Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

Sixth Meeting of Advisory Committee

Guayaquil, Ecuador, 29 August – 2 September 2011

Report of the Breeding Sites Working Group and Status and Trends Working Group – Joint BSWG4/STWG6

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Guayaquil, Ecuador, 25-26 August 2011

Contents

1. PURPOSE

This report outlines inter-sessional progress against the Work Programmes of the Breeding Sites Working Group (hereafter BSWG) and Status and Trends Working Group (hereafter STWG), agreed at the ACAP Advisory Committee meeting in 2010 (AC5). The report also reflects discussions and advice resulting from the Joint 4th Meeting of the Breeding Sites Working Group (BSWG4) and 6th Meeting of the Status and Trends Working Group (STWG6) held on 25-26 August 2011 in Guayaquil, Ecuador.

2. MEMBERSHIP AND MEETING PARTICIPANTS

Current membership of the BSWG and STWG is listed in BSWG4/STWG6 Doc 1 and participants in this meeting are listed in ANNEX 1. The Convenors of the BSWG and the STWG, Richard Phillips and Rosemary Gales, and the Vice-convenor of the STWG, Henri Weimerskirch, thanked working group members and observers for attending the meeting. The meeting was attended by working group members from Australia, Canada, Chile, France, New Zealand, South Africa, United Kingdom and BirdLife International, Advisory Committee members from Argentina and New Zealand, as well as observers from a wide range of government agencies and non-government organisations.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The working groups considered and accepted the proposed agenda (BSWG4/STWG6 Doc 2 Rev 1 and BSWG4/STWG6 Doc 3).

4. PROGRESS REPORTS

This report outlines progress that has been achieved against the Breeding Sites Working Group and the Status and Trends Working Group Work Programmes that were endorsed at the AC5 meeting in 2010. The report also describes discussions and recommendations arising from the joint BSWG and STWG meeting held in Guayaquil, Ecuador on 25-26 August 2011.

4.1. Activities undertaken in intersessional period by the STWG

With the assistance of the ACAP Science Officer, significant advances have been achieved in the extent and capacity of the ACAP database to curate and query information relating to the status and trends of ACAP species. Considerable efforts were invested into consideration of appropriate decision rules for summarising and interpreting population data. Resulting from this, comprehensive background tables have been generated to form the basis of a review of the status and trends of ACAP species at the joint Working Group meeting. These draft tables were circulated shortly before the meeting to enable participants to consider their content and to progress the analyses. These outputs form the basis of global and regional assessments of status and trends of ACAP species.

4.2. Activities undertaken in intersessional period by the BSWG

In addition to routine updates to the breeding sites data held by ACAP, particular effort has been made to ensure ACAP holds the most up-to-date information available on the islands where introduced vertebrates are a) currently present; b) have been eradicated since 2000; or c) an eradication is planned (i.e., a feasibility plan exists), and the proposed year for the eradication (ANNEX 2 and AC6 Doc 17 Annex 6). Members were requested to check this table and report any errors.

Work was undertaken reviewing threats listed for all sites in order to improve comparability among sites and also the robustness of the prioritisation process.

4.3. ACAP Species Assessments updates

All 29 ACAP Species Assessments are now available in English, French and Spanish. The assistance of Vincent Lecomte in completing the 28 outstanding French translations and the role of Henri Weimerskirch in facilitating this process since the last meeting are gratefully acknowledged.

There have been updates to most of the ACAP Species Assessments since their publication (**Table 1**); however, some assessments have not been reviewed in the last two years. With all translations now completed, the focus can return to keeping all the assessments in three languages (87 documents) as current as possible, and potentially to include updated maps of distribution by the time of AC7 if new tracking data are available.

Table 1. Current status of species assessments available on the ACAP website

Species	Date updated - EN	Language Version		
		EN	SP	FR
Amsterdam Albatross	*30/09/2010*	*EN1.3*	*SP1.3*	*FR1.3*
Antipodean Albatross	*18/09/2009*	*EN1.0*	*SP1.0*	
Tristan Albatross	*4/09/2009*	*EN1.2*	*SP1.2*	
Southern Royal Albatross	*2/09/2009*	*EN1.2*	*SP1.2*	
Wandering albatross	*10/09/2009*	*EN1.2*	*SP1.2*	
Northern Royal Albatross	*31/08/2009*	*EN1.1*	*SP1.1*	
Southern Giant Petrel	*8/12/2009*	*EN1.3*	*SP1.3*	
Northern Giant Petrel	*13/10/2010*	*EN1.3*	*SP1.3*	*FR1.3*
Short-tailed Albatross	*24/09/2009*	*EN1.0*	*SP1.0*	
Laysan Albatross	*25/05/2010*	*EN1.1*	*SP1.1*	
Waved Albatross	*20/10/2009*	*EN1.3*	*SP1.3*	
Black-footed Albatross	*4/06/2010*	*EN1.1*	*SP1.1*	
Sooty Albatross	*6/10/2010*	*EN1.2*	*SP1.2*	*FR1.2*
Light-mantled Albatross	*5/10/2010*	*EN1.2*	*SP1.2*	*FR1.2*
White-chinned Petrel	*14/09/2009*	*EN1.3*	*SP1.3*	
Grey Petrel	*28/09/2010*	*EN1.2*	*SP1.2*	*FR1.2*
Spectacled Petrel	*3/09/2009*	*EN1.2*	*SP1.2*	
Black Petrel	*20/08/2009*	*EN1.1*	*SP1.1*	
Westland Petrel	*10/02/2011*	*EN1.1*	*SP1.0*	*FR1.1*
Buller's Albatross	*21/09/2009*	*EN1.3*	*SP1.1*	
Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross	*27/08/2009*	*EN1.1*	*SP1.1*	
Shy Albatross	*31/08/2009*	*EN1.2*	*SP1.2*	*FR1.2*

Species	Date updated - EN	Language Version		
		EN	SP	FR
Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross	*1/09/2009*	*EN1.1*	*SP1.1*	
Grey-headed Albatross	*1/10/2010*	*EN1.1*	*SP1.1*	*FR1.1*
Chatham Albatross	*26/08/2009*	*EN1.2*	*SP1.2*	
Campbell Albatross	*26/08/2009*	*EN1.1*	*SP1.1*	
Black-browed Albatross	*11/10/2010*	*EN1.2*	*SP1.2*	*FR1.2*
Salvin's Albatross	*31/08/2009*	*EN1.1*	*SP1.1*	
White-capped Albatross	*02/02/2011*	*EN1.1*	*SP1.0*	*FR1.1*

4.4. Database developments and improvements

The database and data portal continued to be developed by the ACAP Science Officer as requested at the last BSWG and STWG meetings. The most recent developments include an option to identify ongoing population and demographic monitoring programmes, the ability to add population and demographic data for part-sites (study areas or distinct colonies), and the ability to set multiple trends per site or part-site (administrator only option).

Forty part-sites have been created so far for 15 sites. TRIM software was used to calculate trend for all suitable data between 1991 and 2011, covering the last 10 and 20 years where available. Information on ongoing monitoring programmes, however, is lacking, and working group members are encouraged to log on and provide details for sites where these programmes are established.

There was also some redevelopment in the way information on conservation listings or management plans associated with individual sites are stored. All sites and species can now be linked to listings or plans, and, in turn, to any associated legislation. The type of management plan (management, conservation, eradication, action, threat abatement, etc.) and the components it covers, such as biosecurity protocols, visitor management, etc. can also be specified. The list of components is not restricted and new options can be added.

ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The Working Groups recommend that the Advisory Committee encourages data holders and site custodians to ensure that data contributions are complete and up-to-date, including the information pertaining to ongoing population and demographic monitoring programmes.

4.4.1. Link between ACAP breeding sites database and tracking data in the BirdLife Global Procellariiform Tracking Database

In March 2011, an agreement was reached with BirdLife International whereby data can be easily exported from the Global Procellariiform Tracking Database and associated with breeding sites listed in the ACAP database. This allows an analysis of currency and volume of tracking information by species, breeding stage, region, etc. In return, the ACAP Secretariat reminds data holders to submit any new tracking data to the Global Procellariiform Tracking Database as part of the annual reporting process to the Advisory Committee.

The Working Groups proposed that responsibility for reviewing availability of tracking data, and identification of gaps and priorities for filling these, should come within the Terms of Reference of the proposed new, joint working group.

A preliminary assessment of gaps in tracking data for ACAP species suggested that the main priorities should include:

Argentina – Southern Giant Petrels (adults and juveniles) at significant breeding sites.

Australia - Shy Albatross (juveniles) in Tasmania; juveniles of all albatross species at Macquarie Island.

Chile - Black-browed and Grey-headed Albatrosses at Diego Ramirez Islands.

Disputed - Black-browed and Grey-headed Albatrosses (juveniles) at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1].

Ecuador - Waved Albatross (juveniles) at Galapagos.

France - Grey-headed and Indian Yellow-nosed Albatrosses at Crozet Islands.

Japan - Black-footed Albatross at Ogasawara Islands.

New Zealand – Campbell and Grey-headed albatrosses at Campbell Island; Salvin's Albatross at Bounty Islands; White-chinned Petrel at Auckland Islands.

South Africa - Juveniles of all species at Prince Edward Islands (*Phoebetria* species higher priority).

UK - Grey Petrel at Gough Island; juveniles of most species at Gough and Tristan da Cunha.

USA - Black-footed Albatross at Laysan Island.

ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The Working Groups recommend that the Advisory Committee:
(i) considers the reviewing of available tracking data for ACAP species, the identification of gaps and the priorities for filling those gaps, to fall within the purview of the new Population and Conservation Status Working Group, and;
(ii) encourages ACAP Parties to, where possible, undertake or plan for the tracking studies identified as priorities to take place in the near future.

[1] *"A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas), South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (Islas Georgias del Sur e Islas Sandwich del Sur) and the surrounding maritime areas"*

5. IDENTIFICATION OF INTERNATIONALLY IMPORTANT BREEDING SITES

5.1. Review presentation of important breeding sites in implementation report to Meeting of Parties

The ACAP database now holds virtually all of the existing census data for ACAP species, and has been used to produce updatable lists of the breeding sites that hold 1%, 2%, 5% and 10% of the global populations of each ACAP species. The list of individual sites appears in ANNEX 3, and a breakdown by species of the number of sites where the population exceeds the various thresholds, and the quality of the count data, appears in ANNEX 4. Working Group members were requested to check these tables and report any errors. A summary of this information also appears in AC6 Doc 17, which indicates that France and New Zealand have jurisdiction over considerably more of these internationally important sites than does any other Party, and that most ACAP species breed at few sites.

5.2. Consider *Important Bird Areas in Antarctica* Report

BSWG4/STWG6 Doc 5 identifies candidate BirdLife Important Bird Areas (IBAs) in the Atlantic sector of Antarctica (including the South Shetland and South Orkney Islands). The only ACAP species breeding in this area is the Southern Giant Petrel; breeding populations of which would only trigger IBA criteria if they exceed 1% of the global population (*c.* 485 pairs). However some IBAs triggered by other seabird species also contain breeding Southern Giant Petrels. The IBA analysis, taking account of different levels of certainty over population data and also examining sensitivity to scale-dependent effects, identifies some 40 "confirmed" IBAs and 60 "potential" IBAs.

Of the "confirmed" IBAs, Southern Giant Petrels breed at two: Avian Island (Antarctic Peninsula; 197 pairs) and Penguin Island (South Shetland Islands; 634 pairs). Of the "potential" IBAs, Southern Giant Petrels breed at 10 sites.

Overall, the IBAs identified include all six of the important breeding sites for ACAP Species holding >1% of total population that are listed in ANNEX 3.

Recognising that BSWG4/STWG6 Doc 5 is likely to be circulated to all Antarctic Treaty Contracting Parties (ATCPs) and to be considered in ongoing site and species conservation initiatives in the region, the Working Groups recommended that the Advisory Committee considers advising the ATCPs to seek to ensure that as strict protection as feasible is accorded to the six sites which are identified both as candidate IBAs and by ACAP as important breeding sites in respect of their populations of the Southern Giant Petrel.

ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The Working Groups recommend that the Advisory Committee:
(i) agrees that the provision of data and the development of tools for the identification of important breeding sites for ACAP species has now been completed and that a review of the tools be undertaken at AC9, and;
(ii) requests that Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties ensure that as strict protection as feasible is accorded to the six sites which are identified both as candidate IBAs and as potential important breeding sites for ACAP species in respect of their breeding populations of Southern Giant Petrels.

6. POPULATION STATUS AND TRENDS

6.1. Global population status - update of IUCN Red List for ACAP species

AC6 Doc 30 reports that no changes occurred to the threat status of ACAP species in the 2011 revision of the IUCN Red List, and thus since the previous report on this topic to AC5. However, a detailed re-evaluation of the status of the Black-footed Albatross was suspended because some key data had been unavailable by the deadline.

The Working Groups note that the next revision of the IUCN Red List, in 2012, would be the major quadrennial review of all species.

BirdLife International advised that it would wish to work closely with the ACAP Secretariat to undertake the re-evaluation of ACAP species, based on the data available in the ACAP database.

6.2. Current population status and trends of ACAP Species

6.2.1 Global population size and trends

The most recent information on population status and trends that has been made available to ACAP by the Parties was summarised for consideration by the joint Working Groups. It is important to note that these summaries reflect only data that have been submitted to the database. The rigour therefore of this information is reliant on timely and comprehensive provision of relevant information by all Parties.

At present, there are 248 islands where populations of ACAP species breed. The 29 ACAP species that are listed currently comprise 2.95 million pairs each year, breeding at 141 “island groups” which in turn comprise 571 populations (excluding sites with single or mixed pairs). The rarest of the ACAP species remains the Critically Endangered Amsterdam Albatross (30 annually breeding pairs), and the most abundant is the Vulnerable White-chinned Petrel (*c*. 1 million annually breeding pairs).

Determination of global trends is difficult because populations within a species may show different trajectories. Discussions preceding the meeting raised the option of applying the algorithms used by BirdLife International in their determination of IUCN status. The status of all ACAP species will be reviewed by BirdLife International in 2012. BirdLife wishes to work with ACAP to ensure that the most current and up-to-date population data are used in the re-assessments. Therefore, application of the BirdLife International criteria to assess global population trends should ensure that the information provided to the Fourth Meeting of Parties to the Agreement in 2012 shall be broadly consistent with the BirdLife assessments for the IUCN Red List later in the year.

Table 2. 2011 Summary of status of ACAP albatross and petrel species

		Population decline	Restricted breeding range	Limited population size	Decline in habitat	Endemic to single country	Number of island groups	Annual breeding pairs	Breeding Frequency
	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED								
1	Amsterdam Albatross	*	*	*		France	1	30	B
2	Tristan Albatross	*	*			United Kingdom	1	1,698	B
3	Waved Albatross	*	*		*	Ecuador	2	9,615	A
	ENDANGERED								
4	Northern Royal Albatross	*	*		*	New Zealand	3	5,832	B
5	Black-footed Albatross						4	68,962	A
6	Sooty Albatross	*					6	13,674	B
7	Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross	*	*			United Kingdom	2	33,650	A
8	Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross	*					4	39,320	A
9	Black-browed Albatross	*					15	600,661	A
	VULNERABLE								
10	Antipodean Albatross	*	*			New Zealand	3	8,273	B
11	Wandering Albatross	*					5	8,214	B
12	Southern Royal albatross		*			New Zealand	2	7,886	B
13	Short-tailed Albatross		*	*	*		2	472	A
14	Grey-headed Albatross	*					8	94,603	B
15	Chatham Albatross		*		*	New Zealand	1	5,407	A
16	Campbell Albatross		*			New Zealand	1	22,093	A
17	Salvin's Albatross		*			New Zealand	3	31,874	A
18	White-chinned Petrel	*					8	1,057,930	A
19	Spectacled Petrel		*			United Kingdom	1	14,400	A
20	Black Petrel		*			New Zealand	1	1,458	A
21	Westland Petrel		*			New Zealand	1	4,000	A
	NEAR-THREATENED								
22	Laysan Albatross						5	650,651	A
23	Light-mantled Albatross	?					9	9,955	B
24	Buller's Albatross		*			New Zealand	4	29,948	A
25	Shy Albatross	?	*			Australia	1	12,842	A
26	White-capped Albatross	?	*			New Zealand	3	74,885	?
27	Grey Petrel	?					9	79,570	A
	LEAST CONCERN								
28	Southern Giant Petrel						25	47,160	A
29	Northern Giant Petrel						9	10,863	A

Table 3. Abundance of ACAP species (number of annually breeding pairs)

Number of annually breeding pairs	ACAP-listed species
1 – 100	Amsterdam Albatross
101 – 1000	Short-tailed Albatross
1001 – 10 000	Black Petrel, Westland Petrel, Southern Royal Albatross, Chatham Albatross, Tristan Albatross, Wandering Albatross, Antipodean Albatross, Waved Albatross, Northern Royal Albatross
10 001 – 100 000	Spectacled Petrel, Northern Giant Petrel, Shy Albatross, Southern Giant Petrel, Black-footed Albatross, Buller's Albatross, Sooty Albatross, Salvin's Albatross, Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross, Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross, Grey Petrel, White-capped Albatross, Grey-headed Albatross, Light-mantled Albatross, Campbell Albatross
100 001 – 1 000 000	Laysan Albatross, Black-browed Albatross
1 000 001 +	White-chinned Petrel

6.2.2 Specific population status and trends – analyses and knowledge gaps

Currency of monitoring, at the island group level, for populations within island groups that represent at least 5% of the global population:

- Six have not been counted for over 20 years (before 1991);
- Nine have not been counted for over 10 years (before 2001).

Table 4. Species/island group combinations that comprise at least 5% of global populations for which there have been no monitoring in the last 20 and 10 years

Species/Island Groups (>5% global population) **no population data in last 20 years** (1991-2010)	Light-mantled Albatross (Kerguelen/40.2%/1987) Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross (Crozet/17.9%/1984) Northern Giant Petrel (Kerguelen/14.9%/1987) White-chinned Petrel (Auckland I./9.4%/1988) Grey-headed Albatross (Kerguelen/8.4%/1985) Grey-headed Albatross (Crozet/6.3%/1982)
Species/Island Groups (>5% global population) **no population data in last 10 years** (2001-2010)	*All six populations above plus:* Campbell Albatross (Campbell/100%/1998) Light-mantled Albatross (Campbell/16.7%/1996) Grey-headed Albatross (Campbell/6.7%/1997)

At the island group level (site trend extrapolated to island group), eight of the 29 species have current (2001-2010) population trend information for most (75–100%) of their global populations, including all three North Pacific species.

Population trends are available for 68% of island groups of Black-browed Albatross and 62% of island groups of Southern Giant Petrel, but trend data exist for only 37% of island groups of Light-mantled and Sooty Albatrosses.

Very limited current population trend data are available for Northern Giant Petrel, Grey-headed Albatross and Southern Royal Albatross, and there are no recent trend data for 14 ACAP species, including the five burrowing petrel species.

The Working Groups expressed concern for species where significant proportions of global populations are declining, especially the Tristan and Antipodean Albatrosses, for which over 90% of their global populations are in decline. Over 50% of the populations (extrapolated to island group level) of Wandering and Black-browed Albatrosses are also in decline. At least 50% of the global populations of seven ACAP species were increasing in numbers. These include the three North Pacific albatrosses, the Amsterdam Albatross, Shy Albatross and Southern Giant Petrel, most of which are now recovering from major historical reductions in population size.

Table 5. Level of knowledge of current (2001-2010) population trend data (at island group level)

Species with **VERY HIGH** level trend data (75-100% island groups)	Amsterdam Albatross, Tristan Albatross, Wandering Albatross, Shy Albatross, Laysan Albatross, Antipodean Albatross, Black-footed Albatross, Short-tailed Albatross
Species with **HIGH - MODERATE** level trend data (50 – 74% island groups)	Black-browed Albatross, Southern Giant Petrel
Species with **MODERATE - LOW** level trend data (25-49% trend data)	Light-mantled Albatross, Sooty Albatross
Species with **LOW** level trend data (1-25% island groups)	Northern Giant Petrel, Grey-headed Albatross, Southern Royal Albatross
Species with **UNKNOWN** trend data (< 1% island groups)	Northern Royal Albatross, Waved Albatross, Buller's Albatross, Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross, Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross, Campbell Albatross, Chatham Albatross, Salvin's Albatross, White-capped Albatross; Grey Petrel, White-chinned Petrel, Spectacled Petrel, Black Petrel, Westland Petrel

6.2.3 Specific population demographic parameters – analyses and knowledge gaps

It is recognised that an understanding of population status requires information derived from studies of survival rates and productivity. This requires long-term mark-recapture studies, particularly for ACAP species, which are long lived and slow to mature. Based upon the information provided to ACAP by the Parties to date, and discussion at the Working Group meeting, for the 29 ACAP species, information exists on:

- Adult survival for 27 species (four new studies in progress), no studies for two species);
- Juvenile survival for 20 species (four new studies in progress), no studies for nine species); and
- Productivity available for 26 species, no studies conducted for three species.

