

DD.15 Interim Review of the SSAP for the Far Eastern Curlew

Mark Carey, Australian Government
Department of Climate Change,
Energy, the Environment and Water



WEAVING CONNECTIONS:
Celebrating Migration, Traditional Knowledge,
and Innovation across our Flyway

12th Meeting of Partners of the
East Asian–Australasian Flyway Partnership



Background

- The Far Eastern Curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*) is an endemic migratory shorebird to the EAAF and the largest migratory shorebird in the world.
- It has undergone a significant decline over the past 30 years.
- At MOP8 in 2015 the Government of Australia proposed the formation of a Far Eastern Curlew Task Force.
- The primary role of the Task Force was to develop an international action plan, consult with range states, and coordinate conservation efforts across the species' full migratory range.
- At MOP9 in Singapore, the Single Species Action Plan was adopted, and later endorsed by the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) at COP12 in Manila.
- The Task Force was maintained to support implementation and reporting.

Progress to date

- Since 2017, the Task Force has supported a wide range of high-priority actions:
 - monitoring and habitat protection
 - illegal hunting assessments
 - tracking and research
 - awareness and education
- Despite these successes, challenges remain:
 - monitoring gaps
 - climate change impacts
 - pollution and disturbance
 - illegal take

Recommendations

- Update the Action Plan by 2030 to reflect new knowledge and revised priorities.
- Continue to expand habitat protection and address threats such as illegal take and climate change.
- Strengthen monitoring and fill data gaps, especially in breeding areas.
- Continue integration with broader migratory bird conservation efforts.
- Close the Far Eastern Curlew Task Force and establish a Sub-group under the Shorebird Working Group to continue monitoring and coordination of the Action Plan.

MOP12 Decision

- **Notes** the interim review of the Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the Far Eastern Curlew as submitted to MOP12 at Attachment A of DD.15;
- **Urges** Range States, Partners, and other stakeholders to continue to implement relevant provisions of the Action Plan as a matter of priority;
- **Encourages** Partners to provide technical and/or financial assistance to support activities outlined in the Plan;
- **Requests** the Secretariat to bring the Plan to the attention of all Range States and relevant stakeholders;
- **Agrees** to close the Far Eastern Curlew Task Force; and
- **Invites** the Shorebird Working Group to establish a Far Eastern Curlew Sub-group to monitor the implementation of the Plan.