26th Alaska Shorebird Group Meeting

Group met 1st time on 10 April 1996 (24 1/2 years ago)

http://alaskashorebirdgroup.com/ <<new website >>

<< thanks to Zak Pohlen >>

- Terms of Reference
- Members of the Executive Committee
- Conservation Plan / Presentations from recent meeting
  - Will upload ppt from this meeting
- Meeting minutes
- Shorebird Projects in Alaska
  - 2002 to present
- Alaska Shorebird Group listserv
  - Write Richard_Lanctot@fws.gov to get added
  - post by sending email to ak.shorebird@lists.fws.gov

Arctic Migratory Bird Initiative

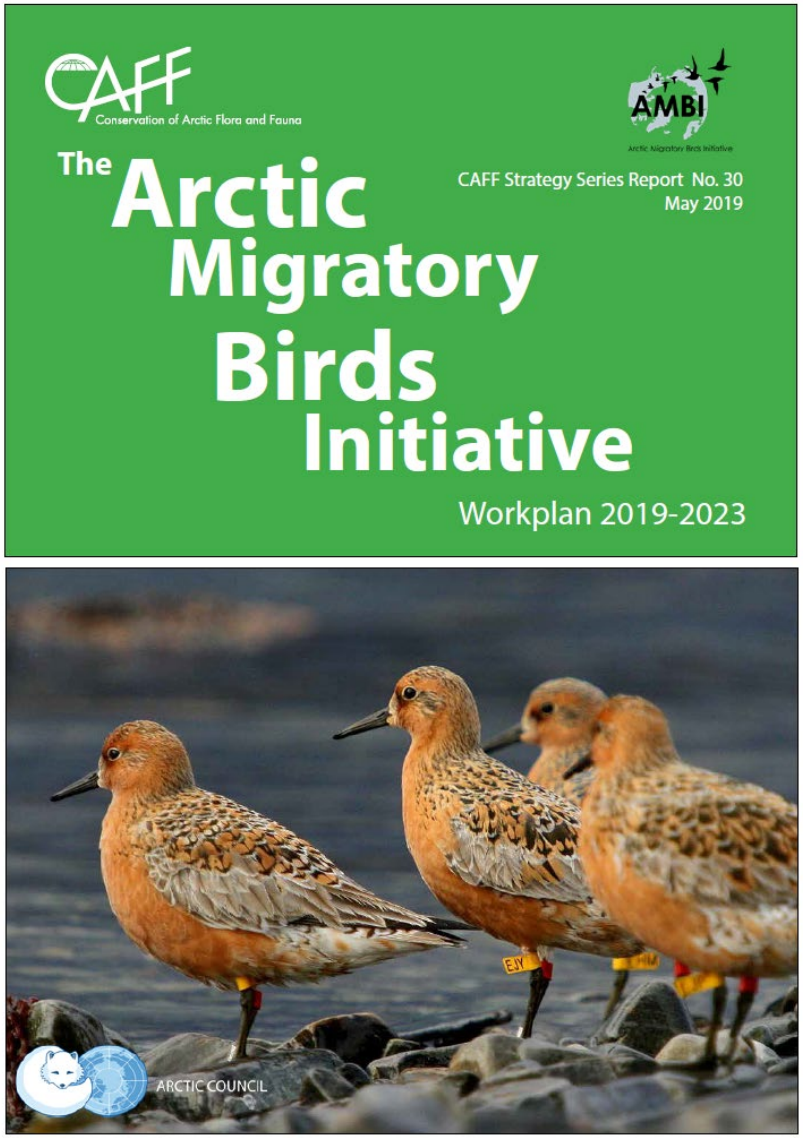
Began in 2015, instrument of the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna Working Group, which is part of the Arctic Council. 2nd work plan began in 2019.

Goal is to improve conservation status and secure the long-term sustainability of declining Arctic breeding migratory bird populations.

