

Global change ecology of migrant shorebirds

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In this presentation I will give an overview of my work, in which I focus on migrant shorebirds and how they cope with global change, notably global climate change. Many shorebirds breed in the High Arctic, which is experiencing 2-3 times faster warming rates than the rest of the world. I will present that this leads to reduced body sizes in many migrant (shore)birds, including my main study species, the red knot (*Calidris canutus*). Currently we are testing the hypothesis that smaller bodies are due to poor growth of the offspring in the Arctic – for which I will present evidence. I will conclude by showing strong carry-over effects of a reduced body size on their tropical wintering grounds in West Africa.

