

#### **CLIMATE CHANGE**

# **Body shrinkage due to Arctic** warming reduces red knot fitness in tropical wintering range

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Reductions in body size are increasingly being identified as a response to climate warming. Here we present evidence for a case of such body shrinkage, potentially due to malnutrition in early life. We show that an avian long-distance migrant (red knot, Calidris canutus canutus), which is experiencing globally unrivaled warming rates at its high-Arctic breeding grounds, produces smaller offspring with shorter bills during summers with early snowmelt. This has consequences half a world away at their tropical wintering grounds, where shorter-billed individuals have reduced survival rates. This is associated with these molluscivores eating fewer deeply buried bivalve prey and more shallowly buried seagrass rhizomes. We suggest that seasonal migrants can experience reduced fitness at one end of their range as a result of a changing climate at the other end.

henological changes and geographical range shifts are well-known responses to climate change (1). A third broadly observed response to global warming appears to be shrinkage of bodies (2-5). It has been hypothesized that body shrinkage is a genetic microevolutionary response to warming, due to smaller individuals being better able to dissipate body heat because of the larger surface/volume ratio of their bodies [e.g., Bergmann's rule (2)]. Alternatively, it has been put forward that climate change may disrupt trophic interactions, potentially leading to malnutrition during an organism's juvenile life stage (6, 7). Because poor growth may not be compensated for later in life (8), this would lead to smaller bodies (i.e., shrinkage as a phenotypically plastic response).

ing faster than others. Especially in the Arctic, warming has been observed at unprecedented rates (9, 10). Hence, body-size reductions would be expected to be most pronounced in the world's most northerly region (6). Many Arctic-breeding avian species, however, are long-distance migrants that

Under climate change, some regions are warm-

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spend the northern winter at lower latitudes (11), where the impacts of climate change are less

Based on analysis of satellite data, we show here that over the past 33 years, snowmelt has occurred progressively earlier in the high-Arctic breeding grounds of the red knot (Calidris canutus canutus) at Taimyr Peninsula (76° to 78°N; Fig. 1), changing at a rate of about half a day per year [coefficient of determination  $(R^2) = 0.32, F_{1.31} =$ 14.77, P < 0.001; Fig. 2A, table S1, and figs. S1 to S3]. Over these three decades, 1990 juvenile red knots were caught and their body sizes measured in Gdańsk Bay, Poland, during their first southward migration to their West African nonbreeding grounds (Fig. 1). These measurements show that juvenile birds were smaller after Arctic summers with early snowmelts, particularly with respect to body mass [corrected Akaike information criterion (AIC<sub>c</sub>) = 14775.24, P < 0.0005; Fig. 2B and table S2], bill length (AIC<sub>c</sub> = 7610.48, P < 0.005; Fig. 2C and table S3), and overall body size [first principal component (PC1) on bill, tarsus, and wing; AIC<sub>c</sub> = 5925.22, P < 0.05; table S4]. The models that best explained the variation in bill length and overall body size additionally included the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index [NDVI, a proxy for total primary biomass production (12)] of the breeding ground; longer-billed, bigger birds were captured after summers with high NDVI values (Fig. 2C). These size variations were still apparent when juveniles arrived at their main wintering ground on the Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania (annual average juvenile bill lengths in Poland and Mauritania correlated strongly: Pearson's r = 0.73), where red knots showed no signs of compensatory growth (measurements of body size dimensions, including bill length, were highly consistent within individuals; fig. S4B).

In this tropical nonbreeding area, red knots use their tapered bills to detect and retrieve mollusk prev buried in intertidal sediments (13). Stable isotope analysis of 2340 birds caught at Banc d'Arguin between 2002 and 2013 shows that longerbilled birds relied mostly on the abundant bivalve prey species Loripes lucinalis (hereafter, Loripes), whereas shorter-billed individuals did not  $(R^2 =$ 0.18,  $F_{3.2336}$  =170.70, P < 0.00001; Fig. 3A). This may be due to most Loripes being buried out of reach for shorter-billed knots: An individual with a 40-mm bill has access to about two-thirds of all Loripes, whereas a bird with a 30-mm bill is able to access only one-third (Fig. 3B). Shorter-billed red knots consumed relatively more of the shallowly buried bivalve Dosinia isocardia (hereafter, Dosinia) and rhizomes of the seagrass Zostera noltii (hereafter, Zostera; Fig. 3B and fig. S5). Juvenile red knots consumed fewer Loripes compared with older birds (P < 0.00001 for the agebill interaction; Fig. 3A). This is probably due to the fact that *Loripes* is mildly toxic; the sulphide metabolism of endosymbiotic bacteria living inside its gill causes diarrhea (14). In spite of its toxic effects, red knots depend on Loripes, especially in years with few alternatives (15). Juveniles may need physiological adjustments before they can digest this special type of prey efficiently (16). Only birds with longer bills can make this switch to eating the deeply buried Loripes; the shorter-billed birds are restricted to a "juvenile diet" of relatively rare Dosinia (15) and poor-quality rhizomes (17). Hence, for the shorter-billed birds, the inability to access the high-quality and abundant Loripes after the first winter may come at a cost.

Individual color-ringing of 2381 red knots during annual expeditions to Banc d'Arguin from 2002 to 2013, and subsequent resightings of these individuals (12), indicate that birds with shorter bills had lower apparent survival rates, primarily in the case of juveniles between their first and second winters [Fig. 4A, fig. S6, and tables S5 to S8; we use the term "apparent survival" because mortality is confounded with permanent emigration (18)]. The much weaker bill-length effect in adults may be attributable to the advantages of a short bill when feeding on arthropods on the tundra (19); juveniles do not benefit from these advantages because they stay at the Mauritanian nonbreeding grounds year-round (20). Because early-snowmelt years produced shorter-billed juveniles (Fig. 2C), and because shorter-billed juveniles experienced hampered survival in the tropics (Fig. 4A), overwintering juveniles thus had poor survival rates after Arctic summers with early snowmelt [proportion of variation explained by date of snowmelt  $(R^2_{\text{dev}}) = 0.32$  (12); Fig. 4B]. However, with snowmelt occurring progressively earlier over the years (Pearson's r = -0.58 for 2002–2012), the temporal variation in juvenile survival was similarly well explained by a linear time trend (model 13 versus 14,  $\Delta AIC_c$ =1.01; table S7). Strictly speaking, we therefore cannot distinguish an effect of snowmelt date on survival from any other potential covariate changing over time. We see this problem as inherent to any descriptive study of climate change effects.

In the face of climate change–induced body shrinkage and the strong selection pressure against shorter-billed juveniles at the nonbreeding grounds, one would expect the adult population to maintain a relatively constant bill length or at least to show less shrinkage of the bill compared with other structural body-size components. This was the case (fig. S7): Although overall body size (PC1 on bill, tarsus, and wing) in adults decreased at a rate of 0.020 SDs per year ( $R^2=0.26,\,F_{2,1727}=299.20,\,P<0.001$ ), their bill length decreased at a rate of only 0.010 SDs per year ( $R^2=0.21,\,F_{2,1727}=223.57,\,P=0.097$ ), suggesting a climate change-induced directional selection on body shape.

The body shrinkage observed in juvenile red knots may be a phenotypically plastic response to an altered environment. Neonatal red knots feed on arthropods (21) that emerge from a defrosting tundra soil (22). With the rapid advancement in the seasonal appearance of high-Arctic arthropods (23), red knot chicks may face a trophic mismatch by hatching too late relative to the peak food abundance (23)-in spite of evidence for earlier nesting in high-Arctic shorebirds (24), and in spite of the observation that red knot spring migration through France is advancing [although at only 0.25 days/year, which is half the rate at which the timing of snowmelt is advancing) (25)]. In addition to advancing the timing of the arthropod peak, earlier snowmelts are also known to depress the peak's amplitude. This is because earlier snowmelts produce smaller-bodied insects (26) and cause greater soil temperature fluctuations, thereby enhancing mortality among larvae (27). Our finding that bills and bodies are smaller in years with low breeding-ground NDVI values (Fig. 2C) hints at the importance of the food peak's amplitude, because low NDVI values are considered to reflect low insect abundances (28).

