

**Stilt - Journal for the East Asian – Australasian Flyway. Number 50.  
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PIERSMA, THEUNIS. 2006 **Understanding the numbers and distribution of Waders and other animals in a changing world: habitat choice as the lock and key.** *Stilt* 50: 3-14. (Animal Ecology Group, Centre for Ecological and Evolutionary Studies, University of Groningen, P.O. Box 45, 9750 AA Haren, The Netherlands).

GERASIMOV, YURI. N;& FALK HUETTMANN. 2006. **Shorebirds of the Sea of Okhotsk: status and overview.** *Stilt* 50: 15-22. (Kamchatka Branch, Pacific Institute of Geography, Russian Academy of Science, Rybakov 19a, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, 683024, Russia; EM: [birds@mail.kamchatka.ru](mailto:birds@mail.kamchatka.ru)).

HUETTMANN FALK & YURI N. GERASIMOV. 2006. **Conservation of migratory shorebirds and their habitats in the Sea of Okhotsk, Russian Far East, in the year 2006: state-of-the-art and an outlook.** *Stilt* 50: 23-33. (EWHALE lab. Biology and Wildlife Department, Institute of Arctic Biology, University of Alaska-Fairbanks, Fairbanks, Alaska 99775, USA; EM: [ffh@uaf.edu](mailto:ffh@uaf.edu)).

SCHUCKARD, ROB, FALK HUETTMANN, KEN GOSBELL, JOHN GEALE, STEVE KENDALL, YURI GERASIMOV, EKATERINA MATSINA & WARREN GEEVES. 2006. **Shorebird and Gull census at Moroshechnaya Estuary, Kamchatka, Far East Russia, during August 2004.** *Stilt* 50: 34-46. (RD3, 7156 Rai Valley, New Zealand; EM: [rschckrd@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rschckrd@xtra.co.nz))

An international team of ornithologists visited the mouth of the Moroshechnaya River, Kamchatka 56°50'N, 156°10'E), the most northern Shorebird Network Site in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway from 9 to 16 August 2004. The expedition was organised to gather information on shorebirds using this site during southward migration. Earlier studies by Gerasimov and Huettmann pointed to the importance of this estuary during northward and southward migration. The expedition carried out the following program:

(i) Quantitative monitoring of populations during southward migration in seven surveys of the estuary and ocean beach. The most common shorebird species detected were Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*), Red-necked Stint (*C. ruficollis*), Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*), Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*), and Great Knot (*C. tenuirostris*). Maximum number of shorebirds on one day was about 15,000. Moroshechnaya is of international importance for Whimbrels and Bar-tailed Godwits. Total shorebird numbers and the daily totals for Lesser Sand Plover, Great Knot, Dunlin and Red-necked Stint also reach the threshold of international importance at the staging criterion of 0.25%.

(ii) A total of 227 shorebirds were captured and banded. For the first time, yellow over black leg flags were used. Three Red-necked Stints have been resighted in Japan and one was reported from north-west Australia. Three Dunlins have been resighted, one in Japan and two in China. One Great Knot has been resighted in Saemangeum South Korea.

(iii) Blood samples were taken from Dunlin to allow determination of subspecies using the area by DNA analysis (leader: Liv Wennerberg).

(iv) Feather samples were taken for stable isotope analysis to investigate the origin of birds (leader: Falk Huettmann).

(v) Faecal samples were taken from 84 individual shorebirds of 4 species, mostly juvenile Dunlin and Red-necked Stint. to examine for avian influenza viruses (leader: Paul Selleck, Australian Animal Health Laboratory).

