



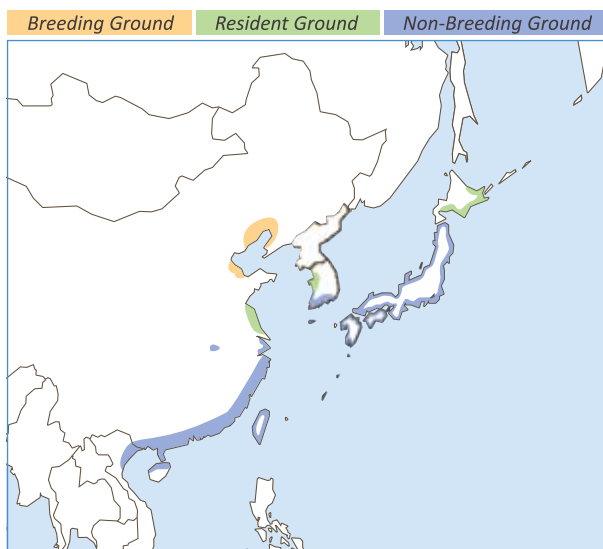
Saunders's Gull

*A mudflat specialist
in danger of extinction*



Photo by Tim Edelsten | Design by Angela Choi

Saunders's Gull only occurs around the Yellow Sea - breeding in eastern mainland China and in South Korea (only in Songdo and Yeong-jongdo) and winters in China, western Japan, Taiwan, and along the western and southern coast of South Korea. The population is estimated at 14,400 mature individuals and is therefore listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List. As they nest only in Common Seepweed *Suaeda glauca* in saltmarsh habitats and feed on the mudflats, they are threatened by the reclamation of tidal flats and saltmarshes. The breeding habitat of Saunders's Gull has decreased by nearly 80% at Yancheng National Nature Reserve over the last 15 years because of conversion to aquaculture ponds.



East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership, as a regional initiative, promotes governments, inter-governmental organisations, non-governmental organisations and private sectors to protect migratory waterbirds, their habitats, and the livelihoods of people dependent upon them in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway.