

Arctic Migratory Birds



Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative

Initiative

IUCN World Conservation Congress

XXXX, 2016

Risa Smith, Environment and Climate Change Canada



Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna



ARCTIC COUNCIL

Photo: Peter Prokosch

Arctic Biodiversity Assessment

Key Finding #3



Many Arctic migratory species are threatened by overharvest and habitat alteration outside the Arctic, especially birds along the East Asian Flyway.



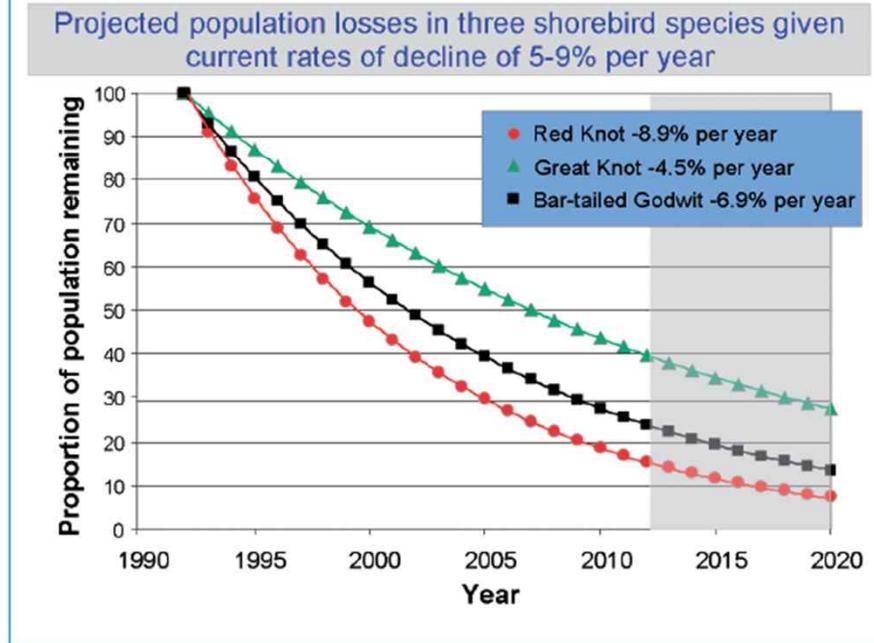
Photo: Richard Chandler

Declines

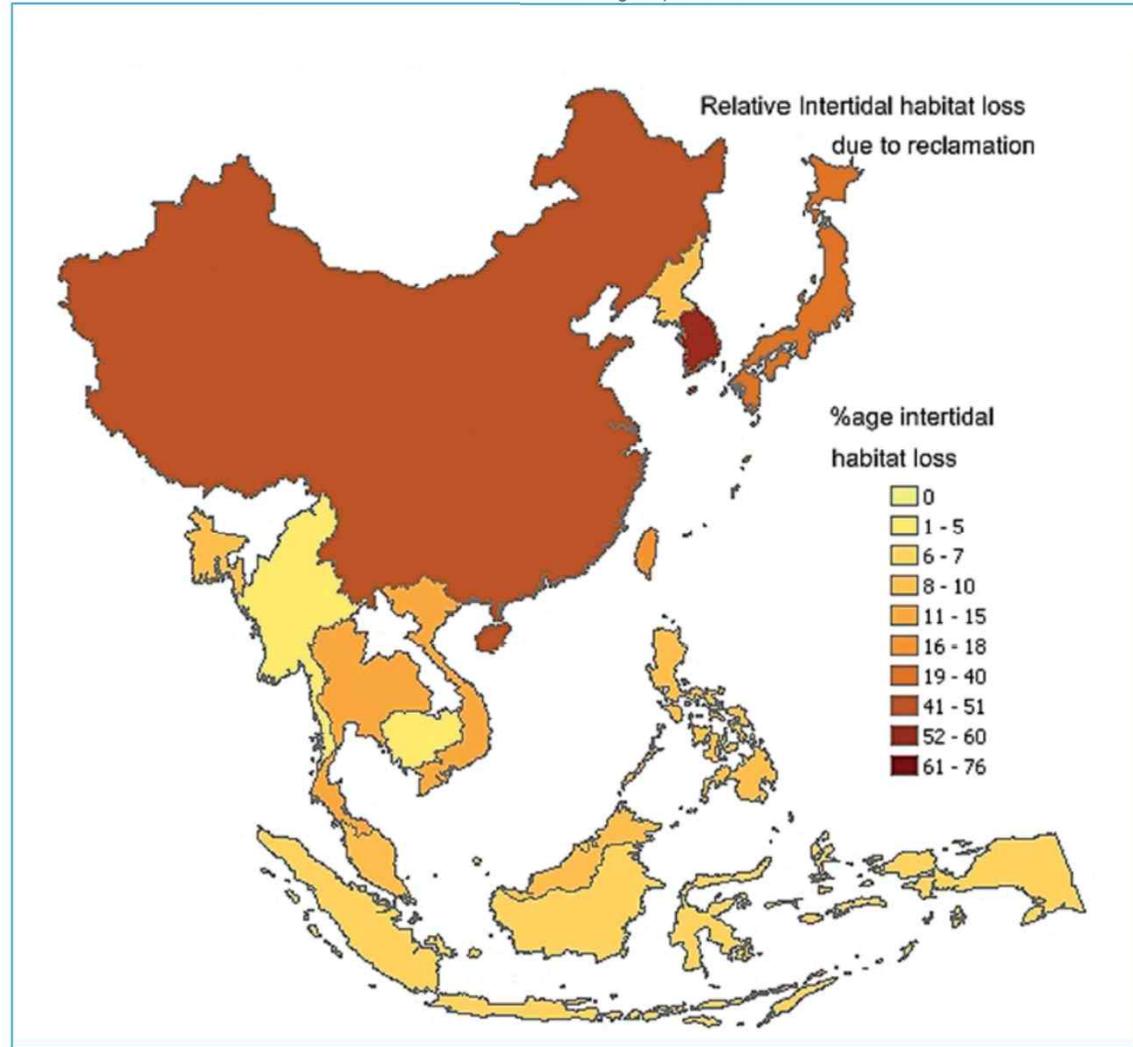
Figure 3. Population decline in Spoon-billed Sandpiper showing measured current rate of decline and the projected trajectory to extinction if no additional conservation measures are taken (modified from Zöckler et al. 2010 and Pain et al. 2011)



