

EAAFP Shorebird Working Group

Work Plan 2023-2025

Endorsed at the SWG meeting on 31 August 2023

Input from core team members Mark Carey (MC), Rick Lanctot (RL), Micha Jackson (MJ), Katherine Leung (KL), David Li (DL), Yifei Jia (YF), Phil Straw (PS), Yuzhu Yin (YZ), Chris Hassell (CH), Ginny Chan (GC), Tatsuya Amano (TA).

Work Plan
1. Support monitoring of migratory shorebirds.
1.1. Provide technical advice and support to industry, government, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations to conduct shorebird monitoring throughout the EAAF, particularly in developing countries where large area of potential shorebird habitats is not surveyed (e.g., southeast Asian countries).
2. Support conservation of shorebird species and their habitat.
2.1. Engage existing task forces within the EAAF Partnership (e.g. Spoon-billed Sandpiper, Far Eastern Curlew, Yellow Sea Task Force) by providing logistical and complement team support where possible.
2.2. Focus on conservation of the Nordmann's Greenshank, with potential to develop a conservation plan, support monitoring of important sites, and investigate declines.
2.3 Focus on conservation of Dunlin, with efforts directed toward understanding declines.
2.4. Contribute to the EAAFP Conservation Status Review (CSR), oversee and lead in red-listing of potentially new globally threatened and near threatened shorebirds in the EAAF, especially when new evidence emerges on shorebird population trends (e.g., Little Curlew, Curlew Sandpiper, Nordmann's Greenshank, Asian Dowitcher).
2.5. Engage with efforts of the Illegal Hunting, Taking, and Trade of Migratory Waterbirds Task Force.
2.6. Develop a flyway shorebird conservation strategy / plan that would emphasize important issues and needs throughout the EAAF.
3. Support Capacity building and promote science for shorebird conservation and management
3.1. Identifying opportunities in supporting training workshops and develop training materials to enhance efforts to monitor, band, track, and manage for shorebirds and their habitats in the EAAF.
3.2 Broaden the experience of shorebird biologists throughout the flyway (e.g., NW Australia Shorebird expedition, Russian and Alaska breeding study sites, ASEAN Flyway Network Project) by having people participate in field studies in different parts of the flyway.

3.3 Coordinate and promote collaborative migration ecology studies along EAAF.

3.4 Organising shorebird science meeting to promote science and share experiences on best managing practices with shorebird groups operating in the EAAF and worldwide (such as International Wader Study Group, Australasian Wader Studies Group, Greater China Wader Study Group, Russian Wader Study Group, Alaska Shorebird Group, Western Hemisphere Shorebird Group and interested universities, institutions and organisations).

3.5 Undertake a review of the shorebird colour flagging/marking protocols of the EAAF

4. Enhance communication relating to shorebird conservation

4.1. Organise regular, EAAF-wide focused meetings and online talks of shorebird working group members to promote collaboration, partnering and priority setting of shorebird conservation activities.

4.2 Engage shorebird experts and interested parties throughout the EAAF via regular communication (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, newsletter, e-mail/listserv). Facebook Group: East Asian-Australasian Flyway Shorebird Conservation Network

4.3 Provide regular news item to EAAFP Secretariat and regional newsletters.

4.4 Produce new CEPA materials for shorebirds, particularly on new relevant issues and in languages currently not available.

4.5. Encourage members to participate in shorebird events (e.g., World Shorebird Day and Migratory Bird Day).