Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

Fifteenth Meeting of the Advisory Committee

Swakopmund, Namibia, 1 – 5 June 2026

Report of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group

Population and Conservation Status Working Group

Ninth Population and Conservation Status Working Group Meeting

Swakopmund, Namibia, 25 May 2026

1. WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

This report outlines progress during the intersessional period against the Work Programme of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group (hereafter PaCSWG or WG), agreed at the ACAP Advisory Committee (AC) meeting in 2024 (AC14), and approved by the Eighth Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MoP8) in 2025. The report also reflects discussions and recommendations resulting from the Ninth Meeting of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group (PaCSWG9) held on 25 May 2026 in Swakopmund, Namibia.

2. WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIP AND INTRODUCTION

The Convenors thanked WG members and Observers for attending the meeting. Participants welcomed Mandi Livesey and Sheryl Hamilton as new members of the WG. The WG thanked Jonathon Barrington for his contribution to PaCSWG over the years. Current PaCSWG membership and PaCSWG9 meeting participants are listed in **ANNEX 1**.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The WG accepted the proposed agenda and meeting documents (**PaCSWG9 Doc 01 Rev 1** and **PaCSWG9 Doc 02**).

4. UPDATES OF ACAP SPECIES ASSESSMENTS

The Secretariat provided a summary on progress updating the ACAP Species Assessments. Two Assessments (Waved Albatross and Shy Albatross) are close to completion while others are less advanced. The Secretariat highlighted the limited time available to complete this work due to competing tasks. The Working Group recognised the resourcing constraints within the Secretariat and thanked the Secretariat for the progress made.

The Working Group agreed that a fundamentally different approach to delivering and maintaining the Species Assessments is required. Discussion highlighted that many of the assessments remain outdated and that more current information is now available through other resources. The WG agreed that ACAP should return to being the definitive reference point for ACAP species information without delay, and that the new comprehensive ACAP trend analyses (see 5.1) and updated at-sea distribution maps will be a key strength that distinguish the ACAP Assessments from other similar materials.

PaCSWG9 proposed that the Assessments be redesigned for online delivery in a more dynamic, easily updated format, streamlined to focus on key conservation messages. The

use of interactive tools such as Shiny apps could also be explored. The Assessments should align with ACAP's Communication Strategy, with target audiences clearly defined. The revised approach could include two-page fact sheets tailored for fisheries managers and Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs).

The Working Group noted that there will be initial as well as potentially ongoing cost implications for progressing a more dynamic publication format.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PaCSWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

1. Revise the Terms of Reference of the Species Assessments Intersessional Group to include the development and implementation of a revised approach to efficiently deliver ACAP Species Assessments.

5. POPULATION STATUS AND TRENDS

5.1. Population trends of ACAP species

PaCSWG9 Doc 04 presented a trial assessing the use of satellite imagery to monitor Tristan Albatrosses *Diomedea dabbenena* on Gough Island. The study found that obtaining cloud-free imagery was difficult and that, even under suitable conditions, only around 70% of known occupied nests could be detected. The authors concluded that satellite imagery was currently unsuitable for producing accurate population counts and recommended that ground-based monitoring remain the primary approach for assessing population trends for this species.

PaCSWG9 noted similar experiences from New Zealand and Australia, where satellite imagery had also proven insufficient for accurate counts or for distinguishing among species and count metrics. While acknowledging the logistical challenges associated with maintaining long-term ground monitoring programmes, the WG agreed that ground counts currently remain essential for robust population monitoring.

PaCSWG9 Doc 03 Rev 2 presented work from the Intersessional Group on population trends (IG Trends) on the development of a standardised framework for estimating ACAP species population trends and supporting the IUCN Red List and ACAP High Priority Populations assessments. The framework included standardisation of the definitions of methods and metrics, accounting for baseline uncertainty, sampling, detection, occupancy, and phenology-related errors, and the conversion of the number of breeding pairs to mature individuals. Adjusted counts were then fitted a state-space population growth model implemented through a newly developed dedicated package (ACAPT). Results were used to inform IUCN Red List assessment under criterion A, using three alternative time periods. Case studies were presented for 13 ACAP species with results showing the strongest decline for Grey-headed Albatross *Thalassarche chrysostoma*, stable or increasing trends for several species including

Buller's Albatross *Thalassarche bulleri*, and considerable uncertainty for some taxa due to limited or variable data availability.

