The Asian Waterbird Census 2008-2015: Results of coordinated counts in Asia and Australasia

Draft consultation report

Wetlands International
2016

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Contents

Acknowledgements

Firstly, we would like to thank the - thousands of volunteers that give their time and expertise to counting waterbirds.. Without their active support and participation in the census, collecting and submitting the count data over these last years, it would not have been possible to collate this wealth of information and produce this report. The list of participants should be available from the coordinators.

We thank all the country and sub-country AWC Coordinators at national and regional level including: <full list of coordinators for 2008- to present to be added>

An important element of the Asian Waterbird Census is that it works in partnership with many existing national waterbird census programmes. The synthesis of the count data at the flyway and regional level provided added value back to the national count programmes as it provides a larger geographic overview of the status of populations and species.

We greatly appreciate all the useful feedback from a range of species experts who have been consulted in this work <full list to be added>

Finally, we thank the Ministry of the Environment of Japan and the Board of Association of Wetlands International for providing the generous financial resources for regional coordination of the AWC over the last years and to enable us to compile this report.

Introduction

The Asian region is home to a high diversity of waterbirds, including an increasing number of threatened species, many at risk of extinction (Wetlands International 2012). Conservation of these species and their habitats needs to be based on quality and recent information on their distribution and trends. To address this need, the Asian Waterbird Census (AWC) has been collating and disseminating information since 1987 to inform governments, conventions and the public. The AWC runs in parallel with other waterbird censuses carried out in Africa, Europe, Central and West Asia, the Caribbean, Central and South America under the umbrella of the International Waterbird Census (IWC). The IWC is coordinated internationally by Wetlands International (with the exception of the Caribbean and Central America). The IWC is considered one of the largest and longest-running internationally coordinated citizen science biodiversity monitoring programmes in the world.

The AWC currently covers 25 countries and regions of Asia and Australasia and takes place annually during the second and third weeks of January with additional counts being provided from some countries between late November to February. The census is carried out by volunteers, and in some cases government staff, interested in collecting information on waterbirds and wetlands as a basis for contributing to their conservation.

The data collected by the AWC contributes to a range of local, national and flyway-scale conservation activities including:

- species and site conservation and research programmes and campaigns to raise awareness of the importance of wetlands in many countries;
- the development of national wetland and waterbird conservation Action Plans and Strategies (NBSAPs);
- the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, by identifying and monitoring Wetlands of International Importance and other wetlands;
- the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), by monitoring the status of migratory waterbirds and their habitats;
- the Convention on Biological Diversity's goal of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;
- the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) and its Flyway Site Network and other important sites;
- the CMS's West/Central Asian Site Network for the Siberian Crane and other waterbirds;
- BirdLife International's Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) programme; and Key Biodiveristy Areas (KBAs);
- IUCN/BirdLife Internationals's globally threatened birds programme;
- Wetlands International's Waterbird Population Estimates (WPE) programme; and
- the studies of wild bird movements and relationships to avian disease (especially highly pathogenic avian influenza) transmission that affect wild birds, poultry and humans and in planning response measures.

In addition to the wide range of applications outlined above, the IWC has been extremely successful in achieving its primary objectives of:

- providing the basis for estimates of waterbird populations (e.g. Bamford et al 2006);
- monitoring changes in waterbird numbers and distribution by regular, standardised counts of representative wetlands;
- improving knowledge of little-known waterbird species and wetland sites;
- increasing awareness of the importance of waterbirds and their wetland habitats at local, national and international levels.

The EAAFP in its Implementation Strategy 2012 – 2016 Outcome 6 call for "*Scientifically sound information is available on the flyway-wide status and trends of waterbird populations and their habitats*". It recognises that the AWC, an ongoing regional waterbird monitoring programme "*can continue to provide good information, the extent of their coverage is in need of enhancement and related capacity building can improve the quality of the information*".

The AWC has also built and strengthened national networks of enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers and facilitated their training as an integral part of achieving its objectives.

As a result of their increased awareness, local people and governments are now implementing conservation of important sites in most of the countries covered by the census. However, coverage

and conservation efforts vary considerably, and the increasing pressure on wetlands and their biodiversity highlights the need to strengthen the programme to tackle ever-growing challenges. These include global climate change and its far-reaching impacts on changes in distribution and types of wetlands, as well as seasonal variations linked to probable changes in the carrying capacities of the wetlands used by the waterbirds for feeding, nesting and roosting.

The information shared with Wetlands International has been collated into a variety of regional summaries and overviews (van der Ven 1987, 1988; Scott and Rose 1989; Perennou *et al*. 1990; Perennou and Mundkur 1991, 1992; Mundkur and Taylor 1993, Perennou *et al*. 1994, Lopez and Mundkur 1997, Li and Mundkur 2004 and Lopez and Mundkur 2007). The most comprehensive report covers the AWC between 1987- 2007 (Li *et al* 2009). Readers are advised to refer to this publication for additional detailed information on the value and rationale for monitoring waterbirds, organisation of the IWC, methods, data collection and management, counting and reporting methods, interpretation of waterbird counts and related information.

Several of the countries and regions covered by this report regularly produce their own national reports or summaries and provide a wealth of knowledge on local and national situations of waterbirds and their conservation issues. These are to be listed in the references.

This report collates information shared with Wetlands International to cover the northern hemisphere wintering seasons between 2008 and 2015.

Methods

The geographic coverage of the AWC includes the following four main regions: South Asia (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka), Southeast Asia (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Timor-Leste, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam), East Asia (mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Macau, Japan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea), Republic of Korea (South Korea), Mongolia and eastern Russia) and Australasia (Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea). In mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan, the AWC has been coordinated separately, therefore information has been presented separately for these regions in this report (in keeping with previous reports). In addition, since 2015, information has been received from Palau, which hosts several migratory shorebird and other waterbird species covered by the East Asian - Australasian Flyway Partnership and is included within the SE Asia region in this report.

Count period

The AWC takes place once a year, during the second and third weeks of January. However, logistical difficulties in some countries or limited volunteer capacity mean that counts made at any time during January are accepted for the AWC database. In some countries, counts made during the northern (boreal) winter period from late November to February are accepted if no January data are available and it is evident that the populations of birds are stable in this area during this period.

Sites and species coverage

The AWC covers all types of sites used by waterbirds, including natural and man-made wetlands, including rivers, lakes, reservoirs, ponds, freshwater swamps, mangroves and tidal mudflats, coral reefs, rice fields, sewage farms, etc. that are covered by the Ramsar Convention.

All waterbird groups encountered in the region, as recognised by the Ramsar Convention, are covered by the census. These include grebes, cormorants, pelicans, herons, egrets, storks, ibises, spoonbills, flamingos, ducks, geese & swans (Anatidae), cranes, rails, jacanas, shorebirds, gulls and terns. Reporting tends to cover all groups of waterbirds from most parts of Asia, whereas Japan mainly submits counts of two main groups, Anatidae and shorebirds with additional information on selected crane and other species in some years. Counts from Australia and New Zealand are consistently submitted only for shorebirds, that form the main migratory group of waterbirds in this region.

In addition, counts of other wetland-dependent species (including seabirds, raptors, kingfishers, wagtails and pipits) that are regularly encountered in wetlands have been submitted by some

countries, as several of these species depend largely on the food resources provided by these habitats. This will give a better indication of the wider importance of these sites, even though it is expected that the diversity and abundance of such species are not yet adequately recorded by participants across the region. Although this information is stored in the International Waterbird Census database, these birds are not included in the current report.

The sequence and nomenclature of waterbird species used in this report follows The BirdLife checklist of the birds of the world: Version 8 (2015), This checklist is increasingly being adopted by the biodiversity related conventions. Subspecies information has been included where possible. Reporting of subspecies differs between countries, so these entries should be interpreted with some caution. For more information please contact us or the relevant National Coordinators.

Species that are difficult to identify with certainty in the non-breeding plumage may be reported incorrectly, such as pond herons. For this reason, besides species totals, the report also provides totals of unidentified species of a group (for e.g. unidentified terns, gulls, herons, ducks, geese, ibises, storks) as well as unidentified waterbirds. The total number of waterbirds being reported at a site provide a valuable indication of its importance. Hence while it may not always be possible to identify every species, recording the total number of waterbirds to group level is important.

The taxonomy of 'large white-headed gulls' in the region remains an ongoing process of evolution. Differences in the way that this group is treated in the various field guides mean that a species may be identified and reported differently by different observers. It is recommended that the numbers reported of these species is treated with caution.

Wetlands International relies on its network of coordinators to review all species identification and unusual counts, although it is impossible to verify all the observations submitted.

Red List Status

BirdLife International leads on the update of the status of the world's threatened birds. It is the official Red Listing Authority on birds, and supplies this information for the IUCN (World Conservation Union) Red List of Threatened Species. This report follows Red List Category (2015) based on the standard IUCN Red List Categories (IUCN 2001) as follows: Extinct (EX), Extinct in the Wild (EW), Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN), Vulnerable (VU), and Near Threatened (NT). Other categories are Least Concern (LC), Data Deficient (DD) and Not Evaluated (NE). The abbreviation NR in the report refers to unidentified species and species groups.

Overview of results

Number of visits

This report collates information submitted to Wetlands International to cover the northern hemisphere winter seasons between 2008 and 2015. Information has been received for a minimum of 1,146 sites in 2009 and a maximum of 1,433 in 2015 (details in Table 1).

During this period, counts were received from all the countries/regions in the region, with the exception of Laos, the Maldives, DPR Korea and Papua New Guinea. In 2015, information has also been received from Palau, which hosts migratory shorebird and other waterbird species and is included within SE Asia in this report.

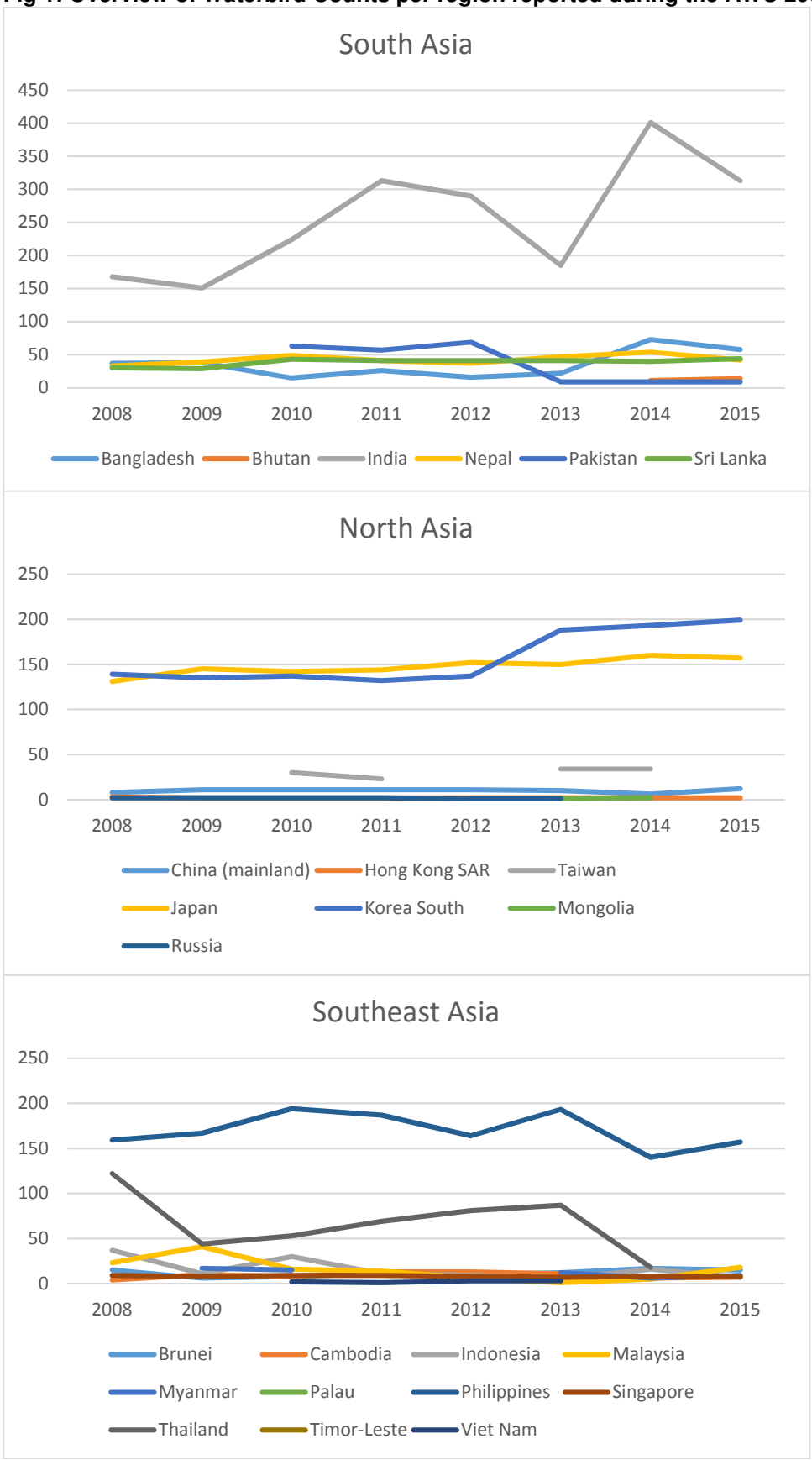
Table 1: Overview of Waterbird Counts reported during the AWC 2008-2015 (as at 20 Nov 2016)

Country/ region	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Australasia								
Australia	74	60	55	50	38	41	32	30
New Zealand	173	228	193	210	220	211	200	190
East Asia								
China (mainland)	8	11	11	11	11	10	6	12
Hong Kong SAR	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Taiwan			30	23		34	34	
Japan	131	145	142	144	152	150	160	157
Korea South	139	135	137	132	137	188	193	199
Mongolia		1		1		1	2	
Russia	2	2	2	2	1	1		
South Asia								
Bangladesh	37	38	15	26	16	22	73	58
Bhutan							11	14
India	168	151	224	313	290	185	401	313
Nepal	33	39	49	41	37	47	54	42
Pakistan	10		63	57	69	9	9	9
Sri Lanka	30	29	43	41	41	41	40	44
Southeast Asia								
Brunei	15	6	8	11	10	12	17	15
Cambodia	4	10	8	13	13	11	6	7
Indonesia	37	11	30	11	9	5	16	7
Malaysia	23	41	16	14	6	1	5	18
Myanmar		17	15			12	6	9
Palau								1
Philippines	159	167	194	187	164	193	140	157
Singapore	9	8	9	9	8	7	8	8
Thailand	122	44	53	69	81	87	18	
Timor-Leste		1						
Viet Nam			2	1	3	3		2
Total	**1,177**	**1,146**	**1,301**	**1,368**	**1,308**	**1,273**	**1,433**	**1,293**

Note: The figures represent the number of sites actually recorded in the AWC database and may differ from the number presented in earlier reports or those appearing in national reports and

overviews. Some sites may have been combined into larger sites for standardisation purposes. A small number of site with doubtful counts or with very few bird records have been removed.