RIEGEN ADRAIN, GILLIAN VAUGHN, KEITH WOODLEY, BRUCE POSTILL, ZHANG GUANGMING, WANGTAO & SUN DONGYU. 2006 **The fourth full Shorebird survey of Yalu Jiang National Nature Reserve. 13--23 April 2006.** *Stilt* 50: 47-53. (231 Forest Hill Rd., Waiatarua, Auckland 0612, New Zealand; EM: [riegen@xtra.co.nz](mailto:riegen@xtra.co.nz))

ZHIJUN MA, CHIYEUNG CHOI, XIAOJING GAN, SI ZHENG & JIAKUAN CHEN. 2006. **The importance of Jiuduansha Wetlands for Shorebirds during northward migration: energy-replenishing sites or temporary stages?** *Stilt* 50: 54-57. (Ministry of Education Key Laboratory for Biodiversity Science and Ecological Engineering, Institute of Biodiversity Science, Fudan University, Shanghai, 200433, P.R. China; EM: [zhijunm@fudan.edu.cn](mailto:zhijunm@fudan.edu.cn))

Three shorebird surveys were conducted at Jiuduansha wetlands in the Yangtze River estuary during the northward migration period in 2006. An old report estimated that 60,000 shorebirds staged at Jiuduansha wetlands but only 6,287 shorebirds from 23 species were recorded during these surveys. It's likely that Jiuduansha wetlands are not stable energy-replenishing sites but temporary stages for shorebirds during northward migration. With the continuing sedimentation of silt and sand in the Yangtze River estuary, the intertidal flats continue to grow and provide potentially valuable stopover sites for shorebirds. However, the loss of suitable habitat caused by the rapid spread of the invasive plant smooth cordgrass is a serious threat to shorebirds through habitat destruction.

ZHENG SI, CHIYEUNG CHOI, XIAOJING GAN, ZHIJUN MA, SHIMIN TANG & JING ZHU. 2006. **Shorebird numbers at the Jiuduansha Wetlands during the 2005 southward migration.** *Stilt* 50: 58-61. (ZJM: Ministry of Education Key Laboratory for Biodiversity Science and Ecological Engineering, Institute of Biodiversity Science, Fudan University, Shanghai, 200433, P.R. China; EM: [zhijunm@fudan.edu.cn](mailto:zhijunm@fudan.edu.cn))

The Yangtze River estuary is an important stopover site for shorebirds in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway. We conducted shorebird surveys at newly-formed shoals known as the Jiuduansha wetlands, in the estuary during southward migration in 2005. A total of 1,581 shorebirds of 14 species were recorded in three surveys from August to October. Kentish Plover, Whimbrel, Dunlin, Terek Sandpiper and Common Greenshank were the dominant species and accounted for nearly 90% of shorebirds. Fewer shorebirds were recorded than in the northward migration. This suggests that shorebirds may use different stopover sites during southward and northward migrations. Since the reclamation and development of intertidal flats have caused significant loss and degradation of wetlands in the Yangtze River estuary, the Jiuduansha wetlands, which are still increasing in area, have great potential for providing stopover sites for shorebirds in the Flyway.

MOORES, NIAL. 2006. **South Korea's Shorebirds: a review of abundance, distribution, threats and conservation.** *Stilt* 50: 62-72. (Birds Korea, 1010 Ho, 3 Dong, Samik Tower Apt., Namcheon 2 Dong, Su Young-Gu, Busan 613672, Republic of Korea; EM: [spoonbillkorea@yahoo.com](mailto:spoonbillkorea@yahoo.com))

ROGERS, DANNY I, NIAL MOORES & PHIL. F. BATTLE. 2006. **Northwards migration of Shorebirds through Saemangeum, the Geum Estuary and Gomso Bay, South Korea in 2006.** *Stilt* 50: 73-89. (340 Ninks Rd., St Andrews, Vic 3761, Australia; EM: [drogers@melbpc.org.au](mailto:drogers@melbpc.org.au))

Saemangeum, on the west coast of South Korea, was until recently recognised as the single most important staging site for migratory shorebirds in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway. However, construction of the Saemangeum sea-wall was completed in late April 2006. The 33 km dam across the Mangyeung and Dongjin Estuaries is part of the largest "reclamation" in the world, and will convert c. 400 km<sup>2</sup> of tidal flats to land and a freshwater reservoir. Here we report on systematic counts and scans for colour-banded and flagged shorebirds in Saemangeum, the adjacent Geum Estuary and Gomso Bay in April and May 2006. This was the first of a planned series of surveys to assess the effects of the reclamation on shorebirds.

We counted a minimum of 198,03 shorebirds in Saemangeum, 15 of which (including the endangered Spoon-billed Sandpiper) occurred in internationally important numbers. Local distribution of the shorebirds changed after closure of the sea-wall caused a decline in tidal range (with dried out inner estuarine sites being abandoned by shorebirds) and a dramatic die-off of benthic molluscs. Many shorebirds fed on the dying molluscs and this temporary food source may have enabled them to stage successfully. We had no clear evidence that birds abandoned Saemangeum on northwards migration in 2006 but the area and quality of suitable habitat for shorebirds in Saemangeum is likely to be greatly diminished by the time of the next northwards migration.

On the Geum Estuary we counted a minimum of 82,990 shorebirds, including internationally significant numbers of at least 13 species; these include among the largest counts made at any single site of the globally endangered Nordmann's Greenshank. In at least two species, Bar-tailed Godwit and Great Knot, resightings of colour-banded birds indicated that the earliest migrants were dominated by birds from non-breeding grounds in eastern Australia or New Zealand, with a later influx of birds from north-western Australia which had probably staged on the coast of China. For Great Knots, and probably for several other species, the region appeared to be the final staging point before a direct flight to the breeding grounds. There was considerable interspecific variation in the timing of shorebird migration through the region so peak numbers of particular species in the region can easily be overlooked in short-term surveys. The prolonged duration of our surveys, in addition to the intensity of coverage achieved, may explain why the shorebird numbers we observed in the Geum Estuary were considerably higher than those reported in previous surveys. With the probable loss of Saemangeum to shorebirds, the Geum Estuary is now likely to be South Korea's premier shorebird site. Unfortunately, it too is threatened by a major land reclamation project.

CROSSLAND, ANDREW C, SULE A. SINAMBELA, ANDY S. SITORUS & ARI W. SITORUS. 2006. **An overview of the status and abundance of migratory Waders in Sumatra, Indonesia.** *Stilt* 50: 90-95. (34 Chichester St., Woolston, Christchurch 8006, New Zealand; EM: [Andrew.Crossland@ccc.govt.nz](mailto:Andrew.Crossland@ccc.govt.nz))

This paper provides a summary of the status and abundance of 37 species of migratory wader recorded in Sumatra, western Indonesia. High numbers, totalling tens of thousands of birds occur along the eastern coastline of Sumatra in the provinces of North Sumatra, Riau, Jambi, South Sumatra and Lampung. Smaller numbers occur in the northern province of Aceh and along the west coast. Wader species occurring in thousands include Lesser Sand Plover, Greater Sand Plover, Asian Dowitcher, Black-tailed Godwit, Bar-tailed Godwit, Eurasian Curlew, Common Redshank, Terek Sandpiper and Curlew Sandpiper, Species found in hundreds include Pacific Golden Plover, Grey Plover, Pintail Snipe, Whimbrel, Eastern Curlew, Marsh Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, Great Knot and Red Knot. Sumatra is both a terminus for some migrants, as well as a passage zone for waders migrating towards eastern Indonesia and probably Australia. The eastern coastline of Sumatra and adjacent islands combine with the west coast of Peninsular Malaysia to create one of the most important areas for waders and other shorebirds in South-East Asia.

ROUND, PHILIP D. 2006. **Shorebirds in the Inner Gulf of Thailand.** *Stilt* 50: 96-102. (Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, Mahidol University, Rama 6 Road, Bangkok 10400, Thailand; EM: [frpdr@mahidol.ac.th](mailto:frpdr@mahidol.ac.th))

BISHOP, K. DAVID. 2006. **Shorebirds in New Guinea: their status, conservation and distribution..** *Stilt* 50: 103-134. ('Semiopetra' Pty. Ltd. P.O. Box 1234, Armidale, NSW 2350, Australia; EM: [kdbishop@ozemail.com.au](mailto:kdbishop@ozemail.com.au))

MINTON CLIVE, JOHANNES WAHL, ROSALIND JESSOP, CHRIS HASSELL, PETER COLLINS & HEATHER GIBBS. 2006. **Migration routes of Waders which spend the non-breeding season in**

**Australia.** *Stilt 50*: 135-157. (165 Dalgetty Rd., Beaumaris, Vic. 3193, Australia; EM: [mintons@ozemail.com.au](mailto:mintons@ozemail.com.au))