It is encouraging that new studies have recently been initiated to determine survival rates for several ACAP species (see ANNEX 6). These will complement the existing demographic monitoring studies being undertaken by several Parties. For several species, there are now studies at multiple locations (e.g. Wandering, Black-browed and Grey-headed Albatrosses). These studies are critical for informing comparisons of population trajectories, which often differ among sites, and for identifying the contributory factors.

Table 6. ACAP species for which no demographic statistics are currently being collected

Demographic statistics	ACAP species
No data for adult survival (two species)	Salvin's Albatross, Spectacled Petrel
No data for juvenile survival (nine species)	Buller's Albatross, Chatham Albatross, Northern Giant Petrel, Salvin's Albatross, Short-tailed Albatross, Southern Royal Albatross, Spectacled Petrel, Westland Petrel, White-capped Albatross
No data for productivity (three species)	Chatham Albatross, Salvin's Albatross, Spectacled Petrel

6.2.4 ACAP Population status and trends – jurisdiction assessment

Comprehensive population studies are fundamental to many aspects of albatross and petrel conservation, and vital to monitoring the effectiveness of management actions and the Agreement. Current status of knowledge of size, trends and demographic parameters remains inadequate for many ACAP populations. For four jurisdictions/Parties, over 20% of the populations remain of unknown size (ANNEX 7). There is even less data for current population trends; indeed, five Parties have very limited information on population trends of ACAP species breeding in their jurisdictions.

Table 7. Extent of knowledge of current (2001-2010) population trends by jurisdiction

Jurisdictions with **HIGH** level trend data (75-100% island groups)	USA
Jurisdictions with **HIGH - MODERATE** level trend data (50 – 74% island groups)	Australia, Disputed (South Atlantic), South Africa
Jurisdictions with **MODERATE - LOW** level trend data (25-49% trend data)	France
Jurisdictions with **LOW** level trend data (0-25% island groups)	Antarctica, Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, Japan, New Zealand, UK

ANNEX 7 provides information on the extent of responsibility by jurisdiction for the management of breeding sites of ACAP species. The Working Groups discussed population trends and knowledge gaps for each jurisdiction, treating the Disputed regions separately. At AC5 in 2010 a request was made for the identification of priorities for population monitoring. In order to provide this guidance and advice to the Advisory Committee, representatives with specific expertise in the regional monitoring programmes assessed the information available, and identified the highest priority programmes that should be continued or initiated.

Antarctica: one ACAP species, 20% of populations of unknown size. Current population trends unknown for 11 island groups. Of concern are the steep population decreases documented for Southern Giant Petrels at King George Island and Nelson Island.

Priority programmes:

(i) Resurvey King George Island and Nelson Island giant petrel populations, reassess population trend and, as appropriate provide advice on known or potential causes of decline.

Argentina: one ACAP species at four sites. Population size known for all sites, no recent (2001 – 2010) trend data. No survival data for any sites.

Priority programmes:

(i) Develop and implement management plans for Southern Giant Petrel breeding sites and their surrounding waters;

(ii) Maintain annual surveys of breeding populations and productivity at all four breeding sites; and

(iii) Evaluate the degree of interaction between Southern Giant Petrels and alien species at Isla de los Estados and other sites with potential conflicts.

Australia: eight ACAP species at 17 sites, comprising three island groups. Population size is unknown for 18% of populations. The populations of Shy Albatrosses at Pedra Branca and Wandering Albatrosses at Macquarie Island are in steep decline.

Priority programmes:

(i) Continue the long-term monitoring studies on Macquarie Island (seven ACAP species) and Tasmania (Shy Albatross) that provide critical information on population trends and survival.

(ii) Resurvey the Mewstone population of Shy Albatrosses to determine its current population trend.

(iii) Resurvey Black-browed Albatrosses and Light-mantled Albatrosses at Heard Island to establish population trends.

Chile: three ACAP species at 33 sites, seven island groups. Currently there are no population trends or demographic estimates for any of these species.

Priority programmes:

(i) estimate demographic parameters for Black-browed and Grey-headed Albatrosses for at least one group of islands;

(ii) estimate current population trends by conducting a new census for all groups of islands within the next five years, considering that last censuses conducted at the two largest colonies (Diego Ramirez and Ildefonso Islands) were in the 2006/07 season.

Disputed - North Pacific: two ACAP species at two sites: no current trend data, no survival data.

Priority programmes:

(i) Obtain access to Minami-Kojima in the Senkaku (Diaoyu) Islands to confirm continued occupation by breeding albatrosses and initiate periodic population monitoring. (Recommendation included in: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2008. Short-tailed Albatross Recovery Plan. Anchorage, AK, 105 pp.).

Disputed - South Atlantic: seven species at 223 sites. Population size is known for 62% of populations. Long-term programmes at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] have provided important population trend and survival estimates for seven ACAP species.

Priority programmes:

Ensure that the established population monitoring projects are maintained. These include annual demographic studies at Bird Island of banded birds to determine adult and juvenile survival rates, individual reproductive success and population trends for Wandering, Black-browed and Grey-headed Albatrosses, Northern and Southern Giant Petrels, as well as annual monitoring of population trends and productivity for Light-mantled Albatrosses. A programme to monitor population trends of White-chinned Petrels from five-yearly surveys of study plots at Bird Island has recently re-commenced, and should be continued. Other ongoing programmes that should be continued include annual monitoring of Wandering Albatrosses, and Northern and Southern Giant Petrels at Albatross and Prion Islands, South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1]. Existing programmes that monitor annually population numbers and demographic parameters of Black-browed Albatrosses at New Island and Steeple Jason Island in the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)[1] should be maintained, as should the programme to monitor numbers and breeding success of Southern Giant Petrels on Steeple Jason Island.

In addition, it would be valuable to expand the monitoring protocols for surveying White-chinned Petrels at Bird Island to include other sites in South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1]. It is also recommended that a coordinated and standardised approach to conducting island-wide censuses of Black-browed Albatrosses in the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)[1] is developed and implemented. The first complete census of Southern Giant Petrels breeding in the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)[1] revealed that this island group supports approximately 40% of the global population, and an effective monitoring protocol should be developed.

Ecuador: single endemic ACAP species, no current population trend data, no juvenile survival data.

Priority programmes:

(i) Whole island population size estimate on Española, Galapagos Islands;

(ii) Further develop monitoring programme for vital rates and population size in the interior colonies ('Colonia Central') on Española; and

(iii) Further develop a monitoring programme for presence/absence and breeding effort on Isla de la Plata.

France: twelve ACAP species comprising 87 populations at three island groups. Population size is known for 77% of populations. Long-term monitoring programmes have provided important information on survival and productivity for a range of ACAP species.

Priority programmes:

(i) Long term monitoring programmes involving censuses and demographic studies of the 10 ACAP species on the four French sites in the southern Indian Ocean should be continued. This programme is being evaluated this year for a four-year renewal.

(ii) Resurvey colonies at remote islands, which were last counted more than 20 years ago, and include significant populations. These include Wandering Albatrosses on Crozet (Cochons and Ile de l'Est) and Kerguelen (western colonies), Indian Yellow-nosed Albatrosses (Crozet islands (Pingouins and Apotres), Grey-headed Albatrosses on Crozet (Pingouins) and Kerguelen (Iles Nuageuses), Sooty and Light-mantled Albatrosses on Ile de l'Est (Crozet) and Northern and Southern Giant Petrels at Crozet (Cochons and Ile de l'Est).

(iii) Resurvey White-chinned Petrel populations (Possession Island), and Grey Petrels at Kerguelen.

Japan: three ACAP species, five populations all of known size; current trend, adult survival and productivity are known from an ongoing study of one population, but not for the remaining populations.

Priority programmes:

(i) At all albatross breeding sites within Japan, establish data-collection programmes to ensure robust population models. The required demographic parameters include estimates of survival to recruitment, percentage of non-breeding adults and adult survival (recommendation included in: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2008. *Short-tailed Albatross Recovery Plan.* Anchorage, Alaska, 105 pp.).

Mexico: one species of known population size at four sites; no trend or demographic information.

Priority programme: Establish population trends.

New Zealand: ninety-two populations of 16 ACAP species, including 10 endemic species, more than any other jurisdiction. Population sizes known for 60% of populations, but current trends available for only four populations. Long-term population studies have provided information on survival and productivity for a range of species.

Priority programme:

(i) Resurvey Campbell Albatross at Campbell Island, where no census has been undertaken for over 10 years.

(ii) Determine the population trend of Salvin's Albatross at Bounty Islands. Salvin's Albatross was identified by a recent assessment of the risk to seabird populations from New Zealand commercial fisheries as one of the ACAP species at greatest risk. Approximately 95% of the population breeds at the Bounty Islands. Recently a complete aerial census has been undertaken. This provides a baseline for further aerial monitoring to establish a population trend.

(iii) Should ground truthing prove feasible, this has potential to be combined with collecting tracking data, as the Bounty Islands' population of Salvin's Albatrosses forms one of the most significant remaining tracking data gaps for ACAP species breeding in New Zealand.

South Africa: 17 populations of nine ACAP species, 24% of which are of unknown size. Adult survival information is available for four populations.

Priority programmes:

(i) Comparative study of Sooty and Light-mantled Albatrosses, in order to understand factors driving their population trends.

(ii) Refine estimates of the population sizes of White-chinned and Grey Petrels.

United Kingdom: 16 populations of six ACAP species on two island groups, current trend only known for one population. Long-term studies have provided survival and productivity data.

Priority programmes: The main priority for the Tristan islands is to continue the existing population monitoring projects. These include annual monitoring of Tristan and Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatrosses and Southern Giant Petrels at Gough Island, annual monitoring of Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatrosses at the main island of Tristan da Cunha and Nightingale

Island, and repeat scan counts of Sooty Albatrosses at Gough Island every three years, or more frequently if possible. It is important to ensure that the number of birds monitored at study sites is sufficient to be representative of the broader populations. Counts of Spectacled Petrels at Inaccessible Island should continue at approximately five-yearly intervals.

In addition to these existing programmes, it would be valuable to initiate regular monitoring of Sooty Albatrosses at sample sites on the main island of Tristan da Cunha, and to investigate the feasibility of, and undertake, a census of Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatrosses at the main island, which is thought to hold a significant proportion of the global population. Very little work has been conducted on the winter-breeding Grey Petrel at the Tristan Islands, and so its population status remains poorly understood. It is recommended that efforts are directed towards determining the distribution and abundance of Grey Petrels on Gough Island, and to set up and implement study plots, where population trends can be monitored at intervals of one to three years. A winter survey of Inaccessible Island should be conducted to determine whether Grey Petrels breed at this site, and also to determine whether the species still breeds on the main island of Tristan.

United States: two species; 22 populations all of known size. Population trends (mostly increasing) known for 33% of populations. Limited demographic data exist.

Priority programmes:

(i) Survey the five albatross breeding sites not currently monitored in order to update population estimates (in one case dating to 1982).

(ii) Repeat these surveys throughout the range of the two albatross species breeding within the US every five years.

(iii) Incorporate analyses and reporting of population and demographic data from albatross colonies into a regular and ongoing programme housed in the Division of Migratory Bird Management of the US Fish and Wildlife Service or similar agency.

ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The Working Groups recommend that the Advisory Committee:
(i) urges Parties and others responsible for breeding populations of ACAP species to ensure the continuation of their current long-term monitoring programmes;
(ii) encourages Parties and others responsible for breeding populations of ACAP species to implement the monitoring programmes identified as priorities in AC6 Doc 11, Section 6.2.4, in order to increase current knowledge of population size, trends and demography of ACAP species, and;
(iii) review these priority programmes, and progress achieved in the intersessional period, at AC7.

6.3. Data updates and gap analysis

BSWG and STWG members were approached during the inter-sessional period with a request for updates to population, demographic or breeding site information. All Parties have logged on to check or update data, with the exception of Ecuador and New Zealand. Ecuador is yet to nominate a STWG member who could coordinate future data updates. Igor Debski (New Zealand) acknowledged that a thorough review and update of existing data for New Zealand ACAP sites was not possible prior to the meeting. Results from a number of

major studies (including for White-capped Albatross, Salvin's Albatross, Chatham Albatross, Northern Royal Albatross, White-chinned Petrel and Grey Petrel) are currently under review. New Zealand committed to providing these data to the ACAP database prior to AC7.

Some data were incomplete for many parties, particularly those pertaining to ongoing monitoring studies.

ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:
The Working Groups recommend that the Advisory Committee urges Parties to review data entries and update population data from the 2010/11 breeding season by the end of December 2011, and to enter data from subsequent seasons into the ACAP database by the end of June each year.

7. BREEDING SITES THREATS AND MANAGEMENT

7.1. Review information on introduced vertebrates and its presentation in implementation report

A breakdown of the proportion of sites, and of the global population that are subjected to threats that meet the ACAP criteria (in terms of scope and severity) are listed in **Table 8**. The vast majority of these relates to introduced mammals or disease and are reviewed in more detail in section 2.8 of AC6 Doc 17. The numbers of sites affected by threats of different magnitude from introduced species, disease, etc. are indicated in **Table 9**, and the names of the sites where the threat is Medium or High given in **Table 10.**

Habitat destruction and predation by introduced mammals are listed far more frequently than any other processes as threats to breeding sites of ACAP species. Those affecting the most breeding sites (site-species combinations) are predation by feral cats *Felis catus,* black rats *Rattus rattus* and brown rats *R. norvegicus*, and habitat destruction by reindeer *Rangifer tarandus* (**Table 9**). All other threats affected only a few sites, although were severe in some cases (Medium or High according to the agreed threat criteria), which included the effects of Avian Cholera at Ile Amsterdam (**Table 10**). The species affected at the most breeding sites were the burrow-nesting Grey and White-chinned Petrels, mainly due to predation or habitat destruction by introduced mammals. In interpreting the tables below and the conclusions, it should be noted that: (1) threats only include those that are documented and known or likely to cause a population decline in <10 years; (2) values in the tables are the number of breeding sites, equivalent to each species-site combination *i.e.* two species breeding in the same area constitute two breeding sites; (3) although most islands are listed as one site, a small number have been subdivided into separate sites; and (4) no attempt has been made to consider the numbers of birds or the percentage of global populations at each site.

Table 8. Percentages of sites and populations affected by land threats – only species affected listed

Species	No of sites	% sites					% population						
		Natural disasters	Habitat loss or destruction by alien species	Increased competition with native species	Parasite or pathogen	Predation by alien species	Natural disasters	Habitat loss or destruction by alien species	Increased competition with native species	Parasite or pathogen	Predation by alien species	% population – all threats	% sites – all threats
Antipodean Albatross	5	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	0.9	0.9	20
Tristan Albatross	1	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	100	100	100
Southern Royal Albatross	4	0	0	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	25
Wandering Albatross	28	0	0	0	0	7.1	0	0	0	0	27.3	27.3	7.1
Southern Giant Petrel	121	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.8
Sooty Albatross	15	0	0	0	6.7	6.7	0	0	0	3.5	12.4	15.9	13.3
Light-mantled Albatross	71	1.4	1.4	0	0	0	0	3.7	0	0	0	3.7	2.8
White-chinned Petrel	75	0	6.7	0	0	20	0	17.8	0	0	37.8	37.8	20
Grey Petrel	17	0	17.6	0	0	35.3	0	4.3	0	0	26.4	26.4	35.3
Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross	6	0	0	0	16.7	0	0	0	0	68.7	0	68.7	16.7
Shy Albatross	3	0	0	33.3	33.3	0	0	0	1.9	40.7	0	42.7	66.7
Grey-headed Albatross	29	0	3.4	0	0	0	0	0.1	0	0	0	0.1	3.4
Black-browed Albatross	66	1.5	1.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
White-capped Albatross	5	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	5.6	5.6	20

Table 9. Numbers of breeding sites of ACAP species affected by threats of different magnitude (Low to Very high)

Nature of Threat	Threat subcategory	Threat Species	Number of breeding sites affected:				
			Low	Medium	High	Very High	All
Habitat loss or destruction	Habitat destruction by alien species	European Rabbit	3	1			4
		Reindeer	6				6
	Increased competition with native species	Australasian Gannet			1		1
Parasite or pathogen	Pathogen	Unknown	1				1
		Avian Cholera	1	1			2
Predation by alien species	Predation by alien species	Feral Cat	11				11
		Domestic Pig	4				4
		House Mouse	1	1			2
		Norwegian Rat	7				7
		Black Rat	9	1			10
All			**43**	**3**	**1**	**0**	**48**

Table 10. Breeding sites of ACAP species affected by threats of Medium or High magnitude

Nature of Threat	Threat subcategory	Threat Species	Breeding sites affected:	
			Medium	High
Habitat loss or destruction	Habitat destruction by alien species	European Rabbit	Macquarie Island - Grey Petrel	
	Increased competition with native species	Australasian Gannet		Pedra Branca - Shy Albatross
Parasite or pathogen	Pathogen	Avian Cholera	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux (Ile Amsterdam) - Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross	
Predation by alien species	Predation by alien species	House Mouse	Gough Island – Tristan Albatross	
		Black Rat	Macquarie Island - Grey Petrel	

7.2. Review information on legislative protection of breeding sites and its presentation in Implementation report

A list of management plans applicable to ACAP breeding sites and the year published is provided in Annex 6, and the percentage of sites with management plans by jurisdiction in Annex 9 of AC6 Doc 17.

8. PRIORITISATION

8.1. Review prioritisation process for site-based threats

Spencer Clubb (New Zealand) introduced this agenda item, referring to AC6 Doc 15, which provides an overview of progress achieved with the development of a framework for the identification of ACAP conservation priorities.

Richard Phillips (United Kingdom) introduced BSWG4/STWG6 Doc 8 (Prioritisation framework for terrestrial threats to ACAP-listed species). He briefly described the conceptual framework for identifying land-based priorities for conservation action, including explaining that priorities were determined by a formula that combined vulnerability, magnitude of threat and likelihood of success for each breeding site by species by threat combination from the ACAP database. Scores for threats that applied to more than one species at a site were then combined. The results of the framework were set out in a table showing the relative priority of addressing each threat (such as eradication of pigs or cats from a particular island). Indicative costs were also provided, but were not used in the prioritisation process.

Working Group members agreed that the results were consistent with expert opinion, and also made a number of suggestions for improving the framework, including placing greater weight on single-site endemics (e.g. Tristan Albatross at Gough Island), using a threshold such as 10 breeding pairs as a minimum for inclusion in the framework and grouping together similar scoring threats and presenting them in bands such as “high priority”. Working Group members also proposed adding additional narrative to explain more fully the results of the process. These changes appear in the revised table and supporting text below. The balance between conservation and restoration could also be considered.

The score for each threat to an ACAP-listed species at the relevant breeding site, taking account of the species’ Vulnerability (based on *global population size*, *proportion of global population at site* and *population trend at site*), the level of the Threat and the Likelihood of success of management intervention, is indicated in the last column of Table 1 in BSWG4/STWG6 Doc 8. Values for these prioritisation scores range from 14.0 to 32.7. The threats at the five sites with the highest scores are considered to be of Medium or High magnitude in the ACAP database; the remaining threats are all listed as Low. At three breeding sites, population trends are listed as increasing, and the threats will be re-assessed against the ACAP criteria.

A single score for each threat on each island was calculated as the sum of the prioritisation scores for all species present, and the mean of the prioritisation scores if there are multiple breeding sites on the same island. A summary of these threats is provided in Table 11 below. The priority level (High, Medium or Low) reflects natural breaks in the distribution of scores for each type of threat. For “Habitat loss or destruction/predation by alien species”, this includes a small outlying group (High priority), a large middle group with scores that all differ from each other by ≤2 and which would not be appropriate to sub-divide further (Medium priority), and one outlier with a low score (Low priority).