Approach is to use the power of the Arctic Council to engage non-Arctic countries to help shorebirds on nonbreeding grounds

Work plans for 4 flyways

- East Asian-Australasian Flyway
- African-Eurasian Flyway
- Americas Flyway
- Circumpolar Flyway



Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative (AMBI): Americas Flyway Workplan

Richard Lanctot, *US Fish and Wildlife Service, USA*
Rob Clay, *Western Hemispheric Shorebird Reserve Network, Paraguay*
Garry Donaldson, *Environment and Climate Change Canada, Canada*
Paul Smith, *Environment and Climate Change Canada, Canada*
Danielle Paludo, *CEMAVE, Brazil*
Humberto Berlanga, *CONABIO/Mexico*
Courtney Price, *AMBI Global Coordinator, CAFF Secretariat*
Isadora Angarita-Martínez, *AMBI Americas Flyway Coordinator*

Contributors to the development of this workplan:
Martin Robards, *Wildlife Conservation Society Arctic Beringia Program, USA*
Brad Andres, *US Fish and Wildlife Service, USA*
Natalie Savoie, *Environment and Climate Change Canada, Canada*
Cynthia Pekarik, *Environment and Climate Change Canada, Canada*

Americas Flyway priority species in this workplan

Red Knot (spp. *rufa* and *roselaari*)

Semipalmated Sandpiper

Buff-breasted Sandpiper

Red Phalarope

Red-necked Phalarope

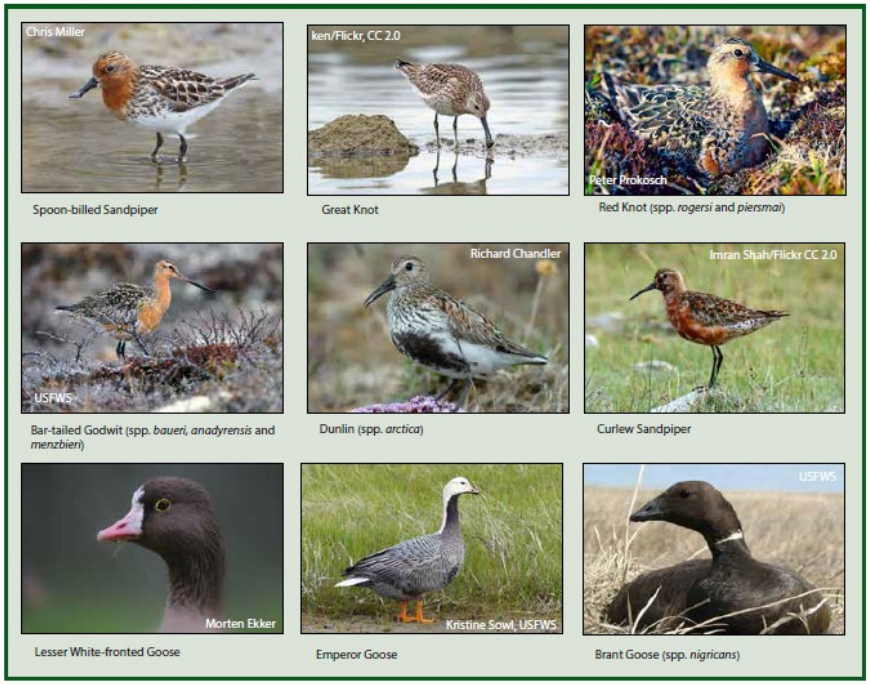
Themes

1. Evaluate impacts of overabundant geese populations on Arctic shorebird habitat and implement appropriate mitigation measures.
2. Identification of climate resilient shorebird breeding and wintering habitat
3. Reduce shorebird habitat impairment from human intrusions, disturbances, destruction and degradation
4. Flyway Planning and Implementation

Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative (AMBI): East Asian-Australasian Flyway Workplan

Evgeny Syroechkovskiy, *Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Russian Federation*
Richard B. Lanctot, *Migratory Bird Management Division, United States Fish and Wildlife Service,*
Lu Jun, *National Bird Banding Center of China, National Wildlife Research and Development Cent and Grasslands Administration, P.R. China*
How Choon Beng, *National Parks Board, Singapore, Singapore*
Sung-Ryoung Kang, *National Inistitute of Ecology, Republic of Korea*
Tomoko Ichikawa, *Ministry of the Environment, Japan*
Shiro Tatsuzawa, *Hokkaido University, Japan*
Suresh Kumar, *Wildlife Institute of India, India*
Balachandran Sivananinthaperumal, *Bombay Natural History Society, India*
Ding Li Yong, *BirdLife International, Singapore*
Courtney Price, *AMBI Global Coordinator, CAFF Secretariat*
Doug Watkins, *AMBI East Asian Australasian Flyway Coordinator*

