

9HW, UK). Eight healthy *Vanellus vanellus* killed by a group of *Corvus corone*.

Minton, C. 1994. Proposed agreement between Australia and Russia for the protection of migratory birds and their environment. *Victorian Wader Study Group Bull.* 18: 31. (165 Dalgetty Rd., Beaumaris, Vic. 3192, Australia).

Rattigan, W. 1995. The importance of the Ramsar Convention. *Aust. Cons.* 1: 10-12.

Samuel, C. 1996. Australia's Ramsar wetlands. *Aust. Wildl* (autumn): 12-13.

Scheiffarth, G., Nehls, G. & Austen, I. 1996. Modelling distribution of shorebirds on tidal flats in the Wadden Sea and visualisation of results with GIS IDRISI. In: Lorup, E. & Strobl, J. *IDRISI GIS 96 = Salzburger*

Geographische Materialien, Heft 25. [8] pp. (Forschungs- und Technologie-zentrum Westküste Univ. Kiel, Hafentörn, D-25761, Büsum, Germany). Paper also available at: <http://www.edvz.sbg.ac.at/geo/idrisi/idrgis96/scheiff/idrisicd.htm>. Relationship between distribution of shorebirds over an intertidal area and abiotic parameters was studied. A model was built which allowed the calculation of distribution over the study area on the basis of maps of the parameters elevation, sediment composition, and distance to the high-tide roosts. As exemplified for *Calidris canutus* in spring, important areas for birds can easily be detected by this method.

Watkins, D. 1994. National plan for shorebird conservation in Australia. *Bird Observer* No. 742: 9.

Watkins, D. 1996. An international network of reserves for shorebirds. *Wingspan* 6(1): 9.

Weggler, M. & Müller, W. 1996. Pflegemassnahmen gegen die Verlandung von Flachwasserzonen im Neeracher Ried: Erfolgskontrolle anhand der Bestandsentwicklung rastender Limikolen. (Effectiveness of vegetation management to control succession in the Neeracher Ried: an evaluation based on wader counts). *Orn. Beob.* 93(2): 153-161. In German with English and French summaries. (Zool. Inst. Univ. Zürich, Fac. Ecol., Winterthurerstrasse 190, CH-8057 Zürich, Switzerland). The Neeracher Ried is a wetland situated in the lowlands of Switzerland. Construction of a pond made the area suitable as a stopover site for waders in spring and autumn.

New arrangements for the WSG Colour-marking Register

After eight years of service to the WSG Jane Marchant has taken up a new career as a school teacher and unfortunately no longer has time to co-ordinate the WSG Colour-marking Register. Many thanks to Jane for all the hard work she has put in over the years. The Register will now be co-ordinated by two people, Stephen Browne and Harriet Mead, under the watchful eye of Jacquie Clark. Both Stephen and Harriet work for the British Trust for Ornithology. Stephen has worked at the BTO for four years and has been involved with a number of projects researching waders and has given two talks at WSG conferences. Harriet works part-time in the Ringing Unit at the BTO and is also an artist. The Colour-marking Register will continue to operate as before, but with

increasing computerisation it is likely that sightings will be dealt with much more quickly. Stephen and Harriet can be contacted by post, fax and e-mail at:

WSG Colour-marking Register
National Centre for Ornithology
The Nunnery
Thetford
Norfolk
IP24 2PU, U.K.
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e-mail: stephen.browne@bto.org

WSG Colour-marking Register - untraceable sightings, June 1995 to October 1996

There is currently an alarming number of untraceable colour-ringed sightings, a list of which is given below. It therefore seems likely that number of unregistered schemes may be operating. The following list contains all the sightings of colour-marked waders which have been received by the WSG Colour-marking Register and which cannot be traced to a registered scheme.

Each item in the list is recorded as left leg, right leg. The // indicates the birds tarsal joint (or "knee"). The colours are listed from the top to bottom. So a bird seen with red above the left knee, yellow above white below the left knee, metal above the right knee and blue below the right knee is listed as **R//Y,W M//B**. When the colour of a

ring is uncertain, such as "Red/Orange" it is indicated as (R,O). When nothing is written either side of the // it means no ring was recorded either above or below the knee. If the knee (//) is not indicated the precise location of the rings is not known. ?? indicates that the observer did not see that particular part of the leg. The following abbreviations are used for the colours R=Red, O=Orange, Y=Yellow, G=Green, L=Light Green, B=Blue, P=Pale Blue, N=Black (Niger), W=White and M=Metal.

If you have reason to believe that the scheme you are operating is unregistered or you think that some of the untraceable sightings below may be yours, please contact Stephen and Harriet quoting the associated CODE.

CODE	Left Leg	Right Leg
AVOCET		
AV1	N//	R,W,N//
AV2	//	O//
AV3	O//	Y//
AV4	//	O,M//
AV5	//	Y//
AV6	//B,M	O//
AV7	R//	M//N
AV8	R//	M//B
AV9	//B	O//

BAR-TAILED GODWIT		
BA1	R//M	//G
BA2	G,R//	W//
BA3	Y,(W/M)	Y
BW4/BA4	W//	Y//
BA5	//R,Y	M//G,Y

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT		
BW1	W,R//	M//
BW2	R//O	M//
BW3	Y,B//	G//B
BW4/BA4	W//	Y//
BW5	//Y	(Y,O)//

CURLEW		
CU1	P//O,M	//R,B
CU2	//W,R,G	//W,R,G
CU3	//	R,M
CU4	//	//O
CU5	Y,W,B//	M//
CU6	Tall black ring with white C7	
CU7	//W,M	R//
CU8	N//	(O/R)//M
CU9	R//	M//Y
CU10	//	P//
CU11	R,W//	M//