Fig 1: Overview of Waterbird Counts per region reported during the AWC 2008-2015



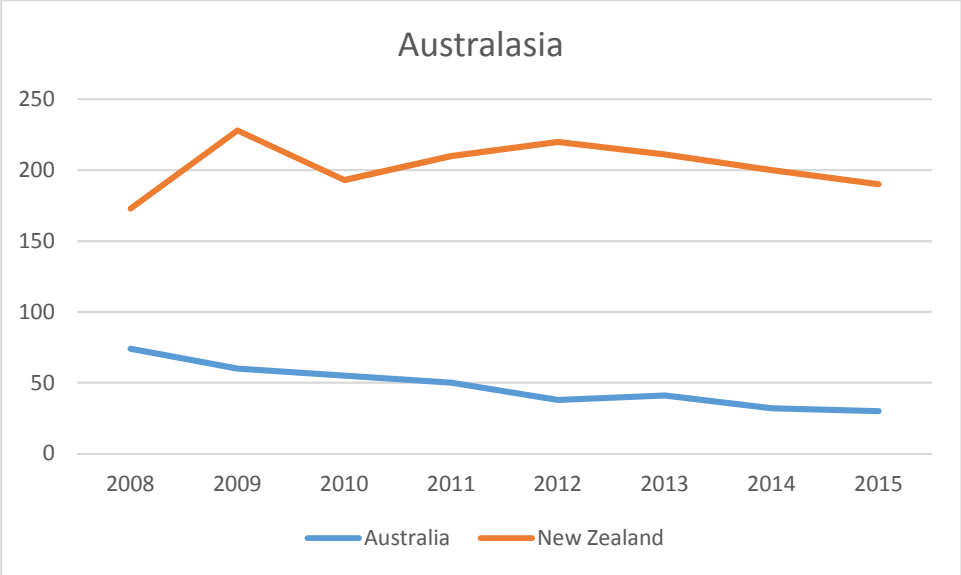
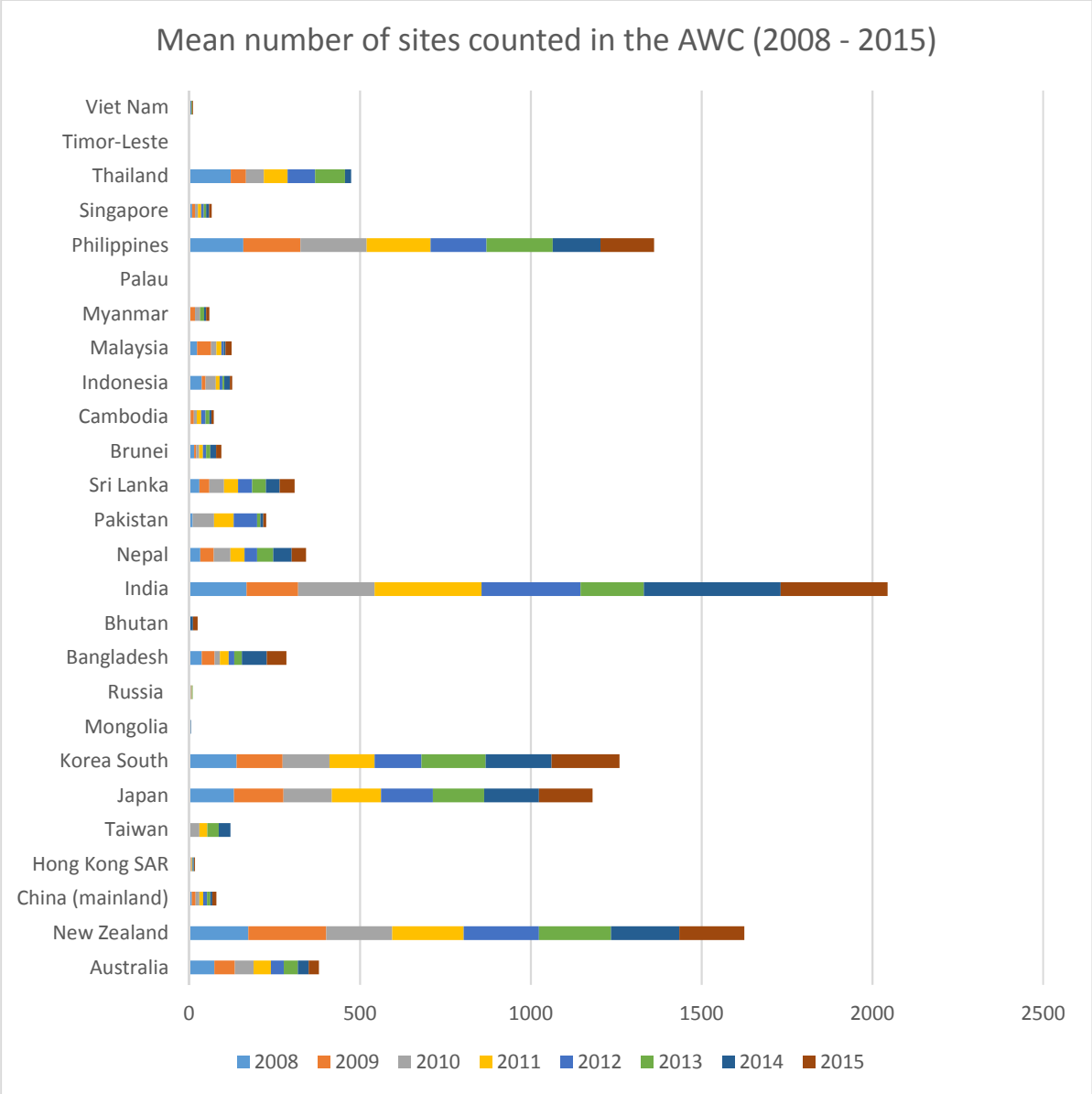


Fig 2: Mean number of waterbirds reported per country/region during the AWC 2008-2015)



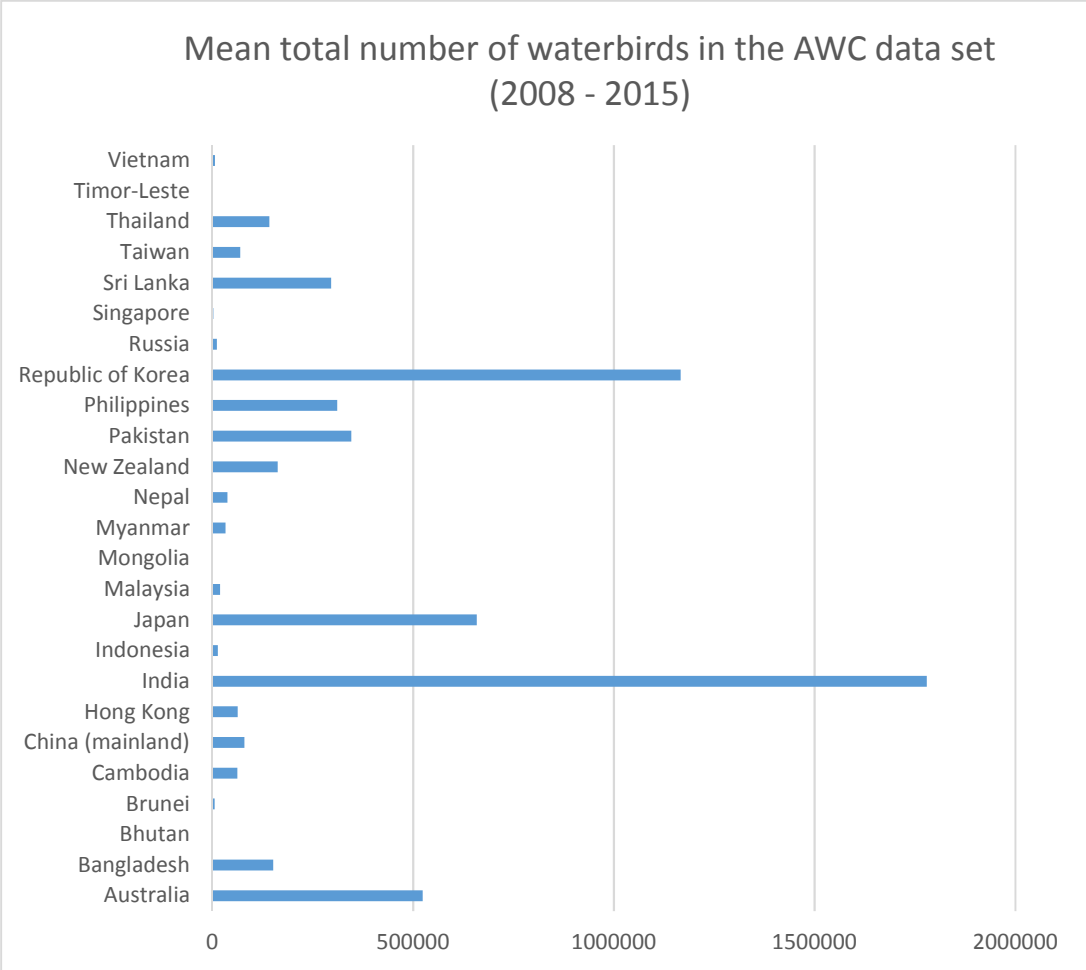
Overview of counts

During this period, counts were received from all the countries/regions in the region, with the exception of Laos, the Maldives, North Korea and Papua New Guinea. The total number of waterbirds reported varied between nearly 5,5 and 7,5 million across the region (Table 2). India and South Korea reported the largest average number of waterbirds annually. In South Korea this is a reflection of the good coverage of sites whereas in India it is largely dependent on the selection of sites being covered in a year.

Table 2. Total number of waterbirds reported during the Asian Waterbird Census 2008-2015

Country/region	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Australia	917,584	582,042	383,094	430,134	384,860	577,695	473,048	445,873
Bangladesh	318,237	281,016	53,705	88,789	32,632	217,415	133,812	87,555
Bhutan							1,114	1,516
Brunei	14,003	6,021	3,209	4,156	8,454	3,674	3,983	1,130
Cambodia	57,062	68,359	55,305	22,263	110,507	27,449	94,403	63,919
China (mainland)	97,480	87,006	87,267	84,818	62,329	71,576	23,040	126,248
Hong Kong	90,810	71,513	77,390	68,839	49,716	56,587	43,348	45,966
India	915,821	771,356	2,298,561	1,780,923	1,953,414	1,740,110	2,416,904	2,357,056
Indonesia	24,214	16,173	22,205	19,274	9,626	133	8,481	12,241
Japan	616,492	623,442	660,328	645,895	636,205	621,517	729,538	734,966
Malaysia	31,947	35,370	11,357	28,663	5,525	987	4,669	35,177
Mongolia		1,308		543		269	1,288	
Myanmar		99,230	5,041			33,862	7,036	18,089
Nepal	36,573	30,336	29,334	29,898	30,192	41,061	53,326	48,718
New Zealand	253,675	227,612	145,287	122,178	150,721	143,226	136,058	122,254
Pakistan	92,068		528,020	780,468	815,176	42,653	72,446	94,609
Philippines	292,439	272,073	303,116	248,313	356,938	405,800	306,119	301,641
Republic of Korea	1,400,874	1,820,633	1,217,306	905,363	753,267	990,983	1,127,123	1,117,493
Russia	13,594	11,492	13,789	10,805	8,702	8,976		
Singapore	2,570	3,631	3,632	1,530	3,179	2,586	2,668	2,452
Sri Lanka	20,642	36,405	1,356,319	142,997	99,650	161,211	171,890	378,157
Taiwan			48,962	53,379		65,564	89,638	89,750
Thailand	261,143	111,253	92,324	165,446	149,861	139,414	77,477	
Timor-Leste		123						
Vietnam			5,607	6,231	5,637	2,826		10,368
Total	**5,457,228**	**5,156,394**	**7,401,158**	**5,640,905**	**5,626,591**	**5,355,574**	**5,977,409**	**6,095,178**

Fig 3: Overview of Waterbird Counts reported during the AWC 2008-2015 (as at 20 Nov 2016)

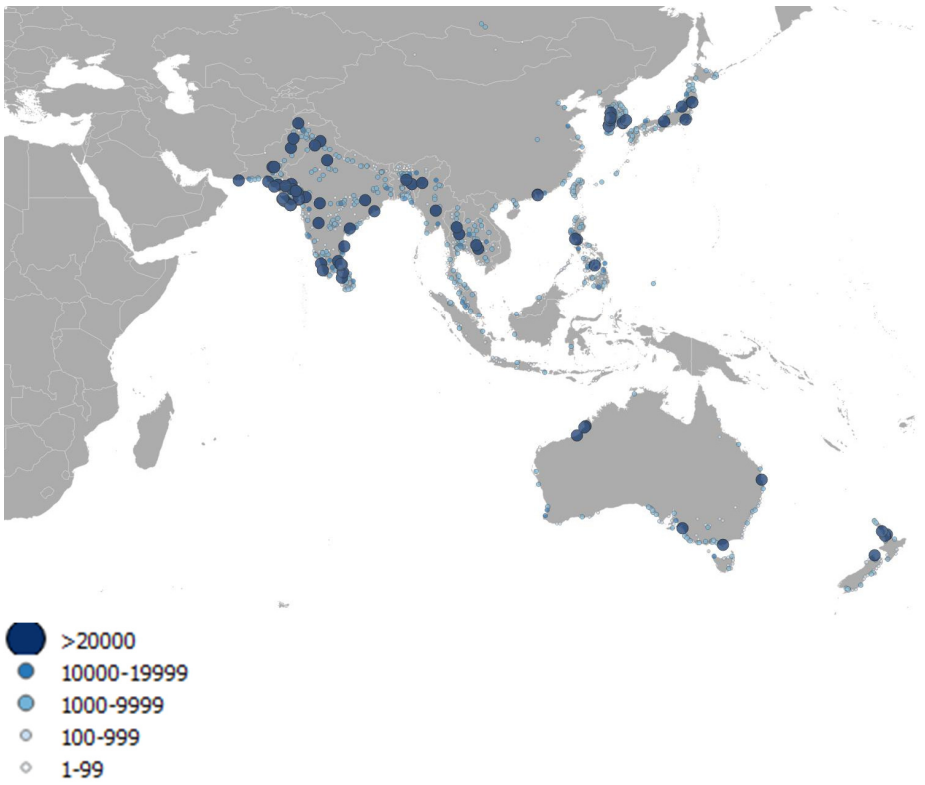


Important sites

The report covers information from a range of sites, including those reporting over 800,000 waterbirds such as the Chilika Lake in India. A large number of sites reported meet the international criterion of importance as accepted by the Ramsar Convention and East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership, of regularly holding 20,000 waterbirds, based on counts during the northern hemisphere winter.

The map below provides an overview of average numbers of waterbirds reported during the 2008-2015 period. Sites with large numbers of waterbirds are reported from across the region, particularly, in Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Japan, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and South Korea, In some regions, sites are often reported as smaller count units, rather than at administrative or management units such as protected areas, Ramsar sites, or Flyway Network Sites (see next). These sites are also of great importance for supporting a wide diversity and abundance of waterbirds.

Fig 4: Overview of average number of waterbirds per site reported during the AWC 2008-2015 (as at 20 Nov 2016)



Many other sites qualify as important during the migration or breeding periods and need to be assessed through other monitoring programmes.

EAAFP Flyway Network Sites

The EAAFP has developed an international network of wetlands of international importance for migratory waterbirds, currently spanning 125 sites in 17 countries from arctic Russia and Alaska to Australia and New Zealand. A majority of these sites (56%) are being covered during the AWC (see Table 3), with the exception of sites in northern Russia, Alaska and Mongolia that are frozen during January.

(Note: Table 3 includes Flyway Network Sites in DPR Korea and Papua New Guinea. These sites were nominated during the period of the Asia Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy and have yet to be formally reconfirmed by the Naitonal Governments as part of the EAAFP Flyway Site Network.)

Table 3. Coverage of EAAFP Network Sites during the AWC 2008-2015

Country/region	No of network sites	Reported to AWC - 2008-2015	Percentage of EAAFP Network sites covered in AWC
Australia	21	12	57%
Bangladesh	5	5	100%
China	19	4	21%
Indonesia	2		0%
Japan	33	27	82%
Malaysia	2	2	100%
Mongolia	6		0%
Myanmar	3	2	67%
New Zealand	2	2	100%
DPR Korea	2		0%
Papua New Guinea	1		0%
Philippines	3	2	67%
Russia	10		0%
Singapore	1	1	100%
Ro Korea	11	10	91%
Thailand	3	3	100%
USA (Alaska)	1		0%
Total	125	70	56%

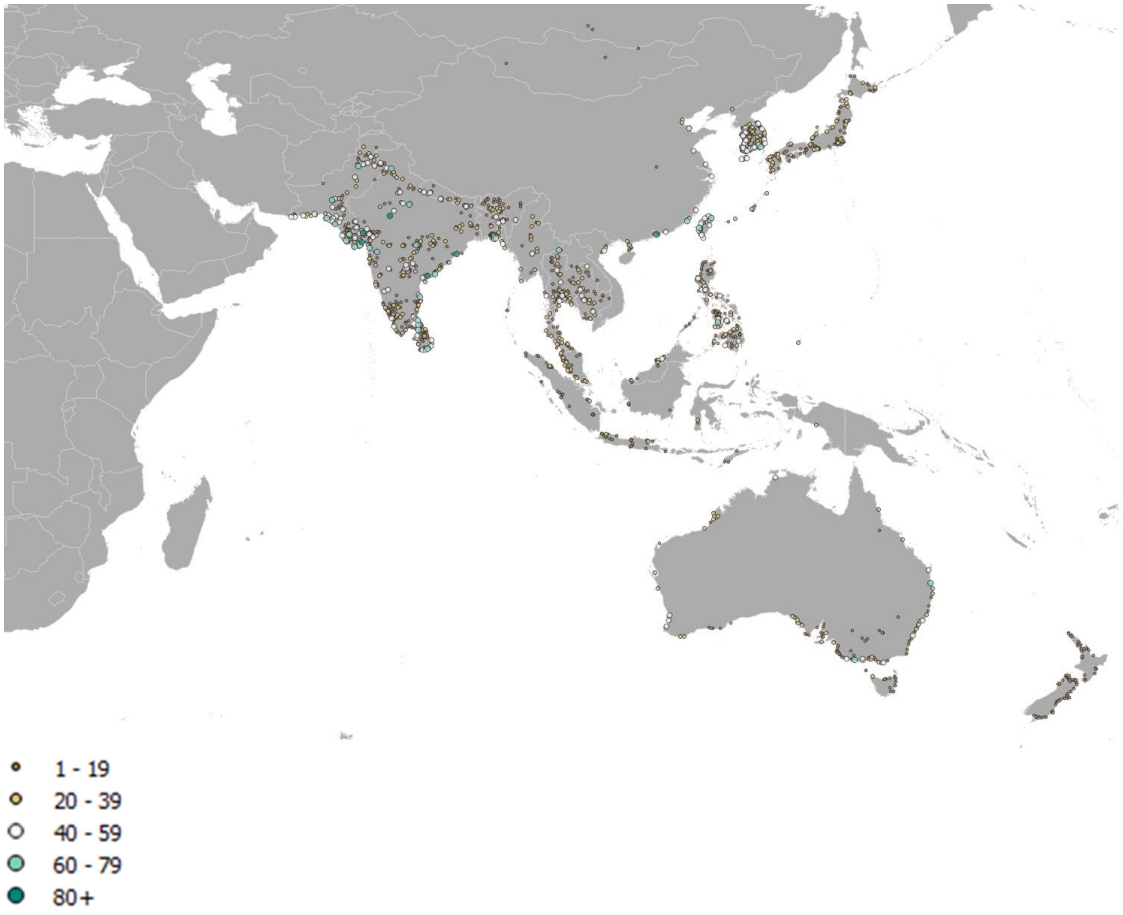
A full list of sites covered is included in Annex 1.

Diversity of species

The sites with average highest species diversity were recorded from India and South Korea, followed by sites in Sri Lanka and Hong Kong SAR.