Following recommendations from the IG Trends, the WG supported the use of a precautionary percentile-based approach below the median (e.g. 40% or 45%) to inform the IUCN Red List assessment under criterion A, rather than the mean, mode, or density-based approaches. Several WG Members considered the 45th percentile to provide an appropriate balance between precaution and statistical robustness. The WG also discussed the potential use of future iterations of the framework to support IUCN Red List reassessments and noted that changes in threat classifications were not expected to occur frequently for most ACAP species given their life history strategy.

PaCSWG9 discussed engagement with the IUCN Red List process and noted that methods developed by the Intersessional Group were consistent with approaches already applied to several species assessments, including Benguela region species assessed using the JARA framework. The WG noted that the BirdLife International Red List team had been consulted during development of the framework and welcomed the positive feedback received regarding the IG Trends efforts and communication. The WG also discussed the importance of engagement with species data custodians and noted that relevant custodians had been consulted for all species assessed to date.

PaCSWG9 discussed the application of the standardised framework to the ACAP High Priority Populations assessment process. Initial analyses indicated the current threshold (3% annual decline over 20 years) might be very high, with only one species meeting the threshold (Grey-headed Albatross *T. chrysostoma*). The meeting discussed possible revisions to the assessment criteria and statistical thresholds, but because not all revised trends of ACAP High Priority Populations were yet available, no recommendations were finalised.

The WG agreed to task the IG Trends with developing updated, standardised criteria for identifying ACAP High Priority Populations. The updated Terms of Reference for the IG are provided in **ANNEX 3**.

PaCSWG9 acknowledged the substantial amount of work involved in compiling, standardising, and analysing long-term population datasets and thanked the IG Trends and contributors for their efforts. The WG encouraged continued compilation and analysis of data for species not yet included in the standardised population trend assessments and noted that the IG Trends intended to continue expanding analyses. The WG also noted the deadline of 1 October 2026 for ACAP to provide trend assessments to the IUCN Red List team and that cost implications for progressing this work need to be considered.

PaCSWG9 Doc 08 examined drivers of age at first reproduction in Wandering Albatross *Diomedea exulans* at Crozet Island, including demographic and environmental influences and sex-specific responses. The study focused on a population that had previously undergone substantial declines and highlighted age at first return as a useful indicator of population recovery. The analyses showed that females returned and recruited earlier than males, and that age at first return had changed over the study period for both sexes. Earlier recruitment was associated with greater mate availability, whereas higher population density at birth was associated with delayed recruitment. The study also reported increased recruitment and recovery of the population to levels comparable to those observed prior to the 1970s.

PaCSWG9 discussed recommendations to continue annual monitoring of recruitment and demographic parameters. PaCSWG9 commended the study and noted the value of long-term demographic datasets for understanding population processes. The WG also acknowledged that such intensive monitoring programmes are logistically challenging and resource-intensive, which may limit their application across many ACAP species. Nevertheless, PaCSWG9 agreed that these studies provide important insights and should be supported where feasible.

PaCSWG9 Inf 01 presented research on daily variation in colony attendance by Southern Giant Petrel *Macronectes giganteus*, noting substantial variation throughout the day and highlighting limitations of single-day counts. The paper also reported new protected area legislation in Argentina covering much of the continental breeding population.

PaCSWG9 discussed the value of further research into temporal variation in attendance patterns and noted the potential utility of drone-based surveys and fixed-camera monitoring for population monitoring and outreach with minimal disturbance.

PaCSWG9 Inf 02 reported island-wide drone surveys of Antipodean Albatross *Diomedea antipodensis* breeding colonies at Adams Island and Antipodes Island, which had not been comprehensively surveyed since the 1990s. Surveys were conducted over two breeding seasons using drone imagery, demonstrating that such approaches are logistically feasible despite operational constraints. The paper highlighted the importance of standardising the conversion of aerial survey outputs to the target metric of breeding pairs for population assessment purposes.