Recoveries and flag sightings of 26 species of migratory wader which visit Australia were analysed to determine migration routes, destinations and stopover locations. Each species had a different migration pattern. There was a strong preference for migratory stopovers to be made along the Chinese coast, particularly on north ward migration. Routes through Asia ranged from south-east India and Sri Lanka in the west to Japan in the east. There was a tendency in many species for birds from non-breeding areas in eastern Australia to use a more easterly route through Asia than birds from western Australia. Most species appear to overfly the islands between the northern coast of Australia and the Asian mainland, and also Taiwan and Japan, on both northward and southward migration. The breeding grounds of waders which spend the non-breeding season in Australia range from 98°E (Curlew Sandpiper in north-west Taimyr, Siberia) to 149°W (Bar-tailed Godwit in north-east Alaska). These extremes are over 13,000 km from the banding locations.

WOODLEY, KEITH. 2006. **China and New Zealand Shorebird Site Partnership: a model for inter-site cooperation.** *Stilt 50*: 158-161. (Miranda Shorebird Centre, RD3 Pokeno 2473, New Zealand; EM: [shorebird@xtra.co.nz](mailto:shorebird@xtra.co.nz))

Yalu Jiang National Nature Reserve, Liaoning Province, China is perhaps the single most important staging site for migratory shorebirds in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway. It is clearly the most important site for the Alaskan-breeding *baueri* population of Bar-tailed Godwit. The Firth of Thames, New Zealand is also an important shorebird site during the non-breeding season. Both are East Asian-Australasian Shorebird Network sites. Miranda Naturalists' Trust and Yalu Jiang National Nature Reserve established a sister-site partnership in 2004. The partnership aims to promote public awareness and education programmes, provide training for reserve staff and facilitate further research on Bar-tailed Godwit. This partnership could serve as a model for similar inter-site relationships in the Flyway.

GOSBELL, KEN & ROB CLEMENS. 2006. **Population monitoring in Australia: some insights after 25 years and future directions..** *Stilt 50*: 162-175. (17 Banksia Court, Heathmont, Vic. 3135, Australia; EM: [ken@gosbell.id.au](mailto:ken@gosbell.id.au))

This paper provides an overview of the Australasian Wader Study Group's Population Monitoring Program (PMP) over the last 25 years at sites around Australia and comments on its ability to monitor long-term population trends in several species. The PMP provides the only comprehensive long term data set on shorebird numbers available to planners and government agencies. In this analysis, some of the shorebird count data collected as part of the PMP have been used to describe population trends for selected migratory wader species found in southern Australia. Results highlight the declining population trend for Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea* and suggest declining trends for several other species. The importance of identifying the underlying demographic causes of these trends is emphasised. The need to identify trends early is suggested as a high priority given the habitat loss and other changes occurring in the flyway. Increasing the sensitivity of the PMP counts and addressing other shortcomings of the program require the development of a more robust and comprehensive monitoring design. Some recommendations are made for a National Shorebird Monitoring project.

ROGERS, DANNY I, KEN G ROGERS, KEN B. GOSBELL & CHRIS J. HASSELL. 2006. **Causes of variation in population monitoring surveys: insights from non-breeding counts in North-Western Australia, 2004-2005.** *Stilt 50*: 176-193. (340 Ninks Rd., St Andrews, Vic 3761, Australia; EM: [drogers@melbpc.org.au](mailto:drogers@melbpc.org.au))

This paper reports on shorebird monitoring counts at three sites in north-western Australia (northern Roebuck Bay, Bush Point and Eighty-mile Beach) in 2004 and 2005. Each site encompasses a large area, usually with a number of different shorebird roosts (sub-sites). A sound understanding of local roosting behaviour of shorebirds enabled us to minimise or eliminate potential biases caused by overlooking birds. We estimated causes of error in shorebird counts at these sites by repeating surveys in quick succession, and examining the difference in count totals in relation to site, species, observer, sub-site and number of component counts. There were considerable differences between sites in the variability of count totals, and these were strongly and predictably influenced by the number of component counts required to carry out a full count of a site. Building on the methods of Rappoldt *et al.* (1985) we were able to use this information to quantify the stochastic error (proportional to the number of birds present) at each site. The coefficient of variation for a component count was estimated to be 30% in Northern Roebuck Bay and Bush Point and 80% at Eighty-mile Beach. However as these errors are unbiased, the effect of combining component counts is to reduce the relative error considerably; our modelling for the north-western Australian sites considered indicated that with the current counting regime, it should be possible to give early warning of population (using an 80% significance level) changes of the order of 10-15% in most species between one year and the next. Close examination of the causes of count error at specific shorebird sites requires that all component counts are recorded, and repeat counts can provide much useful information. The approach offers the prospect of much-increased sensitivity in detection of population changes.

