



WATERBIRD SOCIETY 37TH ANNUAL MEETING
INTERNATIONAL WADER STUDY GROUP CONFERENCE

September 2013

WILHELMSHAVEN
Germany



organised by

Institute of Avian Research
„Vogelwarte Helgoland“



The Wadden Sea National Park
Authority of Lower Saxony

Nationalpark
Wattenmeer



NIEDERSACHSEN

Landscape Ecology Group,
University of Oldenburg

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**37th Annual Meeting of the
Waterbird Society,
24 – 29 September 2013**



organised by
Institute of Avian Research “Vogelwarte Helgoland”
in cooperation with The Wadden Sea National Park
Authority of Lower Saxony and
Landscape Ecology Group, University of Oldenburg
Supported by German Research Foundation DFG
(BE 916/10-1)

**International Wader Study Group
Conference,
26 – 30 September 2013**



organised by
The Wadden Sea National
Park Authority of Lower Saxony,
Landscape Ecology Group, University of Oldenburg and
Institute of Avian Research
“Vogelwarte Helgoland”
Supported by Umweltstiftung Weser Ems

Nationalpark
Wattenmeer



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Art Exhibition „Avian Diversity“



Welcome to Wilhelmshaven!

Welcome to the 37th annual meeting of the Waterbird Society in Wilhelmshaven! We are delighted to be convening on the North Sea coast at the site of the Wadden Sea National Park of Lower Saxony. We are meeting jointly with the International Wader Study Group and at the kind invitation of the long-distinguished Institute of Avian Research "Vogelwarte Helgoland".

The German and Dutch Wadden Sea natural areas comprise the UNESCO Wadden Sea World Heritage Site - the largest undisturbed intertidal ecosystem in the world. More than 10 million waterbirds use the stopover site annually during migration. An extraordinary and compelling location for waterbird scientists and conservationists!

It is our great pleasure to be meeting in conjunction with the International Wader Study Group. Members from 50 countries have been advancing shorebird science and habitat protection for more than 40 years. Last year, the IWSG won the prestigious AEWA Conservation Award conferred by Parties to the African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (Convention on Migratory Species).

Our host for this unprecedented joint meeting is the Institute of Avian Research "Vogelwarte Helgoland" a research agency which conducts basic environmental and ecological studies on migratory and breeding waterbirds. We are honored to be guests of the Institute and to join this rich gathering of scientists from Europe and the African-Eurasian flyway.

Our Local and Scientific Program Committees have planned a vibrant agenda for our annual meeting. The scientific program includes six outstanding plenary speakers, six symposia and numerous sessions. A variety of field trips to the Wadden Sea and environs are planned. We are welcoming participants from more than 27 countries to take part in the joint meeting.

Many thanks to Peter H. Becker and Susan Elbin for their devoted attention to the planning of this meeting.

Warm wishes for a productive and enjoyable meeting!

Katharine C. Parsons, President
The Waterbird Society



Welcome from the Chairs of the Scientific Committee

Herzlich willkommen in Deutschland! We are delighted to welcome you to Wilhelmshaven. It's good to be meeting again in Europe (the last time was Barcelona in 2007), and this is the first time our society has met in Germany. We also look forward to sharing the two final days of our meeting with the International Wader Study Group.

The Waterbird Society membership has responded enthusiastically to the chance to meet in Germany, and the Scientific Committee has created an exciting agenda: six plenary sessions, six symposia (35 presenters), ten general sessions (50 presentations), and a poster session (40 posters). Students are represented well, presenting 17 oral presentations (34%) and 15 posters (38%).

We start bright and early on Wednesday with the first of our six distinguished plenary speakers, Emmanuelle Cam, who will present insights from long-term longitudinal studies (35 years) on kittiwakes. Ian Nisbet will deliver the second plenary on Wednesday afternoon, sharing with us his long-term work (40 years) on full life-cycle biology of Common Terns. Thursday's two plenary speakers are Jacob González-Solís, who will lead us in discussing a myriad of variables and strategies effecting migratory behavior of shearwaters and petrels, and Hans-Ulrich Peter, tying together modern technology in research and conservation of Antarctic seabirds. After a day of birding or sight-seeing on Friday, we reconvene Saturday with the scientific portion of our meeting, in joint sessions with the IWSG. Plenary presentations by Jennifer Gill and Tim Dodman will round out the meeting. Gill will lead us in thinking about seasonal interactions among birds during migration, impacts to individual fitness, and subsequent population-level impacts. Dodman will bring us back to the Wadden Sea and the complexity of conservation partnerships and activities in the flyway initiative. We look forward to the stimulating thought and discussions ensuing from these plenaries.

The scientific focus of the scientific meeting is on avian life history and population ecology, migration, human impacts to the environment (contaminants and anthropogenic structures), and the UNESCO World Heritage Site – the Wadden Sea. There will be three species-focused symposia: terns, gulls, and geese. Three symposia will further explore habitat issues: seabirds as bioindicators of habitat health, recent research on contaminants, and a focus on the Wadden Sea.



Enjoy your time in Wilhelmshaven and the North Sea. We know you will be awed by the birds and the landscape. But even more, we hope you form new collaborations, are inspired to design new research projects, and have four days of exciting discussions with old and new colleagues. Thank you all for your contributions to our 37th Annual meeting.

Wir wünschen Ihnen eine anregende und angenehme Tagung in Wilhelmshaven!

Susan Elbin and Peter H. Becker,
Co-Chairs Scientific Committee

Local Organising Committee Welcome – Waterbird Society

As chair of the local organising committee I am pleased to welcome all participants to the 37th Annual Meeting of the Waterbird Society (WbS) in the Stadthalle of Wilhelmshaven. It is a great pleasure and honour for us that the WbS will meet in Germany for the first time. Once again this will be a very international meeting with attendees coming from at least 27 countries. The internationality offers exceptional opportunities of information exchange and discussion on waterbird science and conservation at the global level, between old hands and student researchers, amateurs and scientists. Furthermore, the joined meeting with the International Wader Study Group (IWSG) opens additional chances to encounter birds of a feather and to exchange ideas.

The WbS is invited by the Institute of Avian Research “Vogelwarte Helgoland”, founded in 1910. Its traditional key research areas are also the guiding themes of this meeting, bird migration and population ecology, combined with environmental studies and monitoring, e.g. of contaminants and breeding success or arrival dates of migrants. Long-term data sets characterise the scientific work and one species in focus is the Common Tern and its ecology. Waterbird research has a long tradition in the institute favoured by its location at the National Park and Wadden Sea World Heritage which supports many waterbird species and millions of individuals on their flyways during their annual cycle.



I want to express my gratitude to the members of the local organising committee, coming from the Institute of Avian Research, the Wadden Sea National Park Authority of Lower Saxony and the Landscape Ecology Group, University of Oldenburg. In particular I want to thank Gregor Scheiffarth: without his untiring commitment and strong competence this meeting and that of the IWSG will never have been possible. Our committee was supported by many people from the IWSG and the staff and candidates of the Institute of Avian Research.

We were successful in getting funds helping to reduce fees and encourage participation, especially of students. So we are thankful to all sponsors allowing the invitation of six plenary speakers. The major funding by the German Research Foundation (BE 916/10-1) underlines the scientific standards of this meeting. Furthermore, we thank the exhibitors and local companies for their support, the guides of the interesting field trips and Steffen Walentowitz who created the attractive conference logo.

We are very grateful to the Waterbird Society President and Councillors for their constant support and help during the organisation of the meeting. Our thanks go also to the enthusiastic conveners of the symposia enriching the program. The cooperation with the Chair of the Scientific Committee, Susan Elbin, was very constructive, timely and pleasant, ending with the impressive scientific program you will enjoy.

We wish you pleasant, inspiring and motivating scientific days within the fascinating nature of the Wadden Sea as one of the most attractive intertidal areas of the world for waterbirds and ornithologists.

Peter H. Becker

Chair of the Local Organising Committee



Welcome International Wader Study Group

Here we are in Wilhelmshaven. As the Chair of the International Wader Study Group I would like to thank the Wadden Sea National Park Authority of Lower Saxony, the Institute for Avian Research "Vogelwarte Helgoland" and the Landscape Ecology Group of the University of Oldenburg for their hospitality. I also welcome all participants, whether affiliated with the Waterbird Society, the International Wader Study Group, or both. The International Wader Study Group is excited to have our Annual Conference together with the Annual Meeting of Waterbird Society. This conference will have an even more global 'feel' for us than usual. For the members of the International Wader Study Group this is a unique opportunity to meet waterbird researchers from all over the world, and exchange ideas and learn. While we got to stay on the same continent where we usually have our meetings, many of you had to come from far. Thanks for travelling here to be with us.

We are also excited to have this meeting in the Wadden Sea area. A good number of International Wader Study Group members work and live here, and consider the tidal flats, salt marshes and barrier islands their second home. The Wadden Sea is one of the largest intertidal areas in the world, essential for 10 – 12 Million waders and waterbirds at one or the other stage in their annual cycle, and I'm sure is a source of inspiration for many of us. Research in the Wadden Sea has generated a large body of knowledge about the biology of waders and other waterbirds, which has inspired and guided researchers and conservationists from all over the world.

The Wadden Sea is a UNESCO World Heritage site for four years now. The host institutes, as well as the Waterbird Society and the International Wader Study Group can be proud of this achievement, as our joint work has contributed very substantially to the protection of the Wadden Sea. I'm afraid we cannot really lean back and just enjoy, because many conservation issues, such as ongoing fisheries or drilling for gas and oil remain. However, I'm sure that our enthusiasm for waterbirds and waders will generate new solutions, and that together we can contribute to further protect the Wadden Sea, and, for that matter, waders and waterbirds worldwide.

The International Wader Study Group is grateful to the hosting institutions for the time and personnel made available for organizing this large gathering of researchers and amateur biologists.

This is the 43rd Annual Conference of the International Wader Study Group, and the 37th Annual Meeting of the Waterbird Society. That is not too much of an age



difference, and this might work out very well. We even might decide to meet again. I'm sure this is going to be a special meeting. Enjoy it!

Yvonne I. Verkuil

Chair of the International Wader Study Group

Local Organising Committee Welcome – International Wader Study Group

We warmly welcome all participants of the joint Waterbird Society and International Wader Study Group conference. After the 2004 IWSG conference in Papenburg, this is the second time our team has the opportunity to organise the ISWG conference. Almost by definition, the participants of these conferences come from a broad range of countries. This year's joint conference with delegates from 31 countries takes the internationality one step further, providing the opportunity to exchange views and information on a truly global scale. We look forward to discussions among people from different countries and continents, among professional scientists, conservationists, and amateurs, between newcomers and long-term experienced wader and waterbird enthusiasts.

This year's IWSG conference is hosted by the *Wadden Sea National Park Authority of Lower Saxony* together with the *Institute of Avian Research* and the *Landscape Ecology Group* at the University of Oldenburg. Although all three institutions have their own background, they have in common a long history in the conservation of and research in the Wadden Sea. The joint organisation of the IWSG conference is another sign for the excellent co-operation between key organisations responsible for managing, conserving and studying this unique UNESCO World Heritage Site. The management of the highly dynamic Wadden Sea ecosystem has to be based on sound knowledge, generated in discussions with the scientific community. Long-term monitoring programmes combined with scientific research are essential in this process and the hosting institutions are, among others, central in their implementation and coordination in which many professional and amateur wader and waterbird enthusiasts are involved in. Another important aspect for the conservation of the UNESCO World Heritage property is the exchange of views and information with people from different



WbS and IWSG Joint Conference Wilhelmshaven 2013



parts of the world. For this purpose the 2013 joint Waterbird Society/IWSG conference offers a unique opportunity.

Organising such a conference is not possible without the help and support of numerous people and organisations. Several local organisations provided support in one way or another, and the *Umweltstiftung Weser-Ems* provided financial support. Many volunteers offered their time to turn the ideas for the conference into reality. In particular, we would like to mention the good co-operation with the local organising committee of the Waterbird Society, most of all Peter Becker. Without the synergy emerging from organising the two conferences together, this event would not have been possible.

We wish you all an enjoyable conference with many fruitful and inspiring discussions at the centre of the UNESCO World Heritage Site Wadden Sea.

Gregor Scheiffarth, Michael Exo, Nadine Oberdiek, Jutta Leyrer

Conference Organisers



WATERBIRD SOCIETY

LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Peter H. Becker (chair) | Christina Bauch | Jochen Dierschke | Anke Meinardus |
Nadine Oberdiek | Gregor Scheiffarth | Elke Schmidt | Lesley Szostek | Marco
Wassmann | Heike Wemhoff

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Susan Elbin (chair) | Peter H. Becker | Gregor Scheiffarth | Chip Weseloh

INTERNATIONAL WADER STUDY GROUP

LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Gregor Scheiffarth | Nadine Oberdiek | Michael Exo | Jutta Leyrer



SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Jutta Leyrer | Nathan Senner | Yvonne Verkuil | Gregor Scheiffarth

EXCURSION GUIDES

Jochen Dierschke | Dietrich Frank | Ommo Hüppop | Christiane Ketzenberg | Nadine
Oberdiek | Gundolf Reichert



The Waterbird Society

The Waterbird Society is composed of biologists, researchers, conservationists, students, and others interested in the behavior, ecology, and conservation of waterbirds. The organization is administered by four officers and nine council members elected from the Society's membership, which includes people from 31 countries. The Society is a member of the Ornithological Societies of North America (OSNA) and a contributing member of many other scientific societies worldwide, including American Bird Conservancy and The Ornithological Council.

OFFICERS

President:	Katharine Parsons
Vice President:	Susan Elbin
Secretary:	Clay Green
Treasurer:	Christine Custer
Editor of <i>Waterbirds</i> :	Stefanie L. Jones



ELECTED BOARDMEMBERS

2011-2013:	F. Chavez-Ramirez, J. Correa-Sandoval, N. Tsipoura
2012-2014:	J. Arnold, J. van der Winden, D. Moore
2013-2015:	J. Cohen, S. Karpanty, T. Simons

PAST PRESIDENTS

David Shealer, D. V. Chip Weseloh



International Wader Study Group

The International Wader Study Group is an organisation of enthusiastic professionals and amateurs researching waders, also called shorebirds. The involvement of the members of the IWSG in wader research ranges from observing waders in ones own 'backyard' to extensive, long-term studies aiming at a deeper understanding of spectacular wader phenomena like long-distance migration, living in extreme environments and variable reproductive strategies.

The aims of the IWSG are to: (a) maintain contact between both amateurs and professionals studying waders; (b) help organise co-operative studies; and (c) provide a vehicle for exchange of information on waders and their biology.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair:	Yvonne I. Verkuil
Vice-Chair:	Ole Thorup
General Secretary:	Gregor Scheiffarth
Treasurer:	David Turner
Membership Secretary:	Julia Karagicheva
Editor <i>Wader Study Group Bulletin</i> :	Humphrey Sitters
Editor <i>International Wader Studies</i> :	Piet van den Hout
Conference Coordinator:	Jutta Leyrer
Projects Coordinator:	Simon Gillings
Colour-marking Officers:	Jim Wilson & Simon Feys
IWSG-Wetlands International Liaison Officer:	David Stroud



ELECTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mark Collier | Patricia Gonzalez | Ken Gosbell | Jannik Hansen | Pedro Lourenço |
Magdalena Remisiewicz | Pavel Tomkovich | Les Underhill | Nils Warnock



General Information

MEETING VENUE

The conference meetings take place at the Stadthalle, located in the centre of Wilhelmshaven. Map see pages 275-276 The Stadthalle has a main conference room (Room A) and a number of additional smaller rooms (Room B, C for oral sessions). Poster presentations, exhibitions and catering for lunch and coffee breaks will be located in the foyer. From the hotels, the Stadthalle can be reached on foot or by public buses. There are many international restaurants located in the surrounding area.

REGISTRATION DESK

The main registration desk will be located at the Stadthalle and will be open on:

Tuesday, 24th September: 16:00 – 21:00

Wednesday, 25th September: 7:30 – 20:00

Thursday, 26th, **Saturday** 28th and **Sunday** 29th September: 8:30 – 19:00

Participants that arrive **Thursday evening** or during **Friday** will find us at Houseboat Arcona (see map pages 275-276).

PARKING

There is free parking in the basement of the Stadthalle (access: from Gerichtsstraße street). Don't use the parking deck adjacent to the Stadthalle! It closes at 20:30.

GETTING AROUND

Participants have **free access** to:

- all public buses in Wilhelmshaven
- the Wadden Sea World Heritage Visitor Center "Wattenmeerhaus"

Participants have **reduced access** to:

- German Navy Museum (Marinemuseum)
- Museum of Coastal History (Küstenmuseum)
- Aquarium

Simply show your conference tag for admittance or reduced access.



INTERNET

There will be some computers with internet access for public use provided at the Stadthalle. There is also Wi-Fi available, the access code will be provided at the registration desk.

HELP

For any questions or problems you might have, please contact the registration desk at the entrance of the meeting venue. Additionally, all members of the organising committee will be wearing green name tags and are also prepared to help you out wherever necessary. Please don't hesitate to ask us!

Registration desk phone number: +49 (0) 170 2429042

Emergency phone number (ambulance, fire brigade, police): 112

TRAINS TO OLDENBURG: BUS REPLACEMENT SERVICE

Due to construction work on the train tracks, there will be a bus replacement service running between Wilhelmshaven and Oldenburg on Friday, 27th (after 16:00), Saturday, 28th Sept and Sunday, 29th Sept. The bus will depart in a side street next to the station (street: Valoisstraße). The location is marked in the map on pages 275-276.

INFORMATION FOR PRESENTERS

Oral and symposium contributions:

15 minutes presentation + 4 minutes discussion time

Preview-room (please check **and submit** your presentation before your talk, you have the opportunity to do this up until the break before your session)

Poster presentations:

Posters will be displayed throughout the conference.

The main **Waterbird Society Poster Session** is at the Poster reception, when authors are expected to be present at their posters to answer questions (Wednesday, 25th Sept, 18:50 – 21:15).

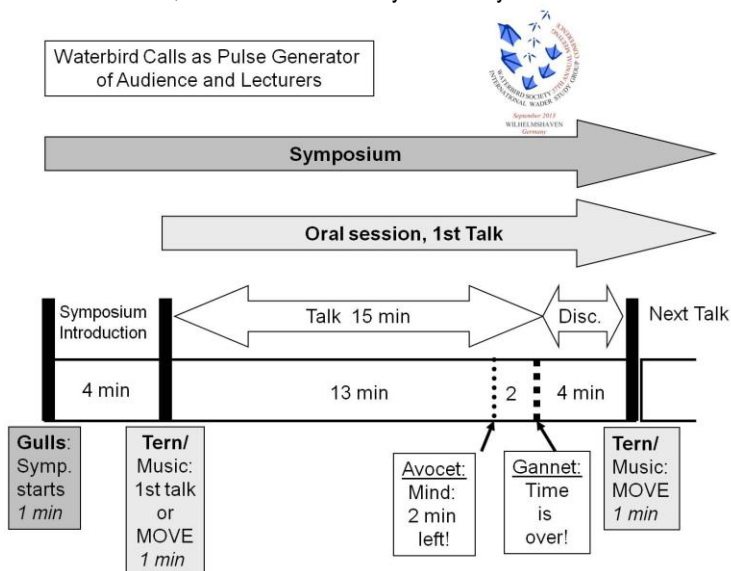
The main **International Wader Study Group Poster Sessions** are during lunch.



CENTRAL TIMING OF THE PROGRAMME

In order to keep time during our concurrent sessions we have devised a system of bird calls to alert all participants to the start and end of their sessions. Symposia begin a bit earlier than oral sessions and will be announced by 1 min of gull calls. Plenaries and Oral sessions will begin after 1 min of tern music. Afterwards, each talk will begin after the tern music.

The presenters of talks will be alerted after 13 min by an avocet to slowly conclude their presentation and after another 2 min a gannet will finish the talk and call in the discussion time. After the discussion the tern music will give everyone 1 min to move between rooms. This makes it easier for all members of the audience to switch sessions between talks, since it ensures the synchronicity of all talks.



BEST STUDENT PRESENTATION AND POSTER AWARD

Awards are given to students participating at the WbS meetings to recognize excellence in oral and poster presentations. These awards are presented at the Banquet on Saturday evening. Student contributions are marked throughout the program by a chick symbol.



Social Programme – Waterbird Society

WELCOME RECEPTION – Tuesday, 24th Sept between 18:00 – ca. 22:00 in the Foyer.

POSTER RECEPTION – Wednesday, 25th Sept between 18:50 – 21:15 in the Foyer.

WBS BUSINESS MEETING – Thursday, 26th Sept between 17:50 - 18:45 in Room A.

SILENT AUCTION – Thursday, 26th Sept between 19:35 - 20:45 in Room C.

As is tradition at Waterbird Society meetings, there will be a silent auction to raise money for next year's student travel awards. Upon registration participants can donate interesting, decorative or useful items, which may or may not be waterbird-related. These will then be auctioned off to the highest bidder. It is always fun to see which items end up in bidding wars. Remember you are supporting a very good cause!

BANQUET – Saturday, 28th September, at Gorch-Fock-Haus (street: Viktoriastraße 15). The banquet will conclude the conference and various **awards** will be given out. Participation is included in the registration fee and is free of charge for students. Please show your conference tag for admittance. If you do not wish to attend the banquet, please let us know at the registration desk.

Social Programme – International Wader Study Group

FILM – Friday, 27th September, at Houseboat Arcona from 21:00: 1st Wader Expedition to Mauritania, West Africa presented by Jim Wilson

SOCIAL EVENING – Saturday, 28th September, at Pumpwerk (Banter Deich 2) starting with dinner, followed by “Off Limits” (folk, rock) from Oldenburg, Germany playing from around 21:30. Admittance free from 21:30, just show your conference tag.

FILM – Sunday, 29th September, at Wattenmeerhaus from 20:00: From Father to Son – wet grassland conservation in Friesland, The Netherlands, presented by Theunis Piersma.

MUSIC – Sunday, 29th September, at Wattenmeerhaus from 21:00:

Kleefstra | Pruiksma | Kleefstra (improvisations, soundscapes) from Friesland, The Netherlands.



Excursions – Friday, 27th September

All buses will depart at the parking space next to the Stadthalle (street: Gerichtsstraße).

TOUR 1: OFF-SHORE ISLAND HELGOLAND

Helgoland is an isolated island within the German Bight, ca 1 km² in size. It consists of two islands: The main island and the dune island. The main island is characterized by up to 60 m high steep sandstone cliffs (where the seabirds breed), meadows, bushes and scrub as well as the village with 1500 inhabitants in total. The dune island holds sandy and gravel beaches as well as small dunes. Helgoland is famous as a migration hotspot in Europe. Data on bird migration have been collected since the 1840s and 429 species have been recorded since. The main island hosts also a large seabird colony. On Helgoland we will make a short visit to the ringing station of the Institute of Avian Research and otherwise go birdwatching around the main island.

EXPECTED SPECIES The breeding season is almost finished, but in the cliffs the latest breeding Gannets will still be present. Late September is in the middle of the passerine migration season, so a wide range of species can be expected. The number of birds and species varies day by day and is extremely weather dependent. Common migrants are e.g. Song Thrush, Chiffchaff, Meadow Pipit, while a wide variety of other species is usually present in lower numbers, also scarce species like Yellow-browed Warbler. The beaches can hold many passerines as well and the rotten kelp usually holds small numbers of waders. The dune island hosts a large colony of Harbour and Grey Seals, which can be seen at close range.

EQUIPMENT Beside the usual optical equipment, you should be prepared for any weather condition! In late September it can be sunny and warm, but also windy and cold. Clothing should therefore include rainproof jackets and it might also be wise to bring gloves. Comfy walking shoes are sufficient, as we will walk only on tracks and on sand. The trip to the island will be by a 3hr-boat trip (one way) or by plane (ca 30 min flight one way). Waves on the boat can be high, depending on wind conditions, so if you are sensitive to seasickness, come prepared.

ITINERARY

- 07:00 departure Wilhelmshaven (bus + 3hr boat trip)
- 12:30 – 16:00 Helgoland
- 20:00 arrival Wilhelmshaven



TOUR 2: WADDEN SEA ISLAND LANGEOG (BY BOAT AND BICYCLE)

Langeog is one of the inhabited Eastfrisian Islands off the German North Sea coast. It is part of the Wadden Sea National Park of Lower Saxony, a UNESCO world heritage site since 2009. The island is characterized by large dune areas, natural salt marshes, and vast sandy beaches. The typical island village is surrounded by extensively used pastures and meadows is protected by a dike line. Langeog is an important breeding, wintering and stop-over site for thousands of waders, gulls, geese and ducks.

DESTINATIONS "Neuer Sommerpolder": restoration of former salt marshes after de-embankment, location of gull colonies, Redshank breeding area

"Großer Schlopp": former dune cut-through created by storm tides during 19th century, now extensively used as grassland (cattle-grazed), important breeding area for Black-tailed Godwits, roosting site for geese, gulls and waders

"Melkhörndüne": highest dune on Langeog (20 m above sea level), panoramic view (in case of good weather) over Langeog dune and salt marsh areas, breeding and hunting habitat for Hen Harrier, Short-eared Owl

"Flinthörn": natural developed salt marshes and most important high tide roost of thousands of e.g. Dunlins, Bar-tailed Godwits, Grey Plovers, Red Knots.

TOUR The journey to the island will be by boat. Don't be afraid of seasickness: There will be hardly any high waves. On the island we will go by bike as distances are too far to walk. But don't worry! Langeog isn't as big as it may seem. We will cycle not more than 15 km the whole day. Bikes will be organized. We will start with our bike trip in the village. First we'll head to the western parts of the island to visit the dune and salt marsh areas. Two hours before high tide (approx. 5:30pm) we will arrive at the main high tide roost 'Flinthörn'. At 8pm we will take the boat back to the mainland.

EQUIPMENT Wind, wind, wind - you should keep this absolutely in mind! When we're cycling and when you make your choice of your outfit. Besides the usual optical equipment, you should be prepared to any weather condition! In late September it can be sunny and warm, but also windy and cold. Clothing should therefore include rainproof jackets and a warm sweater. Normal shoes are sufficient, as we will walk only on tracks and on sand. Lunch will be organised, and there is the possibility to purchase additional snacks and drinks on the island.

ITINERARY 09:00 departure Wilhelmshaven (bus and boat)
11:30 – 20:00 Langeog
22:30 arrival Wilhelmshaven



TOUR 3: MUDFLAT HIKING TOUR MINSENER OOG

Enjoy the vastness of the landscape during a mudflat hike to the uninhabited island Minsener Oog within the UNESCO World Heritage Site Lower Saxony Wadden Sea National Park. It is a small island between the island of Wangerooge and the river Jade. It has been developed under human influence during the last hundred years from small sandbanks to a nowadays 12 m high dune island of 210 ha in size. The flora is mainly marram grass and some conglomerations of small willows. In a valley between the dunes exists a small fresh water pond. The only house on the island is used by the occasional workers and the warden. There is no regular boat traffic to the island.

Minsener Oog is one of the most **important breeding sites for seabirds** along the North Sea coast. Especially Arctic Terns, Common Terns and Little Terns are breeding in high numbers. During the **migration season thousands of waders** like Dunlins, Grey Plovers, Oystercatchers, Bar-tailed Godwits and Curlews use the island as a high tide roost

EQUIPMENT This tour is a 10 km hike through sandy and mostly hard mudflats with gullies to be crossed. We recommend special neoprene (surf) shoes, old sport shoes or socks. Rubber boots are unsuitable (too short for crossing the gullies). There is one big gully just before the island which could have high water levels depending on the weather conditions; **take spare clothes and a towel** with you in case you get wet! Even if the weather is warm it is always cold on the mudflats. Be aware to take enough warm clothes with you. And, showers can occur daily. We thus recommend bringing a light wind- and waterproof jacket, as well as sun protection. There is no public toilet available during the tour. **Bring a backpack.** Lunch packets will be provided, and have to be carried by yourself. There is no chance for shopping. So, bring enough water to drink. This tour is not suitable for physically handicapped people.

Due to the low tide the birds will be spread over the wide mudflats, do not expect big numbers of birds sitting in front of you. This will be a tour to get an impression of the feeding habitat. **This is not a birding tour!**

ITINERARY

- 08:00 departure from Wilhelmshaven by bus
- 09:00 – 11:00 walking to the island
- 11:00 – 12:00 Minsener Oog
- 12:00 – 13:30 walk back to mainland
- 14:30 arrival Wilhelmshaven



TOUR 4: JADE BIGHT (BUS TOUR)

There are three large bays in the Wadden Sea National Park of Lower Saxony: the Dollard, the Leybucht and the Jade Bay next to Wilhelmshaven, our destination for today. It is a vast region in which you can experience marshes, sandy heights and moorland next to the Wadden Sea. The Jade Bay is a tidal flat of 190 square kilometers influenced by both the tidal salt water and fresh water from the river Jade. Mudflats are mostly dominated by fine sediments. Accordingly bird-species are dominated by ducks/geese (for example Shelduck, max. 25,000 ind., Wigeon 20,000, Pintail 3,500) and waders (Pied Avocet 9,000, Dunlin 25,000, Red Knot 1,500, Oystercatcher 7,000, Redshank 3,500 etc.). The marshes around the bay became highly significant wintering area for arctic geese (e.g. Barnacle Goose, max. 35,000 ind.). After the breeding season the Jade bay is one the most important roosting / gathering place for Eurasian Spoonbill (max. 220 ind.) in the Wadden Sea. Even for raptors (White-tailed eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Merlin, Rough-legged Buzzard, Hen and Marsh Harrier), Short-eared Owl or coastal passerines (e.g. Twite, Rock Pipit) the Jade Bay is a decent spot. With a little luck we will probably see a number of birds today!

TOUR Our trip will be by bus, starting at Wilhelmshaven. We are heading for some stops along the Jade Bay to get an impression of both landscape and birds. Here and there we will take a little walk so we won't fall asleep on the bus... Walking shoes will be sufficient.

DESTINATIONS "Petersgroden": salt marshes (top Redshank breeding area), vast mudflats & a former clay pit behind the seawall (waders, ducks, gulls, terns).

"River Jade": Estuary of the river Jade, followed by mudflats, salt marshes and reedbeds (Avocet, Dunlin, Shelduck).

"Wapeler Außengroden": Extended foreland with saltmarshes and reedbeds (raptors, geese).

"Sehestedt": A 'floating' (i.e. tidal influenced) peat bog - unique in the Wadden Sea (waders, ducks, maybe Spoonbill, egrets).

"Augustgroden": An inland site which was used for clay excavation, now restored for wildlife (waders, ducks).

"Beckmannsfeld to Eckwardersiel": A little walk (ca. 2.5 km) on a damm passing saltmarshes, a lagoon and mudflats with gullies (Spoonbill, Eider, waders, gulls, terns). (For those who would prefer not to walk it is possible to stay on the bus).

EQUIPMENT You should be prepared to any weather condition. Please bring some warm and wind/rain resistant clothes with you (which we will hopefully not have



to use). Comfy walking shoes are sufficient, as we will walk on tracks and on grass. A telescope is highly recommended. Lunch will be organized at a restaurant. There are no shopping possibilities. You might want to organise and bring along little snacks and drinks yourself. There are restrooms on the bus and along the way.

ITINERARY 10:30 departure Wilhelmshaven
 19:30 arrival Wilhelmshaven

In addition we will arrange short tours around:

1. INSTITUTE OF AVIAN RESEARCH “VOGELWARTE HELGOLAND” which had its centenary in 2010 and is one of the world’s oldest ornithological research institutes

DATE Friday, 27th September, 15:30; guided by Franz Bairlein (director); ~1.5 hrs

2. WADDEN SEA WORLD HERITAGE VISITOR CENTRE “WATTENMEERHAUS”

DATE Friday, 27th September, 18:00; guided by Roger Staves; ~ 1 hr

 Sunday, 29th September, 11:00; guided by Roger Staves; ~ 1 hr

3. COMMON TERN COLONY SITE AND LONG-TERM STUDY SITE ‘BANTER SEE’. Please note that there will be no more birds present at this time and the equipment will also be gone from the site.

DATE Sunday, 29th September, 10:00; guide: Peter H. Becker (~ 45 min)

Please contact the staff at the registration desk for any of these tours. Participation is free of charge.



WbS – Tuesday, 24 September 2013

	Stadthalle		Institute of Avian Research
09:00 – 16:00		ARRIVAL OF PARTICIPANTS	WbS COUNCIL MEETING
16:00 – 21:00	REGISTRATION		
18:00 – 22:00	WELCOME RECEPTION		



WbS – Wednesday, 25 September

Stadthalle		
	Room A (Great Hall)	Room B
08:15 – 09:00	OPENING AND WELCOME	
09:00 – 10:00	P E. Cam	
10:00 – 10:35	BREAK	
10:35 – 12:15	O Life-History Strategies and Patterns	O Foraging Strategies
12:15 – 13:30	LUNCH - POSTER	
13:30 – 15:15	S Population Ecology of Terns I	O Food Supply, Foraging and Diets
15:15 – 15:40	BREAK	
15:40 – 17:25	S Population Ecology of Terns II	O Social Behaviour and Reproduction
17:25 – 17:50	BREAK	
17:50 – 18:50	P I.C.T Nisbet	
18:50 – 21:15	POSTER RECEPTION	



WbS – Thursday, 26 September

Stadthalle			
	Room A (Great Hall)	Room B	Room C
09:00 – 10:00	P J. Gonzalez-Solis		
10:00 – 10:30	BREAK		
10:30 – 12:15	S Rise and Fall of Gull Populations	O Population Status, Distribution and Habitat Selection	
12:15 – 13:30	LUNCH - POSTER		
13:30 – 15:15	S Seabirds as Bioindicators	O Human Impact to Waterbird Habitat	
15:15 – 15:40	BREAK		
15:40 – 17:25	S Chemical Contamination of Waterbirds	O Habitat Use and Management	
17:25 – 17:50	BREAK		
17:50 – 18:45	WbS Business Meeting		
18:50 – 19:35	P H.-U. Peter		
19:35 – 20:45			SILENT AUCTION



WbS | IWSG – Friday, 27 September

7:00 – 22:30

WbS | IWSG –
EXCURSIONS

from 18:00

IWSG –
Registration desk open at
Houseboat Arcona

IWSG events at Houseboat Arcona

19:00 – 21:00

IWSG DINNER (IWSG delegates only)

21:00 – 22:00

FILM: 1st Mauritania wader expedition by Jim
Wilson & Co



WbS | IWSG – Saturday, 28 September

Stadthalle			
	Room A (Great Hall)	Room B	Room C
09:00 – 10:00	P J. Gill		
10:00 – 10:30	BREAK		
10:30 – 12:15	S Importance of the Wadden Sea in the Life Cycle of Waterbirds	O Demography and Dispersal	
12:15 – 13:30	LUNCH - POSTER		
13:30 – 14:25	P T. Dodman		
14:30 – 16:15	S Migratory Connectivity in Arctic Geese	O Waterbirds as Bioindicators of Ecosystem Health	O Importance of the Wadden Sea II
16:15 – 16:40	BREAK		
16:40 – 18:20	O Anthropogenic Structures and Threats	O Alaskan Waders East Asian – Australasian Flyway	
20:00 - late	Waterbird Society BANQUET – awards, closing GORCH – FOCK – HAUS		
	Wader Study Group SOCIAL EVENING incl. dinner PUMPWERK		



