

**Meeting to Conclude and Endorse the Proposed Central Asian Flyway Action
Plan for Waterbirds and their Habitat
(10-13 June 2005, New Delhi, India)**

**Country report – Sri Lanka by H.M.B.C.Herath, Department of Wildlife
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A. Brief Introduction

Sri Lanka is the southern most land mass of the Indu-Asian Flyway and is the final destination of migratory birds existing through western flyway, eastern flyway and via Andaman islands of the Indu-Malayan region. Therefore it is an important point for the migratory birds. The Department of Wildlife Conservation in Sri Lanka has declared four Ramsar sites, which are hot spots of the migratory birds.

The Department has declared Protected Areas in Sri Lanka which are wetlands as well as terrestrial habitats. The Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance (F&FPO) is the main legislation relating to the conservation of wild fauna and flora of the country.

There are only seven (7) unprotected bird species listed in schedule II of the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance. They are Black crow, House crow, House sparrow, Spotted munia, White-backed munia, Striated weaver and Rose ringed parakeet. Other than those seven species of birds all residential as well as migratory birds are protected under the ordinance.

Through the Protected Area system declared and managed, the Department of Wildlife Conservation, protects the wild animals including bird species along with their habitats.

B. National administrative structures for migratory waterbirds and wetlands.

Table 1: National administrative structures responsible for managing migratory waterbirds and wetlands.

Name of Agency (with contact details)	Geographic Scope	Thematic Focus	Principle outputs on waterbirds and wetlands
Department of Wildlife Conservation 18, Gregory's Road, Colombo 07. Tel: +94 112694241 Fax: +94 112698556	National Level	Conservation Law enforcement Research & Monitoring Public awareness Public Participation for Conservation Benefit sharing with neighboring communities	Declaration of Protected Areas, conservation of all stages of life cycle of wild animals and their habitats

C. National policy and legislation relating to migratory waterbirds and wetlands

1. National Wildlife Policy

National Wildlife Policy of year 2000 addressed the conservation goals, strategies and guidelines on conservation of Fauna and Flora of Sri Lanka including the migratory water birds and wetlands.

2. Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance

This is an ordinance to provide for the protection, conservation and preservation of the Fauna and Flora of Sri Lanka for the preservation of the commercial exploitation of such fauna and flora and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. Initially enacted in 1938 and under gone several amendments including the last in 1995. Presently it is being amended to incorporate the policy guidelines of the National Wildlife Policy of 2000.

Under this ordinance there are declared Protected Areas in the country. Different categories of Protected Areas have been declared under the F&FPO.

3. National Wetland Policy.

The conservation and wise use of the wetlands as defined in the Ramsar convention are under the preview of the National Wetland Policy along with the National Wildlife Policy.

D. National government institutions involved in migratory waterbirds and wetlands research/management

The Department of Wildlife Conservation is the National Institution, which has the legal authority to implement the provisions of the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance which is the only legislation empowered for the purpose in Sri Lanka.

Table 2: National government institutions involved in migratory waterbirds and wetlands research/Management

Name of Institution (with contact details)	Geographic scope	Thematic Focus or programmes	Principle outputs on waterbirds and wetlands
Department of Wildlife Conservation, Sri Lanka.	National Level	Daily records of migratory birds in sighting Monitoring their behavioral patterns Species, conservation Habitat conservation Birds ringing programmes during the migratory period of birds Other researches and monitoring Programmes	Updated records of birds Conservation programmes for species and their habitats Declared wetlands as Protected areas under Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance Declared Ramsar wetlands.

E. Main non-government organizations and academic institutions involved in migratory waterbirds and wetlands research/management

Table 3: Main non-government organizations and academic institutions involved in migratory waterbirds and wetlands research/management

Name of non-government organization/University (with contact details)	Geographic scope	Thematic focus or programmes	Principle outputs on waterbirds and wetlands
University of Sri Jayawardenapura, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka. University of Colombo Sri Lanka.	National Level	Many research on birds, under graduate research and Post Graduate research	The findings of research carried out by the universities are considered in the management of Protected Areas

F. International Instruments

Table 4: Main International Instruments (Treaties/Agreements) that are relevant to the migratory waterbirds and wetlands of the country

