

A study of breeding Purple Sandpipers *Calidris maritima* on the Hardangervidda using radio-telemetry.

Cresswell, B.H. & Summers, R.W. 1988.

Fauna Norv. Ser. C, Cinclus, 11: 1-6.

Observations were made on breeding Purple Sandpipers marked with radio-tags on the Hardangervidda, South Norway. Incubation bouts lasted 13:12 hrs (S.D. 3:32) and 14:56 hrs (S.D. 4:31) for the male and female respectively during days 6 to 13 of incubation. During breaks in incubation they ranged up to 2 km from the nest; the female selecting patches which had recently cleared of snow. The male foraged at different sites on the commoner microhabitats. Feeding took up most of their off-duty time (64-80%) and peck rates of 11.7 and 9.4 per 15 seconds were recorded for the male and female respectively. A female was found associating with Golden Plovers after deserting her brood and mate; and on the following days she was not located. The value of radio-tracking is discussed.