

# Migratory Shorebird Project

Connecting Communities Across the Americas Through Research for Conservation

PHOTO BY INGRID TAYLAR

## Become Part of the Migratory Shorebird Project

Join this ambitious 10-year, multi-partner research project to help guide shorebird conservation. You will be part of the team protecting shorebirds and wetlands from Alaska to Peru through research for conservation.

We need your help, as a scientist, a volunteer scientist, an educator, or funder.

### Why Join the Migratory Shorebird Project?

**Helping millions of people and millions of birds.** It is no coincidence that important places for birds are important places for people. Sandy beaches, bays, wetlands, mangroves, and farmlands along the Pacific and Caribbean coasts support economies, agriculture, and tourism, while providing natural flood control and carbon storage functions. The quality and quantity of wetlands available for people and birds is rapidly changing, and many shorebird populations are declining. Threats to these habitats are increasing, including habitat loss, changing climate – in particular, sea-level rise – and pollution. Using shorebirds as indicators of environmental change, the Migratory Shorebird Project will use research findings to help manage wetlands and agricultural lands for birds and people.



PETER LATOURRETTE

### How to Get Involved

- Add your organization to the list of partners.
- Join forces with a local partner.
- Volunteer to study shorebirds, attend a training.
- Share information, sightings, research findings.
- Educate people about wetland conservation.
- Donate to the project.

Visit the website to find out how to get involved:

**[www.migratoryshorebirdproject.org](http://www.migratoryshorebirdproject.org)**

or for more information contact

Matt Reiter, PhD – [mreiter@pointblue.org](mailto:mreiter@pointblue.org)

A collaborative project led by Point Blue

Conservation Science

**PointBlue.org.**



**Point Blue**  
Conservation  
Science



MIKE BAIRD

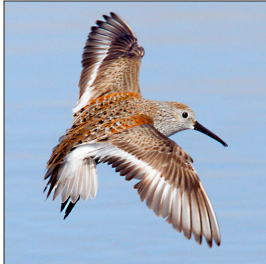
### The Migration Phenomenon

Each year, millions of shorebirds migrate in waves from their wintering grounds along the Pacific and Caribbean coasts to their nesting grounds in Alaska and northern Canada, stopping at just a few rich feeding spots along the way.

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## What Partners Are Already Doing

- Coordinating the study of over 1 million shorebirds at more than 2000 sites, in 7 countries, on 2 continents, making this the largest coordinated survey ever of wintering shorebirds on the Pacific Coast of the Americas.
- Using the study to evaluate impacts of habitat loss, pollution, and climate change to shorebirds.
- Suggesting conservation actions to regional and international partners.

- Educating people about the importance of wetlands to people and shorebirds.
- Training volunteers in shorebird research – more than 350 participants so far.
- Raising money to support the work of each partner. Leveraged initial investment to raise \$500,000 in additional grants and in-kind support.

All of the countries in the US Forest Service's Copper River International Migratory Bird Initiative (CRIMBI) partnership have committed to this innovative new project.



KARL KAUFMAN

## Volunteer

We have identified places along the flyway where we need help conducting surveys and building community.

We are actively seeking people with skills in journalism, wildlife stewardship and community education to help us train local teams and spread the word.

**To volunteer,** visit [www.migratoryshorebirdproject.org](http://www.migratoryshorebirdproject.org), and click: **volunteer**

## Funding – and How You Can Invest

The US Forest Service's International Program and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation provided seed funding to start new surveys in Canada, the United States, Mexico, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama, and Peru.

We are seeking additional funding to build and support skilled local teams in Panama, Ecuador, and Peru, and to analyze existing data and investigate the causes of change in shorebird distribution and abundance.

Each partner has already contributed funding. We estimate an annual budget of \$350,000 per year in order to implement the project range-wide. This would fund monitoring, analysis, outreach and site-based conservation actions. A complete budget is available on request.

To contribute, contact your national partner from the list opposite (see [www.migratoryshorebirdproject.org](http://www.migratoryshorebirdproject.org) for the contact details).

## Partners & Collaborators

U.S. Forest Service (United States)  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (United States)  
Point Blue Conservation Science (United States)  
Bird Studies Canada (Canada)  
Asociación Calidris (Colombia)  
Centro Neotropical de Entrenamiento en Humedales or CNEH-Internacional and Servicio Nacional de Areas Protegidas por el Estado (SERNANP) (Peru)  
Aves y Conservacion (Ecuador)  
Canadian Wildlife Service (Canada, Atlantic coast of South America)  
Grupo Aves del Noroeste (GANO), Centro de Investigación Científica y de Educación Superior de Ensenada (CICESE), Mexico)  
Audubon Panamá (Panama)  
Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences (United States, Atlantic and Caribbean coasts)  
BirdLife International (Central and South America)  
Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN)