

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-Martinez, *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*

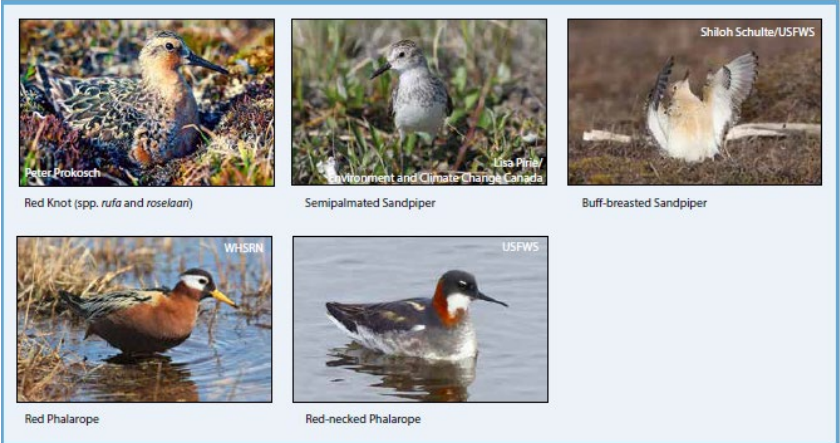
Natalie Savoie, *Environment and Climate Change Canada, Canada*

Cynthia Pekarik, *Environment and Climate Change Canada, Canada*

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

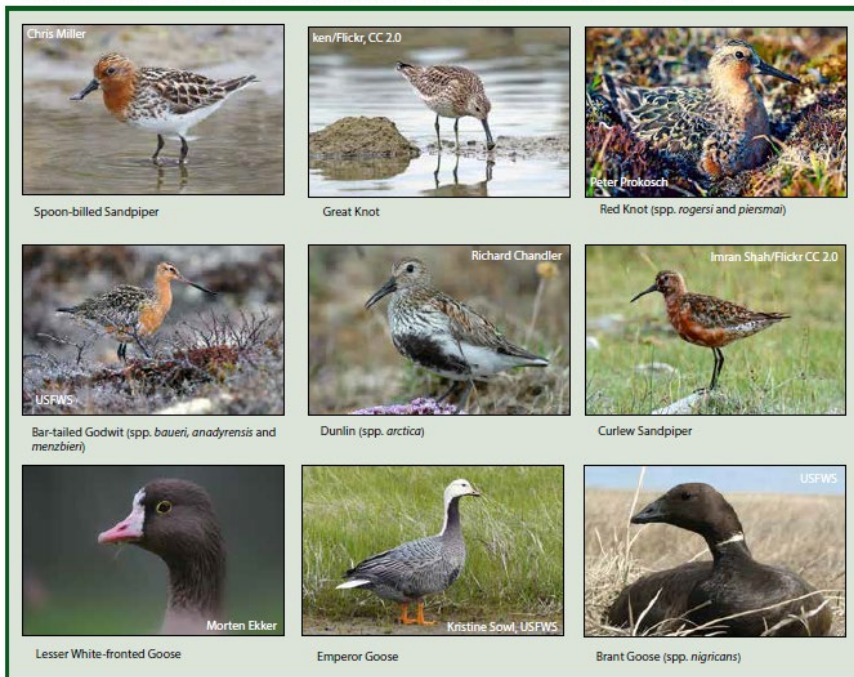
Americas Flyway priority species in this workplan



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 Center and Grasslands Administration, P.R. China
How Choon Beng, National Parks Board, Singapore, Singapore
Sung-Ryoung Kang, National Institute 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 Sivananthaperumal, 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