A summary of the numbers of waterbirds reported per country/region in each year is provided in Annex 2 with details per country/region in Annex 3.

Fig 5: Overview of average number of waterbird speices per site reported during the AWC 2008-2015

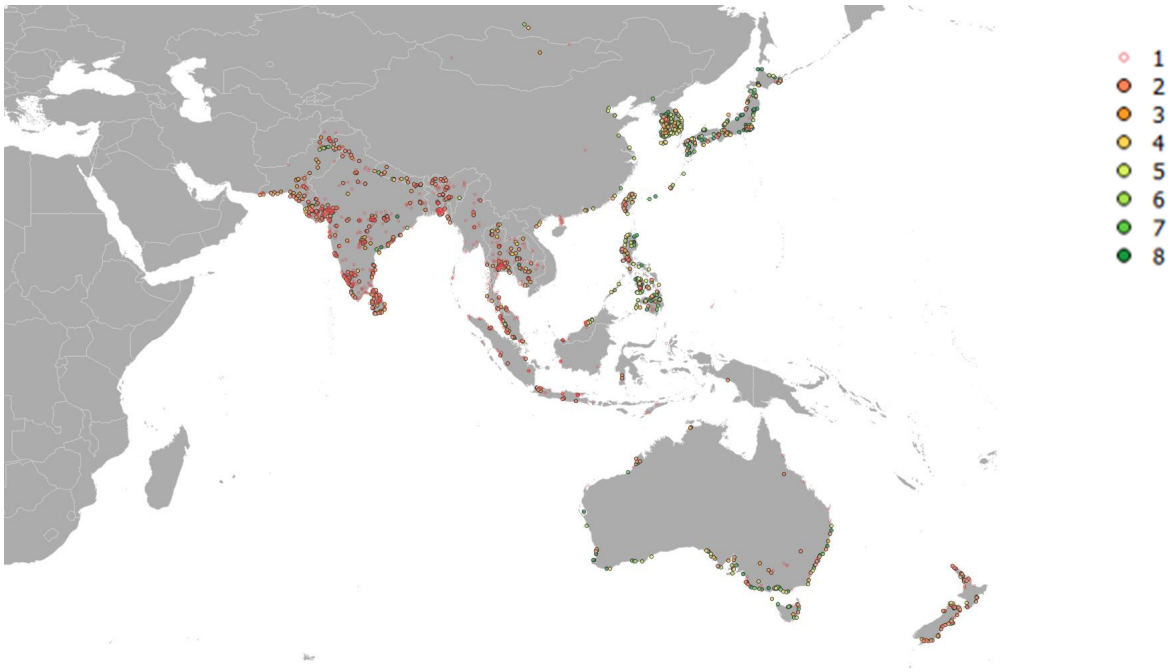


Annual site coverage

The value of monitoring of waterbirds is enhanced when a representative set of sites is covered regularly. Reporting during the last eight years has varied considerably between countries and sites. Within the EAAF, reporting has been most consistent (7 or 8 seasons) in Brunei, Japan, South Korea, Singapore, the Philippines and parts of the coast of mainland China, Hong Kong SAR, Australia, Malaysia and Thailand and Russia. Reporting has been comparatively more patchy elsewhere (Bangladesh, Cambodia and Mongolia), with the first reports being submitted from Timor-Leste and Palau.

Within the Central Asian Flyway, reporting has been most consistent in parts of Nepal, Sri Lanka and several states in India, with comparatively more patchy coverage in many states of India, with the first reports being submitted from Bhutan after several years.

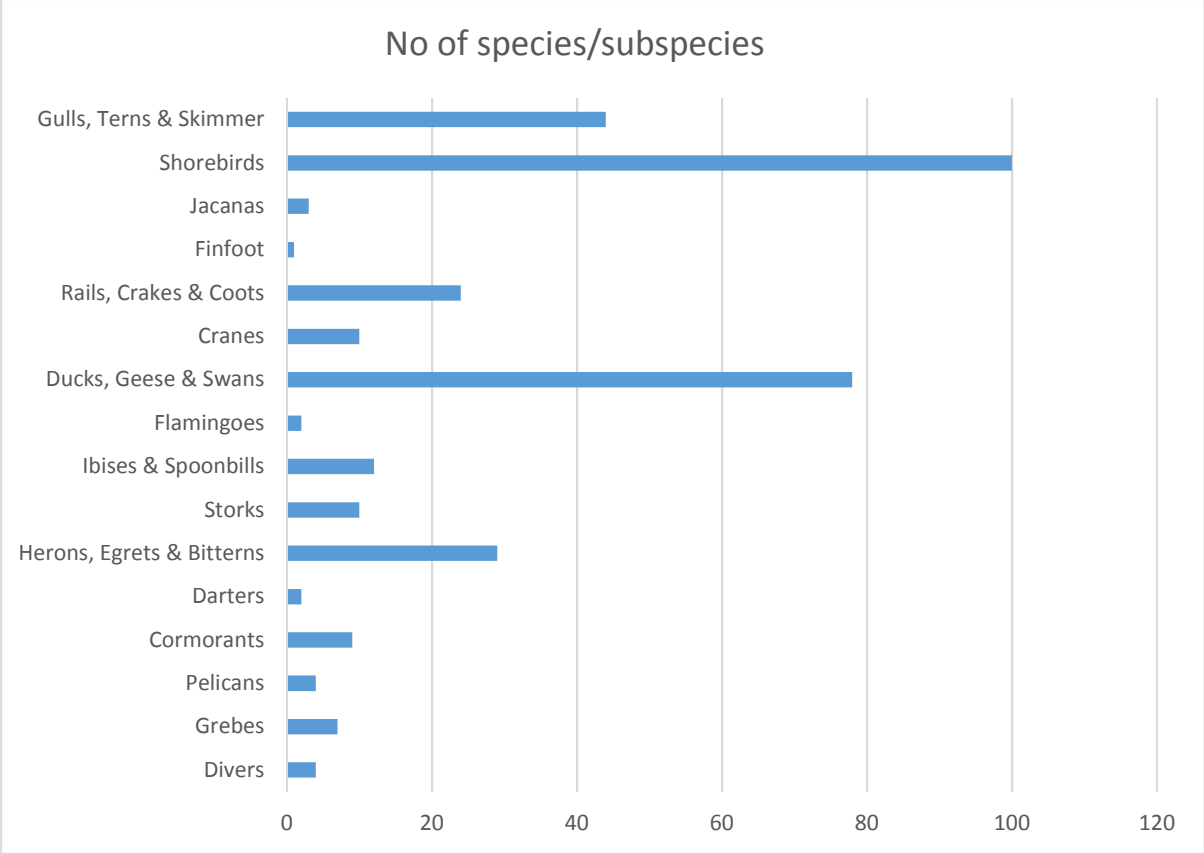
Fig 6: Overview of number of years reports were received for sites during the AWC 2008-2015



With the exception of 2008, when Australia reported ducks and other waterbirds in addition to shorebirds, the average total number of birds reported was about 90,000. Coverage of sites in southern Russia and Mongolia are cold weather dependent.

The main groups of waterbirds were shorebirds, Anatidae (ducks, geese & swans), Gulls, Terns and Skimmer and Herons, Egrets & Bitterns (Fig 7).

Fig 7: Overview of average number of species per waterbird group reported during the AWC 2008-2015

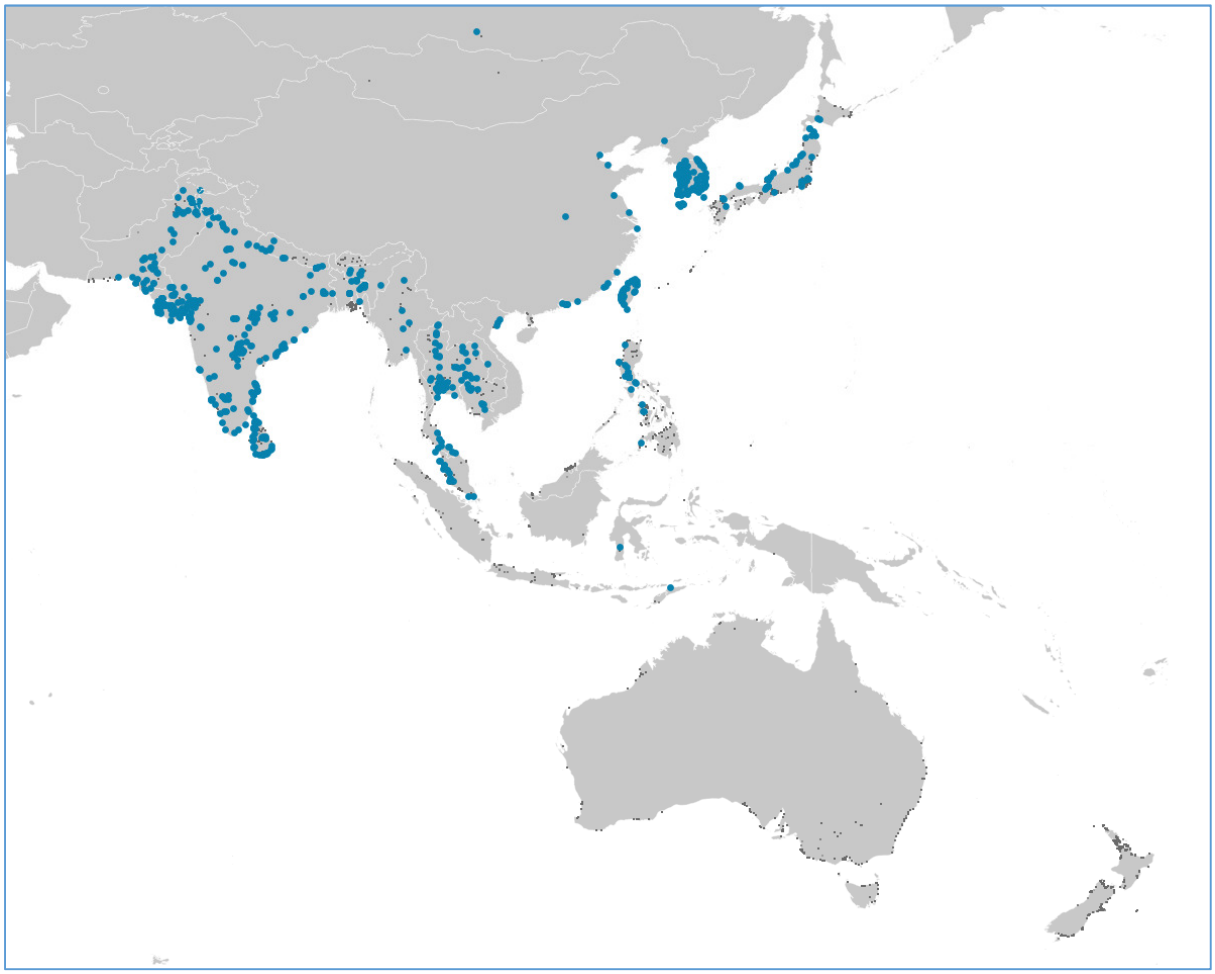


Selected Species Overview

This section provides short summaries for selected species to cover the spectrum of waterbird families (grebes, cormorants, pelicans, herons, egrets, storks, ibises, spoonbills, flamingos, ducks, geese & swans (Anatidae), cranes, rails, jacanas, shorebirds, gulls and terms) submitted in the annual counts with information and maps for one or more species. Maps indicate sites were the species was reported, as well as sites visited and the species was not reported. Species identified as key species by the EAAFP are included. These are primarily threatened, some of which are covered by Single Species Action Plans of the EAAFP and CMS. These include: Black-faced Spoonbill, Spoonbilled Sandpiper, Eurasian Spoonbill, Eastern Curlew and Great Knot, with the exception of the Siberian Crane as the main counts have not been received during this period. The population estimate for the species follows Waterbird Population Estimates 5th edition (WPE) (Wetlands International 2012).

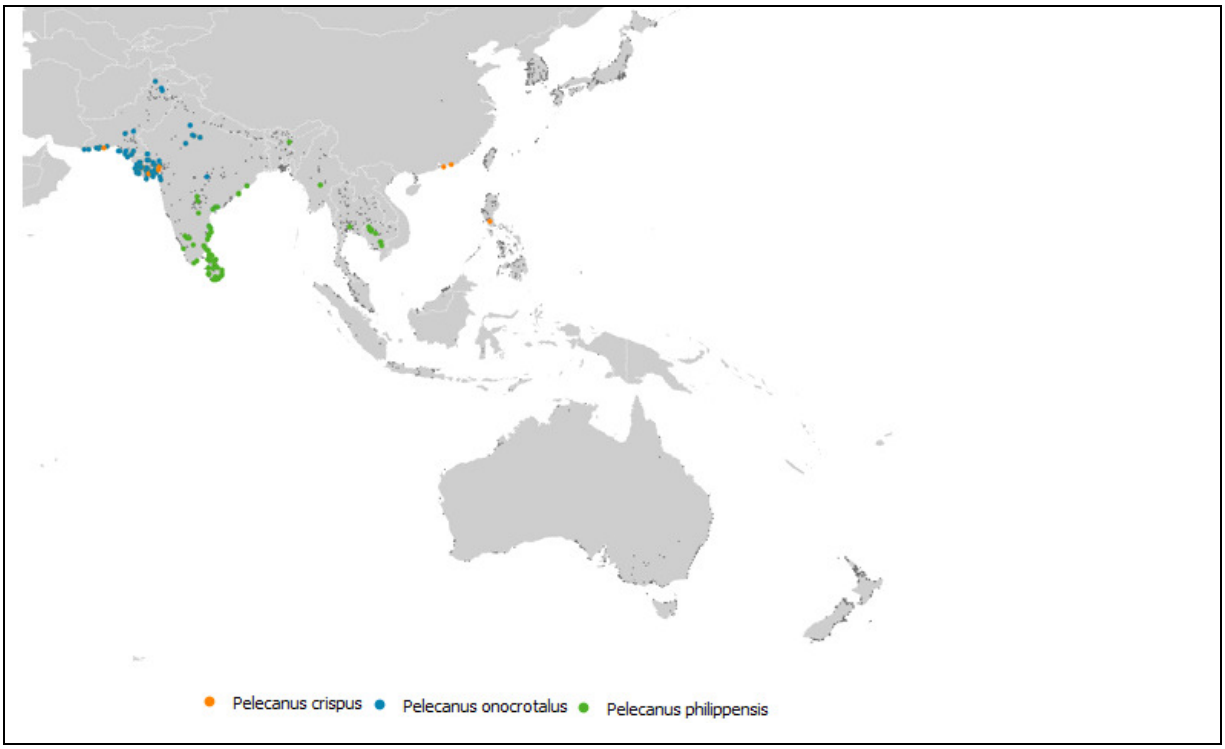
Grebes

The Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* LC is the most widespread of the group, being reported in E (from lake Baikal southwards), S and SE Asia in inland and coastal wetlands, with between 8,800-33,000 reported annually (WPE 200,000-2,000,000).



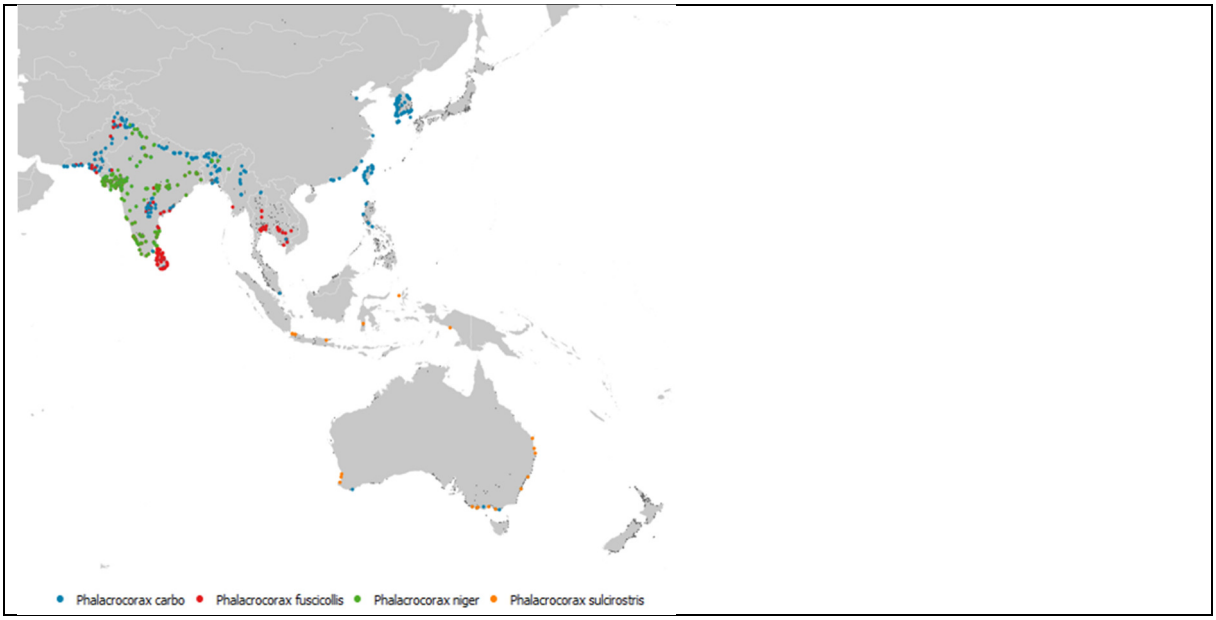
Pelicans

Four pelican species are reported during the counts, including Dalmatian Pelican *Pelecanus crispus*, VU between 7,200-17,800 reported annually (WPE 30,000). The Spot-billed Pelican *Pelecanus philippensis* NT between 4,800-17,400 reported annually (WPE 13,000-17,000) from across South Asia and the more localised Southeast Asia population.



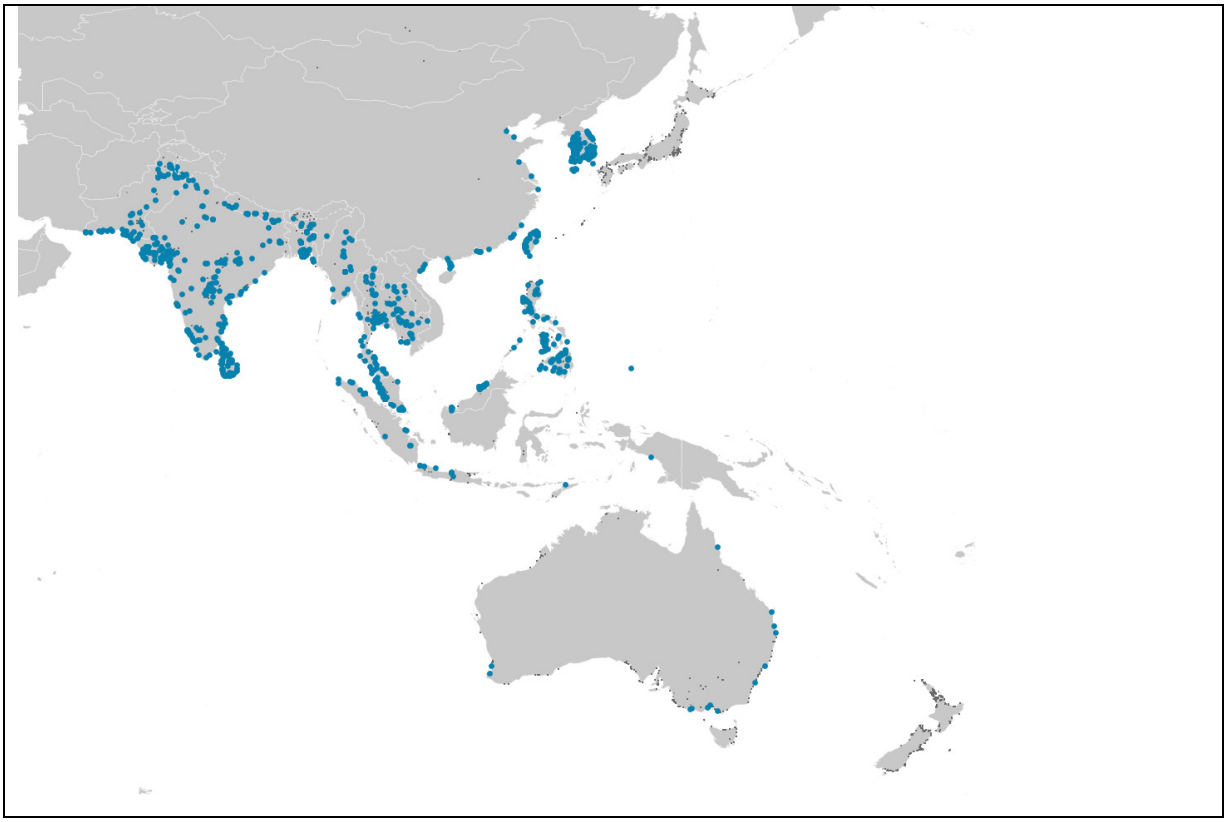
Cormorants

For this report, four species in Asia and Australasia are depicted. Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* between 23,000-76,300 reported annually (WPE 100,000-260,000), Indian Cormorant *Phalacrocorax fuscicollis* between 7,200-17,800 reported annually (WPE 30,000), Little Cormorant *Phalacrocorax niger* between 23,210-70,800 reported annually (WPE 275,000-350,000), Little Black Cormorant *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris* between 4-1,400 reported annually (WPE 25,000-1,000,000).

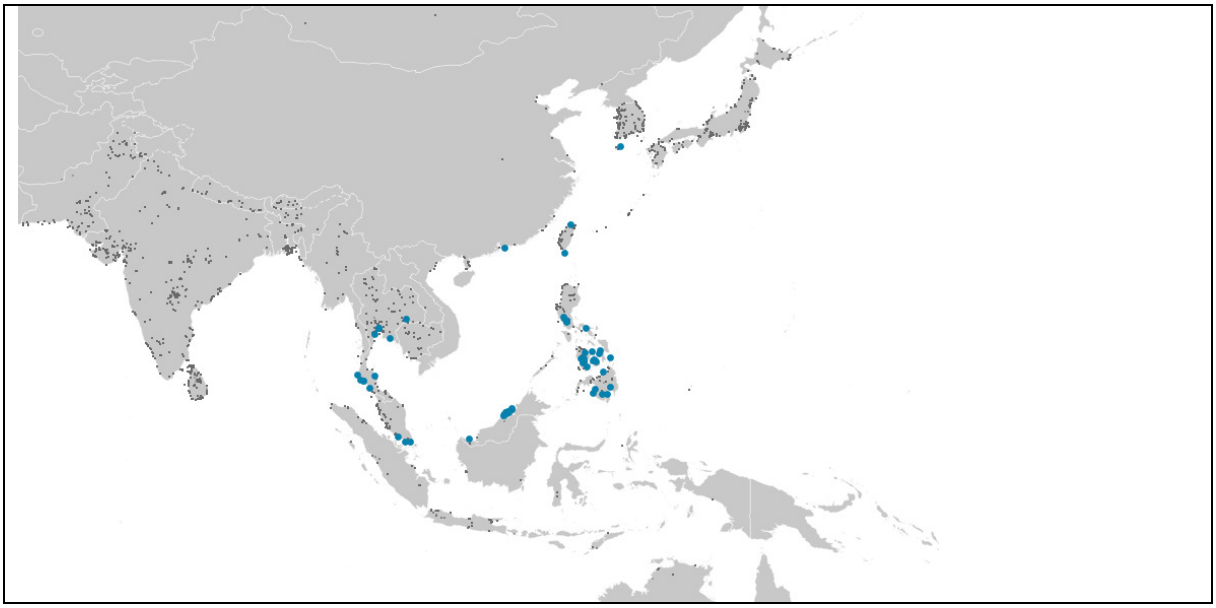


Herons, egrets,

Great White Egret *Ardea alba* LC between 13,400-31,000 reported annually (WPE 60,000-300,000)



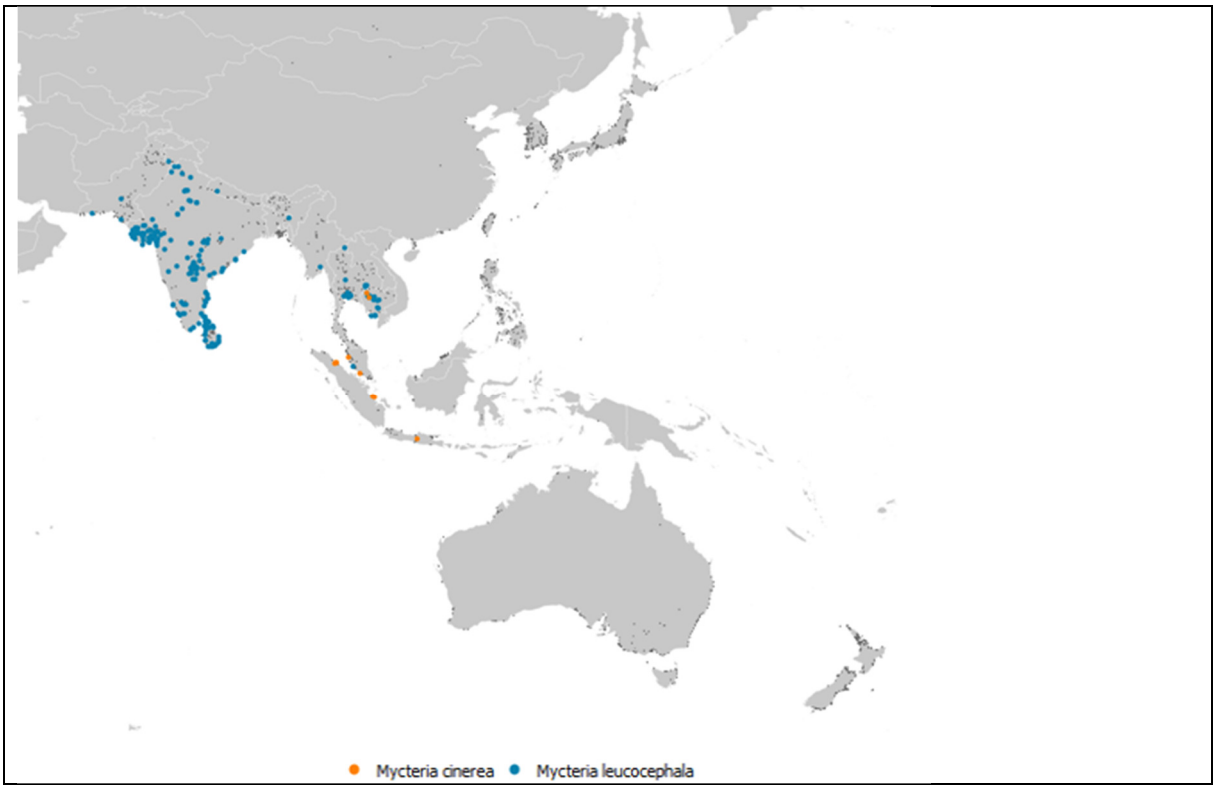
The Chinese Egret *Egretta eulophotes* VU between 100-500 reported annually (WPE 3,000 - 4,100).



Storks

The region is home to 11 stork species, including five threatened species; Greater Adjutant, Milky Stork, Oriental Stork and Storm's Stork that are listed as EN, Lesser Adjutant and Asian Woollyneck listed as VU, as well as the Painted Stork and Black-necked Stork listed as nt. The rare forest Storm's Stork of SE Asia is not reported during this period.

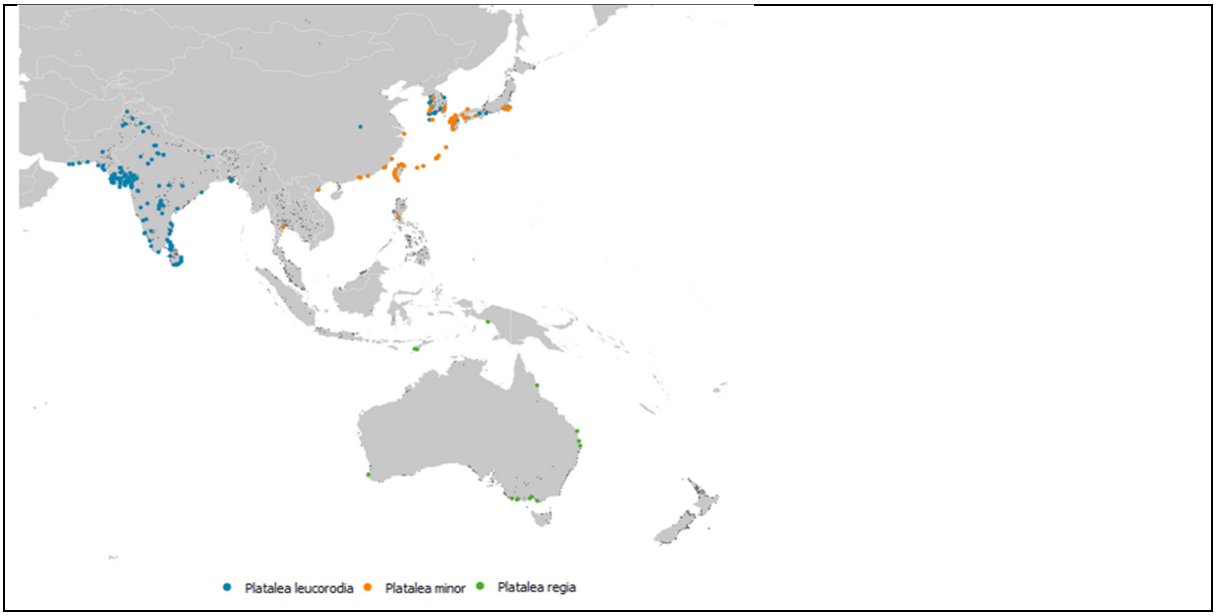
Of the two species featured here, Milky Stork *Mycteria cinerea* EN between 1-200 (WPE 30-5,040) was reported in its strongholds of Cambodia, Indonesia and Malaysia. The Painted Stork was reported across S and parts of SE Asia, although numbers have declined in recent years; between 5,800-21,700 were reported annually (WPE 25,000-35,000).



Ibises & Spoonbills

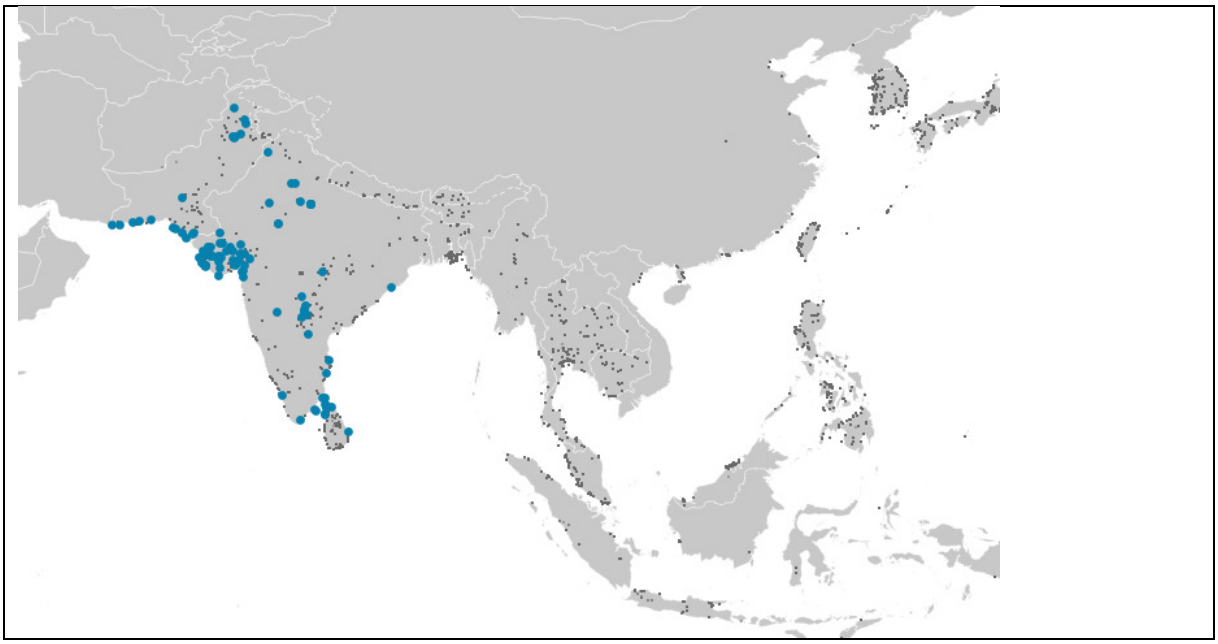
The region has eight native ibis species and one introduced species. Of these, the White-shouldered Ibis and Giant Ibis are CR and were reported only in their stronghold of Cambodia. Of the four species featured here, the Black-headed Ibis NT is reported across most of its S & SE Asian range. The Australian Ibis and Straw-necked Ibis were reported only in one year in Australia while reporting has been too limited in eastern Indonesia and PNG where they occur. The introduced African Sacred Ibis is now reported across Taiwan. The EN Crested Ibis is not reported during the census.

The Spoonbill family in the region covers four species, including two species of special interest. The Black-faced Spoonbill *Platalea minor* EN in E Asia covered under a BirdLife International and CMS conservation plan. It has been widely reported across its range and is a success story with the population increasing with a maximum of 2511 reported in 2015 (WPE 1,830 - 2,700) as a result of local and regional conservation action. The Eurasian Spoonbill LC was reported in S, SE and E Asia with between 2,000 and 8,000 annually (WPE pop 33,000) and is covered by a global conservation plan by CMS and AEWA (Triplet et al 2008).



Flamingos

Both, the Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus roseus* LC and Lesser Flamingo Phoeniconaias minor NT were reported widely across their inland and coastal ranges in S Asia. For the Greater Flamingo depicted here, between 15,000 and 94,000 were reported annually (WPE 240,000).



