

NB08341	6	30Apr77	Hest Bank, Morecambe	x Nedri-Beididalur, Iceland 66 1N 23 24W	24May79
NB38158	6	7May78	Walney Island, Cumbria	x Nedri-Beididalur, Iceland	20May79
NB06806	4	29Jul77	Tentsmuir, Scotland 56 25N 2	50W x Kaerely, Greenland 70 50N 23 30W	23Jul79
BX87266	4	9Sep75	Wash 52 53N 0 9E	x Holne Pierrepont, Nottingham 52 56N 1 4W	23Feb79
BX67000	3	24Nov75	Dunkettle, Cork, Eire 51 54N 8	24W v Wash 52 50N 0 26E	12Aug79
BB16667	4	9Aug67	Wash 52 48N 0 18E	v Wash 52 50N 0 26E	12Aug79
BE86433	4	21Aug67	Wash 52 51N 0 27E	v Wash 52 50N 0 26E	12Aug79
BB15470	4	22Jul66	Wash 52 48N 0 18E	v Wash 52 48N 0 18E	12Aug79
BB23407	3	30Oct66	Wash 52 44N 0 10E	v Wash 52 48N 0 18E	12Aug79
BA56571	3	3Aug66	Wash 52 44N 0 10E	v Wash 52 48N 0 18E	12Aug79
BB16172	4	12Aug67	Wash 52 48N 0 18E	v Berrow, Somerset 51 16N 3 1W	25Nov79

Besides these overseas recoveries listed 17 were controlled in West Germany (2 from Wash, 10 from Southern England, 1 from the Severn Estuary/S.Wales, 1 from N.Wales, 3 from Humberside); 1 in Denmark; 2 in East Germany; 1 from Poland. 35 birds were controlled at Ottenby, Sweden (12 from Wash, 4 from Severn/S.Wales, 3 from N.Wales/Merseyside, 4 from Morecambe Bay, 8 from Southern England, 1 from Humberside, 2 from Teesmouth). 6 birds were controlled in Holland (1from Wash, 2 from N.Wales, 3 from southern Britain).

Within Britain the following movements occurred involving the Wash - 13 to S.Wales/Severn Estuary, 7 to Morecambe, 10 to Merseyside/N.Wales, 2 to Teesmouth, 3 to Scotland, 4 to Humberside and 2 to Kent. Single birds moved between Teesmouth and Scotland and N.Wales, Humberside and N.Wales, Merseyside and Scotland, Morecambe and Scotland.

Sanderling *Calidris alba*

BK91730	3	26Aug76	Wainfleet, Lincs 53 5N 0 19E	v Oualida, El Jadida, Morocco 32 44N 9 2W	8Mar79
NB57162	4	26May79	Wash 52 53N 0 28E	+ Nanche, France 49 10N 1 35W	5Aug79
BB43502	5	9Mar69	Wash 52 51N 0 27E	v Wash 52 51N 0 27E	14Aug79
BX19419	4	22May75	Point of Air, Wales	? Azenmour, Morocco 33 20N 8 25W	28Aug79
BB30966	4	27Jul68	Wash 52 51N 0 27E	v Wash 52 51N 0 27E	11Sep79
BX10832	4	2Jun73	Point of Air, Wales	x Tavira, Algarve, Portugal 37 7N 7 39W	18Sep79
BB72388	4	24May71	Point of Air, Wales	v Southport, Merseyside 53 38N 3 1W	20Oct79

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*

DA06577	3	18Aug78	Hale, Liverpool 53 20N 2 48W	x Kalevala, Ukhta, Karelia, USSR 65 12N 31 10E	25Jun79
---------	---	---------	------------------------------	--	---------

WADER STUDIES IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND - A GREAT LEAP FORWARD

By G.H.Green, Chairman, Wader Study Group

Wader ringers in the British Isles should be pleased to hear that we are on the threshold of a great leap forward! At last plans to make use of all that data you have been collecting for years are coming to fruition - or at any rate the buds are opening!

An important project, based on Durham University, has received funding. Its aim is to examine the extent of inter-estuarine movements of waders in Europe - especially in the winter. From a conservation point of view it is essential to know how many different sites are important for particular waders - where do they moult, where do they move on to, do they remain static for the winter months or do they move about and if so where do they go and when, and why? The project is in part a retrospective study which will make use of retraps, controls, catch totals, catch make-up, measurements and especially weights. These data are all important. The data-mass already available is enormous and computerised data handling is the only way of coping with it so the first aim is to put all available information 'on computer'. This is in itself an immense task. Input will be through punched cards and the punch operators have to be given data in a form they can use - hence the article introducing the new WADER STUDY GROUP FORM which follows. At first sight the form seems complex but with a little practice its complexities are soon overcome and the eventual benefits will greatly outweigh the trauma of learning to use it. Once the data is in a manageable form it will be readily available for analyses which currently defy a person (or team of people!) with pens, paper and pocket calculators.

PLEASE use the form from now on, both in the field and for sending in any data not already submitted on old WSG forms. If you have a lot of data available contact Mike Pienkowski first.

I cannot stress the importance of this project too strongly. It should overcome what has become a serious block in wader studies. The easy work has been done and the easy papers written. Anyone who has attempted to analyse Dunlin retraps and associated data from a big area where many birds have been ringed over many years will appreciate the problems of meaningful analysis. The task of extracting simple information is extremely time consuming and tedious beyond words. One big catch containing many retraps from many years is difficult enough to sort out.

We now have the chance to learn a lot more about European waders and their migrations. The results will be of practical conservation value as well as being biologically interesting. As results start to come in future meaningful projects can be planned. Please help - all you have to do is fill in the forms..... for a start!