

# Wildfowl 53

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Species drawings for each paper by Rory McCann, WWT Volunteer.

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## ***Wildfowl 53***

Providing relevant stakeholders and end-users with information and data resulting from scientific study is one of the key ways in which WWT fulfills its mission 'to conserve wetlands and their biodiversity'. An important element of the broad range of conservation science activities that we undertake is the production of our peer-reviewed journal *Wildfowl*.

In its 55 year history, *Wildfowl* has grown and evolved, and now publishes fifteen to twenty scientific papers in a single annual edition. We receive contributions from scientists around the world, and publish papers and short communications on the ecology, biology and conservation of wildfowl (Anseriformes) and ecologically associated waterbirds such as waders, rails and flamingos. We also welcome research into wetland ecology where this is directed towards the conservation of waterbirds, and critical reviews that shed new light on areas of theoretical ecology or conservation. Field survey reports are also encouraged, but these should focus on the conservation outcomes delivered by the work. Full details regarding the formatting of manuscripts may be found on our website ([www.wwt.org.uk](http://www.wwt.org.uk)) or may be obtained by calling the number given below. All other enquiries and routine correspondence regarding *Wildfowl* should be addressed to the Editorial Assistant, *Wildfowl*, The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust, Slimbridge, Gloucestershire GL2 7BT, UK. Telephone: +44 (0)1453 891900; Fax: +44 (0)1453 890827 or 891901. Email: [wildfowl@wwt.org.uk](mailto:wildfowl@wwt.org.uk).

As usual, my thanks go to all the authors who submitted material for *Wildfowl* 53, as well as to the many referees and WWT staff who gave so generously of their valuable time and knowledge. I also owe a great debt of gratitude to my editorial assistant Clare Lee, whose hard work and endeavour contributes so much to the publication of this journal.

This year, I would also like to thank Rory McCann who spent three months as a volunteer within WWT's Research Department at the end of 2002. During that time, Rory produced a unique set of superb line drawings, one for each individual paper of this edition of *Wildfowl*.

I hope that you find this year's range of papers interesting, valuable and informative.

Dr Mark O'Connell  
Head of Research, WWT.

**WWT**  
*Saving wetlands for wildlife and people*

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