

FICHA DE ANTECEDENTES DE ESPECIE

Nombre Científico	Nombre Vernacular
<i>Calidris canutus</i> (Wilson). ITIS Taxonomic Serial No.: 176643	Playero ártico

Sinonimia

Antecedentes Generales

Largo: 26 cm de longitud, esta especie presenta un plumaje variable dependiendo de la estación:

Plumaje de verano austral: Partes superiores gris ceniza; líneas finas parduscas en el centro de las plumas. Supracaudales blancas con bandas pardas. Pecho y flancos blancos con rayitas pardas; abdomen blanco. Pico negro. Patas negras.

Plumaje de verano boreal o de reproducción: Por encima aparecen manchas negra, blancas y ocre. Pecho pardo rojizo; abdomen blanco.

<http://www.avesdechile.cl/>

Pesa unos 135 g (www.puntoverde.org.ve/aves/calidris_canutus.htm)

Se alimenta de almejas y anfípodos (Hernández *et al.* 2004).

Distribución geográfica (extensión de la presencia)

Este *Playero* anida en el ártico, en la costa oeste de Groenlandia y Noreste de Canadá (isla de Ellesmere, isla Victoria, península de Melville, isla Baffin y el norte del Labrador). A principios del invierno boreal, migra hacia el sur por ambas costas americanas. En Chile se le ha registrado, aunque muy ocasionalmente, en Arica, río Huasco (Atacama), Montemar (Viña del Mar), desembocadura del río Maipo, Chiloé; la mayor parte de la población se registra en Tierra del Fuego.

A diferencia del llamativo plumaje que posee durante su periodo de reproducción, al hemisferio sur llega con unos modestos tonos grises y blancos, y muy ocasionalmente hasta la parte sur de Sudamérica, por lo que se le considera un ave escasa tanto en Chile como en Argentina. <http://www.avesdechile.cl/>

Tamaño poblacional estimado, abundancia relativa y estructura poblacional

En la década del 80, los canadienses Morrison y Ross contaron solamente en la zona del estrecho de Magallanes y adyacencias, mas de 50.000 playeros rojizos, más los vistos en la costa atlántica hasta Surinam, en una revisión aérea.

(<http://www.pajarosargentinos.com.ar/playerorrojizo.html>).

Tendencias poblacionales actuales

Según los antecedentes recopilados, la población tiende a permanecer estable y numerosa. http://www.ramsar.org/archives/archives_trans_chile_lomas.htm señala que

Bahía Lomas. 06/12/04. Región de Magallanes y Antártica Chilena. 58946 ha. 52°38'S

069°10'W. Localizado al norte de la isla de Tierra del Fuego en límites con Argentina y frente al estrecho de Magallanes, el sitio, el segundo más austral de Ramsar, tiene las planicies intermareales más amplias de Chile, extendiéndose frente a una playa de 69 km de largo y varios pantanos salinos. La bahía es reputada por sus altas concentraciones de aves playeras migratorias de octubre a marzo, con registros de más de 41,000 playeros árticos *Calidris canutus*, más del 88% de la población de Américas; 4,500 zarapitos de pico recto *Limosa haemastica*, 23% de la población global; 12,000 playeros lomo blanco *Calidris fuscicollis*, 3% de la población global. También importantes son los registros de aves casi amenazadas como el chorlo de Magallanes *Pluvianellus socialis* y el flamenco chileno *Phoenicopterus chilensis*. La precipitación es escasa y la vegetación es típica de la estepa patagónica, dominada por los pastos *Festuca pallescens* y *F. gracillima*. Es frecuente el varamiento de cetáceos en las planicies intermareales, habiéndose registrado 21 especies. La población humana es muy reducida y las principales actividades son la ganadería de ovinos y la extracción de petróleo desde dos plataformas en las planicies. Se temen los impactos que puedan ocasionar eventuales derrames de petróleo de grandes buques o de las mismas plataformas, pero por fortuna hay una gran recirculación de agua en el sitio producto de las corrientes predominantes. Es el sitio Ramsar N° 1430.

<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/redknot/riverkeeper.pdf> solicita que esta especie sea declarada en peligro de extinción por el año 2010, argumentando:

(sic)

II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The intent of this petition is to achieve the prompt placement of the Red Knot (*Caladris canutus rufa*) on the United States' endangered species list. The petitioners specifically request that because of the factors, discussed *infra.*, that pose a significant risk to the well-being of the Red Knot *rufa* and would lead to extinction of the species by 2010, the *C.c. rufa* (or Red Knot *rufa*) be listed forthwith under the emergency listing provisions of the Act.

