
Preface

In December 1994, the University of Nevada, Reno's Biological Resources Research Center and Jay Dow, Sr. Wetlands cohosted a workshop on the ecology and management of shorebirds in the western Great Basin of the United States of America. We concentrated on the western Great Basin because the scale of the entire Great Basin was too large to be manageable for this workshop and our collective expertise was centered on the western Great Basin.

The goals of the workshop were to provide preliminary information on the status of shorebirds in the western Great Basin, discuss ecological peculiarities of being a shorebird in an arid region, and present issues relevant to management of shorebirds in this region. These proceedings are *not* intended to be a comprehensive guide to the ecology, conservation, and management of shorebirds in the western Great Basin. At this time, that would be an impossible task due to lack of data. The papers in this proceedings reflect areas of interest of our contributors, rather than being a systematic review of all species and issues. Nevertheless, they represent a relevant selection of problems and issues concerning western Great Basin shorebirds. Many of the issues discussed for the western Great Basin are applicable to other areas of the world, *e.g.*, habitat fragmentation, salinization, and environmental variability.

This collection of papers stems from the meeting. Participants and attendees included University of Nevada, Reno, Simon Fraser University, Utah State University, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, U.S. National Park Service, Nevada Division of Wildlife, Nevada Waterfowl Association, Public Resource Association, Sierra Club, Lahontan Audubon Society, Wetland Coalition, Ducks Unlimited, Inc., The Nature Conservancy, and private citizens.