Swans, Geese and Ducks (Anatidae)

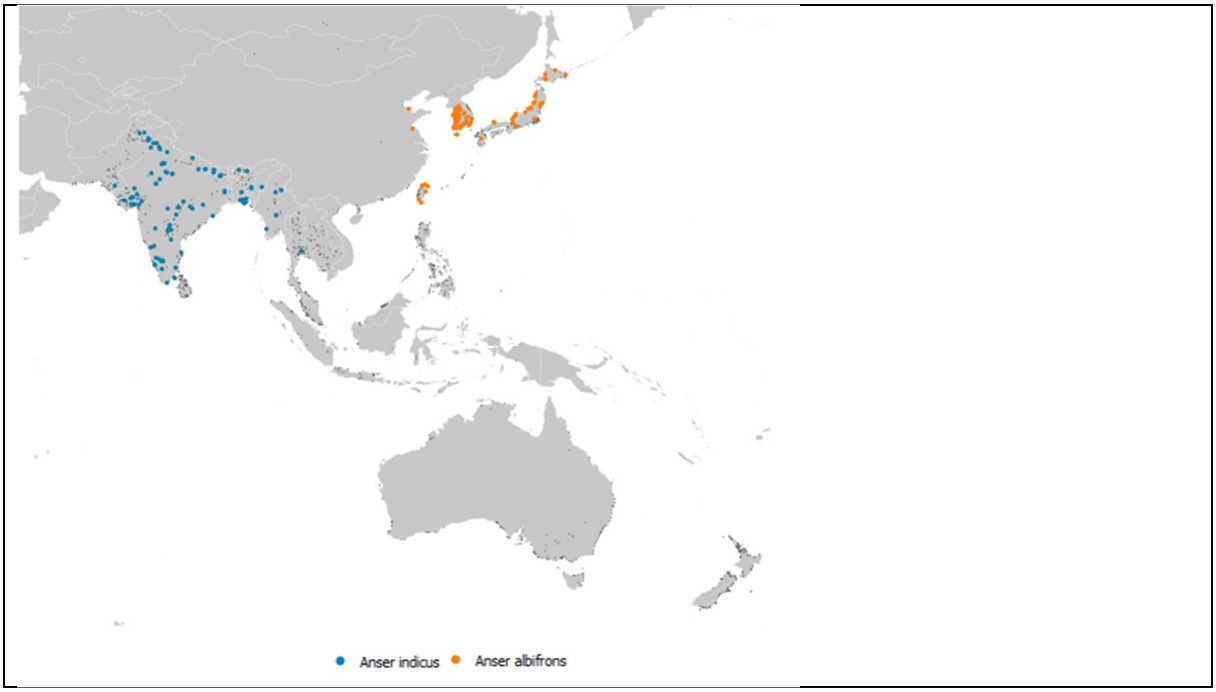
This is a large and diverse group of waterbirds, including many threatened species. The group is well covered by the AWC, especially those that use open coastal and inland wetlands. Forest species like

the White-winged Wood Duck, the riverine Scaly-sided Merganser CR and seaducks (Scoter and Eiders) were not widely reported.

Of the four swan species, none are listed as threatened. Depicted here is the Bewick's Swan *Cygnus columbianus bewickii* LC of E Asia (non-breeding), which was most widely distributed and between 18,000-25,000 reported annually (WPE 93,000-120,000).

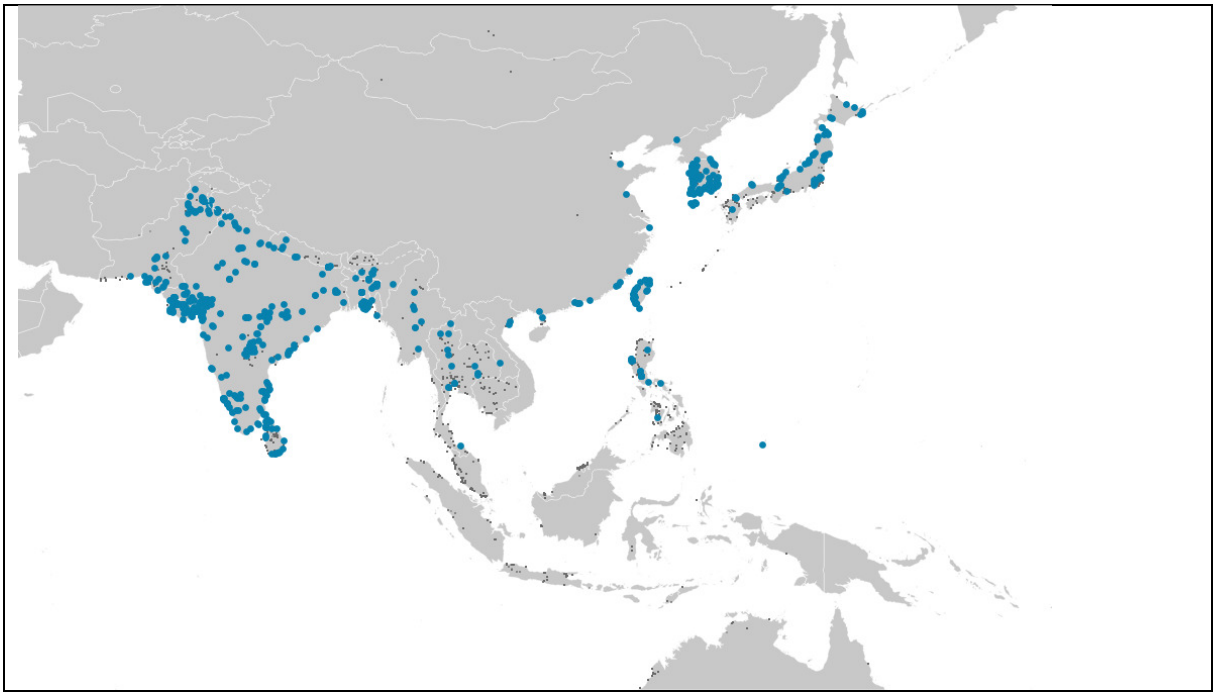
Eleven geese species occur in the Asian region, including two VU species, Swan Goose and Lesser White-fronted Goose. While the subspecies of Bean Goose are complex, they are reported as Taiga Bean Goose *Anser fabalis middendorffii* and Tundra Bean Goose *Anser fabalis serrirostris*, particularly in E Asia.

Depicted here are the Greater White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons* widespread in E Asia and Barheaded Goose widespread in S Asia. Between 680-89,100 Barheaded Goose *Anser indicus* reported annually (WPE 52000-60000) Greater White-fronted Goose 198,000-304,000 reported annually (WPE 263,000-328,000).

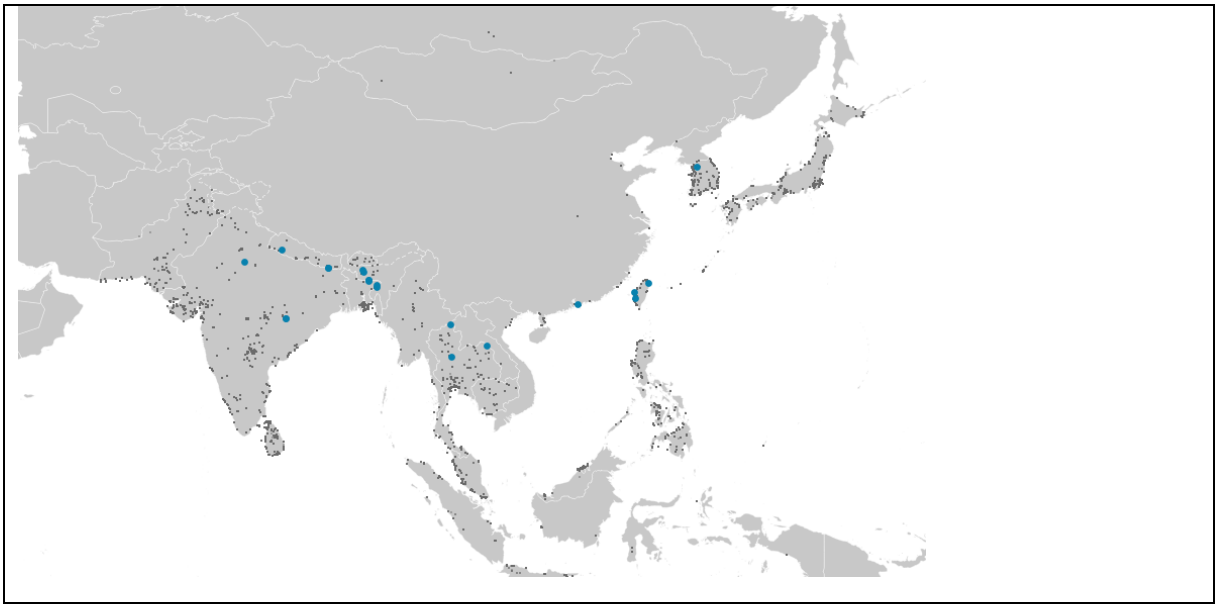


The Baikal Teal *Sibirionetta formosa*, the most numerous duck reported in the census is restricted to E Asia and numbers have fluctuated widely during this period between 316,000-1,065,000 (WPE 500,000-1,000,000).

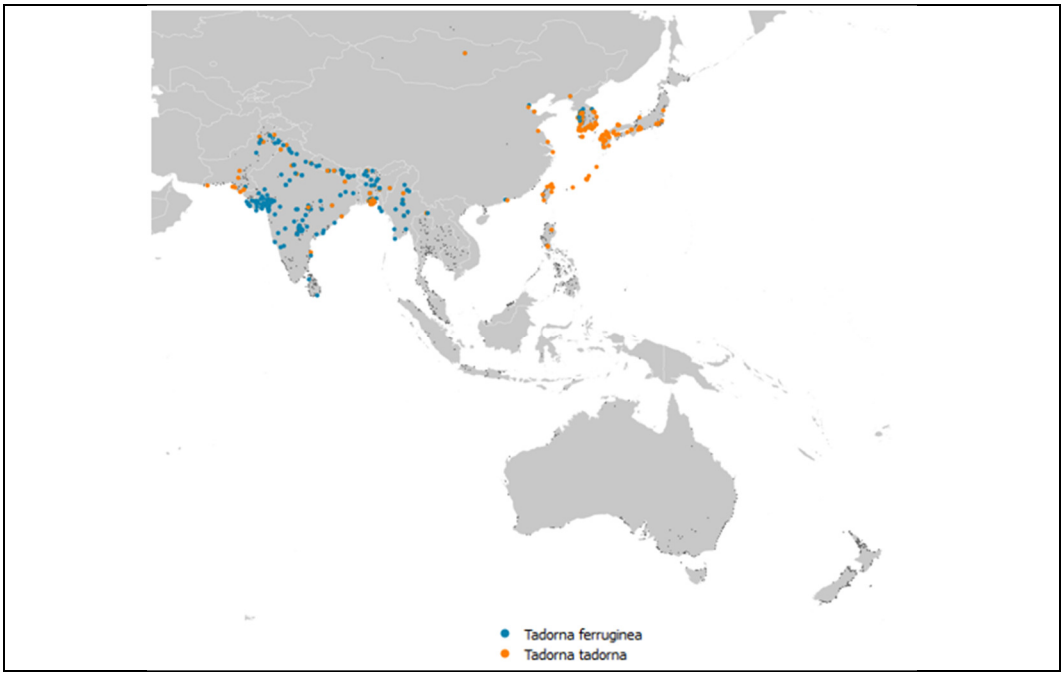
Of the widespread dabbling duck *Anas* species, the Northen Pintail was widely reported in E, SE and S Asia with between 79,000-521,000 reported annually (WPE 1,200,000-1,300,000).



Of the diving ducks *Aythya,* the CR Baer's Pochard *Aythya baeri* of E, S and SE Asia is depicted here. Between 1-422 were reported annually (WPE 250 - 1,000), although the species is difficult to identify and may be overlooked or misidentified.

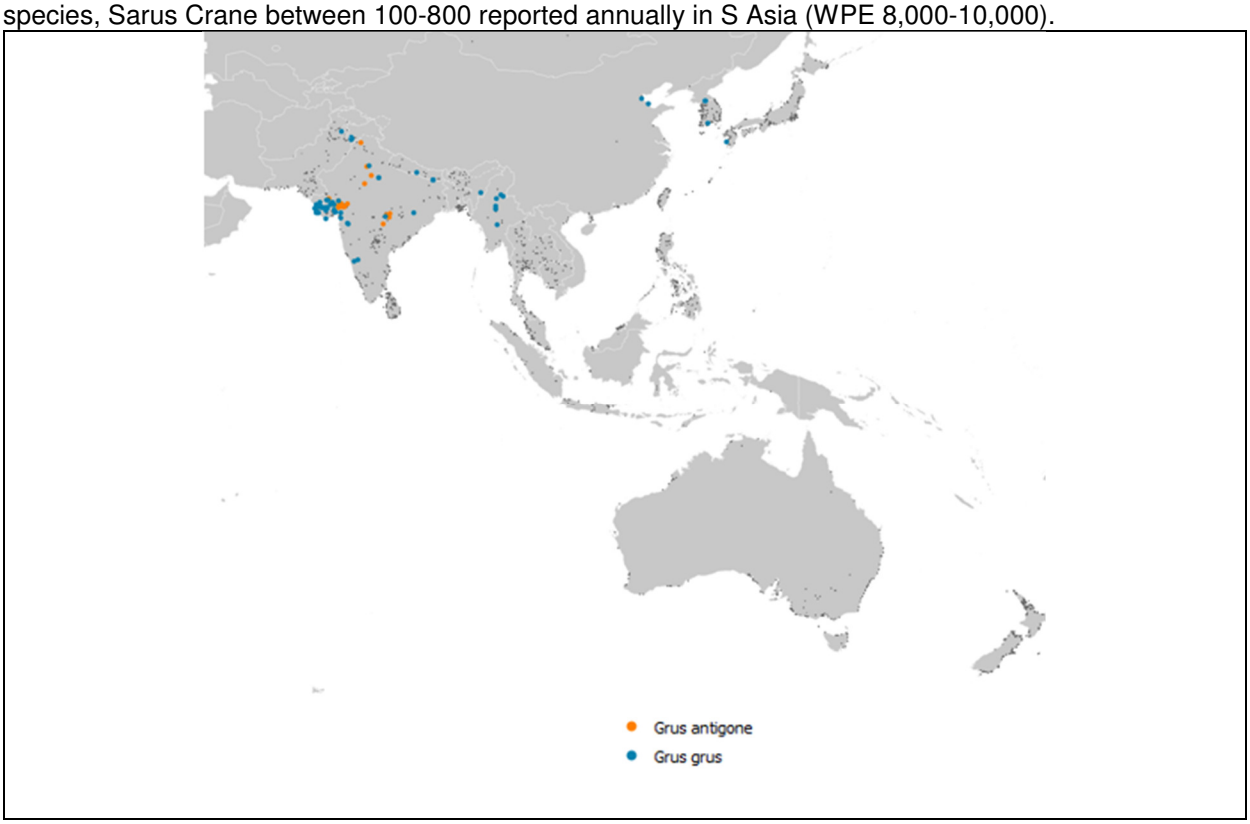


Depicted here are Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna* and Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea* of the six Tadorna family in the region. Both are widely reported in E, SE and S Asia. Between 25,000-39,000 Common Shelduck (WPE 125,000-250,000) were reported annually, while between 12,000 and 40,000 Ruddy Shelduck reported (WPE 100,000-150,000).



Cranes

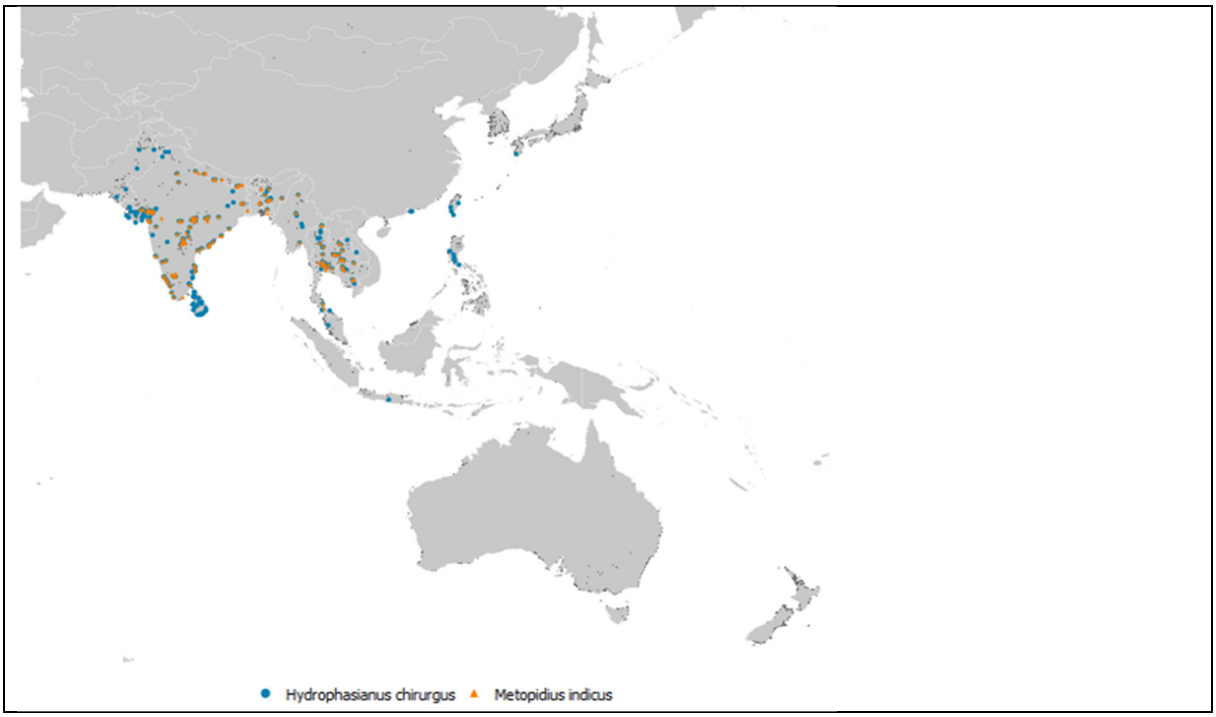
Of the nine cranes species, the Siberian Crane *Leucogeranus leucogeranus* CR, Red-crowned Crane *Grus japonensis* EN, White-naped Crane *Antigone vipio*, Hooded Crane *Grus monacha*, Black-necked Crane *Grus nigricollis* and Sarus Crane *Antigone antigone* are VU and Demoiselle Crane *Anthropoides virgo*, Common Crane *Grus grus* and Sandhill Crane *Antigone canadensis* are LC. Of the two depicted species, Sarus Crane between 100-800 reported annually in S Asia (WPE 8,000-10,000).