On this basis, the highest priority action with regard to a parasite or pathogen would be to address the problem of Avian Cholera at Ile Amsterdam; with regard to “Increased competition with native species”, to exclude Australasian Gannets from Pedra Branca, and; with regard to “Habitat loss or destruction/predation by alien species” would be to remove Domestic Pigs from Auckland Island, European Rabbits and Black Rats from Macquarie

Island and House Mice from Gough Island The lowest priorities would be to remove House Mice from Marion Island and the unknown pathogen from Albatross Island.

Sensitivity tests

Retaining the same attribute weightings, but increasing the score for islands holding 51-100% of the global population (i.e. reflecting ever greater concern for populations threatened at their majority or only breeding site) influenced the rank order, but always resulted in the same three or four threats in the outlying group, hence considered to be High priority (**Table 11**). If populations with ≤10 individuals (Grey Petrels at Ile Amsterdam, and Southern Royal Albatrosses at Auckland Island) were excluded from the framework, eliminating feral Cats and Brown Rats from Ile Amsterdam were no longer priorities. If further populations, with ≤50 individuals (Grey Petrels and Black-browed Albatrosses at Macquarie Island, White-chinned Petrels at New Island, and Shy Albatrosses at Pedra Branca) were excluded from the framework, eradicating Black Rats from Macquarie and feral cats from New Island are no longer priorities.

Indicative costs based on consultation with eradication experts are also provided in **Table 11**. However, it is important to note that the bulk of these costs are associated with planning and mobilisation, and hence economies of scale are substantial if an eradication campaign targets more than one species on the same island(s), or more than one island in the same group.

Table 11. Summary of prioritisation process by island and threat species, with indicative costs. Economy of effort would greatly reduce total cost for eradication campaigns for multiple threat species in the same island group (cells highlighted using the same colour). Priority based on natural breaks in ranking of prioritisation framework score (see text). [2]All populations. [3]Excludes populations with ≤10 individuals, [4]Excludes populations with ≤50 individuals. n/a = not a priority.

Island	Threat	Priority[2]	Priority[3]	Priority[4]	Indicative cost (AUS $)	Explanation
Parasite or Pathogen						
Ile Amsterdam	*Pasteurella multocida* (Avian Cholera)	High	High	High	Unknown	Major threat to several ACAP species
Albatross Island (AU)	Unknown pathogen	Low	Low	Low	Unknown	Low threat. Low feasibility of action.
Increased competition with native species						
Pedra Branca	*Morus serrator* (Australasian Gannet)	High	High	n/a	100 thousand	Major threat to small population
Habitat loss or destruction/predation by alien species						
Macquarie Island	*Oryctolagus cuniculus* (European Rabbit)	High	High	High	33 million	Major threat to several ACAP species
Auckland Island	*Sus scrofa* (domestic Pig)	High	High	High	25 million	Threat to several ACAP species
Gough Island	*Mus musculus* (House mouse)	High	High	High	5.5 million	Major threat to endemic species
Macquarie Island	*Rattus rattus* (Black Rat)	High	High	n/a	33 million	Threat to several ACAP species
Ile Amsterdam	*Felis catus* (feral Cat)	Medium	n/a	n/a	1-2 million	High feasibility of eradication
Ile Amsterdam	*Rattus norvegicus* (Brown Rat)	Medium	n/a	n/a	1-2 million	High feasibility of eradication
Kerguelen (Grande Terre)	*Rangifer tarandus* (Reindeer)	Medium	Medium	Medium	1-2 million	High feasibility of eradication
Harcourt Island	*Rattus norvegicus* (Brown Rat)	Medium	Medium	Medium	1.6 million	High feasibility of eradication
Ile de la Possession	*Rattus rattus* (Black Rat)	Medium	Medium	Medium	10 million	High feasibility of eradication
Ile Saint Lanne Gramont	*Felis catus* (feral Cat)	Medium	Medium	Medium	420 thousand	High feasibility of eradication
Ile Saint Lanne Gramont	*Rattus rattus* (Black Rat)	Medium	Medium	Medium	140 thousand	High feasibility of eradication
New Island	*Felis catus* (feral Cat)	Medium	Medium	n/a	1-2 million	High feasibility of eradication
Saddle Island	*Rattus norvegicus* (Brown Rat)	Medium	Medium	Medium	1.6 million	High feasibility of eradication
South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1]	*Rangifer tarandus* (Reindeer)	Medium	Medium	Medium	650-800,000	High feasibility of eradication
Auckland Island	*Felis catus* (feral Cat)	Medium	Medium	Medium	25 million	Medium feasibility of eradication
Kerguelen (Grande Terre)	*Felis catus* (feral Cat)	Medium	Medium	Medium	>10 million	Medium feasibility of eradication
Kerguelen (Grande Terre)	*Rattus rattus* (Black Rat)	Medium	Medium	Medium	>25 million	Medium feasibility of eradication
South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1]	*Rattus norvegicus* (Brown Rat)	Medium	Medium	Medium	13 million	Medium feasibility of eradication
Marion Island	*Mus musculus* (House Mouse)	Low	Low	Low	30 million	Low threat. Low feasibility of action.

8.2. Review and update ACAP database on current actions by Parties to address threats to breeding sites

Information that has been made available to ACAP through the database web portal on any ongoing or planned management actions associated with threats to ACAP-listed species at breeding sites are listed in ANNEX 8. The Working Group noted that Parties should provide updates on actions currently being undertaken to address the threats to ACAP listed species at their breeding sites, or reasons why no management response is in place. Working Group members agreed that this could best be delivered through the annual reporting process, and that this could be focussed more clearly on actions to address high priority threats.

It was noted that major resources will be necessary to accomplish the priority tasks involving alien eradications and related site/habitat management. There are likely to be substantial potential benefits of collaborations of both a technical and practical nature. For many ACAP Parties responsible for the management and conservation of key ACAP sites, lack of resources may be the main barrier to implementation of the priority recommendations. The Working Group recommended that the Parties consider how best to combine efforts both to acquire resources (e.g. from regional and global funding sources, such as the European Union, World Bank, Global Environment Facility, etc.) and, where feasible, to implement practical activities, especially eradications of alien species.

8.3. Selection of interim list of high-priority species or populations

The Working Groups meeting considered the request by the Seabird Bycatch Working Group to identify particularly strong cases on which ACAP might focus its efforts before the final results of the at-sea prioritisation analysis are available. The candidate population considered to be of high priority by the SBWG following the submission of a detailed description of its population status and threats (SWBG-4 Doc 54) is that of the Wandering Albatross at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1]. In relation to the available data on population size and trends in the ACAP database, the Working Groups concluded that there were five populations representing sizeable proportions (>10% of the global total) that were declining rapidly (>3% a year), for which a major underlying cause was incidental mortality in fisheries. These were the Wandering Albatross population that had already been identified, Black-browed Albatrosses at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1], Tristan Albatrosses at Gough Island, and Sooty Albatrosses at the Crozet and Prince Edward islands. These were also considered to be of high priority, and that addressing threats to their populations required urgent and coordinated international action. Detailed assessments for each of these populations appear as ANNEX 9.

8.4. Gap analysis

The working group identified a number of research gaps, including studies of disease prevalence and transmission (see below under Agenda Item 11), and improved pre- and post-eradication monitoring of effects of baiting campaigns on non-target species.

ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The Working Groups recommend that the Advisory Committee:
(i) agrees that the task of prioritising land-based threats has been completed;

(ii) agrees that conservation priorities should be reviewed at Advisory Committee meetings preceding every Meeting of Parties;
(ii) recommends to Parties that they address the High-Priority threats identified in the land-based prioritisation process, including Avian Cholera at Ile Amsterdam, increased competition from Australasian Gannets at Pedra Branca, habitat loss or destruction, or predation, by introduced European Rabbits and Black Rats at Macquarie Island, domestic Pigs at Auckland Island, and House Mice at Gough Island, and advance programmes to mitigate those threats, including eradication campaigns;
(iii) requests that Parties provide updates on these and other actions to address on-land threats, or reasons why no management response is in place through annual reports and at AC7; and
(iii) recognises the potential benefits of collaborations or capacity-building initiatives that may assist in the provision of technical or practical expertise, and the securing of funding, to progress high-priority management actions.

Noting the rapid declines of the globally-important populations of Wandering and Black-browed Albatrosses at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1], Tristan Albatrosses at Gough Island, and Sooty Albatrosses at the Crozet and Prince Edward Islands, the Advisory Committee is asked to:
(iv) agree that the bycatch of these populations be considered as high-priority threats requiring urgent and coordinated international action;
(v) agree that the urgent action should include:

(a) urging ACAP Parties to submit immediately to ACAP any existing bycatch data, in order to improve assessment of bycatch of these albatross populations;

(b) urging ACAP Parties which authorise fishing in the range of these populations to commence gathering bycatch data in relevant fisheries if they have not already done so and to submit those data to ACAP; and

(c) ACAP specifically highlighting the conservation threat to these populations in its engagement with RFMOs with responsibility for managing fisheries within its foraging distribution, and to request that those RFMOs implement best-practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures recommended by ACAP, gather seabird bycatch data at a species level and promptly provide ACAP with any existing seabird bycatch data.

9. ACAP PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

9.1. Review papers on performance indicators

The Working Groups reviewed progress on this topic, based on AC5 Inf 16 Rev 1 (which summarises the situation at the last AC meeting) and intersessional developments and discussion, as set out in AC6 Doc 27 and AC 6 Inf 07.

9.2. Consider and potentially refine proposed indicators of population status and breeding site condition

Based on these documents and in respect of breeding sites and population status and trends, a preliminary list of most potential candidate indicators to evaluate has been developed in ANNEX 10.

This was evaluated by the Working Groups with the following conclusions and recommendations, particularly for which indicators to continue or develop as soon as possible.

Conservation Status

1. IUCN Red List status of ACAP species

It was recommended that this be tabled at each ACAP Meeting of Parties, as hitherto.

Breeding sites

State (S)

1. Islands with alien species
    a) Habitat modifiers
    b) Known/potential predators

Pressure (P)

1. Sites with threats

Composite index of category-specific (Low, Medium, High, Very High) threats

Response (R)

1. Eradication and/or site management actions undertaken (note that this is essentially the inverse of P1).
2. Site Management Plan currency (date/review date) and status of implementation of actions for ACAP species (it was recognised that this would require soliciting additional information from Parties).
3. Biosecurity protocol availability for sites (incomplete data submission so far will require a supplementary query to some Parties).

The following suggestions for potential indicators for breeding sites were not recommended for further evaluation, at least at present.

a) Breeding success – data are currently available for very few sites and species;
b) Sites with Protected Area status – because 87% of sites already have this status, little potential exists for further development, providing limited utility as an indicator; an
c) Sites with Management Plans – most (88%) sites have such plans. The focus, as indicated above, therefore is to ensure that such plans are up-to-date and that actions in respect of ACAP species are being effectively implemented.

Population status and trends

State (S)

1. Population data availability
    a) Proportion of sites with reliable population estimate
    b) Proportion of sites with censuses within the last 10 years
    c) Proportion of sites with censuses within the last 20 years

2. Monitoring data availability – number/proportion of population/site combinations with ongoing annual population monitoring

3. Demographic data availability – number/proportion of population/site combinations with ongoing demographic programmes

4. Population trends
    a) Number/proportion of sites with no trend data (minimum of three counts in the last 10 years, with at least one count in the first five years, and one count in the last five years);
    b) Number/proportion of sites where population trends are increasing, decreasing, stable, indeterminate

ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:
The Working Groups recommend that the Secretariat:
(i) extract and analyse the appropriate data to create values for as many of these indicators as possible;
(ii) provide, where possible, indicator values reflecting the situation at the time that ACAP came into force; and
(iii) indicate any issues of data availability and recommend how these could be resolved (e.g. by requests to Parties for additional data).

10. NATIONAL PLANS AND BEST-PRACTICE GUIDELINES

10.1. Review Amsterdam Albatross Plan of Action

Henri Weimerskirch (France) provided a brief overview of the "National Plan of Actions for the Conservation of the Amsterdam Albatross *Diomedea amsterdamensis* in France" (AC6 Inf 6 Rev 1). The Amsterdam Albatross breeds at a single site, with a total biennial breeding population of 32 pairs (*c*. 210 individuals). Although the population is presently increasing at 5.4% a year, the removal of only five individuals per year would bring the species to rapid extinction. The national plan of action was launched by France in 2010, and has been in place since 2011. The plan addresses especially a better understanding of the risks facing the species and ways to limit whenever possible these risks. Seven main actions will be carried out over the next five years, including the continuation of a long-term monitoring programme, the improvement of knowledge on the species' distribution at sea and overlap with longline fisheries, cooperation with RFMOs to reduce bycatch risks, and a study of the interactions between introduced predators and the Amsterdam Albatross. One important action will involve a comprehensive study of the pathogens affecting two other ACAP-species on Amsterdam Island, of the prevalence of pathogens in Amsterdam Albatrosses, as well as measures to prevent dissemination and treat individuals in case of infection.

John Croxall (BirdLife International) noted that given the propensity of this species to be caught in longline fisheries, the information in the Action Plan on the critical status of the population and its extreme sensitivity to bycatch mortality should be emphasized to the Advisory Committee, and explicitly included in input by ACAP and ACAP Parties to relevant RFMOs, especially the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission.

10.2. Updates to eradication guidelines

The Working Group Convenors indicated to the working groups that the Eradication Guidelines document would be updated with improved advice on monitoring and mitigation of non-target mortality by the end of 2011. This would incorporate lessons learned from the recent aerial baiting operations at Macquarie Island and South Georgia (Islas Georgias del

Sur)[1]. The current guidelines can be viewed at http://www.acap.aq/conservation-guidelines/eradication-guidelines-acap.

10.3. Finalisation of biosecurity guidelines

Anton Wolfaardt (UK) provided an update on the status of the best-practice biosecurity guidelines for ACAP breeding sites that was presented at BSWG3 and AC5 (AC5 Doc 19). AC5 Doc 19 was previously endorsed by the BSWG and Advisory Committee as a valuable resource for the ACAP community, but it was suggested that a checklist be appended to the document. An attempt was made to develop a checklist, but it proved difficult to develop a product that was broadly applicable to all sites. Furthermore, the guideline information provided in the document already provides the basis of a checklist, and it was considered unnecessary to repeat this information. The Working Groups noted that the aim of the guidelines is to provide generic guidance for ACAP Parties, who should then go on to produce their own site-specific plans. The guidelines document was submitted to a number of biosecurity experts, whose inputs were used to revise the document. The updated document has been made available on the ACAP website as one of the series of conservation guidelines (http://www.acap.aq/conservation-guidelines/biosecurity-guidelines). As and when necessary, the document will be updated to ensure the best-practice advice remains current.

10.4. Guideline census methodologies for surface-nesting albatrosses and petrels

Anton Wolfaardt (UK) presented BSWG4/STWG6 Doc 6, reporting that the aim of the document was to provide guidelines to assist ACAP Parties in the development and implementation of plans to conduct censuses of ACAP species. The document distinguishes between large-scale censuses of entire sites or island groups, and ongoing monitoring at selected study sites, highlighting that both should form part of an overall monitoring programme. The document provides an overview and assessment of the different census methods that have been used for ACAP-listed species. It also identifies the sources of error associated with different census methodologies and provides best-practice guidelines for minimising and accounting for these errors, and for census methods more broadly. Guidelines have been developed for both surface and burrow-nesting species.

The Working Groups noted that BSWG4/STWG6 Doc 6 included some important advice on the frequency of population monitoring, which should be emphasised in recommendations to ACAP Parties undertaking, or planning, such work. The key advice given is to conduct censuses of breeding sites or island groups at a minimum of 10-year intervals, especially for large or important sites, and to combine this with more frequent monitoring at selected, representative study sites. It was also noted that the choice of aircraft for aerial photography could be included in the guidelines. Helicopters are more manoeuvrable and capable of flying at slower speeds, but lower-cost fixed-wing aircraft may also be appropriate for surveying some sites. It was reported that Capture-Mark-Recapture methods are being used to account for detection biases in surveys of Waved Albatrosses, and that this method could be added to the guidelines document.

The Working Groups agreed that the document is a valuable practical resource for Parties, and asked the authors, working with the Secretariat, to update the document based on the inputs received. The Working Groups agreed that once the document has been revised, it

should be made available on the ACAP website as part of the series of ACAP conservation guidelines.

The Working Groups also agreed that it would be useful to produce a brief document to provide more specific advice for ACAP Parties on issues such as desired frequency and representativeness of survey/census and monitoring of ACAP-listed species. A draft document would be produced intersessionally. Anton Wolfaardt agreed to coordinate the process, in collaboration with relevant experts from ACAP Parties and the Secretariat.

Argentina expressed their appreciation for the papers presented. However, in respect to Joint BSWG4/STWG6 Doc 6, while not wishing to interrupt the development of technical discussions at the meeting, the Argentine Delegation presented a note that is included in ANNEX 11 to the present report.

Regarding the proposal to make available on the ACAP website the Joint BSWG4/STWG6 Doc 6, Argentina requests, being that the case, the accurate application of Resolution 2.9 to it, and the inclusion of the content of the Argentine Delegation's note annexed to the referred report.

The UK responded to the Argentine note (ANNEX 12).

ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The Working Groups recommends that the Advisory Committee encourages Parties to adopt best-practice monitoring practices that include:
(i) conducting censuses of breeding sites at a minimum of 10-year intervals, especially for large or important sites; and
(ii) annual monitoring of population trend and demography at a minimum of one representative site for each island group.

11. THREATS TO BREEDING SITES: PARASITES, PATHOGENS AND DISEASE

11.1. Consider review paper contributed by Argentina

One pathogen is presently seriously affecting two ACAP species, and the Working Groups recognized that more generally there is a risk of the spread of pathogens, through naturally or human-induced transmission to albatross and petrel colonies. Consequently it was suggested that the reports of the Advisory Committee should, as appropriate, include "reviews of the status at breeding sites of introduced animals, plants and disease-causing organisms known or believed to be detrimental to albatrosses and petrels". In order to address this, Flavio Quintana (Argentina) prepared a review on parasites, pathogens and diseases in albatrosses and petrels listed as ACAP species (BSWG4/STWG6 Doc 7).

The document is a review of 33 published papers dealing with issues related to parasites, pathogens or diseases in ACAP species. Twelve (41%) of the 29 species appear to be hosting pathogens, with variable detrimental effects. Bacteria were detected in five species

(17%), viruses in three (10%), protozoa in four (14%), gastrointestinal parasites in three (10%), ectoparasites in nine (31%) and fungus in one species (3%). Although very few cases of acute effects resulting in the death of adults or chicks are noted, pathogens, where they occur, can have severe impacts on populations. The document presents results from a recent investigation of Black-browed Albatrosses in the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)[1] where a large set of pathogens was searched for, but tests were negative, suggesting that the population is remarkably free of exposure to infectious diseases (Uhart *et al.* unpublished). Anton Wolfaardt (UK) reported that in November 2010, approximately 1000 adult Black-browed Albatrosses were found dead in another breeding colony at the same site, but the biological samples collected and analysed by a specialist laboratory were inconclusive, and the cause of death was recorded as acute septicaemia. These two examples illustrate the complexity of studying pathogens and determining the exact cause of death.

The document concludes by stressing that clearly more research is required into infectious diseases of albatrosses and petrels, and that baseline data should be acquired against which future changes can be measured.

ASOC noted the investment made by Parties in the review, and encouraged ACAP to continue work on this important topic because the outbreak of a disease in an Endangered, or Critically Endangered population could be catastrophic. ASOC suggested that ACAP engages veterinary pathologists with experience in seabirds to advise intersessionally on this work. In addition, the 2011 oil spill at Tristan da Cunha has emphasized the danger posed to seabirds and all ACAP Parties should note the importance of preparedness to respond to oil spills that might affect seabirds, especially in the Southern Ocean and Antarctica.

ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The Working Groups recommend that the Advisory Committee:
(i) ensure that links are made between the ACAP website and other sites providing background information on the effects of diseases, and tissue sampling and storage guidelines in the events of outbreaks, to assist with the collection of relevant information and samples from dead birds;
(ii) request published and unpublished data be sent by members of the new Working Group to Flavio Quintana, so that he can update his review of parasites, pathogens and diseases of ACAP species for resubmission to the Population and Conservation Status Working Group at AC7;
(iii) suggest to Parties that efforts be made to develop studies on the prevalence and transmission of known pathogens, and the possibility of a vaccination campaign or other approaches to mitigation for populations threatened by disease (including those on Ile Amsterdam), particularly given the usefulness of this information when dealing with future outbreaks; and
(iv) encourage future research on pathogens be targeted particularly at sites where they are known to operate or likely to spread, given the financial and practical difficulties of carrying out larger scale, coordinated monitoring.

12. PLASTIC BAND COORDINATION

12.1. Consider whether ACAP should collate/coordinate information on plastic bands used in population-monitoring studies to reduce duplication and improve usefulness of at-sea observations.

In the sub-Antarctic and Antarctic, all parties conducting banding on ACAP species use plastic ("Darvic") bands in addition to standard metal bands specific to each nation. These plastic bands allow easier identification at distance at breeding sites, and reduce the need to handle birds. However, whereas the codes on metal identification bands are unique, and differ between nations, the same plastic band colour and alphanumeric codes (letter or number combinations) may be used by several nations. This would not be a problem for identification on the breeding sites, but observations of plastic bands also occur elsewhere, especially from fishing vessels. Generally only plastic bands are read at distance. No central catalogue of band colours and codes currently exists, and it seems important that Parties to ACAP can exchange and have access to a catalogue of bands used on the different species by each nation, so that i) observers can contact the relevant research agency, and ii) to avoid duplicates of plastic band codes as far as is possible.

During the discussion it was pointed out that metal bands may not be reported by fishermen simply because they do not know where to send the information, i.e. that a very useful and important information on bycatch is lost.

ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The Working Groups recommend that, providing the scope remains limited, the Advisory Committee supports the initiative whereby:
(i) Parties and other relevant groups are requested to provide a table indicating the colour and alphanumeric code on plastic bands used for each ACAP species;
(ii) this table would be posted on the ACAP website and be accessible to each Party (requiring minimum work from the Secretariat);
(iii) the ease and usefulness of this process would be assessed at the first meeting of the new Working Group; and
(iv) the Working Groups propose to produce a list of contact details of banding authorities for each nation to whom metal band recovery details can be submitted.

13. REVIEW PROGRESS REPORTS FOR ACAP-FUNDED PROGRAMMES AND OTHER REPORTS

13.1. Review ACAP-funded projects on status and trends, or breeding sites

Marco Favero (Advisory Committee Chair) presented AC6 Inf 8, which summarises progress and outcomes of projects supported by the Advisory Committee in 2009, and AC6 Doc 23 which describes the process for allocation of project funding. He noted that the majority of the programmes funded are for work on at-sea threats, with 17 out of 23 projects funded so far relating to bycatch issues, and took the opportunity to encourage land-based researchers to apply for funding available through the Advisory Committee.

13.2. Review report on implementation of the Waved Albatross Action Plan

The Advisory Committee Chair reminded the meeting of a round-table workshop that was taking place the following day to review the actions specified in AC6 Doc 29, and to discuss the research needed for the most appropriate follow up of the project. The results of the workshop will be presented as an appendix to AC6 Doc 29.

There will be another opportunity to discuss the project on the margins of the Meeting of Parties to be held in Peru next year, so that the review process can reflect the needs of the region.

The Advisory Committee Chair and Gustavo Jiménez-Uzcátegui (Charles Darwin Foundation) highlighted the collaborative work that has already been undertaken by the governments of Peru and Ecuador, the Charles Darwin Foundation, as well as the University of Colorado, Aves y Conservacion and Equilibrio Azul. Although progress has been slow, the results of the joint efforts have been very positive.

14. LISTING OF NEW SPECIES ON ANNEX 1 OF THE AGREEMENT

14.1 Consider the nomination of the Balearic Shearwater, *Puffinus mauretanicus*

Spain has advised the Secretariat of its intention to nominate the Balearic Shearwater for listing in Annex 1 of the Agreement (AC6 Doc 31; which includes a draft ACAP Species Assessment Plan). To assist Parties in their consideration of this request, Spain provided the 2011 international action plan for the species (AC6 Inf 4). Breeding by the Balearic Shearwater is restricted to Spain's Balearic Islands in the western Mediterranean. Its non-breeding migratory range includes particularly the waters of Parties to ACAP, France, and the United Kingdom (including its Overseas Territory of Gibraltar), as well as Italy, Malta and Portugal, and several other western Mediterranean and North African countries. The species faces threats both at its breeding sites from introduced mammalian predators and at sea from longlining and changes to discard procedures by trawlers.

An analysis by the ACAP Secretariat has previously concluded that the Balearic Shearwater is a strong candidate for inclusion under the Agreement (AC3 Doc 18). The meeting noted that the species has a global conservation status of Critically Endangered and has been listed in Appendix I of the Convention on Migratory Species (http://www.acap.aq/meeting-documents/english/advisory-committee/ac6/ac6-additional-literature).

In accordance with Article IX, 6a of the Agreement the Advisory Committee is requested to provide advice to the Meeting of the Parties on the scientific and/or technical merits of listing the Balearic Shearwater under Annex 1. The Working Groups confirmed that the Balearic Shearwater remained a strong candidate for listing within the Agreement, based on the degree and types of the threats it faces. The Working Groups also noted that this species may face additional threats, including pollution and disturbance. It was considered that expertise developed by ACAP could assist in improving the bird's conservation status.

Two further species were suggested as potential candidates by attendees at the joint meeting, the Pink-footed Shearwater (*Puffinus creatopus*, endemic to Chile) and the Galapagos Petrel (*Pterodroma phaeopygia*, endemic to Ecuador). In discussion it was noted the former species is a trans-Equatorial migrant in the Pacific Ocean and that both national

and international action plans or equivalent documents had been prepared for it by Canada, Chile and the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (www.cec.org; formed under the North American Free Trade Agreement between Canada, Mexico and the United States). The Pink-footed Shearwater has previously been selected as a strong candidate for listing (AC3 Doc 18). It was agreed that any future nominations of new species to the Agreement should be accompanied by both action plans and draft ACAP Species Assessments so the merits of the nominations could be considered. It was noted that the next opportunity to advise on future nominations would not be until the 7th Meeting of the ACAP Advisory Committee, due to be held in 2013.

ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The Working Groups advise the Advisory Committee:
(i) that the Balearic Shearwater remains a strong candidate for listing within the Agreement, based on the degree and types of the threats it faces; and
(ii) should request that future nominations of new species to the Agreement be accompanied by both draft ACAP Species Assessments and action plans to provide comprehensive information on conservation status and threats, and options for management.

15. MERGER OF STATUS AND TRENDS AND BREEDING SITES WORKING GROUPS

15.1. Rationale

Members of both working groups were emailed in June 2011 to consider in principle the proposal to merge the Breeding Sites and Status and Trends Working Groups at the 6th Advisory Committee meeting, the reasons being that many of the processes associated with data acquisition and collation, and of reporting on the activities of the working groups are now established. In addition, the outputs of the two working groups and the issues they address (prioritisation, gap analysis, development of indicators, etc.) increasingly involve the integration of both site management and status and trends data. In addition, many individuals are members of both working groups. All members who replied by email were unanimous in their support of the merger, as were attendees at the joint Working Group meeting.

15.2. Membership

According to the Rules of Procedure, Parties will be asked to nominate members of the new working group. Following appointment, the convenor or convenors of the working group may also co-opt experts as members.

15.3. Convenorship

To be decided in the AC following agreed Rules of Procedure

15.4. Title and terms of reference

At the joint Working Group meeting members were polled to ascertain their support for various names suggested for the new working group. The most popular name was the Conservation and Population Status Working Group (CaPSWG).

The working group agreed draft Terms of Reference for the new group, which are provided in ANNEX 13.

ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The Advisory Committee is requested to:
(i) approve the merger of the Status and Trends and Breeding Sites Working Groups into a new working group;

(ii) ask Parties to submit nominations for convenors and for members of this working group; and

(iii) consider the name and the Terms of Reference for the new working group.

16. FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME

The draft work programme for 2011-12, and 2012-15 for the new working group is included in ANNEX 14.

ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The Advisory Committee is requested to incorporate the tasks identified in ANNEX 14 into its work programme.

17. REPORTING TO AC6

ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:
A report shall be prepared for consideration by the Advisory Committee.

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Working Groups discussed how best to represent the work of ACAP at the forthcoming 5th International Albatross and Petrel Conference scheduled to take place on 13-17 August 2012 at the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa in Wellington, New Zealand. The suggestion was that one or more talks be given by appropriate experts for a well-informed scientific audience that would highlight the progress made by ACAP in collection, collation and synthesis of data on population status and trends, and threats, as well as the success in developing policy for improving the conservation status of ACAP-listed species.

Beth Flint (USA) gave a presentation on the impacts on Laysan and Black-footed Albatrosses of the winter storms and tsunami that struck the north-western Hawaiian Islands

in 2010/2011. This highlighted the growing threat posed by global climate change to albatrosses and petrels nesting on the low-lying islands of Oceania.

ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:
The Working Groups request that the Advisory Committee supports the concept of presentation(s) to the 2012 International Albatross and Petrel Conference in order to showcase the work of ACAP and the progress that is being achieved.

19. CLOSING REMARKS

The Convenors of the Breeding Sites and Status and Trends Working Groups thanked the Members and Observers for their valuable contributions at the meeting and in developing the report, and the ACAP Science Officer, Wiesława Misiak, for her diligence and commitment to assisting the work of the Working Groups during the intersessional period and at the meeting. The group thanked the Convenors for their work in progressing the aims and work plan of the Working Groups.

20. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are very grateful to the Breeding Sites and Status and Trends Working Group members, the ACAP Secretariat and several others including Al Baylis, Karine Delord, Jessica Hardesty, Kate Huyvaert, Cristián Suazo, Graeme Taylor, David Thompson, and others for contributing data and advice. Special thanks must again go to Wiesława Misiak for her unstinting assistance and hard work in developing, updating and querying the database, producing tables and other outputs which were integral to progress made in the prioritization process, successful implementation of the work programme and the production of the working group and implementation reports.

ANNEX 1. LIST OF MEETING PARTICIPANTS

BSWG and/or STWG Members	
Rob Crawford	Department of Environmental Affairs, South Africa
John Croxall	BirdLife International
Igor Debski	Department of Conservation, New Zealand
Rosemary Gales (STWG Convenor)	Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and the Environment (Tasmania), Australia
Marcelo Garcia Alvarado	Subsecretaria de Pesca, Chile
Ken Morgan	Environment Canada, Canada
Richard Phillips (BSWG Convenor)	British Antarctic Survey (BAS), United Kingdom and Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR)
Anton Wolfaardt	Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), United Kingdom
Henri Weimerskirch (STWG Vice-Convenor)	Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS), France
Advisory Committee Members	
Spencer Clubb	Department of Conservation, New Zealand
Marco Favero	Advisory Committee Chair
Victoria Gobbi	Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto, Argentina
Mark Tasker	Advisory Committee Vice-Chair
Observers	
Edward Abraham	Dragonfly Limited, New Zealand
Javier Arata	Instituto Antartico Chileno (INACH), Chile
Barry Baker	SBWG Convenor
Rebecca Bird	WWF-New Zealand
Paul Brickle	Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), United Kingdom
John Cooper	ACAP Secretariat
Johannes de Goede	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, South Africa
David Diaz	Aves y Conservación, Ecuador
Eduardo Espinoza	Parque Nacional Galápagos, Ecuador
Elizabeth Flint	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, United States of America
Borja Heredia	UNEP Convention for Migratory Species
(Julia) Hsiang-Wen Huang	Chinese Taipei
Kate Huyvaert	Colorado State University, United States of America
Gustavo Jiménez-Uzcátegui	Fundación Charles Darwin
Ed Melvin	Washington Sea Grant, University of Washington, United States of America
Wiesława Misiak	ACAP Secretariat
Colin Miskelly	Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, New Zealand
Sixto Naranjo Leon	Parque Nacional Galápagos, Ecuador
Warren Papworth	ACAP Secretariat
Sandra Plua	Equilibrio Azul, Ecuador
Jorge Samaniego	Aves y Conservación , Ecuador
Estelle van der Merwe	Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition (ASOC)
Interpreters	
Adriana Caminiti de Perez	The Language Group
JC Lloyd-Southwell	The Language Group

ANNEX 2. ISLANDS WHERE INTRODUCED VERTEBRATE SPECIES ARE CURRENTLY PRESENT, HAVE BEEN ERADICATED SINCE 2000, OR ERADICATION IS PLANNED

Y or N - Eradication planned (with year of planned eradication) or not
Blank cells – introduced species not present

Jurisdiction	Island	Cattle	Dog	Goat	Deer	feral Cat	European Hare	House Mouse	Stoat	Ferret	European Rabbit	Domestic Sheep	Reindeer	Polynesian Rat	Brown (Norwegian) Rat	Black (Ship) Rat	Domestic Pig	Cotton-tail Rabbit	Brushtail Possum
Argentina	Isla de los Estados			N	N										N				
Argentina	Isla Observatorio										N				N	N			
Australia	Macquarie Island					2002		Y (2011)			Y (2011)					Y (2011)			
Disputed	Barren											N							
Disputed	Bleaker Island					2001									Y				
Disputed	Bottom														2001				
Disputed	Burnt Islet	N																	
Disputed	Carcass	N										N							
Disputed	Dyke (Weddell)	N										N			N				
Disputed	East Falkland[1]	N				N	N	N			N	N							
Disputed	George	N						N				N							
Disputed	Governor														2008				
Disputed	Grass Island														2000				
Disputed	Harcourt Island														Y				
Disputed	Keppel					2007									N				
Disputed	Lively	N										N							
Disputed	New Island					N		N								N		N	
Disputed	Pebble	N				N					N	N			N				
Disputed	Penn														N				
Disputed	Saddle Island														Y (2011)				
Disputed	Saunders Island	N				N	N					N			N				
Disputed	Sea Lion	2004										2009							
Disputed	South Georgia/Islas Georgia del Sur[1]							Y					Y		Y (partial, 2011)				

Jurisdiction	Island	Cattle	Dog	Goat	Deer	feral Cat	European Hare	House Mouse	Stoat	Ferret	European Rabbit	Domestic Sheep	Reindeer	Polynesian Rat	Brown (Norwegian) Rat	Black (Ship) Rat	Domestic Pig	Cotton-tail Rabbit	Brushtail Possum
Disputed	Speedwell	N										N							
Disputed	Steeple Jason							N											
Disputed	Swan											N			N				
Disputed	Top (Port William)														2001				
Disputed	West Falkland[1]					N	N	N			N	N							
Disputed	West Point							N				N			N				
Ecuador	Isla de La Plata					2009													
France	Ile Amsterdam	2010				N									N				
France	Howe Island										N								
France	Ile aux Cochons					N					N								
France	Ile de la Possession															N			
France	Ile de l'Est										N								
France	Kerguelen (Grande Terre)					N					N		N			N			
New Zealand	Antipodes Island							N											
New Zealand	Auckland Island					N		N									N		
New Zealand	Campbell Island														2001				
New Zealand	Great Barrier Island		N			N								N		N	N		
New Zealand	Little Barrier Island													2004					
New Zealand	South Island	N	N	N		N			N	N					N				N
South Africa	Marion Island							N											
United Kingdom	Gough Island							Y											
United Kingdom	Inaccessible Island																		
United Kingdom	Tristan da Cunha	N						N				N				N			

[1] *"A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas), South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (Islas Georgias del Sur y Islas Sandwich del Sur) and the surrounding maritime areas".*

ANNEX 3. IBA SITES WHERE THE POPULATION EXCEEDS 1, 2, 5 AND 10% OF THE GLOBAL TOTAL FOR THAT SPECIES

Species	site	Jurisdiction	annual breeding pairs	When counted	1%	2%	5%	10%
Diomedea antipodensis	Adams Island	New Zealand	3277	2009	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche cauta	Albatross Island (AU)	Australia	5233	2010	Y	Y	Y	Y
Diomedea exulans	Albatross Island (SGSSI (IGSISS)) [1]	Disputed	135	2011	Y	N	N	N
Diomedea exulans	Annenkov Island	Disputed	193	2004	Y	Y	N	N
Thalassarche melanophris	Annenkov Island	Disputed	9398	2004	Y	N	N	N
Diomedea antipodensis	Antipodes Island	New Zealand	4565	2009	Y	Y	Y	Y
Phoebetria palpebrata	Antipodes Island	New Zealand	250	1995	Y	Y	N	N
Macronectes halli	Antipodes Island	New Zealand	233	2001	Y	Y	N	N
Procellaria cinerea	Antipodes Island	New Zealand	53 000	2001	Y	Y	Y	Y
Macronectes giganteus	Anvers Island	Antarctic	582	1987-2010	Y	N	N	N
Macronectes halli	Baie Larose	France	125	1987	Y	N	N	N
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Barff	Disputed	119 594	2007	Y	Y	Y	Y
Macronectes giganteus	Barren Island	Disputed	1504	2005	Y	Y	N	N
Thalassarche melanophris	Beauchene Island	Disputed	108984	2006	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche melanophris	Bird Island (Falklands/Malvinas)[1]	Disputed	9990	2006	Y	N	N	N
Diomedea exulans	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS)) [1]	Disputed	779	2010	Y	Y	Y	N
Macronectes halli	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS)) [1]	Disputed	2062	1996	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche melanophris	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS)) [1]	Disputed	8264	2004	Y	N	N	N
Thalassarche chrysostoma	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS)) [1]	Disputed	5120	2004	Y	Y	Y	N
Macronectes giganteus	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS)) [1]	Disputed	521	1996	Y	N	N	N
Thalassarche bulleri	Broughton Island	New Zealand	518	1997	Y	N	N	N
Diomedea epomophora	Campbell Island	New Zealand	7800	2008	Y	Y	Y	Y
Phoebetria palpebrata	Campbell Island	New Zealand	1600	1996	Y	Y	Y	Y
Macronectes halli	Campbell Island	New Zealand	234	1997	Y	Y	N	N
Thalassarche impavida	Campbell Island	New Zealand	22 093	1998	Y	Y	Y	Y
Macronectes giganteus	Candlemas Island	Disputed	1818	2011	Y	Y	N	N
Thalassarche melanophris	Cooper Island	Disputed	10 606	2004	Y	N	N	N
Macronectes halli	Courbet Peninsula	France	750	1987	Y	Y	Y	N
Diomedea exulans	Courbet Peninsula	France	354	2011	Y	Y	N	N
Thalassarche steadi	Disappointment Island	New Zealand	70 569	2010	Y	Y	Y	Y
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Disappointment Island	New Zealand	100 000	1988	Y	Y	Y	N
Diomedea antipodensis	Disappointment Island	New Zealand	352	1997	Y	Y	N	N
Macronectes giganteus	Elephant Island	Antarctic	845	1972	Y	N	N	N
Thalassarche carteri	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux	France	27 000	2006	Y	Y	Y	Y
Phoebastria nigripes	French Frigate Shoals	USA	4604	2010	Y	Y	Y	N

