



Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force News Bulletin No. 9, February 2013



Compiled by Christoph Zöckler on behalf of the EAAFP Sbs Task Force

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Spoon-billed sandpiper trapped in mistnet, Zhanjiang, China March 2003

In figures:

106 record number at Rudong mudflats in China autumn 2012
460 mistnets at Leizhou, SW China
26 record number on Sonadia, Bangladesh in November 2012
18 SBS still on Nan Thar island
28 happy young SBS in the captive breeding facilities in Slimbridge
2,500 £ raised by Norfolk bird art gallery
2,579 € raised at the Helgoland bird race in October 2012

Foreword from the Editor

Dear friends and colleagues,

2012 was yet another very busy year with lots of activities across the flyway and beyond. With again over 100 birds, the Rudong mudflats in China turned out to be the most important site along the flyway; a key stop over site, important for refuelling and moulting in both spring and autumn migration. However, most of the mudflats are threatened by reclamation, coastal development and hunting. The fact that people from literally all over the world are supporting our cause is very encouraging. These are no longer only our old friends from BirdLife International and its Species Champions, Keidenran from Tokyo, the Lighthouse and Manfred-Hermesen Foundation in Germany, the RSPB in the UK and the US FWS in the US. More and more people and businesses are showing support in China and Korea, plus schoolchildren in Russia and even the Governor of Chukotka, who opened an exhibition dedicated solely to the Spoon-billed sandpiper in Anadyr, the capital of Russia's far Northeastern Republic. A bird race in Helgoland Germany raised more than €2,500 and a gallery in Norfolk, UK donated £ 2,500 through selling Spoon-billed Sandpiper sculptures. It is fantastic to see the widespread enthusiasm for the species.

And this enthusiasm and encouragement is needed when taking on the challenges that still lay ahead. In addition to the habitat loss in China we encountered a widespread systematic threat through hunting and trapping all along the Chinese coast. It is very good to see that the Chinese authorities have been acting swiftly and already arrested several people. However much more needs to be done if we want to be successful in averting the path to extinction.

Sad news comes from Myanmar, where, on the island of Nan Thar nomadic hunters settled and started fishing and possibly bird trapping again. Ren Nou Soe, our local guard has been handling the situation brilliantly and managed to arrange peace and quiet jointly with local police and border guards. With the ongoing uprising of the Rohingas in the state of Rakhine the situation remains precarious though. Our SBS birdwatching tour with our partner Bird Holidays had for this reason to be diverted to the Gulf of Mottama which worked out well. At World Wetland Day in Nay Piy Taw and again a little later at a recent stakeholder workshop in the regional capital of the Mon state Mawlamyine, several participants of our Task Force were reassured that the process of the Gulf of Mottama becoming a designated Ramsar site is on track. More and more people become involved and it seems there is no way back anymore.

During our visit at our partner WWT in Slimbridge during a UK Support Group meeting I was privileged to visit our captive breeding stock and the facilities with 12 birds from last year and 16 lively 'teenagers' running around in a flock; a very comforting sight, considering the last I saw of them were the eggs in Meinypl'gino, Chukotka and Nigel Jarret holding the incubator tightly in that noisy helicopter. I hope you also find it fascinating to read about the many different stories across the entire flyway from Russia to Sri Lanka and beyond.

Dr Christoph Zöckler, Coordinator SBS TF, August 2012

Foreword from the Chief Executive of the East Asian Australasian Flyway Partnership

Spoon-billed Sandpiper is one of the most iconic and threatened birds of the East Asian – Australasian Flyway. Early recognition of the species' vulnerability and evidence of its decline led to the development of the SBS Action Plan and the creation of the SBS Task Force. The Task Force, through the actions of energetic and committed individuals has succeeded in raising the profile of the species within the countries of the Flyway and beyond, by engaging the attention of the broader international community and promoting concerted conservation action, from awareness-raising and conservation at critical sites to captive breeding and release. It is clear the SBS conservation requires a focus on the breeding grounds, critical staging areas and the non-breeding (wintering) sites. This news bulletin highlights important activities in all three areas. The exhibition in Anadyr, Chukotka on the SBS breeding grounds involved a great deal of hard work and organization and engaged a number of important stakeholders in the region. It is an important event for raising the awareness of different groups in Chukotka of how critical this site is for the species. Surveys in staging areas have confirmed the importance of the Rudong mudflats for moulting and feeding SBS. The record number of birds here only emphasises the need to engage with local authorities and communities to promote effective protection and management of the site. However, the concentration of birds at Rudong should not lessen the focus on other staging sites, such as the Geum estuary in Korea (see the article by Dr. Nial Moores in this news bulletin) and new sites, such as Leizhou in SW China. The unfortunate reality is that all of these sites are threatened to a greater or lesser degree, whether through reclamation, pollution, disturbance or hunting. On the non-breeding grounds, it is heartening to see the year-long campaign begun in Sonadia through the Bangladesh SBS Conservation Project. We also need to continue to support conservation activities in other important areas such as the Gulf of Mottama in Myanmar, where the situation appears quite fluid. However, monitoring in the area at least can alert us to new threats (see also the article in this bulletin).

I have been greatly encouraged by the levels of dedication and enthusiasm of the SBS Task Force and the different organizations, groups and individuals supporting SBS conservation and I would like to thank them, and all that have supported SBS activities over the years. The impacts will not only be felt by SBS, but also the many other waterbird species in the Flyway that share these habitats and face many of the same threats. The East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership already counts many of the countries and organizations involved in SBS conservation as members, and together we hope that our actions can save not only its most endangered species, but also the spectacular migration that has been continuing for millennia throughout the Flyway.

Spike Millington, Chief Executive, EAAFP chief@eaaflyway.net

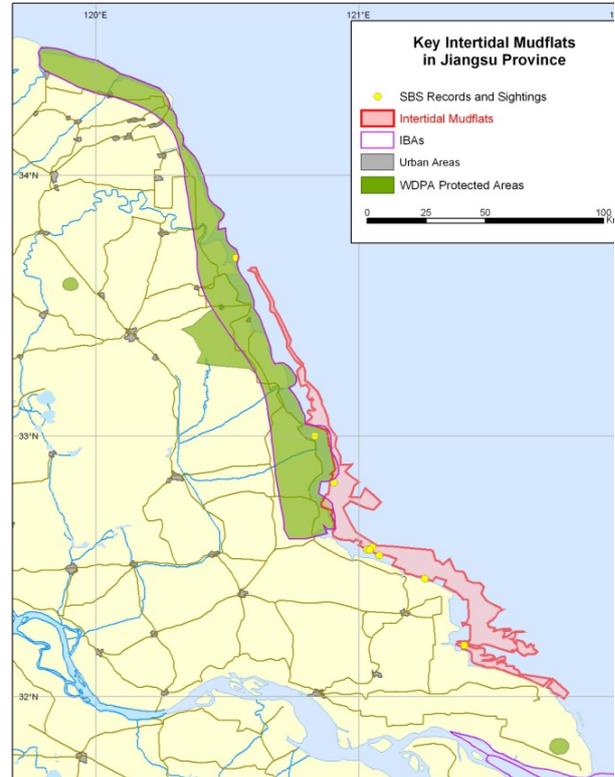
3) Record count of the critically endangered Spoon-billed Sandpipers on Rudong mudflats, Jiangsu, China

Tong Menxui, Zhang Lin, Jing Li, Christoph Zöckler & Nigel A. Clark

A record total of 106 Spoon-billed Sandpiper was counted over a stretch of 120 km of mudflats in the wider Rudong area, Jiangsu (near Shanghai) China, between 12-15 October.

