

Long-toed Stint  
*Calidris subminuta*

Flyway	Estimate:	25 000
	1% threshold:	250
	Staging threshold:	62
Global	Delany and Scott (2002):	25 000 – 100 000

Population

The Long-toed Stint has a fragmented breeding distribution from central to eastern Russia, and migrates via the Central Asian and EAA Flyways to a non-breeding range that extends from India to Australia. For the purposes of this review, all birds recorded in Bangladesh and India were considered to have used the Central Asian Flyway and data from these countries, with a com-

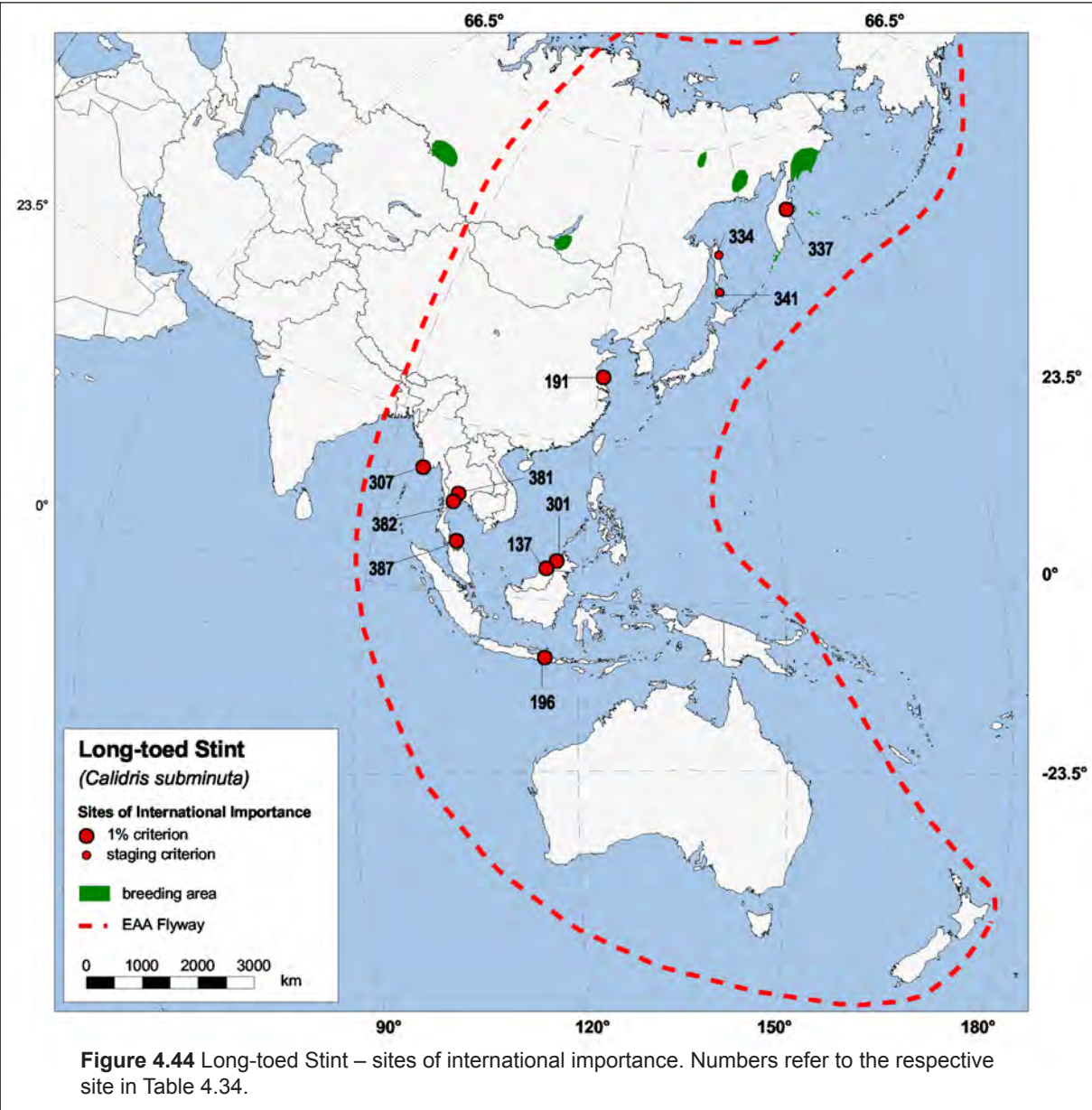
bined maximum count of 28 000, were therefore not used.

Data

During the non-breeding period Long-toed Stints occur across freshwater wetlands, including rice paddy, of Asia. Survey effort of these habitats has been limited.

Important Sites

Important sites were widespread in eastern and south-eastern Asia, including Thailand (3), Brunei (1), China (1), Indonesia (1), Malaysia (1), Myanmar (1) and Russia (3). The count data from these sites came mainly from the migration periods, with important sites in the non-breeding



period only in Thailand, Indonesia and Myanmar. Note that the count from Bali (Indonesia) does not specify a particular site but refers to the species making extensive use of paddy fields on the island.

### Migration

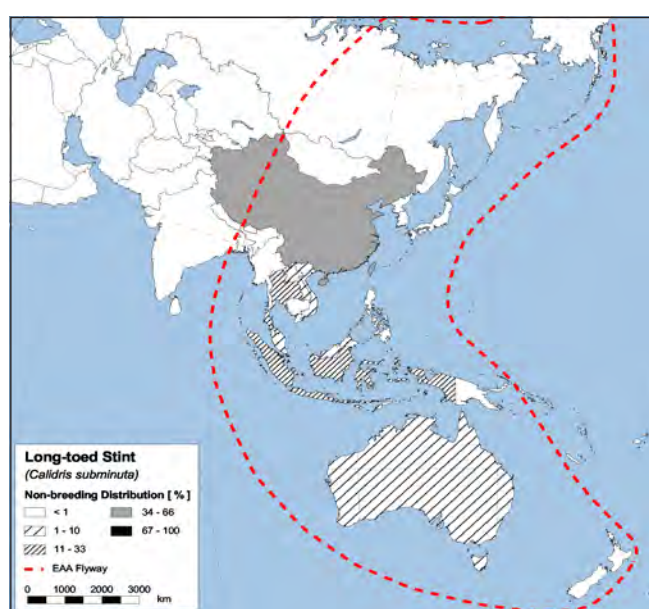
From the review provided by Higgins and Davies (1996), it would appear that the list of important sites provides poor coverage of the distribution of the Long-toed Stint on migration and during the non-breeding period. For example, the Philippines is reported to be an important stag-

ing and non-breeding area, while Vietnam is considered important during southward migration, but no important sites were identified in these countries. In addition, Higgins and Davies (1996) report that the Long-toed Stint is most common on southward migration in Jiangsu Province (China), but only one site was identified in Jiangsu for this period. The low number of important sites identified in this review may be explained by the poor coverage of inland wetlands in shorebird counts.

Possible differences between southward and northward migration are not clear from the distribution of important sites.

**Table 4.34** Long-toed Stint - sites of international importance

Site Code	Site	Country	Max Count	Date	SM	NB	NM	B	Ref.
301	Papar	MAL	2 230	1/09/1984	✓	.	.	.	120
191	Yancheng NNR	CHI	1 167	15/10/1990	✓	.	.	.	164
337	Kharchinskoe Lake	RUS	1 000	24/05/1999	.	.	✓	.	67
381	Inner Gulf of Thailand	THA	777	1/12/1984	.	✓	.	.	31
387	Pattani Bay	THA	681	1/12/1987	✓	✓	✓	.	135,135,136
382	Kato Sam Roi Yot NP	THA	535	1/12/1984	.	✓	.	.	31
137	Brunei Bay	BRU	501	1/10/1986	✓	.	.	.	120
196	Bali	INO	500	27/03/1982	.	✓	.	.	6
307	Irrawaddy Delta	MYA	394	1/02/2006	.	✓	.	.	122
341	Lososei Bay	RUS	200	18/05/1980	.	.	✓	.	123
334	Dagiy Bay	RUS	100	23/07/1975	✓	.	.	.	123



**Figure 4.45** Long-toed Stint – non-breeding distribution

Temminck’s Stint  
*Calidris temminckii*

Flyway	Estimate:	25 000 – 100 000
	1% threshold:	250
	Staging threshold:	63
Global	Delany and Scott (2002):	174 000 – 1 280 000