The negative effects of climate change on the growth of red knots may thus be due to a trophic mismatch. The fitness-related consequences of this growth inhibition are that smaller, shorter-billed individuals have, on average, reduced apparent survival rates at their tropical wintering grounds. This mechanism may be one of the drivers of the steep and ongoing population decline of the *C. c. camutus* red knots (15, 29). The discovery of rapid body shrinkage and its downstream effects on population size may extend to other Arctic migrants.

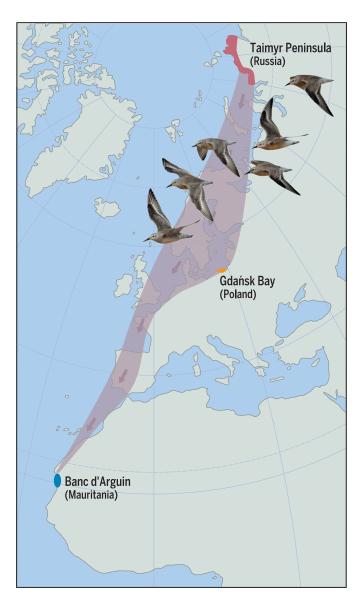


Fig. 1. Red knots breed during summer in the high Arctic at Taimyr Peninsula and spend the long nonbreeding season at Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania, West Africa. On their first southward migration to West Africa, many juvenile red knots make a stopover on the Baltic coast of Poland.

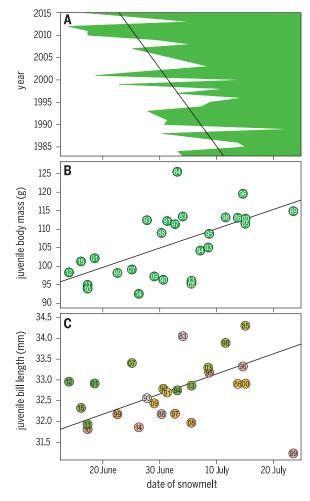


Fig. 2. Changes in Arctic climate and red knot body size over the past three decades. (A) Snow at the red knots' breeding ground at Taimyr Peninsula has been melting progressively earlier at an average rate of 0.5 days/year. (B) Juvenile red knots, captured during brief stopovers in Poland on their first southward migration from the Arctic, had lower body masses after breeding seasons in which snow had disappeared early (each circle denotes the annual mean, with number inside the circle giving the year). (C) They also had shorter bills after breeding seasons in which the Arctic snow melted earlier [circles denote annual means as in (B)], especially in years when breeding-ground NDVI [as a proxy for total primary biomass production (12)] was low [NDVI is indicated by the color range of the circles (green, high; pink, low)].

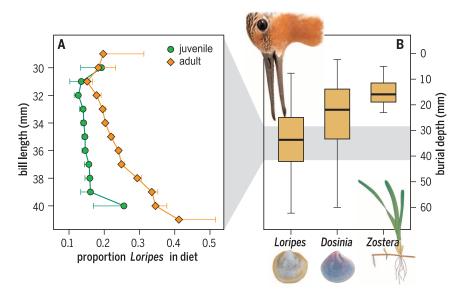


Fig. 3. Prey choice and prey availability at the Mauritanian wintering grounds. (A) Analysis of stable isotopes of blood samples shows that juvenile red knots (n = 676 birds) largely ignored the most abundant but mildly toxic prey, Loripes. However, with an increase in age, adult red knots (n = 1664) added substantial amounts of Loripes to their diet, but only if they had long bills. Plotted are means ± SE. (B) This bill length-dependent diet shift may be explained by the depth distribution of Loripes. The majority of these bivalves live between 30 and 40 mm below the seafloor, which is precisely the range of the bill lengths. The other two food sources, Dosinia bivalves and Zostera rhizomes, are found at shallower depths and are accessible to all red knots. Bars indicate medians, boxes indicate 25th to 75th percentiles, and whiskers indicate ranges.

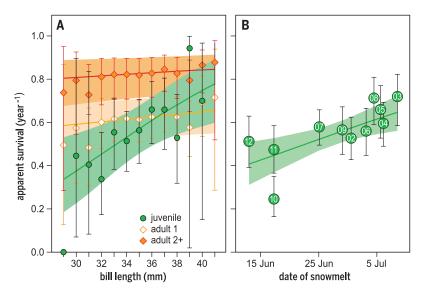


Fig. 4. Annual survival rates of individually marked red knots. (A) Annual apparent survival rates [± 95% confidence intervals (CIs)] increase significantly as a function of bill length in juveniles (the slope  $\beta$  of the relationship of logit-transformed values = 0.30; 95% CI, 0.08 to 0.51; n = 690 birds), whereas this relation is not significant for adults [ $\beta = 0.05$ ; 95% CI, -0.02 to 0.11; n = 1691 birds; distinguishing between survival in the first year after capture (adult 1) and later (adult 2+)]. Symbols show apparent survival rates of juveniles born in 2009 (a year with average survival; model 11, table S7); lines show these data as a linear function of bill length [model 1 (the best-supported model), table S7]. Shaded areas are 95% CIs of the linear functions. Bill-length effect is assumed to be the same in all years. (B) Annual apparent survival rates (± 95% CIs) of juveniles increase with the date of snowmelt in their year of birth (the year is indicated inside the circle). Symbols show juvenile apparent survival rates estimated per year (model 8, table S7); lines show these data as a linear function of the date of snowmelt (model 14, table S7). Time dependence in both the apparent survival and resighting makes the survival estimate for the final year (i.e., for juveniles born in 2013) unreliable; hence, this estimate was excluded.

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#### SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

www.sciencemag.org/content/352/6287/819/suppl/DC1 Materials and Methods Figs. S1 to S7 Tables S1 to S8 References (30-54)

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# Supplementary Materials for

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Materials and Methods Figs. S1 to S7 Tables S1 to S8 Full Reference List **Supplementary Materials:** Methods

# High-Arctic climatic data (Taimyr Peninsula)

*Temperature data* 

Daily mean temperatures were obtained for 1983-2015 across the entire breeding range of the *Calidris c. canutus* subspecies (northern Taimyr Peninsula as defined by Lappo *et al.* (30)). Following the methodology outlined elsewhere (31), daily temperature data (May-August) were downloaded from the NOAA National Climatic Data Centre (32), which were then plotted as temperature surface maps (33), using 'gravity' as the interpolation algorithm, while taking a search radius of 500 km and a maximum of ten weather stations. Subsequently, daily surface maps were overlaid on the knot's breeding range, and surface values were averaged across this range, yielding a mean temperature for each day. Next, for each year separately, a quadratic model was fitted to these daily mean temperatures (using the *lm* function in R) (34), and the date at which the increasing part of this fit reached 0 °C was defined as  $D_{T0}$ . An example of this procedure is given in Fig. S1, with all estimates for  $D_{T0}$  listed in Table S1.

### Snow cover data

Based on the remotely sensed NOAA CDR climate dataset, weekly snow and ice cover data for the period 1983-2015 on a scale of  $24 \times 24$  km were downloaded (32, 35). Next, grid cells falling in the subspecies' entire breeding range were extracted. Next, large erratic changes in snow cover during summer were removed as these reflect rather unpredictable incidences and do not reflect the main phenology of the seasonal snowfall-thaw cycle. Then, data were modelled using a maximum likelihood fit (mle2 function from R package bbmle) of the asymmetric Gaussian model function (36) with a binomial error distribution. Using these year-specific fits, date of snowmelt  $D_{SM}$  was then determined as the date on which the fitted curve predicted 1/3 of the whole area to be snow free, whereas date of snowfall  $D_{SF}$  was determined as the predicted date when 1/3 of the whole area was covered by snow. An example of the latter procedure is given in Fig. S2, with all phenology indices listed in Table S1.

### Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) data

From the NOAA STAR AVHRR Vegetation Health dataset, weekly raw NDVI data on a scale of 16 × 16 km grid cells were downloaded for the period 1983-2015 (37). Next, cells located in the subspecies' entire breeding range were selected for further analysis. Then, for each year separately, a smoother was fitted through the data (using the *loess* function in R, span set to 0.3), where after values due to the albedo effect of snow cover were removed: in case the smoother decreased in spring before reaching the summer maximum and increased in autumn then the values before the minimum in spring and after the minimum in autumn were removed (i.e., the ones beyond the phenology

thresholds in Fig. S3). The smoother was then used to determine  $D1_{\text{NDVI}}$ , i.e., the date at which the fitted NDVI crosses a threshold value of 0 (before reaching the yearly maximum), and to determine  $A_{\text{NDVI}}$ , i.e., the area underneath the smoother from the start ( $D1_{\text{NDVI}}$ ) to the end ( $D2_{\text{NDVI}}$ ) of the season (with the latter defined as the date at which the fitted NDVI crosses a threshold value of 0.1, after having reached the yearly maximum). A threshold of 0.1 was used for defining  $D2_{\text{NDVI}}$  since the vegetation index was in general still above 0 at the start of the snow-covered season. An example of the latter procedure is given in Fig. S3, with all estimates listed in Table S1. Note that data are missing for the second half of 1994. The R code used to extract these indices from the raw data on temperature, snow cover, and NDVI can be found at Dryad at <a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.5061/dryad.n1m8d">http://dx.doi.org/10.5061/dryad.n1m8d</a>.

# Body size of juvenile red knots at first stopover (Poland)

Every autumn, between 1983 and 2015, we captured red knots at a stopover site in Poland, Gdańsk Bay (38-39), a site that is mainly used by juvenile red knots (after having left the breeding grounds, adult red knots, which migrate earlier and separately from juvenile birds, usually make their first stopover in the Wadden Sea (40)). Birds were captured in walk-in traps, where after they were aged on the basis of plumage (41), distinguishing juveniles (1st-calendar-year birds) from adults (> 2ndcalendar-year), and body mass (± 1 g) and structural size measurements were recorded, including length of bill ( $\pm 0.1$  mm), tarsus ( $\pm 0.1$  mm) and wing ( $\pm 1$  mm). Using these three structural measures, overall body size was calculated as the first principle component (PC1) in a PCA analysis (pca function from R package pcaMethods, which enables imputation of missing values if at least one of three measures was taken). Body size metrics were related to Taimyr climatic data using mixedeffect modeling, including year as a random-intercept effect (*lme* function from R package *nlme*). Model selection was based on comparison of Akaike's information criterion adjusted for small sample size (AIC<sub>c</sub>) (42). To make models comparable, 1994 was excluded from all models since A<sub>NDVI</sub> could not be estimated for that year. Across the entire 33-year period, a total of 2,760 red knots were caught, including 1,990 juveniles (only in 1987 were no juveniles caught). After removing the year 1994 and those birds that were not measured biometrically, this left 1,820 juveniles for analysis (of which bill length was measured in 1,808 birds and body mass in 1,764 birds). Years with fewer than 10 knots caught are excluded in Figs. 2BC (but not in the mixed-effect modeling).

# Body size, diet and survival of red knots at their wintering site (Mauritania)

In Banc d'Arguin (Mauritania) we caught a total of 2,508 red knots across 12 winters (2002-2013) from November to January. Catches were mostly done by using mist-nets, except for one catch for which we used canon-nets (January 2013). Upon capture, the birds were aged as juvenile ( $1^{st}$  winter) or adult ( $>1^{st}$  winter) based on their plumage (41). Furthermore, body mass ( $\pm$  1 g) and structural size measurements were recorded, including length of bill ( $\pm$  0.1 mm), tarsus ( $\pm$  0.1 mm) and wing ( $\pm$  1

mm). These three structural measures formed the input for a PCA in order to express overall body size as PC1, the latter which was analyzed for changes over time using the *lm* function in R.

From the brachial vein a small blood sample (10-100 µL) was taken, which was stored in 70% ethanol. At NIOZ, samples were stored at -80 °C until analysis. After extracting DNA to molecularly identify each individual's sex (43), leftovers of the samples were used to determine the stable isotope ratios of carbon (<sup>13</sup>C) and nitrogen (<sup>15</sup>N). In order to do so, samples were freeze-dried to constant mass (44) before analysis in a Thermo Scientific (Flash 2000) organic element analyzer coupled to a Delta V isotope ratio mass spectrometer. A microbalance (Sartorius XM1000P) was used to weigh 0.4-0.8 mg of freeze-dried blood into 5 x 9 mm tin capsules. Isotope values were calibrated to an acetanilide lab standard, controlled for a urea lab standard and corrected for blank tin capsules. In this way we were able to analyze blood samples of most birds (i.e., 2,340 individuals), which we analyzed in random order with respect to year. Stable isotope ratios of the three main food sources (Dosinia isocardia, Loripes lucinalis and rhizomes of Zostera noltii) were taken from Catry et al. (45), and the discrimination values from an experimental validation study, in which captive red knots were given a monospecific diet consisting either of *Dosinia* or *Loripes (46)*. Discrimination values for *Zostera* are unknown for which we took the average across Dosinia and Loripes. These values were then used by the siarsolomcmcv4 function from the R package siar (47) to estimate the relative contribution of each food source to an individual's diet.

Before release, birds were tagged using a combination of four color-bands and a flag, allowing individual recognition in the field, thereby enabling annual survival rate estimations (15, 48-49). By intense resighting efforts using telescopes in subsequent 12 nonbreeding seasons, in addition to 48 physical recaptures, we could estimate annual winter-to-winter survival rate across the 12 intervening years (i.e., for 2,508-127=2,381 birds caught in the first 12 nonbreeding seasons; 127 birds were excluded as they participated in laboratory or field experiments). The majority of resightings (88%) were performed in winter (Oct-Feb) in our study area in Banc d'Arguin, 10% of the resightings were performed during autumn and spring migration in Banc d'Arguin, and 2% were performed elsewhere along the flyway, mainly in the Wadden Sea area in The Netherlands and Germany (for the distribution of these resightings over the years, see Table S5). As the vast majority of resightings (79%) were performed in November and December, survival is roughly estimated from December in year i to November in year i+1. We used mark-recapture modelling and Cormack-Jolly-Seber models to separate apparent survival (Φ) (hereafter survival) from resighting probabilities (p) – apparent survival because mortality is confounded with permanent emigration (18). However, we have no evidence for emigration. Observers well aware of the individual marking program neither noticed a single marked bird from our study population in the rest of the Banc d'Arguin outside our study area, nor in the Archipelago dos Bijagos in Guinea-Bissau, where the remaining part of the population is wintering (ca. 20%). As there were indications of ring-reading errors (for methods, see (50)), we considered an individual as resighted during a particular nonbreeding season only when it

was seen at least twice during that season. Building upon previous findings (15, 48-49), we included the following explanatory variables in all models: time (t), age (a, distinguishing juveniles and adults) and time-since-marking effects (tsm) on survival, and time and site (s) effects on resighting probability (ringing and resighting efforts were performed at two demographically distinct sites in Banc d'Arguin: Baie d'Aouatif and Abelgh Eiznaya (48)). Our most parameterized 'full' model was  $\Phi_{tsm\cdot t+a\cdot t}$   $p_{t\cdot s}$  for which the median  $\hat{c}$  test implemented in program MARK (51) indicated no significant overdispersion ( $\hat{c}$  =1.03 ± 0.004).