This number amounts to one quarter of the estimated world population of this critically endangered bird species and is the highest number observed since conservation activities started in 2000. Rudong has been known for some time to be a critically important staging area (where birds stay for rest and feeding before continuing their journey) for the migration of this critically endangered species. An international team of experts conducted the survey to evaluate the importance of the site to the Spoon-billed Sandpiper and other species. As several large flocks of waders in the area were not found at high tide roosts, the expert team estimated that the total number of Spoon-billed Sandpipers staging in the area could be as high as 1/2 of the total estimated global population of 350-400 birds.

During the survey period, at least one bird was observed with a lime green flag and originated from the Meinopylgino breeding site in Chukotka, Russia, where the bird had been ringed as a chick.



Following the survey, a workshop on the conservation of Spoon-billed Sandpiper was conducted at WWF in Shanghai. The strategy for promoting the conservation of Spoon-billed Sandpipers and intertidal mudflats along the Chinese coast was discussed. Attendees included the survey team members and Spoon-billed Sandpiper experts from several other sites in China, including the Hong Kong Bird Watching Society (HKBWS, BirdLife International partner in Hong Kong).

The meeting highlighted the Rudong mudflats as a staging area of critical importance for the Spoon-billed Sandpiper and other species. The participants were concerned that mudflat reclamation and unsustainable industrial projects continue unabated in the area, which threaten the remaining sites. Crucial staging habitats would disappear completely soon, severely impacting on 1/2 of the world population of the Spoon-billed Sandpiper. The meeting discussed the conservation actions that could be taken to address the threats to Rudong, including designation of new protected areas and the sustainable management of the intertidal areas. There is an urgent need to further develop these plans and prepare a suitable management strategy to conserve these highly important mudflats. It was also highlighted to include the Spoon-billed Sandpiper in the national species check list (Chinese Red Data Book).

The international survey team was led by Zhang Lin and Tong Menxiu of the "Spoon-billed Sandpiper in China" Team. Other members were Nigel Clark from the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) in UK, Karin Eberhardt from Myanmar and Christoph Zöckler of ArcCona Consulting, the Coordinator of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force. They surveyed the mudflats between Jianggang, Dongtai in the North and Dongling at the southern end of the wider Rudong area in Jiangsu Province, to establish an estimate of the population of staging Spoon-billed Sandpiper between 12-15 October. The Rudong mudflats are possibly the most important site for this critically endangered species on the entire flyway, as well as for other species, such as the globally endangered Nordmann's Greenshank, of which we counted over 280 birds!. However, the site is also among the most threatened areas in the Flyway. All our efforts to safeguard the breeding area in Russia and most important wintering sites in Myanmar and Bangladesh will be in vain if we are unable to protect the Rudong mudflats.

Poisoning and trapping has been observed on 15 October in the Dongling area (area 7 in Fig 1). We found small dried shrimps laced with poison scattered over the area where at least 10,000 small waders, including over 20 Spoon-billed Sandpiper were roosting at high tide. When the birds had left we found a total of 90 dead small waders (mainly Kentish plovers and Dunlin). Using poison baits is a relatively common practice in a number of countries in Asia with seed or dried fish laced with fast acting poisons enable large numbers of birds to be taken for food by hunters. It is not known how widespread the threat is but a small number of hunters could take a significant proportion of the Spoon-billed Sandpipers as they are known to feed longer than most other waders and so are likely to be more susceptible to poisoning than most waders.

Crystal Li, Xiang Le, Guo Jin, Tang Zhenghua and Karin Eberhardt contributed with additional observations. We also thank the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Audubon Society for financial support and BirdLife International and WWF Shanghai for logistical support. The map was kindly provided by Gillian Bunting of ArcCona Consulting.

The latest news from late January is that the Yancheng Police has recently disbanded a group of criminals that have poisoned over 50, 000 wild birds. They confessed that they sprayed the prey with poison in the mudflats and caught around 40 species of wild birds. The group includes one wild life restaurant owner and 3 people that help catch birds. We think these are the people we were looking for when we were in Rudong last October.

Contact: Jing Li *Spoon-billed Sandpiper in China* sbsinchina@gmail.com

4) Call for population monitoring, China Coast April/May 2013

With ongoing problems for shorebirds in the Yellow Sea it is important to establish a good database of information including records of use by birds during northward and southward migration. The late Mark Barter (AWSG) established a baseline of population counts in the 1990's and early 2000's which has been an invaluable tool for conservation initiatives. Since 2005 the China Coastal Water Census group has coordinated counts for several important sites on the China coast. Many will remember Jing Li, who recently attended the AWSG conference in Adelaide and who is one of the organisers of these counts by volunteers every month at the most important sites along the Yellow Sea in China. This is a voluntary group, one of the first in China that undertakes this huge task. They publish their count data every 2 years see <http://www.chinabirdnet.org/>. The AWSG is keen to support this initiative and is calling for appropriately experienced volunteers to assist this group.

At present there is a shortage of experienced Chinese surveyors and additional help from suitably experienced overseas people is welcome. Participation can be for any length of time you choose, but should ideally be for a minimum of 2 weeks.

Jing Li has advised me of the following draft program for the spring migration activities. As an added enticement I might add that the Rudong coast is one of the most important remaining areas for Spoon-billed Sandpipers – a rapidly declining iconic species.