Population

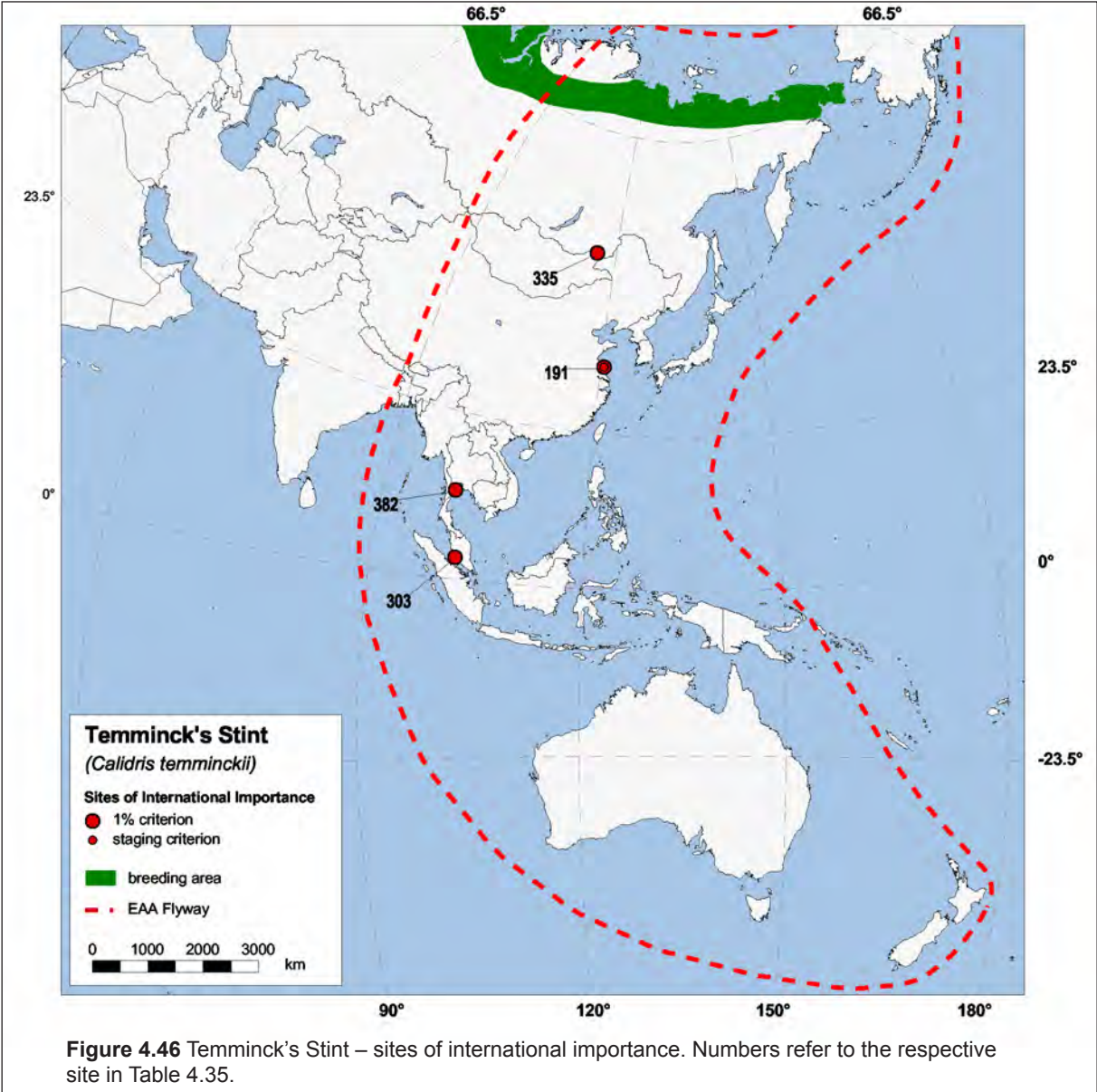
Temminck’s Stint has a broad and almost continuous breeding distribution from Scandinavia to the Chukotsky Peninsula of eastern Russia, with a non-breeding distribution from western Africa to southern and south-eastern Asia. It rarely occurs south of the Equator and no subspecies are recognised.

Data

A species of freshwater wetlands, Temminck’s Stint is under-represented in shorebird surveys. The lack of adequate non-breeding period count data has meant that a range estimate has been proposed. The range was guided by a migration estimate of 22 000 at Daursky Nature Reserve (Russia) (Goroshko 1995).

Important Sites

Few important sites were identified for Temminck’s Stint. Non-breeding period sites were in China, Thailand and Malaysia, and migration period sites in Russia, China and Thailand. Yancheng National Nature Reserve (China) was important in both migration periods and



the non-breeding period. Individual locations within Yancheng with counts that exceeded the 1% threshold included Dongtai Dongshatan, Dongtai Liulishe, Guandong Saltworks, Sheyang Saltworks and Xintan Saltworks. These sites are coastal or near-coastal, despite Temminck's Stint generally being considered a species of inland, freshwater wetlands.

The high count in the Daursky Nature Reserve (Russia) was an estimate of the total number of birds moving through the site during northward migration, and may include birds of the Central Asian as well as the EAA Flyway.

### Migration

Migration appears to occur through inland Russia to the east coast of China. Important sites exist as far south as peninsular Malaysia. The Daursky Nature Reserve is important on northward migration, and may also be so during southward migration.

**Table 4.35** Temminck's Stint - sites of international importance

Site Code	Site	Country	Max Count	Date	SM	NB	NM	B	Ref.
335	Daursky Nature Reserve	RUS	22,000	1/06/1995	.	.	✓	.	71
191	Yancheng National Nature Reserve	CHI	1,638	1/05/1990	✓	✓	✓	.	164,169,163
303	Pulau Tengah (Klang Islands)	MAL	300	29/01/1991	.	✓	.	.	169
382	Kato Sam Roi Yot National Park	THA	281	1/12/1984	.	✓	.	.	31



## Sharp-tailed Sandpiper

### *Calidris acuminata*

<b>Flyway</b>	Estimate:	<b>160 000</b>
	1% threshold:	1 600
	Staging threshold:	400
<b>Global</b>	Delany and Scott (2002):	160 000

### Population

No subspecies of the Sharp-tailed Sandpiper are recognised and the species is confined to the EAA Flyway. It is, however, recorded as a vagrant in south-western Asia, Europe and North America, with regular movement of juvenile birds along the Pacific coast of North America.

### Data

Over 90% of the population occurs in Australia during the non-breeding period (Table 4.36). Many occur on ephemeral wetlands across inland Australia. The distribution of Sharp-tailed Sandpipers in Australia changes markedly from year to year based on the availability of this habitat.

**Table 4.36** Distribution of the Sharp-tailed Sandpiper in the non-breeding period

Country	Sum Country Estimates	%
Australia	140 000	91
Indonesia	5 000	3
Papua New Guinea	5 000	3
China	4 100	3
Other countries	400	<1
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>154 500</b>	<b>100</b>

### Important Sites

All important sites during the non-breeding period were in southern Australia. Most important sites during migration periods were also in Australia, with a few sites in Alaska (1), China (4) and South Korea (3).

Some sites in Australia were important during the breeding period.

### Migration

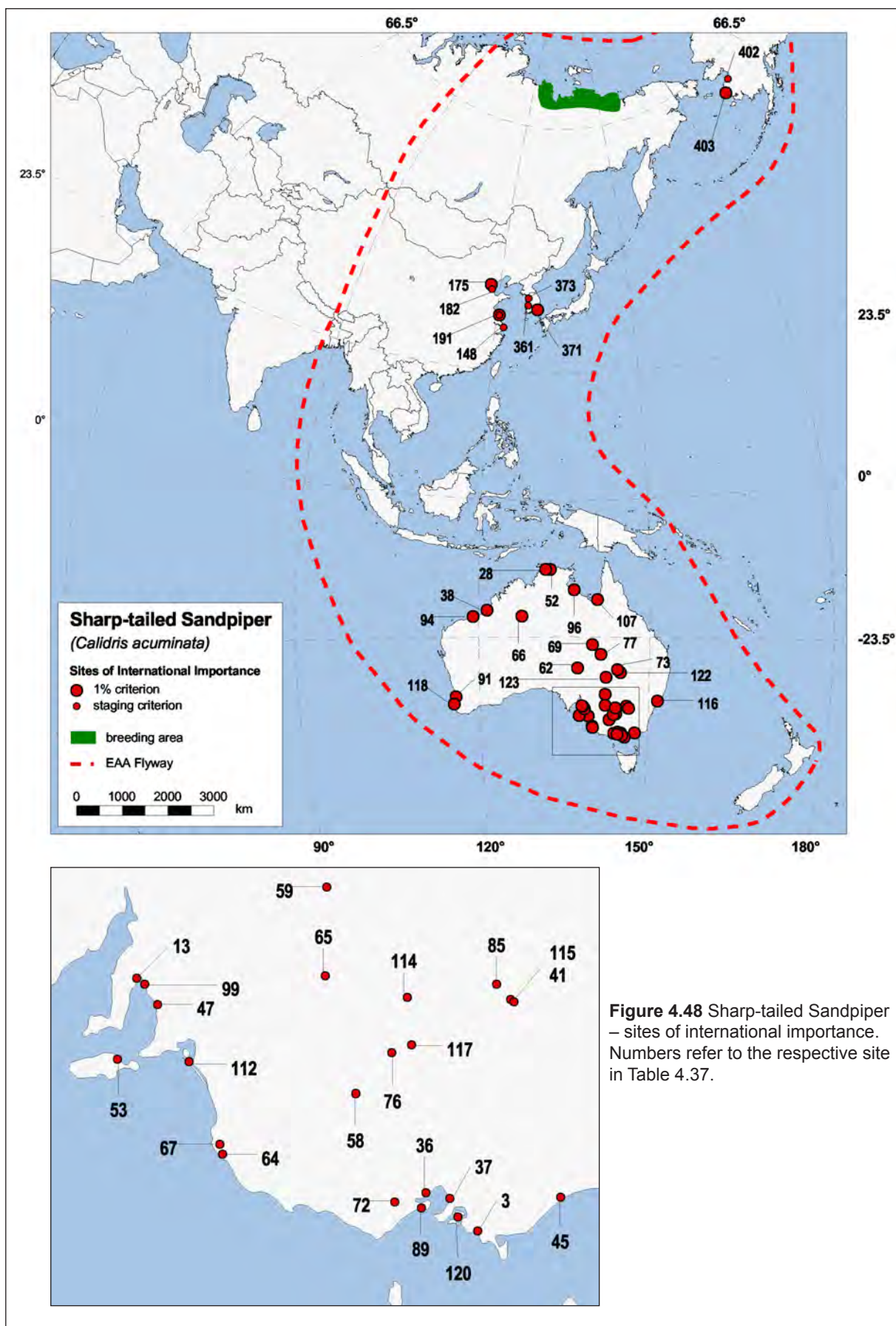
According to Higgins and Davies (1996), Sharp-tailed Sandpipers migrate south from their breeding grounds at low density in a broad front across eastern Asia, which may explain the scarcity of important sites in Asia during this period. Barter (2002) suggests that 10% of the Flyway population passes through the Yellow Sea area

during northward migration; less on southward migration. They may fly direct from eastern Asia to northern Australia and Papua New Guinea before spreading farther south (Lane 1987). Such direct flights are supported by the absence of important sites in south-eastern Asia.

