

Terms of Reference for EAAFP Far Eastern Curlew Task Force

Goal

To restore the Far Eastern Curlew's population to a positive growth rate for a period of at least three generations.

Role

The role of the EAAFP Far Eastern Curlew Task Force is to:

1. Coordinate and catalyse the implementation of the International Single Species Action Plan (SSAP) for the Conservation of Far Eastern Curlew;
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 Far Eastern Curlew Task Force will:

1. Set priorities for action from the activities outlined in the International Single Species Action Plan for the Far Eastern Curlew (SSAP) and implement them;
2. Coordinate the overall international implementation;
3. Raise funds for development and implementation;
4. Assist Range States in producing national action plans, if required;
5. Ensure the Task Force is open to governmental and expert members from all key Range States and other Partners.
6. Ensure regular and thorough monitoring of the species populations;
7. Stimulate and support scientific research in the species necessary for conservation;
8. 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;
9. Facilitate internal and external communication and exchange of scientific, technical, legal and other required information, including with other specialists and interested parties;
10. Assist with information in determination of the IUCN Red List status and population size and trends of the species;
11. Regularly monitor the effectiveness of implementation of the SSAP and take appropriate action according to monitoring results;
12. Regularly report on the implementation of the SSAP to the EAAFP Meeting of the Partners; and
13. Revise the international SSAP and update every 10 years or as required.

Membership

The EAAFP Far Eastern Curlew Task Force will be open to (1) designated representatives of EAAFP Governmental Partners of all principal Range States, (2) representatives of the relevant EAAFP Working Group (Shorebird), (3) representatives of national experts and conservation organisations from all principal Range States, international organizations, and (4) other experts (not necessarily from the EAA Flyway) as required.

Officers

A Chairperson of the EAAFP Far Eastern Curlew Task Force will be elected amongst its members. This position should ideally be filled by an EAAFP Governmental Partner from a key Range State.

A Coordinator post will be nominated by the Chairperson from among the Task Force members. The Coordinator will be in charge of the day-to-day operations of the Task Force, participate in fund raising, and shall act in close cooperation with the Chairperson, the EAAFP Secretariat and the relevant EAAFP Working Group (Shorebird). The coordinator will be a member of the Task Force and, ideally, represent an EAAFP Partner.

Meetings

The EAAFP Far Eastern Curlew Task Force should aim to hold face-to-face meetings at least once every three years, preferably in conjunction with MOPs. Other face-to-face meetings may be arranged if circumstances require. Between meetings, business will be conducted electronically such as via email, an appropriate Task Force website and list server.

Reporting

A report on the implementation of the SSAP will be produced for each EAAFP MOP according to a standard format agreed by the EAAFP Secretariat, with contributions from all major Range State Governmental Partners and Task Force members. Reports should be provided to and collated by the EAAFP Science Officer in order to ensure uniform handling of communication and record-keeping. At each EAAFP MOP, the Task Force Chairperson, Task Force Coordinator, and/or the EAAFP Science Officer, should give an overview report on Single Species Action Plan development and implementation, summarizing progress for each Task Force, lessons learned, challenges common to the Task Forces, and any adjustments needed. Other reports will be produced by Task Forces as required by the EAAFP Secretariat or relevant EAAFP Working Group.

Financing

The operations of the EAAFP Far Eastern Curlew Task Force, including the Coordinator post, are to be financed primarily by its members and the organizations they represent. The Lead Organisation should ideally support or raise funds for development and implementation of the SSAP, including the Coordinator post, and associated SSAP activities of the Task Force. Funds may be sought from members and various external sources. The EAAFP does not derive annual membership dues from its Partners and thus has limited resources. Accordingly the Secretariat cannot commit regular financial support and may only provide such if possible. Funding for SSAP activities of the Task Force or its members is to be sought from various external sources.