

netting) will be carried out at the three main locations mentioned above.

Help is needed at any time during the March/April period. Come for as long as possible, minimum two weeks.

Costs, apart from travel to/from Broome, are moderate. There is a good airport at Broome with daily flights to/from Perth and Darwin. We will camp (fee \$5 per day when at Broome, nil elsewhere), cook communally (\$15 per day), and make a contribution of \$100 per week (max. \$300) towards 4WD vehicle hire and other costs. [1 sterling = 2.2 \$Australian]. There will also be opportunities for hide photography of waders and passerine banding/watching (180 species on the Broome Bird Observatory list).

To finally whet the appetite of waderologists I've listed below some of the more attractive species for those from Europe/North America, etc.

Present in thousands (sometimes tens of thousands)

Great Knot
Large Sandplover
Little Curlew

Oriental Plover
Oriental Pratincole
Terek Sandpiper
Grey-tailed Tattler
Rednecked Stint
Regularly present (many in hundreds)

Asiatic Dowitcher
Broad-billed Sandpiper
Eastern Curlew
Mongolian (Lesser) Sandplover
Long-toed Stint
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
Pacific Golden Plover
Marsh Sandpiper
Swinhoe's Snipe and endemics such as Red-necked Avocet, Banded Stilt, Sooty Oystercatcher, Red-kneed Dotterel, Black-fronted Plover, Masked Lapwing and Beach Stone-Curlew.

If you are interested in participating please write to:

Clive Minton, 165 Dalgetty Road, Beaumaris, Melbourne, Vic 3193, Australia or Martin Barker, 21 Chivalry Avenue, Glen Waverley, Vic 3150, Australia

Clive Minton

Great Arctic Reserve established

On 1 July 1993 the Great Arctic Reserve was opened. It comprises 4,100,000 hectares (about the size of Switzerland) of arctic tundra and coastal waters on the Taymyr Peninsula in Northern Siberia.

It was mainly ornithological research that gave rise to the idea of a large scale nature reserve at the north-eastern end of the East Atlantic Flyway (and the northern end of several other flyways). Initiatives by the Russian Academy of Science (Academician E.E. Syroechkovsky), WWF-Germany (Peter Prokosch), and the Dutch Government (our chairman being strongly involved), led in an unbelievably short time to the Resolution 431 of the Russian Government, which established the reserve.

This is a major contribution to the conservation of high arctic wader habitats and all involved deserve praise for their foresight and energy in establishing the reserve. We hope to carry further information on the Great Arctic Reserve in a future *Bulletin*.

Slender-billed Curlew workshop

A workshop on the Conservation of the Slender-billed Curlew *Numenius tenuirostris* was held in Arosio, Italy on 28 March 1992 and was organized by the Fondazione Il Nibbio. The meeting agreed on a Declaration to recommend that urgent steps should be taken to conserve this globally threatened species, listed in Appendix I of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

(Bonn), mentioning the specific measures required to protect the species in Italy. Most of the background information was based on the extensive report and action plan published by the International Council for Bird Preservation in 1991 (reviewed in Bulletin 66), and research carried out by the Istituto Nazionale per la Fauna Selvatica.

Janine van Vessem, IWRB

THE AROSIO DECLARATION ON THE CONSERVATION OF THE SLENDER-BILLED CURLEW
Numenius tenuirostris

AWARE that *Numenius tenuirostris* is currently considered as threatened with extinction, as a consequence of the rapid decline of its population at the beginning of this century;