<http://www.eaaflyway.net/partnership-news.php#rudong>

Rudong

- Time: April 1 - MAY 20, ideally a stay of 30 days although 14 days would be a minimum. Additional requirement: telescope and binoculars, ability to identify small waders; follow the survey region and time table as designed by the local team
- Cost: local accommodation is around RMB 150~ 200 per day, 30 days cost around RMB 6000 or AU\$ 900 including cell phone cost and bus from and to Shanghai

Panjing/ShuangTai He Kou NR

- Time: April 10 ~ May 5, at least stay 20 days
- Same requirements as listed above
- Cost: local accommodation is around RMB 100~ 150 per day, 20 days cost around RMB 5000 or AU\$ 770 including cell phone cost and train from and to Beijing
- Panjing is 4 hours by bus to Yalujiang NR, where we have a big volunteer team working there this Spring. If time allows, candidate could visit Yalujiang NR for 3-4 days, cost around RMB 1000, or AU\$ 150;

We would ask volunteers to agree

- all counting data should be shared with the local survey team/coordinator
- leave a copy with local survey team/coordinator of key photos and videos

- survey data can't be published unless have consensus from local survey team/coordinator
- respect local custom and obey local law and regulations
- counting in the Yellow Sea can be arduous; extensive tidal flats mean that counting is done over long distances and often in less than ideal conditions (smog haze etc)
- access to sites can often be difficult due to infrastructure so patience and persistence is a pre-requisite.
- There will be an English speaking Chinese person in the team.
- All costs, travel arrangements, insurances are the responsibility of the volunteer.
- You are guaranteed some amazing sights!

Anyone interested please contact Ken Gosbell (ken@gosbell.id.au) or Jing Li (sbsinchina@gmail.com) for more details.

5) Spoon-billed Sandpipers found wintering in south-west China in an area where mist-netting is rampant

Jonathan Martinez, Richard Lewthwaite, Vivian Fu

Four Spoon-billed Sandpipers were found in south-west Guangdong Province on 17th and 18th December 2012 during a Hong Kong Bird Watching Society (HKBWS) project to investigate the winter distribution of Spoon-billed Sandpiper in southern China. Jonathan Martinez and Richard Lewthwaite surveyed nine sites in south-west Guangdong and found the Spoon-billed Sandpipers in a large area of drained-down fishponds at Fucheng, near Leizhou. This site is close to Zhanjiang, where the French ornithologist Pierre Jabouille described Spoon-billed Sandpiper as fairly numerous in winter in the 1930s, and is the same place where Professor Fasheng Zou of the South China Institute of Endangered Animals recorded three individuals in March 2003. These records, together with recent records from the Min River Estuary in Fujian, Mai Po in Hong Kong, Xitou in south-west Guangdong, Haikou and Changhua in Hainan and Fangcheng in Guangxi, indicate that the coast of South China is more important for Spoon-billed Sandpiper than was previously thought.

During the survey, however, evidence was found of large-scale trapping of shorebirds and action is needed to address this threat. A total of 460 mistnets (actually fishnets typically 25 m long and 3 m high suspended between bamboo poles) were found placed in parallel lines or V-shapes beside shorebird roost-sites on fishponds, salt pans and sandbars, as well as in nearby paddyfields and marshes. Though not a new problem - one of the three Spoon-billed Sandpipers recorded by Professor Zou at Fucheng in 2003 was found caught in a net and was released and one in the possession of a fisherman at the same site was purchased for RMB 30 by a nature warden and was released on 26 October 2012 (Michael Chen *pers. comm.*) – the scale of mistnetting has increased to the point where it is now rampant and poses a major threat to Spoon-billed Sandpiper and other shorebirds.

The illegal trapping found during the survey has been reported to Guangdong Forestry Department and a small action team of HKBWS members and local NGO conservationists has formed to devise effective measures to monitor and remove mistnets (and other forms of bird traps) at key sites for Spoon-billed Sandpiper and other migratory birds.

The latest news comes from Beihai, Guangxi, where we found one Spoon-billed Sandpiper, a new site for the species. We did find some mist nets along the coastal area, but the situation is not serious (but it will get worse during the migratory seasons). Instead, human disturbance and coastal area development are the main threats to waterbirds there.

The project "Study of the non-breeding distribution of Spoon-billed Sandpiper in Southern China" is being managed by The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society and supported by Ocean Park Conservation Foundation, Hong Kong. It is being implemented in partnership with Fujian Bird Watching Society, Xiamen Bird Watching Society, Beilun Estuary National Nature Reserve and Kadoorie Conservation China of Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden.



Spoon-billed Sandpiper at Fucheng, Leizhou, 18th of December 2012; Mistnets at the survey sites, December 2012 (photos: Jonathan Martinez)



Dunlin trapped in mistnet at Fucheng, Leizhou, December 2012 (photo: Jonathan Martinez), Spoon-billed Sandpiper trapped in mistnet at Zhanjiang, March 2003. (Photo: Fasheng Zou)

6) Launch of conservation project in Minjiang Estuary, Fujian Province, China

Prepared by WWF-Hong Kong

Minjiang Estuary, located at Changle City of Fujian Province, is one of the few sites where Spoon-billed Sandpiper can be recorded regularly every year in China. Although threats such as the expansion of invasive *Spartina* grass are degrading the mudflat area, Minjiang Estuary is still an important wintering site of different waterbirds. A large number of Dunlin, Common Teal and even Black-faced Spoonbill were recorded in aquaculture ponds, when drying, starting from October or November.

In July 2012, WWF-Hong Kong, which has successfully managed Mai Po Nature Reserve in Hong Kong for more than 30 years, and the People's Government of Changle City launched a 5-year Fujian Minjiang Estuary Wetland Conservation Cooperation Project. Mitigating the threat from the *Spartina* is definitely one of the key actions, while others, such as building the wetland management capacity of the Management Bureau of Minjiang Estuary Nature Reserve and raising public awareness of wetland conservation, are indispensable. Through the project, it is hoped that one of the critically important stop-over and wintering sites of migrants using the East-Asian Australasian Flyway can be protected and managed properly.



Fig. 1 This kind of large dried aquaculture ponds can become a good high tide roost for waterbirds and shorebirds in Minjiang Estuary (© WWF-Hong Kong)



Fig. 2 A large number of Dunlin and plovers were recorded on the dried part of an aquaculture pond in November 2012 (© WWF-Hong Kong)

Note from the editor: According to HKBWS and others there have been no observations of SBS during the winter and only 1 or 2 birds briefly in the autumn

7) Update from the Republic of Korea

Nial Moores PhD, Birds Korea

There is only a rather short history of shorebird counting in the ROK and still no frequent survey or monitoring of sites that might support the species (Moores 2012). However, literature review and fieldwork in the ROK already provide a reasonable insight into Spoon-billed Sandpiper (SBS) national population and trend, migration phenology, moult, habitat preferences, threats and conservation requirements.