Instruments-formal	Geographic scope	Thematic Focus	Implementing strategy or Action Plan
Ramsar Convention CMS (Bonn Convention)	International Level	The Conservation and management of the Wetlands and waterbirds with special attention of the guidance of the above conventions	Four Ramsar sites have been declared during the last two decades in Sri Lanka

G. International programs and activities

Table 5: International activities involving the countries migratory waterbirds (initiated in or since 2000, earlier programmes may also be included)

Activity	Waterbirds Group	International Partners	Principle outputs
Preparation of the conservation management plan special focus on community participation on the conservation of the Anawilundawa Wetland Sanctuary which is a Ramsar Wetland in Sri Lanka	All waterbirds	Ramsar small grant fund It is being implemented with assistance of the IUCN – Sri Lanka	Management plan for the period of year 2004 - 2009

H. List of some Regular Breeding and Migratory Waterbirds

Common Name	Family	Scientific Name
Ruddy Shelduck	Anatidae	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>
Eurasian Wigeon	Anatidae	<i>Anas penelope</i>
Spot-billed Duck	Anatidae	<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>
Northern Shoveler	Anatidae	<i>Anas clypeata</i>
Northern Pintail	Anatidae	<i>Anas acuta</i>
Garganey	Anatidae	<i>Anas querquedula</i>
Common Teal	Anatidae	<i>Anas crecca</i>
Large Whistling - teal	Dendrocygnidae	<i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>
Black-capped Kingfisher	Halcyonidae	<i>Halcyon pileata</i>
Banded Crake	Rallidae	<i>Rallina eurizonoides</i>
Baillon's Crake	Rallidae	<i>Porzana pusilla</i>
Eurasian Woodcock	Scolopacidae	<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>
Wood Snipe	Scolopacidae	<i>Gallinago nemoricola</i>
Pintail Snipe	Scolopacidae	<i>Gallinago stenura</i>
Common Snipe	Scolopacidae	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
Jack Snipe	Scolopacidae	<i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>
Black-tailed Godwit	Scolopacidae	<i>Limosa limasa</i>
Bar-tailed Godwit	Scolopacidae	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>

Eastern Black-tail Godwit	Scolopacidae	<i>L.limosa melanuroides</i>
Whimbrel	Scolopacidae	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>
Eurasian Curlew	Scolopacidae	<i>Numenius arquata</i>
Spotted Redshank	Scolopacidae	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>
Common Redshank	Scolopacidae	<i>Tringa totanus</i>
Marsh Sandpiper	Scolopacidae	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>
Common Greenshank	Scolopacidae	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
Green Sandpiper	Scolopacidae	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>
Wood sand piper	Scolopacidae	<i>Tringa glareola</i>
Terek Sandpiper	Scolopacidae	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>
Common Sandpiper	Scolopacidae	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
Ruddy Turnstone	Scolopacidae	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>
Sanderling	Scolopacidae	<i>Calidris alba</i>
Little Stint	Scolopacidae	<i>Calidris minuta</i>
Long-toed Stint	Scolopacidae	<i>Calidris subminuta</i>
Temminck's Stint	Scolopacidae	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>
Curlew Sandpiper	Scolopacidae	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>
Broad-billed sandpiper	Scolopacidae	<i>Limicola falcinellus</i>
Ruff	Scolopacidae	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>
Eurasian Oystercatcher	Charadriidae	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>
Pied Avocet	Charadriidae	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>
Pacific Golden Plover	Charadriidae	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>
Gray Plover	Charadriidae	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>
Little Ringed Plover	Charadriidae	<i>Charadrius dubius curonicus</i>
Kentish Plover	Charadriidae	<i>C. alexandrinus alexandrinus</i>
Lesser Sand Plover	Charadriidae	<i>C. mongolus</i>
Greater Sand Plover	Charadriidae	<i>C. leschenaultii</i>
Caspian Plover	Charadriidae	<i>C. asiaticus</i>
Crab-plover	Glareolidae	<i>Dromas ardeola</i>
Indian Courser	Glareolidae	<i>Cursorius coromandelicus</i>
Black naped Tern	Glareolidae	<i>Sterna sumatrana</i>
Palla's Gull	Laridae	<i>Larus ichthyaetus</i>
Brown headed Gull	Laridae	<i>Larus brunnicephalus</i>
Gull-billed Tern	Laridae	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>
Caspian Tern	Laridae	<i>Sterna caspia</i>