East Asian Australasian Flyway priority species in this workplan



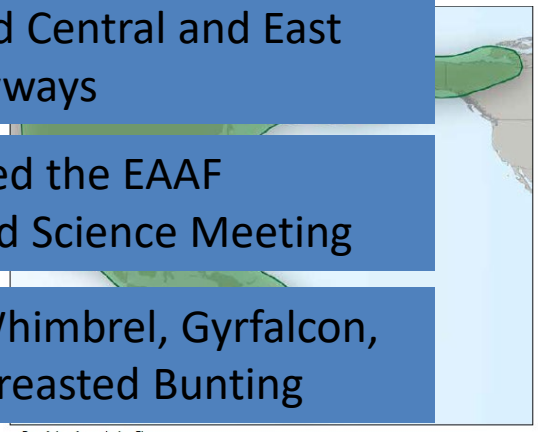
Objectives

1. Identify and secure important breeding and staging habitats of key AMBI-EAAF migratory bird species in Arctic Russia and Alaska.
2. Secure intertidal and associated habitat for AMBI priority species at key staging and wintering sites.
3. Prevent illegal hunting and regulate unsustainable legal harvest of Arctic migratory birds along the flyway.
4. Work with partners to increase the number and quality of population estimates of Arctic breeding waterbirds.
5. Address other threats to Arctic migratory birds along EAAF and improve international cooperation.

Renamed Central and East Asian Flyways

Supported the EAAF Shorebird Science Meeting

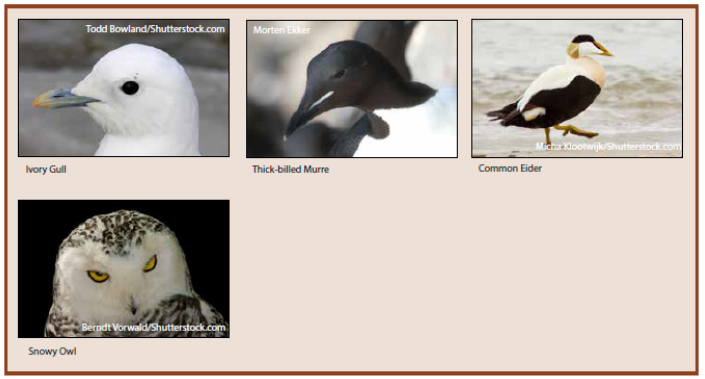
added Whimbrel, Gyrfalcon, Yellow-breasted Bunting



Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative (AMBI): Circumpolar Flyway Workplan

Grant Gilchrist, *Environment and Climate Change Canada, Canada*
Amie Black, *Environment and Climate Change Canada, Canada*
Morten Ekker, *Norwegian Environment Agendy, Norway*
Mia Rönkä, *University of Turku, Chair Circumpolar Seabird Expert Group (CBird), Finland*
Rory Crawford, *Birdlife International*
Ingar Jostein Øien , *BirdLife Norway, International Snowy Owl Working Group*
CAFF's Circumpolar Seabird Expert Group (CBird)
Courtney Price, *CAFF Secretariat, AMBI Global Coordinator*