Of the two E Asian VU crane species most widely reported in the census, White-naped Crane (depicted here) between 1,400-4,200 (WPE 5,500-6,500) and Hooded Crane 300-11,300 (WPE 11,550-11,650).

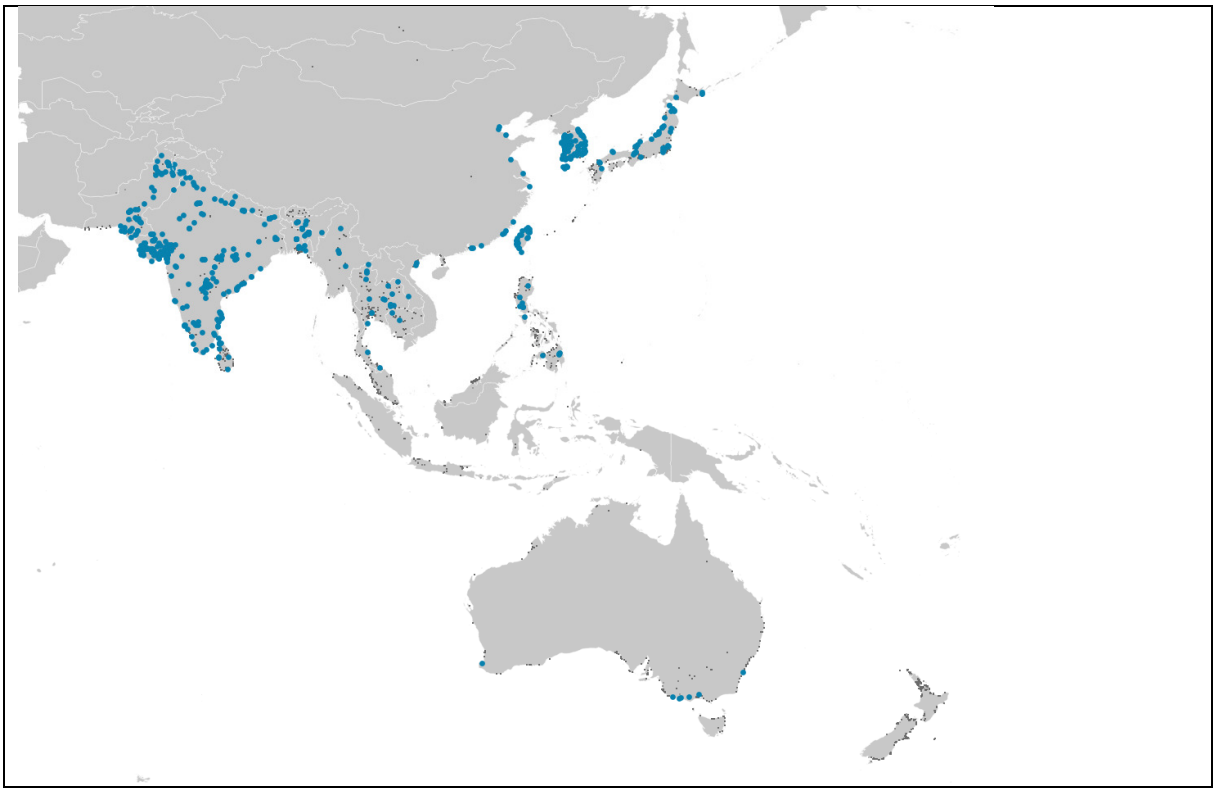
Jacanas

Three Jacana species occur in the region, two in Asia and one in Australasia to eastern Indonesia. Depicted here are the Pheasant-tailed Jacana *Hydrophasianus chirurgus* in E, S and SE Asia, between 2,900-10,900 reported annually (WPE 100,000-150,000) and Bronze-winged Jacana *Metopidius indicus* in S and SE Asia, between 1,200-6,600 reported annually (WPE 50,000-100,000).

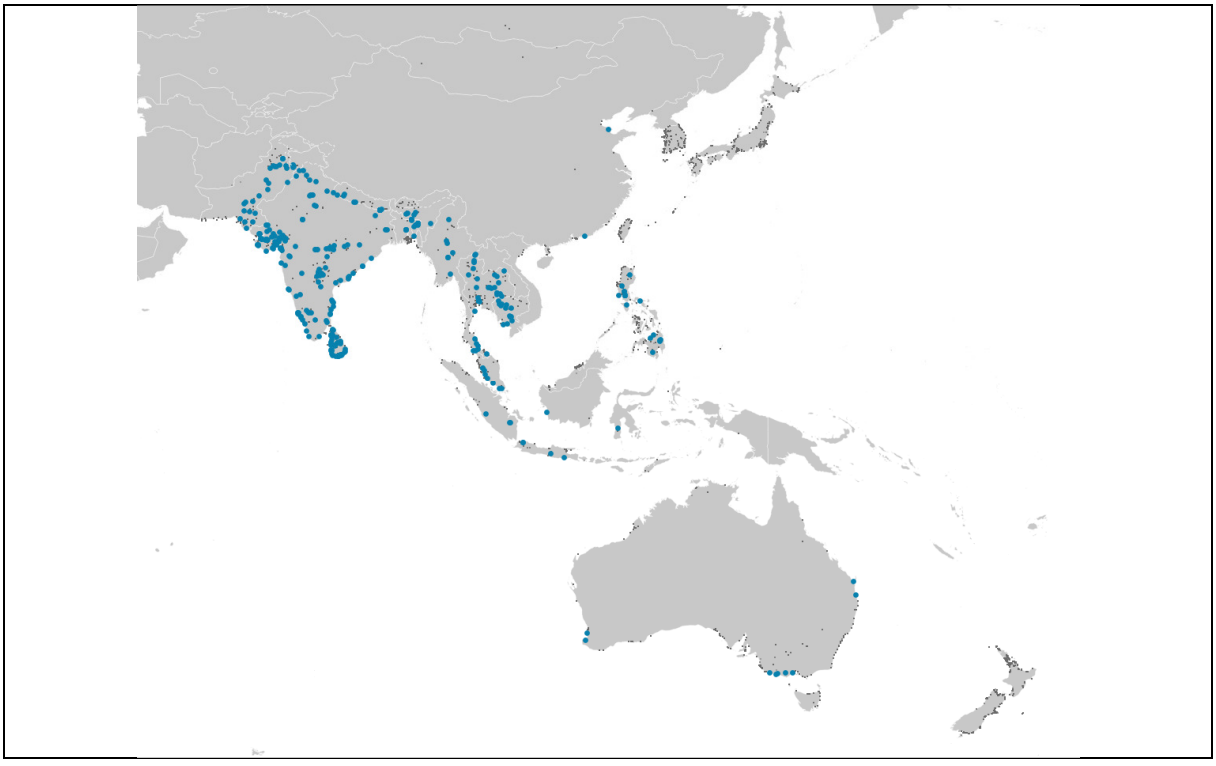


Rails, Gallinules and Coot

Common Coot *Fulica atra* LC widespread in E, S and SE Asia, between 224,100-365,900 reported annually (WPE 1,600,000-2,500,000)

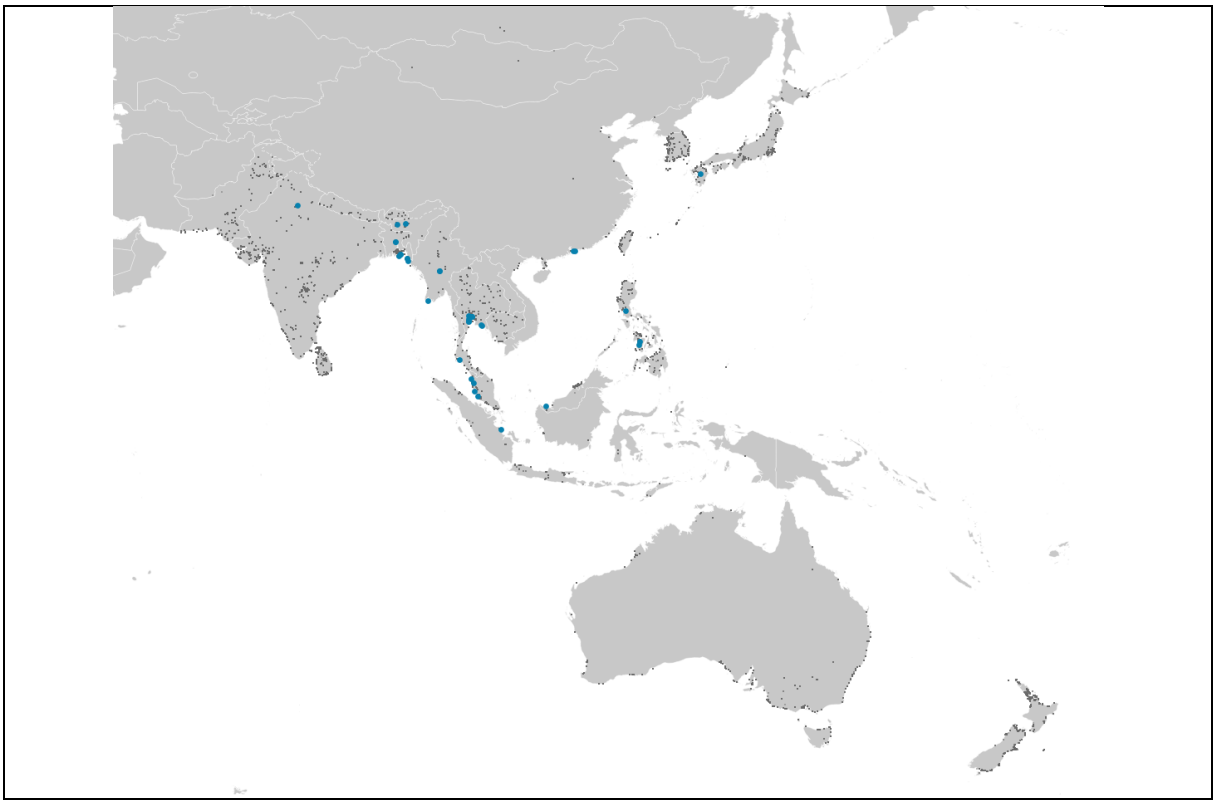


Purple Swamphen *Porphyrio porphyrio* LC in E, S and SE Asia and Australia, between 10,500-52,200 reported annually (WPE, no estimate)

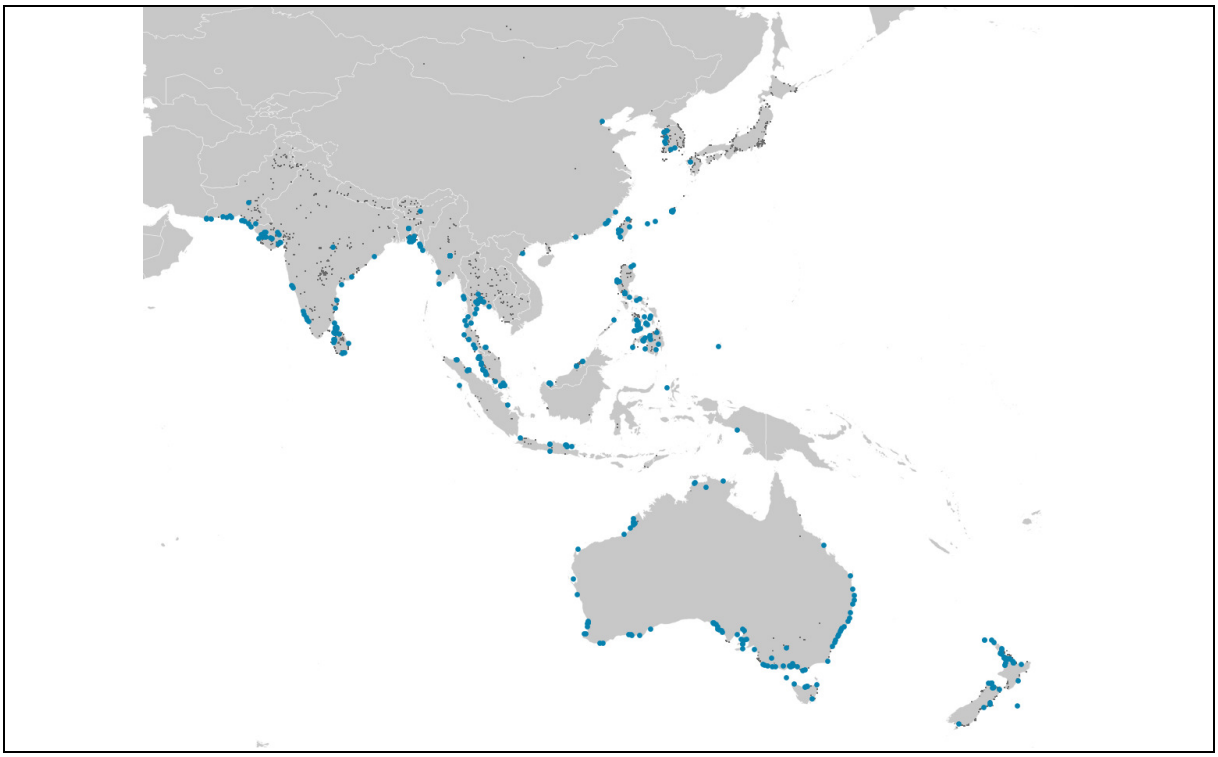


Shorebirds

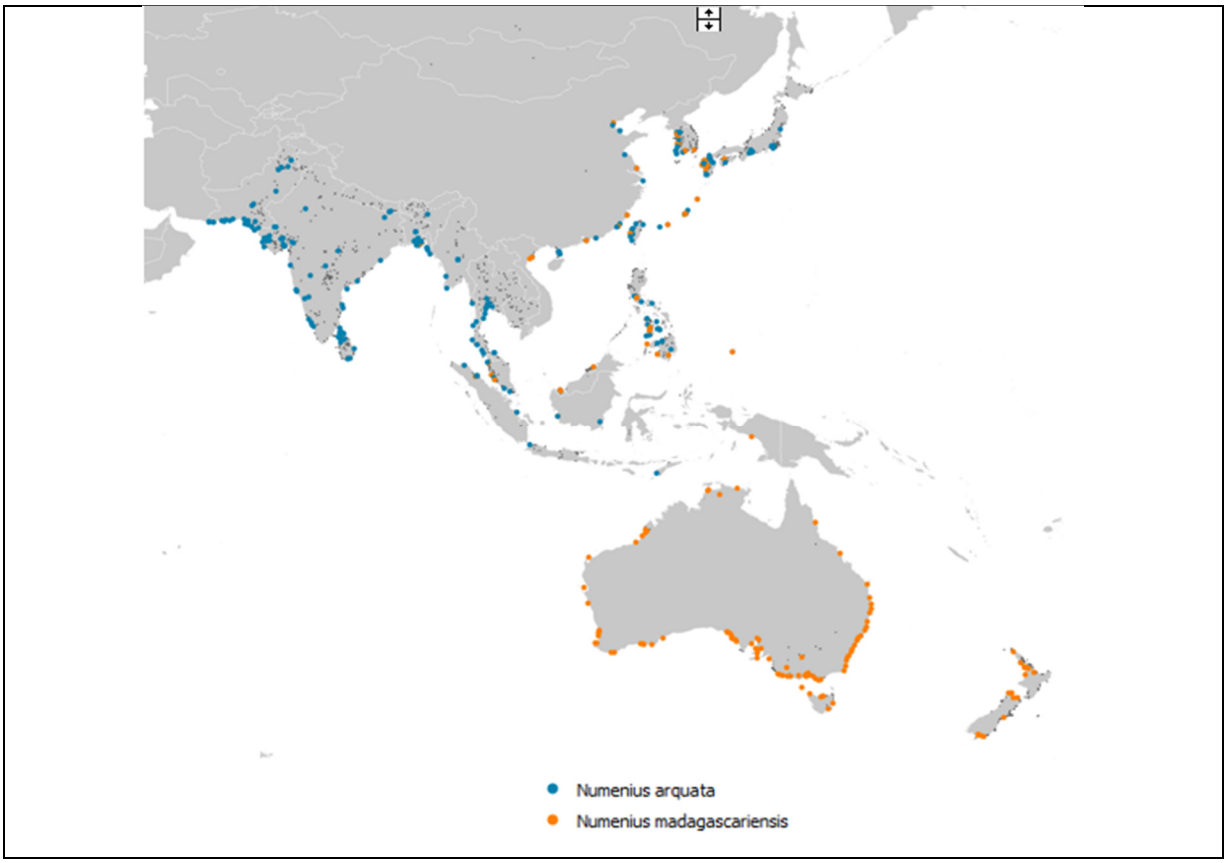
Spotted Greenshank *Tringa guttifer* EN in E, S and SE Asia, between 9-142 reported annually (WPE 400–600).