Population Trend

The SBS has experienced a long-term population decline in the ROK which has accelerated in recent decades. It was considered an uncommon species in the first half of the twentieth century (Austin 1948); the first modern ornithological survey effort of suitable habitat resulted in a count of

“several hundred on the mudflats in the Nak(d)ong Delta on 18-20 September, 1970” (Gore & Won, 1971: 233); and in the late 1990s, peak counts of 180 (on September 6th 1998) and 150 (on September 28th 1999) were claimed at the Mangyeung Estuary with 100 (on September 29th 1999) also claimed at the adjacent Dongjin Estuary (Park 2002, Barter 2002).

In 2012, there was some coverage of all known best sites. While more records might still come to light, we are presently aware of only c. 26 individuals being recorded this year in the ROK with eight counted during northward migration (four at the Mangyeung Estuary, Saemangeum, and four at the Geum Estuary: Kim & Chung 2012) and approximately 18 recorded during southward migration (Table 1).

Table 1: Records of Spoon-billed Sandpiper in the ROK during southward migration in 2012

Date	Peak Number / Estimated Total	Age	Location	Approximate Coordinates	Lead Observer / Source
Late August?	4 / 4	unknown	Mangyeung, Saemangeum	35°51' N, 126°33' E	Ju Yong-Ki <i>via</i> Kim Han-Kyu
Sep 6th	6 / 9	5 adults, 1 juvenile	Yubu Island, Geum Estuary	35°59' N, 126°36' E	Jason Loghry
“September”	1 / 1	Juvenile?	Heuksan Island	34°41' N, 125°28' E	<i>Via</i> National Parks Migratory Bird Research Centre
Sep 23rd	1 / 1	Juvenile	Pohang	36°01' N, 129°40' E	Huang Jae-Woong
Sep 23rd	1 / 1	Juvenile	Jeongdal Ri, East Jeju	33°29' N, 126°55' E	Kang Chang-wan <i>via</i> Kim Han-Kyu
Oct 1st	1 / 1	unknown	Gomso Bay	35°35' N, 126°36' E	Lee Dae-Jong
Oct 13th	1 / 1	unknown	Namyang Bay	37°10' N, 126°48' E	Kim Jun-Cheol

2012 was perhaps the first recent year without any records of SBS in the Nakdong Estuary (35°30'N, 129°24' E). However, counting effort there during the expected peak period in September was greatly limited by inclement weather.

Migration Phenology

The SBS is a migrant through the ROK, most regular in April and May and again between August and late October. It has apparently not yet been recorded in the ROK between November and February and only doubtfully in March. Four March specimens reported in Austin (1948) were probably dated by the lunar rather than the solar calendar – and thus were actually in April. In recent years, earliest records are from the first decade of April, with small numbers until mid-May rising to a sharp peak comprised largely of adults with some Second Calendar-years. The timing of this peak is later than in most other shorebird species and has therefore probably been missed by most count effort. There are perhaps no June records (a month with almost no shorebird research) but there were apparently one or more July records during the last decade (either early migrants or individuals which over-summered locally). The number of adults typically increases again gradually through August to peak in September. In 2012, the earliest record during southward migration was on August 17th at Yubu Island, Geum Estuary (with none found there during daily research between August 14th and 16th). Juveniles arrive in September (earliest in 2012 on September 1st) and apparently peak in the last decade of the month. In 2012, the latest record was apparently of two (one adult and one First-winter) at Yubu Island, on October 21st (though with no counts there after that date).

Moult

Previous experience and photographs and video (taken by Jason Loghry) in 2011 and 2012 suggest that some adults probably stage only briefly in the ROK during southward migration, while others remain and undergo a post-breeding moult (August-September/October). In 2012, one bird (age?) had apparently already assumed non-breeding plumage as early as late August, while some others

retained obvious breeding plumage features well into September. Due to rapid moult of juveniles and adults in early October, we believe that ageing of birds after about October 10th is rather challenging and generally requires good images and / or prolonged field views at close range.

Habitat and Feeding

We have found and mapped adults feeding actively only within estuaries and only within the rather narrow habitat type of open areas of sand-mud tidal flat, with silt-rich pools and creeks. While substrate samples we collected from both the Geum and Nakdong estuaries remain to be analysed, feeding habitat nonetheless appears remarkably similar to that described in Bangladesh by Bird *et al.* (2010) and as reported in Marteban Bay. As noted elsewhere too, feeding generally entails rather rapid walking and pecking, followed by rapid pummelling of the mud surface. As first suggested by Dr. Danny Rogers of the AWSG in 2008, pummelling liquefies the surface of the mud, apparently exposing benthic prey that might otherwise lay hidden. The bill-shape and surface water tension together then trap and help guide some such prey up the bill. The evolutionary radiation of shorebirds is to a large extent a radiation of the bill-tip organ (Piersma 2011), and we suggest that the bill of the SBS is most likely an adaptation to optimal staging and non-breeding intertidal habitat found within the dynamic and historically massive estuaries of several of East and South Asia's larger rivers. In contrast to adults, juveniles are sometimes found feeding on beaches or in rather poorer habitat, while roosting birds (both adult and juvenile) also use salt-pans and beaches (latter usually in slight hollows, often shadowed by beached vegetation).



Distribution

Only four ROK sites remain that probably support the species (more or less) regularly: the Geum Estuary, the Mangyeung Estuary (now within the Saemangeum reclamation area), Gomso Bay / Jeulpo and the Nakdong Estuary. Although the SBS has been recorded at a number of other sites in recent years, such records tend to be of lone juveniles, often in suboptimal habitat, and often coincident with inclement weather (e.g. the passage of storm systems as in late September 2012).

Threats

The greatest threat (past and present) to the SBS in the ROK is habitat change. Our assessment of tidal-flat area found that probably 75% of historical tidal-flat area in the ROK has now been reclaimed (i.e. converted to land or artificial wetland by mechanical means), with two-thirds of this loss of area since the late 1980s (Birds Korea 2010, Moores 2012). Moreover, many rivers (including the Geum and Nakdong) have estuarine barrages that in several cases have been shown to result in changes in biota, sedimentation and / or tidal-patterns within remaining estuarine areas (Moores 2012). No counts of >10 SBS are known in the Nakdong Estuary after barrage construction in the 1980s and the Saemangeum Shorebird Monitoring Program found a 91% decline in SBS there in only three years following seawall-closure in 2006. Although the Mangyeung Estuary (Saemangeum) still

supported at least five SBS in September 2011 and four in 2012, this area will continue to degrade as reclamation continues - unless greater conservation action is taken within the next few months (see below). Recent public proposals for Saemangeum (formerly East Asia's most important shorebird site: Barter 2002) do not consider shorebirds. Rather, they now include foreigner only casinos (see: <http://www.birdskoreablog.org/?p=7173>).