PaCSWG9 Inf 03 presented time-lapse camera monitoring of Salvin's Albatross *Thalassarche salvini* nesting sites on the Bounty Islands, undertaken under significant logistical constraints where fixed cameras represented the only viable monitoring approach. The study successfully used imagery to estimate nest survival, despite challenges in identifying transitions across breeding stages and in distinguishing true breeders at the onset of nesting.

5.2 IUCN Red List review

Agenda Item 5.2 was discussed under Agenda Item 5.1.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PaCSWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

2. Endorse the updated definitions for recording abundance and the approaches to modelling trends in abundance of ACAP Species using the custom-built R package ACAPT developed by the Intersessional Group on Trends.

3. Endorse the methodology developed by the Intersessional Group on Trends for assigning IUCN Red List categories of ACAP Species using Criteria A2/A4.

4. Request the Intersessional Group apply the IUCN Red List criteria for geographic range (B1, B2) and very small or restricted population (D) to ACAP Species.

5. Allocate funding in the 2026 – 2028 Advisory Committe Work Programme to improve the structure and fields in the ACAP database to mirror the definitions of counts and errors used in the trends analyses, to record the reasons for edits to counts, and include counts currently not included in the database.

6. Allocate funding in the 2026 – 2028 Advisory Committee Work Programme to collate count data and to apply the trend modelling approach developed by the Intersessional Group and criteria B1, B2 and D to ensure that the ACAP Secretariat can advise BirdLife International on IUCN Red List Assessments of ACAP species by 1 October 2026.

7. Request the Secretariat update the ACAP Census Guidelines to include the insights obtained through the data processing framework (e.g., ideally, ≥10% of breeding pairs at each breeding site should be monitored).

8. Encourage research that will aid future abundance estimation of ACAP Species including monitoring and analyses of breeding probability and timing of failure; retrospective assignment of errors, and; methods used to extrapolate from surveyed areas to entire breeding sites.

9. Approves the updated Terms of Reference of the Intersessional Group on Trends (ANNEX 3).

6. THREATS

6.1 Updates on management of land-based threats

Information on management responses to land-based threats listed in the ACAP database is summarised in **ANNEX 2**.

PaCSWG9 considered three Information papers under this agenda item relating to invasive species and human disturbance at breeding sites (PaCSWG9 Inf 04–06).

PaCSWG9 Inf 05 provided an update on the Mouse-Free Marion (MFM) Project, which aims to eradicate invasive house mice (*Mus musculus*) from Marion Island. Field trials confirmed high bait palatability but also identified strong seasonal variability in mouse abundance and bait uptake, with ongoing refinement of baiting methods and a target eradication operation of 2029. Logistical and financial challenges, some related to current global events, were highlighted, and which have had varying impacts, including the postponement of planned 2026 fieldwork. PaCSWG9 welcomed the update and emphasised the considerable conservation value of such large-scale eradication programmes.

Two papers addressed the impacts of tourism and disturbance. A study on Southern Royal Albatross (*Diomedea epomophora*) at Campbell Island found no detectable effect of ecotourism on breeding success, although uncertainty remains and further data are required

(**PaCSWG9 Inf 04**). A broader analysis of Antarctic visitor sites (**PaCSWG9 Inf 06**) demonstrated that peak tourism activity overlaps with sensitive breeding periods of many bird species and recommended that these site-specific sensitivity data be used by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) to refine tourism management, including revision of existing, and development of new, Visitor Site Guidelines. This work has particular relevance for ACAP in regard to Southern Giant Petrel *M. giganteus* populations in the Antarctic, of which relatively little is known, with some sites not surveyed since the 1960s.

PaCSWG9 noted the growing importance of tourism as a pressure at breeding sites, particularly in Antarctica, and identified a need for improved understanding of susceptibility to disturbance and baseline data (e.g. population size, trends and distribution), and refined visitor management guidelines. It was also noted that the extent of exposure of populations, as well as the scale and type of tourism activities, are important determinants of impact.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PaCSWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

10. Recognise the logistical, financial and conservation importance of large-scale invasive species eradication programmes (e.g. Marion Island) and support their prioritisation in relevant international and national fora.

11. Encourage relevant international bodies (e.g. Antarctic Treaty System) to strengthen and implement visitor-site management guidelines, including incorporation of species-specific sensitivity and disturbance thresholds.