IWSG – Sunday, 29 September

Stadthalle

Room A

Room B

Room C

09:00 – 10:00

IWSG - AGM

10:00 – 10:15

WELCOME NOTES

10:15 – 10:45

BREAK

10:45 – 12:30

TALKS
Black-tailed Godwits

TALKS
Waders around the
World

12:30 – 14:00

LUNCH - POSTER

14:00 – 15:40

TALKS
Population
Dynamics

TALKS
Disturbances and
Conservation

WORKSHOP
Using geolocators to
track the annual
cycle of waders

15:40 – 16:40

BREAK

16:40 – 18:20

TALKS
Curlews and
Whimbrels

TALKS
Physiology and
Genetics

WORKSHOP
Using geolocators to
track the annual
cycle of waders

18:20 – 18:30

CLOSING SESSION

Wattenmeerhaus

19:00 – 20:00

DINNER (IWSG delegates only)

20:00 – late

FILM: FROM FATHER TO SON – documentary on wet grassland
bird protection presented by Theunis Piersma

MUSIC: KLEEFSTRA | PRUIKSMA | KLEEFSTRA Friesland, NL



IWSG – Monday, 30 September

		Stadthalle	
		Room A (Great Hall)	Room B
during the day		WORKSHOP Status and conservation needs of the world's Numeniini species	WORKSHOP Population processes in Eurasian Oystercatchers
	19:00	DINNER – HOUSEBOAT ARCONA (IWSG delegates only)	



Tuesday, 24th September 2013

- 09:00-16:00** WbS Council Meeting – Institute of Avian Research
16:00-21:00 Registration – Stadthalle
18:00-22:00 Welcome Reception – Stadthalle

Wednesday, 25th September 2013

- 08:15 – 09:00** **Opening** – Katherine C. Parsons (President Waterbird Society)
Greeting
Andreas Wagner (Mayor of Wilhelmshaven)
Peter H. Becker (Institute of Avian Research 'Vogelwarte Helgoland')
Peter Südbeck (National Park Authority of Lower Saxony)
Jens Enemark (Common Wadden Sea Secretariat)
Mike Pienkowski (International Wader Study Group)
music: Schlagwerk Nordwest (directed by Axel Fries)
- 09:00 – 10:00** **INVITED PLENARY**
E Cam, J-Y Monnat: Beyond aggregate life history trajectories:
insight from a 35-year study on Kittiwakes

10:00 – 10:35 **Break**

10:35 – 12:15

Room A

Room B

ORAL SESSION:

ORAL SESSION:

LIFE HISTORY STRATEGIES AND PATTERNS

FORAGING STRATEGIES

10:35

BJ Ens: The study of career decisions: Oystercatchers as social prisoners

G DellAriccia: Olfactory foraging in temperate waters: sensitivity to dimethylsulfide by shearwaters in the Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea



- 10:55** **J van der Winden:** Black tern pair bond and breeding site fidelity in The Netherlands **A-M Corman:** Impact of time of day on flight and distribution patterns of Lesser Black-Backed Gulls at sea
- 11:15** **D Catlin:** The effect of body condition on short- and long-term fitness: why fat plovers may be better plovers **M Suradeykina:** Exploratory behaviour and independent foraging appear to have begun earlier in slow growing starving chicks of Black-Headed Gulls
- 11:35** **H Zhang:** Fitness prospects: effects of gender, recruitment age and senescence on reproductive value in a long-lived seabird **FR Ceia:** The role of individual foraging specialization in the trophic relationships between seabirds and the marine environment
- 11:55** **C Bauch:** The use of telomeres as a biomarker of ageing in a long-lived seabird **L Zango:** Dynamic feeding strategies of Cory's Shearwaters over the breeding season as revealed by GPS and stable isotope analyses

12:15 – 13:30 **Lunch; Poster Session**

13:30 – 15:15

Room A

SYMPOSIUM:

POPULATION ECOLOGY OF TERNS: FROM LIFE HISTORY TO DEMOGRAPHY I

Conv.: **PH Becker, DJ Moore**

Room B

ORAL SESSION:

FOOD SUPPLY, FORAGING AND DIETS

13:35

J Riechert: The regulatory effect of hormones during the reproductive and life cycle of terns

A Dänhardt: Seasonal abundance patterns of prey fish explain breeding phenology of Common Terns *Sterna hirundo* in the Wadden Sea



- 13:55** **M Rebke:** Insights into the processes driving reproductive output in the Common Tern **N Guse:** Seabirds are whale watchers: the influence of cetaceans on the distribution of Northern Gannets in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, NW Atlantic Ocean
- 14:15** **J Arnold:** Novel findings from a 6-year study: First estimates of adult survival for Great Lakes Common Terns and insights into recruitment **C Whitcombe:** Dietary and stable isotope analysis reveal the role of a cryptic prey in the Elegant Tern *Thalasseus elegans* food web in southern California waters
- 14:35** **B Palestis:** How philopatric are Common Terns? **A Soriano-Redondo:** Fisheries and Scopoli's Shearwater interactions assessed through GPS tracking, vessel monitoring system positioning and stable isotope analyses
- 14:55** **DJ Moore:** Correlates of breeding site tenacity and productivity for Common Terns nesting on the North Channel of Lake Huron **Z Zajková:** Movements and at-sea activity of Boyd's Shearwaters *Puffinus boydi* using geolocators and stable isotopes analyses

15:15 – 15:40 **Break**

15:40 – 17:25

Room A

Room B

SYMPOSIUM:

ORAL SESSION:

**POPULATION ECOLOGY OF
TERNs: FROM LIFE HISTORY TO
DEMOGRAPHY II**

**SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND
REPRODUCTION**

Conv.: **PH Becker, DJ Moore**



- 15:45** **J Spendelow:** Out of (colony) site, but not out of sight: Recent research on Roseate Terns at staging sites in Massachusetts **K Shlepr:** Temporal and spatial aspects of aggressive interactions in nesting gulls
- 16:05** **M Ledwoń:** Immigration as the main factor driving species expansion - the case of Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida* in Poland **A Druzyaka:** Delayed colony formation in Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus* results in escalating competition, female starvation and decreasing of reproductive output: the results of a natural experiment
- 16:25** **L Szostek:** Immigration and local recruitment as drivers of population growth in a Common Tern colony **A Yurlov:** The influence of weather conditions on the breeding performance of Common gull in South of West Siberia
- 16:45** **D Shealer:** Annual adult survival estimates for Black Tern populations in the United States and the Netherlands ~~**F Vigfusdottir:** Causes of extensive Arctic Tern chick mortality in W and NE Iceland: influence of dietary composition and provisioning rates~~
- 17:05** **E Stienen:** Terns as health indicators for the pelagic realm **E Zinsser:** Factors affecting nest success of Wilson's Plover in South Carolina
- 17:25 – 17:50** **Break**
- 17:50 – 18:50** **INVITED PLENARY**
ICT Nisbet: From egg to senescence: long-term studies of Common Terns
- 18:50 – 21:15** **POSTER RECEPTION**



11:35	AW Diamond: Recent trends in gull numbers in eastern Canada	F Chavez-Ramirez: Winter habitat for Whooping Cranes on the Texas coast: current availability and future trends under sea-level rise scenarios
11:55	J-F Giroux: The rise and fall of Ring-Billed Gulls in eastern North America	K Arikan: Population status and distribution of 3 swan species <i>Cygnus spp.</i> in Turkey
12:15 – 13:30	Lunch; Poster Session	
13:30 – 15:15	Room A	Room B
	SYMPOSIUM: SEABIRDS AS BIOINDICATORS IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC AND WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN Conv.: JA Ramos, M Bolton	ORAL SESSION: HUMAN IMPACT TO WATERBIRD HABITAT
13:35	J Ramos: Cory's Shearwaters as sentinels of the effects of environmental variability in North Atlantic marine food webs	CA Pernellet: Flooded fields and wintering ducks: a comparison of hosting potential among European rice production areas
13:55	AW Diamond: Puffin breeding biology reflects herring availability in the Bay of Fundy marine ecosystem	RE Smedley: The effect of Intensified rice production on avian biodiversity within the Philippines
14:15	S Votier: How are seabirds responding to changing fisheries and how do we tell?	MM Durkin: Impacts of anthropogenic disturbance on Snowy Plover reproductive success and behaviour in Northwest Florida



14:35	V Cortés: Seabird bycatch in Western Mediterranean fisheries	D Lieske: Maps, models, and marine threats: assessing the geographic patterns of vulnerability of Atlantic Canadian seabirds at sea
14:55	JO Bustnes: Top predator seabirds as potential bio-indicators for persistent pollutants in marine ecosystems	L Nielsen: Living on the edge: gulls and humans in off-shore colonies
15:15 – 15:40	Break	
15:40 – 17:25	Room A	Room B
	SYMPOSIUM: CHEMICAL CONTAMINATION OF WATERBIRDS: STILL AND ISSUE OF CONCERN? Conv.: TW Custer, C Sanpera	ORAL SESSION: HABITAT USE AND MANAGEMENT
15:45	JO Bustnes: Ecological impacts of environmental contaminants and feeding conditions in a top predator seabird: observational and experimental evidence	DS Cimiotti: How do individual Common Shelducks use the German Wadden Sea during the year?
16:05	P Frederick: Effects of environmental Methylmercury exposure on mate choice and steroid hormone expression in White Ibises <i>Eudocimus albus</i>	A Cross: The influence of seabirds on Scottish islands; from guano to grass to grazing



- 16:25** **CM Custer:** Environmental contaminants and waterbirds in the Great Lakes **J Lamb:** A review of historical and ongoing vegetation management for ground-nesting seabirds in northern Atlantic breeding colonies
- 16:45** **M Strazds:** The Black Stork as a "new" victim of organochlorine contamination – history of research and current knowledge of a state **AR Kocek:** Factors affecting saltmarsh sparrow nesting density and reproductive success in New York City: implications for tidal marsh management action plans in urban areas
- 17:05** **R Mateo:** Lead poisoning in waterbirds: do limitations in the perception of risk reduce the compliance of Pb shot ban? **S Oppel:** New approaches to monitor nocturnal burrow-nesting seabirds
- 17:25 – 17:50** **Break**
- 17:50 – 18:45** **WbS Business Meeting**
- 18:50 – 19:35** **INVITED PLENARY**
H-U Peter: Research and conservation in Antarctic Seabirds
- 19:35 – 20:45** **Silent Auction (Room C)**



Friday, 27th September 2013

EXCURSIONS

IWSG events at Houseboat Arcona

19:00 – 21:00 IWSG DINNER (IWSG delegates only)

21:00 – 22:00 FILM: 1st Mauritania wader expedition
presented by Jim Wilson



Saturday, 28th September 2013

09:00 – 10:00 **PLENARY** invited by National Park Authority of Lower Saxony
J Gill: Seasonal interactions in migratory birds: individual-based drivers and population-scale patterns

10:00 – 10:30 **Break**

10:30 – 12:15

Room A

Room B

SYMPOSIUM:

IMPORTANCE OF THE WADDEN SEA IN THE LIFE CYCLE OF WATERBIRDS

Conv.: **PJ van den Hout**

ORAL SESSION:

DEMOGRAPHY AND DISPERSAL

10:35

J Shamoun-Baranes: Sexually distinct foraging strategies and individual specialization in an omnivorous seabird

P Minias: Colony size is regulated by opposing selective pressures in the Common Tern

10:55

S Duijns: Sex-specific winter distribution in a sexually dimorphic shorebird is explained by food resources rather than body mass

M Frederiksen: Survival and population growth of Sandwich Terns in a large Danish colony: any detectable response to culling of large gulls?

11:15

JA Alves: Stop using that stop-over! Changing patterns of habitat use by staging Icelandic godwits in the Netherlands

MC Green: Movements and survival of juvenile Reddish Egrets on the coastal Gulf of Mexico

11:35

J Reneerkens: The importance of the Wadden Sea for Sanderlings

KL Hunt: Rags to riches: post-flood demography of Piping Plovers in the Great Plains



11:55 **T Lok:** Density dependence in Spoonbill survival: when and where does it happen? **LJ Eberhart-Phillips:** Spatiotemporal dynamics of a threatened shorebird: the roles of dispersal, climate, and management

12:15 – 13:30 **Lunch; Poster Session**

13:30 – 14:25 **PLENARY** invited by Common Wadden Sea Secretariat
T Dodman: The Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative - linking critical sites along the East Atlantic Flyway

14:30 – 16:15	Room A	Room B	Room C
	<p>SYMPOSIUM: CHALLENGES TO MIGRATORY CONNECTIVITY IN ARCTIC GEESE Conv.: J Stahl, K Koffijberg</p>	<p>ORAL SESSION: WATERBIRDS AS BIOINDICATORS OF ECOSYSTEM HEALTH</p>	<p>ORAL SESSION: IMPORTANCE OF THE WADDEN SEA IN THE LIFE CYCLE OF WADERS</p>
14:35	<p>AD Fox: Climate change and contrasting plasticity in timing of a two-step migration episode of an arctic-nesting avian herbivore</p>	<p>C Sanpera: Is mercury pollution in Audouin's gull a matter of concern?</p>	<p>J Blew: Migratory birds in the Wadden Sea: huge numbers, contrasting trends and still no clue?</p>
14:55	<p>J Stahl: Flexible migration and range expansion of barnacle geese in times of global change - the green wave revisited</p>	<p>T Custer: Contaminant Exposure in Waterbirds Nesting in Green Bay, Wisconsin, USA</p>	<p>F. Hillig: Migration strategies of satellite tracked Grey Plovers <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> staging in the Wadden Sea</p>



15:15	M Loonen: Carrying capacity of Arctic tundra for geese	N Tsipoura: Metal contaminants in shorebirds during migration through Delaware Bay	A Dokter: Oystercatchers moving with the tides: site-fidelity in a dynamic environment
15:35	C Sandström: Migratory connectivity and the role of parasites	P Schwemmer: Change is the only constant: birds indicate long-term changes in the German Wadden Sea	J Leyrer: Conservation ecology of a declining long-distance migrant shorebird in an UNESCO world heritage site
15:55	H Schekkerman: Population modeling for management scenarios for European Greater White-Fronted Geese <i>Anser a. albifrons</i> : combining behavioural and demographic effects	LR Wires: Advancing U.S. Great Lakes colonial waterbird monitoring priorities through sampling and collaboration	L Schmaltz: Reduced apparent survival contributes to the decline in the use of the East Atlantic Flyway by Ruff <i>Philomachus pugnax</i>
16:15 – 16:40	Break		