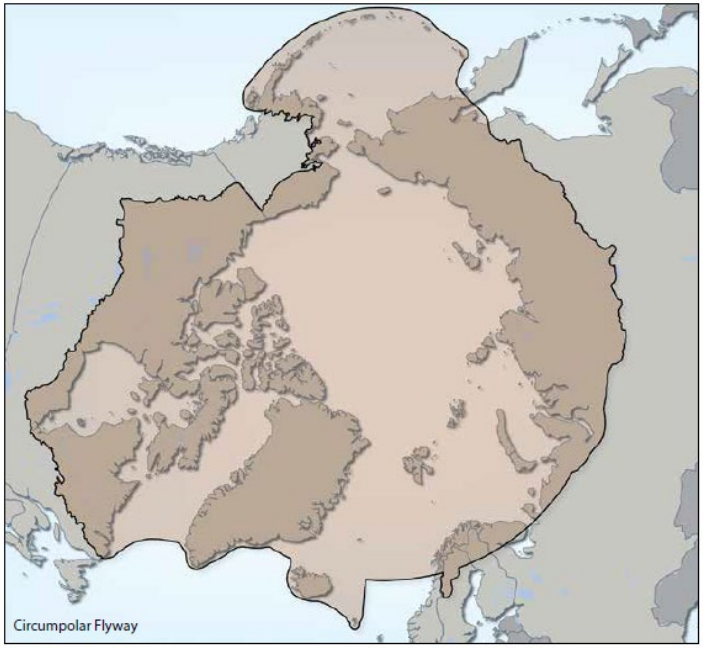
Circumpolar Flyway priority species in this workplan



