



**IUCN Motion 024 –
Conservation of
intertidal habitats and
migratory waterbirds of the
East Asian-Australasian Flyway,
especially the Yellow Sea,
in a global context**

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Sponsor: BirdLife International

10 Co-sponsors:

- All-China Environment Federation (China)
- Australian Marine Conservation Society (Australia)
- China Mangrove Conservation Network (legal name: Putian Green Sprout Coastal Wetlands Research Center) (China)
- International Crane Foundation, Inc. (United States of America)
- Ministry of Environment, Republic of Korea (Korea (Republic of))
- Nature Society (Singapore) (Singapore)
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
- Wereld Natuur Fonds - Nederland (The Netherlands)
- Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
- World Wide Fund for Nature - Japan (Japan)

Motion 24 refers in preamble to:

International

- IUCN Resolutions 28 and 51 (2012)
- Arctic Migratory Bird Initiative EAAF Work Plan (2015)



China

- the Beijing declaration (2014)
- China Coastal Wetland Conservation Blueprint (2015)
- China Coastal Wetland Conservation Network (2015)
- MoU of Government of China and WWF to support coastal wetland and flyway conservation in China (2015)

Republic of Korea

- outcomes of the national Korea meetings (2016)

IUCN Motion 024: preamble

ALARMED by the **Red Listing as Globally Threatened or Near Threatened of an additional six migratory waterbird species** due to the rapid rate of conversion of intertidal wetlands in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (EAAF), particularly the Yellow Sea;



Terry Townshend



John O'Sullivan



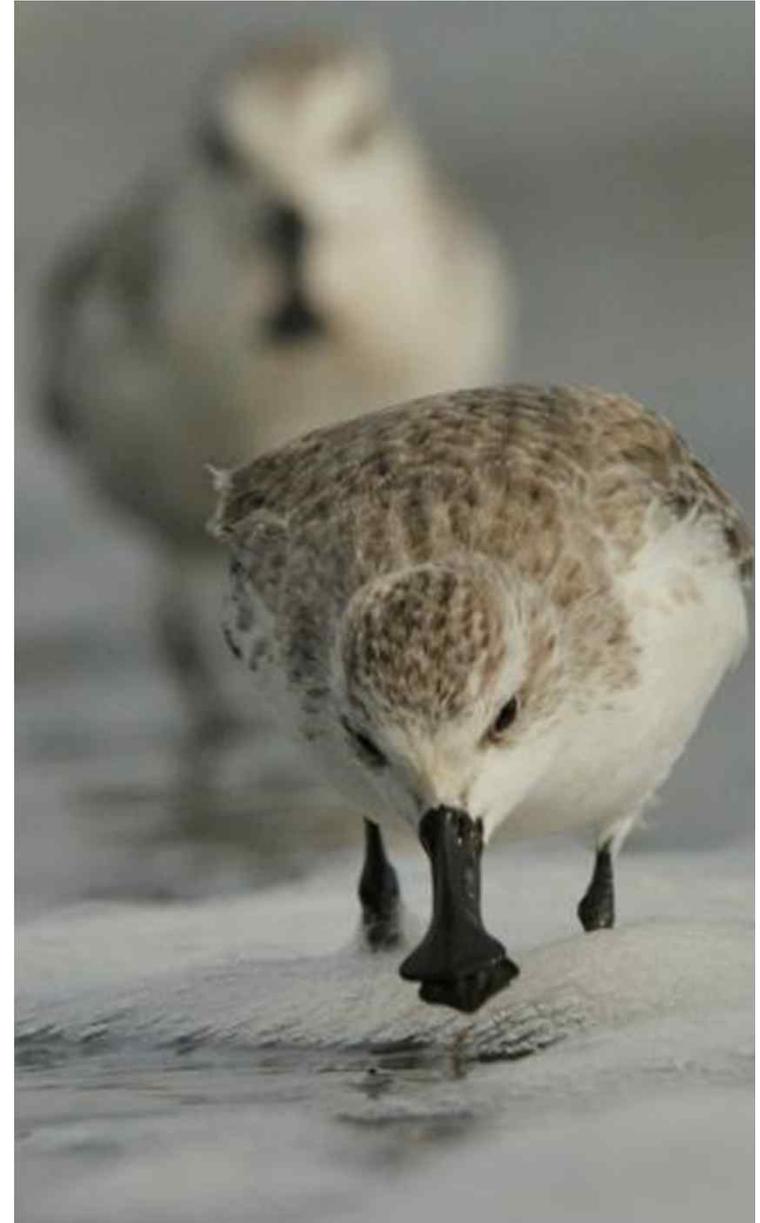
Richard Chandler



Richard Chandler

IUCN Motion 024: preamble

- NOTING the results of studies arising from Resolution 5.028 on the benefits of ecosystem services provided by intertidal wetlands, and the status of threatened birds and their habitats to prioritise sites requiring urgent conservation and restoration and identification of important migratory waterbird habitat and expert networks;



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- NOTING that despite the pre-eminent global importance of the Yellow Sea for migratory waterbirds of the EAAF, no World Heritage sites are yet inscribed there, though the importance of this status in improving protection and cooperation has been demonstrated along the comparable East Atlantic Flyway;

IUCN Motion 024

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Hawai'i, United States of America, 1-10 September 2016:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, Commissions and Members to consider, in conjunction with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, as appropriate, **to develop national/regional management plans for migratory birds within 'working coastal wetlands'** (i.e. those used for shellfisheries, aquaculture, fish ponds and salt pans) to benefit migratory bird populations and their habitats, which support numerous other species;



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- 2. URGES Parties to the Ramsar Convention, at their 13th Conference (COP13, Dubai 2018), to consider – further to Resolutions VII/21 and X/22 on the conservation and wise-use of tidal flats – additional needs and priorities for remaining tidal flats at national, regional and global scales, and opportunities for urgently enhancing their protection;**



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3. INVITES the Director General and Commissions (to the extent possible within available resources) to provide assistance to governments and IUCN Members along the EAAF, and particularly those around the Yellow Sea, to further implement Resolution 5.028 in particular through the measures listed below;



A large flock of birds, likely shorebirds, is seen flying over a body of water. The birds are scattered across the sky, creating a dense pattern of small dark shapes against the light blue background. The water below is a darker blue, and the overall scene suggests a coastal or wetland environment.

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4. ENCOURAGES governments along the EAAF to:
 - a. **implement the following national and regional workshop declarations** intended to define implementation of Resolution 5.028: Beijing 2015, Republic of Korea 2016, Yellow Sea 2016 and the **Arctic Migratory Bird Initiative Work Plan** for the EAAF and the **East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) Collaborative Work Programme for Shorebird Conservation;**

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4. ENCOURAGES governments along the EAAF to:
 - b. consider the possibility of a future **trilateral World Heritage nomination** for the intertidal zone of the Yellow Sea with support from surrounding countries;

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4. ENCOURAGES governments along the EAAF to:
 - c. support the development of a '**Caring for Coasts**' Initiative, in the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Ramsar Convention, as part of a global movement to restore coastal wetlands;



Convention on
Biological Diversity



Wetlands
INTERNATIONAL

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4. ENCOURAGES governments along the EAAF to:

d. use the **EAAFP** as a framework for strengthening the conservation of migratory waterbird species and their habitats.





Convention on
Biological Diversity



Wetlands
INTERNATIONAL

Caring for Coasts: a vital new global wetland restoration initiative



Environment
Canada

Environnement
Canada

3e. Restoring impounded internationally important intertidal wetlands through increasing tidal exchange to such sites;