Other immediate threats in the ROK include increased disturbance (both by photographers and also by researchers: see <http://www.birdskoreablog.org/?p=5931> and <http://www.birdskoreablog.org/?p=5956>) and perhaps pollution.

Recent Public Awareness Work

The SBS is the nation's only regularly-occurring Critically Endangered bird species. It is part of our organisation's banner and we have worked as hard as our limited capacity allows to raise the profile of this species and to use science to clarify the link between reclamation and its decline. To this end, in recent years we have posted several hundred SBS-related online notes and articles and links in English and Korean on our websites and blog; held photo exhibitions and events; and have published several reports, contributed to two books and published one children's education book that highlight the species.



Outer Saemangeum estuary December 2012, Nial Moores

In 2012, we participated in the Palembang workshop; we contributed at several stages to a major IUCN report on intertidal wetlands and shorebirds (Mackinnon *et al.* 2012) and were also commissioned to translate it into Korean; and we co-organised (with Microhabitat and several other domestic organisations) two publicity events immediately preceding the opening of the IUCN World Conservation Congress here in the ROK. These September 3rd events included a press conference with a video message from the Mayor of Seoul, the Honourable Mr. Park Won-Soon, displaying his name-card emblazoned with an SBS logo in addition to presentations by several leading opinion makers, including the Chief of the East Asian-Australian Flyway Partnership; and an event on the tidal-flat at the Geum Estuary, participated in by the enlightened mayor of Seocheon County. Resultant coverage included several articles in national media (for links see below: <http://www.birdskoreablog.org/?p=5809>) and a special children's magazine on the SBS produced by Dong-A Science. We look forward in 2013 to working with inspired colleagues in Hong Kong on their SBS short animation project and as proposed with another leading body on developing a mini-documentary on the species.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Jason Loghry (for several weeks of field-work) and to all who have contributed SBS count data and information from within the ROK (for 2012 including Jeon Shi-Jin, Tim Edelsten and Kim Hankyu), to Amael Bourzee for help with mapping, and sincere thanks too to Dr. Kim Sanha, Kim Hanmin and Prof. Choe Jae Cheon and all participants for their tremendous effort towards and on September 3rd. Warmest thanks too to those who raised funds for our SBS work through the World Migratory Bird day Birdathon, and to Edward Keeble, the RSPB (for support through an RSPB small grant) and Nicola Crockford; and of course also to the Task Force and BirdLife International for supporting my (mud-soaked!) attendance at Palembang.

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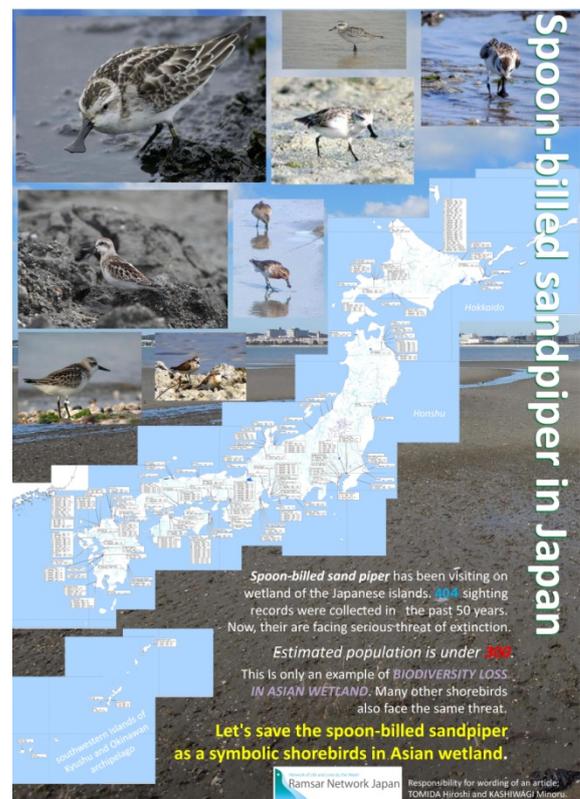
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8) Japan – Database update

Tomida Hiroshi & Minoru Kashiwagi (Ramsar Network Japan)

For 2012, 11 data from five different sites, mostly involving juvenile SBS have been added to the database from Japan. One record of one adult in early June is exceptional, pointing still at few birds in spring migration. Tomida Hiroshi updated the entire database for Japan, which now contains over 450 datasets. A poster (shown left) has been presented at the Ramsar CoP in Bucharest and an analysis will feature in the next newsletter.



9) Bangladesh Spoon-billed Sandpiper Conservation Project launches a yearlong awareness campaign

Sayam U. Chowdhury and Mohammad Foysal

Bangladesh Spoon-billed Sandpiper Conservation Project has finally launched, in December, a yearlong awareness campaign on Sonadia Island. The event included shorebird photo exhibition, film shows on the Spoon-billed Sandpiper conservation work in Bangladesh and Russia, folk songs and drama on bird conservation highlighting the Spoon-billed Sandpiper.

The Upazila Nirbahi Officer (Sub-district Executive Officer of Government of Bangladesh), Assistant Conservator of Forest of the Forest Department and other government and non-government officials were present. The Forest Department further committed that there will be no mangrove plantation on shorebird sites of Sonadia Island.

Close to a thousand individuals from five villages situated in and around Sonadia Island participated in the event and our SBS brochure, poster, t-shirts and caps were distributed. Further activities on the campaign will include school visits to educate the students about the Spoon-billed Sandpipers, and various activities to motivate the students.

A minimum of 26 individuals were recorded in November 2012 at Kaladia of Sonadia Island. 15 Spoon-billed Sandpipers were recorded in December 2012, comprising 11 individuals at Kaladia and 4 individuals at Belekardia of Sonadia Island. In January 2012, 11 individuals were recorded at Kaladia. 26 individuals is the highest ever recorded on Sonadia, demonstrating first successes of the hunting mitigation work and further indicate that the Spoon-billed Sandpiper numbers on Sonadia Island increase during winter and autumn migration.

Surveys were conducted on Domar Char (East of Nijhum Dweep /South of Hatia Island) in November and December 2012 but no Spoon-billed Sandpiper was discovered. An expedition to the Sundarbans, Bangladesh was carried out in January 2013 targeting the Spoon-billed Sandpiper. Several islands edging the Sundarbans were thoroughly surveyed for shorebirds and Spoon-billed Sandpiper remained unrecorded.

Future actions will include monitoring activities of ex-hunters and engaging them for further motivation, and hunting surveys in other villages to investigate the scale of shorebird hunting. In addition, regular monitoring of shorebirds including wintering, passage and over-summering Spoon-billed Sandpiper will be carried out on Sonadia Island and new areas around the island and elsewhere will be searched.



Mohammad Foysal with local government officials at the campaign launch on Sonadia



Massive turnout at the SBS Cinema

10) Difficult times on Nan Thar island, Rakhine, Myanmar

Ren Nou Soe is reporting from the difficulties his conservation efforts met on Nan Thar island:

“I have been doing conservation on Nanthar for 4 years and many Rakhine fishermen used to live on the island for fishing and there were no Bengali people on Nanthar before. But now, no Rakhine fishermen live outside and only sometimes they come to Nanthar for fishing one or two days and go back to their villages because now, about 300 Bengali people have invaded Nanthar and are paying money to border police. I think this is a big problem to our conservation efforts on Nanthar. I met with the border police officer and discussed with him how best to solve this problem and I showed him some official documents and explained to him what we are conserving on Nanthar. Finally, I could arrange an agreement with the border police officer to put security on Nanthar but we cannot say the violence will not happen again between Bengali and Rakhine people, even though there is security in place on Nanthar. I am concerned that Bengali people will hunt and eat the birds again and that we will not succeed with our conservation on Nanthar if the violence happens again on Nanthar. So, we always need to watch this situation on Nanthar and meet border police so as not to lose our conservation (birds, turtle), not to become big problem with disadvantages and not to lose the opportunity for foreigners to come to Nanthar next year. This is very important. The main thing is that we need funds to do it quickly, to save and protect our conservation before something bad happens on Nanthar.”

Ren Nou Soe, Sittwe Nature Conservation Association (SNCA)

11) SBS Bird tour to Ahlat, Gulf of Mottama, Myanmar

The third guided bird tour to Myanmar in search of SBS went this year to the Gulf of Mottama to check the SBS at the southern edge of the Gulf. The tour guided by Phil Palmer of Bird Holidays and Christoph Zöckler of ArcCona in January 2013 managed to show 3 SBS among 3000-4000 waders roosting at the beach of Ahlat. Each participant of the group donated \$ 50 towards conservation in support of the local community and the former hunters (outer left and outer right in the photo below) in presence of the head of administration (centre). (photo Phil Palmer.



Bird Holidays is planning to continue to include Myanmar and the SBS on its itinerary for 2014 and beyond: <http://www.birdholidays.co.uk/Myanmar.birdwatching.holiday.htm>

Christoph Zöckler

12) Searching Northern Sri Lanka for Spoon-billed Sandpiper 24th-27th December 2012

Ken Tucker and Koushalya Mahagedara

The true status of Spoon-billed Sandpiper in Sri Lanka is not clear. There are fewer than a handful of records and none of them very recent (Bunting and Zöckler, 2006) but the north of the country has been inaccessible to ornithologists for some time because of terrorist activity and the Sri Lankan Civil war. Good wader habitat is known to be present in the north of Sri Lanka with over one million waders estimated at Vidattaltivu Lagoon on the northwest coast between Mannar and Jaffna in February 2010 (Sirivardana and Hettige, 2010) and maps suggest that exploration of the Jaffna peninsular may reveal other areas of good habitat. In India, up to four Spoon-billed Sandpipers were recorded annually up until 2004 at Point Calimere (Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, 2008) which is less than 60km from the north coast of Sri Lanka. Clearly, there is the potential for regular wintering of small numbers of Spoon-billed Sandpipers in Northern Sri Lanka and surveys in this area are a priority (EAAFP, 2012).

On a guided holiday in Sri Lanka in December 2012, 4 days were devoted to searching for Spoon-billed Sandpipers and their habitat concentrating on locating mudflats and potential high tide roosts in two broad areas (figure 1). The main area we searched was centred in and around Jaffna Lagoon as this area looked promising from maps. The other focus was the Mannar area which has been visited regularly by Sri Lankan ornithologists since military restrictions have become more relaxed. We tried to access Vidattaltivu Lagoon but military restrictions still in place, a lack of information on the ground and a particularly heavy monsoon combined to mean that this was not possible.

No Spoon-billed Sandpipers were observed in this short exploration but the details in this report might help guide future searches.

Sites surveyed and species seen

1. Mannar area 24th-25th December 2012 (Figures 2, 3 and 4)

Exploration of the Vankalai Sanctuary (Ramsar site) from the A14 road ("Vankalai 1" in figure 3) revealed species associated with freshwater and brackish pools in the centre of the marsh. The pools were especially deep and extensive because of heavy monsoon rains. Several waders were feeding in the pools with c220 Black-tailed Godwit, c30 Wood Sandpiper and 20 Marsh Sandpiper

being especially noticeable. This area did not seem suitable for Spoon-billed Sandpipers, although it might attract roosting birds when it is less flooded.

Walking out on the saltmarsh to survey the mudflats on the falling tide ("Vankalai 2" in figure 3) produced more waders in habitat that did look suitable for Spoon-billed Sandpiper. It was only possible to survey a fraction of the birds present as many were too distant to identify. Several thousand waders could be seen in the distance and it was thought likely that these were Curlew Sandpipers. Those that could be identified with certainty included an estimated 800 Little Stint, 100 Curlew Sandpiper, 1000 Black-tailed Godwit, 1 Great Knot, 300 Lesser Sandplover, 250 Kentish Plover and 20 Grey Plover.

Mannar Salterns (figure 3) were visited at first light when the tide was high in the hope that waders might be roosting on the raised edges (rain meant there were no dry salt pans) but there were very few waders present. Driving slowly across the causeway from Mannar Island to the mainland as the tide was falling also revealed few waders, but 21 Crab plover were discovered close to the mainland ("Talladi Lagoon" in figure 3) and three of the nationally rare Knob-billed Duck flew over.

The shores of Mannar Island itself consisted mostly of sandy beaches and exploration of Mannar Lagoon (figure 2) revealed little suitable habitat. There were some small islands and exposed mud but it was largely flooded because of heavy rain. This area held few birds and did not look suitable for Spoon-billed Sandpipers. The opposite (north-eastern) shore of this lagoon looks more promising from satellite imagery and may have rewarded further investigation.

Attempts to access Vidattaltivu Lagoon were unsuccessful, but some waders were discovered while exploring the minor road linking the A14 with the A32 to Jaffna (figure 4). Although only small numbers of shorebirds were counted, the habitat of mud with fringing mangroves appeared suitable for Spoon-billed Sandpiper and more exploration here may reveal extensive mud and good numbers of waders. Birds seen included 30 Eurasian Spoonbill, 30 Common Redshank, 2 Spotted Redshank, 3 Common Greenshank, 70 Curlew Sandpiper, 16 Great Knot, 10 Little Stint and 40 Lesser Sandplover.