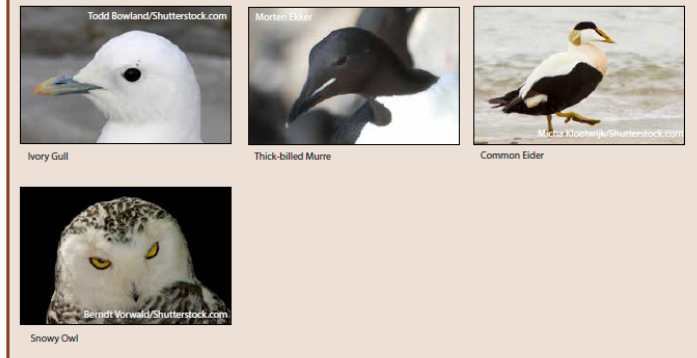
Grant Gilchrist, *Environment and Climate Change Canada, Canada*
Amie Black, *Environment and Climate Change Canada, Canada*
Morten Ekker, *Norwegian Environment Agency, Norway*
Mia Rönkä, *University of Turku, Chair Circumpolar Seabird Expert Group (CBird), Finland*
Rory Crawford, *BirdLife International*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

added Northern Fulmar

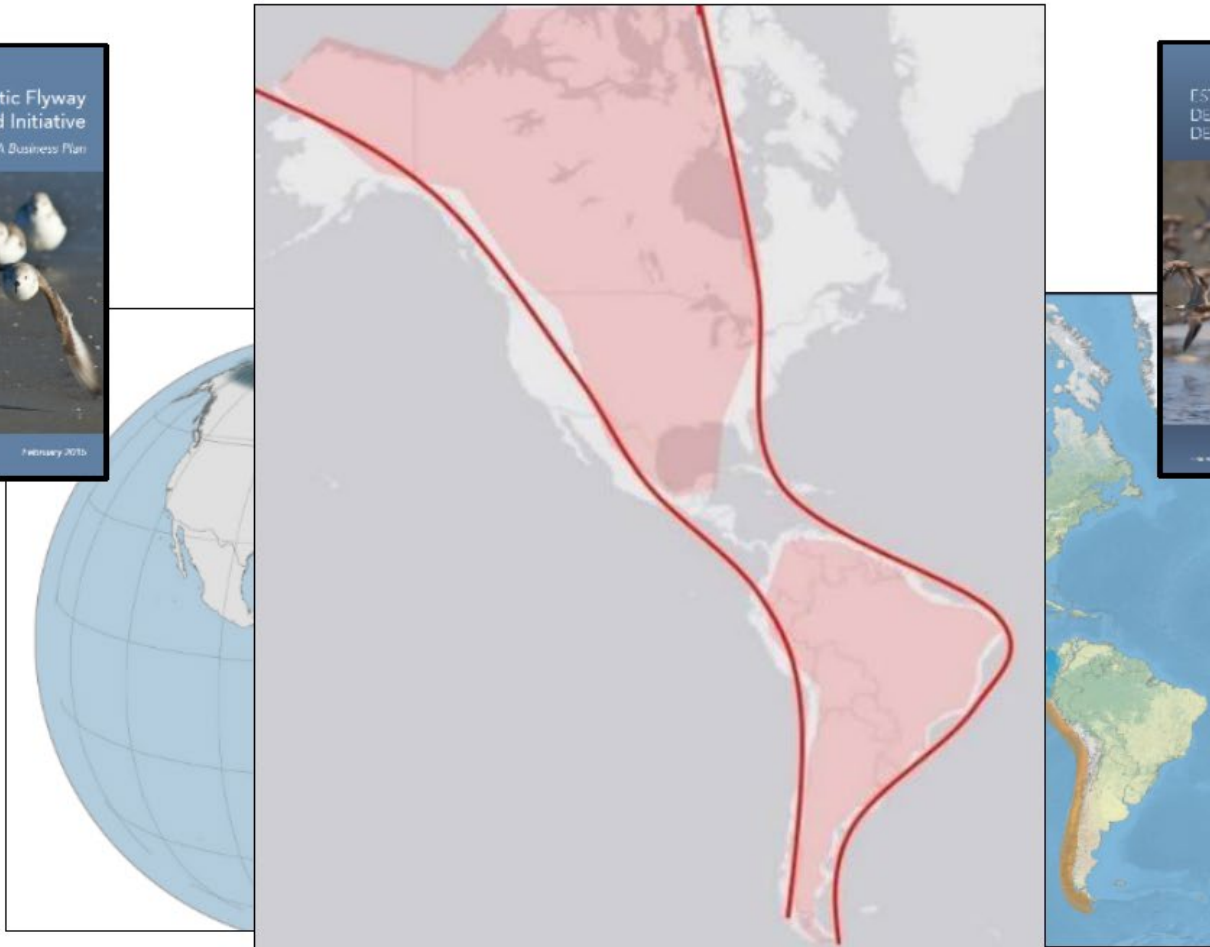
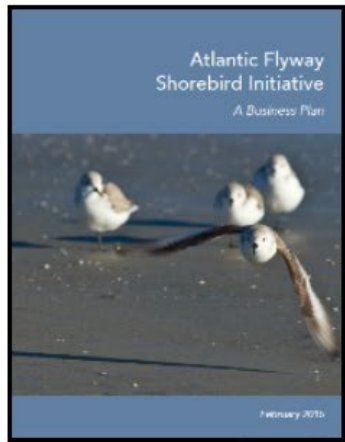
Objectives

