



ROAD TO RECOVERY 2026-2028

Presentation to Alaska Shorebird Group Meeting
February 23, 2026 Anchorage, Alaska



R2R APPROACH

- Focus on Tipping Point Species
- Understand limiting factors across the full annual cycle
- Develop actionable, co-produced recovery strategies
- Ensure conservation includes diverse communities, voices, and knowledge systems
- Track progress and adapt strategies over time



Credit: Katie Barnes

TIPPING POINT SPECIES

- Species that have lost **50% or more** of their population since 1970
- Currently **112 Tipping Point Species** identified
- Prioritized because declines are rapid, ongoing, and often accelerating
- Require immediate, species-specific interventions





ALASKA SHOREBIRDS ON THE “TIPPING POINT” SPECIES LIST

Red-Alert (2)

Bristle-thighed Curlew, Hudsonian Godwit

Orange-Alert (15)

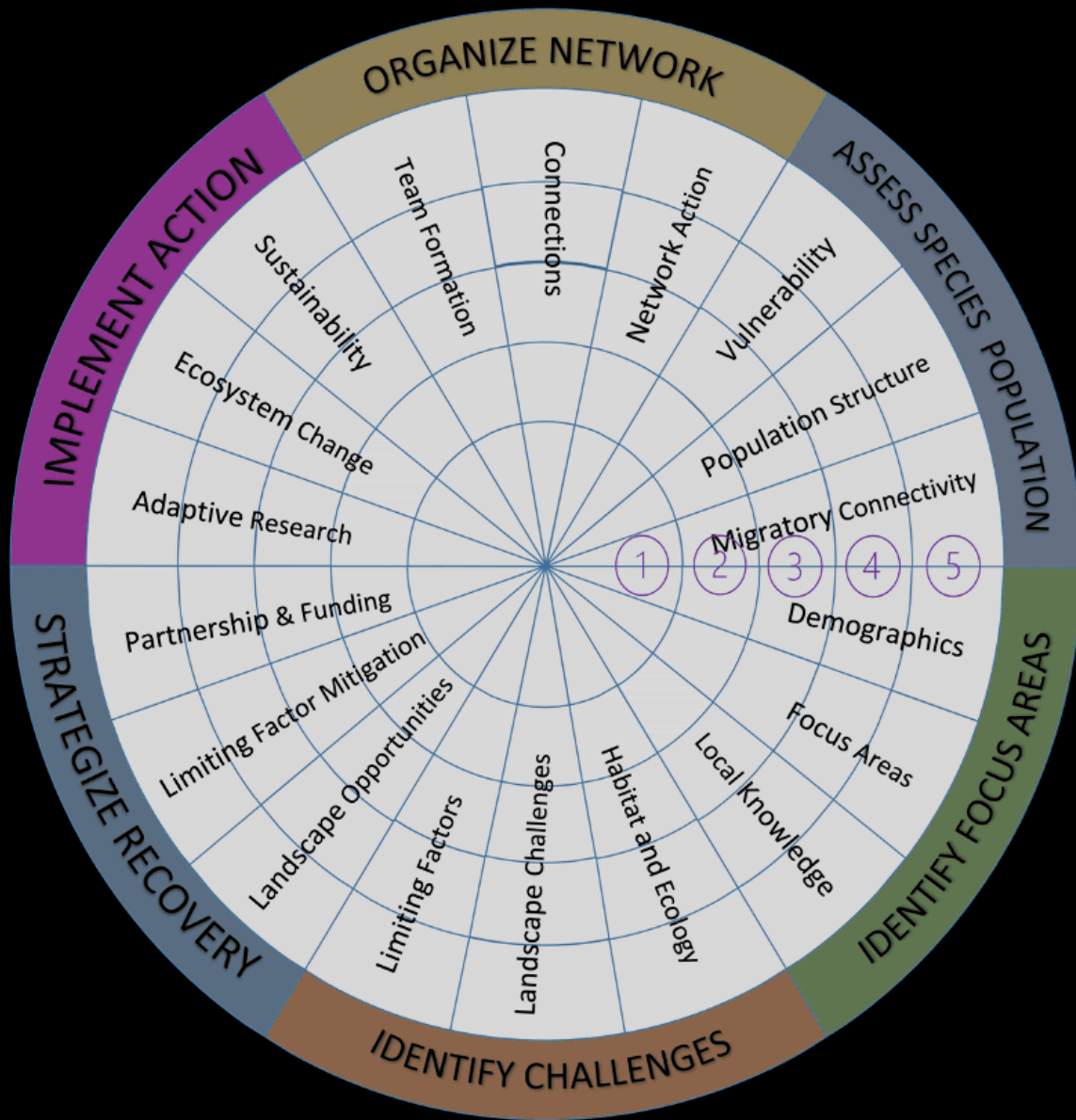
Piping Plover, Black-bellied Plover, American Golden-Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, Red Knot, Hudsonian Whimbrel, Short-billed Dowitcher, Long-billed Dowitcher, Lesser Yellowlegs, Greater Yellowlegs, Stilt Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Sanderling, Pectoral Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper

Yellow-Alert (3)

Wandering Tattler, Bar-tailed Godwit, Rock Sandpiper



R2R RECOVERY PROGRESS WHEEL



- A self-assessment and planning tool to evaluate recovery progress
- Guides planning and highlights gaps, strengths, and next steps
- Current Alaska Shorebird Wheels:
 - Lesser Yellowlegs
 - Buff-breasted Sandpiper
 - Hudsonian Whimbrel
 - Pacific Red Knot
 - Short-billed Dowitcher
 - Hudsonian Godwit



R2R GRANTS TO WORKING GROUPS

- Three tiers:
 - Tier 1: Developing and organizing-\$25k for 1 year
 - Tier 2: Advancing toward recovery-\$50k/year for 3 years
 - Tier 3: Implementing recovery-\$100k/year for 3 years
- Collaborative RFI→RFP process
- Timeline: Grants awarded by June 2026
- Tier 1 and Tier 2 grants available again in 2027 and 2028

R2R Technical Support

Social Scientist, Katie Holland

Species Recovery Specialist

International Partnerships Coordinator, Esmeralda Bravo

Part-time Graduate Fellow

Leadership Council partnerships



DIRECT SUPPORT & ENGAGEMENT

- Monthly species recovery team webinar series
- Engagement sessions and forums
- Consultations and Facilitation of the Wheel
- Regional meetings
- NCTC in-person workshop - January 2027

Visit: r2rbirds.org Workshop & Engagement Resources



Lesser Yellowleg

Creit: Brad Winn