The abundance of Sharp-tailed Sandpipers in northern Australia appears to be greater during northward than southward migration (Chatto 2003), possibly due to seasonal conditions. Higher numbers are also reported in Japan in this period (Higgins and Davies 1996), suggesting a more easterly route for northward compared with southward migration.



**Figure 4.47** Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – non-breeding distribution



**Figure 4.48** Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – sites of international importance. Numbers refer to the respective site in Table 4.37.

**Table 4.37** Sharp-tailed Sandpiper - sites of international importance

Site Code	Site	Country	Max Count	Date	SM	NB	NM	B	Ref.
59	Lake Cawndilla	AUS	37,552	6/02/1996	.	✓	.	.	33
38	Eighty Mile Beach	AUS	25,000	NA	.	✓	.	.	99
94	Port Hedland Saltworks	AUS	20,000	NA	.	✓	.	.	99
112	The Coorong and Coorong NP	AUS	17,067	1/02/2002	.	✓	.	✓	73,49
58	Lake Buloke	AUS	12,000	1/02/1984	.	✓	.	.	8
117	Tullakool Evaporation Ponds	AUS	10,000	NA	.	✓	.	.	149
66	Lake Gregory	AUS	10,000	NA	.	✓	.	.	75
47	Penrice	AUS	9,800	13/12/1980	✓	✓	✓	✓	49,49,49,49
122	Yantabulla Swamp	AUS	7,000	14/10/1997	✓	.	.	.	174
123	Yantara Lake	AUS	6,266	2/12/1985	.	✓	.	.	8
107	SE Gulf of Carpentaria	AUS	6,073	1/03/1999	.	✓	.	.	51
65	Lake Gol Gol	AUS	6,000	NA	.	✓	.	.	149
36	Eastern Port Phillip Bay	AUS	5,971	1/01/1995	.	✓	✓	✓	8,8,8
67	Lake Hawdon south	AUS	5,100	17/01/2000	.	✓	.	.	150
52	Kakadu National Park	AUS	4,900	15/04/1994	.	.	✓	.	40
76	Lake Tutchewop, Kerang	AUS	4,562	2/06/1982	.	✓	.	.	8
72	Lake Murdeduke	AUS	4,500	2/12/1983	.	✓	.	.	8
64	Lake George	AUS	4,500	2/08/1987	.	.	.	✓	8
91	Peel-Harvey system	AUS	4,030	3/02/1999	.	✓	.	.	42
62	Lake Eyre	AUS	4,000	NA	.	✓	.	.	99
85	Nericon Swamp	AUS	3,545	24/12/1995	.	✓	.	.	33
114	Torry Plains Station	AUS	3,250	8/12/1996	.	✓	.	.	33
45	Gippsland Lakes	AUS	3,187	1/01/1993	.	✓	.	.	8
53	Kangaroo Island, South Australia	AUS	3,150	1/01/1993	.	✓	.	.	8
191	Yancheng National Nature Reserve	CHI	3,125	28/04/2001	✓	.	✓	.	26,163
371	Nakdong Estuary	SKO	3,100	1/05/1987	.	.	✓	.	120
403	Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta	USA	3,000	NA	✓	.	.	.	70
37	Edithvale-Seafood	AUS	3,000	6/02/2000	.	✓	.	.	11
175	North-west Bo Hai Wan	CHI	2,855	12/04/2000	.	.	✓	.	20
3	Anderson Inlet	AUS	2,530	22/02/1981	.	✓	.	.	8
69	Lake Machattie	AUS	2,517	30/09/2000	✓	.	.	.	25
28	Chambers Bay	AUS	2,500	1/05/1993	.	.	✓	.	40
77	Lake Yamma Yamma	AUS	2,329	3/10/2000	✓	.	.	.	25
118	Vasse Wonnerup Estuary	AUS	2,300	1/01/1993	.	✓	.	.	8
115	Tuckerbil Swamp	AUS	2,253	11/11/1995	.	✓	.	.	33
73	Lake Numalla	AUS	2,000	5/02/1983	.	✓	✓	.	8,49
99	Port Wakefield - Webb Beach	AUS	1,970	22/02/1981	.	✓	.	.	8
120	Western Port Bay	AUS	1,856	2/10/1990	✓	.	.	.	8
41	Fivebough Swamp	AUS	1,844	4/02/1996	.	✓	.	.	33
96	Port McArthur	AUS	1,841	NA	.	.	.	.	130
13	Price Saltfields-Clinton Cons.Park	AUS	1,734	22/01/2000	.	✓	.	.	173
116	Tuggerah lakes	AUS	1,690	14/02/1983	.	✓	.	.	8
89	Ocean Grove to Barwon Heads	AUS	1,684	2/04/1989	.	.	✓	.	8
182	South Bo Hai Wan	CHI	1,262	2/05/2002	.	.	✓	.	20
373	Namyang Bay	SKO	1,139	18/05/1996	.	.	✓	.	103
402	Stebbins-St Michael Wetlands	USA	1,000	NA	✓	.	.	.	70
148	Chongming Dongtan N. N. Reserve	CHI	978	27/04/2001	.	.	✓	.	110
361	Dongjin Estuary	SKO	650	1/05/1998	.	.	✓	.	180

## Dunlin

### *Calidris alpina*

<b>Flyway</b>	Estimate:	<b>950 000</b>
	1% threshold:	9 500
	Staging threshold:	2 375
<b>Global</b>	Delany and Scott (2002):	3 943 500 – 6 116 600

### Population

The Dunlin has a circumpolar breeding distribution and remains almost entirely within the northern hemisphere during the non-breeding period. At least 9 subspecies are recognised. Those currently accepted as using the EAA Flyway are *C. a. arctica*, breeding in Alaska, and *C. a. kistchinski*, *C. a. sakhalina* and *C. a. actites*, breeding in Siberia and eastern Russia.

### Data

Recent studies, particularly in North America, suggest that Dunlin populations are much higher than previously estimated, and are much higher than can be derived from summed counts made during the non-breeding period. Therefore, population estimates for the subspecies and for the species in the EAA Flyway have been calculated on the basis of information from the breeding grounds and migration areas, supplemented by comments from Declan Troy and Robert Gill (North America) and Pavel Tomkovich (Russia).

The population of *C. a. arctica* has been estimated at <750 000 (US Shorebird Conservation Plan 2000) although D. Troy (pers. comm.) has proposed a lower figure of c. 640 000. These estimates were based upon the nest density from sampling sites in northern Alaska. It is believed that the bulk of this population migrates to eastern Asia and passes through the Yellow Sea, and Barter's (2002) Yellow Sea estimate of 660 000 supports this conclusion. It is not known, however, to what extent other subspecies utilise this region.

There are no population estimates for *C. a. kistchinski* and *C. a. sakhalina*, although P. Tomkovich (pers. comm.) suggested that each could be as abundant on its breeding grounds as *C. a. arctica*. If this is assumed, then nearly 3 000 000 Dunlin would be present in EAA Flyway. Count data from the non-breeding period fall far short of this total and it is assumed that this is due to insufficient survey effort.

In the absence of specific data, population ranges of 100 000 to 1 000 000 are proposed for each of these subspecies. The population of *C. a. actites* has been estimated as 300 pairs

(Nechaev & Tomkovich 1987). If it is assumed that there are half as many immatures as adult birds in the population then this suggests a total population of 900.

In conclusion, the population estimates for each subspecies of the Dunlin in the EAA Flyway are:

<i>C. a. arctica</i>	750 000
<i>C. a. kistchinski</i>	100 000-1 000 000
<i>C. a. sakhalina</i>	100 000-1 000 000
<i>C. a. actites</i>	900

These provide the basis for a Flyway population estimate range with a minimum value of 950 000. This value makes the Dunlin the second most abundant shorebird in the EAA Flyway.

### Important Sites

Important sites were in Russia (7), USA (Alaska; 1), South Korea (7) and China (9). Only three important sites were identified during the non-breeding period (in Taiwan, China). There are likely to be additional sites in North Korea.

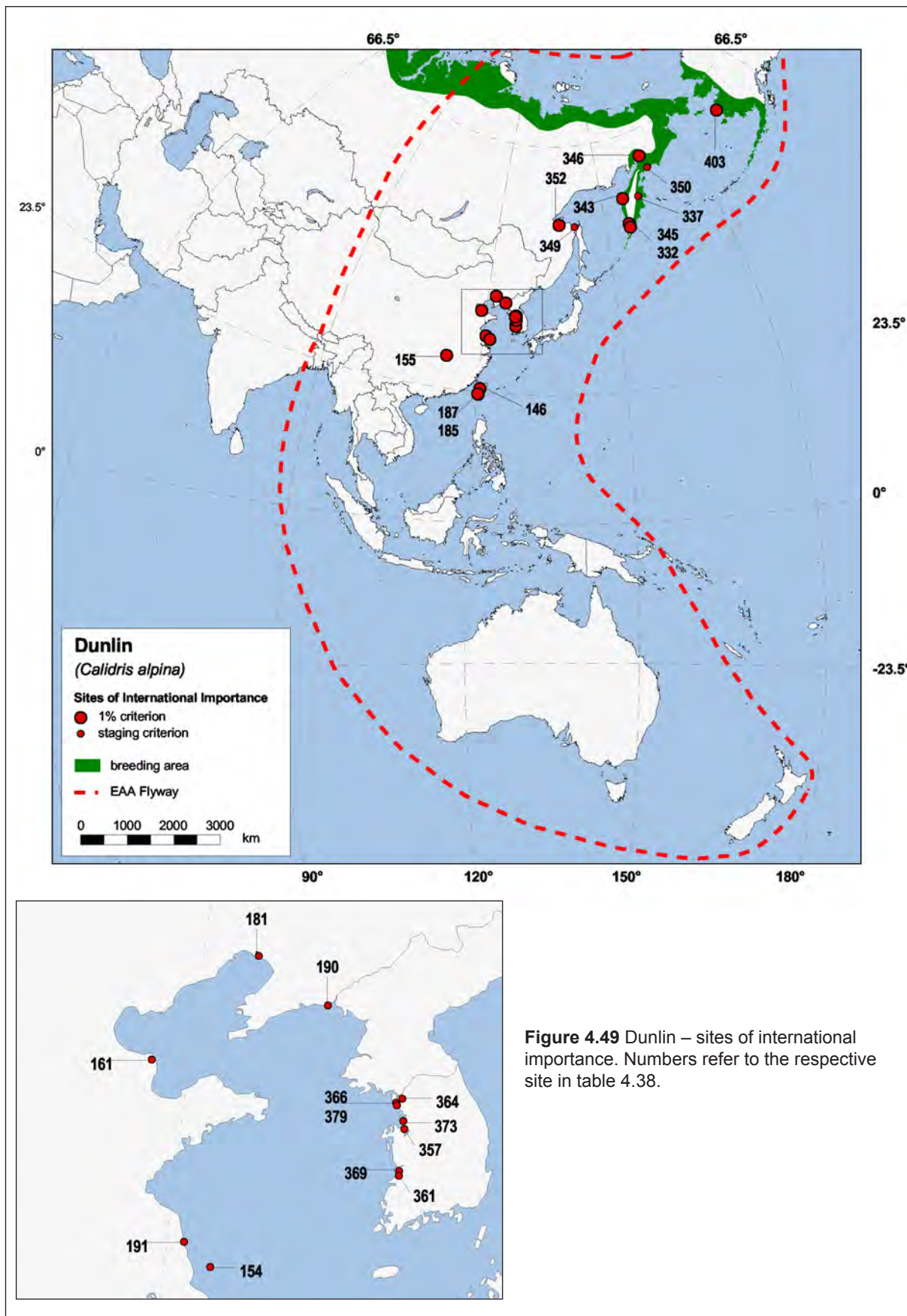
Dunlin move through the Sea of Okhotsk in very large numbers. At Penzhina Gulf daily counts of up to 40 000 were made within the period mid-August to mid-September (Gerasimov 2004). The sum of daily counts for this period was over 300 000. At Moroshechnaya River Estuary, passage during southward migration has been estimated at 350 000 (Gerasimov and Gerasimov 1997). Less than half this number were estimated to pass through the site on northward migration.

The scarcity of important sites in the non-breeding period may be due to dispersal into inland China where coverage is poor (M. Barter pers. comm.). The high count in East Dongting Hu (China) in early March 2001 could reflect such use of inland sites in the non-breeding period.

### Migration

Very large numbers of Dunlin pass through eastern Russia on southward and northward migration. During northward migration, numbers are lower on the Moroshechnaya River Estuary when this may still be ice-bound. These birds may be the Russian-breeding *C. a. sakhalina* and *C. a. kistchinski*, although the proportion of Alaskan-breeding *C. a. arctica* is unknown. The majority of birds passing through Japan and the Yellow Sea on northward and southward migration may be *C. a. arctica*. Banding and leg-flagging studies should reveal the distribution of these three races on migration.





**Figure 4.49** Dunlin – sites of international importance. Numbers refer to the respective site in table 4.38.

**Table 4.38** Dunlin - sites of international importance

Site Code	Site	Country	Max Count	Date	SM	NB	NM	B	Ref.
343	Moroshechnaya River Estuary	RUS	350,000	15/08/1990	✓	.	✓	.	63,68
191	Yancheng National Nature Reserve	CHI	57,867	28/04/2001	✓	.	✓	.	26,18
369	Mankyung Estuary	SKO	47,650	19/04/1999	✓	.	✓	.	18,18
346	Penzhina River mouth	RUS	40,172	7/09/2003	✓	.	.	.	64
361	Dongjin Estuary	SKO	38,850	1/05/1998	✓	.	✓	.	180,18
190	Yalu Jiang National Nature Reserve	CHI	34,841	25/04/2004	.	.	✓	.	16
332	Bolshoe Lake&Bolshaya River Mouth	RUS	32,666	18/05/1993	.	.	✓	.	62
345	Opala River	RUS	32,380	21/05/1994	.	.	✓	.	62
403	Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta	USA	30,000	NA	✓	.	.	.	70
161	Huang He National Nature Reserve	CHI	24,106	21/04/1997	.	.	✓	.	181
155	East Dongting Hu N. N. Reserve	CHI	23,488	5/03/2001	.	.	✓	.	104
366	Kanghwa Island	SKO	17,000	1/05/1998	.	.	✓	.	180
379	Yong Jong Island	SKO	16,800	1/09/1992	✓	.	✓	.	58,117
181	Shuangtaizihekou N. N. Reserve	CHI	16,411	12/05/1998	.	.	✓	.	24
364	Han River	SKO	16,400	1/05/2000	.	.	✓	.	141
373	Namyang Bay	SKO	15,200	16/04/1999	.	.	✓	.	18
357	Asan Bay	SKO	14,000	NA	.	.	✓	.	18
154	Dongsha Islands	CHI	13,081	1/09/1997	✓	.	.	.	162
352	Tugurskiy Bay	RUS	12,610	17/09/1990	✓	.	.	.	129
146	Changhua Coastal Industrial Park	CHI	11,068	1/02/2002	.	✓	.	.	107
185	Szu-Tsao Wildlife Reserve	CHI	10,363	1/12/2002	.	✓	.	.	107
187	Tseng-Wen-Hsi	CHI	9,500	1/11/2002	.	✓	.	.	107
349	Schastiya Bay	RUS	4,867	1/09/2002	✓	.	.	.	4
350	Skobeleva Bay	RUS	4,020	15/05/1998	.	.	✓	.	66
337	Kharchinskoe Lake	RUS	2,650	24/05/1999	.	.	✓	.	67

## Curlew Sandpiper

*Calidris ferruginea*

<b>Flyway</b>	Estimate:	<b>180 000</b>
	1% threshold:	1 800
	Staging threshold:	450
<b>Global</b>	Delany and Scott (2002):	1 350 000

### Population

The Curlew Sandpiper breeds only in northern Siberia but has a non-breeding range that extends from western Africa to Australia, with small numbers reaching New Zealand. No subspecies are recognised.

### Data

Approximately 13% of the global population occurs in the EAA Flyway. Most birds are in Australia during the non-breeding period, with almost a quarter of the population in south-eastern Asia (Table 4.39). The Flyway estimate is less than the previous estimate of 250 000 by Watkins (1993), due mainly to lower numbers in Australia during the non-breeding period in the last two decades. A decline in numbers of Curlew Sandpipers was recorded in Australia during the 1990s (Wilson 2001 a & b) and there has been poor breeding success in recent years (Minton *et al.* 2005).

### Important Sites

Important sites in the non-breeding period were in Australia (22), Malaysia (2), Indonesia (1) and Thailand (1). In Australia, 9 sites were important during migration, all in the southward period. In contrast, in Asia only two sites were identified during southward migration, both in Malaysia, whereas there were 11 sites identified on northward migration (8 in China and 1 each in Russia, Malaysia and the Philippines).

### Migration

The distribution of important sites during the migration periods is consistent with the review by Minton (1998), with southward migration following a more westerly route across inland China than northward migration. Inland sites are probably under-represented.

On northward migration Barter (2002) estimates that only 10% of the population use the Yellow Sea, most occurring in western Bohai Wan. The low numbers in South Korea, Japan and coastal areas of the Russian Far East suggest that the main northward migration route is through inland China and Russia.

In northern Australia, numbers are greater during southward than northward migration (Chatto 2003), suggesting that birds on northward migration depart from southern Australia and overfly northern Australia (Higgins and Davies 1996).

A small number of banding recoveries (Pook 1992) show that some Curlew Sandpipers of the EAA Flyway occur in India. More research is need to understand the significance of these movements.

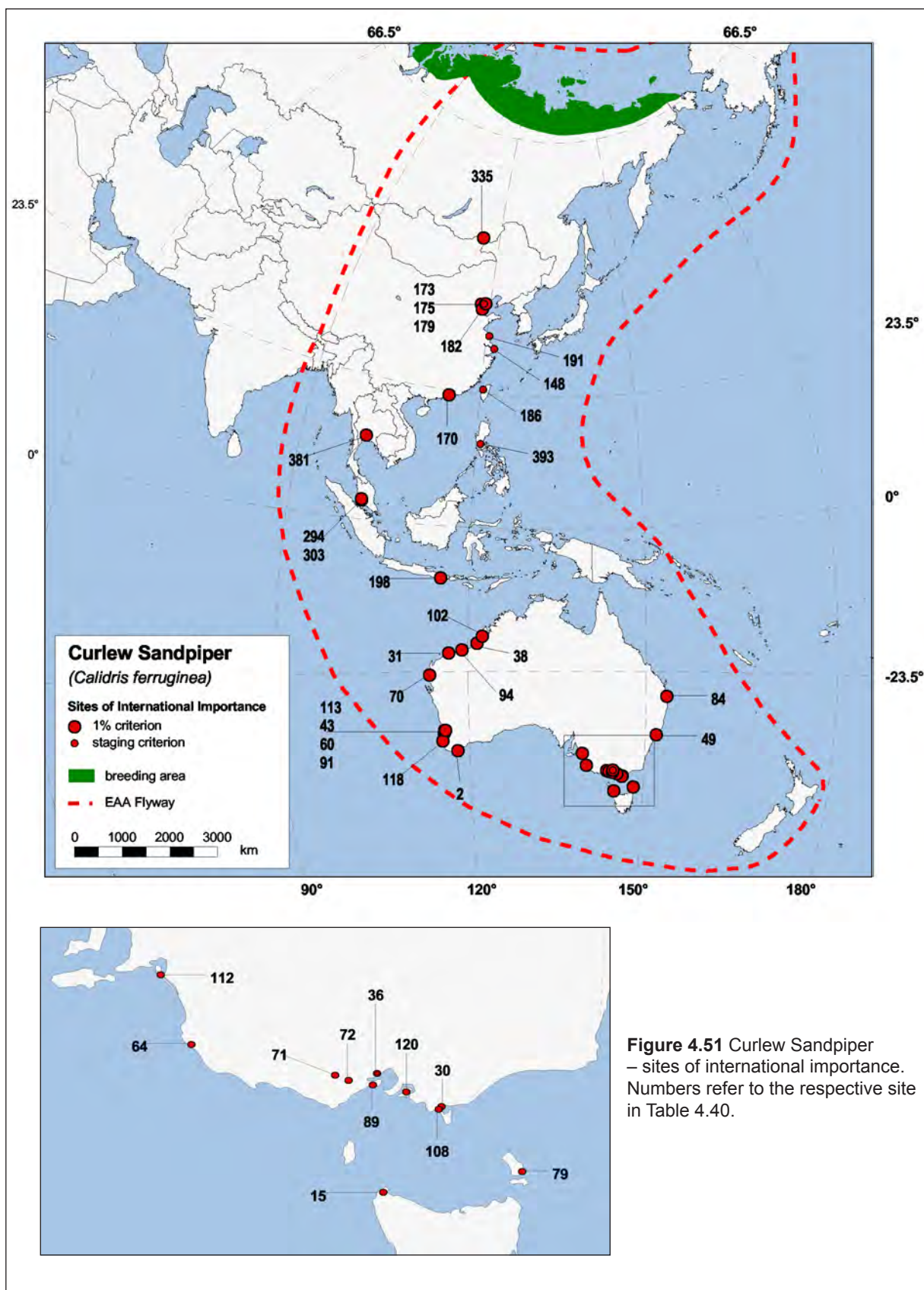


Figure 4.50 Curlew Sandpiper – non-breeding distribution

Table 4.39 Distribution of the Curlew Sandpiper in the non-breeding period

Country	Estimate
Australia	115 000
Indonesia	20 000
China	15 000
Malaysia	10 000
Philippines	5 000
Thailand	4 000
Vietnam	2 000
other countries	1 750
TOTALS:	172 750







**Table 4.40** Curlew Sandpiper - sites of international importance

Site Code	Site	Country	Max Count	Date	SM	NB	NM	B	Ref.
38	Eighty Mile Beach	AUS	60,000	NA	✓	✓	.	.	99,10
70	Lake MacLeod	AUS	41,606	28/09/1987	✓	.	.	.	90
94	Port Hedland Saltworks	AUS	25,000	19/11/1982	✓	✓	.	.	99,12
335	Daursky Nature Reserve	RUS	20,000	1/06/1995	.	.	✓	.	71
112	The Coorong and Coorong NP	AUS	13,430	1/02/2003	.	✓	.	.	73
36	Eastern Port Phillip Bay	AUS	13,323	NA	✓	✓	.	✓	8,49,49
175	North-west Bo Hai Wan	CHI	12,489	12/04/2000	.	.	✓	.	20
120	Western Port Bay	AUS	6,343	2/10/1990	✓	✓	.	.	8,49
102	Roebuck Bay	AUS	6,000	13/02/1983	✓	✓	.	.	8,55
170	Mai Po Marshes	CHI	6,000	15/04/1996	.	.	✓	.	111
84	Moreton Bay	AUS	5,229	1/01/1996	✓	✓	.	.	8,49
49	Hunter Estuary	AUS	4,000	NA	.	✓	.	.	149
303	Pulau Tengah (Klang Islands)	MAL	4,000	10/02/1990	✓	✓	✓	.	169,120,120
64	Lake George	AUS	3,528	2/12/1983	.	✓	.	.	8
30	Corner Inlet	AUS	3,500	1/02/1987	.	✓	.	.	8
108	Shallow Inlet/Sandy Point	AUS	3,500	1/02/1987	.	✓	.	.	8
15	Boullanger Bay/Robbins Passage	AUS	3,400	1/01/1995	.	✓	.	.	8
91	Peel-Harvey system	AUS	3,000	NA	.	✓	.	.	145
31	Dampier Saltworks	AUS	3,000	1/09/1998	✓	.	.	.	13
71	Lake Martin	AUS	3,000	14/02/2001	.	✓	.	.	175
60	Lake Cooloongup	AUS	2,600	NA	.	✓	.	.	85
381	Inner Gulf of Thailand	THA	2,524	15/01/2000	.	✓	.	.	133
182	South Bo Hai Wan	CHI	2,512	2/05/2002	.	.	✓	.	20
118	Vasse Wonnerup Estuary	AUS	2,500	NA	.	✓	.	.	85
198	Benoa Bay	INO	2,500	11/01/1990	.	✓	.	.	169
113	Thomsons Lake Nature Reserve	AUS	2,500	1/01/1993	.	✓	.	.	8
79	Logan Lagoon, Flinders Island	AUS	2,470	1/03/1984	.	✓	.	.	124
294	Kapar Power Station	MAL	2,290	27/10/1991	✓	.	.	.	101
72	Lake Murdeduke	AUS	2,100	2/12/1983	.	✓	.	.	8
2	Albany Harbours	AUS	2,054	1/01/1996	.	✓	.	.	8
89	Ocean Grove to Barwon Heads	AUS	2,000	17/02/1985	.	✓	.	.	8
43	Forrestdale Lake Nature Reserve	AUS	2,000	1/01/1993	.	✓	.	.	8
179	Shi Jiu Tuo/Daqing He	CHI	2,000	14/05/1995	.	.	✓	.	18
393	Manila Bay	PHI	1,278	4/04/1987	.	.	✓	.	120
148	Chongming Dongtan N. N. Reserve	CHI	805	26/03/2001	.	.	✓	.	110
191	Yancheng National Nature Reserve	CHI	784	28/04/2001	.	.	✓	.	26
173	North Bo Hai Wan	CHI	564	2/05/2002	.	.	✓	.	20
186	Ta-Too-Hsi	CHI	500	1/05/1987	.	.	✓	.	120

**Spoon-billed Sandpiper**  
*Eurynorhynchus pygmaeus*

Flyway	Estimate:	<3 000
	1% threshold:	30
	Staging threshold:	7
Global	Delany and Scott (2002):	4 000

**Population**

The monotypic Spoon-billed Sandpiper is one of the world's most threatened shorebirds and is listed as Vulnerable by BirdLife International (2001). It has a naturally small population and a restricted breeding range on the Chukotsky Peninsula of eastern Russia. It is confined to the EAA Flyway, although the non-breeding range extends from south-eastern India to south-eastern Asia.