12. Encourage Parties, Range States and others to improve baseline data collection on abundance and breeding status of seabirds at frequently visited breeding sites, to support evidence-based tourism management.

6.2 Pollutants, including plastics and other marine debris

The meeting considered one Working paper (PaCSWG9 Doc 05) and several Information papers (PaCSWG9 Inf 07–13) addressing pollutants and marine debris.

PaCSWG9 Doc 05 presented evidence that per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are present in Southern Ocean seabirds, demonstrating widespread contamination and highlighting the limited understanding of impacts on ACAP species. PaCSWG9 noted that PFAS are globally distributed contaminants and discussed the importance of applying a precautionary approach while improving the evidence base on biological effects. It was also noted that some countries, such as Australia, are already taking steps to phase out PFAS, and that evidence from studies on ACAP species may help to raise the profile of this issue on national and international public policy agendas.

Several Information papers examined contaminant pathways and impacts. Studies of mercury (**PaCSWG9 Inf 07, PaCSWG9 Inf 08, PaCSWG9 Inf 09**) demonstrated complex relationships between trophic ecology and contaminant exposure, including temporal declines linked to dietary shifts. Additional work on metals and metalloids (**PaCSWG9 Inf 10, PaCSWG9 Inf 11**)

highlighted species-specific accumulation patterns and physiological responses, reinforcing the importance of integrated approaches to contaminant assessment. A comprehensive global review of biomarkers of pollution in seabirds (**PaCSWG9 Inf 12**) identified key knowledge gaps, particularly in the Southern Hemisphere, and emphasised the need for improved monitoring frameworks.

Plastic-related contamination was addressed in **PaCSWG9 Inf 13**, which detected plastic-derived chemicals (phthalates) in a high proportion of seabirds, with evidence suggesting multiple exposure pathways beyond ingested plastics. PaCSWG9 noted ongoing international efforts to develop a global plastics agreement (the UN Global Plastics Treaty) and emphasised the importance of ACAP-relevant scientific evidence in informing these processes. This study, an extension of work originally supported by an ACAP Small Grant also served to highlight strong international collaboration between ACAP Parties (Brazil and Argentina), with Uruguay also noting they would be willing to engage and share data for this initiative.

PaCSWG9 also noted the value of stranded birds as indicators of environmental contamination, while recognising potential biases associated with sampling.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PaCSWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

13. Urge Parties to limit the production and use of PFAS and promote safer alternatives, applying a precautionary approach.

14. Encourage Parties to prioritise research on the exposure and biological effects of PFAS and other pollutants on ACAP-listed species, and the incorporation of these impacts when modelling population trends.

15. Support efforts to integrate contaminant data into population monitoring and modelling frameworks, including use of biomarkers and multi-species approaches.

16. Encourage Parties to support global efforts to reduce marine plastic pollution, including engagement with international policy processes.

17. Note and promote enhanced regional collaboration, particularly in the South Atlantic and Southern Ocean, for contaminant monitoring and research.

6.3 High-pathogenicity H5N1 avian influenza and other pathogens

PaCSWG9 considered one Working paper (PaCSWG9 Doc 06) and several Information papers (PaCSWG9 Inf 14–19) relating to High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza H5N1 (HPAI) and other diseases.

PaCSWG9 Doc 06 introduced a **public HPAI database** developed by the ACAP High Pathogenicity H5Nx Avian Influenza Intersessional Group (HPAI-IG). The database integrates multiple global data sources and provides a centralised tool to monitor the spread and impacts

of HPAI on albatrosses and petrels. PaCSWG9 welcomed the development of this resource and recognised its value for decision-making and coordination.

Surveillance updates documented HPAI spread dynamics, but indicated that some regions remain free from HPAI. Surveys at Heard Island and McDonald Islands detected no evidence of HPAI in ACAP species (**PaCSWG9 Inf 14**), while extensive monitoring across New Zealand's subantarctic islands also returned negative results (**PaCSWG9 Inf 15**). South Africa also noted that there have been no further outbreaks detected on Marion Island since November 2024. However, PaCSWG9 noted that the global spread of HPAI continues, with documented large-scale mortality in wild birds and mammals and the potential for severe impacts on colonial seabirds.