16:40 – 18:20		Room A	Room B
		ORAL SESSION: ANTHROPOGENIC STRUCTURES AND THREATS	ORAL SESSION: ALASKAN WADERS EAST ASIAN -AUSTRALASIAN FLYWAY
16:40		M Avis: Flight behavior of breeding Piping Plovers <i>Ch. melodus</i> : implications for risk of collision with turbines and other human structures	B Kempenaers: you snooze, you lose: adaptive sleep loss in polygynous Pectoral Sandpipers
17:00		N Burton: Tracking Lesser Black-backed Gulls through the year reveals annual, seasonal, and individual variation in seabird – wind-farm interactions	M Bulla: Biparental incubation scheduling: no evidence for energetic constraints
17:20		A Braasch: Do seabirds avoid off-shore wind farms during construction? The case of the Common Guillemot <i>Uria aalge</i>	D Ruthrauff: Coping with the cold: physiological and behavioural adaptations of Rock Sandpipers wintering in upper Cook Inlet, Alaska
17:40		TR Simons: Assessing the effects of pedestrians, vehicles, and aircraft on nesting American Oystercatchers on the Outer Banks of North Carolina	J Conklin: There are no low-quality godwits in New Zealand
18:00		J Cohen: Waterbird road mortality at Gulf Islands National Seashore, Florida	D Melville: China's new Great Wall
EVENING EVENTS			
20:00 – late		Waterbird Society BANQUET – Gorch-Fock-Haus	Wader Study Group SOCIAL EVENING – Pumpwerk



Sunday, 29th September 2013

09:00 – 10:00 IWSG - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

10:00 – 10:15 Welcome by the Mayor of Wilhelmshaven

10:15 – 10:45 Break

10:45 – 12:25

Room A

Room B

ORAL SESSION:

BLACK-TAILED GODWITS

10:45 R Marquez-Ferrando: The Continental European population of Black-tailed Godwits *Limosa limosa limosa* now winters closer to the breeding grounds

11:05 NR Senner: When Siberia comes to The Netherlands: The response of Continental Black-tailed Godwits to a record cold spring

11:25 M Verhoeven: Early-season decision-making of Continental Black-tailed Godwits: When and where to breed in relation to food resources

11:45 H Hötter: Effectiveness of meadow bird protection in Germany

ORAL SESSION:

WADERS AROUND THE WORLD

JN Shah: Monitoring of shorebirds along the coast of Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates

J Pandiyan: Climate change and shorebird communities

DS Dorofeev: Post-breeding wader stopovers on the central part of the western coast of Kamchatka, Russia

P Bocher: How the Amazon river influences the community structure and the sizes of Nearctic shorebirds wintering on mud banks of the Guyana's coast?



12:05 **A Barkow:** The Black-tailed Godwit LIFE-project in the Hetter area, Germany: Measures, population dynamics and future prospects **H Sitters:** Primary moult strategies of adult Palearctic waders in Australia

12:25 – 14:00 **Lunch and Poster Session**

14:00 – 15:40	Room A	Room B	Room C
14:00	ORAL SESSION: POPULATION DYNAMICS	ORAL SESSION: DISTURBANCES AND CONSERVATION	WORKSHOP: USING GEOLOCATORS TO TRACK THE ANNUAL CYCLE OF WADERS
14:00	G Quintenne: 1980-2012 population trends in wintering shorebirds in France	G Olsthoorn: Stabilizing a local wader population by optimizing habitat and minimizing predation – measurements and effects	C Minton: Introduction to the workshop
14:20	LJ Wright: Oystercatchers adapt to declining Cockle stocks by changing their local foraging behaviour	V Zámečník: Protection of Northern Lapwing breeding sites – current state and future visions	J Fox: Geolocator developments – IWSG 2013 geolocator workshop



14:40	J Pearce-Higgins: Climate change and breeding waders: From impacts to adaptation	F Burns: Habitat-specific effects of feral cat control on nest survival of the critically endangered St Helena Plover	C Minton: Highlights from geolocator studies of waders
15:00		C Collop: Understanding birds' responses to human disturbance	R Summers: Precision and accuracy of geolocators
15:20		C Murchison: Human disturbance impacts shorebird habitat selection and foraging at a Vancouver Island migratory stopover site	EY Loktinov: Study of the Red Knot breeding biology in the sub-Arctic with the help of geo-locators

15:40 – 16:40 Break and Poster Session

16:40 – 18:20	Room A	Room B	Room C
	ORAL SESSION: CURLEWS AND WHIMBREL	ORAL SESSION: PHYSIOLOGY AND GENETICS	WORKSHOP: USING GEOLOCATORS TO TRACK THE ANNUAL CYCLE OF WADERS



16:40	E Iversen: Trans-Atlantic migration route of the Eskimo Curlew <i>Numenius borealis</i>	E Kok: Are migrations motivated by seasonally changing habitat preferences? Pinning down a “visual concept of place in Red Knots”	S Lisovski: New technologies – new insights – new challenges
17:00	F Kazansky: Far Eastern Curlew is a rare nesting species of the Kronotsky reserve	C Küpper: Estimating male/female proportions of effective populations in polyandrous Snowy Plovers	open discussion
17:20	A Perkins: Determining causes of decline of the UK's breeding Whimbrels <i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	N Rönkä: Genetic and social mating in the Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina schinzii</i>	
17:40	D Douglas: Drivers of Eurasian Curlew declines in the UK uplands	R Wlodarczyk: Melanin-based coloration as an indicator of phenotypic quality in Common Snipe	



18:00 **D Tate:** Results
 from a study of
 Whimbrel *Numenius*
 phaeopus at a
 spring staging site in
 England

18:20 – 18:30 **CLOSURE OF CONFERENCE**

Wattenmeerhaus

19:00 – 20:00 **Dinner** (IWSG delegates only)

20:00 - late **FILM:** From Father To Son – documentary on wet grassland
 bird protection presented by Theunis Piersma

MUSIC: Kleefstra | Pruiksmas | Kleefstra Friesland, NL



Monday, 30th September 2013

09:00 – 18:00	Room A	Room B
	WORKSHOP: STATUS AND CONSERVATION NEEDS OF THE WORLD'S NUMENIINI SPECIES	WORKSHOP: POPULATION PROCESSES IN EURASIAN OYSTERCATCHERS
	DISCUSSION ROUNDS Demographic trends of Numeniini populations Diagnosing causes of population trends	DISCUSSION ROUNDS
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Conservation examples Next steps and future research	
17:30	Closing	
19:00	dinner HOUSEBOAT ARCONA (IWSG delegates only)	





POSTER INDEX – WATERBIRD SOCIETY








student presentation

- P1: **M Allen:** The Great Egret Roost Blitz 2012: Mapping and Monitoring Autumnal Waterbird Roosts in the New York City Suburbs
- P2:  **PM Araújo:** Possible effects of the use of nasal saddles on diurnal Mallard seasonal behaviour on refuge areas of Western Iberia
- P3: **PM Araújo:** Using triglycerides to evaluate migratory strategies in passerines
- P4: **MM Benito:** Sex ratio adjustments in common terns: influence of mate condition and maternal experience
- P5: **S Bouwhuis:** Causes and consequences of between-individual variation in within-individual rates of improvement and senescence in a long-lived seabird
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