

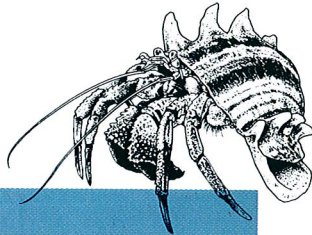
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Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

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How you can help protect this world class wetland:

- ✓ DO NOT DRIVE ON THE BEACH, especially between October and April when birds are feeding and turtles laying.
- ✓ Never drive on or near the base of dunes. This is where turtles and some sea-birds lay their eggs. Damage to dunes may be irreparable.
- ✓ Avoid disturbing feeding or roosting waders.
- ✓ Be especially careful at high tide when flocks are resting.
- ✓ At night, do not shine lights on birds or turtles. This will alarm them.
- ✓ Keep dogs under control and well away from wildlife.
- ✓ Avoid polluting the beach with plastic bags, oil, fuel, food or other refuse.



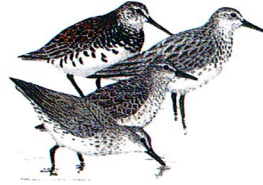
Bar-tailed Godwit



Red-necked Stints



Eastern Curlew



Great Knot



Greater Sand Plover



Curlew Sandpiper

Illustrations by Nicolas Day taken from THE FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF AUSTRALIA by Ken Simpson & Nicolas Day, published by Penguin Australia.

Want to learn more about migratory birds?

Want to assist with netting and banding or invertebrate surveys? Contact:



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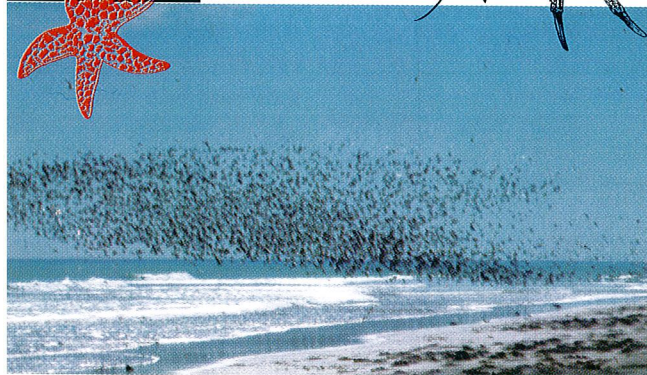
A Ramsar listed wetland. Feeding ground for migratory birds.

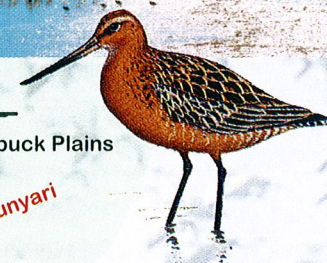
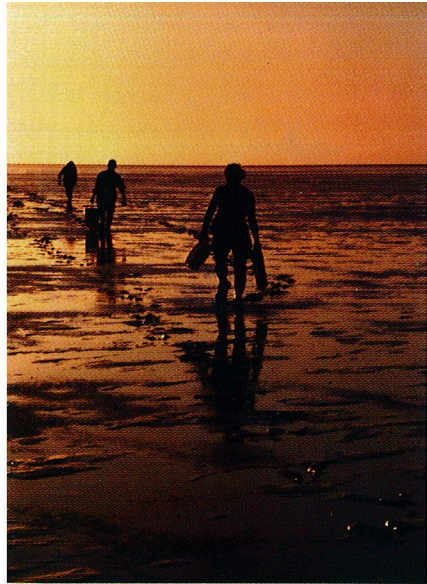


A vital habitat for wildlife
Eighty Mile Beach
Karajarr and Nyangumarr country

Help us keep it safe

Nesting place of the flat-backed turtle.





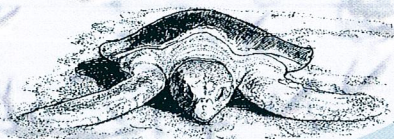
Each year, millions of migratory shorebirds arrive in northern Australia from their feeding and breeding grounds in the Arctic circle. They spend the northern winter, when the tundra freezes over, in the warmth of the southern hemisphere.

By the time they arrive here, these birds have travelled between 10,000 and 15,000 kilometres. Some have only been hatched for a few months.

80 Mile Beach supports about half a million of these waders, from 20 species. Hundreds of thousands more stay at Roebuck Bay.

The continuity of these migratory wonder birds depends on successful feeding, resting and breeding.