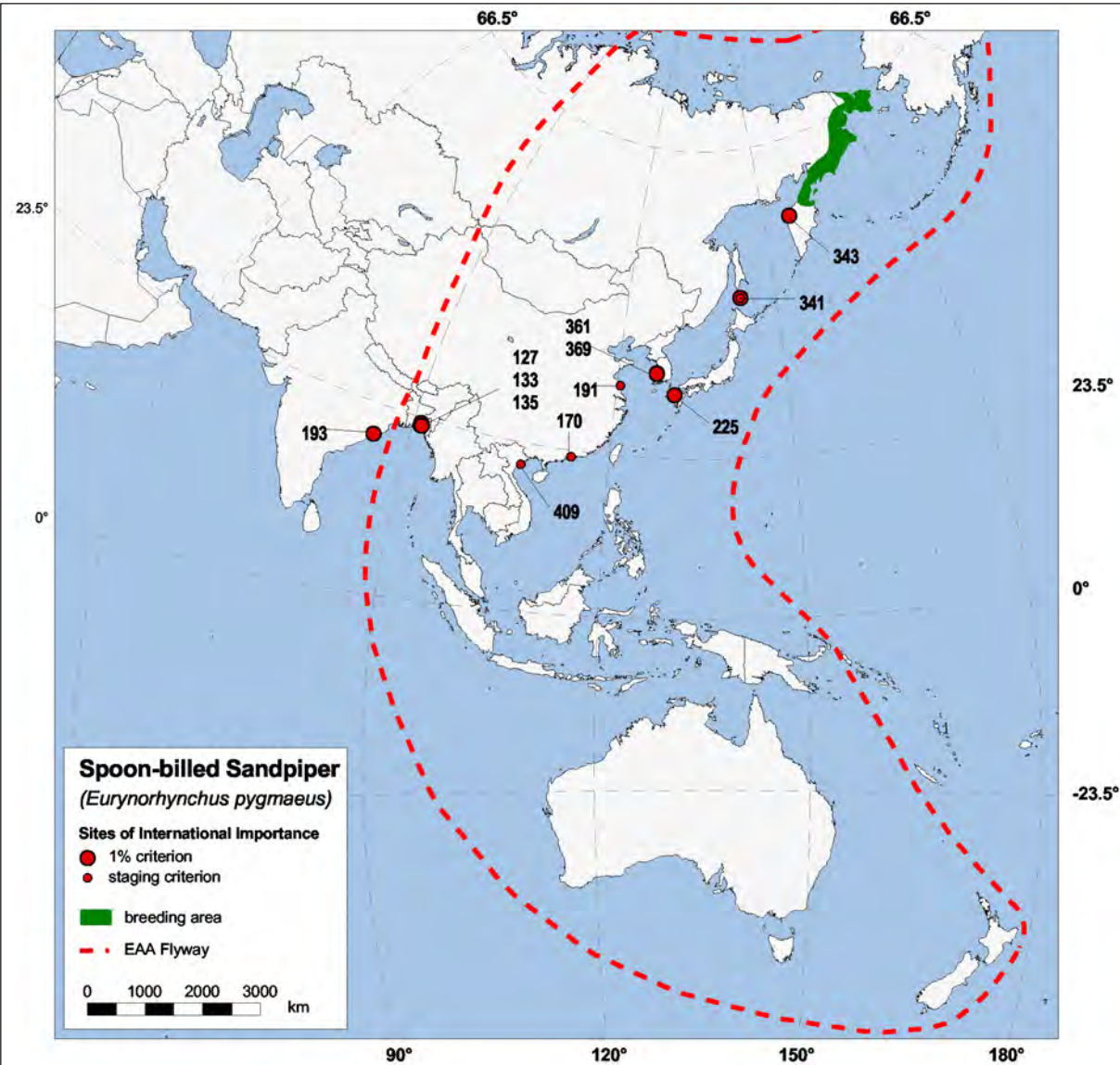
**Data**

Although the estimate given (Table 4.41) is less than that of Delany and Scott (2002), recent count data suggest that even this may be an overestimate. Surveys on the breeding grounds suggested that the population may be as low as 2 000 (Tomkovich *et al.* 2000).

**Important Sites**

Important sites in the non-breeding period were in Bangladesh and India. During southward migration, important sites were in Russia, South Korea, China and Japan, while on northward migration important sites were identified in Russia, China and Vietnam.

BirdLife International (2001) summarised count



**Figure 4.52** Spoon-billed Sandpiper – sites of international importance. Numbers refer to the respective site in Table 4.41.

data on Spoon-billed Sandpiper. It included counts from sites in Sri Lanka (Bentota and Bundala) in the late 1970s that exceed the 1% threshold. However data from pre-1986 have not been included in this review.

### Migration

BirdLife International (2001) have collated count data that show small numbers of birds in eastern Russia, the east coast of China, the Korean Peninsula, Japan, Vietnam, Thailand, Myanmar, Singapore, Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka. From these data, it appears that migration is mainly down the east Asian coastline and around the Indo-Malay Peninsula to sites fringing the Bay of Bengal. Along the Asian coast birds concentrate in only a few areas, such as the Moroshechnaya River Estuary, sites on Sakhalin Island, in South Korea, the east coast of China, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

**Table 4.41** Spoon-billed Sandpiper - sites of international importance

Site Code	Site	Country	Max Count	Date	SM	NB	NM	B	Ref.
343	Moroshechnaya River Estuary	RUS	500	15/05/1990	.	.	✓	.	63
133	Maulavir Char	BAN	202	30/01/1989	.	✓	.	.	169
341	Lososei Bay	RUS	200	30/05/1979	✓	.	✓	.	123,123
369	Mankyung Estuary	SKO	180	6/09/1999	✓	.	.	.	125
193	Chilika Lake	IND	120	22/01/1994	.	✓	.	.	169
361	Dongjin Estuary	SKO	100	2/10/2000	✓	.	.	.	18
127	Char Piya	BAN	55	30/01/1989	.	✓	.	.	169
135	Noakhali	BAN	45	24/01/1991	.	✓	.	.	96
225	Isahaya Higata	JAP	41	NA	✓	.	.	.	159
409	Xuan Thuy Reserve	VIE	27	7/03/1997	.	.	✓	.	32
170	Mai Po Marshes	CHI	16	NA	.	.	✓	.	120
191	Yancheng National Nature Reserve	CHI	15	21/11/1991	✓	.	.	.	169

# Broad-billed Sandpiper

*Limicola falcinellus*

Flyway	Estimate:	25 000
	1% threshold:	250
	Staging threshold:	62
Global	Delany and Scott (2002):	71 000 – 164 000

## Population

There are two sub-species of the Broad-billed Sandpiper: *L. f. falcinellus* that breeds in northern Europe and central Siberia and spends the non-breeding period from eastern Africa to India; and *L. f. sibirica* of the EAA Flyway. The non-breeding ranges of the two sub-species overlap in India, with the westernmost record of *L. f. sibirica* in Pakistan and the easternmost record of *L. f. falcinellus* in Thailand.



Figure 4.53 Broad-billed Sandpiper – non-breeding distribution

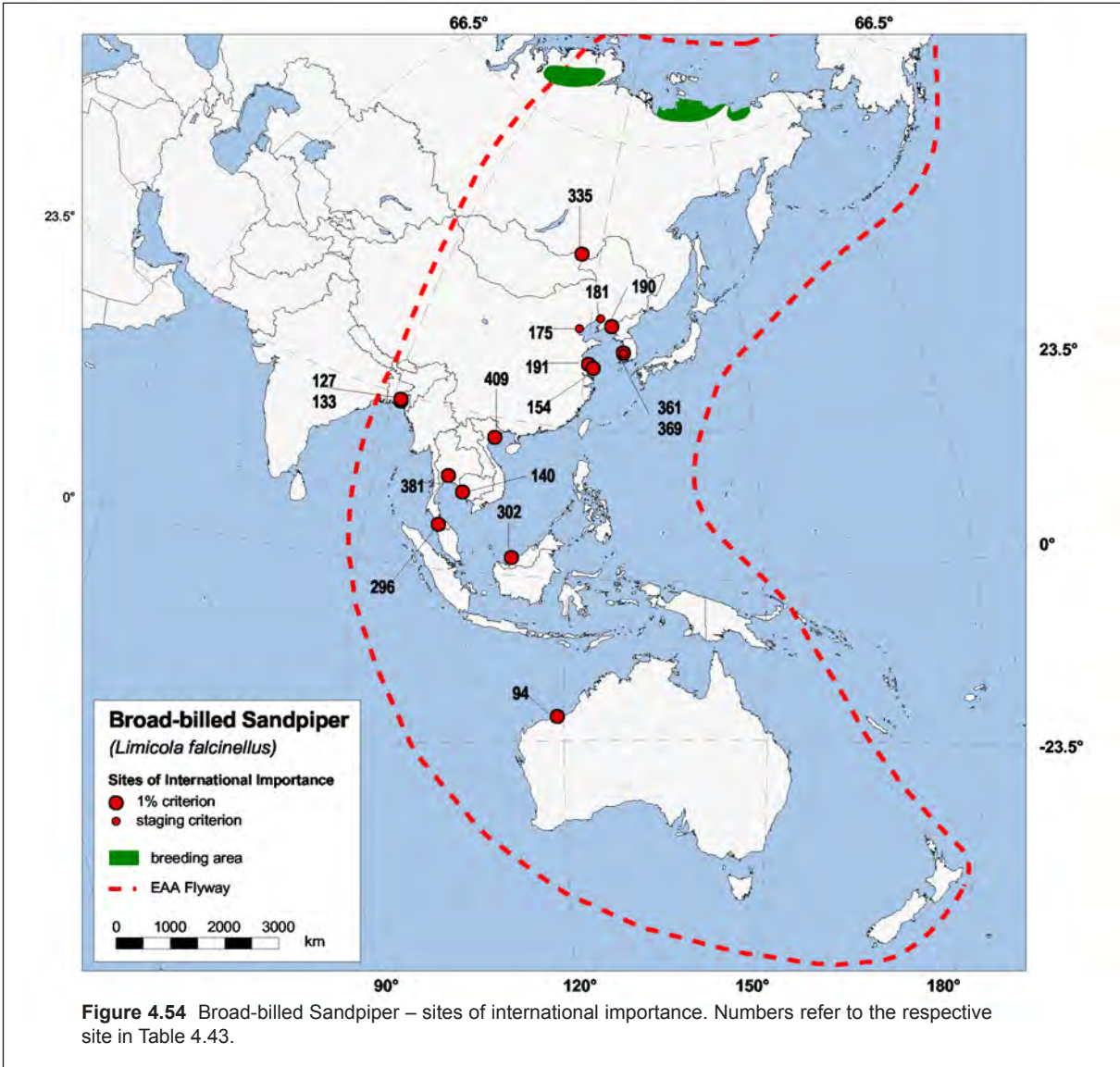


Figure 4.54 Broad-billed Sandpiper – sites of international importance. Numbers refer to the respective site in Table 4.43.



### Data

Data are now available to show that the species is more widespread in the non-breeding period than when the estimate of 16 000 was developed by Watkins (1993). The Flyway estimate is within the range given by Delany and Scott (2002).

### Important Sites

Important sites in the non-breeding period were in Bangladesh (2), Cambodia (1), Thailand (1), Malaysia (2) and Australia (1). Only 5 important sites were identified during southward migration, in China (2), South Korea (2) and Australia (1), while important sites during northward migration were more widespread, occurring in China (5), South Korea (1), Russia (1), Malaysia (1) and Vietnam (1).

### Migration

According to Higgins and Davies (1996), southward and northward migration differ slightly, with more records in Japan on southward migration and movement through inland China on

northward migration. These patterns are not clear from count data, with no sites identified in Japan, while coastal sites in eastern China were identified more during northward than southward migration. Sites of inland China may have been under-surveyed during northward migration.