Figure 4. Population declines of the three shorebird species. Shown are the measured current rates of decline and the projected trajectories if no further conservation measures are taken (modified from Amano et al. 2010 and Wilson et al. 2011).



D rivers



Arctic Biodiversity Assessment Recommendation #8



Reduce stressors on migratory species range-wide, including habitat degradation and overharvesting on wintering and staging areas and along flyways and other migration routes.



CAFF's response:

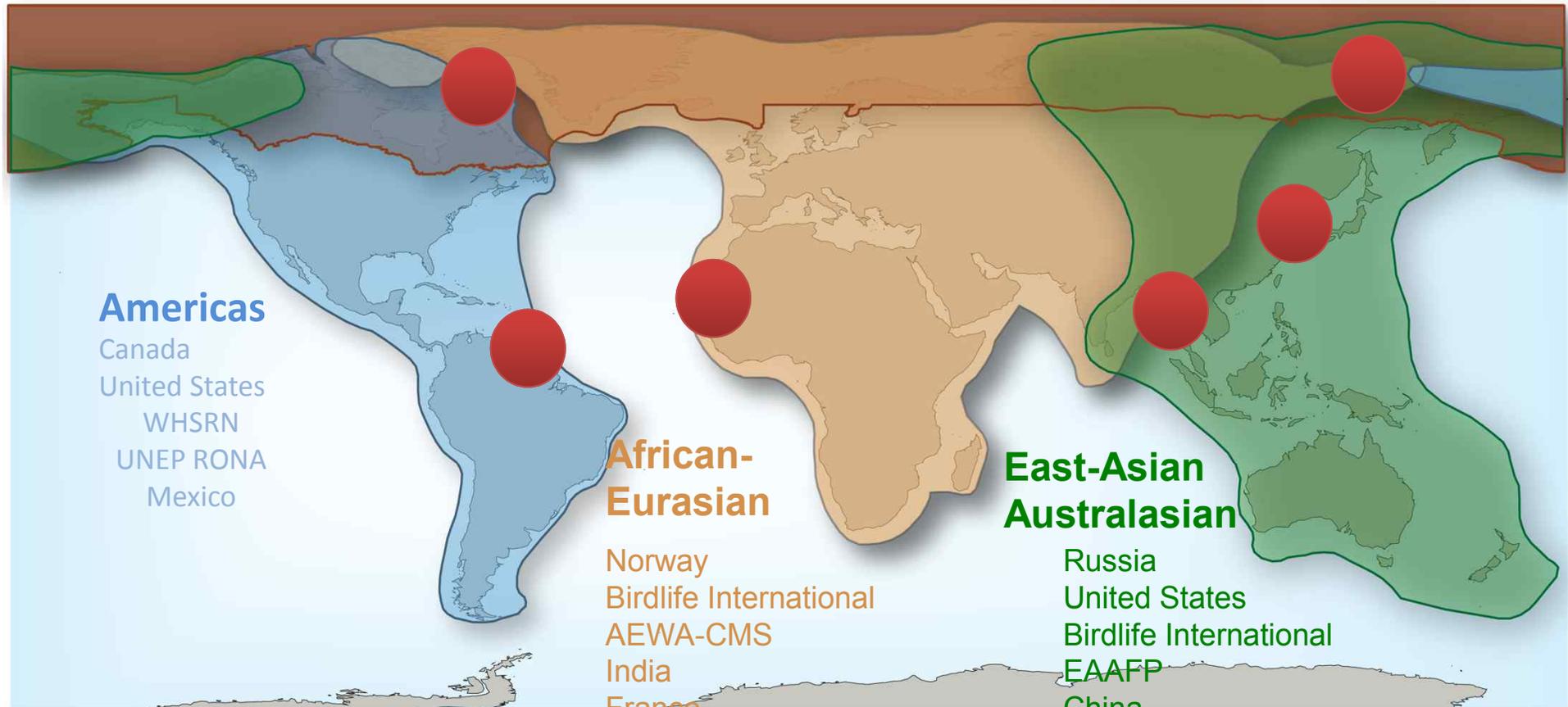
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AMBI flyways



