

17 January 2013

Mayor HASHIMOTO Toru  
Osaka City Hall  
1-3-20 Nakanoshima, Kita-ku,  
Osaka, 530-8201, JAPAN

Dear Mayor Hashimoto,

I am writing to you from Australia out of concern for the future management of the Osaka Nankou Bird Sanctuary.

As a shorebird flyway network site, the area is known here in Australia, and we would have thought that such areas would be protected under the Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement.

With over 100,000 visitors to the area each year it is one of the more visited shorebird sites in the flyway, and can provide continued education about the migratory shorebirds and their remarkable migrations.

We find it remarkable that shorebirds banded in Australia have been observed at the Osaka Nankou Bird Sanctuary, and feel that this reflects our connectedness in efforts to protect these fantastic birds.

As you are probably aware, migratory shorebird populations appear to be showing growing population declines, and therefore the protection of their habitats, and education of the public on shorebird conservation are becoming increasingly important.

I urge you to please facilitate the ongoing management, protection, and education that is currently undertaken at the Osaka Nankou Bird Sanctuary.

Sincerely,

Robert Clemens  
School of Biological Sciences  
Environmental Decisions Group  
University of Queensland

Suzanne Mather  
Chair, BirdLife Western Australia



Joan Dawes  
Conservation Officer  
Australasian Wader Study Group



Golo Maurer  
BirdLife Australia  
Shorebirds 2020 Program Manager