Model selection was performed in two steps. In step 1, we considered biologically meaningful reductions of the full model (i.e., by removing interactions between the above-mentioned explanatory variables) without considering covariates yet and in step 2, we used the best-supported model from step 1 to assess support for survival being a function of bill length for either or both juveniles and adults. In addition, we considered models in which juvenile survival was constrained to be a function of date of snowmelt in their year of birth, or of year of birth (as a continuous variable), while adult survival was allowed to vary between years. We calculated the  $R_{dev}^2 = \frac{Dev_{cst} - Dev_{snow}}{Dev_{cst} - Dev_t}$  to reflect the proportion of temporal variation in juvenile survival that was explained by variation in the date of snowmelt (52).

Model selection was performed on the basis of the Akaike information criterion corrected for small sample size  $AIC_c$  (42) where a model was considered as better supported than other models when its  $AIC_c$  was at least two points lower. Models were constructed in program R using package RMark (53) and run using the optimization algorithm of program MARK v. 8.0 (51).

# Depth distribution of the red knots' wintering food supply (Mauritania)

Depth distributions for *Loripes* and *Dosinia* were taken from the literature (54), which we corrected for the length distribution that we found in our benthos samples over the study period 2002-2013 (15), by fitting linear regressions through the published depth-length graphs (54). The depth distribution of *Zostera* rhizomes was measured at 8 sites throughout our study area in January 2013, with 4 repeated measures per site at a precision of 1 mm using a ruler. Depth distributions are expressed on the basis of individual numbers, not on the basis of biomass.

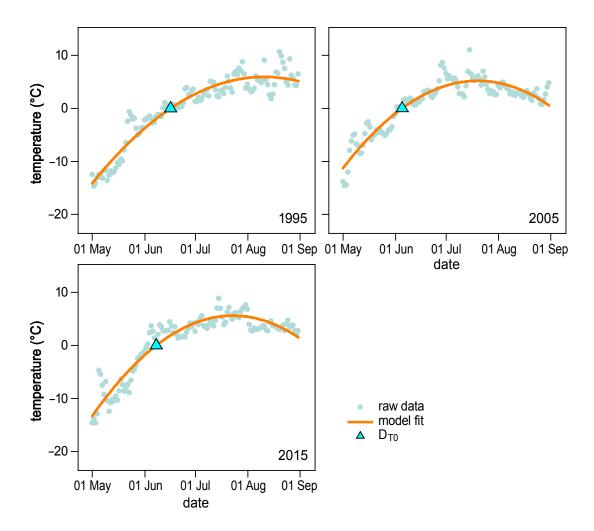


Fig. S1. Estimating  $D_{T0}$  exemplified for three different years. The date  $D_{T0}$  at which ambient temperature exceeded 0 °C for the first time of year was found by fitting a quadratic regression (orange line) through daily mean temperatures (grey dots). Annual estimates for  $D_{T0}$  are listed in Table S1.

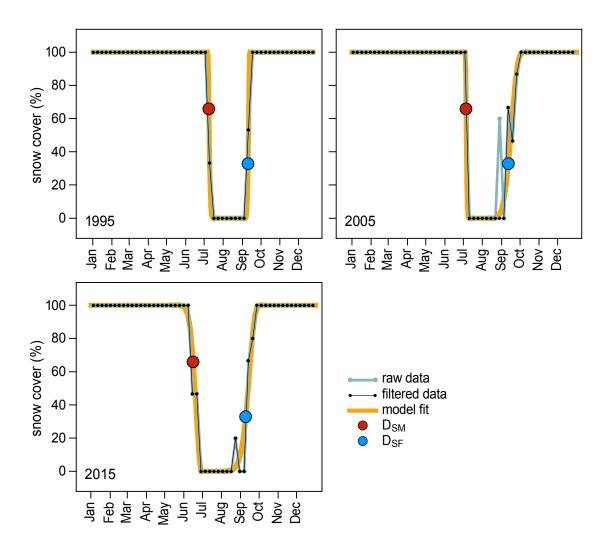


Fig. S2. Estimating  $D_{SM}$  and  $D_{SF}$  exemplified for three different years. Date of snowmelt  $D_{SM}$  and date of snowfall  $D_{SF}$  were found by fitting an asymmetric Gaussian model (orange line) through filtered (black dots) weekly estimates of snow cover (grey dots).  $D_{SM}$  and  $D_{SF}$  are listed for each year in Table S1.

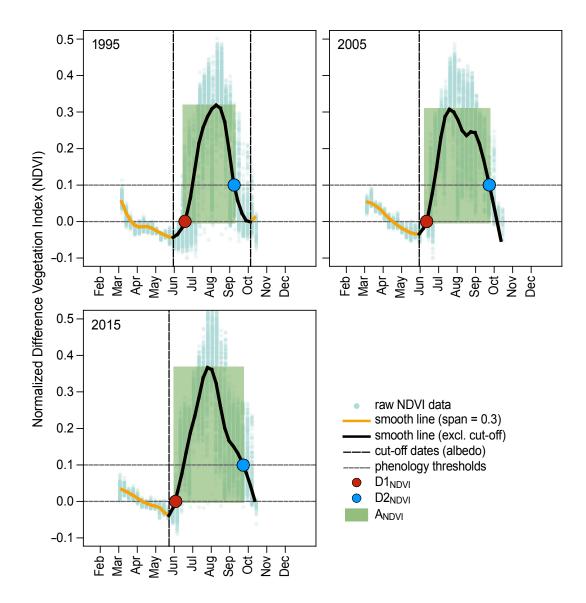
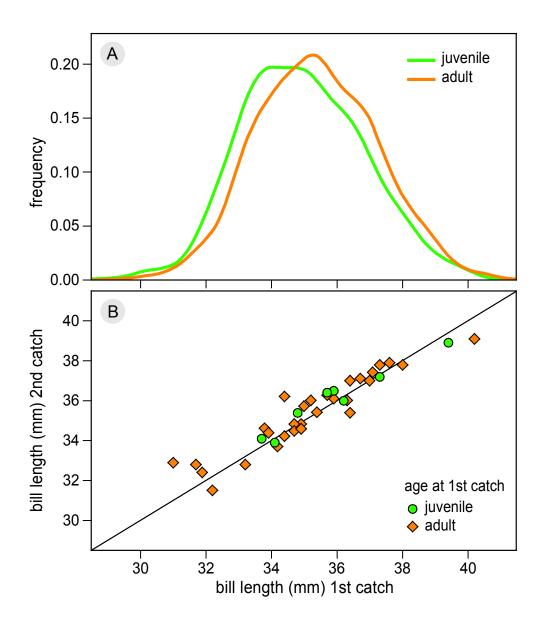


Fig. S3. Estimating  $D1_{NDVI}$ ,  $D2_{NDVI}$ , and  $A_{NDVI}$  exemplified for three different years. By fitting a smoother (orange and black line) through weekly raw NDVI data, we estimated the beginning  $(D1_{NDVI})$  and the end  $(D2_{NDVI})$  of the 'greening' season, and the overall intensity, the latter represented by  $A_{NDVI}$ , the area underneath the smoother between  $D1_{NDVI}$  and  $D2_{NDVI}$ . Annual estimates for  $D1_{NDVI}$ ,  $D2_{NDVI}$ , and  $A_{NDVI}$  are listed in Table S1.



**Fig. S4. Bill lengths in Banc d'Arguin from 2002 to 2013.** (A) Frequency distributions of bill lengths in Banc d'Arguin for juveniles (n = 717 birds) and adults (n = 1,791 birds), showing that juveniles have on average shorter bills than adults. (B) Upon their first arrival in the tropics, red knots maintain a constant bill length for the rest of their life, as shown in individuals that were retrapped as adult (y-axis) but initially caught as juvenile or adult (x-axis) (n = 37 birds,  $R^2 = .89$ ,  $F_{1,35} = 297.8$ , P < .00001; interval between first and second catch ranges from 1-11 years). Hence, the absence of bill growth at the nonbreeding grounds supports the idea that juveniles generally have shorter bills than adults due to selective mortality.

