

KNOW YOUR SANDERLING

SHORT STUMPY GREY BILL

GREY AND WHITE FLECKLED BACK

WHITE FRONT



Greg Bessant

Sanderling *Calidris alba*

Summer: 0
Winter: 20,500

UK conservation status: **Amber**

Protected by The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Movements and Migration

Long distance migrants coming from Iceland and Scandinavia. They are capable of flying up to 5,000km non-stop and will increase their body weight by up to 60% in order to prepare for the journey,

Voice

Call given in flight or when flushed is a liquid 'twick, twick'.

Food

Takes food from the surface or probes in mud. Eats small crabs, shrimps, shellfish, sandhoppers and marine worms that live in mud and sand or are washed in by the tide.

Threats

Like other waders, Sanderlings need to feed undisturbed to obtain enough food to sustain their long flights and survive the winter. Disturbing feeding birds in winter should therefore be avoided.

Migration:
1,185-1,375 miles

Flight Initiation Distance:
26 metres

Wingspan:
36-39 cm

Oldest Bird:
18 years

