

**Migratory birds**  
**Successes in the last 30 years and new challenges**

**for the**  
**Workshop on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity for**  
**Transboundary Cooperation**

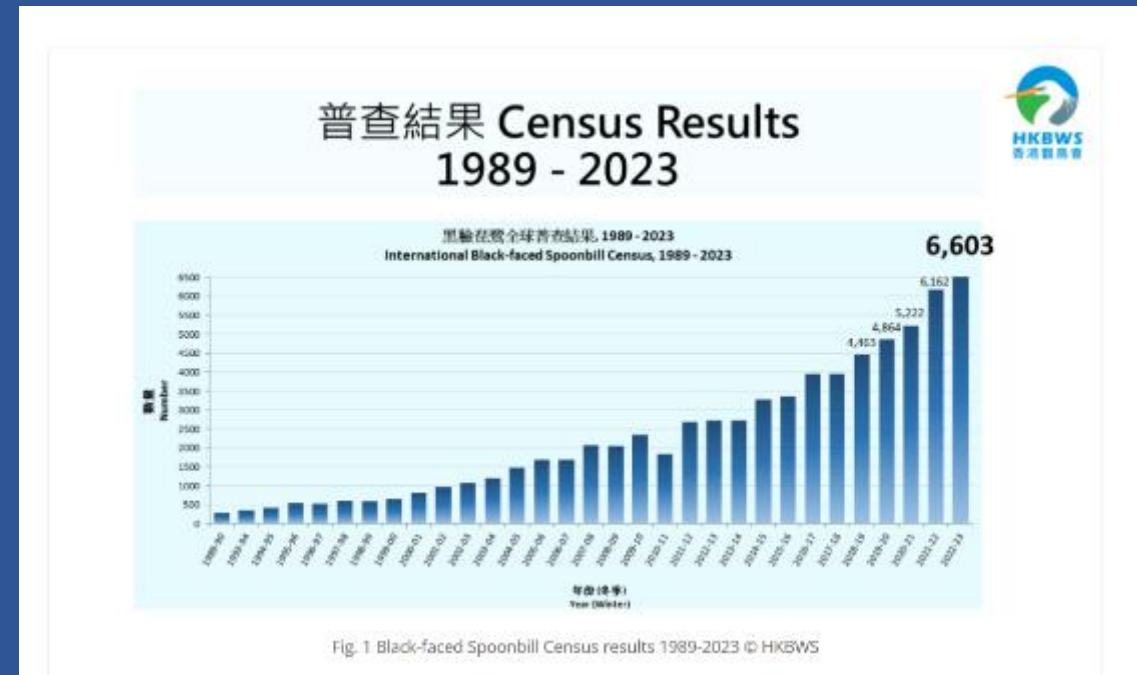
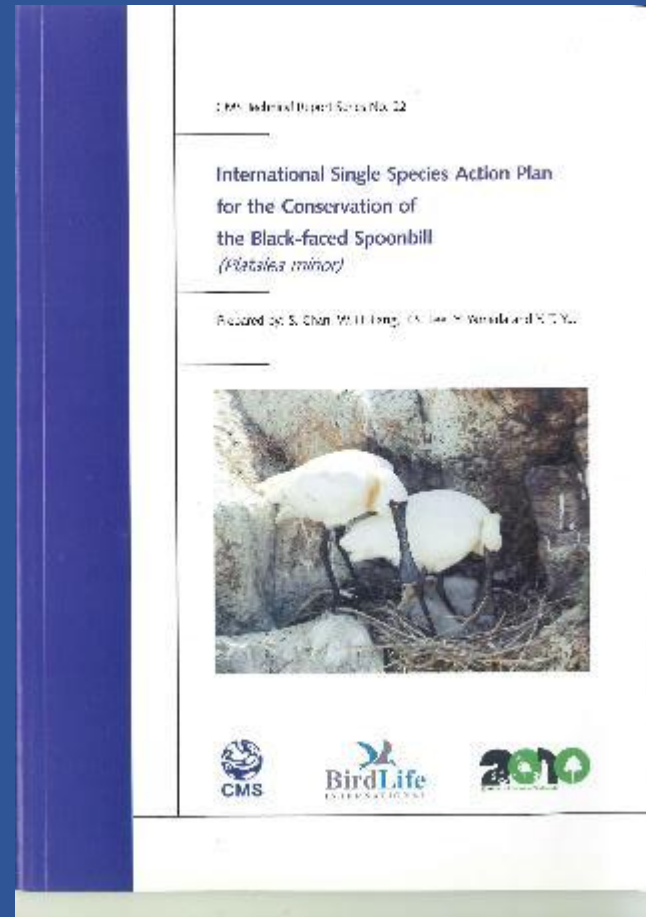
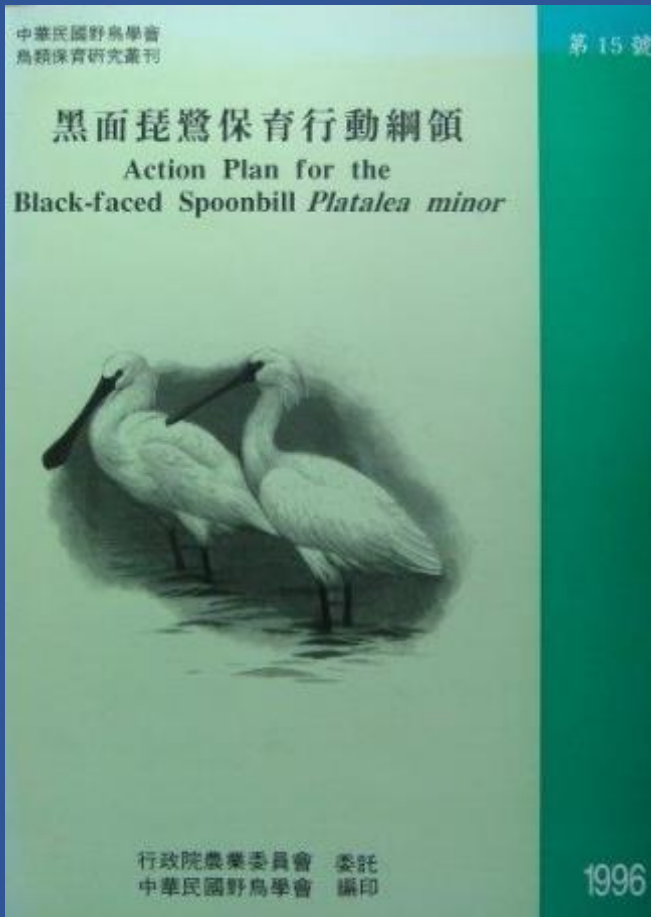
**28-29 August 2024**  
**Incheon, Republic of Korea.**

**Simba Chan**  
**Associated Researcher**  
**Japan Bird Researcher Association/ Wild Bird Society of Japan**

My previous involvement in NEASPEC projects : on cranes and the Black-faced Spoonbill in North East Asia  
Training of a new generation of conservationist in Asia (winter of 2006)



With plans drafted and implemented, crane species and the Black-faced Spoonbills have gradually recovered.  
 Black faced Spoonbills: from a few hundred birds in the 1990s to more than six thousand birds now.