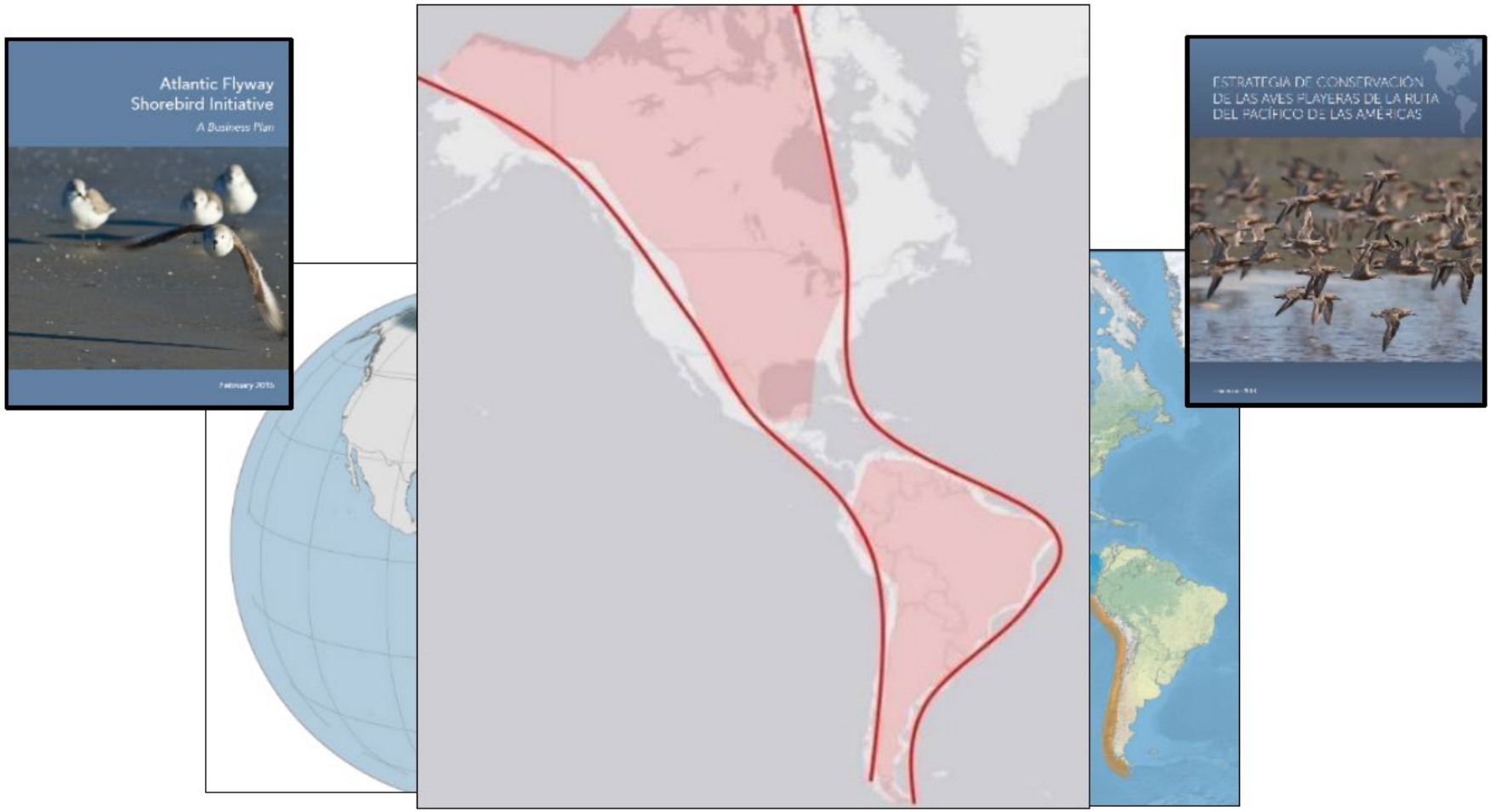
added Northern Fulmar

Objectives

1. Enhance data collection and data input into habitat protection initiatives
2. Harvest assessments and mitigation of unsustainable harvest
3. Mitigate seabird and seaduck bycatch
4. Address environmental pollution issues
5. Support the activities and priorities of the International Snowy Owl Working Group



Midcontinent Shorebird Conservation Initiative

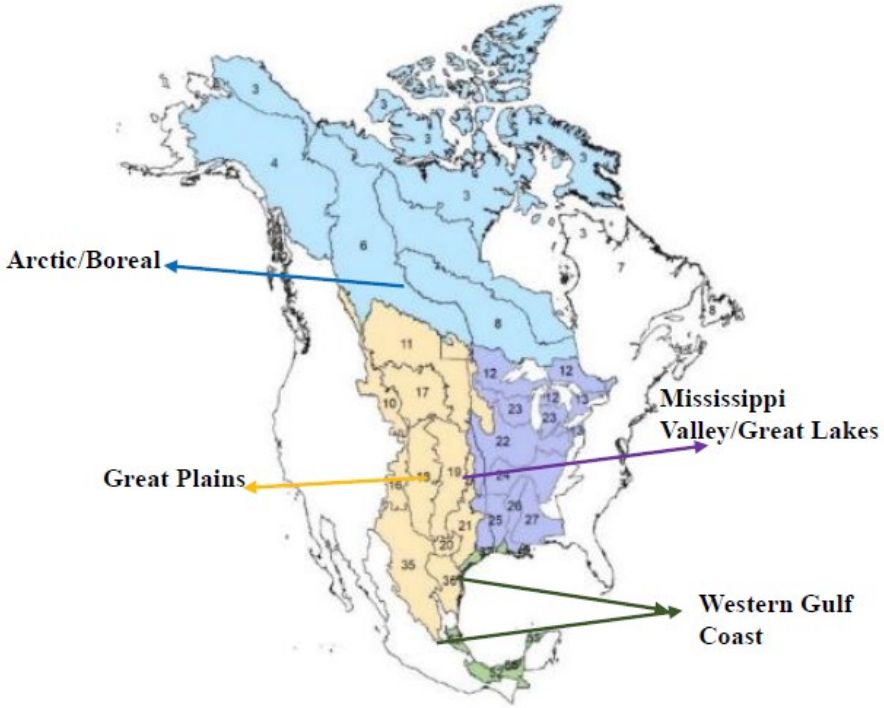


Contacts: Brad Andres, Kelli Stone, US Fish and Wildlife Service – North America
Isadora Angarita, Rob Clay, Manomet, Inc. – South America

Midcontinent Shorebird Conservation Initiative - Geography

North America

- based on BCRs and administrative flyways



South America

- Regions and habitats not influenced by the tide along northern and eastern coasts

Table 1: Focal Species (26) in Midcontinent Shorebird Conservation Initiative. August 2020

