

The migration of Red Knots through Porsangerfjord in spring 2005: a progress report on the Norwegian Knot Project

JIM WILSON¹ & KARL-BIRGER STRANN²

¹Granveien 46, 1911 Flateby, Norway. jimwils@frisurf.no

²Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA), The Polar Environmental Centre, N-9296 Tromsø, Norway

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We report the results for 2005 of the Norwegian Knot Project, a three-year project to study the spring stopover of Red Knots in Porsangerfjord, N Norway. The peak count was 34,000, but allowing for local movements and turnover we estimate that a total of 38,000 knots staged in 2005. Three thousand five hundred and ninety-six were seen departing in an N-NW direction suggesting that they were the *islandica* subspecies heading for breeding grounds in Greenland and NE Canada. Sightings of individually colour-marked knots indicate that a substantial proportion of the stopover population are *islandica* that winter in the Wadden Sea. Although two colour-marked birds from the main *canutus* wintering grounds in W Africa had been seen at Porsangerfjord in 2004, there was no evidence that such birds occurred in 2005.