
About the Wader Study Group

The Wader Study Group (WSG) is an association of amateurs and professionals from all parts of the world interested in the *Charadrii* (waders or shorebirds). Membership of the WSG is currently over 600 people, approximately a third of which live in Britain (where the Group was founded in 1970) with the others in Europe, the Americas, Asia, Africa and Australasia. The interests of the Group have diversified from an original concentration on migration-related studies to embrace all aspects of wader biology.

The aims of the WSG are:

- To maintain contact between amateurs and professionals studying waders.
- To help organize co-operative studies.
- To provide a vehicle for exchange of information.

The main means of achieving these aims is by the publication of the *Wader Study Group Bulletin*. WSG maintains contact with many regional, national and international bodies interested in bird research and conservation, and often works alongside them in co-operative studies. The Group has been involved also in the organization of expeditions to remote areas to fill in gaps in our knowledge of waders.

Projects co-ordinated by the WSG currently on-going include:

- Studies of the spring migration of waders on the East-Atlantic flyway.
- A long-term monitoring of the usage of inland migration sites in Europe.
- Kentish Plover studies in Europe.
- Collation of breeding wader population sizes in Europe.

WSG also co-ordinates (on behalf of several national authorities) the colour-marking of waders, and attempts to forward sightings of these.

The *Bulletin* provides a forum for news, notices, ringing recoveries, recent publications, new catching and study

methods, articles and preliminary and interim publications of results from all parts of the world. The editors try to maintain a balance of material ranging from newsletter material, informal descriptions of research activities, meetings and expeditions to formal presentations of results or preliminary analyses.

The *Bulletin* appears in April, August and December. The deadlines for inclusion of notices are 1 February, 1 June and 1 October. Articles however, must be received well before these dates. Articles, notes, papers, notices, obituaries, requests for information, books for review, reprints of papers and other items should be sent to the Editor:

David Stroud,
Joint Nature Conservation Committee,
Monkstone House,
City Road,
Peterborough PE1 1JY, United Kingdom.

Material relating to the New World may be sent to the editors of the New World section; P. Hicklin, Canadian Wildlife Service, PO Box 1590, Sackville, New Brunswick, EOA 3CO, Canada and G. Ruiz, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, PO Box 28, Edgewater, Maryland 21037-0028, USA. Matters relating to the circulation of the *Bulletin* should be sent to the Membership Secretary, Rodney West, Wader Study Group, PO Box 247, Tring, Hertfordshire, HP23 5SN, United Kingdom.

Correspondence

Except for that concerning *WSG Bulletin*, all correspondence, including matters and proposals concerning colour-marking schemes, should be sent to the Group's official address: Wader Study Group, PO Box 247, Tring, Herts. HP23 5SN, UK. All general enquiries should be sent to the General Secretary. All applications for membership, initial subscriptions and renewals should be sent to the Membership Secretary. Matters and proposals concerning co-operative research projects and objectives should be sent to the co-ordinator. Proposals and sightings concerning colour-marking schemes should be sent to the Colour-marking Register.

Waders Breeding on Wet Grasslands

Wet grasslands are amongst the most important and most threatened habitats for breeding waders (Charadrii) in Europe. In order to compile the knowledge on the waders breeding on wet grasslands in different European countries, the Wader Study Group (WSG) organized a workshop which was held during the annual conference of the WSG in Ribe, Denmark on 23 September 1989. The aims of this workshop were:

1. to review the situation of wet grasslands in Europe (especially in the countries of the EC);
2. to update the information on population sizes and population trends of waders breeding on wet grasslands within the EC;
3. to give examples of basic research and applied research on grassland waders and habitat management; and
4. to draw conclusions from all this information and to make recommendations for all those involved in the conservation of wet grasslands and their biota.

Waders Breeding on Wet Grasslands are the proceedings of this workshop. They include most of the talks which were given at the conference. Some national reviews which were not presented in the workshop, have been added.

Waders Breeding on Wet Grasslands consists of four chapters. The first is an introduction of the phenomenon 'meadow bird'. The second chapter reviews the situation of wet meadows and the waders breeding on them in different European countries. In the third chapter several case studies covering the biology of some of the species as well as management aspects are reviewed. The fourth chapter gives the recommendations of the workshop. The recommendations are translated into several European languages.

