

Project Update: August 2010

Since receiving the Rufford Small Grant at the end of March 2010, work on The Blueprint has included 2 months of fieldwork on Socheong Island (counting migrant birds throughout northward migration); research in June and July 2010 on the breeding-habitat preferences of the globally Vulnerable Styan's Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella pleskei*, a species with a world distribution centred in this part of the Yellow Sea; mapping work on inter-tidal areas (revealing that perhaps as much as 60% of the nation's tidal-flats have been destroyed in only the past 20 years); data analysis of counts of seabirds at sea; and mailing to other organisations, inviting them to contribute articles on their work to The Blueprint. An introduction to the rationale for this project can now be found at:

http://www.birdskorea.org/Our_Work/Research/Yellow-Sea-Blueprint-Region/Blueprint/BK-RES-YSBP-Blueprint-Intro.shtml



Left: Critically endangered Spoon-billed sandpiper. Right: Globally endangered Styan's grasshopper warbler.



Left: Gageo Island. Right: Song Do reclamation.