Within North America Migrants (8 species)	
Snowy Plover	*Charadrius nivosus*
Wilson's Plover	*Charadrius wilsonia*
Piping Plover	*Charadrius melodus*
Mountain Plover	*Charadrius montanus*
Long-billed Curlew	*Numenius americanus*
Marbled Godwit	*Limosa fedoa*
Red Knot	*Calidris canutus rufa*
Western Sandpiper	*Calidris mauri*
North America – South America Migrants (9 species)	
American Golden-Plover	*Pluvialis dominica*
Upland Sandpiper	*Bartramia longicauda*
Hudsonian Godwit	*Limosa haemastica*
Stilt Sandpiper	*Calidris himantopus*
Baird´s Sandpiper	*Calidris bairdii*
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	*Calidris subruficollis*
Pectoral Sandpiper	*Calidris melanotos*
Wilson´s Phalarope	*Phalaropus tricolor*
Lesser Yellowlegs	*Tringa flavipes*
Within South America Migrants (9 species)	
Magellanic Plover	*Pluvianellus socialis*
Andean Avocet	*Recurvirostra andina*
Tawny-throated Dotterel	*Oreopholus ruficollis*
Two-banded Plover	*Charadrius falklandicus*
Diademed Sandpiper-Plover	*Phegornis mitchellii*
Rufous-bellied Seedsnipe	*Attagis gayi*
Gray-breasted Seedsnipe	*Thinocorus orbignyianus*
South American Snipe	*Gallinago paraguaiae*
Noble Snipe	*Gallinago nobilis*

Midcontinent Shorebird Conservation Initiative

What it will do:

- Place local action in a flyway context
- Facilitate collaboration at the scales necessary to conserve migratory shorebirds and their habitats
- Enhance partner and stakeholder abilities to collaborate
- Integrate efforts throughout the Flyway to sustain a suite of shorebird populations for present and future generations
- Complement other large-scale plans, national bird and shorebird plans, multilateral agreements (CMS, Ramsar, etc), treaties, etc.

Midcontinent Shorebird Conservation Initiative

Process:

- Incorporate information from existing plans
- Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation
  - Similar to AFSI & PSCI
  - Conservation targets & include human well-being benefits
  - Consistent products (North & South)
- Partner input through virtual workshops
- Review workshop products & draft sections of framework
- Draft of entire MSCI framework expected by the end of 2021


Shorebird Science and
Conservation Collective:
an opening discussion
Funding to translate shorebird tracking data into on-the-ground conservation
Autumn-Lynn Harrison
Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center
Rick Lanctot
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Black-bellied Plover, Alaska. Ryan Askren / USGS

Shorebird Collective

To advance shorebird conservation throughout the Western Hemisphere by providing scientific capacity for analyzing and integrating tracking data for community-driven management needs

David Newstead, setting his twinkling strategy

Tim Romano, Smithsonian

Key Features

1. Fill existing analytical voids in applying shorebird tracking data to management
2. Provide talented people for demand-driven scientific support to diverse conservation stakeholders
3. Key questions and applications determined from within the shorebird community through an **Advisory Group**
4. Use science to promote most effective on-the-ground conservation

The proposed model

Killdeer, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, American Golden-plover
Ken Schneider & Kane County Audubon

Three Knobloch Shorebird Conservation Fellows

- Hosted at Smithsonian to foster a team culture of cross-contributions
- Potential for "employee details" to other institutions (e.g., Environment and Climate Change Canada, Cornell Lab of Ornithology) to allow focused collaboration

Advice and priority questions received from:

Advisory Group of practitioners and scientists

- US and Canadian Shorebird Conservation Partnership councils; WHSG Exo Co; Midcontinent, Atlantic and Pacific initiatives
- JV8 Central Grassland Initiative, State and private entities

Success of the Shorebird Collective depends on participation of the shorebird community!

Combines tracking data from many researchers,

- Initial webinar on subject held 20 November 2020, see presentation at: https://bit.ly/3601F1D ("0" is zero)

- Follow-up Shorebird Data Holders webinar on January 5, 2021 (10 AM Alaska time) –three groups who wish to use tracking information

Shorebird Science and Conservation Collective

The Migratory Connectivity Project

Audubon

Western Hemisphere Shorebird Group

Launched in 2006

Goals are to

1. Raise the public's awareness of shorebirds
2. Promote research, monitoring, management, conservation and education/outreach relevant to shorebirds in Western Hemisphere
3. To provide a structured forum to facilitate, coordinate, and enhance the exchange of shorebird information
4. Promote range-wide management and conservation of shorebirds in the Western Hemisphere

Main effort is holding biennial scientific meetings that rotate between North, Central and South America

