

should be no. 8, of both wings. The best collection method is to pull them out. A secondary result of the analyses would be greater insight into the whereabouts of the Nearctic Knot populations. In particular a comparison between Icelandic and Norwegian spring samples would be of interest in this respect.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am very indebted to Svein-Hakon Lorentsen and to the members of the 1985 Durham/Tromsø Universities studies in N. Norway who collected the Balsfjord feathers, and to Peter Prokosch who collected the German feathers and gave information on his recoveries. Feathers from the skins were kindly provided by Dr. J. Wattel, Zoological Museum, University of Amsterdam, and the Moroccan feather by the members of the Netherlands Morocco Expedition 1982. I thank Theunis Piersma, Peter Prokosch and Piet Zegers for their comments on the manuscript.

REFERENCES

- Appelquist, H., Asbirk, S. and Drabaek, I. 1984. Mercury stability in bird feathers. *Mar. Pollut. Bull.* 15: 22-24.
- de Bruin, M., Korthoven, P.J.M. and Bode, P. 1982. Evaluation of a system for routine instrumental neutron activation analysis. *J. Radiat. analyt. Chem.* 70: 497-512.
- Davidson, N.C., Strann, K.-B., Crockford, N.J., Evans, P.R., Richardson, J., Standen, L.J., Townshend, D.J., Uttley, J.D., Wilson, J.R. and Wood, A.G. 1986. The origins of Knots *Calidris canutus* in arctic Norway in spring. *Ornis Scand.* 17: 175-179.
- Dick, W.J.A., Piersma, T. and Prokosch, P. 1987. Spring migration of the Siberian Knots *Calidris canutus canutus*: results of a co-operative Wader Study Group project. *Ornis Scand.* 18: 5-16.
- Goede, A.A. and de Bruin, M. 1984. The use of bird feather parts as a monitor for metal pollution. *Environ. Pollut.* 8: 281-298.
- Goede, A.A. and de Bruin, M. 1985. Selenium in a shorebird, the Dunlin from the Dutch Waddenzee. *Mar. Pollut. Bull.* 16: 115-117.
- Hanson, H.C. and Jones, R.L. 1976. *The biogeochemistry of blue, snow and ross' geese*. Urbana, Illinois, Southern Illinois Univ. Press.
- Kautsky, G. 1986. *Geochemical Atlas of Northern Fennoscandia*. Geological Survey of Sweden, Uppsala, Sweden.
- Roselaar, C.S. 1983. Subspecies recognition in Knot *Calidris canutus* and occurrence of races in western Europe. *Beaufortia* 33: 97-109.
- Uttley, J.D., Thomas, C.J., Davidson, N.C., Strann, K.-B. and Evans, P. 1987. The spring migration system of Nearctic Knots *Calidris canutus islandica*: a re-appraisal. *Wader Study Group Bull.* 49, Suppl./IWRB Spec. Publ. 7: 80-84.

Lida Goede, Interfacultair Raector Institute, Mekelweg 15 - 2629 JB Delft, The Netherlands.

NEW WORLD SECTION

EDITORS

P.W. Hicklin, Canadian Wildlife Service, PO Box 1590, Sackville, New Brunswick, EOA 3C0, Canada

G. Ruiz, Friday Harbor Laboratories, 620 University Road, Friday Harbor, WA 98250, USA



SHEPODY BAY, BAY OF FUNDY: THE FIRST HEMISPHERIC SHOREBIRD RESERVE FOR CANADA

by Peter W. Hicklin

In the latest Wader Study Group Bulletin supplement (No. 49, IWRB Special Publication No. 7) Myers et al. (1987a) described the "Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network" and its role as a shorebird conservation strategy (see also Myers et al. 1987b). A few months following its publication a significant event took place in the development of this conservation initiative as a new member site formally claimed membership in the network.

On 8 August 1987, Mrs. Pauline Browes, Parliamentary Assistant to Canada's Environment Minister Tom MacMillan, Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Provincial Minister of Natural Resources and Energy (New Brunswick) and Mr. Stanley Malone, Head of the Suriname Forest Service, unveiled a bronze plaque at Mary's Point in Shepody Bay

which read in part:

SHEPODY BAY: INTERNATIONAL SHOREBIRD RESERVE

Shepody Bay is Canada's first Western Hemispheric Shorebird Reserve recognizing its importance to over one million shorebirds which annually stop en route from Canada's Arctic to South America. It is also recognized as a Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention (1971).