Circumpolar C-Bird



Americas

- Canada
- United States
- WHSRN
- UNEP RONA
- Mexico

African-Eurasian

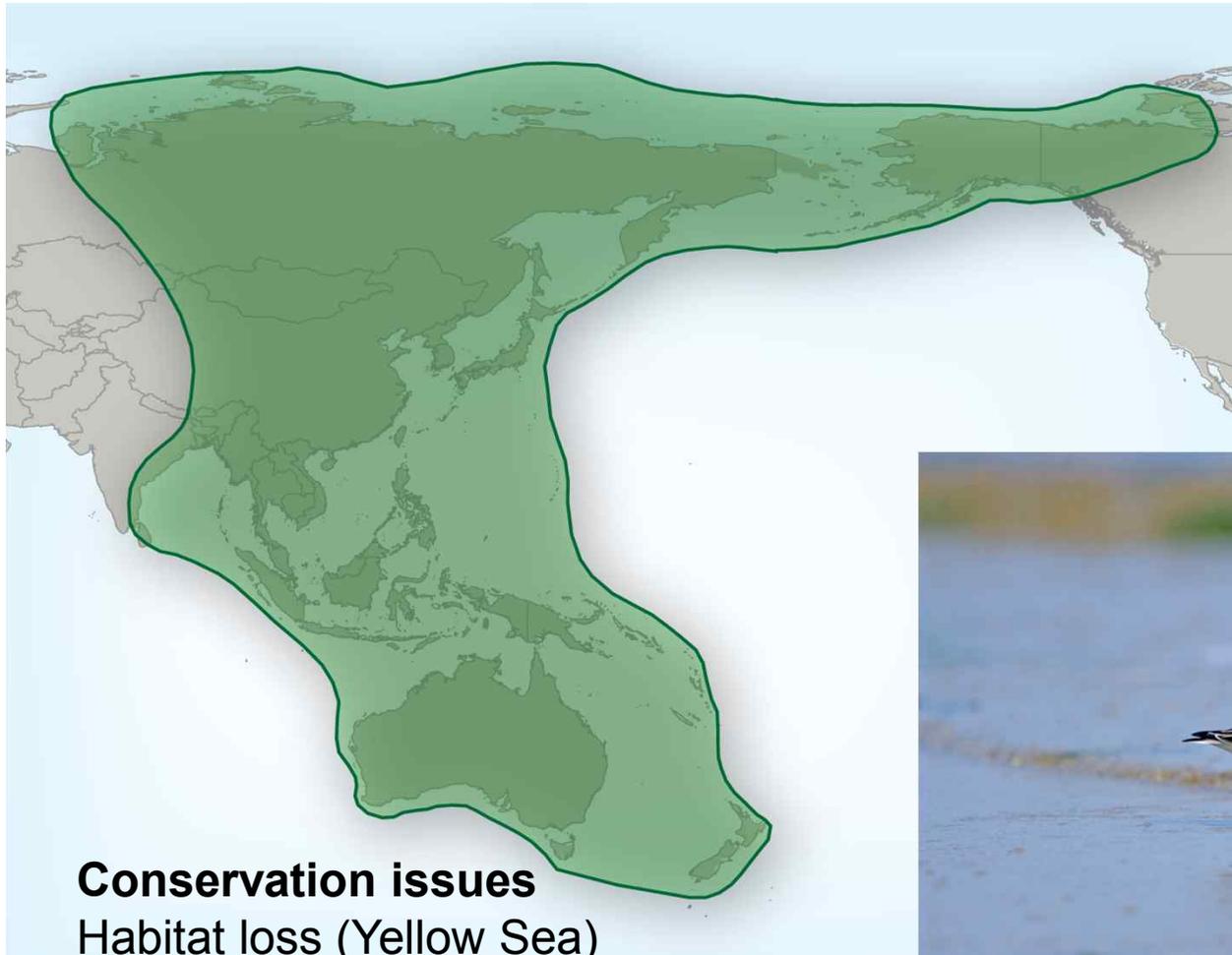
- Norway
- Birdlife International
- AEWA-CMS
- India
- France
- UK
- Spain
- Germany
- Netherlands

