

The foldable “Ottenby” walk-in trap: a handy and efficient wader trap for expedition conditions

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We describe the history, construction, and use of a portable walk-in wader trap (i.e., modified Ottenby trap) designed to be used in field expedition conditions. It is rectangular-shaped, 120 × 41 × 32 cm when operational, weighs between 1.5 and 2 kg (depending on materials used) and can be folded flat for easy transportation. It consists of several metal frames filled with fishing net, and has a netted roof attached by an elastic chord. Traps are placed either singly or in groups, with the optimal trapping situation occurring when birds are *feeding* along some kind of *leading line* such as the edge of a estuary, lake, or other water body. The trap is highly efficient for waders up to around 100 g, but is also suitable for ground-feeding passerines.