This was supported by **PaCSWG9 Inf 18** which presented a review of the emergence, spread, and impact of HPAI H5N1 in wild birds and mammals across South America and Antarctica, finding that since its arrival in South America in October 2022 the virus infected at least 83 wild bird and 11 wild mammal species and is estimated to have killed at least 667,000 wild birds and 52,000 wild mammals, before spreading to the Antarctic region by October 2023. The paper recommends continued targeted wildlife surveillance and adaptation of conservation plans, noting that the high density of Antarctic colonial species creates conditions for potentially devastating outbreaks with severe long-term conservation consequences.

Further, tracking analyses (**PaCSWG9 Inf 16 Rev 1**) demonstrated high connectivity between breeding sites, with rapid movements between regions within HPAI infectious periods, highlighting the importance of movement data in understanding disease transmission pathways.

Baseline studies on other seabird diseases (**PaCSWG9 Inf 17 and PaCSWG9 Inf 19**) indicated low prevalence of some pathogens in ACAP species but confirmed the importance of continued monitoring in changing environmental conditions.

PaCSWG9 identified several key gaps that could be addressed, including limited reporting of negative surveillance results and the need for greater use of viral genotyping to understand transmission dynamics. The importance of effective communication and outreach on seabird disease and impacts was also emphasised.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PaCSWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

18. Endorse the ACAP HPAI database as a reference tool and source of information on the spread and impacts of HPAI in ACAP species, encouraging Parties to contribute data and feedback.

19 Urge Parties to increase HPAI surveillance and reporting, including reporting of both positive detections and sampling effort with negative results to ACAP HPAI-IG.

20 Encourage Parties to undertake genetic characterisation of detected HPAI and other viruses to improve understanding of transmission pathways.

21. Promote the integration of tracking and movement data into disease risk assessments and surveillance planning.

22. Strengthen communication and outreach efforts to encourage the use of the disease management guidelines developed by ACAP HPAI-IG.

23. Encourage Parties and researchers to increase HPAI surveillance efforts in ACAP Species and provide reports to the database authors.

6.4 Impacts of climate change at breeding sites

No papers were tabled for discussion on this item.

In summary, PaCSWG9 noted that threats to ACAP species are increasingly multi-faceted and interacting, including land-based pressures (invasive species, disturbance), marine pollution (chemicals and plastics), and emerging disease risks on top of existing bycatch threats. Addressing these challenges requires:

- Continued international coordination and collaboration
- Application of the precautionary principle where uncertainty remains high
- Improved data integration across disciplines, including ecology, toxicology and epidemiology.

7. DATA GAPS

7.1. Review of key gaps in population data

The WG reviewed **Tables 1, 2 and 3** which summarise population monitoring gaps and demographic data availability for ACAP species. The Science Officer noted that these tables are drawn from information submitted by Parties and site custodians to the ACAP database and provide guidance on where more effort needs to be focussed to fill gaps in knowledge. The Science Officer thanked all data providers and the Meting thanked the Science Officer for all her thorough work.

Data on current population size (surveys conducted less than 10 years ago) is unavailable for 13 important island groups (>5% of global breeding pairs) (**Table 1**). Four populations have been added to this list since PaCSWG8, Black-browed Albatross *Thalassarche melanophris* and Grey-headed Albatross *T. chrysostoma* breeding on the Diego Ramirez Islands, Black-browed Albatross *T. melanophris* breeding on Ildefonso Islands, and Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross *Thalassarche chlororhynchos* breeding in the Tristan da Cunha group. A long-standing population monitoring data gap for the Southern Giant Petrel *Macronectes giganteus* breeding in the Heard and McDonald Islands has been filled since PaCSWG8 with a population survey conducted in the 2025/26 austral summer.

Recent information is also lacking for 20 populations at breeding sites holding >10% of global numbers for that species (**Table 2**). Two sites have been added to the list since PaCSWG8,

White-chinned Petrel *Procellaria aequinoctialis* breeding on Disappointment Island and Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross *T. chlororhynchos* breeding on Tristan da Cunha.

Data gaps remain largely for island groups or breeding sites that are logistically difficult to access and for species that are very challenging to survey.