Website: westernshorebirdgroup.org

Facebook page: Western Hemisphere Shorebird Group

Contact Rick Lanctot to join WHSG listserv

Typical WHSG meeting will have:

- 4 days of talks, 1 field trip day
- 4 plenary speakers, 8 symposium and 3 concurrent sessions of 20 minute talks
- Workshops – NABC Shorebird Banding Training, Buff-breasted Sandpiper Conservation, Trophic Ecology, Mid-continental Flyway Shorebird Initiative
- Student oral and poster awards
- Alan Baker Lifetime Achievement Award for Shorebird Conservation
- Lewis Oring Lifetime Achievement Award for Shorebird Research
- Pablo Canevari Award – on-the-ground conservation, WHSRN

- Travel Awards to students throughout Western Hemisphere, Latin American professionals, and early career North American professionals
- ~150 to 200 people from 20+ countries attend
- Bilingual (Spanish, English)

9th. WHSG

9na. REUNIÓN DEL GRUPO DE AVES PLAYERAS DEL HEMISFERIO OCCIDENTAL

9th. WESTERN HEMISPHERE SHOREBIRDS GROUP MEETING

2021

1 al 6 de septiembre de 2021 – Puerto Madryn, Argentina

Postponed until September 2022

Local Hosts:

Luis Oscar Bala, Academia Nacional de Ciencias de Buenos Aires

Vero D'Amico, Centro Nacional Patagonico

East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership

- Launched in 2006, precursor started in 1996
- Goal is to protect migratory waterbirds, their habitat *and the livelihoods of people dependent upon them.*
- Currently 39 partners from 18 countries, 6 intergovernmental agencies, 13 international NGO, and 1 international private enterprise.
- Flyway Site Network
  - 144 designated sites
  - USA has 2 sites: Yukon Delta NWR, Qupaluk in NPR-A
- 7 Working Groups (including Shorebird Working Group) and 9 Task Forces
- Website: https://www.eaaflyway.net/project/shorebird-working-group/
- Facebook: East Asian-Australasian Flyway Shorebird Conservation Network
- Contact Rick Lanctot to join the EAAF Shorebird Working Group listserv

East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership

- Small Grant program, $5,000 max
- Shorebird Working Group priorities:
  - Support identification and monitoring of important sites
  - Support conservation of shorebird species
    - Spoon-billed Sandpiper, Far Eastern Curlew task forces, Nordmann's Greenshank
    - Help with red-listing of new species
    - Coordinate and promote collaboration of migration ecology studies along the EAAF
    - Engage with the Illegal Hunting, Taking, and Trade of Migratory Waterbirds - new Task Force
    - Develop a flyway shorebird conservation strategy
  - Support capacity building for shorebird conservation and management
    - Organize training workshops to enhance efforts to monitor, band, track, and manage sites
    - use existing field studies to expand experience of people throughout the flyway
    - Learn, share experiences and develop best managing practices
  - Enhance communication relating to shorebird conservation
- Next MOP Meeting, Brisbane Australia, March 2022
- Technical Committee and Outreach Committee updates – Casey Burns

Goals were:

1. to promote research that provides an evidence base for monitoring, management, conservation and education/outreach relevant to shorebirds in East Asia and Australasia.
2. to provide a structured forum to facilitate, coordinate, and enhance the exchange of shorebird information among interested parties.
3. to promote the conservation of shorebirds in the East Asia and Australasia.

Website: http://www.eaafssm.com/

- >400 registered from 39 countries
- 3 days of talks, 5 plenary speakers; content will be posted on YouTube soon
- Workshops and symposium: Spoon-billed Sandpiper, Nordmann's Greenshank, Dunlin, Far Eastern Curlew, Motus Array

Arctic Birds Breeding Conditions Survey

Two data sets

- Site data and general information
- Detailed bird, lemming, predator data

AK Shorebird Group Executive Committee

- Rebecca McGuire – chairperson (term expires)
- Laura McDuffie – Secretary
- River Gates – member
- Ben Lagasse – member (term expires)
- Dan Ruthrauff – member (term expires)
- Shiloh Schulte – member (term expires)
- Katie Christie – member
- Rick Lanctot – staff member