Species	site	Jurisdiction	annual breeding pairs	When counted	1%	2%	5%	10%
Macronectes giganteus	George	Disputed	602	2005	Y	N	N	N
Macronectes giganteus	Golden Knob (Elephant Cays)	Disputed	1019	2005	Y	Y	N	N
Procellaria cinerea	Golfe du Morbihan	France	3400	2006	Y	Y	N	N
Macronectes halli	Golfe du Morbihan	France	150	1987	Y	N	N	N
Diomedea dabbenena	Gough Island	United Kingdom	1698	2010	Y	Y	Y	Y
Procellaria cinerea	Gough Island	United Kingdom	17 500	2001	Y	Y	Y	Y
Phoebetria fusca	Gough Island	United Kingdom	4999	2001	Y	Y	Y	Y
Macronectes giganteus	Governor (Beaver)	Disputed	723	2005	Y	N	N	N
Thalassarche melanophris	Grand Jason	Disputed	49 462	2006	Y	Y	Y	N
Macronectes giganteus	Grand Jason	Disputed	762	2005	Y	N	N	N
Procellaria parkinsoni	Great Barrier Island	New Zealand	1358	2008	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche bulleri	Great Solander Island	New Zealand	4579	2002	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche chrysostoma	Hall Island	Disputed	2686	2004	Y	Y	N	N
Macronectes giganteus	Heard Island	Australia	3500	2004	Y	Y	Y	N
Phoebetria palpebrata	Heard Island	Australia	350	1954	Y	Y	N	N
Phoebetria fusca	Ile Amsterdam	France	474	2003	Y	Y	N	N
Macronectes halli	Ile aux Cochons	France	275	1976	Y	Y	N	N
Macronectes giganteus	Ile aux Cochons	France	575	1982	Y	N	N	N
Phoebetria fusca	Ile aux Cochons	France	450	1976	Y	Y	N	N
Diomedea exulans	Ile aux Cochons	France	1060	1981	Y	Y	Y	Y
Macronectes halli	Ile de l'Est	France	190	1981	Y	N	N	N
Procellaria cinerea	Ile de l'Est	France	5500	1982	Y	Y	Y	N
Phoebetria palpebrata	Ile de l'Est	France	900	1984	Y	Y	Y	N
Phoebetria fusca	Ile de l'Est	France	1300	1984	Y	Y	Y	N
Thalassarche chrysostoma	Ile de l'Est	France	3750	1982	Y	Y	N	N
Diomedea exulans	Ile de l'Est	France	329	1982	Y	Y	N	N
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Ile de l'Est	France	33 144	2004	Y	Y	N	N
Macronectes halli	Ile de la Possession	France	464	2011	Y	Y	N	N
Phoebetria palpebrata	Ile de la Possession	France	794	2011	Y	Y	Y	N
Diomedea exulans	Ile de la Possession	France	347	2010	Y	Y	N	N
Macronectes halli	Ile des Apotres	France	150	1981	Y	N	N	N
Phoebetria palpebrata	Ile des Apotres	France	150	1984	Y	N	N	N
Thalassarche carteri	Ile des Apotres	France	1230	1984	Y	Y	N	N
Diomedea exulans	Ile des Apotres	France	120	1982	Y	N	N	N
Phoebetria fusca	Ile des Pingouins	France	250	1984	Y	N	N	N
Thalassarche carteri	Ile des Pingouins	France	5800	1984	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche chrysostoma	Ile des Pingouins	France	2000	1982	Y	Y	N	N
Macronectes halli	Ile des Pingouins	France	165	1981	Y	N	N	N
Thalassarche chrysostoma	Iles Nuageuses	France	7860	1985	Y	Y	Y	N

Species	site	Jurisdiction	annual breeding pairs	When counted	1%	2%	5%	10%
Thalassarche chlororhynchos	Inaccessible Island	United Kingdom	1100	1983	Y	Y	N	N
Phoebetria fusca	Inaccessible Island	United Kingdom	501	2000	Y	Y	N	N
Procellaria conspicillata	Inaccessible Island	United Kingdom	4200	2000	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche melanophris	Isla Bartolome	Chile	43 304	2003	Y	Y	Y	N
Thalassarche chrysostoma	Isla Bartolome	Chile	10 880	2003	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche melanophris	Isla Diego de Almagro	Chile	15 594	2002	Y	Y	N	N
Phoebastria irrorata	Isla Espanola	Ecuador	9607	2001	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche melanophris	Isla Gonzalo	Chile	6155	2003	Y	N	N	N
Thalassarche chrysostoma	Isla Gonzalo	Chile	4523	2003	Y	Y	Y	N
Macronectes giganteus	Isla Gran Robredo	Argentina	1700	2005	Y	Y	N	N
Thalassarche melanophris	Isla Grande	Chile	27 106	2003	Y	Y	N	N
Macronectes giganteus	Isla Noir	Chile	1000	2005	Y	Y	N	N
Thalassarche melanophris	Isla Norte	Chile	9648	2003	Y	N	N	N
Macronectes giganteus	Isla Observatorio	Argentina	500	2004	Y	N	N	N
Macronectes giganteus	King George Island	Antarctic	1658	1967-2007	Y	Y	N	N
Phoebastria immutabilis	Kure Atoll	USA	14 600	2007	Y	Y	N	N
Phoebastria nigripes	Kure Atoll	USA	2540	2007	Y	Y	N	N
Phoebastria nigripes	Laysan Island	USA	22 272	2011	Y	Y	Y	Y
Phoebastria immutabilis	Laysan Island	USA	115 166	2011	Y	Y	Y	Y
Phoebastria nigripes	Lisianski Island	USA	2126	2006	Y	Y	N	N
Phoebastria immutabilis	Lisianski Island	USA	26 500	1982	Y	Y	N	N
Procellaria parkinsoni	Little Barrier Island	New Zealand	100	1998	Y	Y	Y	N
Thalassarche bulleri	Little Solander Island	New Zealand	333	2002	Y	N	N	N
Phoebetria palpebrata	Macquarie Island	Australia	1075	1994	Y	Y	Y	Y
Macronectes giganteus	Macquarie Island	Australia	2166	2009	Y	Y	N	N
Macronectes halli	Macquarie Island	Australia	1793	2008	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche chrysostoma	Main Island	Disputed	5177	2004	Y	Y	Y	N
Thalassarche melanophris	Main Island	Disputed	14 559	2004	Y	Y	N	N
Diomedea exulans	Marion Island	South Africa	2056	2010	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche chrysostoma	Marion Island	South Africa	7295	2011	Y	Y	Y	N
Phoebetria fusca	Marion Island	South Africa	1701	2011	Y	Y	Y	Y
Phoebetria palpebrata	Marion Island	South Africa	310	2011	Y	Y	N	N
Macronectes giganteus	Marion Island	South Africa	1743	2011	Y	Y	N	N
Macronectes halli	Marion Island	South Africa	434	2011	Y	Y	N	N
Phoebastria immutabilis	Midway Atoll	USA	482 909	2011	Y	Y	Y	Y
Phoebastria nigripes	Midway Atoll	USA	28 581	2011	Y	Y	Y	Y
Phoebastria albatrus	Minami-kojima	Disputed	15	1991	Y	Y	N	N
Macronectes giganteus	Nelson Island	Antarctic	650	1985 -	Y	N	N	N

Species	site	Jurisdiction	annual breeding pairs	When counted	1%	2%	5%	10%
				2005				
Thalassarche melanophris	New Island	Disputed	13 331	2008	Y	Y	N	N
Thalassarche chlororhynchos	Nightingale	United Kingdom	4000	2007	Y	Y	Y	Y
Phoebetria fusca	Nightingale	United Kingdom	150	1974	Y	N	N	N
Thalassarche melanophris	North Island	Disputed	20 083	2006	Y	Y	N	N
Thalassarche bulleri	North-East Island	New Zealand	7898	2002	Y	Y	Y	Y
Diomedea exulans	Northwest	Disputed	114	2004	Y	N	N	N
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Northwest	Disputed	146 545	2007	Y	Y	Y	Y
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Nunez	Disputed	193 838	2007	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche chrysostoma	Paryadin Peninsula north	Disputed	6721	2004	Y	Y	Y	N
Thalassarche chrysostoma	Paryadin Peninsula south	Disputed	22 058	2004	Y	Y	Y	Y
Phoebastria nigripes	Pearl and Hermes Reef	USA	6116	2003	Y	Y	Y	N
Phoebastria immutabilis	Pearl and Hermes Reef	USA	6900	2003	Y	N	N	N
Thalassarche cauta	Pedra Branca	Australia	249	1991	Y	N	N	N
Macronectes giganteus	Penguin Island	Antarctic	698	2000	Y	N	N	N
Macronectes giganteus	Penn (Beaver)	Disputed	1543	2005	Y	Y	N	N
Diomedea amsterdamensis	Plateau des tourbieres	France	30	2009	Y	Y	Y	Y
Macronectes giganteus	Powell Island	Antarctic	613	1983	Y	N	N	N
Macronectes halli	Prince Edward Island	South Africa	180	1991	Y	N	N	N
Macronectes giganteus	Prince Edward Island	South Africa	723	2009	Y	N	N	N
Phoebetria fusca	Prince Edward Island	South Africa	1210	2009	Y	Y	Y	N
Phoebetria palpebrata	Prince Edward Island	South Africa	129	2009	Y	N	N	N
Thalassarche chrysostoma	Prince Edward Island	South Africa	1506	2009	Y	N	N	N
Diomedea exulans	Prince Edward Island	South Africa	1800	2009	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche carteri	Prince Edward Island	South Africa	5234	2009	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche salvini	Proclamation Island	New Zealand	2649	2004	Y	Y	Y	N
Procellaria westlandica	Punakaiki	New Zealand	4000	2008	Y	Y	Y	Y
Diomedea exulans	Rallier du Baty Peninsula	France	750	1987	Y	Y	Y	N
Macronectes halli	Rallier du Baty Peninsula	France	550	1987	Y	Y	Y	N
Macronectes halli	Saddle Island	Disputed	192	1987	Y	N	N	N
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Salisbury	Disputed	16 365	2007	Y	N	N	N
Macronectes giganteus	Sandy Cay (Elephant Cays)	Disputed	10 936	2005	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche melanophris	Saunders Island	Disputed	10 740	2006	Y	N	N	N
Macronectes giganteus	Signy Island	Antarctic	1093	1985	Y	Y	N	N
Thalassarche chrysostoma	Sorn & Bernt coast	Disputed	1625	2004	Y	N	N	N
Thalassarche steadi	South West Cape	New Zealand	4161	2010	Y	Y	Y	N
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Southeast	Disputed	43 355	2007	Y	Y	N	N

Species	site	Jurisdiction	annual breeding pairs	When counted	1%	2%	5%	10%
Thalassarche melanophris	Steeple Jason	Disputed	171 286	2006	Y	Y	Y	Y
Macronectes giganteus	Steeple Jason	Disputed	1748	2011	Y	Y	N	N
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Stromness and Cumberland	Disputed	64 361	2007	Y	Y	Y	N
Diomedea sanfordi	The Big Sister	New Zealand	1540	1991	Y	Y	Y	Y
Macronectes halli	The Big Sister	New Zealand	336	1976	Y	Y	N	N
Diomedea sanfordi	The Forty-fours	New Zealand	1070	2007	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche bulleri	The Forty-fours	New Zealand	14 185	2010	Y	Y	Y	Y
Macronectes halli	The Forty-fours	New Zealand	2000	1993	Y	Y	Y	Y
Diomedea sanfordi	The Little (Middle) Sister	New Zealand	781	1991	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche bulleri	The Little (Middle) Sister	New Zealand	650	1996	Y	Y	N	N
Thalassarche cauta	The Mewstone	Australia	7360	1996	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche eremita	The Pyramid	New Zealand	5407	2009	Y	Y	Y	Y
Phoebastria nigripes	Torishima	Japan	1560	2003	Y	Y	N	N
Phoebastria albatrus	Torishima	Japan	418	2009	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche salvini	Toru Islet	New Zealand	898	2009	Y	Y	N	N
Thalassarche chrysostoma	Trinity Island	Disputed	3309	2004	Y	Y	N	N
Thalassarche melanophris	Trinity Island	Disputed	13 960	2004	Y	Y	N	N
Thalassarche chlororhynchos	Tristan da Cunha	United Kingdom	23 000	1974	Y	Y	Y	Y
Phoebetria fusca	Tristan da Cunha	United Kingdom	2500	1974	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thalassarche melanophris	West Point Island	Disputed	13 928	2006	Y	Y	N	N

[1] *"A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas), South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (Islas Georgias del Sur y Islas Sandwich del Sur) and the surrounding maritime areas".*

ANNEX 4. NUMBER OF SITES PER SPECIES WHERE THE POPULATION EXCEEDS 1, 2, 5 AND 10% OF THE GLOBAL TOTAL FOR THAT SPECIES

Species	Global Population Estimate rated good	% census pre 2001*	% census Post 2001*	1%	2%	5%	10%
Diomedea amsterdamensis	✓	0	100	1	1	1	1
Diomedea antipodensis	✓	33.3	66.7	3	3	2	2
Diomedea dabbenena	✓	0	100	1	1	1	1
Diomedea epomophora	✓	0	100	1	1	1	1
Diomedea exulans	✓	33.3	66.7	12	9	5	3
Diomedea sanfordi	✓	66.7	33.3	3	3	3	3
Macronectes giganteus	✓	24	64	25	13	2	1
Macronectes halli	✓	77.8	22.2	18	11	5	3
Phoebastria albatrus	✓	50	50	2	2	1	1
Phoebastria immutabilis	✓	20	80	5	4	2	2
Phoebastria irrorata	✓	0	100	1	1	1	1
Phoebastria nigripes	✓	0	100	7	7	4	2
Phoebetria fusca	✓	60	40	10	8	5	3
Phoebetria palpebrata		66.7	33.3	9	7	4	2
Procellaria aequinoctialis		12.5	87.5	8	7	5	3
Procellaria cinerea		25	75	4	4	3	2
Procellaria conspicillata	✓	0	100	1	1	1	1
Procellaria parkinsoni	✓	50	50	2	2	2	1
Procellaria westlandica	✓	0	100	1	1	1	1
Thalassarche bulleri	✓	33.3	66.7	6	4	3	3
Thalassarche carteri	✓	50	50	4	4	3	3
Thalassarche cauta	✓	66.7	33.3	3	2	2	2
Thalassarche chlororhynchos	✓	66.7	33.3	3	3	2	2
Thalassarche chrysostoma	✓	21.43	78.57	14	12	8	2
Thalassarche eremita	✓	0	100	1	1	1	1
Thalassarche impavida	✓	100	0	1	1	1	1
Thalassarche melanophris	✓	0	100	18	11	4	2
Thalassarche salvini	✓	0	100	2	2	1	0
Thalassarche steadi	✓	0	100	2	2	2	1

* currency of census data for each species calculated for sites meeting the 1% threshold

ANNEX 5. CURRENT POPULATION TRENDS FOR ACAP SPECIES

Common name	No. of sites	No. of isld grps	Trend (2001-2010) Up % pop	Trend (2001-2010) Down % pop	Trend (2001-2010) Stable % pop	Trend Unknown % pop	No. isld grps w trend (2001-2010)	% isld grps with trend (2001-2010)	% pop with trend
Amsterdam Albatross	1	1	100	0	0	0	1	100	100
Shy Albatross	3	1	100	0	0	0	1	100	100
Wandering Albatross	28	5	47	53	0	0	5	100	100
Tristan Albatross	1	1	0	100	0	0	1	100	100
Laysan Albatross	17	5	99.9	0	0	0.1	1	20	99.9
Antipodean Albatross	5	3	0	99.9	0	0.1	2	66.7	99.9
Black-footed Albatross	13	4	96.2	0	0	3.8	1	25	96.2
Short-tailed Albatross	2	2	88.6	0	0	11.4	1	50	88.6
Black-browed Albatross	66	15	0	67.6	0	32.4	2	13.3	67.6
Southern Giant Petrel	121	25	53.8	0	8.22	37.9	4	16	62.1
Light-mantled Albatross	71	9	23.99	0.6	12.6	62. 9	4	44.4	37.1
Sooty Albatross	15	6	21.3	15.5	0	63.2	2	33.3	36.7
Northern Giant Petrel	50	9	17.1	0	0	82. 9	2	22.2	17.1
Grey-headed Albatross	29	8	9.4	0	0	90.6	2	25	9.4
Southern Royal Albatross	4	2	0	0	1.1	98.9	1	50	1.1
Grey Petrel	17	9	0	0.04	0	99.96	1	11.1	0.04
Northern Royal Albatross	5	3	0	0	0	100	0	0	0
Waved Albatross	3	2	0	0	0	100	0	0	0
White-chinned Petrel	74	8	0	0	0	100	0	0	0
Spectacled Petrel	1	1	0	0	0	100	0	0	0
Black Petrel	2	1	0	0	0	100	0	0	0
Westland Petrel	1	1	0	0	0	100	0	0	0
Buller's Albatross	10	4	0	0		100	0	0	0
Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross	6	4	0	0	0	100	0	0	0
Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross	6	2	0	0	0	100	0	0	0
Chatham Albatross	1	1	0	0	0	100	0	0	0
Campbell Albatross	2	1	0	0	0	100	0	0	0
White-capped Albatross	5	3	0	0	0	100	0	0	0
Salvin's Albatross	12	4	0	0	0	100	0	0	0

ANNEX 6. DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION AVAILABLE FOR ACAP SPECIES

*	Common name	n sites	n isl grps	Adult survival (in dbase)	Adult survival (in progress)	Juv survival (in dbase)	Juv survival (in progress)	Breeding success
CR	Amsterdam Albatross	1	1	1		1		1
VU	Antipodean Albatross	5	3	2		2		2
CR	Tristan Albatross	1	1	1		1		1
VU	Southern Royal Albatross	4	2	2		0		2
VU	Wandering Albatross	28	5	4		4		6 (4)
EN	Northern Royal Albatross	5	3	2		1		3 (2)
LC	Southern Giant Petrel	121	25	3		1		13 (10)
LC	Northern Giant Petrel	50	9	2		0		3
VU	Short-tailed Albatross	2	2	1		0		1
NT	Laysan Albatross	17	5	1	1	1	1	?
CR	Waved Albatross	3	2	1		0	1	1
EN	Black-footed Albatross	13	4	1	1	1	1	?
EN	Sooty Albatross	15	6	1		1		2
NT	Light-mantled Albatross	71	9	1		0		5
VU	White-chinned Petrel	74	8	1		1		3
NT	Grey Petrel	17	9	0	1	0	1	2
VU	Spectacled Petrel	1	1	0		0		0
VU	Black Petrel	2	1	1		2		2
VU	Westland Petrel	1	1	1		0		1
NT	Buller's Albatross	10	4	2		0		2
EN	Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross	6	4	1		1		1
NT	Shy Albatross	3	1	1		1		1
EN	Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross	6	2	2		1		3 (2)
VU	Grey-headed Albatross	29	8	4		3		4
VU	Chatham Albatross	1	1	1		0		0
VU	Campbell Albatross	2	1	1		1		1
EN	Black-browed Albatross	66	15	4		3		7 (4)
VU	Salvin's Albatross	12	4	0		0		0
NT	White-capped Albatross	5	3	0	1	0		1

*GLOBAL IUCN CONSERVATION STATUS

ANNEX 7. NUMBER OF ACAP SPECIES AND SITES FOR EACH JURISDICTION INDICATING EXTENT OF INFORMATION FOR POPULATION SIZE AND DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Jurisdiction	No. Species	No. endemics	No. sites [1]	No. Island groups	No. sites where population size unknown	% sites where population size unknown	Island group populations where current trend [2] is:						No. sites with demographic data		
							↑	↓	↔	?	? (%)		adult survival	juvenile survival	productivity
Antarctic	1	0	46	12	9	19.6	0	0	1	11	91. 7		1	1	4
Argentina	1	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	100		0	0	2
Australia	8	1	17	11	3	17.6	3	2	1	5	45.5		4	3	8
Chile	3	0	33	12	4	12.12	0	0	0	12	100				
Disputed - North Pacific	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	100		0	0	0
Disputed - South Atlantic	7	0	223	11	84	37.7	2	3	1	5	45.5		5	3	14
Ecuador	1	1	3	2	0	0.0	0	0	0	2	100		1	0	1
France	12	1	87	25	20	23.0	4	4	0	17	68		8	6	9
Japan	3	0	5	4	0	0	1	0	0	3	75		1	0	1
Mexico	1	0	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	100		0	0	0
New Zealand	16	10	92	37	37	40.2	0	2	1	34	91.9		13	7	16
South Africa	9	0	17	9	4	23.5	5	0	1	3	33.3		4	1	8
United Kingdom	6	3	16	9	0	0	0	1	0	8	88.9		3	1	5
USA	2	0	21	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0		0	1	4

[1] site = species/locality combination.
[2] current trend = where at least one site has data between 2001-2011, at least three data points, at least one data point between 2001-2005 and at least one data point 2006-2011, site information extrapolated to island group.