2. Jaffna area 26th-27th December 2012

The northeast shore of Jaffna Lagoon was explored along the "Beach Road". The map in our possession indicated a road running adjacent to Jaffna Lagoon here but it actually ran some way inland. Where access to the shore was possible, it revealed a narrow, mostly sandy shoreline backed with palms and home-gardens. There were a few small patches of saltmarsh vegetation. Very small numbers of Little Stint and Curlew Sandpiper were recorded.

The only exploration of the southern shore of Jaffna Lagoon was made at Karativu Causeway Bridge. Saltmarsh, sand bars and estuarine mud existed here and was especially present on the south side of the causeway. Mud, however, was not extensive. Time constraints meant we were unable to explore further east along the Parantan-Pooneryn Road which looks to have some potential to hold suitable habitat. Birds included about 80 Marsh Sandpiper frenziedly feeding in a very tight flock, 6 Curlew Sandpiper and 20 Little Stint.

The final area surveyed was at the Elephant Pass at the far eastern end of the lagoon. On the western side of the pass there was saltmarsh, sand bars and estuarine mud as well as some salt pans. It was only possible to watch the nearest parts as it was prohibited to walk the shoreline here for security reasons. South of the pass itself there were large areas of minefields. Birds here included 250 Greater Flamingo, 50 Little Stint, 3 Curlew Sandpiper, 20 Lesser Sandplover and 40 Kentish Plover.

It was intended to explore the Chundikulam Sanctuary, mentioned as good for shorebirds in Warakagoda *et al.* (2012), but it was apparent that this area above the Elephant Pass causeway had little tidal range and no real exposed mud. This was because the flow out of the lagoon above the pass was rather restricted under the road. Perhaps when there isn't such a heavy monsoon, there might be more exposed mud here although it didn't seem likely.

Summary

Spoon-billed Sandpiper was not discovered on this brief exploration of some of Sri Lanka's northern coastal region. There is suitable habitat but many sites are seldom explored by ornithologists with

this species in mind and the potential remains for discovering a small number of wintering birds. From these investigations it would appear that the area of Jaffna Lagoon holds little suitable habitat, at least in its northern and western parts. Investigation of the lagoon shore to the south and east of the Karativu Causeway Bridge may reveal more suitable habitat.

Far more promising is the area between Mannar Island and the mainland and this whole area would warrant further investigation. Further searches would be recommended to the north of the Mannar Causeway, viewing both from the south east of Mannar Island and from the mainland near to Vidattaltivu village if military restrictions will allow. Better use of local knowledge via the Ceylon Bird Club may help in gaining access. There would also appear to be areas in the south of the Vankalai Sanctuary which were not explored that might hold potential Spoon-billed Sandpiper habitat.

Because of the sensitive political situation in the north of Sri Lanka, there was no indication of coastal development which might destroy intertidal habitats. There are plans to reinstate a ferry service between India and Mannar and work is going ahead to reinstate the railway out to the island from mainland Sri Lanka. With improved communications, it is possible that further development could occur. Fortunately, some of the best habitat is included within the Vankalai Sanctuary Ramsar site. Consideration should perhaps be given to extending this designation to cover the Vidattaltivu Lagoon. To this end, the Ceylon Bird Club has already suggested protection of these sites to the Department of Wildlife Conservation (Sirivardana, 2010).



Fig 1: Northern Sri Lanka showing the location of the two broad areas searched for Spoon-billed Sandpiper. A: Mannar area including the Vankalai Sanctuary. B: Jaffna Lagoon.



Figure 2. Map of the Mannar area. Box A shows the area covered by the satellite image in Figure 3. Box B shows the area covered by the satellite image in Figure 4. The red star shows the location of Vidattaltivu village.



Figure 3. Location of four of the sites surveyed on 24-25 December 2012 (Box A in Figure 2).



Figure 4. Location of three of the sites surveyed on 25 December 2012 (Box B in Figure 2). The site where 16 Great Knot (*Calidris tenuirostris*) were found roosting is also marked

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13) UK Support team meeting in Slimbridge



UK Support team meeting in Slimbridge

Photo WWT

On December 10-11 The UK SBS Support team met in Slimbridge, UK to discuss mainly the previous breeding season, the captive breeding and the head starting programme as well as research priorities for the near future. A research plan outlining the most important research priorities along the flyway has been discussed. Some of the attached bullet points might be relevant for the entire Task Force:

1. Need to establish how to define headstarting 'success' then design a way to monitor
2. Need to find out what wild juveniles do as a comparison
3. Develop a colour marking scheme (NC to organise)
4. Get data on marked birds to update the survival analysis
5. Get an observer in Kamchatka from 20 May through to mid/end of August to determine when the birds are going through in both directions
6. More detailed work at Rudong (the greater area not core)
7. Get winter counting on a systematic footing – write protocol, test with data, winter pop estimates at Martaban and other sites
8. Produce and disseminate document on identifying and ageing SBS
9. Develop and manage a photo repository – need date, location and photo; would require help from Chinese and Korean speaker, but could start with English only – need to determine how this could be delivered

10. Need protocol for observing/surveying and reporting
11. Need regular systematic monitoring of same sites for population monitoring – already happening in parts but some sites need investment and data needs to be accessed/shared
12. Need to determine how to assess the success of conservation actions

Finally the participants were lucky to get access to the captive breeding facilities to see 28 healthy young ‘teenager’ Spoon-billed Sandpiper!



SBS TF Chairman and Coordinator inspecting the captive breeding stock at WWT facilities in Slimbridge, U.K.

Nigel Clark & Christoph Zöckler

14) Spoon-billed Sandpiper exhibition opens in Chukotka

Elena Lappo, BirdsRussia

The conservation exhibition “Spoon-Billed Sandpiper - life saved” opened in Anadyr, Chukotka in the Russian Arctic, at the Museum Center “Chukotka Heritage”, on October 8, 2012. The exhibition is supported by BirdLife’s “Preventing Extinction” Program.

The opening ceremony was attended by the Governor of Chukotka, Roman Kopin, all regional conservation officials, local Parliament representatives, Indigenous People’s organizations and many other authorities, as well as over 50 invited guests from Anadyr. The Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna Working Group (CAFF) of the Arctic Council met in Anadyr at the same time, so representatives of Environmental Agencies from all Arctic countries also participated in the opening of the exhibition.

This may be the first time in Russia for an entire exhibition to be devoted to a single species of bird. The Spoon-billed Sandpiper (SBS) is the most critically endangered and most rapidly declining species in the Red Data Book of the Russian Federation and one of hundred most threatened birds in the world. Its population has plummeted by 90% in the last 30 years. Only 100 breeding pairs are estimated to remain, mostly in Chukotka. A conservation program was begun in 2000 in Chukotka, led by E.E.Syroechkovskiy. The program is currently implemented by BirdsRussia in cooperation with BirdLife International, ArcCona Consulting, RSPB, WWT and a number of other leading conservation organizations under the umbrella of the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership.

