

Common Shorebirds of the Caribbean

PR:
Common name in
Puerto Rico

DR:
Common name in
Dominican Republic

S



Small: < 8 in.

M



Medium: 8 - 14 in.

L



Large: > 14 in.

NB =
Non-Breeding

B =
Breeding

Least Sandpiper *Calidris minutilla*



S



PR: Playero Menudillo; **DR:** Playerito Menudo

- » Very small with yellowish legs
- » Brownish upperparts

Semipalmated Sandpiper *Calidris pusilla*



S



PR: Playero Gracioso; **DR:** Playerito Semipalmado

- » Black legs, compact body
- » Bill short and straight

Western Sandpiper *Calidris mauri*



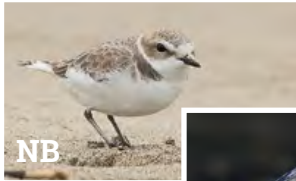
S



PR/DR: Playero Occidental

- » Bill slightly drooping
- » Gray upperparts, very pale in winter

Snowy Plover *Charadrius nivosus*



S



PR: Chorlito Blanco; **DR:** Chorlito Niveo

- » Dark patches on neck extend onto chest
- » Upperparts pale tan, legs dark

Piping Plover *Charadrius melodus*



S



PR: Chorlito Melódico; **DR:** Chorlito Silbador

- » Narrow, often broken collar
- » Uppers gray-brown/legs yellow-orange

Semipalmated Plover *Charadrius semipalmatus*



S



PR: Chorlito Acollarado; **DR:** Chorlito Semipalmado

- » One black band on neck
- » Orange/yellow legs

Wilson's Plover *Charadrius wilsonia*



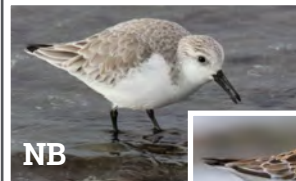
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PR: Chorlito Marítimo; **DR:** Chorlito Cabezón

- » Black bill is larger and thicker than other small plovers

Sanderling *Calidris alba*



S



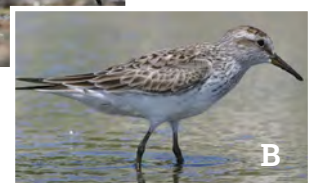
PR: Playero Arenero; **DR:** Playerito Blanquito

- » Pale overall in nonbreeding, maintains white belly

White-rumped Sandpiper *Calidris fuscicollis*



S



PR/DR: Playero de Rabadilla Blanca

- » Long wings extend past end of tail
- » White rump visible in flight

Spotted Sandpiper

Actitis macularius



(S)



B

PR: Playero Coleador; DR: Playerito Manchado

- » Rump bobs up and down while walking
- » Spots only seen during breeding season

Killdeer

Charadrius vociferus



(M)

PR: Chorlito Sabanero; DR: Tiíto

- » Two black bands on neck
- » Brown back, white belly

Black-bellied Plover

Pluvialis squatarola



(M)



B

PR: Chorlito Cabezón; DR: Chorlo Gris

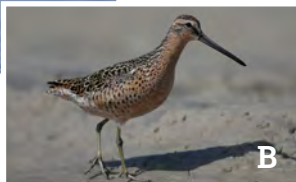
- » Gray/mottled gray and white back
- » Black axillaries (armpit) visible in flight

Short-billed Dowitcher

Limnodromus griseus



(M)



B

PR/DR: Agujeta Piquicorta

- » White wedge visible on back in flight
- » Feeds with sewing machine-like motion

Ruddy Turnstone

Arenaria interpres



(M)



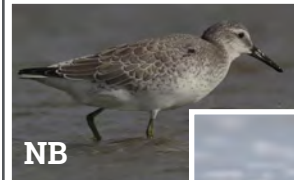
B

PR/DR: Playero Turco

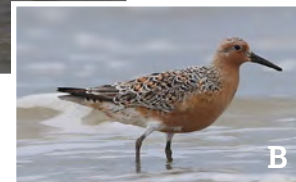
- » Patchy black, white, and brown markings
- » Short, orange legs

Red Knot

Calidris canutus



(M)



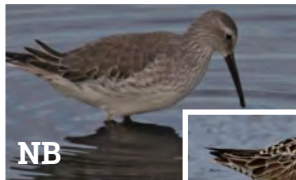
B

PR: Playero Gordo; DR: Playero Pechirrojo

- » Long and heavy bodied
- » Proportionately short neck and legs

Stilt Sandpiper

Calidris himantopus



(M)



B

PR: Playero Patilargo; DR: Playero Zancudo

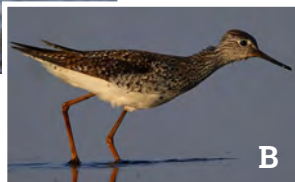
- » Prominent white eyebrow
- » Long, slightly drooping bill

Lesser Yellowlegs

Tringa flavipes



(M)



B

PR: Playero Guineílla Pequeño; DR: Patas Amarillas Menor

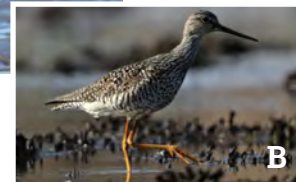
- » Bright yellow legs, white belly
- » Short, straight bill

Greater Yellowlegs

Tringa melanoleuca



(L)



B

PR: Playero Guineílla Grande; DR: Patas Amarillas Mayor

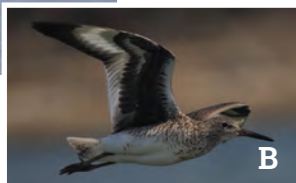
- » Larger than Lesser Yellowlegs with longer bill

Willet

Tringa semipalmata



(L)



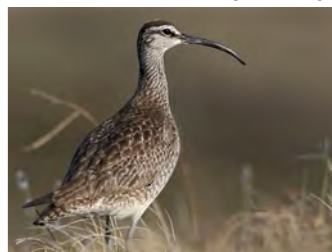
B

PR: Playero Aliblanco; DR: Chorlo

- » Bold black and white stripes in flight
- » Overall gray/mottled gray back

Whimbrel

Numenius phaeopus



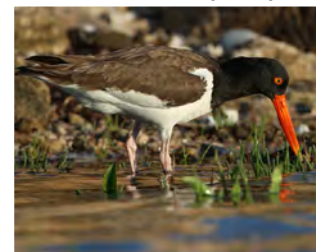
(L)

PR/DR: Playero Picorcorvo

- » Bill curves downward
- » Brown and white head stripes

American Oystercatcher

Haematopus palliatus



(L)

PR: Ostrero; DR: Caracolero

- » Distinctive large orange bill
- » Black head, brown upperparts, white belly, dull pink legs