

Side Event Title: Migratory waterbird conservation in Malaysia · updates, lessons and next steps

Lead Organiser/s: BirdLife International

Co-organiser/s: Malaysian Nature Society, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi

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Date: 12 November 2025

Time: 17:00 – 18:30

Background

Malaysia hosts several of the most important wintering sites for migratory shorebirds in Southeast Asia. Three of the most threatened shorebirds in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway, the Nordmann's Greenshank *Tringa guttifer*, Great Knot *Calidris tenuirostris* and the Far Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis* winter in Malaysia's coastal wetlands in significant numbers annually and has been the focus on substantial conservation work in recent years. This side event will provide a platform to share recent developments and update progress on flyway conservation in both Peninsular Malaysia and Malaysian Borneo. There will also be a panel discussion involving government and conservation practitioners to identify existing challenges, opportunities and next steps. This is also an opportunity to establish a nationwide network of shorebird experts in Malaysia to strengthen collaboration and mutual support in advancing flyway conservation efforts. The newly published 'Shorebird of the North-Central Selangor Coast' will be launched at this event.

Objectives

- (1) Provide a platform to share recent developments and progress on flyway conservation in Malaysia
- (2) Identify existing challenges, opportunities and text steps for the conservation of wetland sites in Malaysia
- (3) Launch of a booklet on the North-Central Selangor Coast.

Expected Outcomes

Tentative Programme

Time	Topic and Speaker	Notes
17:00	<p>Introduction and overview of session</p> <p>Dr. Yeap Chin Aik <i>Malaysian Nature Society</i></p> <p>Dr. Yong Ding Li <i>BirdLife International</i></p>	
17:05	<p>Opening comments on flyway conservation in Malaysia</p> <p>Representative (TBC) <i>Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability, Malaysia (NRES)</i></p>	
17:10	<p>Updates and progress from the North-Central Selangor Coast</p> <p>Ms. Jacelyn See <i>Malaysian Nature Society (Secretariat)</i></p>	
17:20	<p>Updates and progress from the Penang Coast</p> <p>Mr. Tan Choo Eng <i>Malaysian Nature Society (Penang Branch)</i></p> <p>Representative (TBC) <i>Penang State Forestry Department</i></p>	
17:30	<p>Importance of the Sarawak coast for Far East Curlew conservation</p> <p>Ms. Olivia Wilibrode & Ms. Rose Au <i>Malaysian Nature Society (Kuching Branch)</i></p>	
17:40	<p>Far Eastern Curlew tracking and connectivity with other wetland sites in the EAAF</p>	

	<p>Ms. Batrisyia binti Teepol <i>King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi KMUTT)</i></p>	
17:50	<p>Nordmann's Greenshank movement ecology in SE Asia</p> <p>Prof. George Gale <i>King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT)</i></p>	To address species connectivity between Malaysia, Indonesia and other parts of Southeast Asia
18:00	<p>Launch of new booklet on the North-Central Selangor Coast</p> <p>Dr Yeap Chin Aik <i>Malaysian Nature Society (Secretariat)</i></p>	Alternatively, it can be done with presentation
18:10	Panel discussion	
18:25	<p>Closing comments</p> <p>Ms. Noraisah Majri (TBC) <i>Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC)</i></p>	