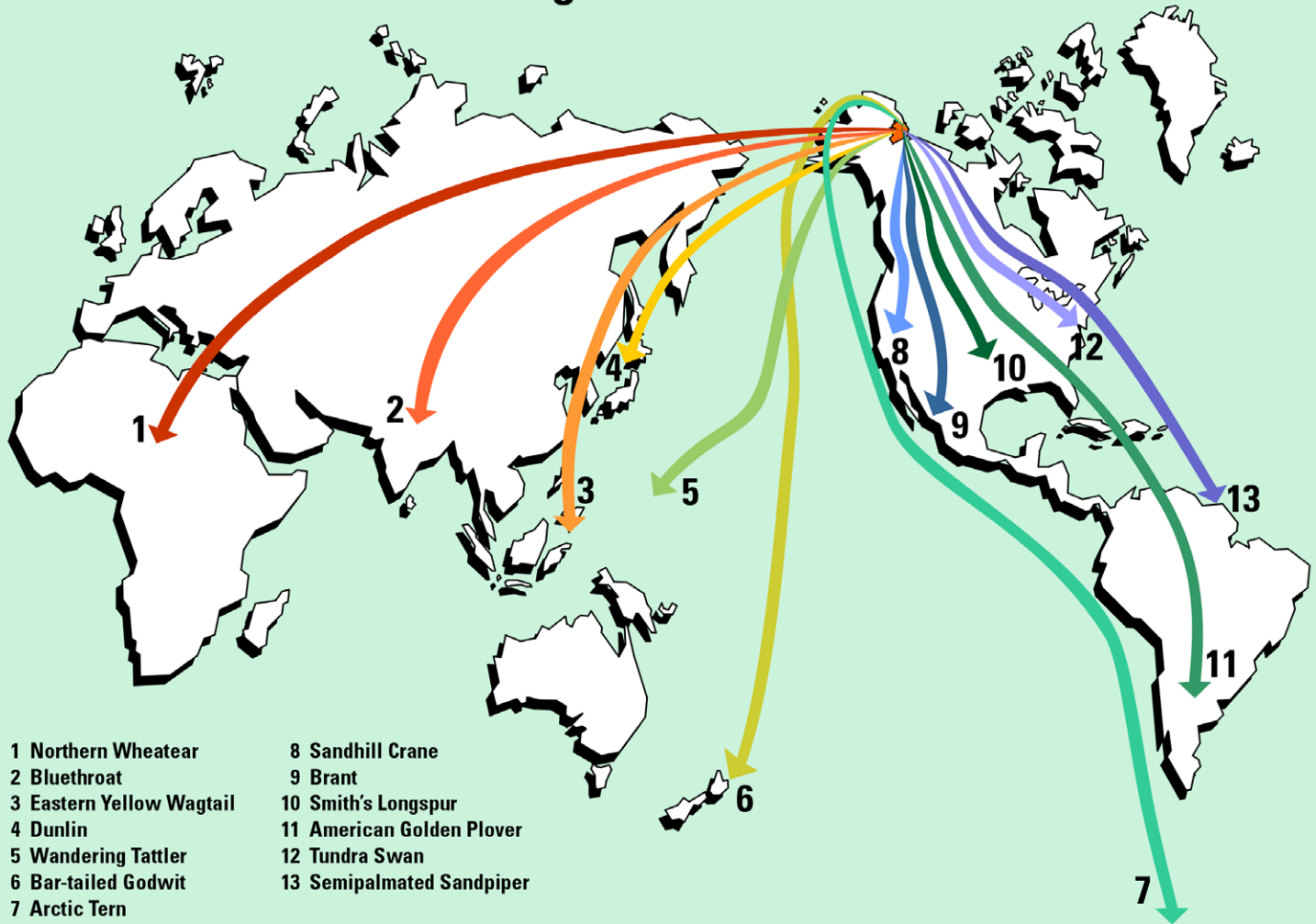




# Arctic *National Wildlife Refuge*

## Birds connect Arctic Refuge with the world



Birds seen in summer on Arctic Refuge migrate to all corners of the earth.

The 6-inch Northern Wheatear travels approximately 13,000 miles one way from its breeding grounds on the Refuge, across Asia and the Middle East, to its wintering areas in Africa. The bird then travels a similar distance back to Alaska in the Spring.

The Arctic Tern migrates almost the same distance (approximately 25,000 miles round-trip) but it flies in a different direction, traveling south to Antarctica to escape winter in the northern hemisphere.

Tundra Swans that nest on the Refuge fly more than 4,000 miles east in the Fall, crossing North America to winter on the Chesapeake Bay.

The Bar-tailed Godwit may have the longest non-stop flight of any bird. These shorebirds fly 7,200 miles across the open waters of the Pacific Ocean in a single, non-stop flight between Alaska and New Zealand during their Fall migration. On their return flight in the Spring, Bar-tailed Godwits rest for a month in Japan before returning to Alaska.