**Table 4.42** Distribution of the Broad-billed Sandpiper in the non-breeding period

Country	Estimate
Australia	10 000
Indonesia	4 000
China	2 000
Bangladesh	2 000
Malaysia	2 000
Thailand	2 000
India	1 000
Papua New Guinea	500
Cambodia	500
Myanmar	500
Vietnam	500
other countries	130
TOTALS:	25 130

**Table 4.43** Broad-billed Sandpiper - sites of international importance

Site Code	Site	Country	Max Count	Date	SM	NB	NM	B	Ref.
335	Daursky Nature Reserve	RUS	6,500	1/06/1995	.	.	✓	.	71
94	Port Hedland Saltworks	AUS	6,000	31/03/1987	✓	✓	.	.	113,49
191	Yancheng National Nature Reserve	CHI	1,476	1/09/1991	✓	.	✓	.	163,18
302	Pulau Buit	MAL	1,206	15/04/1986	.	.	✓	.	82
133	Maulavir Char	BAN	1,200	30/01/1989	.	✓	.	.	169
127	Char Piya	BAN	1,015	30/01/1989	.	✓	.	.	169
361	Dongjin Estuary	SKO	800	3/10/1999	✓	.	✓	.	18,117
381	Inner Gulf of Thailand	THA	790	26/02/1986	.	✓	.	.	169
190	Yalu Jiang National Nature Reserve	CHI	729	2/05/1999	.	.	✓	.	23
369	Mankung Estuary	SKO	700	3/10/1999	✓	.	.	.	18
154	Dongsha Islands	CHI	416	1/09/1997	✓	.	.	.	162
140	Koh Kong (Kaoh Kapik)	CAM	400	1/01/1996	.	✓	.	.	170
409	Xuan Thuy Reserve	VIE	400	3/05/1996	.	.	✓	.	126
296	Kuala Kedah to Kuala Sungai	MAL	360	5/01/1989	.	✓	.	.	169
175	North-west Bo Hai Wan	CHI	124	12/04/2000	.	.	✓	.	20
181	Shuangtaizihou N. N. Reserve	CHI	115	12/05/1998	.	.	✓	.	22

# Red-necked Phalarope

*Phalaropus lobatus*

Flyway	Estimate:	100 000 - 1 000 000
	1% threshold:	1 000
	Staging threshold:	250
Global	Delany and Scott (2002):	3 500 000

## Population

Although the Red-necked Phalarope has a circumpolar breeding distribution and three distinct non-breeding areas, no subspecies are recognised. The species is largely marine during the non-breeding period, feeding while swimming on the open ocean, but will also use near-coastal wetlands. In the EAA Flyway, the main non-breeding area is considered to be oceanic

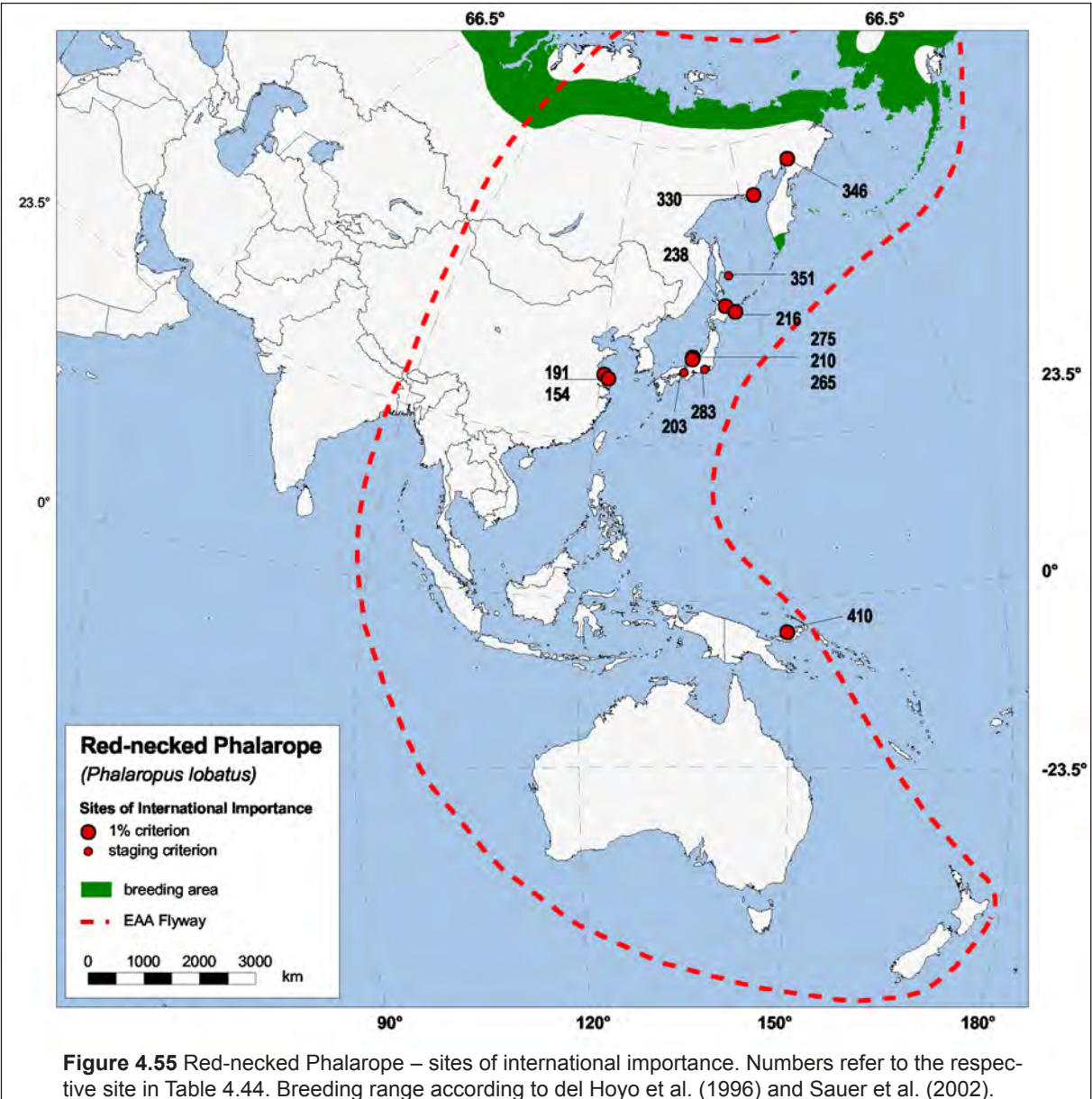
between New Britain and the Philippines, north of New Guinea, although there are some records from the Timor Sea and Indian Ocean between Australia and Indonesia.

## Data

There are few count data for the Red-necked Phalarope on which to base a Flyway population estimate, therefore a population range has been proposed. There was no previous population range for the species in the EAA Flyway.

## Important Sites

Important sites were identified only during migration periods and were in Papua New Guinea, China, Japan and Russia.



### Migration

The scarcity of important sites reflects the largely oceanic distribution of the Red-necked Phalarope outside the breeding period. According to Higgins and Davies (1996), southward migration occurs overland and offshore across eastern Asia, with the species scarce in the region of the Indo-Malaysian peninsula, but

regular in the Philippines and abundant around New Guinea from October. There are also regular records from near-coastal wetlands of northern and north-western Australia from early in the southward migration period. The distribution in the non-breeding period is influenced by the weather, such as cyclonic conditions, and the availability of food. Northward migration is considered to occur east of Borneo.

**Table 4.44** Red-necked Phalarope - sites of international importance

Site Code	Site	Country	Max Count	Date	SM	NB	NM	B	Ref.
238	Komuke-ko	JAP	30,000	1/05/1998	.	.	✓	.	94
330	Babushkina Bay	RUS	5,000	1/08/1995	✓	.	.	.	46
410	Lake Dakataua	PNG	4,500	1/10/1979	.	✓	.	.	141
346	Penzhina River mouth	RUS	3,461	4/08/2002	✓	.	.	.	65
275	Takamatsu, Kahoku Kaigan	JAP	2,159	1/05/1998	.	.	✓	.	94
191	Yancheng National Nature Reserve	CHI	1,728	1/09/1997	✓	.	.	.	162
154	Dongsha Islands	CHI	1,728	1/09/1997	✓	.	.	.	162
210	Chiri-hama	JAP	1,221	1/05/1998	.	.	✓	.	94
216	Fuuren-ko (Onnetou ohashi)	JAP	1,000	1/09/1985	✓	.	.	.	120
265	Saigawa-karyuu	JAP	1,000	1/05/1998	.	.	✓	.	94
283	Uchiura Wan	JAP	600	20/05/1989	.	.	✓	.	54
351	Terpeniya Bay	RUS	300	10/06/1981	.	.	✓	.	123
203	Akashi-Iwayakouro	JAP	300	3/05/1998	.	.	✓	.	94

Asian Painted-snipe  
*Rostratula benghalensis benghalensis*

Flyway	Estimate:	25 000 – 100 000
	1% threshold:	250
	Staging threshold:	62
Global	Delany and Scott (2002):	25 000 – 1 000 000