MCCAFFERY, BRIAN J., COLLEEN M. HANDEL, ROBERT E GILL JR & DANIEL R. RUTHRAUFF. 2006. **The blind men and the elephant: concerns about the use of juvenile proportion data.** *Stilt* **50**: 194-204. (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 346, Bethel, AK 99559, USA; EM: [brian\\_mccaffrey@fws.gov](mailto:brian_mccaffrey@fws.gov))

Juvenile proportion data in shorebirds are being used with increasing frequency to estimate recruitment and even breeding success. Although this area of investigation holds great promise, flaws in current study designs preclude great confidence in the broad-scale inferences being drawn. We present data from our own investigations on juvenile proportions in Bar-tailed Godwits *Limosa lapponica* in Alaska to illustrate the significance of some of these problems. We then explore issues of study design, specifically bias, precision, untested assumptions and the use of correlations for interpreting juvenile proportion data. The issue of bias is particularly important, because inferences about shorebird productivity are being expanded to geographic areas well beyond what the data legitimately allow. Until studies of juvenile proportions are more rigorously designed and implemented, we suggest that many of the inferences about shorebird productivity based on such data are premature and may lead to management decisions that are detrimental to the conservation of shorebirds.

ROGERS, KEN G. & KEN GOSBELL. 2006. **Demographic models for Red-necked Stint and Curlew Sandpiper in Victoria.** *Stilt* **50**: 205-214. (340 Ninks Rd., St Andrews, Vic 3761, Australia; EM: [kenrogers@hotmail.com](mailto:kenrogers@hotmail.com))

This paper examines the proposition that juvenile percentages of waders in Australia, as routinely monitored from cannon-netting catches are good indices of breeding success. Simple demographic models are developed for Red-necked Stint and Curlew Sandpiper in Victoria. The models estimate the survival rate which maximises the correlation between the annual model predictions and population monitoring program counts since 1978/9 in Victoria. The overall correspondence is remarkably good although there are instances of substantial differences. Reasons for these differences are discussed. Overall, the results support the monitoring of juvenile percentages and the population monitoring program as effective methods to monitor wader populations in Australia. Comparison of true survival rates estimated in the model with apparent survival estimates

obtained in 1995, and a sensitivity analysis, suggest that the long-term decline in Curlew Sandpiper numbers in Victoria is more likely to be due to reduced adult survival rates than to breeding failures or mortality between fledging and capture some six months later.

WESTON, MICHAEL A. 2006. **Are we neglecting the non-migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian--Australasian Flyway?** *Stilt* 50: 215-223. (Birds Australia National Office, Green Building, 60 Leicester St., Carlton, Vic. 3053, Australia)

A recurrent debate within the Australasian Wader Study Group (AWSG) is whether resident (non-migratory) shorebirds are being neglected in favour of migratory species in terms of research and conservation efforts. This paper examines whether migrants have attracted a disproportionate research and conservation effort from the AWSG, by using articles published in *Stilt* as an index of effort. More articles (223 cf. 110) and more pages (912 cf. 267) have been dedicated specifically to migrants. Articles on migrants ( $4.3 \pm 2.2$  [mean  $\pm$  standard deviation] pages) were longer than those on residents ( $2.5 \pm 1.8$  pages). These differences might reflect the fact that there are more migrants in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway since the ratio of migrant to resident species is 1.4:1 or 2:1 depending on which species are considered to use the flyway. Even when corrections are applied for this imbalance (for the 1.4:1 ratio only), a disproportionate number of pages and articles have still been devoted to migrants. Overall, it appears that there is a bias towards research and conservation effort on migratory species, with the cumulative magnitude of the bias to date equating to the number of pages in 3.8 average-length editions of *Stilt*. I speculate on some of the causes of the apparent bias.

MINTON CLIVE. 2006. **The history of Wader studies in North--West Australia.** *Stilt* 50: 224-234. (165 Dalgetty Rd., Beaumaris, Vic. 3193, Australia; EM: [mintons@ozemail.com.au](mailto:mintons@ozemail.com.au))

BRANSON, N.J.B.A. & C.D.T. MINTON. 2006. **Measurements, weights and primary wing moult of Oriental Plover from North--West Australia.** *Stilt* 50: 235-241. (Darwin College, Cambridge, U.K.; EM: [njb2@cam.ac.uk](mailto:njb2@cam.ac.uk))

This paper describes the measurements, weights and primary wing moult of Oriental Plover caught in north-west Australia. There is no bimodality in any measurement, confirming that there is negligible sexual size dimorphism. All adult birds arrive in north-west Australia in September- November in suspended primary moult, typically having replaced six to eight primaries. Primary moult is completed before the beginning of February. Few juveniles carry out any primary moult whilst in Australia. Adults and juveniles have almost identical patterns of pre-migratory weight gain in February before their departure in March to the breeding areas.

MILTON, DAVID & PETER DRISCOLL. 2006. **An assessment of Shorebird monitoring in Queensland by the Queensland Wader Study Group.** *Stilt* 50: 242-248. (336 Prout Rd., Burbank, Qld. 4156, Australia; EM: [David.Milton@csiro.au](mailto:David.Milton@csiro.au))

The Queensland Wader Study Group (QWSG) will be one of the groups active in any reinvigoration of a national wader population monitoring program (PMP). One of its main objectives has been to undertake an extensive regular wader counting program since it was formed in 1992 as a special interest group of the Queensland Ornithological Society. Counters make monthly counts at roost sites along the Queensland coast, mostly in the south-eastern corner, especially around Moreton Bay. Given this distribution of counters what species of wader can the QWSG realistically monitor?

To answer this question, we examined the QWSG count database and summarised the distribution and frequency of counts in different regions of Queensland and compared these patterns with the distribution of important wader populations in Queensland. There are 13 species of wader with more than 10% of their Flyway or Australian population

found in Queensland. Of these, eight are most abundant in the Gulf of Carpentaria. Effective monitoring in the Gulf of Carpentaria is impractical due to the major logistical challenges of making regular counts at multiple roosts in this remote region. However, QWSG may be able to monitor populations of species that are abundant along the east coast of Queensland.

At the end of September 2006, the QWSG database had over 165,000 records from 14,800 separate counts made at 940 roost sites in Queensland. When these counts are grouped by region, we found that 68% were made in south-eastern Queensland and a further 10% in the Hervey Bay-Great Sandy Strait region. In these two regions, there are nine species of wader that occur in internationally or nationally significant numbers (more than 1% of the Flyway population). It will be important to monitor these species (Bar-tailed Godwit, Whimbrel, Eastern Curlew, Common Greenshank: Terek Sandpiper, Grey-tailed Tattler, Pied Oystercatcher and Pacific Golden Plover) as part of a national PMP. However, only four species were counted at more than five roosts being monitored by QWSG. All these roosts are in one region (south-eastern Queensland).

To increase the coverage of the important wader species, QWSG will need to encourage new members to count at known roosts with substantial populations of important species currently under-represented in counts; these include Common Greenshank, Terek Sandpiper, Pied Oystercatcher and Pacific Golden Plover. Coverage of entire systems of roosts will be logistically impractical as most are large, with many roosts that are difficult to access. As a compromise, we need to improve our understanding of seasonal and local use of different roosts by these key species. This will help interpret the data already collected by the current count program and improve the accuracy of population estimates and detected trends.