## Cranes (and the Oriental Stork) Estimated numbers in the 1990s and now

Siberian Crane	2,500 to 4,500
Red-crowned Crane	2,000 to 3,300
White-naped Crane	5,000 to 7,500
Hooded Crane	9,000 to 16,000
Oriental Stork	2,500 to 7,500

On the whole, many wetland bird species in Asia are recovering because of better protection and higher awareness since the 1990s.



(1992, International workshop in Khabarovsk)

(1997, Training course for the North East Asian Crane Site Network at the Muraviovka Park, Russia)



But many other birds are still threatened.

According to the IUCN Global Red List. Republic of Korea has 34 globally threatened bird species, four of which are ranked as Critically Endangered.

1. Spoonbilled Sandpiper
2. Crested Shelduck
3. Chinese Crested Tern
4. Yellow-breasted Bunting

And I happened to work on two of the above four CR species

The screenshot displays the IUCN Global Red List for South Korea. It includes a navigation menu with tabs for Species, IBAs, EBAs, Marine, Policy, and Resources. A summary table shows the total number of species (357, 103rd globally) and counts for various categories: Landbirds (198), Migratory (311), Breeding Endemic (0), Seabirds (46), and Waterbirds (144). Below this, the IUCN Red List Status is detailed in a table with colored icons for each status.

South Korea	
Species	
TOTAL	357 (103 <sup>rd</sup> )
Landbirds	198
Migratory	311
Breeding Endemic	0
Seabirds	46
Waterbirds	144

IUCN Red List Status	
EX Extinct	0
EW Extinct in the Wild	0
VU EN CR Globally Threatened	34 (35 <sup>th</sup> )
VU EN CR % threatened	10% (35 <sup>th</sup> )
CR Critically Endangered	4
EN Endangered	7
VU Vulnerable	23
NT Near Threatened	26
LC Least Concern	297
DD Data Deficient	0

Thalasseus bernsteini: Chinese Crested Tern  
Emberiza aureola: Yellow-breasted Bunting

- These are the two critically endangered birds I am going to report. They are both good flagship species to different bird groups and habitats.



(photo credit: James Kwok)

## Saving species

- What are the threats?
- How to stop the decline?
- Conservation plans to set goals.
- Knowledge, dedication, good coordination, and sometimes luck are needed for successful implementation of actions.

CMS Technical Report Series No. 21

**International Single Species Action Plan  
for the Conservation of  
the Chinese Crested Tern  
(*Sterna bergsteini*)**

Prepared by: S. Chan, S. H. Chen and H.W. Yuan



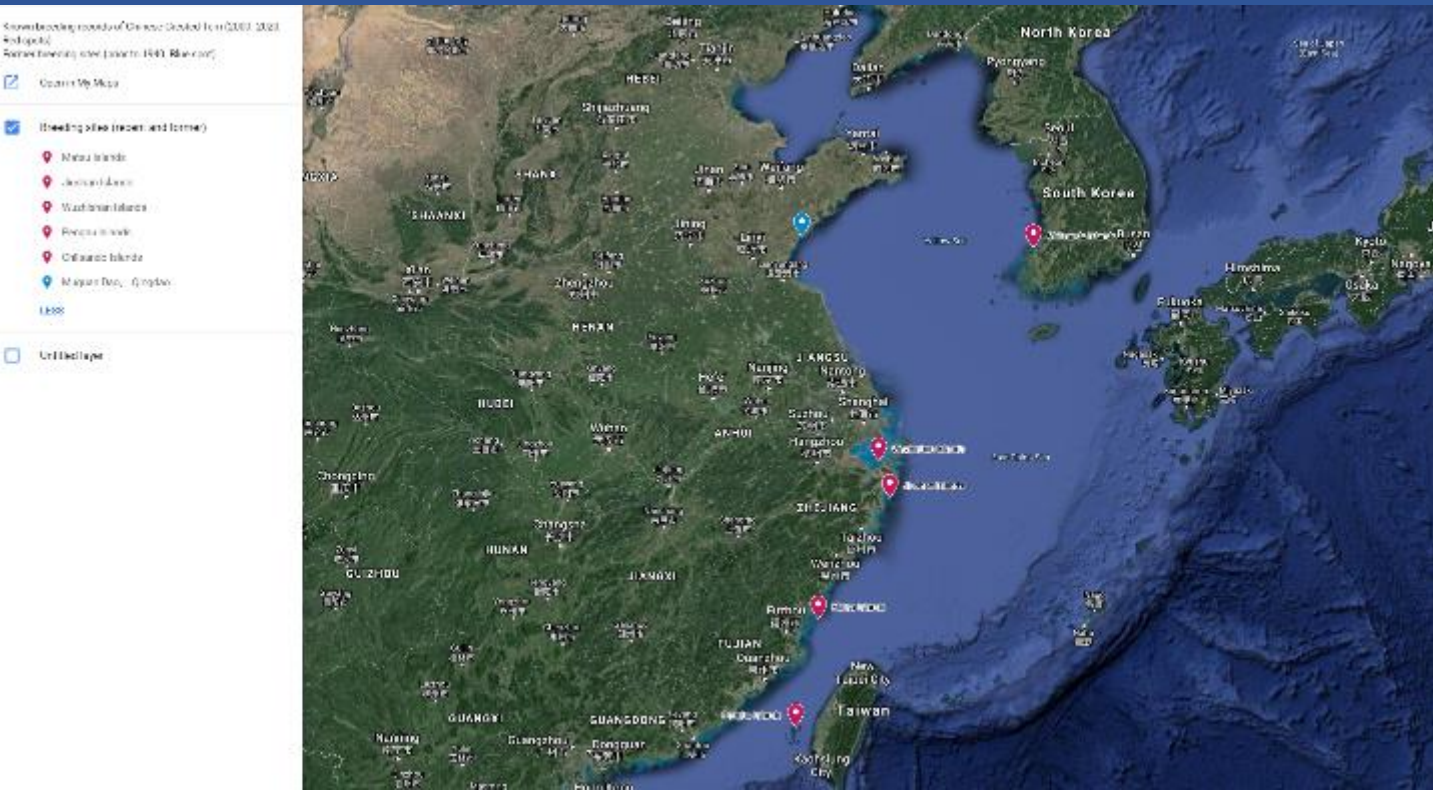
# Chinese Crested Tern *Thalasseus bernsteini*: a good seabird flagship

Presumed extinct prior to 2000

Population estimation before 2014: < 50

Population estimation 2014-2018: < 100

Population estimation now: about 200





## Why they declined

Main threat: human exploitation and disturbance

Congregation attracted hunters to the colony or roost.

Most seabird colonies in eastern Asia collapsed in the early 20th century due to egg and feather collection.



## International cooperation

From 2005, I worked as a BirdLife officer with colleagues from Japan, USA, Hong Kong, Taiwan, China and Korea on raising awareness and restoration of the Chinese Crested Tern. With a good awareness programme and enforcement of wildlife law, egg poaching on most of the islands stopped.



## Restoration of breeding sites

- Use the method of social attraction: decoys and sound play-back to attract birds to stay and nest.
- The chosen site must be free of land predators and human disturbance.
- The colony must be carefully monitored.
- The first trial in the Jiushan Islands, China was regarded as failure when started in 2013, but it ended up as a late success with at least one Chinese Crested Tern chick fledged.



I volunteered to stay on the island in 2014 and 2015 to make sure the project went on well.

At least 13 Chinese Crested Tern chicks fledged in 2014, and at least 16 in 2015. Now there are total of seven breeding sites of Chinese Crested Terns. In 2014 there were only three.



Discovery of breeding birds in Korea since 2016. This raised the hope of establishing northern breeding sites of the Chinese Crested Tern.



(photo credit Yunkyoung Lee)

At the same time, Chinese Crested Terns were found in Shandong since 2016, and migratory bird seen in Japan in 2018.

- 128 birds observed on 5 September 2023
- They are likely to be following migratory routes passing down in generations. There are chances to restore the northern breeding grounds in Shandong and Korea.
- Chinese Crested Terns in Korea were also found in Shandong and Taiwan

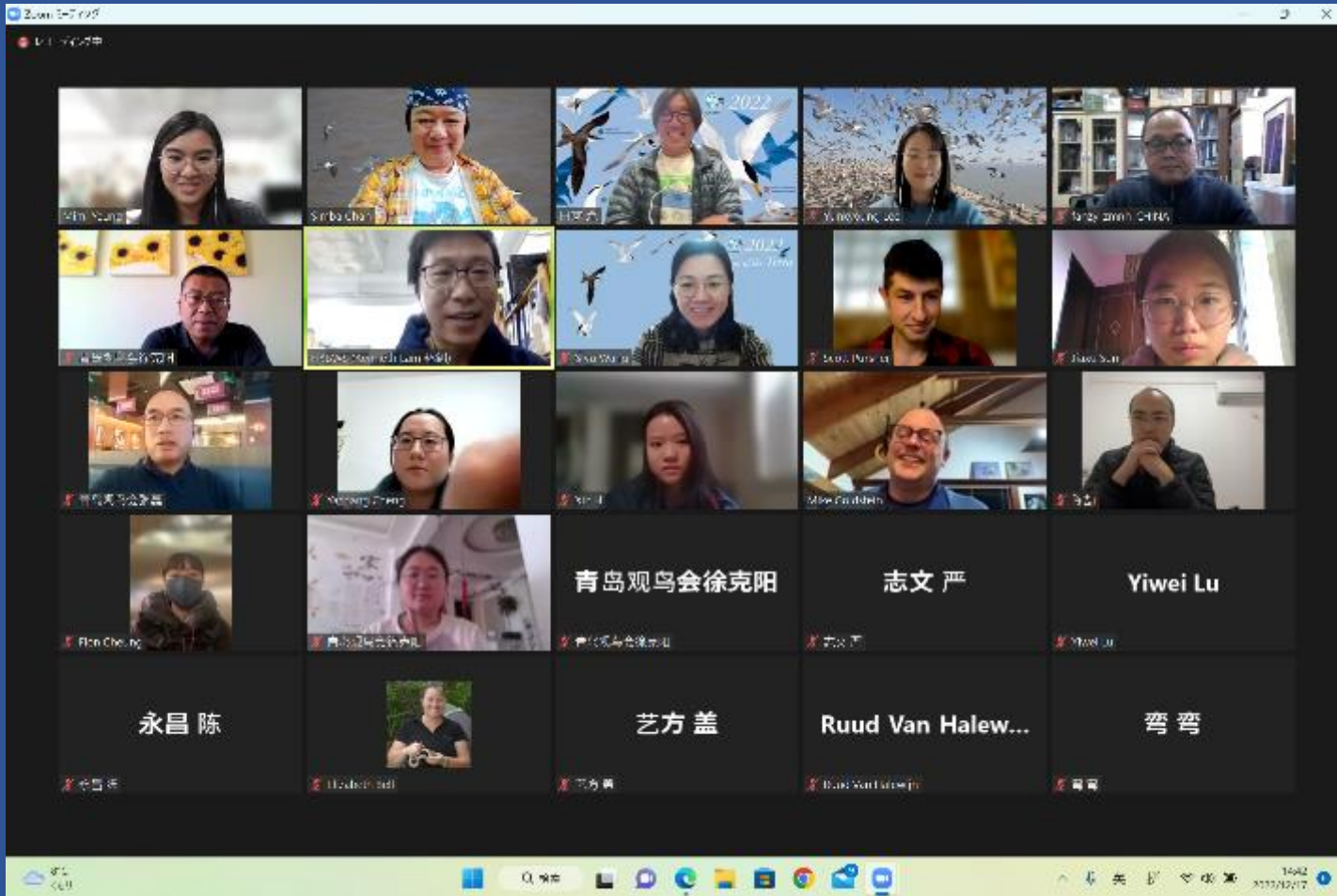


(photo credit: Xu Keyang)



(Yomiuri Shimbun  
26 October 2018)

# EAAFP Seabird Working Group organized a webinar on Chinese Crested Terns at the Yellow Sea area on 17 December 2022



We hope this will be the first step to restore more breeding sites in the north

- This will reduce the risks of typhoon in the breeding season and prevent hybridization with the Greater Crested Tern.
- Disturbance in the Yellow Sea area is also likely to be lower than the East China Sea.





Restoration of the Chinese Crested Tern colonies was a great start, and the team won a special achievement award at the Pacific Seabird Group meeting in 2023



However, at the same time, a new threat emerged.

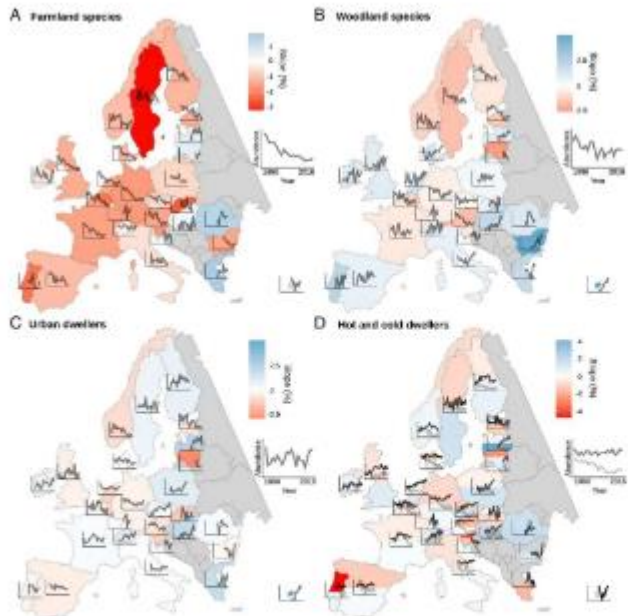
- Highly pathogenic avian influenza emerged since about 2020 has devastated many wild birds, particularly seabirds globally.
- In 2022, 17% of Sandwich Terns (closely related to the Chinese Crested Terns) were wiped out in Europe in just one season because of HPAI.
- 43 wild birds were reported dead due to HPAI in Jiushan Islands in June 2024.

In order to address this new threat, we are establishing a working group in eastern Asia



As I said, recovering of wetland birds in Asia is good news, but at the same time, we overlooked the decline of land bird species globally since the 1970s and 1980s

- Census results in Europe shows a decline of open-habitat land birds by 50% since the 1980s.



Birds which live on and around farms have suffered the deepest declines. Rigal et al. (2023)/PNAS, Author provided



↑ Birds like the corn bunting have seen their numbers plummet since 1980. Aurelien Audevard, Author

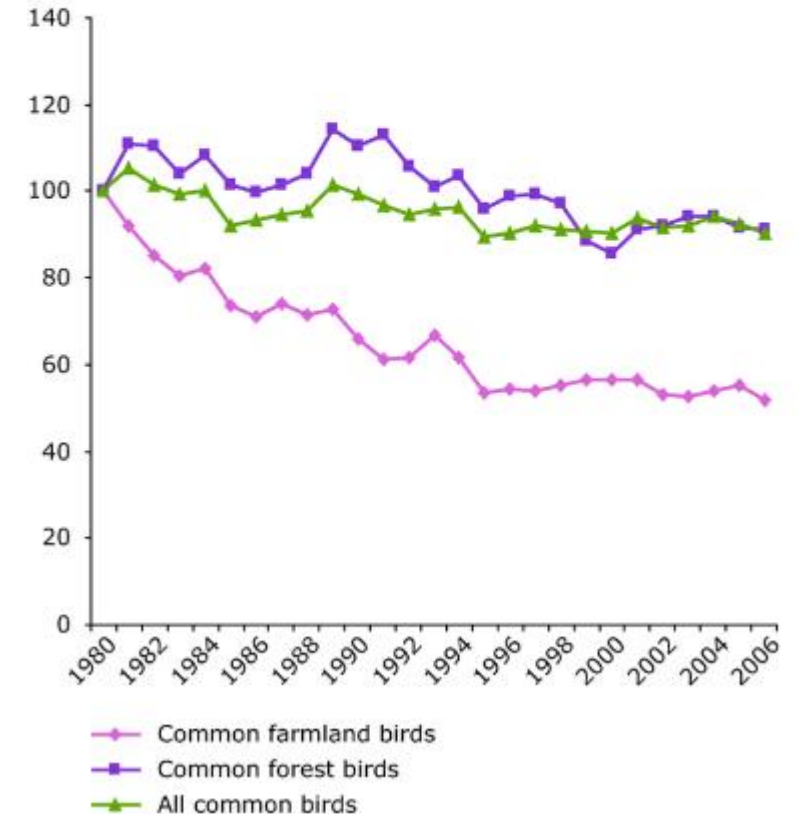
Europe has lost over half a billion birds in 40 years. The biggest cause? Pesticides and fertilisers

How to read the graph: since 1980 the number of common farmland birds has declined by around 50 %

Created 12 Nov 2009 — Published 02 Sep 2010 — Last modified 29 Nov 2012 — 2 min read

World > Data and maps > Maps and graphs > Common birds in Europe —

Common birds in Europe — population index (1980 = 100)

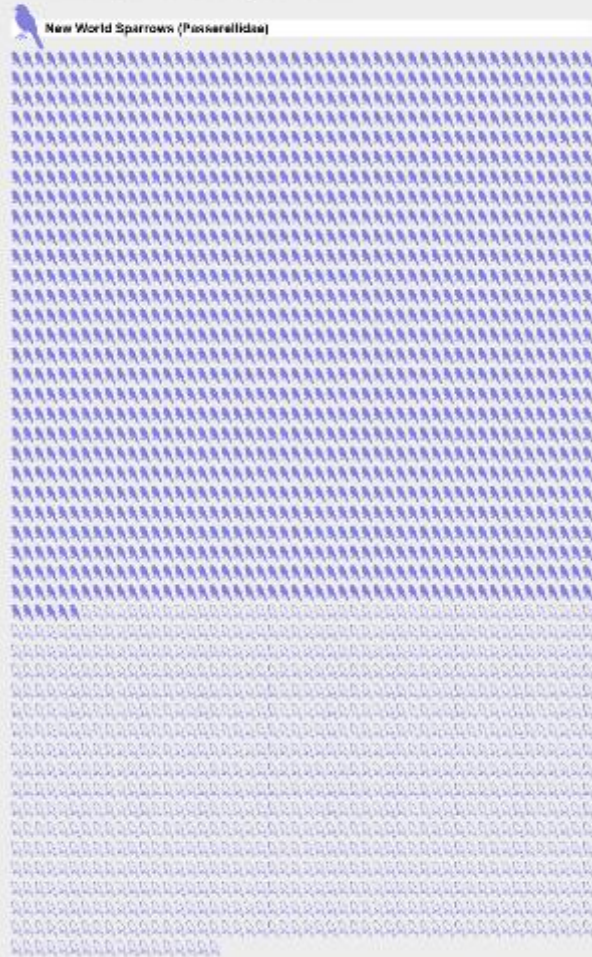


# Decline of land bird species globally since the 1970s and 1980s

The five bird families that have experienced the greatest declines in abundance are shown.

- Each icon represents one million birds.
- Filled icons show remaining birds as of 2017.
- Unfilled icons show birds lost since 1970.

Note: All data are approximate. Error ranges are not shown.



## Silent Skies: Billions of North American Birds Have Vanished

ough waterfowl and raptor populations have made recoveries, bird populations have declined since 1970 across nearly all habitats

By Jim Daley on September 19, 2019



### READ THIS NEXT

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#### CONSERVATION

Migrating Birds May Be Collateral Damage for a Popular Pesticide

Jim Daley

## State of U.S. Grassland Birds: Still Declining



By Anthony Hauck  
Communications Manager,  
Audubon Conservation  
Ranching

November 01, 2022

### Birds In This Story

Hobobink  
Latin: *Dolichonyx oryzivorus*



Chimney-collared  
Longspur  
Latin: *Calcarius ornatus*



Henslow's Sparrow  
Latin: *Zonotrichia leucurus*



Henslow's Sparrow. Photo: Barbara Friedman/Audubon Photography Awards

The new **State of the Birds** report reveals grassland birds are among the fastest declining bird species in the United States, with a 34% loss since 1970.

Published by 33 leading science and conservation organizations and agencies, the 2022 U.S. State of the Birds report is the first look at the nation's birds since a landmark 2019 study showed the loss of 3 billion birds in the United States and Canada in 50 years.

The report identifies 70 **Tipping Point** species that have each lost 50% or more of their populations in the past 50 years, and are on a track to lose another half in the next 50 years if nothing changes – 70 birds that could be next to face threatened or endangered status. Among the grassland birds marked as Tipping Point species are the

### Birds Tell Us to Act on Climate

Pledge to stand with Audubon to call on elected officials to listen to science and work towards climate solutions.

Sign the Pledge



Recent studies from North America indicates a loss of 30 billions (or about 29%) of birds in North America since the 1970s.

# Decline of land bird species globally since the 1970s and 1980s

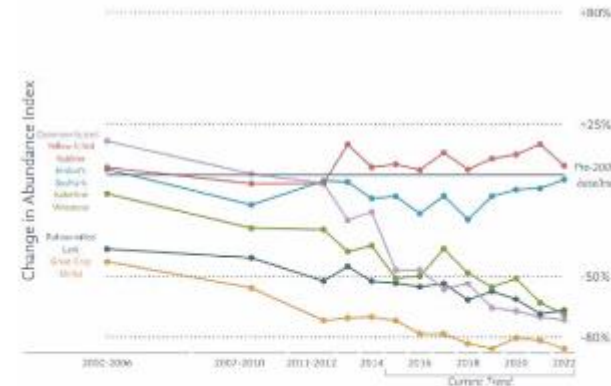


(From internet)

Decline of birds in Asia should be much higher but we do not have data on the loss.

## Open Ecosystems

Open habitats represent a wide range of ecosystems that include open natural ecosystems (ONEs) such as grasslands, semi-arid landscapes, and deserts, but also human-created ecosystems like croplands, grazing lands, and fallow lands<sup>2</sup>. Perhaps more so than wooded areas/forests, open habitats are characterised by their long and continued history of human use, by livestock grazers, farmers, and others, resulting in a number of novel ecosystems and bird communities that have coexisted with people. Open habitats have also had a history of neglect and conversion into plantations or 'forests' that have been more valued.



A number of larks and grassland specialists have rapidly declined, but birds that are more flexible in their requirement of open habitats are doing better.

## POPULATION STATUS

Birds that live in open habitats have declined tremendously (see *Habitat Specialisation*, p28). We are all aware of the perilous status of bustards (see *Bustards*, p48), but a number of other open habitat birds are also in poor health. There are exceptions, though. Adaptable birds such as Yellow-billed Babbler and Jerdon's Bushlark are doing well. More specialised birds like Rufous-tailed Lark, Common Kestrel, and Isabelline Wheatear have declined more sharply, with Rufous-tailed Lark and Common Kestrel now categorised as species of High priority.

Of particular note is Great Grey Shrike, because it has suffered a particularly worrisome long-term decline of more than 80%. This species and other grassland specialists like Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse have done better in regions rich in ONEs compared to the country as a whole, indicating



# Yellow-breasted Bunting and summer birds

シマアオジ 分類:スズメ目ホオジロ科 Yellow-breasted Bunting *Emberiza aureola*  
 嘴峰長:10-13mm 翼長:♂72-82mm ♀69-75mm 尾長:17.5-22mm 尾長:53-63.5mm  
 環境省レッドリスト: 絶滅危惧 IA 類

各年代の分布状況の変化

メッシュ数	A	B	C
1974-1978	24	26	2
1997-2002	4	9	2
2016-2021	0	0	1

調査地数

1997-2002	5
2016-2021	0



北海道の一部に夏鳥として分布する。河川敷、湖岸や海岸の草原、高層湿原、牧草地などに生息する。過去 3 回の調査期間を通じて記録メッシュ数が激減した。日本だけでなく世界的に激減しており、渡り経路である中国での食料としての大量捕獲が原因の1つと考えられている(Kamp et al. 2015)。

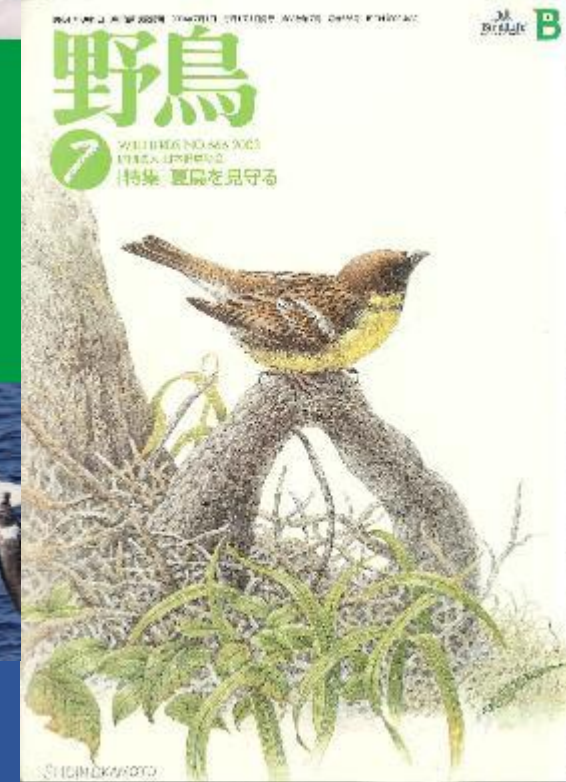
(From Breeding Bird Survey Report 2016-2021)



## 全国鳥類繁殖分布調査報告

日本の鳥の今を描こう  
 2016-2021年

bird-atlas.jp



In Japan, a joint government-NGO organized breeding bird census started in the 1970s. When the second breeding bird census was held in the 1990s, the decline of some summer visiting land bird species was noticed. The most notable example was the Yellow-breasted Bunting. In the 1970s it was a common breeding bird but large decline noted in the 1990s. The breeding site of this species reduced to only one in the 2010s survey.

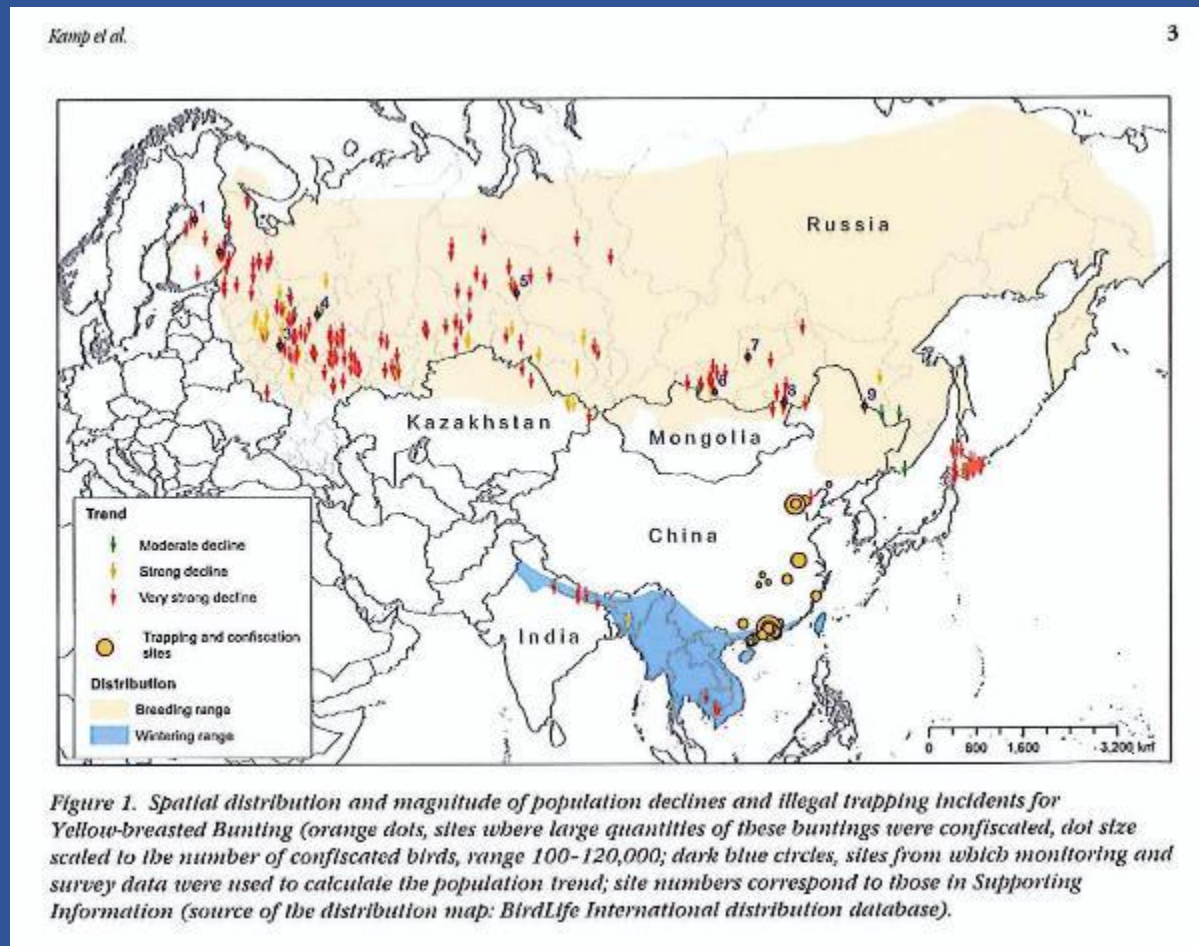
Yellow-breasted Bunting *Emberiza aureola* : a flagship species of migratory passerines in farmland/open habitat:

Yellow-breasted Bunting was once regarded as one of the most numerous passerines in Asia. During migration flocks of tens of thousands can be seen in farmland and open habitat in eastern Asia.

It is found in all six countries in North East Asia, and breeds in all six countries except the Republic of Korea.



I became aware of its decline in the late 1990s and started to compile information available. In 2015, after working with a big international team we revealed a very significant finding.



Estimated decline by 84.3 – 94.7% between 1980 and 2013 (Kamp et al 2015)

16 BirdingASIA 1 (2004) 16–17

A BIRD TO WATCH

## Yellow-breasted Bunting *Emberiza aureola*

SIMBA CHAN

The Yellow-breasted Bunting *Emberiza aureola* is a common migrant, breeding in the Palearctic regions of Russia and China and wintering mainly in South East Asia. Two subspecies are recognised: *aureola* in south-eastern Russia, north-eastern China and Japan, and the nominate race found from Siberia and north-eastern China to eastern Europe.

On migration, Yellow-breasted Buntings pass in large numbers through eastern China, where they have historically been trapped in large numbers, a practice that we know has taken place for at least 2,100 years (Gao Yuren 1996). Elsewhere in the region, it is reported that thousands of buntings were killed for food during spring migration in the 1950s and 1960s, and this practice still continues in Cambodia where birds are caught for food, and also increasingly to be released during religious festivals (Colin Poole in litt. 13 June 2003).

In recent times, Yellow-breasted Buntings, or 'rice birds' as they are known locally, have been trapped during October and November and sold at markets in Sanshui City in China's Pearl River Delta. From 1992 until 1997, when the practice was banned, more than 10,000 tourists visited Sanshui City for the annual food festival, where an estimated several hundred thousand birds were caught and served as food (Gao Yuren 1996). Today, a black market still persists (Nanfanwang website, 27 October 2000), and nationally an estimated one million rice birds are still sold, around 10,000 of them daily in a single market in Sanshui (Winkulabao, china.com, 19 October 2001). Trapping of these protected birds is not confined to the traditional hunting grounds in Guangdong province, but is rampant in Tianjin also, where buyers purchase birds from local villages for as little as 0.5 yuan and sell them cooked for 30 times this price in Guangdong (People's Daily website, 21 November 2000). The authorities have not turned a blind eye to this illegal trade, and 200 raids on markets in Sanshui took place in 2000 (Dayanwang website, 1 November 2000). In August 2001, around 100,000 birds from Tianjin were found in trains in Shaoqian and Guangzhou (news.www.eastday.com, 17 August 2001). In October that year, 5,000 birds were found dead in Nanhai City, Guangdong (www.southcn.com news, 19 October 2001), a further 3,000 dead birds were discovered in a car at Foping, Guangdong (www.southcn.com news, 1 November 2001), and 700 birds were confiscated and released at Lanshi Town, Zhanjiang (www.ywbn.com, 2 November 2001). The following year more than 20,000 birds were confiscated in Guangzhou in August (www.southcn.com news, 22 August 2002) and about 3,000 birds were found at Tianjin Airport, en route to Guangzhou in October (www.csajournal.com, 4 December 2002).

Hunting is not the only threat to Yellow-breasted Buntings—changes in agricultural practices, particularly the loss of wetlands, and the increasing use of agricultural pesticides, are both serious problems.

The above factors are taking their toll on the population of this attractive species, and although it is still reasonably common in the middle reaches of the Amur, Russia, its density has declined since 1998, despite reduced human activities in the area. The decline may be because of dry weather in recent years, leading to wetland reduction and more frequent steppe fires. These have both affected populations of cranes *Grus spp.* and Eastern Marsh Harriers *Circus subvelox* (Sergei Smirenski in litt. 11 June 2003), but their effect on Yellow-breasted Buntings is unknown. Likewise the bunting has declined in the Dauria region, probably for similar reasons (Oleg Goroshko in litt. 10 July 2003). Although numbers breeding in Finland have never been large, they have declined from two dozen breeding birds in the 1980s to only the occasional summer sighting (Harry Lehto in litt. 12 May 2003).

On migration, there has been a significant drop in numbers of Yellow-breasted Buntings in China, and in South Korea the species is apparently declining, possibly because of habitat loss and changing agricultural practices (Neal Moores in litt. 21 May 2003), and there is a suspected decline in Laos too (Will Duckworth in litt. 17 May 2003).

On its wintering grounds, the species is no longer found at some sites where it formerly occurred in thousands in the 1950s, although this may reflect a population shift because of changing agricultural practices (Colin Poole in litt. 13 June 2003). The species is regarded as near-threatened in Thailand, although large scale hunting at it persists (Phil Round in litt. 12 May 2003).

In August 2000, the Chinese authorities listed the Yellow-breasted Bunting as nationally protected, and it was listed as a protected species in Guangdong in July 2001, with a fine of 10,000 to 100,000 yuan for anyone selling them. However, many dealers



## Causes of decline of Yellow-breasted Bunting

- The drastic decline of YBB within 3 decades was most likely caused by overhunting, although agrochemical and habitat loss may also be causes of decline.