Lesser Crested Tern	Laridae	<i>Sterna bengalensis</i>
Graet Crested Tern	Laridae	<i>Sterna bergii</i>
Sandwich Tern	Laridae	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>
Sooty Tern	Laridae	<i>S. fuscata</i>
Bridled Tern	Laridae	<i>S. anaethetus</i>
Saunders's Tern	Laridae	<i>S. saundersi</i>
Common Tern	Laridae	<i>S. hirundo</i>
Whiskered Tern	Laridae	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>

I. Migration Routes, Staging Sites, and Non-breeding Areas

Please see the annexed maps.

Map 1 – Migratory Bird's flyways of Sri Lanka

Map 2 – The entry points of migratory birds into the island

Map 3 – The distribution of migratory birds in Sri Lanka

Map 4 – Major breeding sites of migratory birds in Sri Lanka

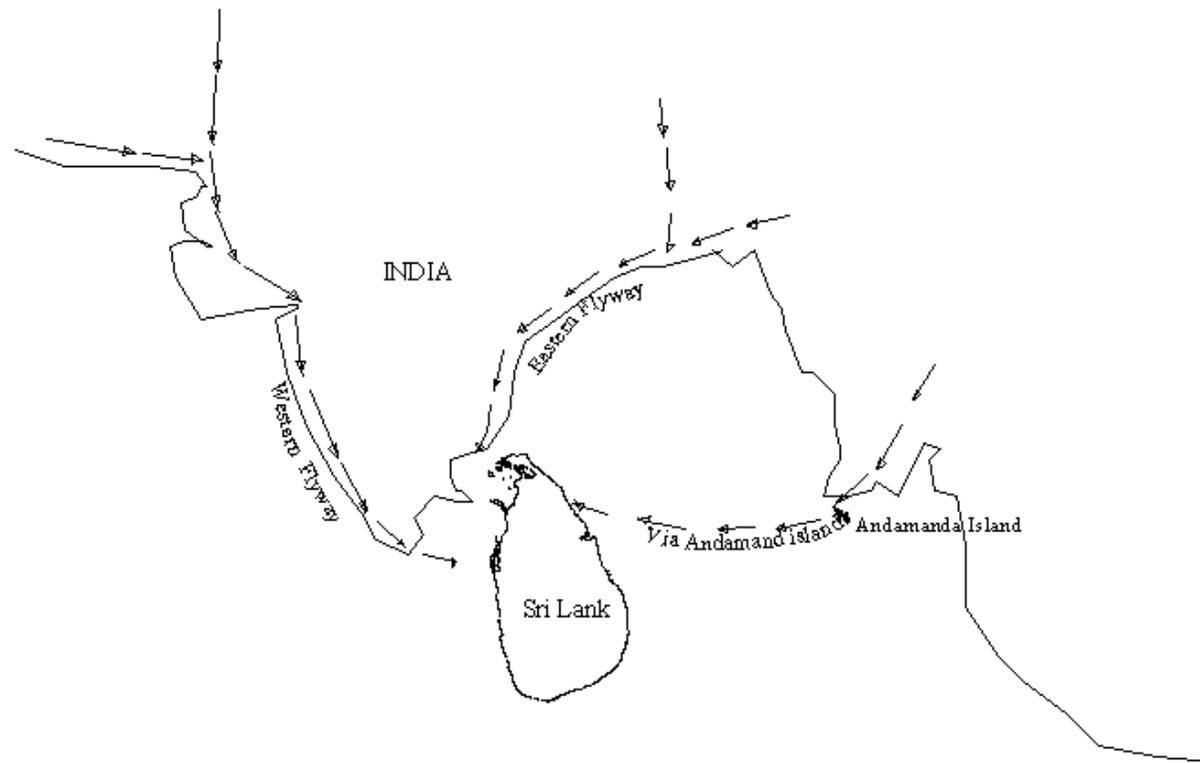
J. Waterbirds of CAF Conservation Concern (WCC)

Data are not available.

