An artificial site provides valuable additional habitat to migratory shorebirds in a tropical harbour

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Supplementary material

Table S1. Number of times the EPBC Act 0.1% (national) and 1% (international) threshold has been met for migratory shorebirds at natural and artificial sites in Darwin, Northern Territory.

Threshold	0.1%	0.1%	1%	1%
Site class	Natural	Artificial	Natural	Artificial
Bar-tailed Godwit	3	0	0	0
Black-tailed Godwit	28	0	1	0
Common Greenshank	0	6	0	0
Common Sandpiper	0	0	0	0
Curlew Sandpiper	0	0	0	0
Eastern Curlew	4	57	0	0
Great Knot	254	0	33	0
Greater Sand Plover	208	17	1	0
Grey Plover	1	0	0	0
Grey-tailed Tattler	4	17	0	0
Lesser Sand Plover	4	2	0	0
Marsh Sandpiper	0	0	0	0
Oriental Plover	0	0	0	0
Pacific Golden Plover	0	2	0	0
Red Knot	144	2	0	0
Red-necked Stint	1	0	0	0
Ruddy Turnstone	77	0	0	0

Sanderling	154	0	0	0
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1	12	0	0
Terek Sandpiper	6	28	0	0
Whimbrel	48	28	0	0

Table S2. Site characteristics of the natural and artificial sites in Darwin Harbour for migratory shorebirds. Area is the available suitable roosting area for shorebirds at tides >6m.

Site class	Site	Habitat type	Area (km²)
Artificial	East Arm Wharf	dredge ponds	0.117
Natural	Lee Point	sandy beach	0.047
Natural	Spot on Marine	saltpan	0.021
Natural	Nightcliff Rocks	rocky shore	0.013
Natural	East Point	rocky shore	0.018
Natural	Sandy Creek	sandy beach	0.051

Table S3. Count of responses of migratory shorebirds to various disturbance stimuli at four sites from 2014 - 2016 austral summer months. BOP = bird of prey.

Response type =>	Flight						Non- flight	Noı	response	
	Aircr	В	D	Hum	Human +	Unkno	Huma	Hum	Human +	Tot
Site	aft	OP	og	an	dog	wn	n	an	dog	al
Lee Point		3		8	9		1	4	17	42
Nightcliff Rocks		3		3	1					7
Sandy Creek	2	3	3	6	3	1	4		2	24
Spot on Marine					1		1			2
East Arm Wharf		4				2				6
Total	2	13	3	17	14	3	6	4	19	81

Natural



Figure S1. Relationship between population change of each species and flight-initiation distance at natural sites in Darwin Harbour. Dashed line shows a stable population change rate, values above or below indicate the species population increase or decrease, respectively.





Figure S2. Relationship between population change of each species and flight-initiation distance at the artificial site in Darwin Harbour. Dashed line shows a stable population change rate, values above or below indicate the species population increase or decrease, respectively.

Figures S3 – 31. Shorebird species trends graphs (presented by site class and then by alphabetical order).

Natural sites:





Black-tailed Godwit

Common Greenshank





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Pacific Golden Plover



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2014

Year

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2016

2017

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2015



Ruddy Turnstone

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Artificial site:



















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