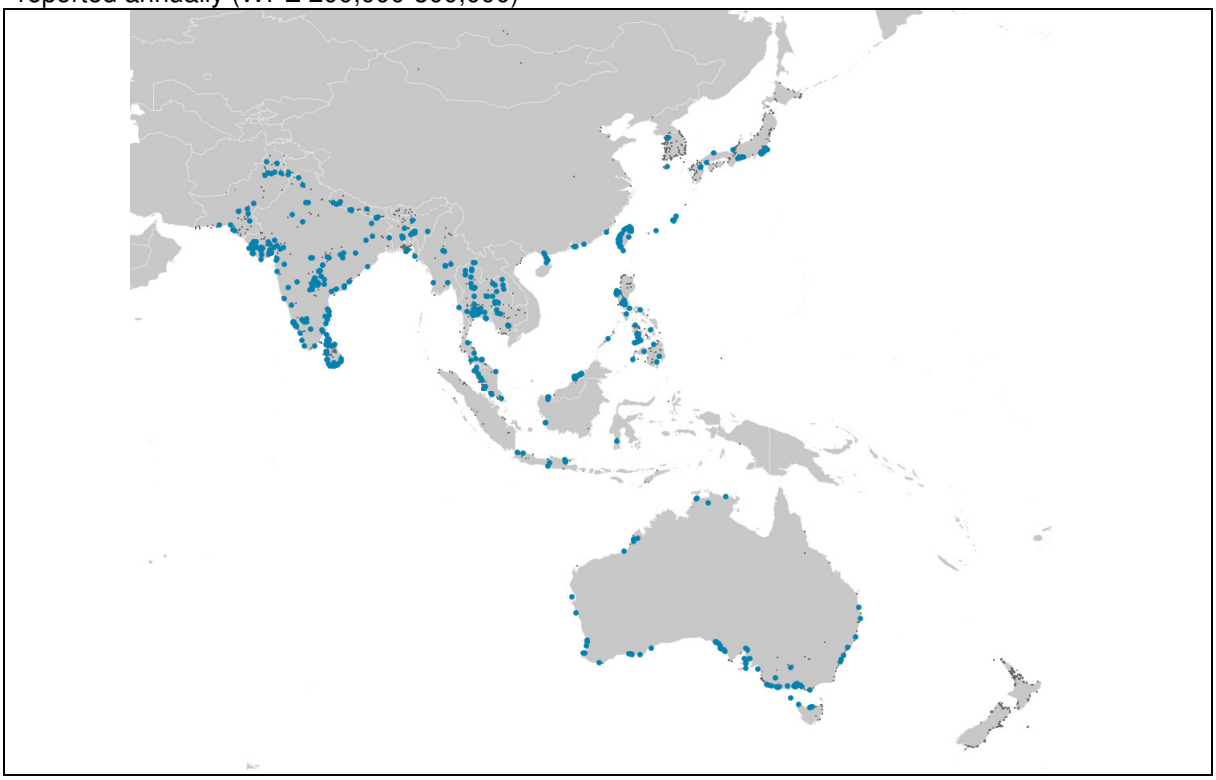
Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus* LC in E, S and SE Asia and Australia, between 2,400-5,200 reported annually (WPE 80,000-155,000)



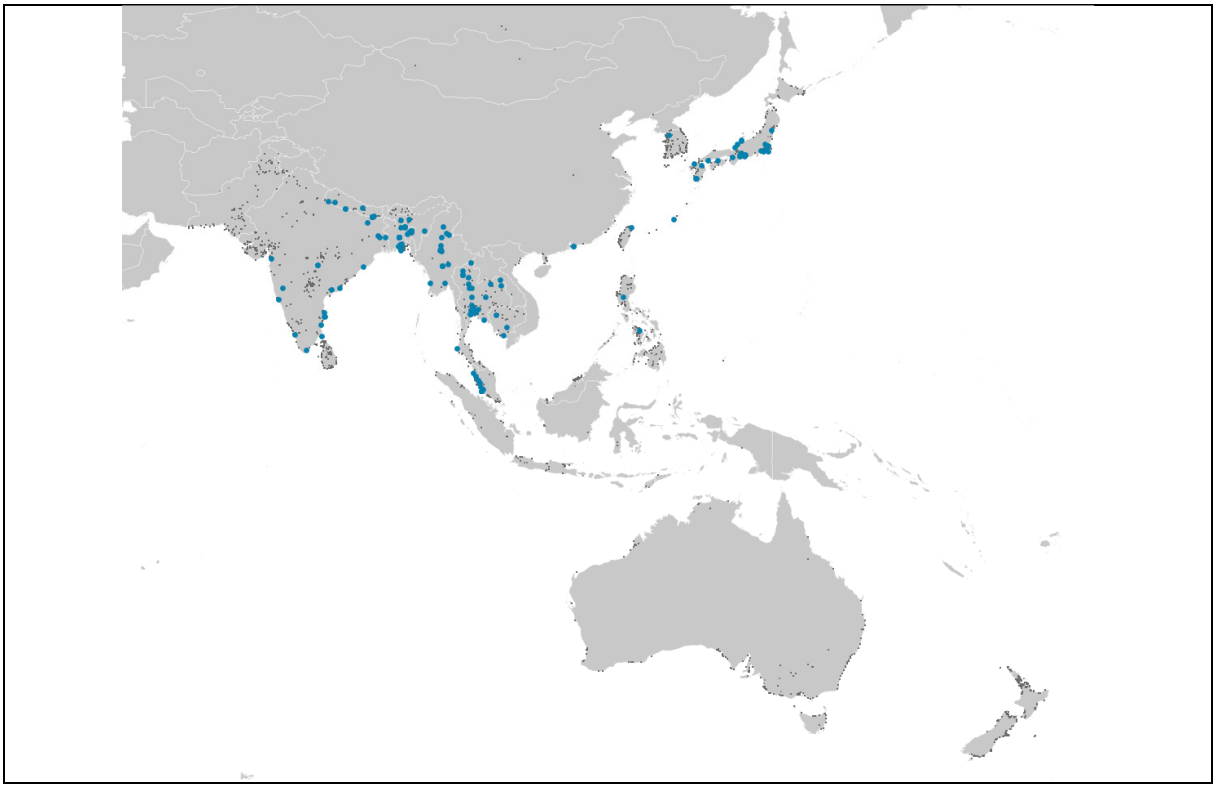
Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata* NT in E, S and SE Asia and Australiasia, between 9,800-20,700 reported annually (WPE 110,000-200,000). Far Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis* EN in E, SE Asia and Australia, between 55-617 reported annually (WPE 32,000).



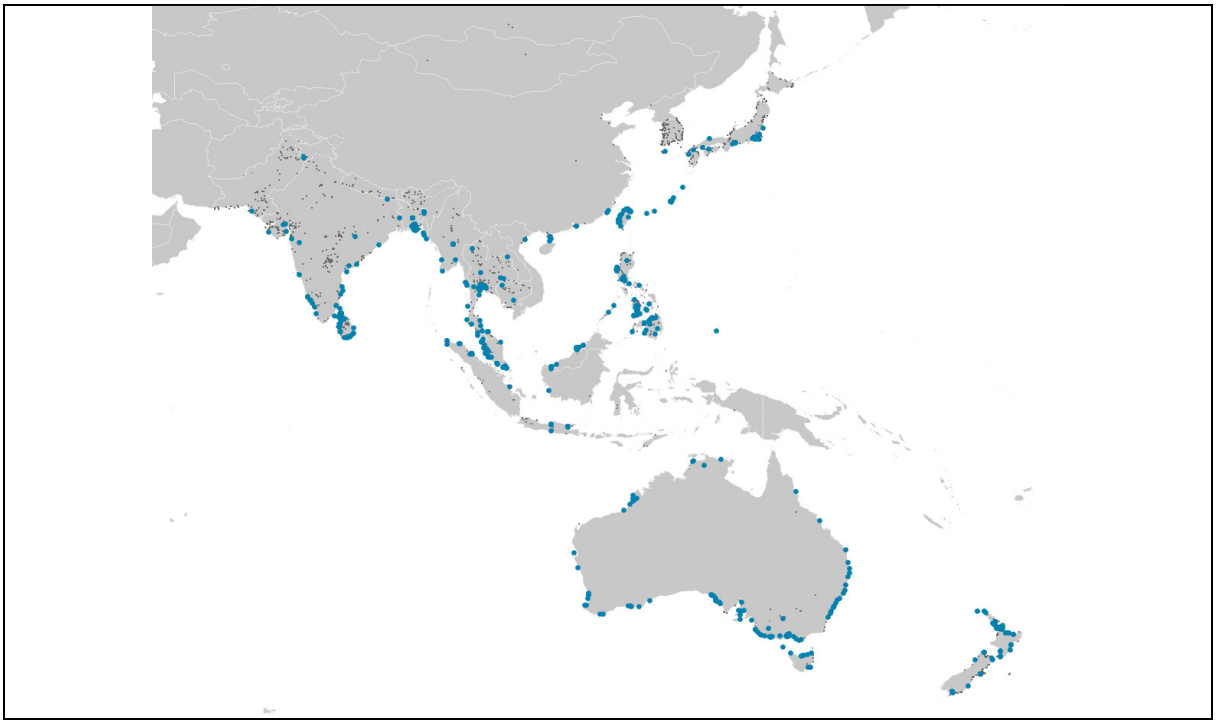
Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* LC in E, S and SE Asia and Australia, between 3,300-18,200 reported annually (WPE 200,000-300,000)



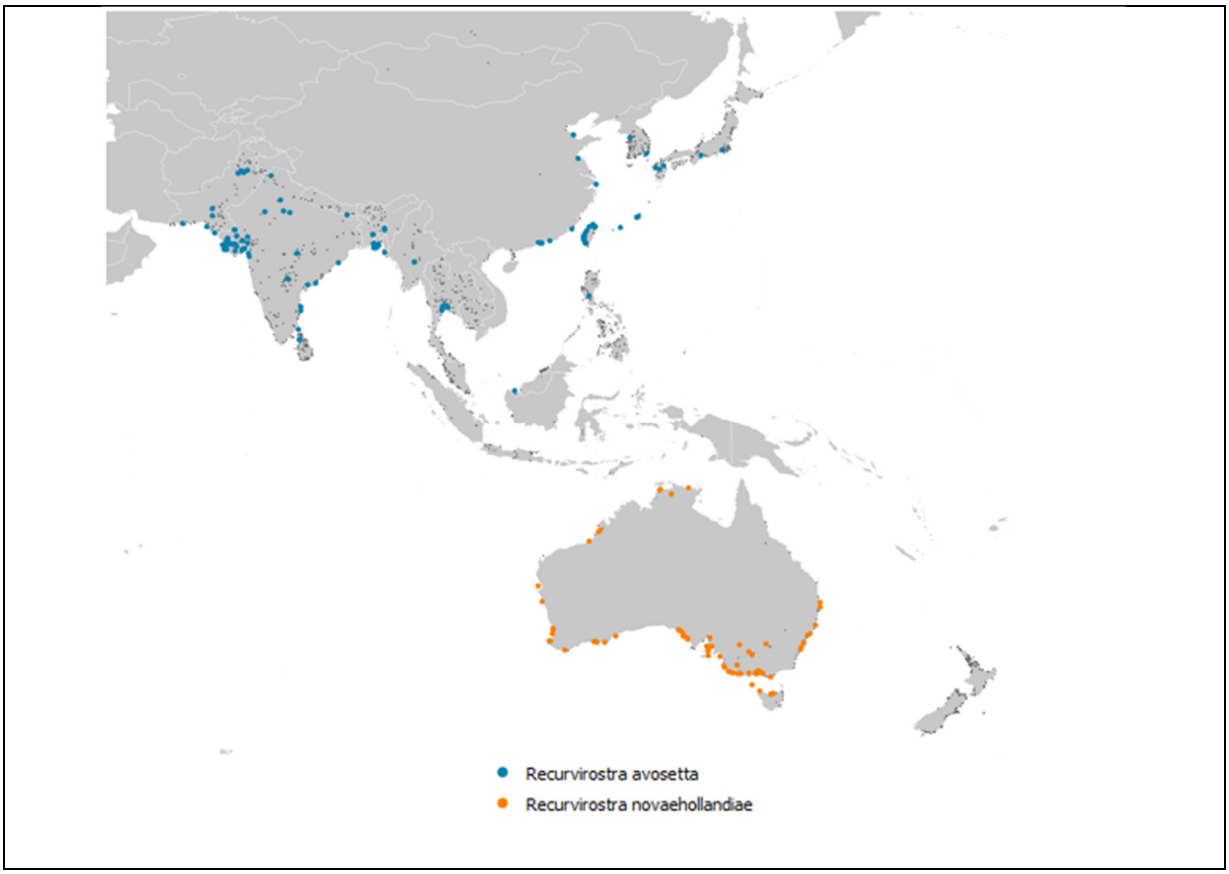
Grey-headed Lapwing *Vanellus cinereus* LC in E, S and SE Asia, between 800-3,300 reported annually (WPE 25,000 - 100,000)



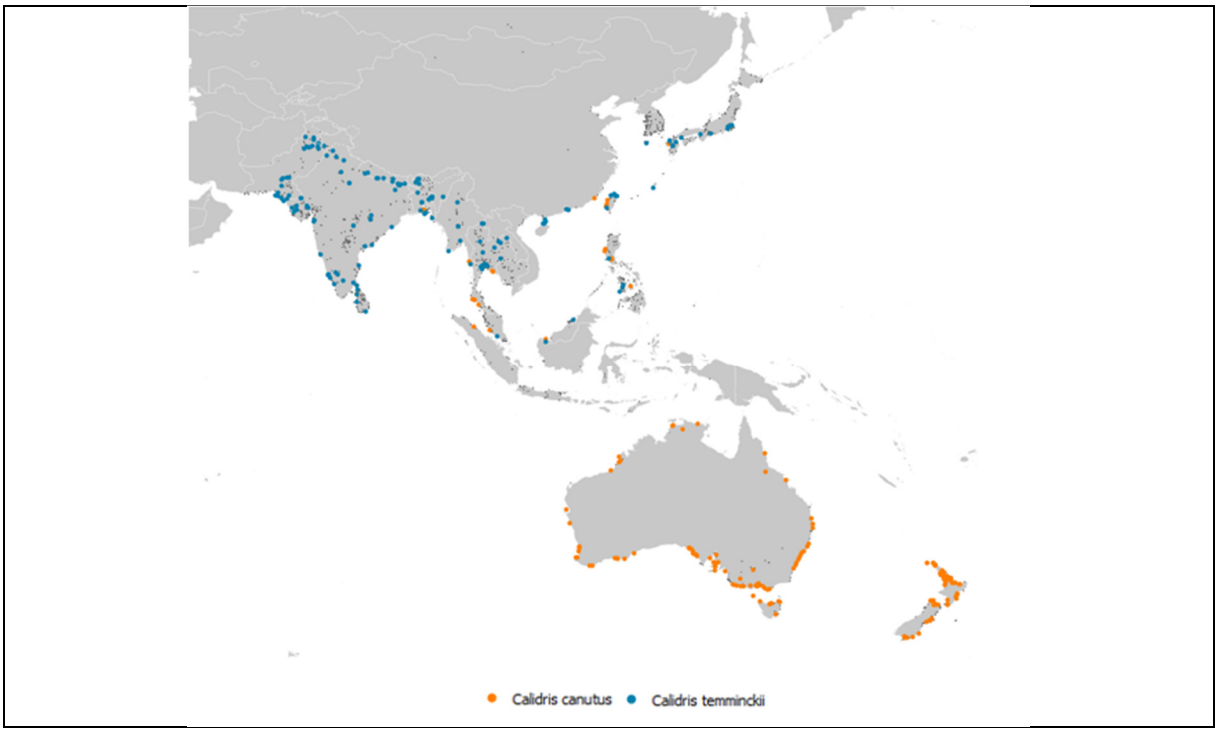
Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva* LC in E, S and SE Asia and Australia, between 10,400-22,600 reported annually (WPE 150,000-200,000)



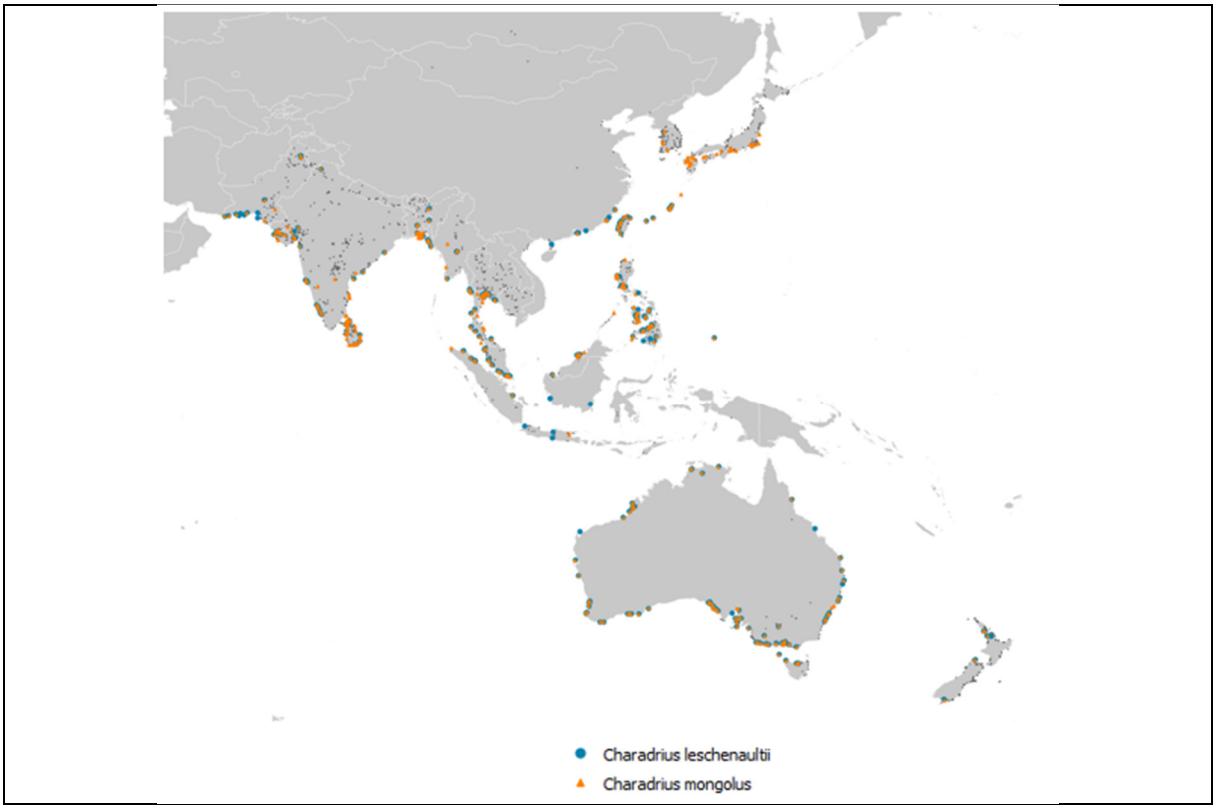
Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta* LC between in E, S and SE Asia, 14,900-38,400 reported annually (WPE 110,000-200,000). Red-necked Avocet *Recurvirostra novaehollandiae* LC in Australia, between 1,300-11,000 reported annually (WPE 107,000 - 107,000).