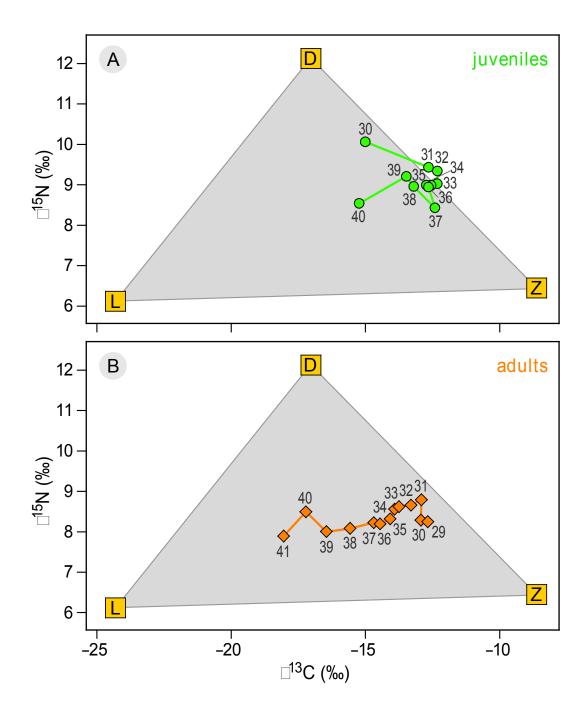


Fig. S5. Stable-isotope ratios of red knots in Banc d'Arguin from 2002 to 2013. Data are averaged per 1-mm bill length class given by number next to each symbol, and are plotted separately for juveniles (A; n = 676 birds) and adults (B; n = 1,664 birds) in relation to discrimination-corrected values in the food (D denotes Dosinia isocardia, L denotes Loripes lucinalis and Z denotes Zostera noltii).

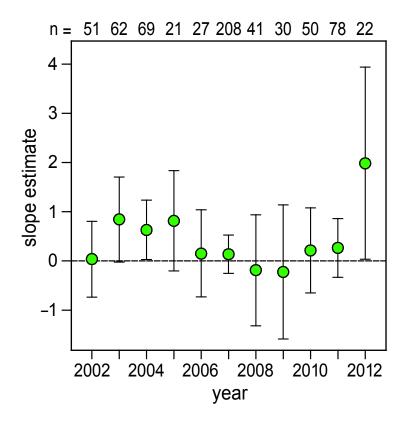


Fig. S6. Birth year-specific estimates of the slope between bill length (in mm) and juvenile survival (on a logit scale). Estimates are from the model  $\Phi_{tsm \cdot t+a+juv \cdot bill \cdot t}$   $p_{s+t}$  (model 10, Table S7). Sample sizes of juvenile birds are shown at the top of the graph. The slope was estimated to be positive in 9 out of 11 years, and significantly so (with the 95% confidence interval, indicated by the error bar, not including zero) in two years (2004 and 2012).

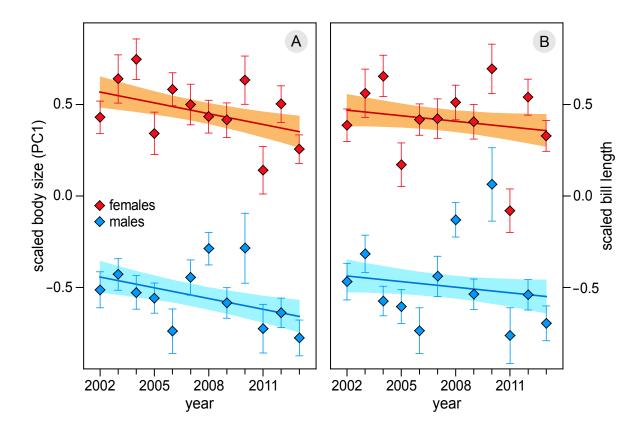


Fig. S7. Changes in overall body size and bill length in adult red knots caught in Mauritania 2002-2013. (A) First principle component (PC1), including bill length (loading 0.65), tarsus length (loading 0.58), and wing length (loading 0.49), decreased at a rate of 0.020 SD year<sup>-1</sup>, in both females and males ( $R^2 = .26$ ,  $F_{2,1727} = 299.20$ , P < .001; slopes did not differ between sexes, P = 0.65). (B) Over the same period bill length alone decreased at a rate of only 0.010 SD year<sup>-1</sup> in both females and males ( $R^2 = .21$ ,  $F_{2,1727} = 223.57$ , P = .097; slopes did not differ between sexes, P = 0.94). Analysis includes 1,730 out of 1,791 adults for which sex could be determined.

# **Supplementary Materials:** Tables

2015

07-Jun

16-Jun

Table S1. Climate phenology parameters in the red knot's breeding range at Taimyr Peninsula. Given are the date at which ambient temperature exceeds 0 °C ( $D_{T0}$ ; Fig. S1); date of snowmelt ( $D_{SM}$ )

and snowfall ( $D_{SF}$ ; Fig. S2); date at which NDVI exceeds ( $D1_{NDVI}$ ) and falls below ( $D2_{NDVI}$ ) a

threshold value, and the surface area underneath the NDVI smoother ( $A_{NDVI}$ ; Fig. S3). Year  $D_{\mathrm{T0}}$  $D_{\rm SM}$  $D_{\rm SF}$  $D1_{NDVI}$  $D2_{NDVI}$  $A_{\rm NDVI}$ 1983 23-Jun 04-Jul 20-Sep 25-Sep 20-Jun 16.76 1984 17-Jun 02-Jul 06-Oct 16-Jun 22-Sep 25.73 1985 17-Jun 15-Jul 27-Sep 07-Jun 07-Sep 21.01 1986 20-Jun 13-Jul 19-Sep 30-Jun 12-Sep 20.84 1987 24-Jun 14-Jul 14-Sep 03-Jul 25-Sep 15.96 1988 18-Jun 29-Jun 04-Sep 16-Jun 10-Sep 17.38 1989 30-Jun 23-Jul 13-Sep 08-Jul 7.32 07-Sep 1990 14-Jun 30-Jun 31-Aug 19-Jun 02-Oct 20.99 01-Jul 1991 16-Jun 04-Oct 27-Jun 01-Oct 20.98 1992 28-Jun 07-Jul 29-Aug 28-Jun 11-Sep 14.50 1993 18-Jun 27-Jun 02-Sep 17-Jun 21-Sep 16.36 1994 20-Jun 07-Jul 14-Sep 19-Jun 19.03 1995 16-Jun 08-Jul 10-Sep 19-Jun 08-Sep 1996 20-Jun 13-Jul 26-Aug 06-Jul 22-Sep 16.96 1997 19.28 14-Jun 02-Jul 13-Sep 25-Jun 20-Sep 1998 12-Jun 11-Jul 19-Sep 19-Jun 16-Sep 23.63 1999 09-Jun 22-Jun 13-Jun 19.13 20-Sep 26-Sep 2000 11-Jun 14-Jul 10-Sep 27-Jun 10-Sep 19.48 2001 08-Jun 18-Jun 20-Sep 15-Jun 27-Sep 30.51 2002 10-Jun 30-Jun 14-Sep 22-Jun 18-Sep 20.76 08-Jul 16-Jun 21.11 2003 09-Jun 23-Sep 29-Sep 2004 12-Jun 06-Jul 19-Sep 27-Jun 17-Sep 23.26 2005 04-Jun 05-Jul 12-Sep 12-Jun 24-Sep 23.66 2006 06-Jun 03-Jul 08-Sep 16-Jun 17-Sep 22.12 23-Jun 24.11 2007 09-Jun 25-Jun 14-Sep 04-Oct 2008 04-Jul 25-Jun 19.40 13-Jun 14-Sep 28-Sep 2009 07-Jun 29-Jun 02-Oct 19-Jun 04-Oct 20.59 2010 05-Jun 17-Jun 12-Sep 20-Sep 18.88 14-Jun 2011 01-Jun 17-Jun 21-Sep 03-Jun 29-Sep 27.65 2012 05-Jun 13-Jun 30-Sep 02-Jun 29-Sep 33.61 2013 12-Jun 05-Jul 22-Sep 16-Jun 26-Sep 24.47 2014 07-Jun 26-Jun 03-Sep 21-Jun 18.16 16-Sep

09-Sep

06-Jun

26-Sep

25.43

Table S2. Models relating juvenile body mass at the Polish stopover site to annual climatic conditions at Taimyr Peninsula. Climate parameters tested for are date of snowmelt ( $D_{SM}$ ), date of snowfall ( $D_{SF}$ ), date at which temperature > 0 °C ( $D_{T0}$ ), date at which NDVI crossed a threshold ( $D1_{NDVI}$ ), and area under the NDVI curve ( $A_{NDVI}$ ). Analysis includes 1,764 birds caught in 31 years. Models are sorted by AIC<sub>c</sub>, with the most parsimonious model given in bold (i.e., model having the fewest parameters K among models which  $\Delta AIC_c < 2$ ).