DUNLIN		
DN1	M//R	//Y (FLAG)
DN2	M//Y	//
DN3	//M	Y//Y
DN4	O//W	M//
DN5	M//P	Y//
DN6	M,B,R//	Y,R//
DN7	W//	Y,Y//
DN8	M//R	//Y
DN9	//P,Y	B//M
DN10	//R	//W,Y,G
DN11	R//P,M	Y//R,W
DN12	Y//Y,O	R//P,M
DN13	Y,G//	R,R//
DN14	M//B,R	//Y,R
DN15	//R(Tall)	//O(Tall)
DN16	//Y,G	//R,R

CODE	Left Leg	Right Leg
GREY PLOVER		
GV1	//Y,N	//R

KENTISH PLOVER		
KP1	(M/P),Y//	W//(L/M)
KP2	//P,M	//Y,B,R
KP3	M//Y,Y	//L,Y
KP4	R//M	//R,W
KP5	//O,Y	L/L,M
KP6	??//B,Y	??//W,M
KP7	//	G//R

LAPWING		
LP1	//	P//R
LP2	//??	O//??

OYSTERCATCHER		
OC1	//R,M	//Y,O
OC2	//Y	B//M
OC3	//M	//G,N
OC4	M//P	White ring with 4 inscribed
OC5	//M	//N,Y
OC6	//M	//G
OC7	//W,N	//N,M
OC8	M//(B/G),W	//(B/G),W
OC9	//M,G	//B

REDSHANK		
RK1	Y//G	R//M
RK2	M//N	P,Y//
RK3	M//	W,P//
RK4	M//	P,W//
RK5	//M	R//O,Y

RINGED PLOVER		
RP1	O//	N//M
RP2	//B	//M
RP3	//N	//
RP4	L//	N//M
RP5	P//	N//M
RP6	//R,Y	//B,M
RP7	//G,R	//B,M
RP8	B//G,G	Y//N,W,N,W
RP9	//W,R	//G,Y (All Flag type rings)
RP10	//Y,N,P	//W,M
RP11	??//R,M	??//P,W
RP12	??//W,M	??//R,P
RP13	//	Y,N//M
RP14	//	O//M
RP15	G,W	O
RP16	//	//N,M
RP17	//	//B,Y,B
RP19	??//M	??//N,W
RP20	//N,M	//W,G

CODE	Left Leg	Right Leg
SANDERLING		
SS1	Y,P//	M,P//
SS2	//M,P	//R,G
SS3		
TURNSTONE		
TT1	W,G//	M,Y//
TT2	W,G//	M,N//
TT3	W,Y//	M,N//
TT4	//W,N	//M,B (Metal ring Dutch? K(?)05980)
TT5	//M,N	//W,G
TT6	//M,(Y/O)	//(W/L),G
TT7	//W,G	W(flag)//B,M
TT8	//G	//(G/L)
TT9	P//G	//G
TT10	O//W	W//M
TT11	//W	//M
TT12	??//W,G	??//M,N
TT13	//W,(poss R),Y	//M,B

Wader Study Group News Wetlands International

ON THE MOVE....

Last September, the regional headquarters of Wetlands International - Africa, Europe, Middle East, moved from Slimbridge, U.K. to the Netherlands. The new address, phone and fax numbers are:

Wetlands International
P.O. Box 7002
6700 AC Wageningen
The Netherlands

Phone: + 31 317 464 711
Fax: + 31 317 464 712

AFRICAN - EURASIAN MIGRATORY WATERBIRD AGREEMENT

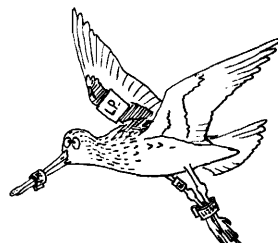
This is the largest agreement of its kind concluded so far under the Convention of Migratory Species of Wild Animals. It will address issues such as species and habitat conservation, management of human activities, research and monitoring, education and information. The Agreement covers 172 bird species which are at least partially dependant on wetlands, and was discussed by 66 countries and inter-governmental organisations including the Bern Convention Secretariat and the Ramsar Bureau.

AEWA was negotiated in 1995 but not signed that year due to delay in the preparation of the text in some official languages, namely Arabic and Russian. The Government of the Netherlands has established an Interim Secretariat for three years (starting 8 January 1996) to give continuity. In June 1996 the Agreement was sent to all Range States and expectation was that the Agreement would be signed within the following weeks.

The AEWI Interim Secretariat can be reached at the following address:

Mr. Bert Lenten
AEWA Interim Secretariat, c/o Ministry of
Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries
Directorate for Nature Conservation
Division of International Affairs
P.O.Box 20401
NL-2500 EK The Hague
The Netherlands

Tel: (+31 70) 379 2982/3591
Fax: (+31 70) 379 3751



Future meetings

8-12 August 1997 *Annual meeting of Wader Study Group, near Ribe Denmark.* Details from Ole Thorup, Vester Vedsted Byvej 32, Vester Vedsted, DK-6760 Ribe, Denmark.

28-30 August 1997 The founding meeting of the European Ornithological Union will be held on in Bologna, Italy. Further details are available from Prof. Chris Perrins (Fax + 44-1865-271 168). Meetings are planned to be held every two years.

19-20 August 1998 *Special meeting of Wader Study Group, South Africa.* A two-day WSG symposium will take place a few days prior to the 22nd International Ornithological Congress, probably on 19 and 20 August in Port Elizabeth. One day of the meeting will be devoted to a workshop on the Curlew Sandpiper. Anyone interested in attending, or offering a paper, should contact Les Underhill, Avian Demography Unit, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, 7700 South Africa. Phone +27 21 650 3227, fax +27 21 650 3918, e-mail LGU@maths.uct.ac.za .