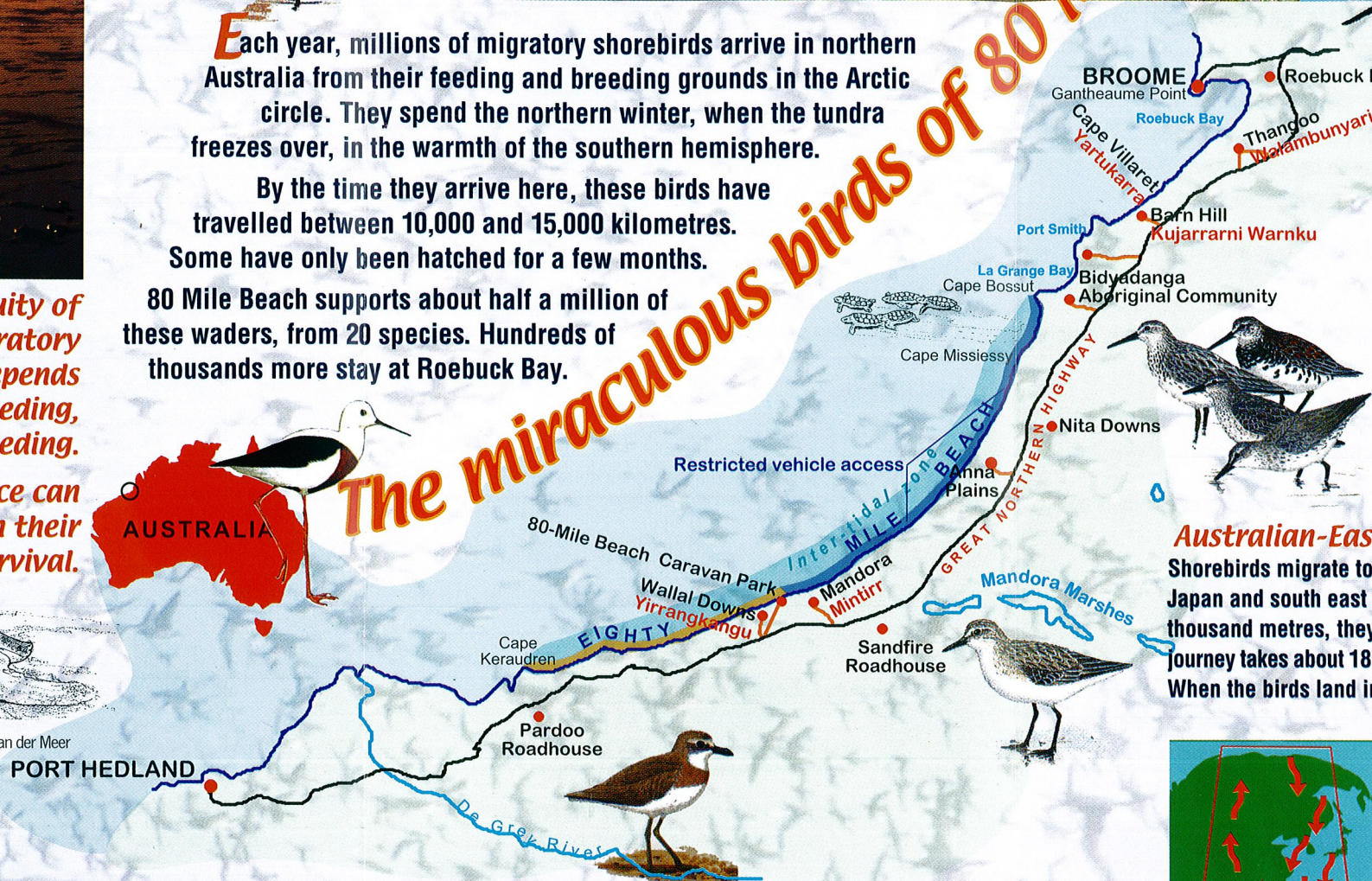
Any disturbance can interfere with their survival.



Turtle illustrations by Gooitzen van der Meer



The miraculous birds of 80 Mile Beach



Australian-East Asian Flyway
Shorebirds migrate to northern Australia via Japan and south east Asia. Flying at several thousand metres, they average 70kph. The journey takes about 18 days of continuous flying. When the birds land in northern WA, they are exhausted. At this stage they urgently need to replenish their energy after their long flight. Once they have recovered, their task is to feed and put on fat to prepare for a safe return to their northern breeding grounds.



Why do these flocks of waders come here?

- **For food:** 80 Mile Beach and Roebuck Bay support a rich food source of marine invertebrates. The biodiversity of this coastline may be the richest in the world. Different species of waders feed on invertebrates at different levels in the mud. Others feed in the freshwater lagoons behind the coastal dunes.
- **To roost:** At high tide, when the mud flats are covered, the birds rest high on the beach near the dunes, or behind them.