

Announcement and Call for Papers

Western Hemisphere Shorebird Group Meeting

9-13 March, 2009
Mazatlán, Sinaloa, Mexico

Meeting Contact Information

Be sure to check the web site <http://www.fws.gov/shorebirdplan> for up-to-date news and information about the meeting. Travel details will be available there soon. Questions about meeting arrangements should be addressed to:

Overall meeting coordinator: Rick Lanctot, richard_lanctot@fws.gov, 907-786-3609.
Local logistics coordinators: Guillermo Fernandez, gfernandez@ola.icmyl.unam.mx,
Xico Vega, xicovega@manomet.org, Aurea Estrada, astrada@dumac.org, and David
Alonzo, dalonzo@dumac.org.

Scientific Program

The scientific program is being organized by the Shorebird Research Group of the Americas, and will consist of oral and poster sessions and several organized symposia (see below for more information).

Scientific Program Committee

Chair: Stephen Brown, Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences, sbrown@manomet.org, 508-224-6521. Scientific Program Committee: Guillermo Fernandez, Brad Andres, Roy Churchwell, River Gates, Steve Kendall, Richard Lanctot, Abby Powell, Xico Vega.

Meeting Languages

Simultaneous interpretation will be available at the meeting, and presenters may speak in Spanish or English. Abstracts may be submitted in either Spanish or English. **Because funds for the meeting are limited, we are asking presenters in either language to submit their own translations if possible.** Also, because not all members of the scientific committee are skilled in Spanish, we ask that you provide an English translation for Spanish abstracts, or at least a rough version in English, to aid in rapid abstract review and acceptance. If this is not possible, contact Guillermo Fernandez or Xico Vega, at the e-mail addresses above. They will help you contact a volunteer translator to assist you. They can also assist with contacting a volunteer to help translate abstracts into Spanish. Abstracts of presentations will be available in both languages at the meeting, and translation assistance will be provided if necessary.

Planned Symposia

The following Symposia are currently planned for the meeting, and additional Symposia will be added:

- 1) Neotropical Shorebirds. Organized by Richard Johnston and Germán García. Contact Richard Johnston at: johnstongonzalez@gmail.com.
- 2) Tracking large-bodied shorebirds. Organized by Suzanne Fellows and Alex Hartman. Contact Suzanne Fellows at: Suzanne_Fellows@fws.gov.
- 3) WHSRN Species Conservation Plans: Implementation and next steps. Organized by Meredith Gutowski. Contact Meredith Gutowski at mgutowski@manomet.org.

Call for Papers

We invite you to share your interests, ideas, and knowledge of shorebirds by attending and presenting an oral or poster presentation. We are also seeking proposals for symposia to be held at the meeting.

Contributed Papers and Posters: These may be on any subject related to shorebird research, monitoring, or conservation in the Western Hemisphere. Presentations will last 20 minutes, with 15 minutes for the talk and 5 minutes for questions and discussion. Abstracts will be reviewed for acceptability by the Scientific Program Committee. Because time and space may be limited, if too many oral presentations are submitted for the program some may be shifted to posters. The number of posters may be limited by available space to about 30.

Symposia: Please contact the Scientific Program Committee Chair directly by 15 December 2008 to communicate your interest in organizing a symposium on a specific topic. The number of symposia will be limited to two per day. If you are interested in submitting an abstract for one of the organized symposia listed above, please submit it to both whsg2009@gmail.com and the Symposium Organizer by 15 January 2009. Also, if your working group would like to schedule a meeting during the program, there may be space available, so contact the Scientific Program Committee Chair (sbrown@manomet.org).

Abstracts must be submitted by 15 January 2009.

Writing the Abstract:

Submit the abstract in either English or Spanish following the directions below. If you submit the abstract in Spanish, please provide an English translation if at all possible using the same format. This will be important for timely abstract review and acceptance, even if the English version is rough. Similarly, if you submit the abstract in English, please provide a Spanish translation if possible. The text of the abstract must be **less than 250 words**, not including the title or authors names and affiliations. Place an asterisk (*) following the name of students to be considered for student presentation awards. Please follow this format, also presented in the example below: Title (in capital letters), followed by authors first and last names, with affiliation and email address

following each author's name. Indicate who is giving the presentation by underlining the presenting author in the abstract, and provide full contact information in the text following the abstract. If an author does not have an email address, use a regular mail address. Begin the first line following the author and affiliation/email with an indent. Abstracts should be specific and informative, rather than general and suggestive. For example, use "*We recommend that future studies focus on the three most important factors limiting shorebird reproductive success*" rather than "*More work needs to be done*"....

Abstract Submission Instructions:

Abstracts will only be accepted via e-mail. Follow the format carefully, put SHOREBIRDS ABSTRACT in the subject line, and send to the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Group at whsg2009@gmail.com. If you are submitting the abstract for an organized symposium, also send a copy to the symposium organizer at the address above.

Special Instructions for Students Requesting Travel Awards:

Information on travel award requests will be available soon at the meeting website, <http://www.fws.gov/shorebirdplan/>. There will be awards at the meeting for best student paper and poster. To be eligible for these awards, the presenter must be a student (currently enrolled or less than 6 months after finishing an undergraduate or graduate degree) but may have non-student co-authors. For those presenting posters, the primary author and presenter must be a student, but non-student co-authors are allowed. Indicate in the text following your abstract whether you would like to be considered for these awards.

Example Abstract: **Follow this format exactly or your abstract will be returned.**

In subject line of email put: SHOREBIRDS ABSTRACT

In the body of the email:

COMPARING ECOLOGICAL FUNCTIONS OF NATURAL AND CREATED WETLANDS FOR SHOREBIRDS IN TEXAS. Elizabeth Brusati, (e-mail), Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, Paul DuBow, (e-mail) etc...

We compared shorebird behavior, abundance, and prey availability between natural and created wetlands along the Gulf of Mexico, Texas, USA. Locations included...**Strictly limited to 250 words!!!**

COMPARANDO LAS FUNCIONES ECOLÓGICAS DE HUMEDALES NATURALES Y CONSTRUIDOS PARA LAS AVES PLAYERAS EN TEXAS. Elizabeth Brusati, (correo electrónico), Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, Paul DuBow, (correo electrónico) etc...

Comparamos el comportamiento, abundancia, y disponibilidad de presas en aves playeras entre un humedales naturales y construidos en la consta del Golfo de México, Texas, USA. Los sitios incluyeron.....

English speakers should include an identical version in Spanish if possible. If you are not able to do this, we will translate the abstract for you. Spanish speakers should include a

version in English, even if it is grammatically rough, to aid with rapid approval by the scientific committee.

Fill in the following information and include at the end of your abstract:

Preferred presentation format: Oral or Poster

Equipment needed: (Powerpoint Computer Projector is the default; requests for other equipment will be met if possible, but require special requests in advance.)

Student Award Candidate: Yes or No

Presenting author:

Affiliation:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Send the abstract IN THE TEXT OF THE EMAIL MESSAGE – do not send the abstract as an attachment. Assume that most formatting you put into the text such as special characters will be lost, so add a text note explaining any special characters if necessary. Include all information on the abstract submittal form (above) in the email message following the text of the abstract. You will receive an email confirming receipt of your abstract. If you do not receive a confirmation within 3 weeks of submission, contact Stephen Brown at sbrown@manomet.org, or 508-224-6521.

Abstracts must be received by 15 January 2009
Please send to: whsg2009@gmail.com