

The International Wader Study Group (WSG) is a voluntary association of amateur and professional researchers on all aspects of the biology of waders (shorebirds). The Group has rapid access to experienced people throughout the international field of wader research. Founded in Britain in 1970, the Group now has a worldwide membership. The WSG acts as the Wader Specialist Group of Wetlands International (WI).

The Biological Resources Research Center (BRRC), part of the Department of Biology at the University of Nevada, Reno, was established in 1992 to conduct scientific research and planning efforts necessary to preserve the distinct biotic diversity of Nevada while simultaneously providing for economic viability and other needs of its citizens. The BRRC is a member of the Nevada Biodiversity Research and Conservation Initiative, a collaborative effort to integrate conservation science with management of public lands in Nevada. Strong, active partnerships with other academic institutions and with resource management agencies play a critical role in its activities.

Most research on shorebirds occurs in areas of high abundance, such as staging areas and coastal foraging sites in marine environments. Shorebirds that inhabit arid areas have received less attention in life-history studies, as well as in assessing environmental impacts relevant to shorebirds' long-term survival. The ten papers in this volume stem from a workshop designed to bring together biologists, resource managers, non-government organizations, and the public to discuss many of the environmental problems for shorebirds in the arid western Great Basin, and how to design research to address the problems. This volume provides an important starting point for identifying environmental problems facing shorebirds, and for designing the types of long-term monitoring and research required to maintain shorebird populations in arid environments.

This volume will be of interest to shorebird biologists, conservation biologists, and resource managers. In particular, biologists interested in shorebirds in arid environments will appreciate the work presented here.



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