CHRISTIE, MAUREEN (compiler). 2006. **South Australian Wader Studies – an overview**. *Stilt 50*: 249-251. (Carpenter Rocks, SA 5291, Australia; EM: [twinpeppers@icisp.net.au](mailto:twinpeppers@icisp.net.au))

COOPER, JANE. 2006. **Chapter 1. Eyre Peninsula. A chronology of Shorebird surveys on the Eyre Peninsula**. *Stilt 50*: 251-253. (Box 128, Port Lincoln, SA 5606, Australia; EM: [ocyphaps@bigpond.com](mailto:ocyphaps@bigpond.com))

CLOSE, DAVID. 2006. **Chapter 2. Gulf St Vincent. Wader counting in Gulf St Vincent**. *Stilt 50*: 253-254. (30 Diosma Drive, Coromandel Valley, SA 5051, Australia; EM: [david.close@flinders.edu.au](mailto:david.close@flinders.edu.au))

PATON, DAVID C. & DANIEL J. ROGERS. 2006. **Chapter 3. The Coorong, Lake Alexandria and Lake Albert. Waterbird research in the Coorong Region, South Australia: past, present, future**. *Stilt 50*: 254-256. (School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, SA 5000, Australia; EM: [david.paton@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:david.paton@adelaide.edu.au))

SEAMAN, RUSSELL. 2006. **Chapter 4. The Coorong, Lake Alexandria and Lake Albert. Waterbird monitoring - The Coorong and Lakes Alexandrina and Albert Ramsar site, 2001-2004**. *Stilt 50*: 257. (Regional Conservation Department for Environment and Heritage, GPO Box 1047, Adelaide, SA 5001, Australia; EM: [seaman.russell@saugov.sa.gov.au](mailto:seaman.russell@saugov.sa.gov.au))

TANNER, ROB. 2006. **Chapter 5. The Coorong, Lake Alexandria and Lake Albert. The Birdtaking Project**. *Stilt 50*: 257-258. (19 Aldgate Terrace, Bridgewater Park, SA 5155, Australia; EM: [bobletts@aapt.net.au](mailto:bobletts@aapt.net.au))

ECKERT, JOHN. 2006. **Chapter 6. The Coorong, Lake Alexandria and Lake Albert. Lakes Alexandrina and Albert**. *Stilt 50*: 258. (Box 143, Langhorne Creek, SA 5255, Australia)

BOURNE, PAT. 2006. **Chapter 7. The Lower South East. Waders of Bool Lagoon.** *Stilt 50*: 259. (PMB 240 Naracoorte, SA 5271, Australia)

CHRISTIE, MAUREEN. 2006. **Chapter 8. The Lower South East. Wader sites in the Lower South East, South Australia.** *Stilt 50*: 259-262. (Carpenter Rocks, SA 5291, Australia; EM: [twinpeppers@icisp.net.au](mailto:twinpeppers@icisp.net.au))

BAXTER, CHRIS. 2006. **Chapter 9. Resident Waders. Banded Stilt *Cladorhynchus leucocephalus* breeding at Lake eyre North in 2000.** *Stilt 50*: 262-263. (RSD 4, Flinders Chase Service, via Kingscote, SA 5223, Australia; EM: [cbaxterki@gmail.com](mailto:cbaxterki@gmail.com))

DENNIS, TERRY. 2006. **Chapter 10. Resident Waders. Declining Hooded Plover population on Kangaroo Island, South Australia.** *Stilt 50*: 264-265. (5 Bell Court, Encounter Bay, SA 5211, Australia; EM: [osprey84@bigpond.net.au](mailto:osprey84@bigpond.net.au))

HARLEY, DAN. 2006. **Chapter 11. Resident Waders. Conservation of the Bush Stone-curlew *Burhinus grallarius* in the South East of South Australia.** *Stilt 50*: 265-268. (Department for Environment and Heritage, PO Box 1046, Mt Gambier, SA 5290, Australia; EM: [Harley.Daniel@saugov.sa.gov.au](mailto:Harley.Daniel@saugov.sa.gov.au))

HORTON, PHILIPPA. 2006. **Chapter 12. Research Resources. Waders in the collection of the South Australian Museum.** *Stilt 50*: 268-269. (South Australian Museum, North Terrace, Adelaide, SA 5000, Australia)

CHRISTIE, MAUREEN. 2006. **Chapter 13. Research Resources. Banding and flagging Waders in South Australia.** *Stilt 50*: 270-273. (Carpenter Rocks, SA 5291, Australia; EM: [twinpeppers@icisp.net.au](mailto:twinpeppers@icisp.net.au))