Model	K	AICc	ΔAIC <sub>c</sub>	AICcWt	Cum.Wt	LL
$\sim D_{\rm T0} + A_{\rm NDVI}$	5	14765.93	0.00	0.14	0.14	-7377.95
$\sim\!\!D_{ m T0}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SF}$	5	14766.17	0.24	0.13	0.27	-7378.07
$\sim D_{ m T0} + D_{ m SM} + A_{ m NDVI}$	6	14766.39	0.46	0.11	0.38	-7377.17
$\sim\!\!D_{ m T0}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SF}\!+\!\!A_{ m NDVI}$	6	14766.82	0.89	0.09	0.48	-7377.39
$\sim \!\! D_{ m T0}$	4	14767.02	1.09	0.08	0.56	-7379.50
$\sim D_{\mathrm{T0}} + D_{\mathrm{SM}} + D_{\mathrm{SF}} + A_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	7	14767.70	1.77	0.06	0.62	-7376.82
$\sim D_{\mathrm{T0}} + D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}} + A_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	6	14767.73	1.81	0.06	0.68	-7377.84
$\sim\!\!D_{ m T0}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SM}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SF}$	6	14767.74	1.81	0.06	0.73	-7377.84
$\sim D_{\mathrm{T0}} + D_{\mathrm{SF}} + D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	6	14768.17	2.24	0.05	0.78	-7378.06
$\sim D_{\mathrm{T0}} + D_{\mathrm{SM}} + D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}} + A_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	7	14768.40	2.48	0.04	0.82	-7377.17
$\sim\!\!D_{ m T0}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SM}$	5	14768.43	2.51	0.04	0.86	-7379.20
$\sim D_{\mathrm{T0}} + D_{\mathrm{SF}} + D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}} + A_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	7	14768.55	2.62	0.04	0.90	-7377.24
$\sim D_{\mathrm{T0}} + D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	5	14768.97	3.04	0.03	0.93	-7379.47
$\sim D_{\text{T0}} + D_{\text{SM}} + D_{\text{SF}} + D1_{\text{NDVI}} + A_{\text{NDVI}}$	8	14769.69	3.77	0.02	0.96	-7376.81
$\sim D_{\rm T0} + D_{\rm SM} + D_{\rm SF} + D1_{\rm NDVI}$	7	14769.72	3.80	0.02	0.98	-7377.83
$\sim D_{\mathrm{T0}} + D_{\mathrm{SM}} + D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	6	14770.06	4.13	0.02	1.00	-7379.01
$\sim\!\!D_{ m SM}$	4	14775.24	9.31	0.00	1.00	-7383.61
$\sim\!\!D_{ m SM}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SF}$	5	14776.74	10.81	0.00	1.00	-7383.35
$\sim D_{\rm SM} + D1_{\rm NDVI}$	5	14777.10	11.18	0.00	1.00	-7383.54
$\sim\!\!D_{ m SM}\!\!+\!\!A_{ m NDVI}$	5	14777.21	11.28	0.00	1.00	-7383.59
$\sim D_{\mathrm{SM}} + D_{\mathrm{SF}} + D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	6	14778.31	12.38	0.00	1.00	-7383.13
$\sim\!\!D_{ m SM}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SF}\!\!+\!\!A_{ m NDVI}$	6	14778.72	12.79	0.00	1.00	-7383.34
$\sim D_{\rm SM} + D1_{\rm NDVI} + A_{\rm NDVI}$	6	14778.96	13.03	0.00	1.00	-7383.45
$\sim D_{\mathrm{SM}} + D_{\mathrm{SF}} + D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}} + A_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	7	14780.32	14.40	0.00	1.00	-7383.13
$\sim D1_{ m NDVI}$	4	14780.84	14.91	0.00	1.00	-7386.41
$\sim D_{\rm SF} + D1_{ m NDVI}$	5	14781.54	15.61	0.00	1.00	-7385.75
$\sim D1_{ m NDVI} + A_{ m NDVI}$	5	14782.75	16.82	0.00	1.00	-7386.36
$\sim D_{\rm SF} + D1_{ m NDVI} + A_{ m NDVI}$	6	14782.88	16.95	0.00	1.00	-7385.41
$\sim A_{ m NDVI}$	4	14783.70	17.77	0.00	1.00	-7387.84
$\sim\!\!A_{ m NDVI}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SF}$	5	14784.10	18.17	0.00	1.00	-7387.03
$\sim D_{\mathrm{SF}}$	4	14786.98	21.05	0.00	1.00	-7389.48

Table S3. Models relating juvenile bill length at the Polish stopover site to annual climatic conditions at Taimyr Peninsula. Analysis includes 1,808 birds caught in 31 years.

Model	K	AICc	ΔAIC <sub>c</sub>	AIC <sub>c</sub> Wt	Cum.Wt	LL
$\sim D_{\text{T0}} + D_{\text{SM}} + D1_{\text{NDVI}} + A_{\text{NDVI}}$	7	7609.74	0.00	0.19	0.19	-3797.84
$\sim D_{\rm SM} + D1_{\rm NDVI} + A_{\rm NDVI}$	6	7610.44	0.70	0.13	0.32	-3799.20
$\sim D_{\rm SM} + A_{\rm NDVI}$	5	7610.48	0.74	0.13	0.46	3800.22
$\sim D_{ m T0} + D_{ m SM} + A_{ m NDVI}$	6	7610.77	1.03	0.11	0.57	-3799.36
$\sim D_{\rm T0} + D_{\rm SM} + D_{\rm SF} + D1_{\rm NDVI} + A_{\rm NDVI}$	8	7610.91	1.17	0.11	0.68	-3797.41
$\sim D_{\mathrm{SM}} + D_{\mathrm{SF}} + D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}} + A_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	7	7611.73	1.99	0.07	0.75	-3798.83
$\sim\!\!D_{ m SM}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SF}\!\!+\!\!A_{ m NDVI}$	6	7612.07	2.33	0.06	0.81	-3800.01
$\sim\!\!D_{ m T0}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SM}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SF}\!\!+\!\!A_{ m NDVI}$	7	7612.33	2.59	0.05	0.86	-3799.14
$\sim\!\!D_{ m T0}\!\!+\!\!A_{ m NDVI}$	5	7613.35	3.61	0.03	0.89	-3801.66
$\sim D_{\rm SM} + D1_{\rm NDVI}$	5	7613.81	4.08	0.02	0.91	-3801.89
$\sim D_{T0} + D1_{NDVI} + A_{NDVI}$	6	7614.83	5.09	0.01	0.93	-3801.39
$\sim\!\!D_{ m T0}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SF}\!\!+\!\!A_{ m NDVI}$	6	7615.33	5.59	0.01	0.94	-3801.64
$\sim D_{\mathrm{T0}} + D_{\mathrm{SM}} + D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	6	7615.43	5.69	0.01	0.95	-3801.69
$\sim\!\!D_{\mathrm{SM}}\!\!+\!\!D_{\mathrm{SF}}\!\!+\!\!D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	6	7615.76	6.02	0.01	0.96	-3801.85
$\sim D_{\text{T0}} + D_{\text{SF}} + D1_{\text{NDVI}} + A_{\text{NDVI}}$	7	7616.79	7.05	0.01	0.97	-3801.37
$\sim\!\!D_{ m SM}$	4	7616.89	7.15	0.01	0.97	-3804.43
$\sim D_{\rm T0} + D_{\rm SM} + D_{\rm SF} + D1_{ m NDVI}$	7	7617.32	7.58	0.00	0.98	-3801.63
$\sim D_{\mathrm{T0}} + D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	5	7617.87	8.13	0.00	0.98	-3803.92
$\sim\!\!D_{ m SM}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SF}$	5	7618.10	8.36	0.00	0.98	-3804.03
$\sim\!\!D_{ m T0}$	4	7618.23	8.50	0.00	0.98	-3805.11
$\sim A_{ m NDVI}$	4	7618.40	8.66	0.00	0.99	-3805.19
$\sim\!\!D_{ m T0}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SM}$	5	7618.88	9.15	0.00	0.99	-3804.43
$\sim\!\!D_{ m SF}$	4	7619.01	9.27	0.00	0.99	-3805.50
$\sim D1_{ m NDVI}$	4	7619.28	9.54	0.00	0.99	-3805.63
$\sim\!\!D_{ m T0}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SF}$	5	7619.34	9.60	0.00	0.99	-3804.65
$\sim D_{\mathrm{T0}} + D_{\mathrm{SF}} + D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	6	7619.44	9.70	0.00	1.00	-3803.70
$\sim\!\!D_{ m T0}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SM}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SF}$	6	7620.10	10.36	0.00	1.00	-3804.03
$\sim D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}} + A_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	5	7620.24	10.50	0.00	1.00	-3805.10
$\sim\!\!D_{\mathrm{SF}}\!+\!A_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	5	7620.37	10.64	0.00	1.00	-3805.17
$\sim\!\!D_{\mathrm{SF}}\!\!+\!\!D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	5	7620.99	11.25	0.00	1.00	-3805.48
$\sim D_{\rm SF} + D1_{\rm NDVI} + A_{\rm NDVI}$	6	7622.22	12.48	0.00	1.00	-3805.09