East-Asian Australasian

- Russia
- United States
- Birdlife International
- EAAFP
- China
- Japan
- Singapore
- South Korea
- India

● Area of focus in AMBI flyway workplans

East Asian–Australasian Flyway



Species

Spoon-billed sandpiper

Bar tailed godwit

Dunlin

Great knot

Red knot

Lesser white-fronted goose

Conservation issues

Habitat loss (Yellow Sea)

Unsustainable harvest (throughout flyway)



Photo: ken/Flickr, Creative Commons 2.0

East Asian–Australasian Flyway: Actions



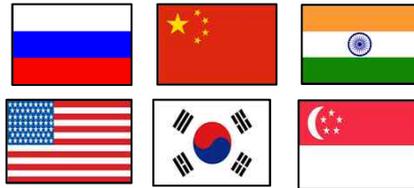
1. **Secure important breeding and staging habitats** of key AMBI-EAAF migratory bird species in Arctic **Russia and Alaska**, with a focus on Spoon-billed Sandpiper, Bar-tailed Godwit and Dunlin.
2. **Secure intertidal and associated habitat** for Arctic waders at key staging and wintering sites in the EAAF.
3. **Prevent illegal harvest and regulate unsustainable legal harvest** of Arctic migratory birds, with a focus on Spoon-billed Sandpiper, Lesser White-fronted Goose, bar-tailed Godwit and other priority species



East Asian-Australasian Flyway: Update



Implementation meeting in Texel, Netherlands, April 5-7, 2016



- Met to advance organization, funding, partnerships, strategy
- Singapore announced a meeting held before the next EAAFP MOP 9 to further regional work on the themes of habitat loss and unsustainable harvest
- Diplomatic actions between Arctic Council and Ministries of Foreign Affairs in Arctic Council observer countries

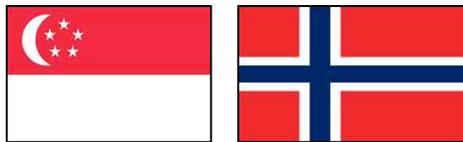


East Asian-Australasian Flyway: Next Steps



Currently

- Hire flyway coordinator to focus on EAAF issues
- Complete a crosswalk activity to identify how and where AMBI fits into the policy, conservation and development framework in the region to better establish connections with existing programs, initiatives and opportunities



AMBI meeting at EAAFP MOP 9 (co-sponsored by Singapore and Norway)

- AMBI intending to recommend a Task Force on unsustainable harvest to the EAAFP MOP 9
- Make practical step forward on implementing AMBI goals in East Asian-Australasian Flyway including building cooperation for regional action, diplomatic actions, funding opportunities

Contact



Risa Smith

Environment Canada

Risa.smith@canada.ca

Jennifer Provencher

AMBI Coordinator

CAFF International Secretariat

jennifer@caff.is

Courtney Price

CAFF Communications Manager

courtney@caff.is

Keep in touch with AMBI

www.caff.is/ambi

www.facebook.com/CAFFS

@CAFFSecretariat



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