(Photo credit: Huang Qiusheng)



# Other migrating land birds are also being caught



(Image from the internet)



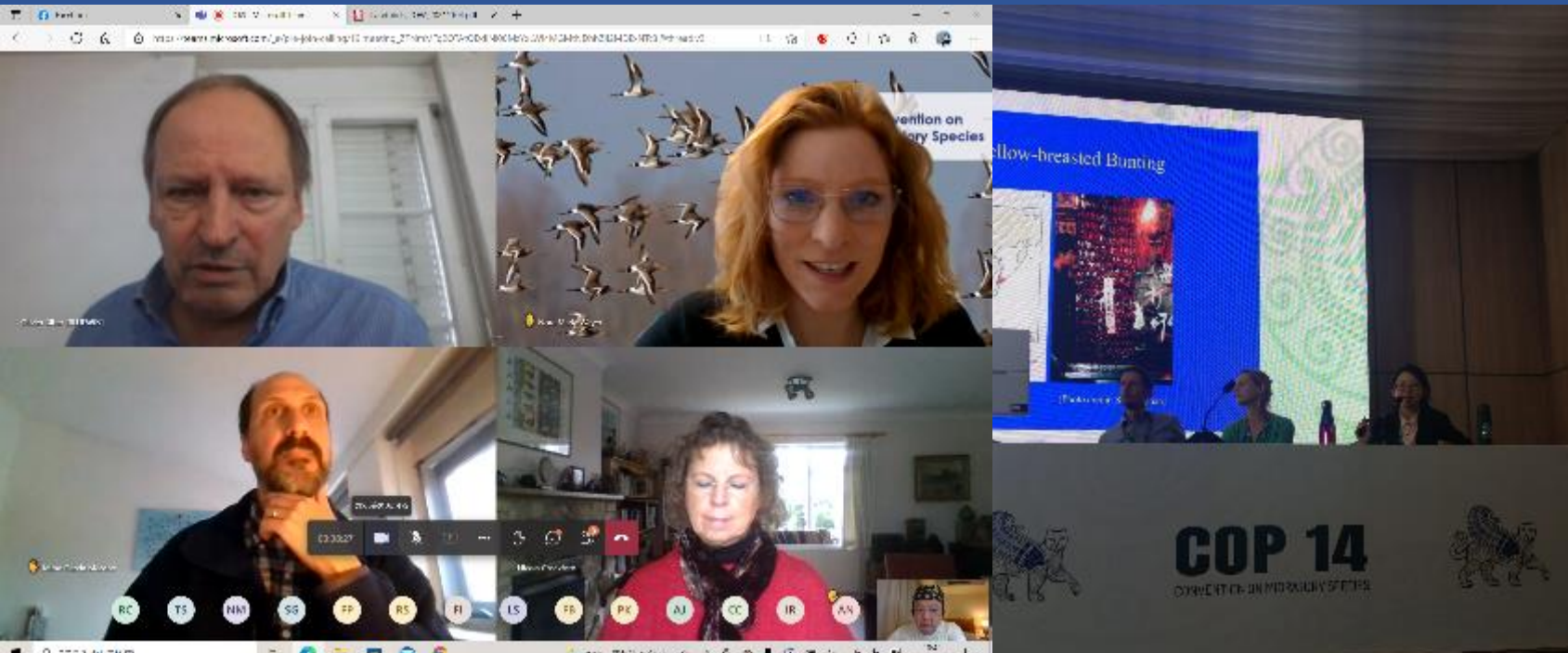
Chestnut Bunting, a species very commonly found in Korea in the 1970s, are found to be hunted and sold as 'Yellow-breasted Buntings' in China  
(Image from the internet)

# Drafting of an international action plan for the Yellow-breasted Bunting



Workshop in Guangzhou, China, November 2016

Draft of the International Yellow-breasted Bunting Action Plan started in 2017 and the final draft finished at around 2019. However, because of the outbreak of Covid-19 and other matters, communication had to depend via the internet. It was not until February 2024 the Action Plan was officially adopted by the Convention of Migratory Species at their COP 14 in Samarkand, Uzbekistan.



**INTERNATIONAL SINGLE SPECIES ACTION PLAN  
FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THE YELLOW-  
BREASTED BUNTING (*EMBERIZA AUREOLA*)**

CMS Technical Series Publication No. 47



# Main recommendations from the workshop

- Yellow-breasted bunting should be officially protected in all range countries
- Stop illegal catching and consumption of all small migratory birds in Asia
- Identify important breeding, migration and wintering sites and have them protected.
- Study the migration by color banding and geolocators
- Study the effect of agrochemicals to migratory passerines that use farmlands
- Promote land bird monitoring in Asia
- Conduct education and awareness programmes to countries where hunting and consumption is serious
- International cooperation on research and conservation of this species and other migratory passerines.
- And others.....

# Many international projects started from 2017.



Development of an international network of research and conservation.

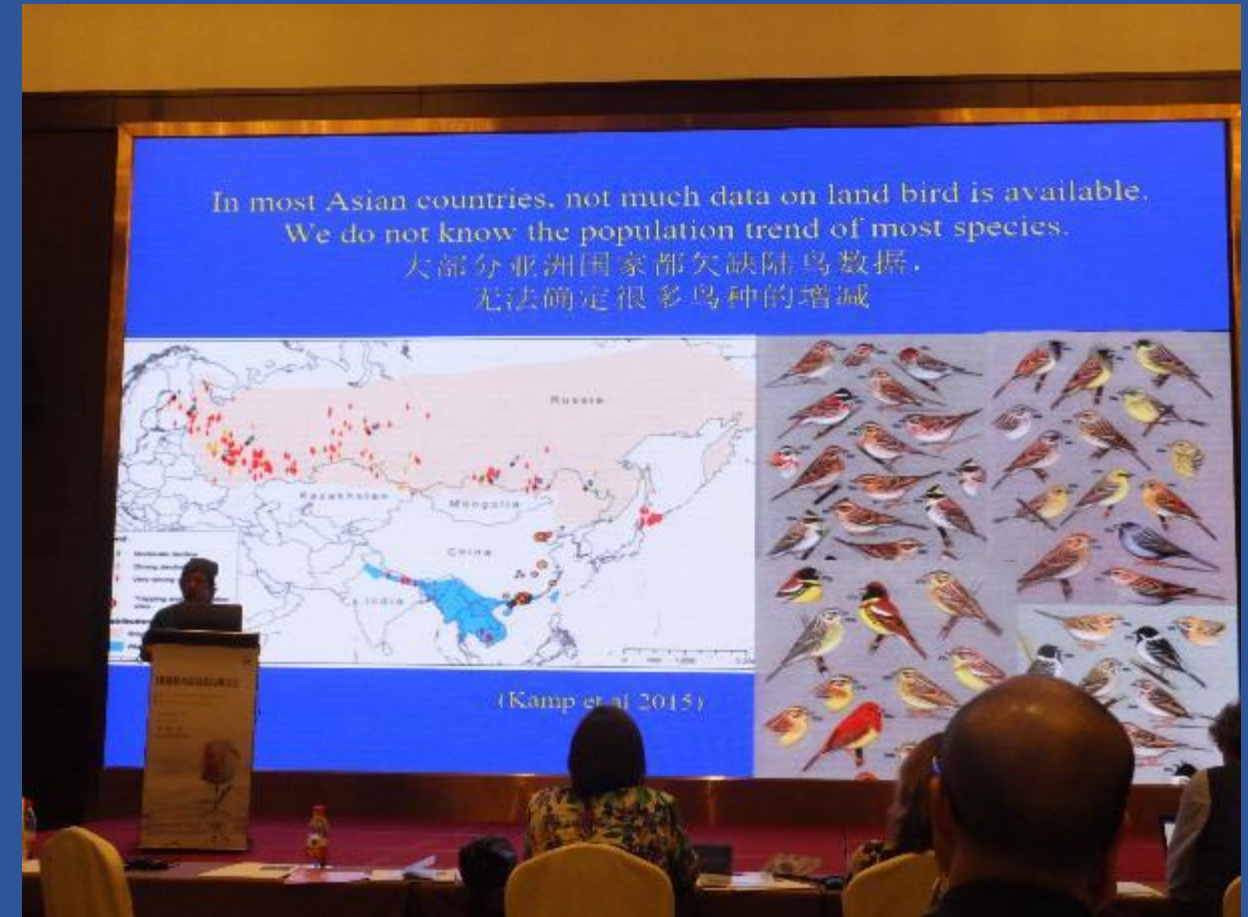
Actions proposed will also be beneficial to other declining bunting species such as Rustic Bunting *Emberiza rustica* and Chestnut Bunting *Emberiza rutila*.