GOSBELL, KEN. 2006. **Chapter 14. Research Resources. The AWSG population monitoring program in South Australia.** *Stilt 50*: 273-274. (17 Banksia Court, Heathmont, Vic. 3135, Australia; EM: [ken@gosbell.id.au](mailto:ken@gosbell.id.au))

EDEY, DAVID. 2006. **Chapter 15. Research Resources. Wader-related references for South Australia.** *Stilt 50*: 275-276. (EM: [vrussell@wwf.org.au](mailto:vrussell@wwf.org.au))

GOSBELL, KEN & MAUREEN CHRISTIE. 2006. **The breeding of Banded Stilt and Red-necked Avocet in the Coorong, South Australia: December 2005 -- February 2006.** *Stilt 50*: 277-284. (17 Banksia Court, Heathmont, Vic. 3135, Australia; EM: [ken@gosbell.id.au](mailto:ken@gosbell.id.au))

In July 2005, a large roost of 100,000 Banded Stilt *Cladorhynchus leucocephalus* was observed in the South Lagoon of The Coorong. In January 2006 there was evidence of some breeding having taken place with the observation of several young chicks in the care of adult birds. During the annual AWSG wader survey undertaken on 4 and 5 February 2006 a count of 1,006 juvenile Banded Stilt was made. In January Red-necked Avocet *Recurvirostra novaehollandiae* were also observed breeding along the margins of the South Lagoon. This is the first time that either of these species has bred in the Coorong. The conditions in the Coorong have progressively deteriorated over the last eight years due to the lack of freshwater inflows from the Murray River leading to extreme hypersalinity in the South Lagoon with resultant change in environmental conditions. This caused a large hatch of brine shrimp and an abundance of other food sources such as chironomid larvae. Several attempts were made to find the breeding colony of the Banded Stilt and to assess the degree of success of this event. In addition, teams from Victoria and South Australia banded and flagged a total of 334 chicks. While these events are interesting, they result from a severe worsening of water quality conditions in the Coorong exacerbated in recent times by the lack of river flows over the barrages. While this problem persists, it is essential that monitoring the water quality and biodiversity

throughout the Coorong is undertaken to provide information for land and water managers to improve this critical situation and to ensure the restoration of the values which made it a Ramsar site.

MINTON, CLIVE. 2006. The **history and achievements of the Victorian Wader Study Group**. *Stilt* **50**: 285-294. (165 Dalgetty Rd., Beaumaris, Vic. 3193, Australia; EM: [mintons@ozemail.com.au](mailto:mintons@ozemail.com.au))

MELVILLE, DAVID S. & PHIL F BATTLE. 2006. **Shorebirds in New Zealand**. *Stilt* **50**: 295-303. (Dovedale, R.D. 2 Wakefield, Nelson, New Zealand; EM: [david.melville@xtra.co.nz](mailto:david.melville@xtra.co.nz))

New Zealand's coast supports up to 166,000 northern hemisphere breeding waders, including internationally important populations of Bar-tailed Godwit and Red Knot, during the austral summer. Some 163,000 local breeding waders occur on the coast during winter. Most taxa of endemic waders are threatened, the Black Stilt being critically endangered. Habitat loss and predation by introduced mammals are the greatest threats.

PHILLIPPS, HUGO. 2006. Papers in **Australian Wader Study Group journals 1980--2006**. *Stilt* **50**: 304-325. (20 Waterview Close, Queenscliff, Vic. 3225, Australia; EM: [eolophus@bigpond.net.au](mailto:eolophus@bigpond.net.au))

This is principally a list of papers which have been published in *Stilt*, the bulletin of the Australasian Wader Studies Group. However, selected articles from the **Victorian Wader Study Group Bulletin** (VWSG Bulletin) and from **An Occasional Stint** (AOS) the now defunct bulletin of the Tasmanian Wader Study Group, are also included.

Articles are covered under seven headings:

- Species accounts
- Research and conservation
- Reports/workshops
- Overseas counts
- Australian counts
- Banding and flagging reports
- Recoveries, sightings and movements

It is intended that this list be regularly updated and accessible on the AWSG website in future.