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

Circumpolar Flyway priority species in this workplan



Midcontinent Shorebird Conservation Initiative

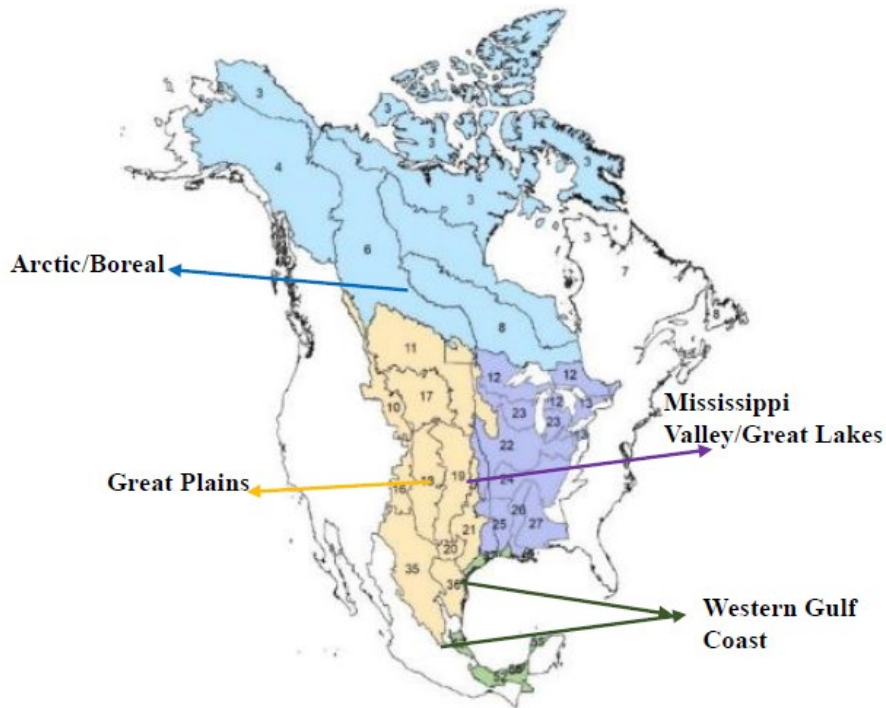


Contacts: Brad Andres, Kelli Stone, US Fish and Wildlife Service – North America
Isadora Angarita, Rob Clay, Manomet, Inc. – South America

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

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 MSCCI 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



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

2021

9th. WESTERN HEMISPHERE
SHOREBIRDS GROUP MEETING

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

Postponed until September 2022

Local Hosts:

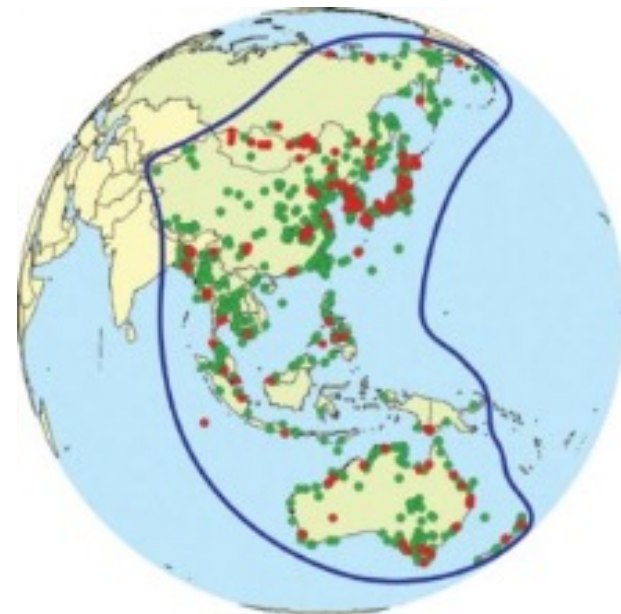
Luis Oscar Bala, Academia Nacional
de Ciencias de Buenos Aires

