

Fact Sheet Migration



What is migration?

Migration is a pattern of behavior in which animals travel from one habitat to another in search of food, better conditions, or to reproduce. Migration is different from other types of movement as it happens seasonally and involves a return journey. In Australia, many animals migrate including marine turtles, sharks, whales and birds. Migrating animals may make their journey by land, sea, or air to reach their destination, often crossing vast distances.

Migratory shorebirds

Most migratory shorebirds breed in the Arctic tundra of Russia and Alaska and other northern hemisphere locations such as Mongolia and northern China. When the young are just six weeks old, most of the parents leave on their journey to the southern hemisphere to Australia including the Bellarine Peninsula in Victoria.



Red-necked Stints

Calidris ruficollis



Bar-tailed Godwit

Limosa lapponica

Breed in Scandinavia, northern Asia and Alaska and migrate to Australia each summer.



Eastern Curlew

Numenius madagascariensis

Breed in China and Russia and migrate to the coastal regions of Australia each summer.



Latham's Snipe

Gallinago hardwickii

Breed in Japan and south-east Siberia and migrate to eastern Australia each summer.



Sharp-tailed Sandpiper

Calidris acuminata

Breed in Siberia and migrate to Australia each spring and summer.

Fact Sheet

Migration



Orange-bellied Parrot

The Orange-bellied Parrot (*Neophema chrysogaster*) is a critically endangered parrot that breeds in south-west Tasmania and migrates to Victoria and South Australia each autumn. When they reach the mainland, they visit saltmarsh habitats to feed on plants like Beaded and Shrubby Glasswort and Southern Sea-heath.

Did you know?

One of the largest migratory flights on record was completed by a Bar-tailed Godwit that flew an incredible 13,560km between Alaska and Australia. This bird flew non-stop for 11 days!



CE

Orange-bellied Parrot

Image: David Cook



Double-banded Plover

Breed in New Zealand and migrate to Australia in summer.



Pacific Golden Plover

Breed in Siberia and Alaska and migrate to south-east of Australia each spring and summer.



CE

Swift Parrot

Breed in Tasmania and migrate to the south-east of the Mainland each winter. Are critically endangered.



Yellow-faced Honeyeater

Partially migratory as they move to and from south-east Australia each spring and autumn.

How can you help?

- **Keep dogs on leads** and **look out for signage** notifying you of visiting or breeding birds.
- **Preserve native vegetation** including old-growth trees and plants like Shrubby Glasswort.
- **Plant locally indigenous species** and **remove weeds** from properties.
- Consider **not visiting** wetlands over summer to reduce disturbance to shorebirds.

CE

Listed as 'critically endangered' in the FFG Act 1988