



Terms of Reference

SPOON-BILLED SANDPIPER TASK FORCE

*As adopted by the 5th Meeting of Partners, Siem Reap, Cambodia, December 2010
Agenda item 3.5.2*

Goal in the International Single Species Action Plan for the Spoon-billed Sandpiper)

- to save the Spoon-billed Sandpiper from extinction and secure a viable global population
- to achieve down listing of the Spoon-billed Sandpiper from the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species
- to implement the Spoon-billed Sandpiper Action Plan, monitoring and responding to the evolving urgency of listed Activities; review and communicate progress achieved; up-date the content of the Action Plan as needed.
- to utilize the iconic significance, and critical status of the Spoon-billed Sandpiper to alert the global community to the deteriorating state of the coastal environment along the flyway in East Asia.
- to engage with industrial, commercial and financial sectors, as relevant, to achieve a greatly improved status for the Spoon-billed Sandpiper.

Role

The role of the EAAFP Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force will be to:

1. Coordinate and catalyse the implementation of the International Spoon-billed Sandpiper Single Species Action Plan (SSAP) published by BirdLife International and CMS in 2008;
2. Stimulate and support Range States in the implementation of the SSAP; and
3. Monitor and report on the implementation and the effectiveness of the SSAP.

Remit

The EAAFP Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force will address the following tasks:

- Update the international SSAP as required.
- Develop annual work plans for the implementation of the International Single Species Action Plan for the Spoon-billed Sandpiper;
- Set priorities for action and implement them;
- Coordinate the overall international implementation;
- Raise funds for development and implementation;
- Assist Range States in producing national action plans;
- Ensure the Task Force is open to governmental and expert members from all key Range States and other Partners.
- Ensure regular and thorough monitoring of the species populations;
- Stimulate and support scientific research in the species necessary for conservation;

- Promote the protection of the network of critical sites for the species, by assisting Partners to develop new Flyway Site Network nominations, and encourage the designation of new protected areas by Partners;
- Facilitate internal and external communication and exchange of scientific, technical, legal and other required information, including with other specialists and interested parties;
- Assist with information in determination of the IUCN Red List status and population size and trends of the species;
- Regularly monitor the effectiveness of implementation of the SSAP and take appropriate action according to monitoring results;
- Regularly report on the implementation of the SSAP to the EAAFP Meeting of the Partners; and CMS Scientific Council

Membership

The Lead Organization for the EAAFP Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force will be BirdLife International through its partner Birds Russia. It will be chaired by Russia, an EAAFP Governmental Partner, and coordinated by Christoph Zöckler on behalf of Birds Russia, supported by BirdLife International. Task Force members will consist of:

- EAAFP Governmental Partners of key range states (Russian Federation, Japan, People's Republic of China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, Vietnam, Union of Myanmar, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, Bangladesh) and India.
- a representative of the EAAFP Shorebird Working Group.
- national experts and conservation organisations from principal range states and other partners.
- other invited experts (not necessarily from the EAA Flyway).

Meetings

The EAAFP Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force will hold face-to-face meetings at least once every three years. Between meetings, business will be conducted electronically.

Reporting

A report on the implementation of the SSAP will be produced for each EAAFP Meeting of Partners according to a standard format agreed by the EAAFP Secretariat, with contributions as appropriate from all major range state Governmental Partners and Task Force members. At each EAAFP Meeting of Partners and CMS Scientific Council meeting, the Task Force Coordinator will present a report on the development and implementation of the International Spoon-billed Sandpiper Single Species Action Plan, summarizing progress, lessons learned, challenges, and any adjustments needed.

Financing

BirdLife International as lead organisation will facilitate raising funds for operations of the EAAFP SBS TF, including the coordinating post under Birds Russia. The Task Force endeavours to raise additional funds for the implementation and coordination of the Action Plan from various sources.