This symbolic event by public officials was witnessed by over 200 invited guests, members of the media, and about 50 000 Semipalmated Sandpipers *Calidris pusilla* roosting within

50 m of the proceedings. This launched Canada's first and North America's second reserve of hemispheric importance dedicated specifically to the conservation of migrant shorebirds.

The network has defined two types of reserves: hemispheric sites which must contain 250 000 birds or at least 30% of the flyway population of a species, and regional reserves require 20 000 birds or at least 5% of the flyway population to attain this designation (see Myers et al. 1987a, 1987b for more details as to how the reserve system functions).

Canada's formal participation in this network has prompted further site designations and initiated searches for others which may qualify as hemispheric or regional reserves (see Butler and Kaiser 1988, Dixon and Smith 1988, this *Bulletin*). In 1988, the Southern Bight, Minas Basin, Bay of Fundy was listed as a new Ramsar site and which in August 1988 will become a new sub-unit of a larger Bay of Fundy Hemispheric Shorebird Reserve.

The presence and participation of Mr. Stanley Malone of Suriname in the August ceremonies at Mary's Point was especially significant. The banding and survey work of Dr. R.I.G. Morrison (see Morrison 1984) had clearly indicated that Semipalmated Sandpipers migrating through James Bay and the Bay of Fundy were most likely the same birds that overwinter along the muddy coast of Suriname. All those involved were especially pleased when Mr. Malone arrived in New Brunswick with a proposal for the Canadian government's consideration. Based on this document, and by the time all the officials had arrived for the dedication ceremony, a final Memorandum of Understanding was agreed which read in part:

The Canadian Wildlife Service of the Department of Environment, Canada, and the Suriname Forest Service, Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy, Suriname, agree to the twinning of internationally important habitats that will become part of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network. Specifically, the parties agree to twin the Mary's Point Section of Shepody National Wildlife Area (1200 hectares) and Shepody Bay (12 000 hectares) in New Brunswick, Canada, with the Coppename River Mouth Nature Reserve (12 000 hectares) and the Wia-Wia Nature Reserve (36 000 hectares) in Suriname.

The memorandum ended with the declaration:

In signing this Memorandum of Understanding, we affirm our intentions to work for the future generations of this important resource we share.

The document was signed at the dedication ceremony by Mr. Jean-Francois Martin (Acting Director General, Canadian Wildlife Service) and Mr. Stanley Malone. This event was an auspicious beginning to Canada's participation into this international conservation network dedicated to the preservation of shorebird populations shared by many New World countries.

REFERENCES

Butler, R.H. and Kaiser, G.W. 1988. Western Sandpiper migration studies along the west coast of Canada. *Wader Study Group Bull.* 52.

Dickson, H.L. and Smith, A.R. 1988. Canadian Prairie Shorebird Program: an update. *Wader Study Group Bull.* 52.

Morrison, R.I.G. 1984. Migration Systems of some New World Shorebirds. Pp. 125-202. In: *Shorebirds: Migration and Foraging Behaviour*. Burger, J. and Olla, B.L. (Eds.). Plenum Press, New York.

Myers, J.P., McLain, P.D., Morrison, R.I.G., Antas, P.Z., Canevari, P., Harrington, B.A., Lovejoy, T.E., Pulido, V., Sallaberry, M. and Senner, S.E. 1987a. The western hemisphere shorebird reserve network. *Wader Study Group Bull.* 49 (Supplement): 122-124.

Myers, J.P., Morrison, R.I.G., Antas, P.Z., Harrington, B.A., Lovejoy, T.E., Sallaberry, M., Senner, S.E. and Torak, A. 1987b. Conservation strategy for migratory species. *American Scientist* 75: 19-26.

Peter W. Hicklin, Canadian Wildlife Service, PO Box 1590, Sackville, New Brunswick, E0A 3C0, Canada.