ANNEX 8. ONGOING MANAGEMENT ACTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THREATS AT BREEDING SITES OF ACAP-LISTED SPECIES

As reported by parties in the ACAP database

Species	Breeding site name	Threat species	Nature of threat	Threat Magnitude	Ongoing management actions associated with this threat or why no management response in place
Diomedea antipodensis	Auckland Island	*Sus scrofa* (Domestic Pig)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Diomedea dabbenena	Gough Island	*Mus musculus* (House mouse)	Predation by alien species	Medium	Eradication under consideration
Diomedea epomophora	Auckland Island	*Sus scrofa* (Domestic Pig)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Diomedea exulans	Marion Island	*Mus musculus* (House Mouse)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Diomedea exulans	Courbet Peninsula	*Felis catus* (feral Cat)	Predation by alien species	Low	managed locally
Procellaria cinerea	Golfe du Morbihan	*Rangifer tarandus* (Reindeer)	Habitat destruction by alien species	Low	
Procellaria cinerea	Joffre Peninsula	*Rangifer tarandus* (Reindeer)	Habitat destruction by alien species	Low	
Procellaria cinerea	Joffre Peninsula	*Felis catus* (feral Cat)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Procellaria cinerea	Joffre Peninsula	*Rattus rattus* (Black (Ship) Rat)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Procellaria cinerea	Golfe du Morbihan	*Felis catus* (feral Cat)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Procellaria cinerea	Macquarie Island	*Rattus rattus* (Black (Ship) Rat)	Predation by alien species	Medium	Eradication programme for rats, rabbits and mice underway with aerial baiting completed in 2011.
Procellaria cinerea	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux	*Felis catus* (feral Cat)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Procellaria cinerea	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux	*Rattus rattus* (Black (Ship) Rat)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Procellaria cinerea	Golfe du Morbihan	*Rattus rattus* (Black (Ship) Rat)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Procellaria cinerea	Macquarie Island	*Oryctolagus cuniculus* (European Rabbit)	Habitat destruction by alien species	Medium	Eradication programme for rats, rabbits and mice underway with aerial baiting completed in 2011.
Phoebetria palpebrata	Macquarie Island	*Oryctolagus cuniculus* (European Rabbit)	Habitat destruction by alien species	Low	
Phoebetria fusca	Ile Amsterdam	*Pasteurella multocida* (Avian Cholera)	Pathogen	Low	
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Barff	*Rangifer tarandus* (Reindeer)	Habitat destruction by alien species	Low	Eradication under consideration
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Baie Larose	*Rangifer tarandus* (Reindeer)	Habitat destruction by alien species	Low	
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Golfe du Morbihan	*Rangifer tarandus* (Reindeer)	Habitat destruction by alien species	Low	
Procellaria	Courbet	*Rattus rattus* (Black	Predation by	Low	

Species	Breeding site name	Threat species	Nature of threat	Threat Magnitude	Ongoing management actions associated with this threat or why no management response in place
aequinoctialis	Peninsula	(Ship) Rat)	alien species		
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Joffre Peninsula	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Joffre Peninsula	*Rattus rattus* (Black (Ship) Rat)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Ile Saint Lanne Gramont	*Rattus rattus* (Black (Ship) Rat)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Ile Saint Lanne Gramont	*Felis catus* (feral Cat)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Golfe du Morbihan	*Felis catus* (feral Cat)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Stromness and Cumberland	*Rangifer tarandus* (Reindeer)	Habitat destruction by alien species	Low	Eradication under consideration
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Ile de la Possession	*Rattus rattus* (Black (Ship) Rat)	Predation by alien species	Low	Rodenticide used annually in study colonies
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Golfe du Morbihan	*Rattus rattus* (Black (Ship) Rat)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Harcourt Island	*Rattus norvegicus* (Brown (Norwegian) Rat)	Predation by alien species	Low	Eradication under consideration
Procellaria aequinoctialis	New Island	*Felis catus* (feral Cat)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Courbet Peninsula	*Felis catus* (feral Cat)	Predation by alien species	Low	Managed locally
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Saddle Island	*Rattus norvegicus* (Brown (Norwegian) Rat)	Predation by alien species	Low	The first phase of a rodent eradication programme was initiated in February 2011. The first phase (February - April 2011) will include the baiting of Saddle Island to eradicate Norway Rats present on the island. The eradication programme is being implemented by the South Georgia Heritage Trust [1].
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Southeast	*Rattus norvegicus* (Brown (Norwegian) Rat)	Predation by alien species	Low	The first phase of a rodent eradication programme was initiated in February 2011. The aim of the first phase is to bait three areas in the Cumberland breeding site (Greene and Thatcher Peninsulas, and a headland west of Mercer Bay) to eradicate rats from these areas, and to serve as a trial to inform plans to eradicate of rodents from the remainder of South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1]. The
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Stromness and Cumberland	*Rattus norvegicus* (Brown (Norwegian) Rat)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Barff	*Rattus norvegicus* (Brown (Norwegian) Rat)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Northwest	Rattus norvegicus (Brown (Norwegian) Rat)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Salisbury	*Rattus norvegicus* (Brown (Norwegian)	Predation by alien species	Low	

[1] *"A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas), South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (Islas Georgias del Sur y Islas Sandwich del Sur) and the surrounding maritime areas".*

Species	Breeding site name	Threat species	Nature of threat	Threat Magnitude	Ongoing management actions associated with this threat or why no management response in place
		Rat)			eradication programme is being implemented by the South Georgia Heritage Trust [1].
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Baie Larose	*Felis catus* (feral Cat)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Baie Larose	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) Rat)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Procellaria aequinoctialis	Auckland Island	*Sus scrofa* (domestic Pig)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Thalassarche cauta	Pedra Branca	*Morus serrator* (Australasian Gannet)	Habitat loss or destruction - Increased competition with native species	High	None
Thalassarche cauta	Albatross Island (AU)	Unknown pathogen	Pathogen	Low	None
Thalassarche carteri	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux	*Pasteurella multocida* (Avian Cholera)	Pathogen	Medium	
Thalassarche melanophris	Macquarie Island	*Oryctolagus cuniculus* (European Rabbit)	Habitat destruction by alien species	Low	Eradication programme for rats, rabbits and mice underway with aerial baiting completed in 2011.
Thalassarche chrysostoma	Macquarie Island	*Oryctolagus cuniculus* (European Rabbit)	Habitat destruction by alien species	Low	
Thalassarche steadi	South West Cape	*Sus scrofa* (domestic Pig)	Predation by alien species	Low	
Thalassarche steadi	South West Cape	*Felis catus* (feral Cat)	Predation by alien species	Low	

ANNEX 9. PRIORITY POPULATION ASSESSMENTS

1: PRIORITY POPULATION ASSESSMENT - WANDERING ALBATROSS AT SOUTH GEORGIA (ISLAS GEORGIAS DEL SUR)[1]

R.A. Phillips (UK), A.G. Wood (UK) and J.P. Croxall (BirdLife International)

Population trends

Although albatrosses are the most globally threatened multi-species family of birds according to IUCN, some species that are endemic to a single island or island group qualify for Red Listing because of their restricted breeding range rather than projected time to extinction based on population data. Others, however, are very clearly in decline. This includes seven of the eight populations breeding in the islands of Tristan da Cunha, the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)[1] and South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] which were considered to be decreasing at 1-4% a year, making the South Atlantic the worst affected region in the Southern Ocean, Fig. 1).

South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] holds major populations (the largest to third largest, globally) of Wandering Albatrosses, Grey-headed Albatrosses , Black-browed Albatrosses and Light-mantled Albatrosses. The Light-mantled Albatross is the least known because it nests solitarily or in small groups, and a proportion of nests is inaccessible, limiting the possibilities for long-term demographic study because permanent movement to an unvisited site is indistinguishable from mortality. Intensive monitoring of the other species provides unequivocal evidence of long-term population decreases beginning in the 1960s or 1970s (British Antarctic Survey unpublished data, Fig. 1). The Wandering Albatross population at Bird Island has decreased from 1554-1922 (mean 1714) pairs during 1962-1964, to 779-865 (mean 834 pairs) during 2006-2011. The trend at Bird Island, which holds 61% of the local breeding population, is the same as in the rest of the island group (Poncet *et al.* 2006). From 1997 to 2007, when the rate of decline increased to 4.5% a year, this represented the removal, without replacement, of 95 breeding birds a year.

Breeding success shows a very different pattern, highly variable for both Grey-headed and Black-browed Albatrosses, but gradually increasing in the Wandering Albatross (Fig. 2). In both Black-browed and Grey-headed Albatrosses, the high variability in breeding success is assumed to relate to the long-term decline in krill abundance in the southwestern Atlantic or to other changes in prey abundance or oceanography. In contrast, the gradual but sustained increase in breeding success of the Wandering Albatross suggests that environmental conditions for this species have been improving (as in the Indian Ocean; Weimerskirch *et al*. unpublished), discard availability has increased, or there has been a density-dependent reduction in intraspecific competition as the population has declined.

[1] *"A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas), South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (Islas Georgias del Sur y Islas Sandwich del Sur) and the surrounding maritime areas".*

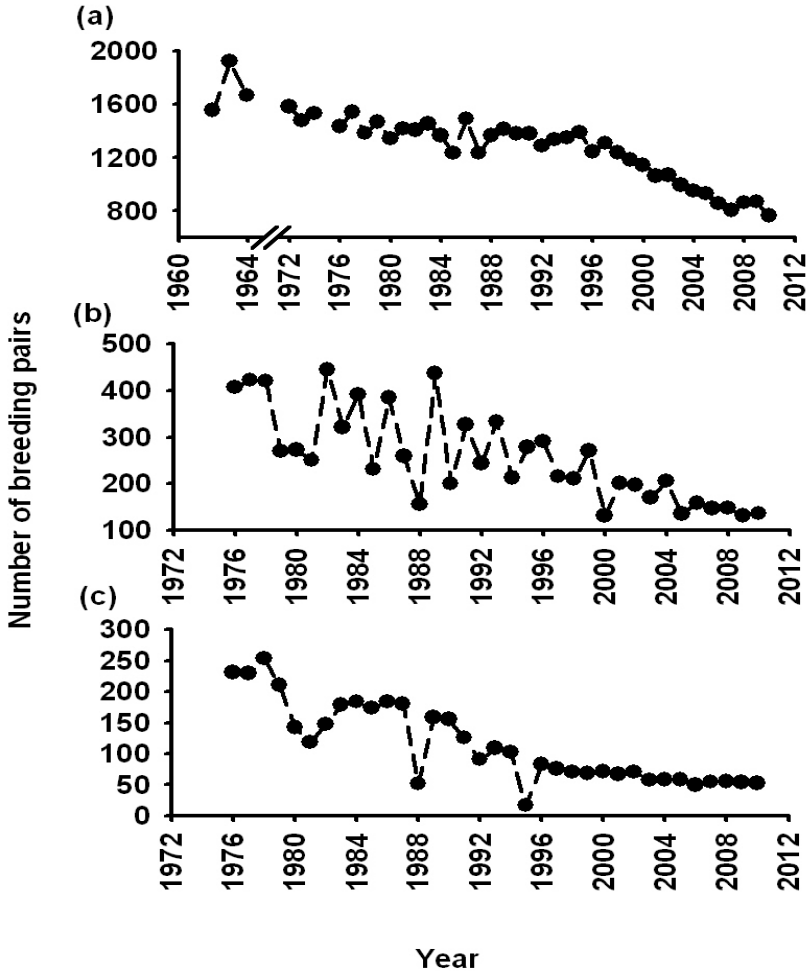

Fig. 1. Population trends of (a) Wandering Albatross, (b) Grey-headed Albatross and (c) Black-browed Albatross at Bird Island, South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1]. Data are from the British Antarctic Survey.

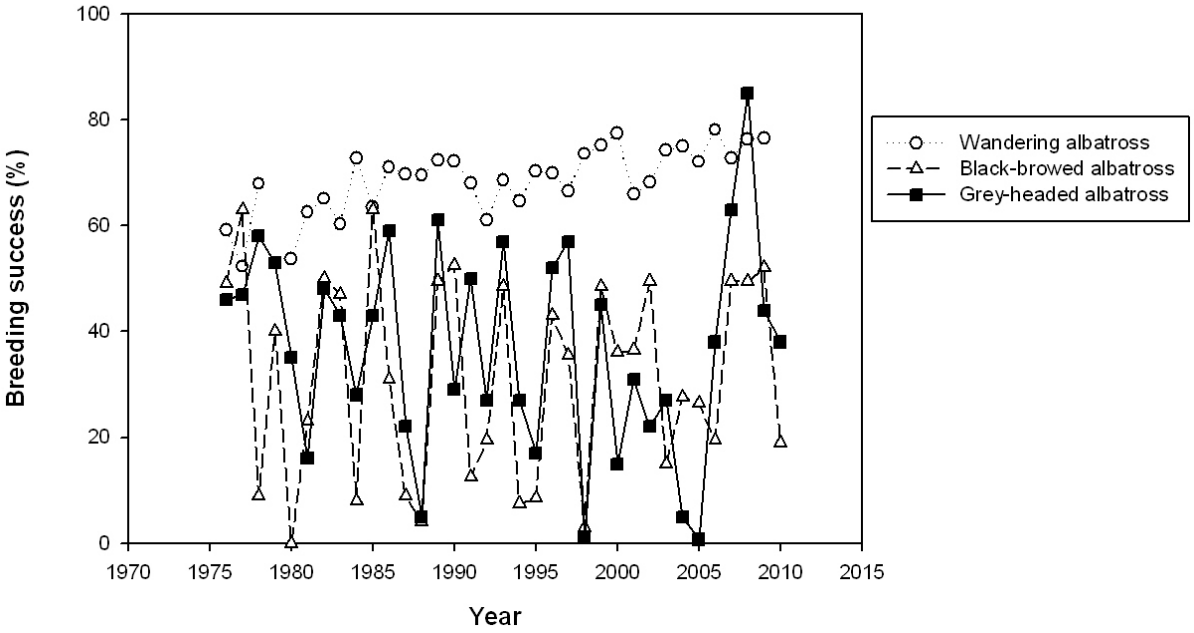

Fig. 2. Long-term changes in breeding success of albatrosses at Bird Island, South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1]. Data are from the British Antarctic Survey.

Wandering Albatross distribution in relation to fisheries

Comprehensive data on distribution of Wandering Albatrosses from South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] are available from deployment of satellite-transmitters, GPS loggers or GLS loggers (geolocators) on breeding adults, non-breeders, pre-breeders and juveniles. The distribution data were weighted by sex, number of birds of different status in 2005 (based on a demographic model developed by CSIRO Marine and Atmospheric Research, Hobart; Tuck *et al*. in press) and the duration of each phase/stage (Fig. 3). Fisheries data were collated by the CSIRO, Hobart. The areas of greatest potential interaction with fisheries were then mapped, based on the product of the proportion of the year-round, global Wandering Albatross distribution, and the total effort from all pelagic, or demersal fisheries in each 5 x 5 degree grid square (Figs. 4 and 5). The largest fisheries in the areas of greatest interaction are shown in boxes. It is important to note that a high level of interaction is not indicative of high bycatch rates because some fisheries catch few seabirds for operational or other reasons.

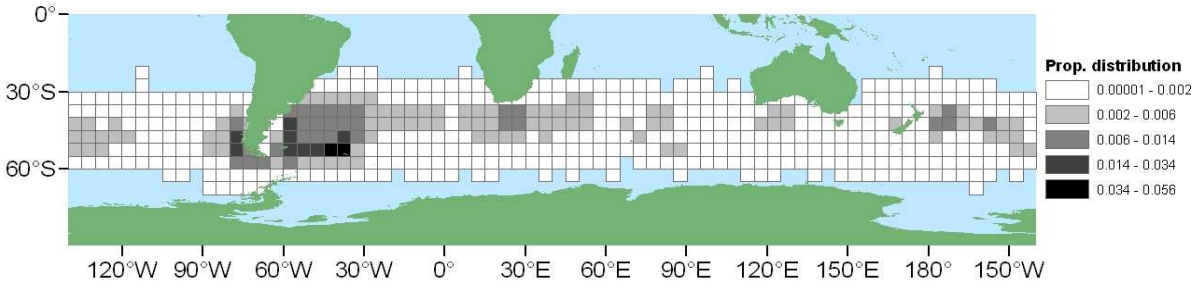

Fig. 3. Year-round distribution of Wandering Albatrosses from South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] in 2005, based on tracking data. Data are from the British Antarctic Survey.

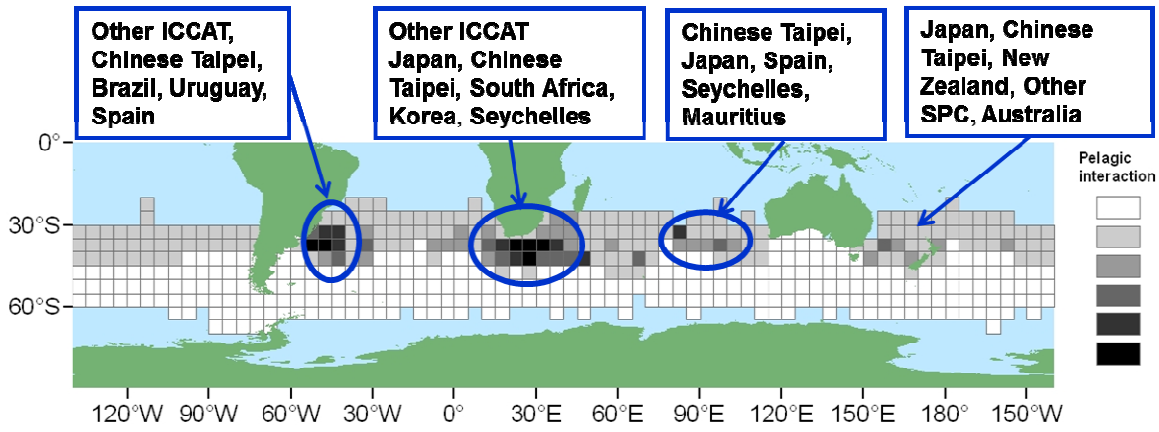

Fig. 4. Areas of greatest potential interaction (bird distribution x fishing effort) of Wandering Albatrosses from South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] in 2005 and pelagic longline fisheries. The largest fisheries in the three areas of greatest interaction are shown in boxes. Bird distribution data are from British Antarctic Survey and fisheries data were collated by the CSIRO, Hobart.

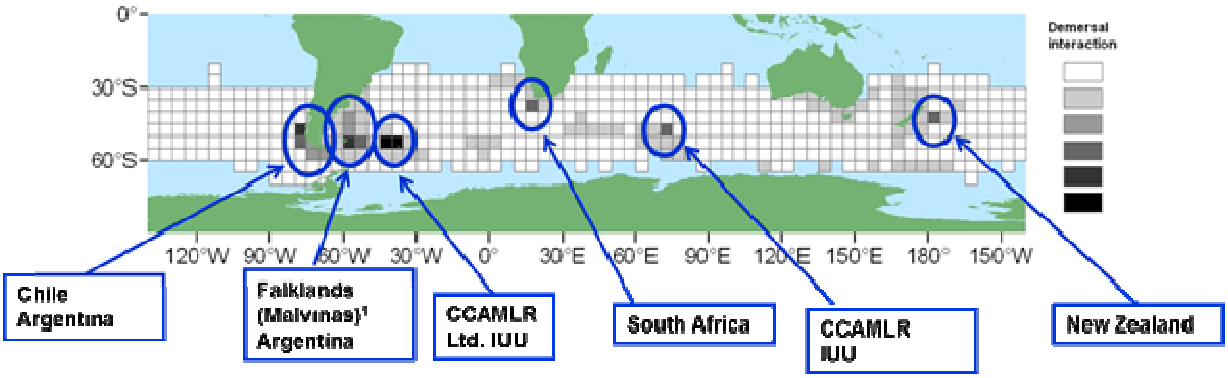

Fig. 5. Areas of greatest potential interaction (bird distribution x fishing effort) of Wandering Albatrosses from South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] in 2005 and demersal longline fisheries. The largest fisheries in the areas of greatest interaction are shown in boxes. Bird distribution data are from the British Antarctic Survey and fisheries data were collated by the CSIRO, Hobart.

Conclusions

Work is in progress on the ACAP prioritisation framework which can be expected to identify the Wandering Albatross, and potentially the south-west Atlantic population in particular, as a priority bycatch issue. However, the final conclusions from this process are not expected to be available in time for AC6. As the next opportunity to identify conservation priorities at an Advisory Committee meeting would be 2013 (no meeting is scheduled for 2012), there is a clear advantage to highlighting particularly strong cases on which ACAP might focus its efforts in the interim. The reason for advocating that the Wandering Albatross is one such ACAP priority is the clear acceleration of the downward trend since the late 1990s, indicating that its population is in a particularly parlous state. Given the gradual long-term improvement in breeding success, the lack of evidence that land-based threats (human disturbance or introduced species), or disease, are affecting birds, and the limited spatial overlap with trawlers, the conclusion that bycatch in longline fisheries is the main or only driver of the observed population decline of this population is compelling.