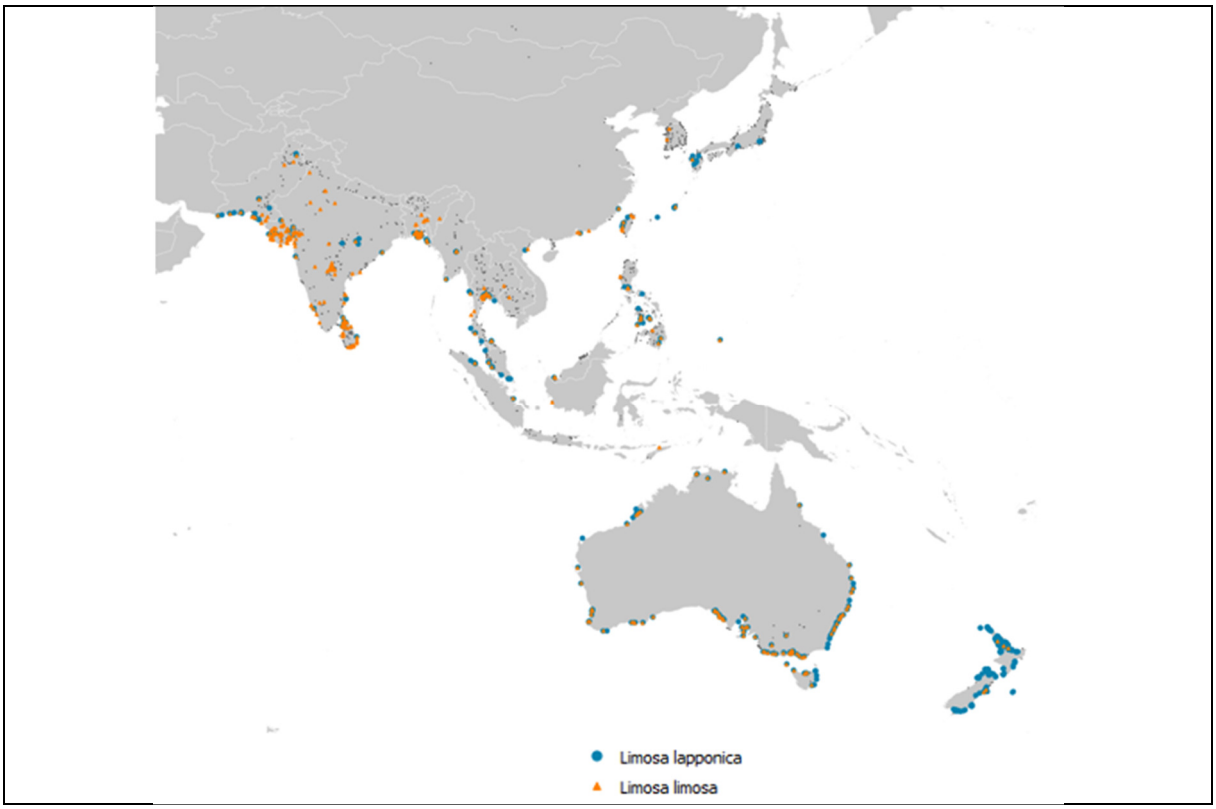
Great Knot *Calidris tenuirostris* EN between 17,495-175,166 reported annually (WPE 290,000-295,000). Red Knot *Calidris canutus* NT between 18,900-45,500 reported annually (WPE 116,000-139,000)



Lesser Sandplover *Charadrius mongolus* LC between 29,000-79,000 reported annually (WPE 188,500-218,500). Greater Sandplover *Charadrius leschenaultii* LC between 12,000-76,000 reported annually (WPE 104,000-179,000).

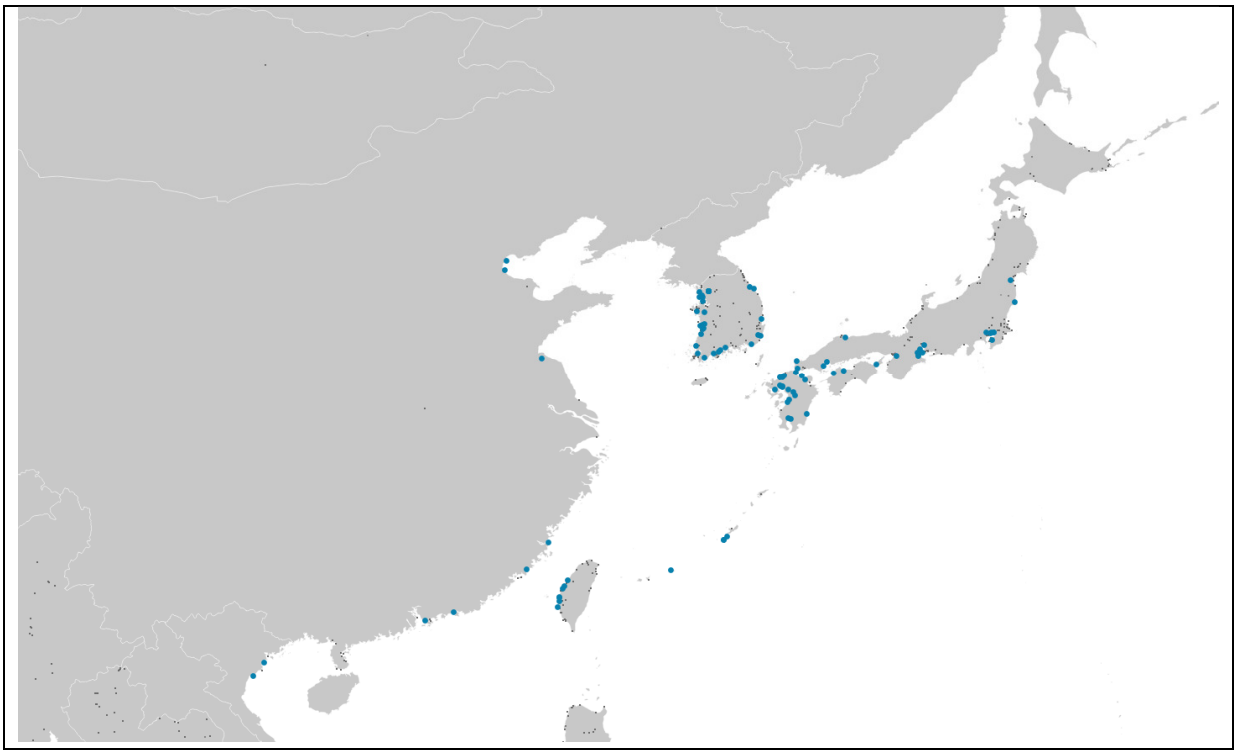


Two godwit species both NT occurring in E, S and SE Asia and Australiasia, Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica* between 81,000-112,000 reported annually (WPE 289,000-289,000) and Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa* between 24,000 -139,000 reported annually (WPE 379,000-429,000)

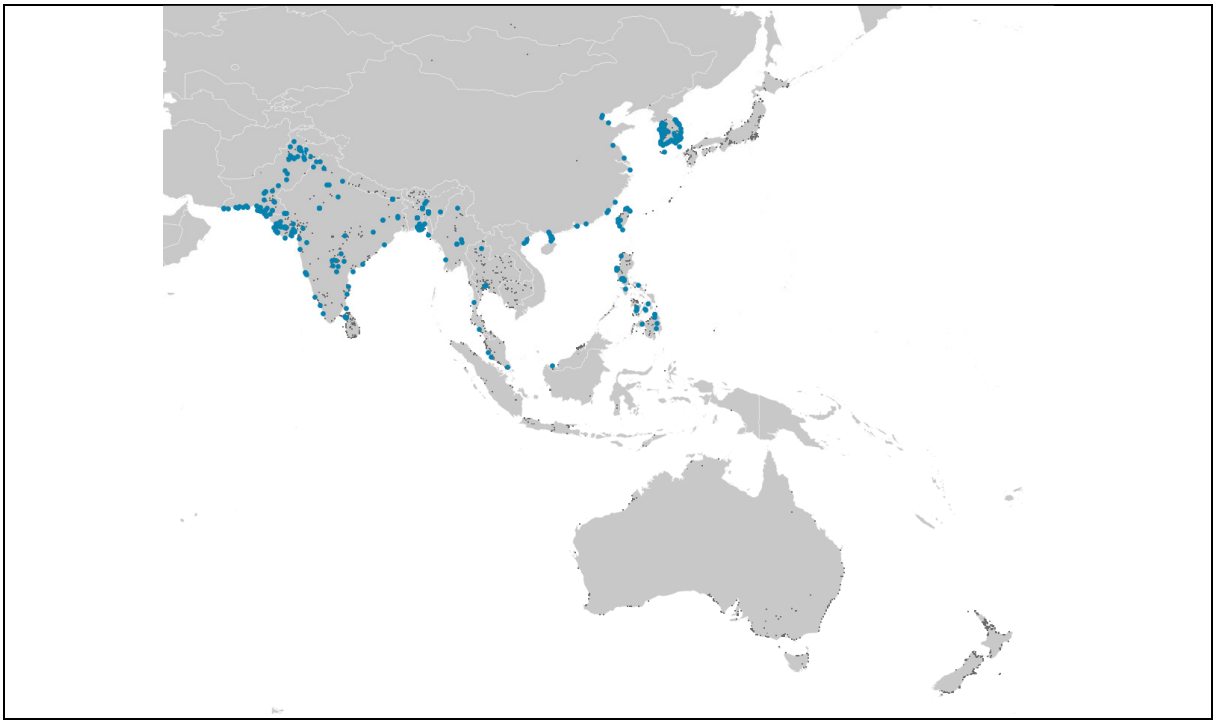


Gulls, Terns and Skimmer

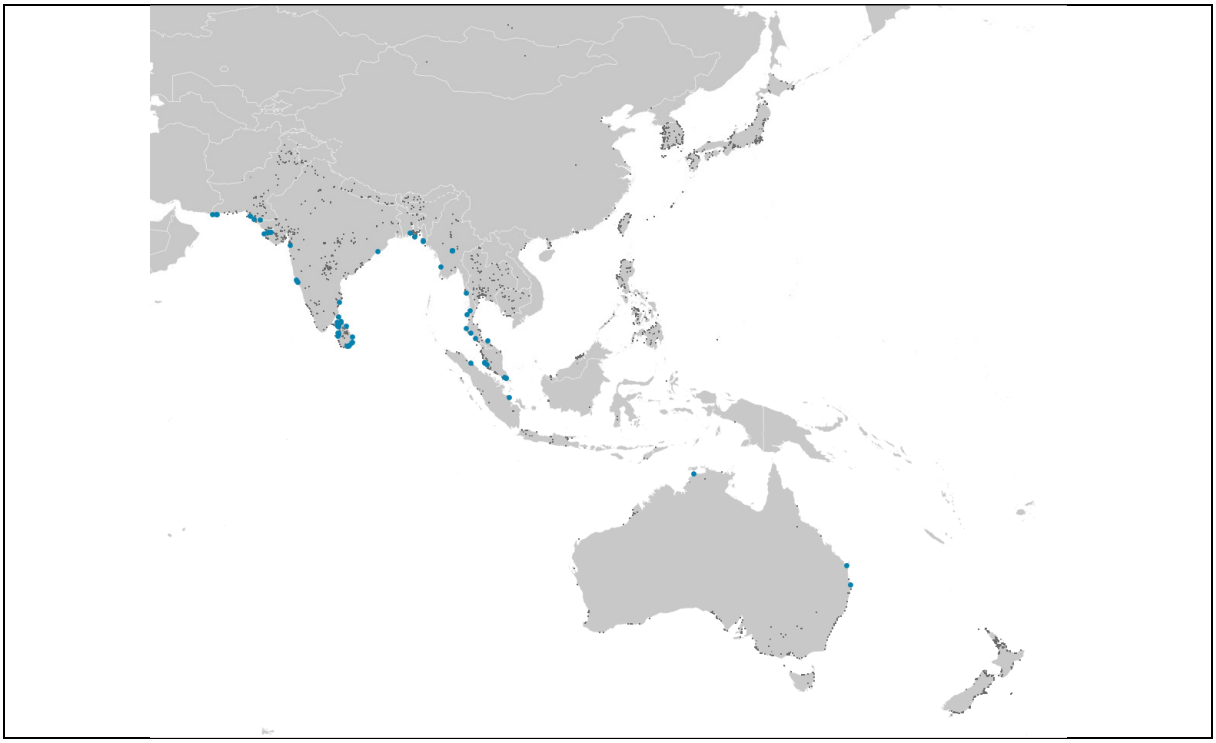
Saunders's Gull LC in E Asia, between 32-153 reported annually (WPE 7,100-9,600)



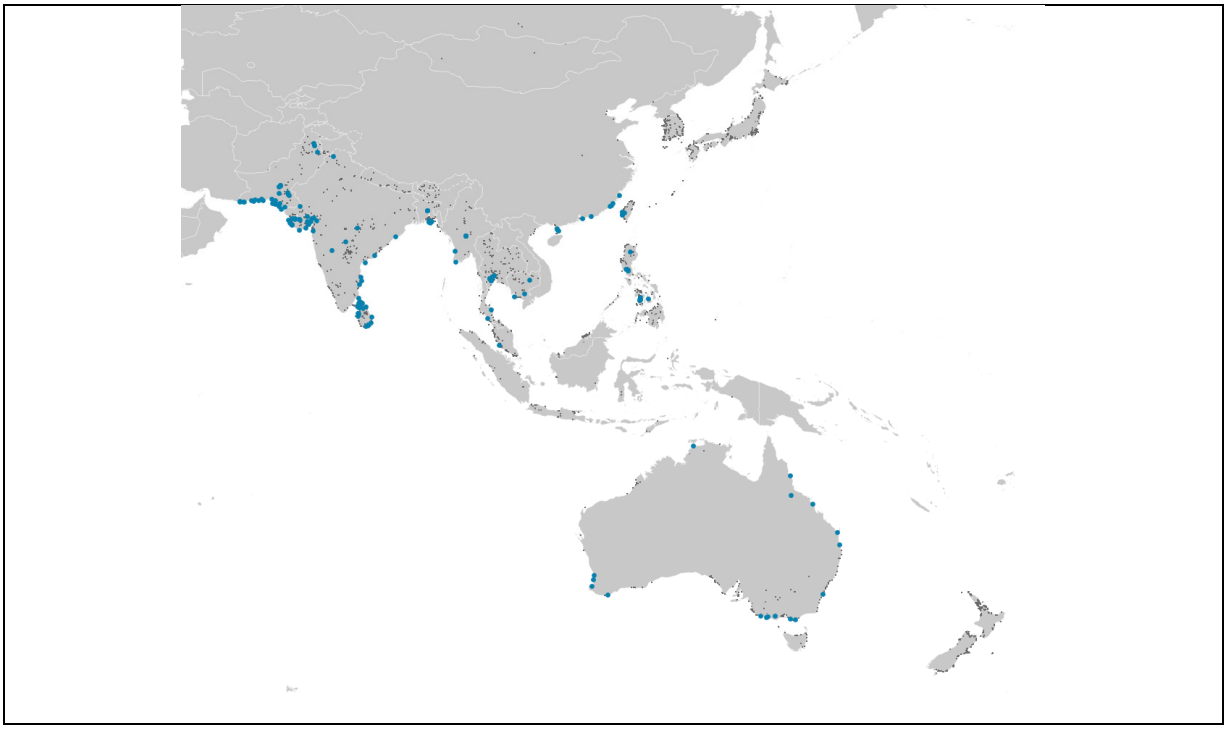
Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus* LC in E, S and SE Asia, between 35,400-85,800 reported annually (WPE 125,000-2,000,000)



Lesser Crested Tern *Thalasseus bengalensis* LC in S and SE Asia and Australia, between 1,000-121,600 reported annually (WPE 175,000-280,000)



Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia* LC in E, S and SE Asia and Australia, between 300-13,900 reported annually (WPE 70,000-225,000)



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Include list of national reports – as provided by coordinators

Annexes