**Table S4. Models relating overall juvenile body size at the Polish stopover site to annual climatic conditions at Taimyr Peninsula.** Overall body size is expressed as PC1 from a principal component analysis including bill length (loading 0.66), tarsus length (loading 0.42), and wing length (loading 0.63). Analysis includes 1,820 birds caught in 31 years.

Model	K	AICc	ΔAIC <sub>c</sub>	AIC <sub>c</sub> Wt	Cum.Wt	LL
$\sim D_{\rm SM} + A_{\rm NDVI}$	5	5925.22	0.00	0.16	0.16	-2957.59
$\sim D_{ m T0} + A_{ m NDVI}$	5	5925.95	0.73	0.11	0.26	-2957.96
$\sim D_{ m T0} + D_{ m SM} + A_{ m NDVI}$	6	5926.41	1.19	0.09	0.35	-2957.18
$\sim\!\!D_{ m SM}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SF}\!\!+\!\!A_{ m NDVI}$	6	5926.77	1.55	0.07	0.42	-2957.36
$\sim D_{\rm SM} + D1_{\rm NDVI} + A_{\rm NDVI}$	6	5926.79	1.57	0.07	0.49	-2957.37
$\sim A_{ m NDVI}$	4	5927.39	2.18	0.05	0.54	-2959.69
$\sim D_{\text{T0}} + D_{\text{SM}} + D1_{\text{NDVI}} + A_{\text{NDVI}}$	7	5927.73	2.51	0.04	0.59	-2956.83
$\sim\!\!D_{ m T0}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SF}\!\!+\!\!A_{ m NDVI}$	6	5927.81	2.60	0.04	0.63	-2957.88
$\sim D_{\mathrm{T0}} + D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}} + A_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	6	5927.84	2.62	0.04	0.67	-2957.90
$\sim D_{\mathrm{T0}} + D_{\mathrm{SM}} + D_{\mathrm{SF}} + A_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	7	5927.96	2.74	0.04	0.71	-2956.95
$\sim D_{\mathrm{SM}} + D_{\mathrm{SF}} + D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}} + A_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	7	5928.20	2.99	0.03	0.75	-2957.07
$\sim D_{\text{T0}} + D_{\text{SM}} + D_{\text{SF}} + D1_{\text{NDVI}} + A_{\text{NDVI}}$	8	5929.09	3.88	0.02	0.77	-2956.51
$\sim D_{\rm SM} + D1_{\rm NDVI}$	5	5929.23	4.02	0.02	0.79	-2959.60
$\sim D1_{ m NDVI}$	4	5929.24	4.02	0.02	0.81	-2960.61
$\sim D1_{ m NDVI} + A_{ m NDVI}$	5	5929.25	4.03	0.02	0.83	-2959.61
$\sim\!\!D_{ m SF}$	4	5929.38	4.16	0.02	0.85	-2960.68
$\sim\!\!D_{ m SF}\!\!+\!\!A_{ m NDVI}$	5	5929.39	4.18	0.02	0.87	-2959.68
$\sim\!\!D_{ m SM}$	4	5929.54	4.32	0.02	0.89	-2960.76
$\sim D_{\mathrm{T0}} + D_{\mathrm{SF}} + D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}} + A_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	7	5929.69	4.47	0.02	0.91	-2957.82
$\sim\!\!D_{ m T0}$	4	5929.72	4.50	0.02	0.92	-2960.85
$\sim D_{\mathrm{T0}} + D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	5	5930.29	5.08	0.01	0.93	-2960.13
$\sim\!\!D_{ m SM}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SF}$	5	5931.06	5.84	0.01	0.94	-2960.51
$\sim D_{\rm SF} + D1_{ m NDVI}$	5	5931.07	5.85	0.01	0.95	-2960.52
$\sim D_{\mathrm{T0}} + D_{\mathrm{SM}} + D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	6	5931.17	5.95	0.01	0.96	-2959.56
$\sim D_{\rm SM} + D_{\rm SF} + D1_{\rm NDVI}$	6	5931.18	5.97	0.01	0.97	-2959.57
$\sim\!\!D_{ m T0}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SF}$	5	5931.23	6.02	0.01	0.97	-2960.60
$\sim D_{\rm SF} + D1_{ m NDVI} + A_{ m NDVI}$	6	5931.25	6.03	0.01	0.98	-2959.60
$\sim\!\!D_{ m T0}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SM}$	5	5931.51	6.30	0.01	0.99	-2960.74
$\sim D_{\mathrm{T0}} + D_{\mathrm{SF}} + D1_{\mathrm{NDVI}}$	6	5932.09	6.87	0.01	0.99	-2960.02
$\sim\!\!D_{ m T0}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SM}\!\!+\!\!D_{ m SF}$	6	5933.07	7.85	0.00	1.00	-2960.51
$\sim D_{\text{T0}} + D_{\text{SM}} + D_{\text{SF}} + D1_{\text{NDVI}}$	7	5933.10	7.88	0.00	1.00	-2959.52

**Table S5. Number of resighted color-banded red knots per year.** Listed are individuals that were resighted at least twice during the winter period (Oct-Mar) in Banc d'Arguin, the migratory periods in Banc d'Arguin (Aug-Sep and Apr-May), and elsewhere along the flyway (with most resightings performed during autumn and spring migration in the Wadden Sea area in The Netherlands and Germany). 2002 refers to the period July 2002 to June 2003.

Year	Banc d'Arguin (winter)	Banc d'Arguin (migration)	Europe
2002	25	0	1
2003	41	0	1
2004	64	79	7
2005	146	0	6
2006	200	119	9
2007	242	43	12
2008	191	58	10
2009	306	0	4
2010	259	0	0
2011	281	0	3
2012	169	0	1
2013	336	0	3
2014	367	0	5

Table S6. Model selection results of step 1 of the survival analysis.