Acknowledgements

We are very grateful to Robin Thomson and Geoff Tuck for collating the fishing effort data and for their expertise. This paper also benefited greatly from discussions with Ian Hay and Graham Robertson. Henri Weimerskirch kindly provided access to an unpublished manuscript.

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2: PRIORITY POPULATION ASSESSMENT – BLACK-BROWED ALBATROSS AT SOUTH GEORGIA (ISLAS GEORGIAS DEL SUR)[1]

R.A. Phillips (UK), A.G. Wood (UK) and J.P. Croxall (BirdLife International)

Population trends of the Black-browed Albatross

South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] holds around 75,000 pairs of Black-browed Albatrosses, which is the second-largest population at any island group and represents *c*. 12% of the global total (ACAP Species Assessment). Annual monitoring at Bird Island indicates a marked reduction in adult and juvenile survival rates since the mid 1980s, and a long-term decrease of at c. 4% a year (Croxall *et al*. 1998, Poncet *et al.* 2004, Fig. 1). This has been attributed largely to incidental mortality in fisheries (Croxall *et al*. 1998, Phillips *et al.* 2005). Males show lower survival (by 2%) than females, which might reflect sexual segregation at sea, or the competitive exclusion of females by males from around fishing vessels, which can lead to male-biased bycatch rates.

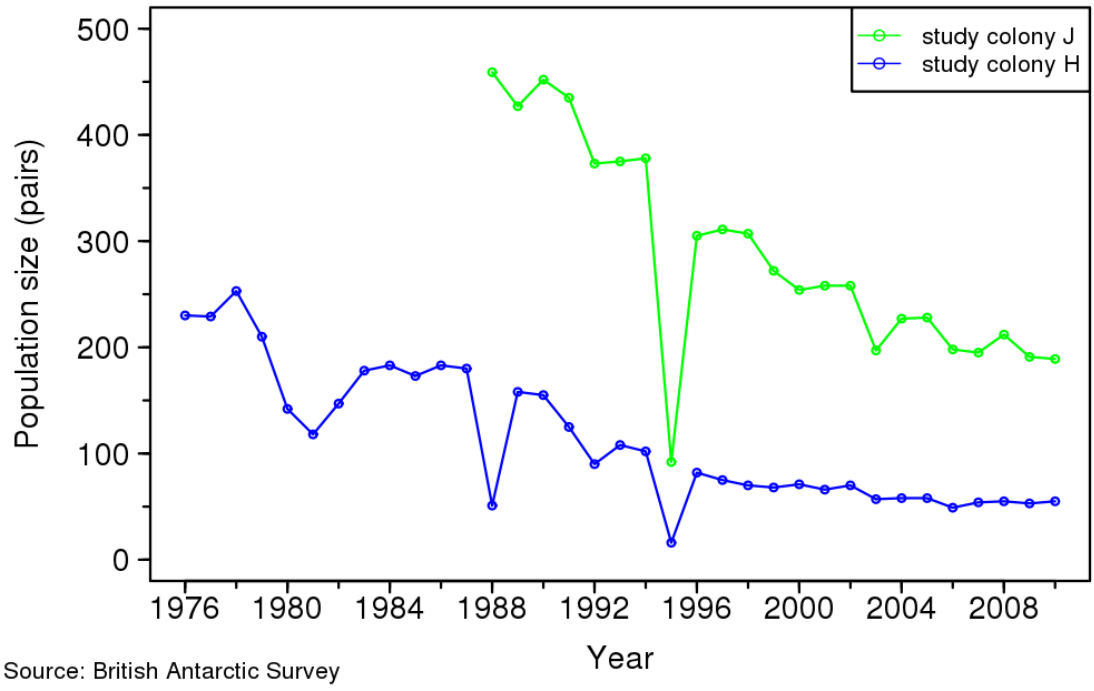

Fig. 1. Population trends of Black-browed Albatrosses from two colonies monitored at Bird Island, South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1].

[1] *"A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas), South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (Islas Georgias del Sur y Islas Sandwich del Sur) and the surrounding maritime areas".*

Black-browed Albatross distribution in relation to fisheries

Comprehensive data on distribution of Black-browed Albatrosses from South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] are available from deployment of satellite-transmitters and GLS loggers (geolocators) on breeding adults and non-breeders, respectively. During the chick-rearing period, breeding adults remain largely in waters south of the Antarctic Polar Front, within 700 km of the colony, and show little overlap with fisheries because of a time-area closure (Phillips *et al.* 2004). In contrast, during incubation, males in particular forage northwest of the colony, mainly in pelagic waters but also on the Patagonian Shelf (Phillips *et al.* 2004), where there is the potential for interaction with pelagic longline and trawl fisheries, respectively. During the non-breeding period, all tracked females spent the core winter months in the Benguela Upwelling Region (Phillips *et al*. 2005, Fig. 2). Most males also over-winter in the Benguela, although a small minority travel to south-eastern Australia, staging around the Crozet or Kerguelen island groups on the outward or return journey, or remain in the southwest Atlantic, mainly on the Patagonian Shelf (Phillips *et al.* 2005). Birds exploit a number of areas on the return migration to the breeding colony, including an extensive region on the Mid-Atlantic ridge around Tristan da Cunha from mid-July to early September. The winter distribution overlaps with major fisheries, including trawlers in coastal waters off South Africa and on the Patagonian Shelf, and longliners throughout much of the South Atlantic, the southern Indian Ocean, and in the Australian Fishing Zone (Klaer & Polacheck 1997, Ryan *et al.* 2002, Favero *et al.* 2003, Tuck *et al.* 2003). In several of these areas, including off Australia and South Africa, very high levels of incidental mortality of Black-browed Albatrosses have been recorded, in the order of hundreds or thousands of birds each year (Brothers 1991, Ryan *et al.* 2002, Anderson *et al*. 2011). Many of the birds killed in South African waters are immature, which remain in the area and are potentially vulnerable to bycatch throughout the year.

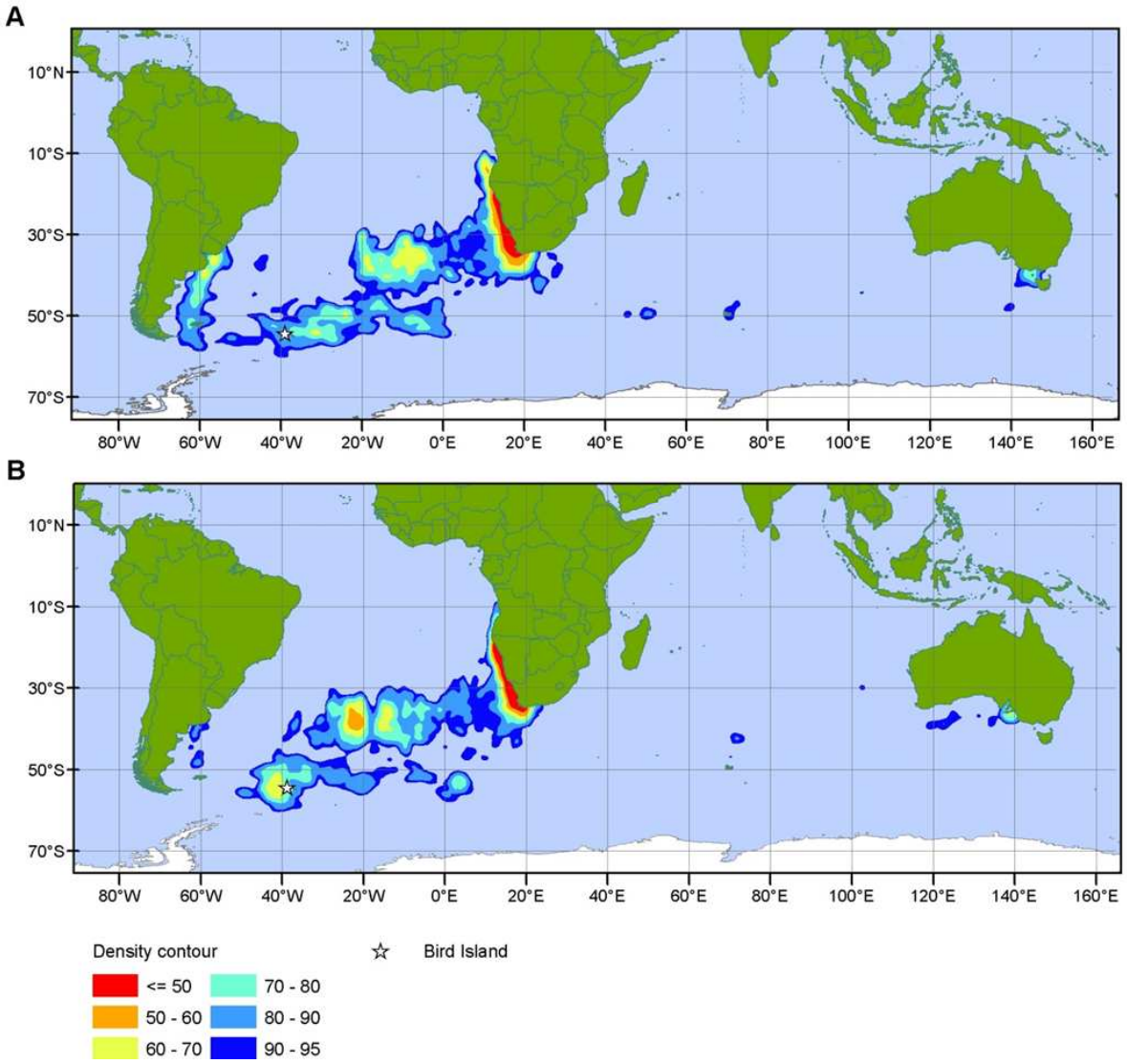

Fig. 2. Density distribution of nonbreeding Black-browed Albatrosses from South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] during the winter (May–September) in (A) 2002 (n=25 birds) and (B) 2003 (n=24 birds). Each contour encompasses a specific proportion (50–95%) of the total kernel density surface. Figure from Phillips *et al.* (2005).

Conclusion

Black-browed Albatrosses from South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] show a very substantial overlap with numerous fisheries. Breeding success is variable, but shows no consistent long-term pattern. There is no evidence that land-based threats (human disturbance or introduced species), or disease, are affecting birds. Bearing this in mind, and given the high bycatch rates recorded for this species in many studies, the long-term population decrease seems to be clearly linked with incidental mortality in both long-line and trawl fisheries.

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3: PRIORITY POPULATION ASSESSMENT – TRISTAN ALBATROSS AT GOUGH ISLAND.

Wolfaardt, A. (UK)

Conservation status and population trend of the Tristan Albatross

The Tristan Albatross bred historically on Tristan da Cunha, Inaccessible and Gough islands, but humans and the presence of invasive species resulted in the extirpation of the species at the main island of Tristan. The Inaccessible Island population has averaged <one chick a year since 1982 (Ryan 2005) and is not considered viable. Consequently, the Tristan Albatross is effectively endemic to Gough Island. The species is currently listed as Critically Endangered due to its highly restricted breeding range and the projected rapid population decline over three generations. This decrease is being driven by low adult survival brought about by incidental mortality associated with longline fisheries and significantly reduced breeding success caused by predation of chicks by the introduced House Mouse *Mus musculus* (Cuthbert *et al.* 2004, Wanless *et al.* 2007, 2009).

The earliest census of Tristan Albatrosses at Gough Island was conducted in 1956, when the numbers of incubating birds at Gonydale, Green Hill and Albatross Plain were counted. Collectively, these areas currently support about 38% of the Gough population. Subsequently, whole-island censuses of incubating Tristan Albatrosses have been conducted at Gough Island in 1999/2000 (Ryan *et al.* 2001), 2001 (Cuthbert *et al.* 2004), 2004, 2005 (near-complete census), 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010. Whole-island counts of large chicks have also been carried out in 1999, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010, all in September, thus allowing an estimation of breeding success for these breeding seasons. The number of incubating Tristan Albatrosses counted decreased from 2400 in 2001 to 1279 in 2007, 1793 in 2009, and 1698 in 2010. Due to the short period of time over which the population has been systematically monitored, and the biennial nature of breeding, it is difficult to derive population trends from the count data, and it has been necessary to model the data to predict the population trend. The recent whole-island counts suggest that the population on Gough has decreased by 28% over 46 years, whereas population modelling predicts annual decline rates of 2.9-5.3% (Ryan *et al*. 2001, Wanless *et al*. 2009). These data suggest a decline equivalent to a >79% reduction over 70 years from 1955 to 2025 (BirdLife International 2011).

The projected population decline is driven by two main threats: low adult survival and abnormally low breeding success. Annual adult survival, based on 21 years of recapture data from 1985-2007, is estimated to be around 91%, insufficient to maintain a stable population of a *Diomedea* albatross (Cuthbert *et al*. 2004, Wanless *et al*. 2009). The reduced adult survival is attributed to mortality associated with fishery interactions, especially in the pelagic longline fisheries of the South Atlantic (Ryan *et al.* 2001, Cuthbert *et al*. 2005, Neves *et al*. 2006).

Breeding success of Tristan Albatrosses on Gough Island is abnormally low by comparison with congeners, averaging at most 32.6 ±7.6% (range 24- 45%), sufficiently low to cause a population decrease of over 50% over three generations (Cuthbert *et al*. 2004, Cuthbert &

Hilton 2004, Wanless *et al*. 2007). Recent studies have confirmed that the low breeding success is due to the widespread predation of Tristan Albatross chicks by mice (Wanless *et al*. 2009). In 2008, 14% of Tristan Albatross nesting pairs succeeded in fledging a chick, only a fifth of the level in a healthy population not subject to chick predation (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds unpublished data).

Tristan Albatross distribution in relation to fisheries

Tracking data are limited, but show that the species is restricted to the South Atlantic Ocean during the breeding season, predominantly between 30-45°S, where there is broad overlap between foraging birds and fishing effort (Cuthbert *et al*. 2005, Fig. 1). Outside the breeding season, it disperses to South Atlantic and South African waters, with numerous recent records from Brazilian waters (Neves *et al*. 2000, Olmos *et al.* 2000) and one from Australia (Ryan *et al.* 2001), suggesting that birds may occasionally disperse into the southern Indian Ocean. Recoveries from banded birds and observations by the BirdLife International Albatross Task Force indicate mortality in longline fisheries operating in Brazilian and Uruguayan waters (ACAP Species Assessment), and this area was also identified as a priority for bycatch in the ICCAT Seabird Assessment. It has been estimated that *c*. 500 Tristan Albatross individuals are killed every year by longliners (Cuthbert *et al*. 2005).

Conclusions

The Tristan Albatross population on Gough Island is the only viable population of this species in the world. The species will continue its apparent trend towards extinction unless the negative effects of both low fledging success (due to predation of chicks by mice) and reduced adult survival (a consequence of incidental mortality in longline fisheries) are ameliorated.

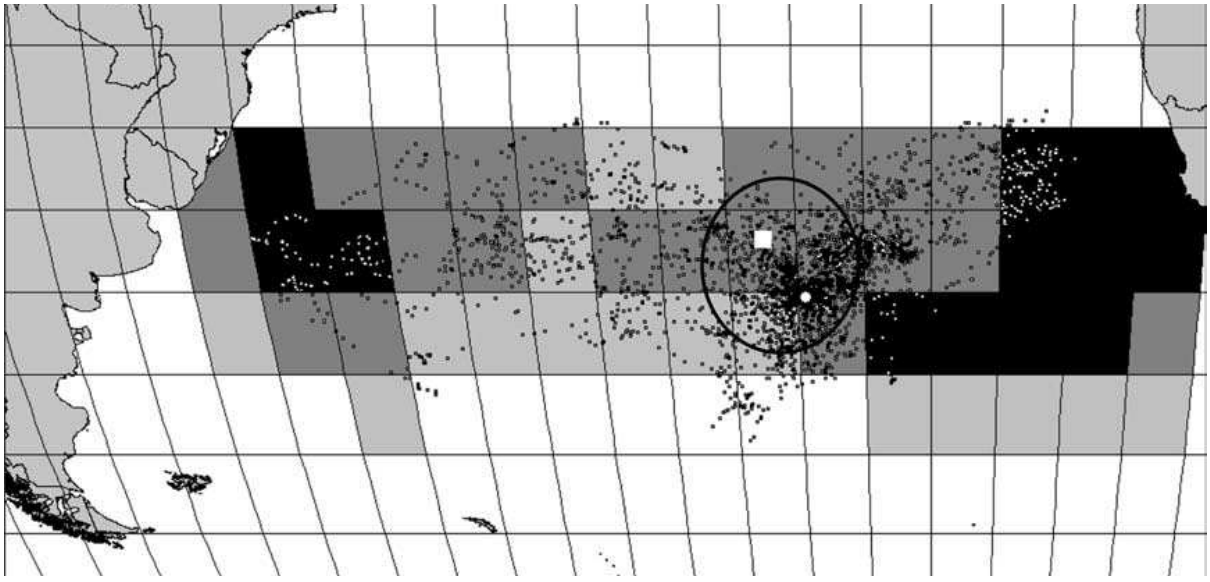

Fig. 1. Average annual reported pelagic fishing effort for the period 1970–1998 within the area of 30–50°S and 60°W to 20°E, grouped into categories of < 10,000 hooks (no shading), 10,000–250,000 hooks (light grey), 250,000–1,000,000 hooks (dark grey) and >1,000,000 hooks (black shading) and the distribution of Tristan Albatrosses during the 2001 breeding season. Gough Island (unfilled circle) is located at 40°S 10°W, Tristan da Cunha (unfilled square) is located at 37°S 12°W, and the approximate limits of the Tristan 200 nm EEZ (dashed oval) are indicated. Figure reproduced from Cuthbert *et al.* (2005).

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4: PRIORITY POPULATION ASSESSMENT – SOOTY ALBATROSS AT CROZET AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLANDS

H. Weimerskirch (France) and R.J.M. Crawford (South Africa)

Conservation status and population trend of the Sooty Albatross

Sooty Albatrosses breed on islands in the Indian and Atlantic Oceans that are administered by France, South Africa and the UK. The species is listed as Endangered, because for all populations monitored steep declines have occurred (ACAP Species Assessment). In the Indian Ocean, declines have been ongoing since the early 1980s, when censuses commenced (Fig. 1).

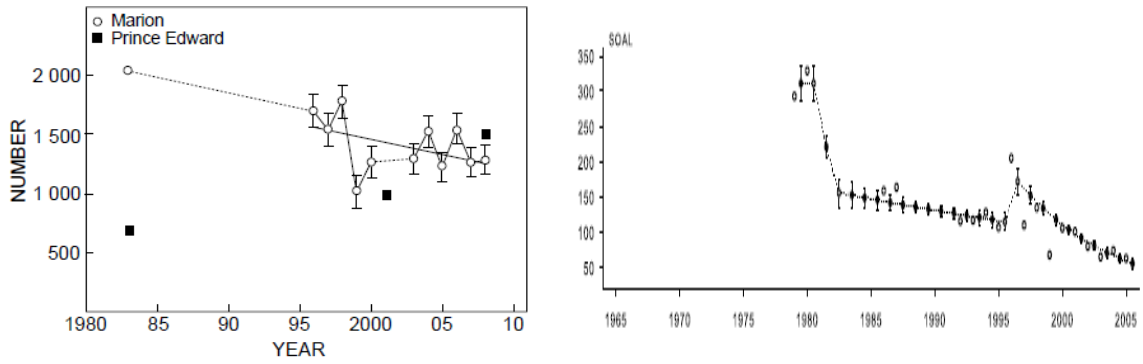

Fig. 1. Change in the number of pairs of Sooty Albatrosses counted on the Prince Edward Islands (left, from Ryan *et al.* 2009) and on Possession Island, Crozet Islands (right, from Delord *et al*. 2008). The increase in numbers counted at Prince Edward Island in the latter group is thought attributable to a better survey coverage and not to reflect a real increase (Ryan *et al.* 2009).

