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Phalaropus tricolor

This species is complete.
March 26, 2014 by Amber Lankford
Author(s) Expertise:
Print species as a PDF [1]

Sensitivity Factor	Sensitivity 1 - 7 (one being least sensitive, seven being most sensitive)	Confidence 1 - 5 (one being least sensitive, five being most sensitive)
Generalist/Specialist	4 Medium-High	4 Good
Physiology	3 Medium	3 Fair
Life History	4 Medium-High	4 Good
Habitat	7 Extremely High	5 Very Good
Dispersal Ability	1 Low	2 Poor
Disturbance Regimes	3 Medium	3 Fair
Ecology	3 Medium	3 Fair
Non-Climatic	3 Medium	3 Fair
Other (weight)		

Sensitivity Score : 49 Medium

Sensitivity Score

100 * [(0.5 *(Dispersal Distance + Dispersal Barriers) + Disturbance Regimes + (0.5 * Generalist/Specialist) + Physiology + (0.5 * Life History) + Sensitive Habitats + Ecology + Non-Climatic Stressors + (Other * Weight) / 49 + (7 * Weight)]

Note: if Sensitive Habitats are identified, this factor automatically gets a value of seven, otherwise it remains zero.

Confidence Score : 3 Fair

Confidence Score

The Confidence Score is an average of the Confidence column above.

Overall User Ranking: 4 Medium-High

Common Name:
Wilson's phalarope

Is this Species completed:
Yes

Taxonomy

This is a description of the whole group

Scientific Name:
Phalaropus tricolor

Geography:
Idaho

Realm:
Terrestrial
Freshwater

Kingdom:
Animal

Phylum:
Chordata

Class:
Aves

Order:
Charadriiformes

Family:
Scolopacidae

Genus:
Phalaropus

Global Rank:
G5 (1996)

Rounded Global Rank:
G5 - Secure

IUCN:
Least Concern ver 3.1 (2012)

Generalist/Specialist

Broadly, where does this species fall on the spectrum of generalist to specialist? :
4

Confidence in your assessment of the degree to which the species is a generalist or specialist:
4 Good

Please specify which factors, if any, make the species more of a specialist:
phenology dependency

Comments:
Considered a non-breeding season salt lake specialist. Highly aquatic. Consumes small aquatic invertebrates, and crustaceans (some terrestrial invertebrates).

Citations:
Colwell, M. A. and J. R. Jehl, Jr. 1994. Wilson's Phalarope (Phalaropus tricolor), The Birds of North America Online (A. Poole, Ed.). Ithaca: Cornell Lab of Ornithology; Retrieved from the Birds of North America Online: http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/083

Physiology

Species' physiological sensitivity:
3

Confidence in how physiologically sensitive the species is to climate change:
3 Fair

Please specify whether or not this species is physiologically sensitive to one or more of the following:
temperature

Comments:
Males may be sensitive to increased temperatures while incubating.

Life History

Species' reproductive strategy:
4

Confidence in your assessment of the species' reprodcutive strategy:
4 Good

Is the species polycyclic, iteroparous, or semelparous?:
Iteroparous (reproduces in successive cycles--characteristic of K-strategists)

Average length of time to reproductive maturity:
1 year

How many surviving young can an individual produce during a single reproductive event under optimal conditions?:

4

How many reproductive events can an individual undergo in a single year under optimal conditions?:
>4

Comments:
Species is polyandrous. Males provide majority of care for the young. Females capable of laying multiple clutches each year, but this is limited by access to mates and spring arrival times

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Sensitive Habitats

Depends on the following sensitive habitat types:
Coastal Lowlands/Marshes/Estuaries/Beaches
Wetlands/Vernal Pools
Seeps/Springs

Confidence in whether the species depends on the listed sensitive habitat types:
5 Very Good

Level of philopatry:
medium

Comments:
Breeds at shallow wetlands. Nests in sparse to dense upland vegetation, and also along marshes and ditches. Adults prepare for migration in open, shallow water, particlyarly hypersaline lakes. During non-breeding season the species is a salt-lake specialist. Winter range in South America is dominated by mudflats and marshes as well as saline lakes

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Dispersal Ability

Maximum annual dispersal distance:
>100 km

Confidence in maximum annual dispersal distance:
3 Fair

Within the context of dispersal distance above, do barriers to dispersal exist?:
1 None

Confidence in barriers to dispersal exists:
2 Poor

Comments:
Performs a transequatorial migration.

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Disturbance Regimes

How sensitive is this species to one or more disturbance regimes:
3 somewhat sensitive

Confidence in how sensitive is this species on one or more disturbance regimes:
3 Fair

Please check all disturbance regimes upon which the species is sensitive:
Drought

Comments:
Drought could impact food availability as well as nest site availability.

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Ecological Relationships

Please specify which of the following (if any) are sensitive to climate change for this species:
habitat

Confidence in how sensitive the species is to other effects of climate change on its ecology:
3 Fair

Which types of climate and climate-driven changes in the environment affect these aspects of the species' ecology?:
precipitation
salinity

How sensitive is this species? ecological relationships to the effects of climate change?:
3

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of North America Online (A. Poole, Ed.). Ithaca: Cornell Lab of Ornithology; Retrieved from the Birds of North America Online: http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/083

Interacting non-climatic stressors

To what degree do other, non-climate-related threats, to the species make it more sensitive to climate change?:
3

Confidence in the degree to which non-climate-related threats affect the species' sensitivity to climate change:
3 Fair

Please check all of the stressors that make the species more sensitive to climate change:
habitat loss or degradation

Comments:
Water diversion and wetland loss reduces breeding habitat and also affects salinity and ecosystems associated with saline water non-breeding and stop-over sites.

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Overall User Ranking

In your opinion, how would you rank the overall sensitivity of this species to climate change?:
4(moderate sensitivity)

Confidence in your overall assessment of the sensitivity of this species to climate change:
4 Good