Red Knot *rufa* is a migratory shore bird. Every spring, Red Knot *rufa* migrates from the southernmost tip of South America at Tierra del Fuego, up the Eastern coast of the Americas through the Delaware Bay, and ultimately to the central Canadian Arctic where it breeds. The Red Knot *rufa* migration is one of the longest among shore birds. Their nearly 30,000 kilometer epic migration includes just a few critically timed and selected rest stops. The Delaware Bay stopover is one of the most important for the Red Knot *rufa* during their northern migration. The long journey from Brazil to the Delaware Bay results in the Red Knot *rufa* metabolizing a vast portion of their fat and muscle tissue so that when they arrive at the Delaware Bay they are starving and in dire need of food and nutrition. For the brief period they are at the Delaware Bay, the Red Knot *rufa* depend on the available food supplies to regenerate their tissue and gain fat. No major refueling sites exist between the Delaware Bay and the Arctic breeding ground, therefore the Red Knot *rufa* must leave the Delaware Bay well nourished with enough strength and reserves to survive the flight to the Arctic and to breed once they arrive. As a result, the Delaware Bay is a critical refueling area for the Red Knot *rufa*.

The Red Knot *rufa* have a unique ecological relationship with the horseshoe crab (*limulus polyphemus*). Feeding on the horseshoe crab eggs in the Delaware Bay is a critical component of the survival of the Red Knot *rufa* population. The Red Knot *rufa* congregates on

the beaches of Delaware Bay to restore their emaciated bodies by feeding on the fatty, lipid-rich eggs of horseshoe crabs. The Delaware Bay is the only place in the world where such a concentrated population of Red Knot *rufa* congregate to feed on horseshoe crab eggs.

Red Knot *rufa* require a “superabundance” of horseshoe crab eggs in order to repair their bodies, restore their strength and acquire migratory fat tissue. Only when there is a superabundance of these eggs are there enough present on the surface of the sand to fill the needs of the Red Knot *rufa*. Red Knot *rufa*, unlike other birds that eat horseshoe crab eggs, are not able to dig in the sand to feed on eggs, they can only eat what is on the surface. Therefore it is crucial to the Red Knot *rufa* that there be a “superabundance” of eggs in the sand. A superabundance of horseshoe crab eggs exists when the sand in the spawning areas is brimming with eggs, making it easy for the famished and emaciated Red Knots to replenish their energy stores.

Research has shown that there are less horseshoe crabs available than previously and consequently many Red Knot *rufa* are no longer able to consume enough horseshoe crab eggs during their Delaware Bay stopover. Red Knots unable to consume enough of the horseshoe crab eggs will not survive the 2,400 kilometer flight to the Arctic. The Red Knot that survives the flight but has not consumed enough will lack sufficient nutritional stores needed to breed and reproduce. As fewer Red Knots breed, fewer chicks are hatching and the population is declining at a rate which would bring the Red Knot *rufa* population to extinction on or about 2010.

The reason for the inadequate supply of horseshoe crabs eggs is that horseshoe crabs are presently harvested for use as bait for the conch and eel fishing industries. As the horseshoe crab population declines, so does the availability of their eggs. Thus, the fewer horseshoe crabs there are along the Delaware Bay each spring, the less food is available for the migrating Red Knots.⁵

Because nearly all Red Knot *rufa* pass through the Delaware Bay in the spring, a shortage in food at this site has had a direct affect on the birds’ survival as a species. Independent studies show an alarming decline in the Red Knot *rufa* population in recent years.⁶ For example, from the mid-1980s to 2005, the number of Red Knot *rufa* observed in the main wintering areas in South America decreased from over 51,255 in 2000 to 17,653 in 2005.⁷ A separate study of the Red Knot *rufa* observed over a seven year period in the Delaware Bay shows a steady decline in the numbers foraging in the Bay to a current all time low of 13,315.

Even though the Red Knot *rufa* has experienced a significant population decline in this relatively short span of time, it receives little protection. Because the Red Knot *rufa* congregate in such large numbers in small areas along the migratory corridor (such as on the Delaware Bay), deleterious changes to those areas can affect a large portion of the population at one time. Thus, the species continues to be unusually vulnerable to human activities, such as the harvesting of horseshoe crabs, along the Delaware Bay. As the recent reports of population decline demonstrate, there is an urgent need to list the Red Knot *rufa* as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act, to protect its habitat and to insure sufficient quantities of its primary spring-time food source, the horseshoe crab eggs. Listing the Red Knot *rufa* as an endangered species and as an emergency listing under the Act will allow the population to maintain its biological integrity. If action is taken immediately, conservation efforts can be effective in recovering and then maintaining the Red

Knot *rufa* population. The Red Knot *rufa* population recovery can be maintained and monitored through a series of programs including, but not limited to: critical habitat designations, aerial surveys, banding studies, moratoriums on horseshoe crab harvests, short term limitations on human use of feeding grounds during the limited periods the birds are feeding during their spring migration, and conservation education. The Service, States and organizations that are currently working together to protect the Red Knot *rufa* can manage each of these programs. Listing the Red Knot *rufa* as an endangered species and an emergency listing under the Endangered Species Act is essential to ensure an immediate, coordinated and comprehensive approach to saving the species whose migratory range transcends political boundaries.

Endangered Species Act Listing Criteria

Pursuant to Section 4 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. §1533) and regulations promulgated to implement the Act (50 CFR Part 424), the Red Knot *rufa* must be added to the Federal Endangered Species List because the following criteria apply to its current status:

1. There is a present or threatened destruction, modification or curtailment of habitat or range;
2. Overutilization for commercial, recreational, scientific, and educational purposes puts it at risk;
3. Disease and predation puts it at risk;
4. Existing regulatory mechanisms are inadequate;
5. Other natural and manmade factors affect its continued existence.

Preferencias de hábitat de las especies (área de ocupación)

“Prefiere playas de lagunas, ríos, esteros y bañados, además de sitios lodosos, playas arenosas y rocosas.”

“Se lo suele ver en grandes bandadas compactas.”

“Su alimentación consiste en pequeños moluscos, crustáceos e insectos.”

<http://www.pajarosargentinos.com.ar/playerorojizo.html>

Principales amenazas actuales y potenciales

“El playero rojizo se encuentra distribuido a lo largo de todo el mundo, y su población total se estima en más de un millón de individuos. Aunque la tendencia de la población no ha sido evaluada, no parece cumplir los criterios de amenaza de la UICN, por lo que no se considera amenazada a nivel global. Es considerada como un Ave de Preocupación para la Conservación (“Bird of Conservation Concern”) en EE.UU. Las últimas estimas poblacionales para la subespecie rufa son realmente preocupantes, estimando su tamaño poblacional entorno a 20.000 individuos, y la población total en América (que incluiría varias subespecies más) de entre 30.000 y 50.000.”

<http://www.birdlife.info/neotropical/speciesfactsheet.asp?sid=3041>

Las tendencias actuales de la población de cangrejo cacerola (o bayoneta) indican un decrecimiento alarmante que hace presumir que esta especie de ave se verá fuertemente afectada por esta baja de su alimento principal y que es el que necesitan para ir desde Delaware hasta el ártico en que se reproducen.

Estado de conservación

<http://www.iucnredlist.org/search/details.php/49073/summ> sostiene que es de preocupación menor, y argumenta: This species has a large range, with an estimated global extent of occurrence of 100,000;1,000,000 km². It has a large global population estimated to be 1,100,000 individuals (Wetlands International 2002). Global population trends have not been quantified, but the species is not believed to approach the thresholds for the population decline criterion of the IUCN Red List (i.e., declining more than 30% in ten years or three generations). For these reasons, the species is evaluated as Least Concern.