Demographic studies carried out at the Crozet Islands have shown that the decrease of the population was due to a decrease in recruitment rate, caused by low survival of juvenile (and/or immature birds), and poor adult survival (Weimerskirch *et al.* 1986, Rolland et al. 2010). Modelling shows that adult survival was very low for a biennially breeding species (0.884 p.a.), decreased significantly over time, and was best explained by tuna longline effort in the foraging zone of the species: tuna fishing effort had a negative impact on survival and explained 33.5% of variation in adult survival (Rolland *et al.* 2010). On the other hand, breeding success was variable between years, with no trend, but on average relatively high (0.678 chicks per pair per year) and was explained by environmental variation, especially sea surface temperatures in the foraging zones (Rolland *et al.* 2010).

Sooty Albatross distribution in relation to fisheries

The strong effect of longline fisheries can be explained by the high overlap of the species' feeding area with tuna fisheries in the region of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC). Indeed, adult Sooty Albatrosses from Crozet Island during breeding forage in subantarctic/subtropical waters, as do birds from Marion Island (Fig. 2). Crozet adult Sooty Albatrosses during the breeding season overlapped with longline fisheries of the IOTC zone (Fig. 3). Non-breeding birds in their sabbatical year remained in the Indian Ocean and also largely overlapped with the IOTC Convention area, especially in areas where high bycatch rates were reported (Huang & Liu 2010). The at-sea distribution of juvenile Sooty Albatrosses after fledging (during the 3rd quarter of the year) was concentrated into even warmer waters, and showed high overlap with fishing effort (Fig. 4). The overlap varied in time and space, and was mainly concentrated on subtropical and tropical waters between the Crozet Islands and Madagascar. Thus, juveniles tended to be distributed farther north than adults (both breeding and non-breeding) and probably faced a higher risk of bycatch, as revealed by their overlap with the area where high bycatch values were reported. Unfortunately, bycatch estimates were not available for the Korean fleet and for the area 25°S-35°E/35°S-70°E which appeared to be important for juvenile birds during their first month at sea.

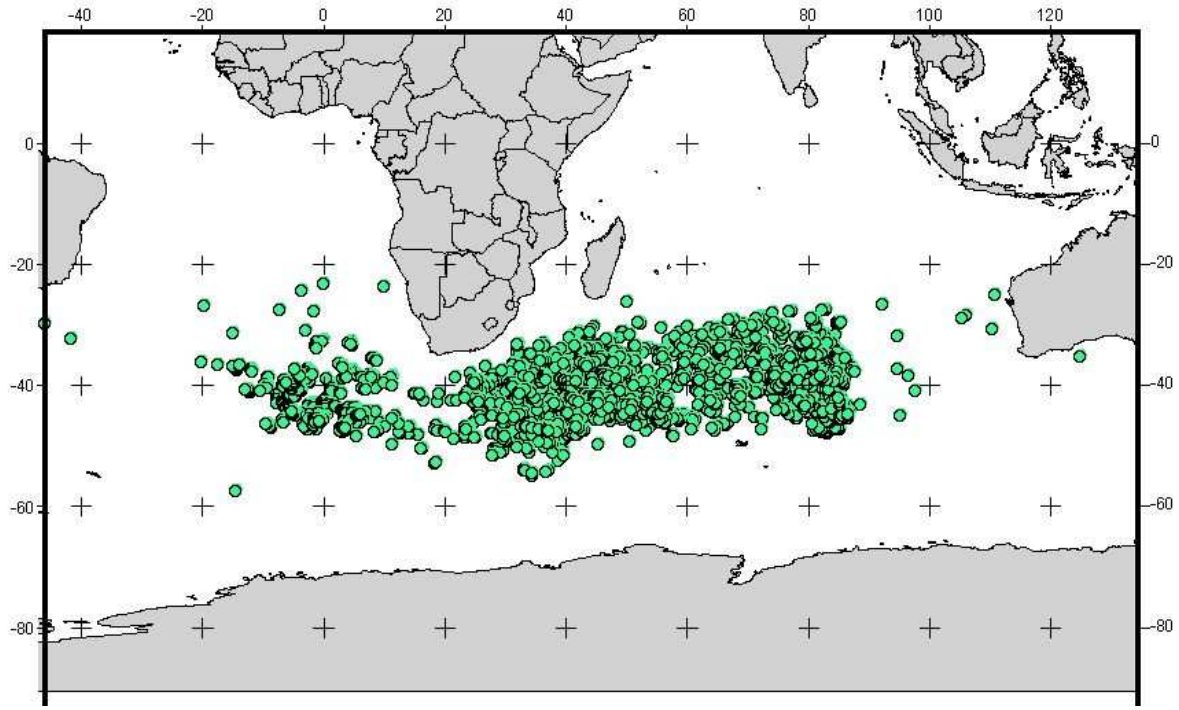

Fig. 2. Foraging distribution of breeding adult Sooty Albatrosses from Marion Island.

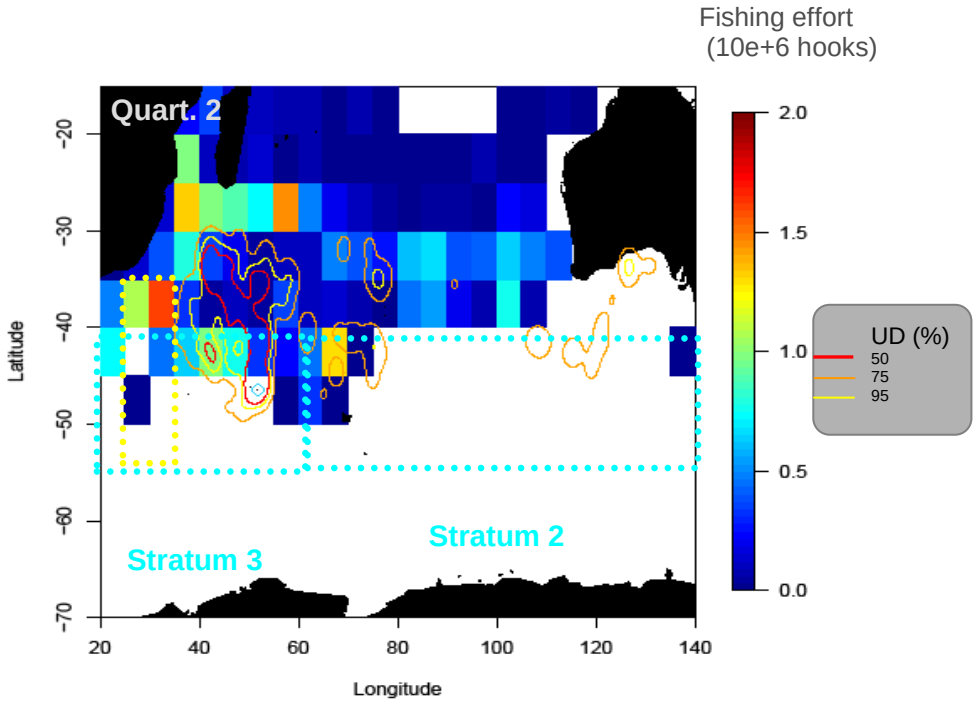

Fig. 3. Overlap of IOTC longline fishing effort (maximum value of fishing effort reported during 2005-08) and utilization (UDs of 50, 75 and 95%) or Kernel density (h=1) of satellite locations for adult Sooty Albatrosses during the breeding period from Crozet Island (2nd quarter of the year). The areas of highest estimated bycatch of seabirds are shaded (Chinese Taipei's fleet: yellow; Japanese fleet: blue).

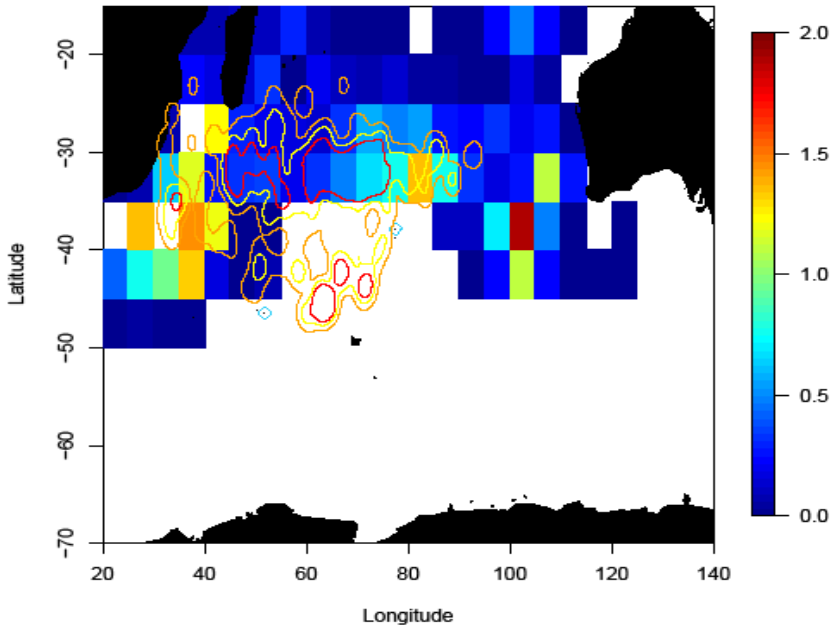

Fig. 4. Overlap of IOTC longline fishing effort (maximum value of fishing effort reported during 2005-2008) and utilization (UDs of 50, 75 and 95%) or Kernel density (h=1) of satellite locations for juvenile Sooty Albatrosses after fledging from Crozet Island during the 3rd quarter of the year. The areas of highest estimated bycatch of seabirds are shaded (Chinese Taipei's fleet: yellow; Japanese fleet: blue).

Conclusions

Sooty Albatrosses, especially juveniles, which are often found farther north than breeding birds, experience considerable overlap with pelagic longline fisheries and therefore have a great risk of bycatch. Our results show clearly that in the case of Sooty Albatrosses from the south-western Indian Ocean, all stages in the populations (breeding as well as non-breeding adults and juveniles), and overlap greatly with tuna longline fisheries in the IOTC zone. These results are thus in full agreement with the strong effect of longline effort on adult survival rate, which is the key parameter driving long-term trends in populations of long-lived species. The studies also highlight the crucial need to have access to fishery data of quality and to bycatch estimates (by fleet, by specific areas and with species composition and recovery data) in order better to understand the link between fishery effort and population trends, and ultimately to enable effective management of fisheries and seabird populations.

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ANNEX 10. INDICATORS

	2011	
Breeding Sites	**Count**	**%**
Islands with alien species	**38**	**15.3**
Islands with habitat modifiers (Black (Ship) Rat, Brown (Norwegian) Rat, Cattle, Cotton-tail Rabbit, deer, European Hare , House Mouse, domestic Pig, Polynesian Rat, European Rabbit, Reindeer, domestic Sheep)	**38**	**15.3**
Islands with known/potential predators (Black (Ship) Rat, Brown (Norwegian) Rat, Brushtail Possum, feral Cat, Dog, Ferret, House Mouse, Polynesian Rat, Stoat)	**31**	**12.5**
Sites with threats – Low	**42**	**7.3**
Sites with threats – Medium	**8**	**1.4**
Sites with threats – High	**1**	**0.2**
Sites with threats - Very High	**0**	**0**
Sites with Protected Status (Antarctic Specially Managed Area, Antarctic Specially Protected Area, Antarctic Treaty Area, Area restricted to scientific and technical research, IUCN Protected Area - Category 1a, IUCN Protected Area - Category 1b, IUCN Protected Area - Category II, IUCN Protected Area - Category III, IUCN Protected Area - Category IV, IUCN Protected Area - Category V, Marine National Monument, Marine Park, Marine Reserve, National Heritage List, National Nature Reserve, National Park, National Wildlife Protection Area, National Wildlife Refuge, Natural Area Reserve, Natural Monument, Nature Reserve, Private Sanctuary, Ramsar Wetland, Register of Critical Habitat, Register of National Estate, Scenic Reserve, Special Management Areas, Special Nature Reserve, Specially Protected Area, UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, UNESCO World Heritage Area)	**499**	**87.4**
Sites with Management Plans	**504**	**88.3**
Sites with Biosecurity Protocol (Biosecurity Plan or Quarantine)	**14**	**2.5**
Status and Trends		
Populations (Island Groups) counted within the last five years (at least one site per Island Group)	**67**	**47.5**
Populations (Island Groups) counted within the last 10 years (at least one site per Island Group)	**100**	**70.9**
Populations (Island Groups) counted within the last 20 years (at least one site per Island Group)	**113**	**80.1**
Populations (Island Groups) monitored annually (including part-sites) within the last five years - 5/5 years	**16**	**11.4**
Populations (Island Groups) monitored annually (including. part-sites) within the last 10 years - 10/10 years	**9**	**6.4**
Populations (Island Groups) monitored annually (including part-sites) within the last 20 years - 20/20 years	**5**	**3.6**
Populations (Island Groups) counted within the last five years (all sites per Island Group)	**37**	**26.2**
Populations (Island Groups) counted within the last 10 years (all sites per Island Group)	**68**	**48.2**
Populations (Island Groups) counted within the last 20 years (all sites per Island Group)	**88**	**62.4**
Populations (Island Groups) counted within the last five years (at least 50% of sites per Island Group)	**42**	**29.8**
Populations (Island Groups) counted within the last 10 years (at least 50% of sites per Island Group)	**76**	**53.9**
Populations (Island Groups) counted within the last 20 years (at least 50% of sites per Island Group)	**96**	**68.1**
Populations (Island Groups) monitored at least 5/10 years (Including part-sites) within the last 10 years	**30**	**21.3**

Populations (Island Groups) monitored at least 10/20 years (Including part-sites) within the last 20 years	**9**	**6.4**
Sites (or part sites) with ongoing annual monitoring - population	**4**	**0.7**
Sites (or part sites) with ongoing annual monitoring - demography	**4**	**0.7**
Populations (Island Groups) - Trend increasing over last 10 years	**10**	**7.1**
Populations (Island Groups) - Trend stable over last 10 years	**3**	**2.1**
Populations (Island Groups) - Trend down last 10 years	**7**	**5.0**
Populations (Island Groups) - Trend unknown over last 10 years	**120**	**85.1**
Populations (Island Groups) - Trend increasing over last 20 years	**7**	**5.0**
Populations (Island Groups) - Trend stable over last 20 years	**1**	**0.7**
Populations (Island Groups) - Trend down last 20 years	**3**	**2.1**
Populations (Island Groups) - Trend unknown over last 20 years	**130**	**92.2**
Total Sites = 571, Total Islands = 248 and Total Populations (Island Groups) = 141.		
Within last 5 years = 2006-2010		
Within last 10 years = 2001-2010		
Within last 20 years = 1991-2010		

ANNEX 11. ARGENTINA STATEMENT

Unofficial Translation

The Argentine Delegation to the Sixth Meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatross and Petrels (ACAP) presents its compliments to the aforementioned Committee and in relation to the documents AC6 Inf. 15, SBWG-4 Doc. 55 y Joint BSWG4/STWG6 Doc.6 presented by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, recalls that upon its ratification of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatross and Petrels, Argentina rejected the United Kingdom's pretended territorial extension of the Agreement to the Malvinas Islands, South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands, since those archipelagoes and the surrounding maritime areas are an integral part of the Argentine national territory.

The Argentine Government rejects the references made to alleged illegitimate authorities of the Malvinas Islands, South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands and the presentation of these archipelagoes detenting an international status that they do not have.

The British presence in those archipelagoes and the surrounding maritime areas constitutes an illegitimate occupation, which is rejected by the Argentine Republic, as so are any unilateral acts from it emanated.

The Argentine Republic reaffirms its sovereignty rights over the Malvinas Islands, South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands, and the surrounding maritime areas, which are an integral part of the Argentine national territory and that, being illegitimately occupied by the United Kingdom, are object of a sovereignty dispute, recognized by the United Nations.

The Argentine Delegation to the Sixth Meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatross and Petrels avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the aforementioned Committee the expressions of its most distinguished consideration.

Guayaquil, 26th August 2011

ANNEX 12. UNITED KINGDOM STATEMENT

The UK delegation does not believe that this is the appropriate forum to raise sovereignty issues of any kind, which are outside the scope and purpose of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels.

The United Kingdom has no doubt about its sovereignty over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and their surrounding maritime areas. The principle of self-determination, enshrined in Article 1.2 of the Charter of the United Nations and Article 1 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, underlies our position on the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands.

The United Kingdom frequently repeats its position on the Falkland Islands within the International Community, including at the United Nations. South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands is a separate British Overseas Territory that is not discussed at the United Nations.

ANNEX 13. POPULATION AND CONSERVATION STATUS WORKING GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE

The ACAP Advisory Committee merged the Status and Trends and Breeding Sites Working Groups into a single working group, the Population and Conservation Status Working Group (PaCSWG), at its Sixth Meeting in August 2011 in Guayaquil, Ecuador and agreed to the following Terms of Reference.

The PaCSWG should provide advice and recommendations to the Advisory Committee.
It should also:

- oversee the contribution, collation and maintenance of the most up-to-date information on population size, trends and status, demography, at-sea distribution, management of, and land-based threats to, the breeding sites of albatrosses and petrels listed on Annex 1 of ACAP;

- oversee reviews and analyses of information, and produce assessments of the population and conservation status of listed and candidate ACAP species;

- identify key gaps in knowledge of the population size and conservation status, demography, at-sea distribution, land-based threats and their management for each ACAP species;

- identify populations of ACAP species that are priorities for monitoring, research or conservation actions;

- assess the land-based threats to ACAP species, determine which are priorities for management actions and review the effectiveness of those actions;

- identify internationally important breeding sites for ACAP species; and

- develop, review and maintain best-practice guidelines for population monitoring and management of land-based threats.

ANNEX 14. DRAFT ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2011-12; 2013-15

	Topic/Task	Responsible group	Timeframe	Time	$	Action detail
*.1	Establish Working Group membership	Parties with assistance of Convenors	2012			
*.2	Consider gaps in population, tracking, breeding site management, threats and regulatory protection data submitted to ACAP, request any outstanding data and incorporate changes	**WG, Science Officer	Ongoing	10 weeks p.a.	##	Parties to provide new or outstanding data
*.3	Improve data portal structure and queries	Science Officer, Convenors	Ongoing	2 months p.a.	##, AUD$15	Science Officer to facilitate modification of database as required
*.4	To review and refine standardised queries and outputs for analysis and interpretation	Science Officer, Convenors	Ongoing	2 weeks p.a.	**, AUD$5	
*.5	Trial approaches to categorize accurately global population trends	**WG Convenors, Science Officer and BirdLife International	By end 2011	2 weeks	##, AUD$5	May require further data portal updates
*.6	Update ACAP Species Assessments	**WG Convenors, Science Officer	Ongoing	4 weeks p.a.	##	
*.7	Translation of updates to ACAP Species Assessments and ACAP Conservation Guidelines into Spanish and French	Science Officer, French- and Spanish-speaking Parties	Ongoing		AUD$8	May include contributions in kind from French- and Spanish-speaking Parties
*.8	Identity priority species or populations for monitoring of numbers, trends and demography	**WG, Science Officer	Ongoing	2 weeks p.a.	##	
*.9	Identity priority species or populations for tracking studies	**WG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	##	

*.10	Identity priority species or populations for conservation actions	**WG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	##	
*.11	Review and prioritise the threats to breeding sites and identify gaps in knowledge	**WG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	##	
*.12	Develop, review and update best-practice guidelines to mitigate selected threats to breeding sites	**WG, Science Officer	Ongoing	3 weeks p.a.	##	.
*.13	Develop best-practice guidelines for monitoring of numbers and trends	**WG, Lead UK, Science Officer	By MoP4, AC7	1 month	##	Production of two documents (one by MoP4, one by AC7)
*.14	Review evidence for impacts of pathogens and parasites on ACAP species and effectiveness of mitigation measures	**WG, Science Officer, Lead Argentina	By AC7	1 month	##	Update review of pathogens and parasites. May need input from pathologists
*.15	Post web links on biological sampling guidelines following disease outbreaks	Science Officer, **WG	Ongoing	1 day	##	
*.16	Produce centralised catalogue of plastic bands used on ACAP species and email contact list, and addresses of banding authorities	Science Officer, **WG, Lead France.	By 2012	1 week	##	
*.17	Showcase work of ACAP to 5th International Albatross and Petrel Conference	**WG, Science Officer	August 2012	2 weeks	##	
*.18	Provide reports on activities to Advisory Committee meetings	**WG, Science Officer	As needed	3 months	##	