

The International Wader Study Group acts as the Wader Specialist Group of Wetlands International and the IUCN Species Survival Commission.

THE INTERNATIONAL WADER STUDY GROUP

The International Wader Study Group (WSG) is an international association of amateurs and professionals from all parts of the world interested in Charadrii (waders or shorebirds). Membership of the WSG is currently over 650 worldwide. Members can be found in over 50 countries around the world, including all the European countries, as well as the Americas, Asia, Africa and Australasia. The interests of the group have diversified from its original focus on ringing and migration-related studies to embrace all aspects of wader biology.

The aims of the International Wader Study Group are:

- to maintain contact between both amateurs and professionals studying waders
- to help organise co-operative studies; and
- to provide a vehicle for the exchange of information on waders and their biology.

The main means of achieving these aims are by:

- holding an annual conference;
- publishing, three times per year, the *Wader Study Group Bulletin*, and on an occasional basis, *International Wader Studies*, each issue of which covers a major topic of wader biology and/or conservation; and
- acting as Wetlands International's Specialist Group on waders.

WADER STUDY GROUP BULLETIN

The *Wader Study Group Bulletin* provides a forum for news, notices, ringing recoveries, recent publications, new study methods and general articles. It also publishes the results of wader research from all parts of the world including preliminary or interim results where appropriate. Each *Bulletin* contains a mix of newsletter items, informal descriptions of research activities, meetings and expeditions, as well as formal presentation of research results and preliminary analyses. The size of the *Bulletin* varies with each issue but usually consists of 60–100 pages.

The *Bulletin* appears in April, August and December. The deadlines for inclusion of announcements are 1 January, 1 May and 1 September respectively. Papers and articles, however, must be received well in advance of these dates to allow time for refereeing.

Papers and articles should be sent to the **Editor, Humphrey Sitters**, Limosa, Old Ebford Lane, Ebford, Exeter EX3 0QR, UK (email: hsitters@aol.com)

News items, announcements and requests for information should be sent to the **Editor of the Notes & News section, Silke Nebel**, School of Biological, Earth & Environmental Sciences, University of New South Wales, Kensington, Sydney, NSW 2052, Australia (email: silke.nebel@unsw.edu.au).

Books and other items for review should be sent to the **Review Editor, David Stroud**, Spring Meadows, Taylors Green, Warmington, Peterborough PE8 7TG, UK (email: David.Stroud@jncc.gov.uk).

Intending contributors from the following regions who need advice or assistance (e.g. as to the scope of a paper or obtaining statistical advice or arranging translation into English) are welcome to contact the following Regional Bulletin Co-ordinators whose contact details can be found on the inside of the front cover:

- Russia:** Pavel Tomkovich
- North America:** Robert Gill
- South America:** Patricia González
- Africa:** Les Underhill

Matters relating to the circulation of the *Bulletin* should be sent to the **Membership Secretary, Rodney West**, Flint Cottage, Stone Common, Blaxhall, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 2DP, UK (email: rodwest@ndirect.co.uk).

The publication of interim results in the *Wader Study Group Bulletin* is not intended to pre-empt publication of final results as journal papers. Readers are requested to bear in mind that results and analyses published in the *Bulletin* may be of a preliminary nature, and to take account of this if making reference to these articles in publications of their own. If editors of other journals wish to reprint items from the *Bulletin* with suitable acknowledgement, this can usually be arranged; the person concerned should contact the Editor.

To celebrate its 25th anniversary, WSG re-launched the occasionally published Special Issues of the *Bulletin* as a new journal series: *International Wader Studies*. Recently published volumes include: Shorebird Research in the Western Hemisphere; Conservation and management of shorebirds in the Western Great Basin of North America; and Wader Research and Conservation in Europe and North Asia (the Proceedings of the Odessa Conference).

Membership of the International Wader Study Group is open to all those with an interest in waders (shorebirds).

Membership costs £22 a year in high-income countries and half this amount in low-income countries. The subscription can be paid in most international currencies; contact the Membership Secretary for details.

Members receive the *Wader Study Group Bulletin* three times a year; and, usually without additional cost, copies of the occasional series *International Wader Studies*.

To join the International Wader Study Group contact: the Membership Secretary, Wader Study Group, c/o National Centre for Ornithology, The Nunnery, Thetford, Norfolk IP24 2PU, UK.

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

The Editor is always pleased to discuss possible contributions with potential authors, and to advise on presentation. Manuscripts can be typed but should preferably be word-processed and submitted either as email attachments or on a CD. If any non-English font (e.g. Polish) is required, a Truetype (.tff) file for the font must be supplied.

Authors should follow the style of the most recent *Bulletin*. Please pay particular attention to the style of headings and reference lists.

Line illustrations and figures may be submitted either as hard copy or as digital files:

Hard copy: the figures should be produced neatly in black ink on good-quality white or tracing paper, with linear dimensions about 50% larger than intended publication size. Please retain a copy in case of loss or damage. Good-quality photographs and colour slides may also be published. It must be understood that such illustrations will be printed as monochrome unless prior arrangements for colour have been made.

If figures are to be submitted in the form of digital files, the following requirements apply:

1. Format: EPS and PS files are preferred. Microsoft Excel, CorelDraw 8 (or lower), TIFF, BMP and certain types of JPEG files are also compatible with the typesetting programme in use. Files in other formats may have to be returned to the author for recasting. Graphics imported into Word files are unsuitable for typesetting: please supply the files as they were originally created.

2. Resolution: At the envisaged final printed size, the resolution of greyscale and colour images should be at least 300 dots per inch. Line drawings and graphs in black and white only should have a resolution of at least 600 dpi at the envisaged final printed size. Images of 72 dpi (typical in the World Wide Web environment) are not suitable for printing unless they can be provided at a very large size so that the resolution will become suitably high when the image is downscaled.

Wader Study Group Bulletin

Volume 105, December 2004

Editorial	1
Annual Conference of the International Wader Study Group, Papenburg, Germany, 4-7 November 2004	2
Book review: <i>Life along land's edge: Wildlife on the shores of Roebuck Bay, Broome</i> P. Collins & R. Jessop	28
New Memorandum of Cooperation agreed between the International Wader Study Group and Wetlands International David Stroud	30
Notes and news	32
Research news and comment	40
A revised estimate of the breeding population of Common Sandpipers <i>Actitis hypoleucos</i> in Great Britain and Ireland T.W. Dougall, P.K. Holland & D.W. Yalden	42
Patterns of association and habitat use by migrating shorebirds on intertidal mudflats and saltworks on the Tavira Estuary, Ria Formosa, southern Portugal V.G. Fonseca, N. Grade & L. Cancela da Fonseca	50
Shorebird counts in the Upper Bay of Panama highlight the importance of this key site and the need to improve its protection D.M. Buehler, A.I. Castillo & G. Angehr	56
Seasonal abundance of migrant shorebirds in Baja California Peninsula, Mexico, and California, USA R. Carmona, G. Ruiz-Campos & G. Brabata	65
Eurasian Golden Plovers and Northern Lapwings wintering in Italy: January 2004 survey of non-wetland habitats M. Sorrenti & D. Musella	71
Waterbird phenology and opportunistic acceptance of a low-quality wader staging site at Lake Baikal, eastern Siberia N. Anthes, H.-H. Bergmann, A. Hegemann, S. Jaquier, J.O. Kriegs, S.W. Pyzhjanov & H. Schielzeth	75
Differential departure of wintering adult and first-year Purple Sandpipers <i>Calidris maritima</i> from Helgoland (south-east North Sea) V. Dierschke	84
Sexing Eurasian Oystercatchers <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> from breast feathers collected when ringing H.K. Watson, R.J. Mogg, J.M. Bond & S.E.A. le V. dit Durrell	87
Measuring wader breeding success in the non-breeding season: the importance of excluding immatures C. Minton	90
Current status of the endangered Tuamotu Sandpiper or Titi <i>Prosobonia cancellata</i> and recommended actions for its recovery R.J. Pierce & C. Blanvillain	93
Short communications:	
Shorebirds surveys at Península Valdés, Patagonia, Argentina: Report for the years 2001 and 2002 M. de los Ángeles Hernández, V.L. D'Amico & L.O. Bala	101
Mole Snake <i>Pseudaspis cana</i> predation of African Black Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus moquini</i> eggs K.M. Calf	103