

Wandering Tattler

Tringa incana

Class: Aves
Order: Charadriiformes

Conservation Status

NatureServe: Agency:
G Rank: G4G5 USFWS: IUCN: Least Concern Audubon AK: Yellow
S Rank: S4S5B BLM: ADF&G: Species of Greatest Conservation Need

Final Rank		
Conservation category: V. Orange		
V = unknown status and either high biological vulnerability or high action need		
<u>Category</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>Score</u>
Status:	-20 to 20	0
Biological:	-50 to 50	-24
Action:	-40 to 40	12
Higher numerical scores denote greater concern		

Status - variables measure the trend in a taxon’s population status or distribution. Higher status scores denote taxa with known declining trends. Status scores range from -20 (increasing) to 20 (decreasing).

	Score
<i>Population Trend (-10 to 10)</i>	0
Unknown (Andres et al. 2012a).	
<i>Distribution Trend (-10 to 10)</i>	0
Unknown.	
Status Total:	0

Biological - variables measure aspects of a taxon’s distribution, abundance and life history. Higher biological scores suggest greater vulnerability to extirpation. Biological scores range from -50 (least vulnerable) to 50 (most vulnerable).

	Score
<i>Population Size (-10 to 10)</i>	-4
North American population estimate is ~17,500 individuals (Andres et al. 2012a), of which >50% breed in Alaska (ASG 2019). Population size in Alaska is therefore estimated to be at least ~8,700 individuals, and possibly >10,000. We therefore rank this question as 0.5 * D and 0.5 E.	
<i>Range Size (-10 to 10)</i>	-10
Patchily distributed across the state. Breeds in parts of the Brooks Range (Kessel and Gibson 1978), the interior (Gill et al. 2002a), western (Kessel 1989; Petersen et al. 1991) and southwestern Alaska (Ruthrauff et al. 2007), and south-central Alaska south to Glacier Bay (Kessel and Gibson 1978; Gill et al. 2002a). Overwinters outside of Alaska along the west coast of North America south to Peru and on some Hawaiian Islands (Gill et al. 2002a; Gill et al. 2015). Breeding range >400,000 sq. km.	
<i>Population Concentration (-10 to 10)</i>	-10
Few data available. No major concentrations have been reported. In Prince William Sound, seen migrating in small flocks during spring and autumn (Isleib and Kessel 1973). Does not concentrate during breeding season (Gill et al. 2002a).	
<i>Reproductive Potential</i>	
<u>Age of First Reproduction (-5 to 5)</u>	-3

Unknown, but thought to be at least 2-3 years old (Gill et al. 2002a).	
<u>Number of Young (-5 to 5)</u>	1
Few data available. Typically lays a single, four-egg clutch in Alaska (Murie 1924; Dixon 1933; Weeden 1965) and elsewhere in North America (Gill et al. 2002a).	
<i>Ecological Specialization</i>	
<u>Dietary (-5 to 5)</u>	1
Few data available. On breeding grounds, consumes small aquatic invertebrates such as flies, worms, bivalves, crustaceans, and small fish (Dixon 1933; Murie 1959b; Gill et al. 2002a; 2015).	
<u>Habitat (-5 to 5)</u>	1
Forages along shorelines of marine waters and freshwaters lakes and rivers (Gill et al. 2015). Nesting habitat is somewhat varied, though glacial processes and, perhaps to a lesser extent, the presence of running water (for foraging) appear to be important in determining the distribution of nest sites (Gill et al. 2015; Amundson et al. 2018). Typical nesting habitat includes gravel bars, scree fields, glacial deposits, and even mine tailings by montane streams, lakes, and rivers (Murie 1924; Dixon 1933; Murie 1959b; Petersen et al. 1991) or by the coast (Isleib and Kessel 1973). Interestingly, some nests on the Alaska Peninsula were located several kilometers from major river corridors (Gill et al. 2015). Nests have been described from a range of elevations from the coast (Isleib and Kessel 1973) to alpine sites >1,100 m (Petersen et al. 1991; Tibbitts et al. 2006; Ruthrauff et al. 2007; Gill et al. 2015).	
Biological Total:	-24
Action - variables measure current state of knowledge or extent of conservation efforts directed toward a given taxon. Higher action scores denote greater information needs due of lack of knowledge or conservation action. Action scores range from -40 (lower needs) to 40 (greater needs).	Score
<hr/> <i>Management Plans and Regulations (-10 to 10)</i>	-10
Protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA 1918). Closed to recreational and subsistence harvest (AMBCC 2018).	
<i>Knowledge of Distribution and Habitat (-10 to 10)</i>	2
Habitat association and distribution are not well-known. Although this species is detected during multi-species bird surveys (e.g. Isleib and Kessel 1973; Petersen et al. 1991; Tibbitts et al. 2006; Ruthrauff et al. 2007). However, knowledge of its distribution in Alaska is patchy and poorly documented in several parts of its range. For example, surveys in Katmai National Park by Ruthrauff et al. (2007) extended the known breeding range on the Alaska Peninsula by 250 km. Although habitat associations have been described (see references in Habitat section), nest sites may be less tied to water than previously thought (Gill et al. 2015) and additional studies are needed to determine habitat requirements.	
<i>Knowledge of Population Trends (-10 to 10)</i>	10
This species is not currently monitored in Alaska.	
<i>Knowledge of Factors Limiting Populations (-10 to 10)</i>	10
Breeding ecology was studied at Turquoise Lake in south-central Alaska (Gill et al. 2010; 2015), but little is known about the factors that limit its population in Alaska or elsewhere in its breeding range. Studies at Turquoise Lake revealed that the breeding population seemed to include "floaters" and a potentially limited number of breeding females (Gill et al. 2015). Moreover, Gill et al. (2015) observed individuals actively defending their foraging territories early in the season, which may indicate scarce food resources. Nesting habitats did not appear to be limiting in this study area (Gill et al. 2015). It is unknown whether these factors do, indeed, limit population growth nor whether they are representative of conditions experienced elsewhere in Alaska, where nesting habitat is markedly different than at Turquoise Lake (Gill et al. 2015).	
Action Total:	12

Supplemental Information - variables do not receive numerical scores. Instead, they that are used to sort taxa to answer specific biological or management questions.

Harvest:	None or Prohibited
Seasonal Occurrence:	Breeding
Taxonomic Significance:	Monotypic species
% Global Range in Alaska:	>10%
% Global Population in Alaska:	25-74%
Peripheral:	No

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