The exhibition includes nine wall-size posters displaying information about the species distribution, conservation status, threats, and priority conservation actions along the flyway but with particular attention to the situation in Chukotka.

The exhibition covers the three main areas:

- 1) the situation on the breeding grounds in Chukotka, focusing on the results of conservation research and awareness work in the vicinity of the village Meinypil'gyno where the last relatively large breeding SBS population still remains.
- 2) an overview of migration and wintering grounds with special attention to the main threats (habitat loss in the intertidal zone and capture of migratory birds by local people for food), and the ways to address them, including the results of the work of SBS Task Force started in 2004.
- 3) two major international projects to conserve the species - "Captive breeding" and "Head Starting".

The exhibition presents numerous scientific and popular articles indicating the the global concern for the plight of this species throughout the world. It also features the "SBS migration game" for children, non-stop video demonstration (from Cornell's Lab. and WWT), PowerPoint presentations at touch-pad small screens and brilliant photographs (by B.Scampion, P.Palmer, I.Kaurov, G.Vyn and others), drawings by artists (by J.Gregersen and J.McCalum), and various images of Spoon-billed Sandpiper produced by the participants of expeditions.

The SBS exhibition will stay in Anadyr for 2 months and then be moved to Meinypyl'gyno for permanent display. All Anadyr schoolchildren will participate in organized visits to the exhibition with guided tours by museum workers. Museum guides will inform visitors about SBS and its story. The exhibition was on local TV and Radio every day for 5 days including prime time interviews and the main Chukotka newspaper published several news articles about it etc. National media in Moscow also covered this event (http://www.ria.ru/arctic_news/20121012/906751976.html)



Dr Elena Lappo at opening ceremony



Chukotka governor Roman Kopin, second from left with guests and Dr. E. Syroechkovskiy, second from right with Dr. Lappo right

SBS and East Asian Flyway conservation issues were also on the agenda of the Arctic Council's CAFF meeting. During the meeting Board members agreed that CAFF will sign a RoC with EAAFP and Bonn convention and that migratory birds, particularly in East Asia will receive more attention in future conservation work by CAFF.

This exhibition is the most prominent SBS awareness conservation action in the Chukotka region so far and is the first time that such attention has been devoted exclusively to birds. That such a small bird migrates so far to SE Asian countries is greatly appreciated by many people of all ages. Important issues such as the need to create local protected areas in SBS breeding grounds are raised by the exhibition. The success of this exhibition can encourage future exhibitions focused more broadly on migratory bird conservation and preliminary agreement on this idea has already been reached with some key decision makers in Anadyr. It is hoped this exhibition can be the first step to make Chukotka citizens and decision makers aware and proud of their unique bird and natural heritage and that conservation actions at a regional scale can be developed and implemented.

15) North Norfolk gallery BIRDscapes uses art to generate £2,500 to help the Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force undertake vital awareness-raising and lobbying in East Asia to secure a safer migration for the tiny surviving population of this unique wader.

Sitting on a north Norfolk beach looking out to sea, you may wonder what lies beyond the horizon. You might be surprised to learn that heading due north, the first piece of land you would reach, is the far eastern tip of Siberia, a place called Chukotka. It is here and only here that the last 100 or so pairs of spoon-billed sandpipers in the world are to be found breeding. These sparrow-sized shorebirds are named after their characteristic bill tip, flattened and widened into a spatula shape found in no other wader.

Each autumn these tiny birds set off from the Siberian tundra breeding grounds to migrate south along the East Asian Australasian Flyway (EAAF), using the coastal mud flats of China and Korea as 'service stations' along the way. One of the most important staging posts for the species is Rudong near Shanghai in China. At Rudong most of the population's adult birds make a prolonged stop to moult and regain weight before heading further south. The threat here is development, with mudflats too easily seen by entrepreneurs and governments as wide open spaces, easy to reclaim for buildings or airports, ignoring their immense value for wildfowl and waders.

According to Dr. Christoph Zöckler from ArcCona Consulting who is coordinating the EAAF Partnership Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force on behalf of BirdsRussia, 'The Rudong mudflats are possibly the most important site for this critically endangered species on the entire flyway. However, the site is also among the most threatened.'

The Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force is working with local people to secure a future for this precious bird. Jing Li from The Task Force team in China said: 'It is good to see so much international support, so we can continue our survey work and highlight the significance of the Rudong mudflats for the Spoon-billed Sandpiper and other rare species, such as Nordmann's Greenshank. But we also realise that we have to come up with a solution within China to tackle the unsustainable loss of crucial wader habitats.'

The BIRDscapes Gallery, in north Norfolk, which specialises in bird art, decided to try and raise funds to help the work of The Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force. The gallery asked its talented sculptor Karen Fawcett if she could make some ceramic sculptures of this distinctive species. Prompted by seeing a linocut by Norfolk-based artist Robert Gillmor that included one of these birds and was used as The Birdfair poster in 2012, (shown in the background of the presentation photograph), Karen investigated the species and, realising the urgency of its plight, sculpted six birds based on images which she had discovered. Steve and Liz Harris, owners of BIRDscapes, on seeing these first ceramics were so impressed with them that they were certain BIRDscapes would be able to sell any that Karen could make, and donate £50 from each sale. Karen agreed to create 50 individual, handmade and hand-painted spoon-billed sandpipers. Within two months, not only had she had made all 50, but the gallery had also succeeded in selling them.

On Friday 26th October Steve and Liz Harris, owners of BIRDscapes, presented Christoph Zöckler with a cheque for £2,500 to help The Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force continue its species-saving actions in the East Asian Australasian Flyway (photo Phil Palmer).

Steve Harris, Birdscapes, Norfolk



16) Donation for Rudong from Helgoland

Since 2002 the Ornithological working group (OAG) of Helgoland has organised an annual birder meeting in mid October on the island. One of the highlights is always the birdrace on the last day,

where teams collect money to support conservation projects. In October 2012 almost 400 birders visited the meeting and 56 teams, with a total of 194 participants, recorded 133 species on Helgoland, including rarities. Already in 2011 over 2300 € were raised for Spoon-billed Sandpiper conservation, but this time it was 2591 €, which were collected especially for supporting the protection of the Rudong mudflats, the most important stop over sites for the species! Usually birders ask companies to sponsor the birdrace, but in both years with collections for Spoon-billed Sandpipers, most of the money came from the private pockets of the birders. Spoon-billed Sandpipers are truly close to the hearts of German birders! More info at http://www.oag-helgoland.de/vtage/vt_2012.html

Jochen Dierschke, OAG Helgoland