**Data**

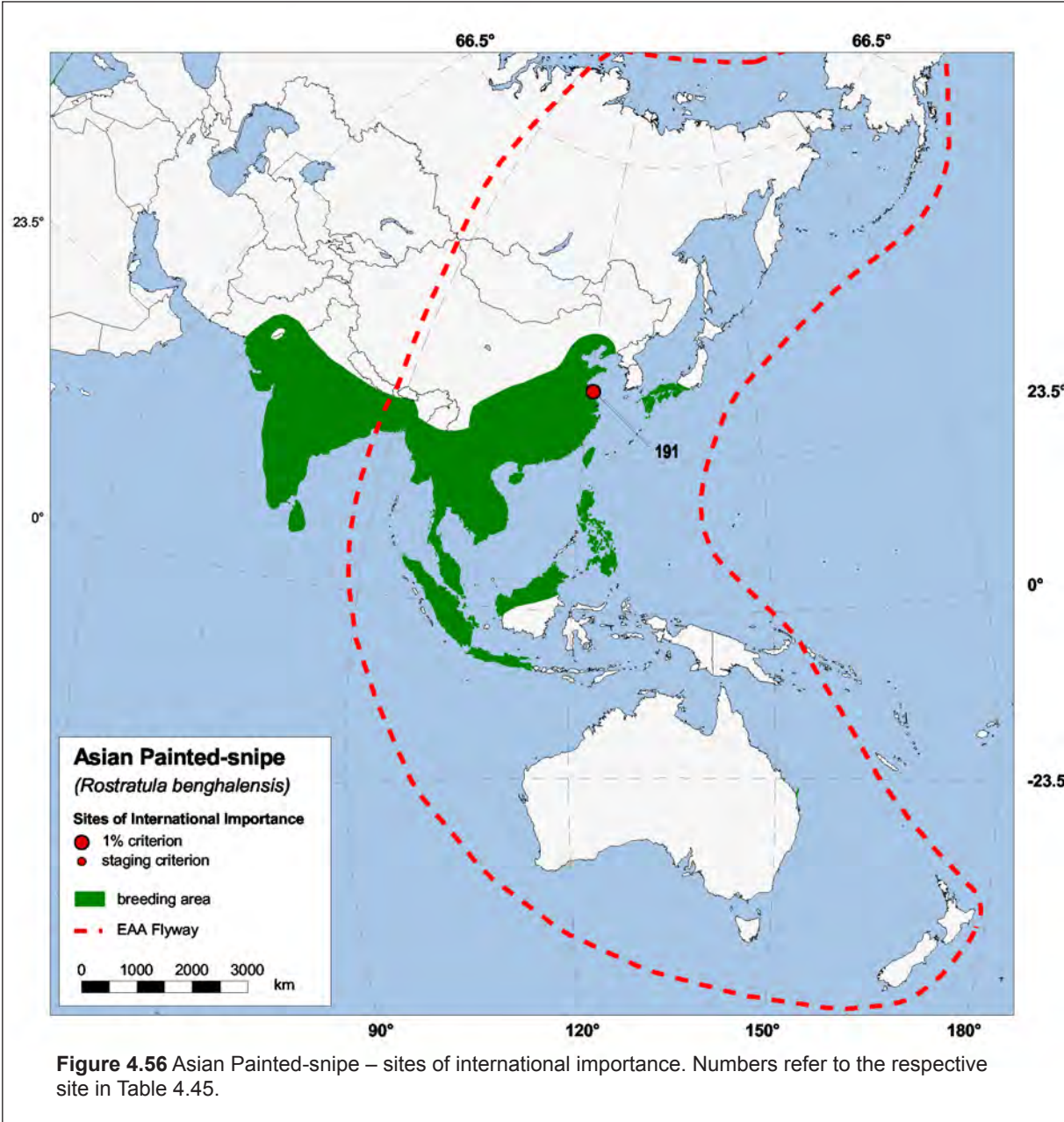
*R. b. benghalensis* was infrequently counted, so a population range is proposed. This range is narrower than the 25 000 – 1 000 000 used by Delany and Scott (2002) as that estimate includes birds of the Central Asian Flyway.

**Population**

There are two recognised subspecies of painted-snipe in the EAA Flyway: the migratory (or partly migratory) *R. b. benghalensis* in southern, south-eastern and eastern Asia, and the non-migratory *R. b. australis* of Australia. Lane and Rogers (2000) consider these to be separate species.

**Important Sites**

Only one important site was identified during the non-breeding period. Sites in India and Bangladesh were excluded on the assumption that they were based on counts of birds of the Central Asian Flyway.





Migration

Migration of this species is poorly understood and it may be sedentary in parts of its range.

Table 4.45 Asian Painted-snipe - sites of international importance

Site Code	Site	Country	Max Count	Date	SM	NB	NM	B	Ref.
191	Yancheng National Nature Reserve	CHI	570	8/01/1990	.	✓	.	.	169

# Pheasant-tailed Jacana

*Hydrophasianus chirurgus*

Flyway	Estimate:	25 000 – 100 000
	1% threshold:	250
	Staging threshold:	62
Global	Delany and Scott (2002):	25 000 – 100 000

## Population

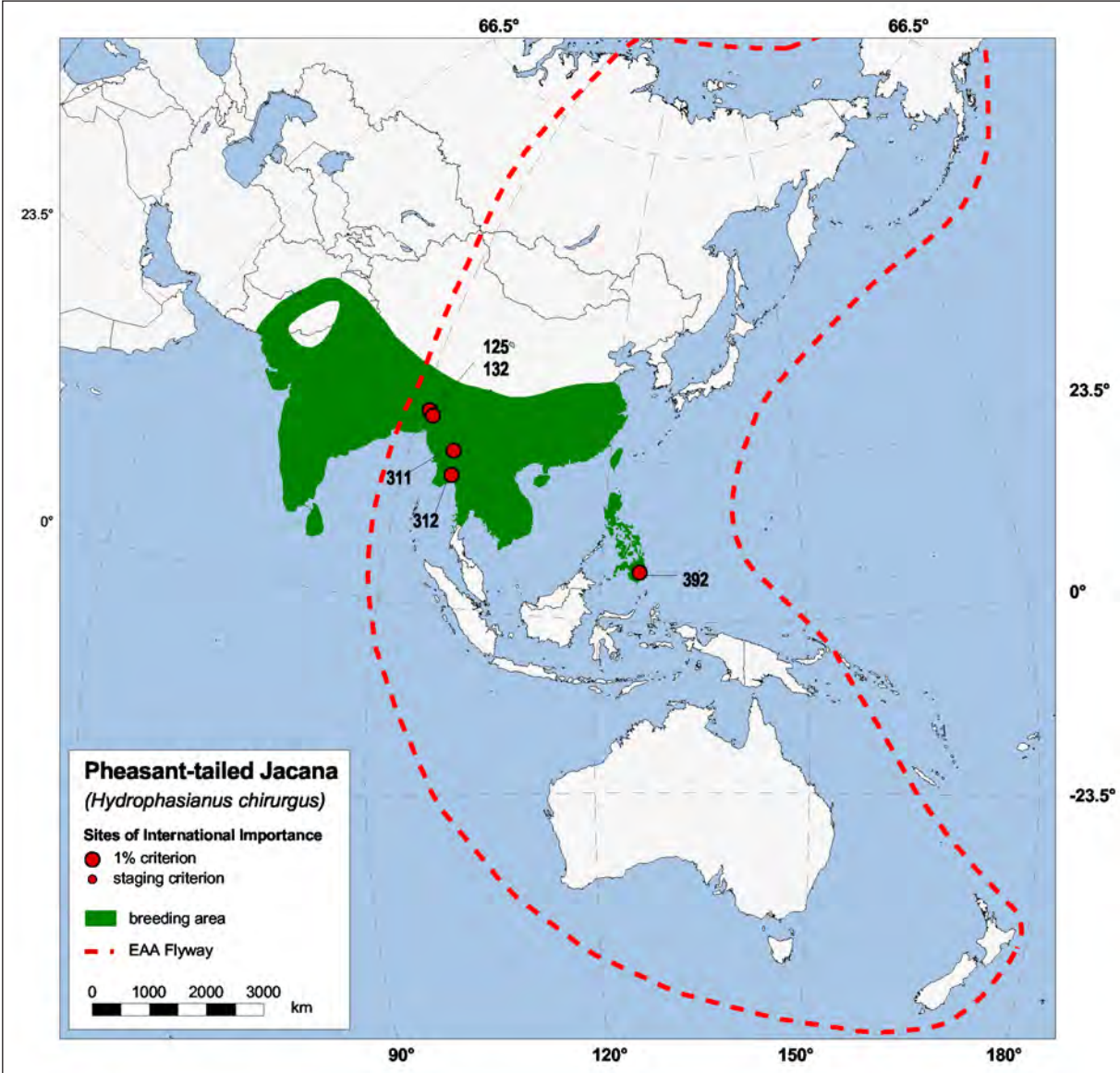
The Pheasant-tailed Jacana is monotypic and occurs in southern and south-eastern Asia. Birds in the northern part of the species' range are migratory, with only those in the east occurring within the EAA Flyway.

## Data

The Pheasant-tailed Jacana has been poorly surveyed so the population range proposed by Delany and Scott (2002) has been retained. Count data indicated that the distribution within the Flyway through the non-breeding period is primarily from Bangladesh across to the Philippines (Table 3.2).

## Important Sites

Important sites were located in Bangladesh, Myanmar, Cambodia and the Philippines. Only two of the sites were important during migration periods, but both are within the non-breeding range of the species.



**Figure 4.57** Pheasant-tailed Jacana – sites of international importance. Numbers refer to the respective site in Table 4.46.

### Migration

The distribution of important sites provides little insight on migration in the Pheasant-tailed Jacana. The occurrence of important sites within the period November to March coincides

with the dry season in much of south-eastern Asia (areas influenced mainly by the south-west monsoon, May to October), and the high counts could therefore have resulted from seasonal concentrations of resident birds rather than, or in addition to, the influx of migratory birds.

**Table 4.46** Pheasant-tailed Jacana - sites of international importance

Site Code	Site	Country	Max Count	Date	SM	NB	NM	B	Ref.
125	Banuar Haor	BAN	630	3/03/1992	.	✓	.	.	169
392	Davao River Mouth	PHI	400	19/01/1993	.	✓	.	.	169
312	Moyingyi	MYA	340	14/01/1996	.	✓	.	.	169
311	Minhla-Nyaung Lake	MYA	328	19/01/1993	.	✓	.	.	169
132	Kawadighi Haor	BAN	300	8/03/1992	.	.	✓	.	169