## Bilateral and multilateral agreements



East Asia Land Bird Monitoring Scheme Jeju.  
Republic of Korea. March 2015



Arctic Migratory Bird Initiative Meeting, Hainan,  
China. December 2018



# Citizen science and land bird monitoring in Asia.



← → ↻ 📄 📍 鳥研究 | www.bird-research.jp/1\_katsudo/kiseta/phen

**モニタリング対象種**

気候変動が著しく進行함에 따라 새들이 환경 변화에 어떻게 반응하고 있는지를 모니터링할 수 있는 시스템이 필요하게 되었습니다. 이에 따라 지난 2021년 시민과 함께하는 조류의 생물계절성(phenology) 모니터링이 시작되었습니다. 이 모니터링은 누구나 여름철새의 도착 기록과 첫 시지점(노란수리)을 담은 본새를 간지름을 통해 기록하고 공유함으로써 기대할 수 있습니다. 모니터링을 위한 종이 호프카나 인쇄의 필요 없이 기록하고 기록할 수 있는 종이로 선정되었습니다.

	부락검둥오리 <i>Anas zonorhyncha</i> (오리 부락한 새끼를 처음 관찰한 날짜)		비구기 <i>Cuculus canorus</i> (봄의 첫 관찰일) 지지점 들어보기 (mp3)
	호부영이 <i>Winox scutulata</i> (봄의 첫 관찰일) 시지점 들어보기(mp3)		세비 <i>Hirundo rustica</i> (여름 동치로 다시 돌아온 날)
	상귀파랑새 <i>Hirornis diophone</i> (처음 시지점할 날은 날) 지지점 들어보기(mp3)		가재비 <i>Acrocephalus orientalis</i> (봄의 첫 관찰일) 지지점 들어보기 (mp3)
	간유기새 <i>Tarsiger cyanurus</i> (봄의 첫 관찰일) 시지점 들어보기(mp3)		검은머리새 <i>Saxicola torquata</i> (봄의 첫 관찰일) 시지점 들어보기 (mp3)

관정기록 집중

Phenology watch 2022  
updated 30 March 2022

ဆောင်းခိုငှက်များဖြစ်သည့် Bunting မျိုးစိတ်များ၏ ငှက်အကောင်ရေများနှင့် ၎င်းတို့နေထိုင်ကျက်စားရာ နေရာများ လျော့နည်းကျဆင်းလာမှုကို ကာကွယ်ထိန်းသိမ်းနိုင်ရန်အတွက် BANCA အသင်းအနေဖြင့် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအတွင်း လာရောက်ဆောင်းခိုသော Bunting မျိုးစိတ်များ နေထိုင်ကျက်စားရာ နေရာများကို လေ့လာမှတ်တမ်းတင်နေပါသောကြောင့် ဧည့်သူမဆို Bunting မျိုးစိတ်များ တွေ့ရှိပါက အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ အချက်အလက်များနှင့် အတူမျှဝေပေးကြပါရန် မေတ္တာရပ်ခံအပ်ပါသည်။



**Simple form**

- တွေ့ရှိသည့် နေ့နှင့် အချိန်
- တွေ့ရှိသည့် နေရာ (GPS location)
- တွေ့ရှိသည့် မျိုးစိတ်နှင့် အကောင်ရေ
- တွေ့ရှိသည့် Bunting's habitat & behavior (Roosting & feeding)
- တွေ့ရှိသည့် Bunting ၏ ထူးခြားမှုများ (Ring & color No.)



# A better sign as of 2024



Better protected by law

Monitoring programme

Community engagement



(Photo credit: Zhen Jun)

### Threats to migratory birds

**Overhunting**  
Wild birds are hunted for their feathers and for their meat. In some areas, birds are also hunted for their eggs and for their nests. This is a serious threat to many species.

**Habitat destruction**  
Wetlands and grassland habitats are being lost at an alarming rate. This is due to the conversion of these areas into agricultural land, urban areas, and industrial zones. This loss of habitat will also result in the loss of many species.

**Agrochemicals**  
Pesticides and herbicides are used in agriculture to control the number of insects and other pests. These chemicals can be toxic to birds and can also affect their food sources. This is a serious threat to many species.

**Safeguarding nature with community**  
The diverse needs of birds are not only for ourselves, but for the future generations. In addition to protecting the birds, it is also important to engage the local community in the conservation of birds.

### Join the Bird Monitoring Team

**Monitoring Sites 1000 Land Bird Survey**

This monitoring scheme is a program of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan. It is managed jointly by the Wild Bird Society of Japan and the Japan Bird Research Association. Surveys are always outdoors. If you are in Japan and interested to participate, please contact:

Monitoring Sites 1000 Office  
National Conservation Director  
Wild Bird Society of Japan  
Tel: 03-6486-2633 Fax: 03-6486-2635  
e-mail: mts1000@wbs.jp

**Learn more about the East Asia Land Bird Monitoring Scheme**

The coordinator of the scheme is based at the BirdLife International Tokyo Office.

Contact:  
BirdLife International Tokyo  
Tel: 03-6204-2541 Fax: 03-6204-2542  
e-mail: tsunabuchi@birdlife.org

**Supporting Organizations**

◆ You can download this leaflet from the websites below:

Wild Bird Society of Japan  
<https://www.wild-bird-research.jp/contents/leaflet/leaflet1000/>

Japan Bird Research Association  
<https://www.bird-research.jp/japanese/leaflet1000.html>

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### Let's study and record birds of Asia

— Monitoring and conservation of land birds in Asia —

In Asia, we now have some land birds are suffering great decline. Our land bird species may also be disappearing gradually. We need to build a land bird monitoring scheme to understand the situation and revert the decline.

So, let's watch, the birds, and birds, please to monitor birds not live in forest and grassland.

A land bird Round Table Discussion will be held at the Second Asian Ornithological Congress, Beijing. November 2024 .

## In conclusion, the successes of the seabird (tern) and land bird (bunting) projects have things in common

- A good plan to identify priorities.
- Building up a good team engaging all range countries.
- Implementation and reviewing progress and any new issues found.
- Secure support from local stakeholders.
- Good promotion of project results to raise awareness.



(Yellow-breasted Bunting Workshop in Yangon, Myanmar. October 2023)

# Challenges

- International cooperation became more complicated after 2020.
- Fund-raising for projects became more difficult after the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Regional conservation organizations seemed to be less active, probably due to the reasons listed above.
- But during our work we found many enthusiastic young people in Asia. They should be given a chance to change the region.



Thank you for listening



(Seoul National University, 2022)



(Wildlife Science and Conservation Center, Mongolia, 2023)