



Wader Conservation World Watch

4-5 November 2023

INFO PACK

WCWW

Join with us as we carry out our annual Wader Conservation World Watch - a unique and global opportunity to demonstrate that you care about the waders of the world.

Within this pack, you can learn how to participate in this annual event wherever you happen to be in the world. You can participate as an individual or as a group. Participation is simple, you only need to count species - not numbers. So whether you see 1 or a flock of 100, you can just log that species once.

Whether you choose to run a local event, participate on your own, share on social media, or learn more about waders in your community, we hope you enjoy WCWW!





OUR AIMS

TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT THE CHALLENGES WADERS FACE IN THE MODERN WORLD.

TO RAISE FUNDS TO SUPPORT WADER CONSERVATION WORLDWIDE, ESPECIALLY THOSE INVOLVING LOCALLY LED COMMUNITY PROJECTS.

WHAT IS WADER QUEST?

Wader Quest is a charity registered within England and Wales, with the aim of support wader conservation. We support projects globally, which take real action to conserve wading birds.

Rick and Elis Simpson set up Wader Quest in 2012, initially intending a year-long fundraising event in support of the Spoon-billed Sandpiper. The dedicated duo travelled the world to see as many wader species as possible.

As they travelled, they discovered just how many problems waders face across the globe and decided to continue to raise money and awareness to support wader conservation.

Roll forward a few years and the charity is in full swing with a team of volunteers, a Board of Trustees and an Executive Committee to drive the development of the charity to increase its effectiveness.



DO WADERS NEED HELP?

Yes! Many waders are threatened species, including wading birds in the UK, Europe, the Americas and all around the world. Habitat loss, the expansion of human activities - from hunting to disturbance, pollution, predators and loss of food supply - often linked to climate change, make it a crucial time to be supporting waders.

Increasingly, citizen science initiatives, including WCWW, are fundamental to growing an understanding of where wading birds are present. You can read more about conservation at waderquest.net



WHAT CAN I DO FOR WCWW?

PARTICIPATE IN YOUR AREA

Pick a time and a place on the weekend of 4-5 November, and get out and about close to the shore, or another area where you might have seen wading birds before. If you are in the UK, use our handy ID sheet to recognise some of the waders you might see along the British coastline - and if you are overseas jump on our website to find out more about wading birds near you.

ARRANGE AN EVENT

Looking to go bigger? Why not get your friends, colleagues, class or group involved, and take part together. You could even turn it into a competition to see who can see the most waders, or use it as a chance to learn. Contact us for information on talks before or after the big weekend.

SPREAD AWARENESS

Tell your friends! Talk about waders, about the Watch, and the need to support waders in your area.

And tell us too! We'd love to see photos of the birds you see or your group - just tag waderquest on social media. Do make sure you have permission from anyone whose photo you are sharing.

FUNDRAISE

Can't get involved on the day? Looking to do more to help Wader Quest? We run entirely on donations from the public, so we'd love your support to raise funds. Why not sell cakes in your school or workplace, or take part in a sponsored run? Get in touch for support if you'd like to do this, and help us save waders!

TOP TIPS



- Put the Wader Conservation World Watch in your calendar now - 4-5 November 2023.
- Choose a place to watch where you or others have seen waders before.
- Get a group of friends together, it's more fun with friends.
- Familiarise yourself with some waders before you go along, take a look at photos of key wading birds.
- Make sure you are quiet, and don't approach the birds - this way you will see more of them, and they will trust you more.



DID YOU KNOW?

WADERS AND SHOREBIRDS ARE
TWO TERMS FOR THE SAME
TYPES OF BIRD.



- Always make sure that you are in a public area, or have the landowner's permission. Never trespass.
- Your safety is paramount. Make sure people know where you are, stay away from the water's edge, don't watch from an area that could be cut off by tides, and only participate in the Watch during daylight.
- Take care of our environment, and don't litter.
- Write down the birds you see, so you don't forget.
- Don't worry if you aren't 100% sure what bird you've seen. Take down some details - how big is it? What colours are its feathers? What colour is its beak? Is its beak straight, or curved? What colour are its feet? These are all great clues.



DID YOU KNOW?

THERE ARE 245 SPECIES OF
WADER IN THE WORLD! THESE
ARE SOME WE SEE IN THE UK

KNOW YOUR WADER!



DUNLIN

The most frequently
seen small wader
in Britain



NORTHERN LAPWING

Distinctive
crest and
'peewit' call



EURASIAN CURLEW

Largest
European
wading bird



EURASIAN OYSTERCATCHER

Gives a loud peep call,
very rarely eats
any oysters!





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PIED AVOCET

Distinctively
patterned with
a long upcurved beak



RUDDY TURNSTONE

Found around
the whole
British coast



SANDERLING

Often found in
groups on
the beach



COMMON RINGED PLOVER

Unusual black eye
masks with an
orange beak





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