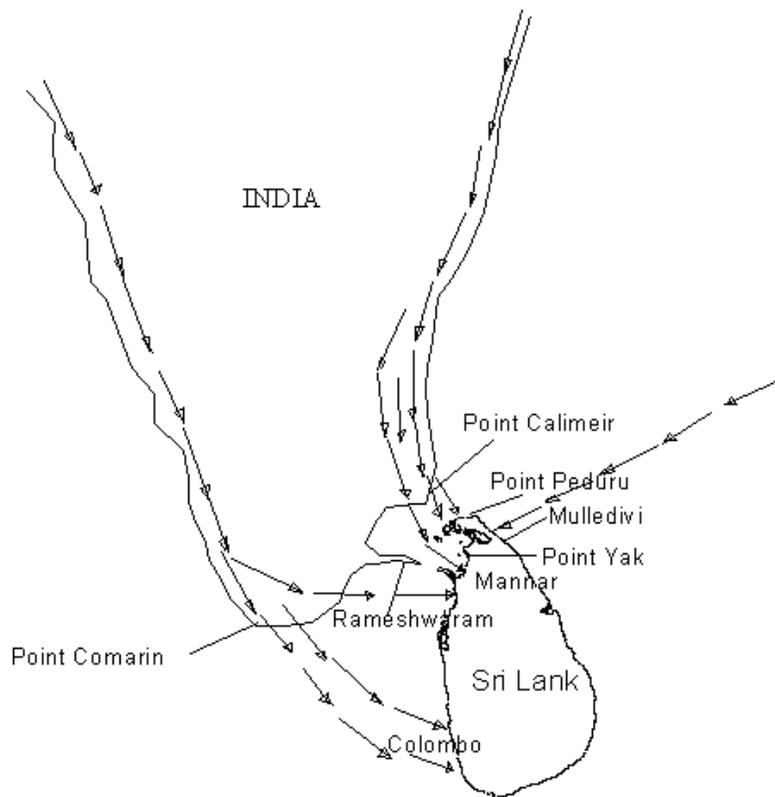
K. Recommendations to Improve International Migratory Waterbird Conservation

- Identification and conservation of the staging points of the migratory water birds.
- Identification and conservation of wetlands, which are the habitats and breeding points of migratory, water birds.
- Monitoring of the water quality, salinity level and pollution of the wetlands and get the appropriate conservation measures

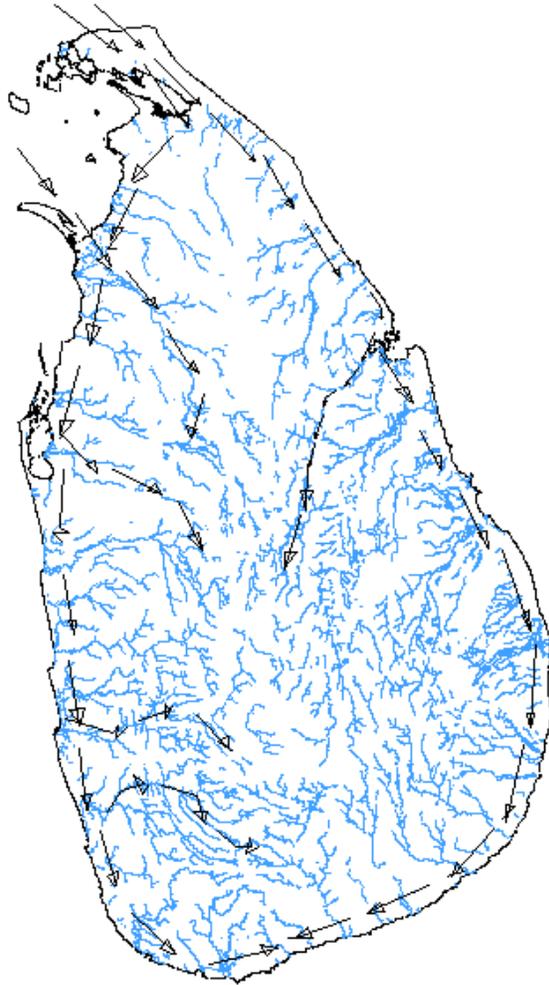
Map 1 Migratory Bird's Flyways of Sri Lanka



Map 2 The Entry points of Migratory Birds into the Sri Lanka



Map 3 The Distribution of Migratory Birds in Sri Lanka



Map 3 The Distribution of Migratory Birds in Sri Lanka

