH BRISBANE,

Account number: 08305297

QLD 4101.

PLEASE CHECK TO SEE IF YOUR RENEWAL IS DUE!