El mismo documento web indica la historia de las categorías en que ha sido calificado este pájaro:

1988 Lower Risk/least concern (BirdLife International 2004)

1994 Lower Risk/least concern (BirdLife International 2004)

2000 Lower Risk/least concern (BirdLife International 2004)

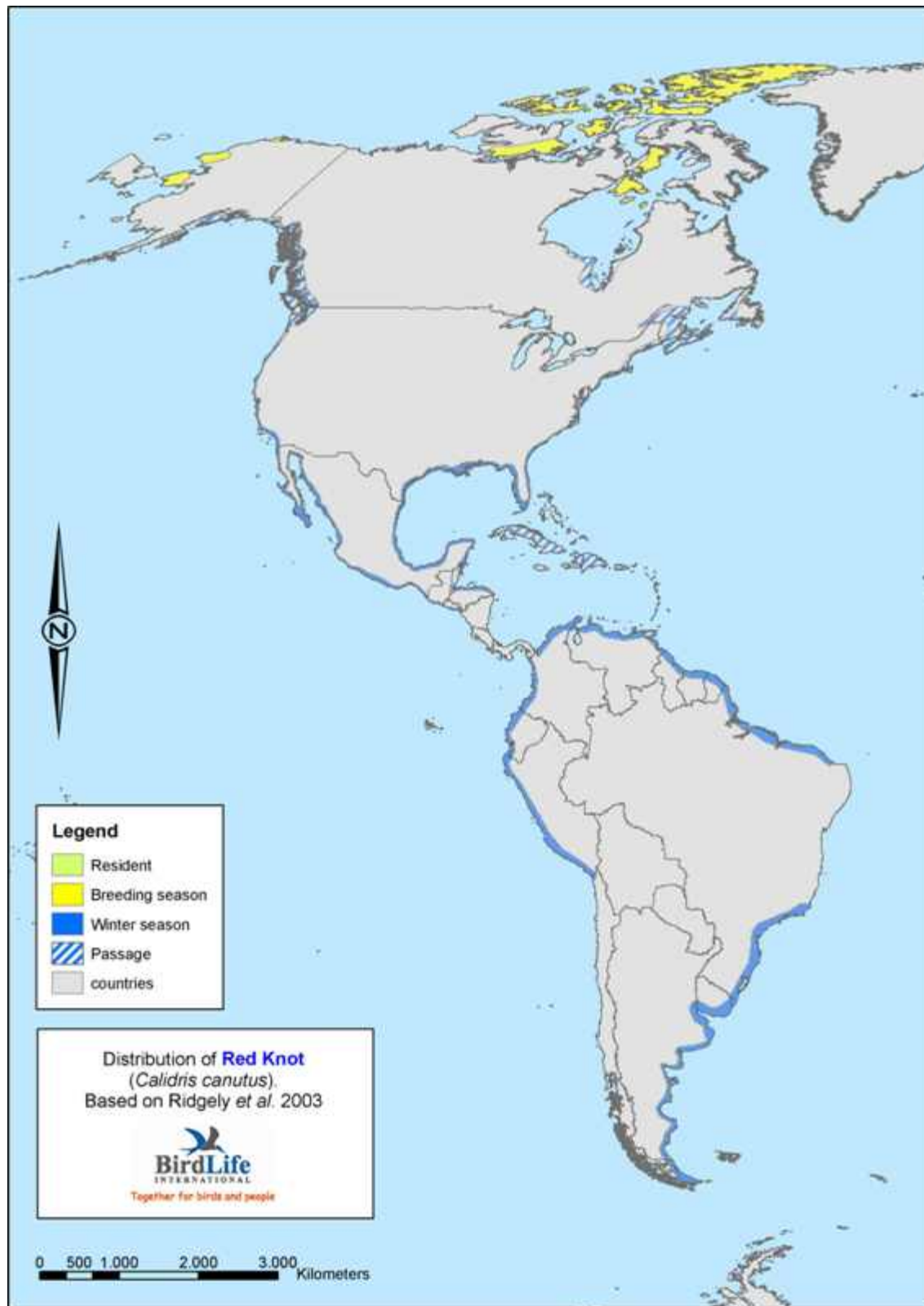
Bibliografía citada revisada

Bibliografía citada NO revisada

Sitios Web citados



Tomado de: <http://www.pajarosargentinos.com.ar/playerorjizo.html>



<http://www.birdlife.info/neotropical/speciesfactsheet.asp?sid=3041>

Propuesta de Clasificación

Se concluye que su Categoría de Conservación, según Reglamento de Clasificación de Especies Silvestres (RCE) es:

EN PELIGRO EN A2ab

Dado que:

Hay una

A, Reducción en el tamaño de la población basado en que se verifica

2, una reducción en la población observada, estimada, inferida o sospechada del 50% en los últimos 10 años o tres generaciones, (...) desde la reducción y sus causas no han cesado. Todo ello basado en:

a) observación directa y

b) un índice de abundancia apropiado para el taxón.