Model	K	ΔDeviance	ΔAIC <sub>c</sub>	Akaike weight
$(1) \Phi_{tsm\cdot t + a} p_{s+t}$	37	19.22	0.00*	0.99
$(2)  \Phi_{tsm \cdot t  +  a}  p_{s \cdot t}$	47	7.74	8.90	0.01
(3) $\Phi_{tsm+t+a} p_{s+t}$	26	53.97	12.44	0.00
$(4) \; \Phi_{tsm \cdot t \; + \; a \cdot t}  p_{s+t}$	48	11.40	14.60	0.00
$(5) \Phi_{tsm+t+a} p_{s\cdot t}$	37	38.43	19.20	0.00
$(6) \Phi_{tsm+a\cdot t} p_{s+t}$	37	41.54	22.32	0.00
$(7)  \Phi_{tsm \cdot t + a \cdot t}  p_{s \cdot t}$	58	0.00**	23.68	0.00
(8) $\Phi_{tsm+a\cdot t} p_{s\cdot t}$	47	27.82	28.98	0.00

 $<sup>*</sup>AIC_c = 11749.78$ 

tsm=time-since-marking (first year after marking modelled separately from later years); t=time (years); a=age, distinguishing first-year (juvenile) and older (adult) birds; s=site. An interaction between effects is denoted by '-', whereas additive effects are denoted by '+'. Note that an interaction between age and time-since-marking is not possible, because juvenile survival can only be estimated in the first year after marking.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Deviance = 2411.89

**Table S7. Model selection results of step 2 of the survival analysis.** In all models, resighting probability is modelled as the most parsimonious parameterization from step 1:  $p_{s+t}$ .

				Akaike
Model	K	ΔDeviance	$\Delta AIC_c$	weight
(1) $\Phi_{tsm\cdot t + a + a\cdot bill}$	39	16.06	0.00*	0.33
(2) $\Phi_{tsm\cdot t + a + juv\cdot bill}$	38	18.20	0.10	0.31
(3) $\Phi_{tsm\cdot t + a + juv\cdot bill + juv\cdot bill sq}$	39	17.91	1.84	0.13
(4) $\Phi_{tsm\cdot t + a + bill}$	38	20.91	2.81	0.08
(5) $\Phi_{tsm\cdot t + a + a\cdot bill + a\cdot bill sq}$	41	15.40	3.41	0.06
(6) $\Phi_{tsm\cdot t + a + bill + bill sq}$	39	19.98	3.92	0.05
(7) $\Phi_{tsm\cdot t + a + ad\cdot bill}$	38	23.92	5.82	0.02
(8) $\Phi_{tsm\cdot t + a}$	37	27.18	7.04	0.01
$(9) \; \Phi_{tsm \cdot t \; + \; a \; + \; ad \cdot bill \; + \; ad \cdot bill \_sq}$	39	23.41	7.34	0.01
(10) $\Phi_{tsm\cdot t + a + juv\cdot bill\cdot t}$	49	6.32	10.65	0.00
(11) $\Phi_{tsm\cdot t + a + juv\cdot bill\ class}$	49	10.15	14.49	0.00
(12) $\Phi_{tsm \cdot t + a + ad \cdot bill \ class}$	50	15.78	22.16	0.00
(13) $\Phi_{tsm+a+ad\cdot t+juv\cdot tlin}$	28	66.24	27.84	0.00
(14) $\Phi_{tsm + a + ad \cdot t + juv \cdot snow}$	28	67.25	28.85	0.00
$(15) \; \Phi_{tsm  +  a  +  ad \cdot t  +  juv \cdot tlin  +  juv \cdot snow\_detrended}$	29	65.66	29.29	0.00
(16) $\Phi_{tsm\cdot t + a + a\cdot bill \ class}$	62	0.00**	30.99	0.00
$(17) \Phi_{tsm + a + a \cdot t}$	38	49.50	31.40	0.00
(18) $\Phi_{tsm+a+ad\cdot t}$	27	75.77	35.35	0.00
(19) $\Phi_{tsm+a+juv\cdot bill\ class}$	28	93.68	55.28	0.00
(20) $\Phi_{tsm+a+ad\cdot bill\ class}$	29	100.39	64.02	0.00
$(21) \Phi_{tsm+a+a \cdot bill}$	41	82.72	70.73	0.00

 $<sup>*</sup>AIC_c = 11407.22$ 

bill = standardized bill length (continuous); bill\_sq = bill + bill²; bill\_class = bill length rounded off to 1-mm classes (categorical); juv=juvenile (first-year); ad=adult (second-year or older); tlin=year (continuous); snow=date of snowmelt in the previous year; snow\_detrended = residual date of snowmelt in the previous year after correcting for the linear trend over time. For explanation of other abbreviations, see Table S6. To calculate the  $R_{dev}^2$  as an estimate of the proportion of variation in juvenile survival explained by date of snowmelt, we used the deviances of models 14, 17 and 18 for Dev<sub>snow</sub>, Dev<sub>t</sub> and Dev<sub>cst</sub>.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Deviance = 2403.44

Table S8. Resighting and apparent survival probabilities (95% CI in brackets) estimated by the best-supported model from step 1 (model 1, Table S6). This model distinguished between survival of juveniles, of adults in their year after marking (Adult 1) and of adults later on (Adult 2+).

	0 01	bility (p) from July une in year <i>i</i> +1	Apparent survival probability ( $\Phi$ ) from December in year <i>i</i> -1 to November in year <i>i</i>				
Year i	Abelgh Eiznaya	Baie d'Aouatif	Juveniles	Adult 1	Adult 2+		
2003	0.20 (0.14 - 0.28)	0.14 (0.10 - 0.21)	0.53 (0.43 - 0.62)	0.59 (0.50 - 0.67)	No estimate		
2004	0.33 (0.27 - 0.40)	0.25 (0.20 - 0.32)	0.72 (0.59 - 0.82)	0.77 (0.64 - 0.86)	1.00 (1.00 - 1.00)		
2005	0.38 (0.32 - 0.43)	0.29 (0.23 - 0.35)	0.60 (0.49 - 0.69)	0.65 (0.56 - 0.74)	0.81 (0.67 - 0.90)		
2006	0.54 (0.48 - 0.60)	0.44 (0.37 - 0.51)	0.66 (0.53 - 0.77)	0.71 (0.60 - 0.80)	0.92 (0.74 - 0.98)		
2007	0.49 (0.43 - 0.54)	0.39 (0.33 - 0.45)	0.56 (0.45 - 0.67)	0.62 (0.52 - 0.71)	0.76 (0.66 - 0.84)		
2008	0.45 (0.40 - 0.50)	0.35 (0.30 - 0.41)	0.58 (0.50 - 0.66)	0.64 (0.55 - 0.72)	0.82 (0.70 - 0.89)		
2009	0.49 (0.43 - 0.54)	0.39 (0.34 - 0.44)	0.71 (0.59 - 0.81)	0.76 (0.66 - 0.84)	0.76 (0.67 - 0.84)		
2010	0.40 (0.35 - 0.45)	0.31 (0.26 - 0.36)	0.57 (0.45 - 0.67)	0.62 (0.53 - 0.71)	0.83 (0.72 - 0.90)		
2011	0.45 (0.40 - 0.51)	0.36 (0.30 - 0.41)	0.25 (0.16 - 0.35)	0.29 (0.20 - 0.40)	0.83 (0.71 - 0.91)		
2012	0.32 (0.27 - 0.37)	0.24 (0.19 - 0.29)	0.47 (0.37 - 0.59)	0.53 (0.42 - 0.64)	0.79 (0.67 - 0.88)		
2013	0.66 (0.60 - 0.72)	0.57 (0.50 - 0.63)	0.51 (0.39 - 0.63)	0.57 (0.46 - 0.67)	0.78 (0.67 - 0.86)		

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