

**S153. I.L.S. NASCIMENTO<sup>1</sup>**, J.L.X. Nascimento <sup>1</sup>, P.T.Z. Antas <sup>2</sup> & S. B. Scherer <sup>3</sup>. Lagoa do Peixe National Park, Brazil: analysis of shorebird data, 1984-1997. 1.CEMAVE/IBAMA, Caixa Postal 102, João Pessoa -PB, CEP 58.440-970, Tel/Fax (83) 2452611, e-mail: ines@openline.com.br and joaoluiz@openline.com.br 2. SQN 408 Bloco A Apto 112, Brasilia-DF, CEP 70.856-010, Tel (61) 2745358, e-mail: ptzantas@tba.com.br 3. CEMAVE/Sul, R. Miguel Teixeira 126, Praia de Belas, Porto Alegre, CEP 90.050-250, Tel/Fax (51) 2264871, e-mail: cemavers@ez-poa.com.br

Marine coast of Rio Grande do Sul State (South Brazil) has been indicated as important stopover, wintering and breeding place for nearctic and neotropical shorebirds since early 80's years (Belton 1984; Morrison 1989). Located in the central portion of state coastline, Lagoa do Peixe was established as national park in 1986 to protect, among other features, shorebird habitats, based on field data (Harrington et al. 1986; Antas 1988; CEMAVE unp. data ). Area's international importance was recognized by Brazilian Government as WHSRN and Ramsar sites. From 1984 to 1997, CEMAVE/IBAMA has been conducting field expeditions in annual pace, at least, some with participation of foreign researchers (Latin Americans or from elsewhere). Shorebirds data from yearly expeditions (from March to May) are presented, following previous analysis (Nascimento and Antas 1990; Antas and Nascimento 1996). Data has been gathered through intensive mistnetting, some cannon-netting, vehicle census on the beach and general observations. Shorebirds were banded and some color banded. It is a major stopover place (international, national or local level) for nearctic migrants as *Limosa haemastica*, *Calidris* , *Calidris alba*, *Calidris fuscicollis* and *Pluvialis squatarola*. Neotropical shorebirds as *Charadrius falklandicus*, *Zonybix modestus* and *Oreopholus ruficollis* also use it as wintering ground. *Charadrius collaris* and *Vanellus chilensis* have breeding populations. Nearctic species use it as a body moult and refuelling area before northward migration from March to early May. *Pluvialis dominica* the earlier migrant (depart early March). *C. alba* and *C. canutus* are the latest nearctic departing. Neotropical species arrive on late March/early April, making body and flight feathers molt. Arrival of *Z. modestus* is directly linked with strong fall cold fronts arrivals from South and departure flights from nearctic migrants occur in general in the day before such fronts arrival. Snails (as *Litoridina sp*), bivalves (as *Donax sp*), marine crustacean (*Emerita sp*), polychaeta worms and mosquitoes are major food resources.