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



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Arctic Birds website. The header features the title "ARCTIC BIRDS" and the URL "www.arcticbirds.net" over a background image of a snowy Arctic landscape. A navigation menu on the right includes links for Home, Links, Download, and Contact. Below the header, there are language selection options for Russian (Rus) and English (Eng). The main content area is titled "The International Breeding Conditions Survey on Arctic Birds" and contains several sections: "Rationale" explaining the survey's purpose, "Data" describing the data collection process, "Involvement" detailing how researchers can contribute, and a "database updated:" section showing the date "28.02.2019". A sidebar on the left provides quick access to "BIRD BREEDING SUCCESS", "RODENT ABUNDANCE", "WEATHER", and "PREDATORS & PREY", each with a year selector (set to 2018) and a "Go" button.

ARCTIC BIRDS
www.arcticbirds.net

Home
Links
Download
Contact

Rus Eng

The International Breeding Conditions Survey on Arctic Birds

Rationale:
The International Breeding Conditions Survey on Arctic Birds (ABBCS) is a joint venture of [International Wader Study Group](#) and Wetlands International's [Goose](#) and Swan Specialist Groups. This project aims at collating information on environmental conditions on breeding grounds of Arctic nesting birds in a persistently updated database. Analyses of data on bird numbers and breeding performance during Arctic summer in relation to climatic, predatory and other relevant factors can give insights into ecological processes acting at wide scale, and also provide valuable information for the conservation of sites and species.

Data:
The database of International Wader Study Group and Wetlands International's Goose and Swan Specialist Groups accumulates simple and most up-to-date environmental information, obtained from many Arctic localities primarily by means of distributing questionnaires among Arctic field workers. Although being initially focused on waders and waterfowl and still making main emphasis on these groups due to their dominant role in most Arctic bird communities, the database now provides also for accumulation of data on other groups of Arctic terrestrial birds, as their responses to changing environment have often much in common.

Currently information is available online on bird [breeding success](#), [rodent abundance](#) and certain [weather characteristics](#) in the Arctic in the last season [2018](#), and summers [1988](#) to [2017](#).

Data on distribution and numbers of individual bird species can be obtained by querying the [Bird Species Database](#).

The first twelve issues of the bulletin "[Arctic Birds](#)" mainly (but not exclusively) describing bird breeding conditions in the Arctic in 1998 to 2009, respectively, can be [downloaded](#) from this site as pdf documents.

Involvement:
The survey developed from and primarily depends on voluntarily contribution of Arctic researchers willing to share their observations on bird breeding performance with view of creating general picture in a cooperative effort. Differences in geographic coverage among Arctic regions adversely affect a potential for synthesis from individual reports. Accordingly, every new piece of information is highly valued. Data from poorly covered localities help to fill obvious gaps, while data from areas with some coverage allow to evaluate bird breeding conditions there with higher detail. Therefore we encourage all visitors of the Arctic, not necessarily ornithologists or biologists, to join the survey by filling up questionnaires. Forms can be obtained from the [downloaded](#), or requested as a paper copy or electronically from any of the addresses below. In case of getting electronic form you can also return it by e-mail to mikhail-soloviev@yandex.ru after entering the necessary data. We would greatly appreciate feed-back and completed forms from Arctic researches and other visitors of Arctic regions.

More information is available from project [coordinators](#).

BIRD BREEDING SUCCESS
2018 Go

RODENT ABUNDANCE
2018 Go

WEATHER
2018 Go

PREDATORS & PREY
2018 Go

database updated:
28.02.2019

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