

Bird Conservation International

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Cover photograph: Where two worlds come together - Eurasian Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus phaeopus* (left) and Steppe Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus alboaxillaris* (right) spend the boreal winter together in Maputo, Mozambique. These two sub-species breed in very different areas (in the tundra and northern taiga of central Siberia, and in the steppes of Russian/Kazakhstan to the south) but come together in the wintering areas. In this issue James Pearce-Higgins and colleagues collate what is known about the shorebirds in the Numeniini family to provide an assessment of the conservation status and threats facing this group. Comprising 13 species, seven are globally Near Threatened or threatened, including two Critically Endangered, making it one of the most threatened groups of birds globally. Individual sub-species, or breeding populations, may also occur only in very small numbers (the Steppe Whimbrel population is probably in the hundreds of individuals only), or be under severe threat. Image credit: Callan Cohen & Gary Allport.

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