Breeding sites where demographic information has been collected are presented in **Table 3**. Data continue to be lacking on breeding success and adult and juvenile survival for Spectacled Petrel *Procellaria conspicillata,* on adult survival for the Pink-footed Shearwater *Ardenna creatopus*, and on juvenile survival for Salvin's *T. salvini*, White-capped *T. steadi,* and Chatham albatrosses *Thalassarche eremita*.

Recent progress on priority monitoring programmes identified by the WG for each ACAP species by region is summarised in **Table 4**.

Table 1. Island groups that comprise at least 5% of the species' total global breeding pairs, which have not been monitored at any site or part-site/study colony within the given island group in the last 10 years or more (i.e. most recent survey = 2015 or earlier), or where the data are not yet available. Island groups added since PaCSWG8 are highlighted.

Jurisdiction	Island Group	Species	Population estimate for Island Group (annual breeding pairs)	% known global population	Latest year of data at any site within Island Group[1]
Chile	Islas Diego Ramirez	*Thalassarche melanophris*	63,718	9	2015
Chile	Islas Diego Ramirez	*Thalassarche chrysostoma*	18,358	22	2014
Chile	Islas Ildefonso	*Thalassarche melanophris*	57,143	8	2014
France	Crozet	*Procellaria cinerea*	2,000-9,000	7	2005
France	Kerguelen	*Macronectes halli*	1,495-1,745	9	2013
France	Kerguelen	*Phoebetria palpebrata*	3,000-5,000	25	1987
France	Kerguelen	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	186,000-297,000	19	2005
New Zealand	Antipodes Islands	*Procellaria cinerea*	60,147	70	2010
New Zealand	Campbell Islands	*Phoebetria palpebrata*	1,658	10	1996
South Africa	Prince Edward Islands	*Thalassarche carteri*	7,000	21	2009
United Kingdom	Gough	*Procellaria cinerea*	10,000-25,000	20	2001
United Kingdom	Tristan da Cunha	*Phoebetria fusca*	2,607-3,707	26	2010
United Kingdom	Tristan da Cunha	*Thalassarche chlororhynchos*	11,657 – 26,450	70	2015

[1] Includes counts of chicks

Table 2. Sites with >10% of species' global breeding pairs where population estimate has not been conducted in at least the last 10 years, or the data are not yet available (i.e. latest survey = 2015 or earlier) (excludes sites where part-site/study colony counts have been conducted). Sites added since PaCSWG8 are highlighted.

Jurisdiction	Island Group	Breeding Site	Species	Population Estimate at breeding site (annual breeding pairs)	% of total known global population	Survey Accuracy	Latest year of population data for the site or part-site
Chile	Islas Diego Ramirez	Isla Bartolome	*Thalassarche chrysostoma*	10,880	14	High	2003
Disputed	South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1]	Northwest	*Macronectes halli*	3,455	19	High	2007
Disputed	South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur) [1]	Northwest	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	146,545	12	Medium	2007
Disputed	South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur) [1]	Nunez	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	193,838	16	Medium	2007
France	Crozet	Ile de l'Est	*Phoebetria fusca*	1,300	11	Unknown	1984
France	Kerguelen	Golfe du Morbihan[#]	*Phoebetria palpebrata*	3,000-5,000	25		1987
New Zealand	Antipodes Islands	Antipodes Island	*Procellaria cinerea*	60,147	70	Medium	2010
New Zealand	Auckland Islands	Disappointment Island	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	155,500	13	High	2015
New Zealand	Campbell Islands	Campbell Island	*Phoebetria palpebrata*	1,600	10	Low	1996
South Africa	Prince Edward Islands	Prince Edward Island	*Thalassarche carteri*	7,000	21	Medium	2009
South Africa	Prince Edward Islands	Prince Edward Island	*Diomedea exulans*	1,800	18	High	2009
South Africa	Prince Edward Islands	Prince Edward Island	*Phoebetria fusca*	1,210	10	Medium	2009
Spain	Balearic Archipelago	Cabrera	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	475	15	Low	2008
Spain	Balearic Archipelago	Mallorca	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	900	28	Low	2009
United Kingdom	Gough	Gough Island	*Procellaria cinerea*	10,000-25,000	20	Unknown	2001
United Kingdom	Tristan da Cunha	Nightingale	*Thalassarche chlororhynchos*	4,000	15	Low	2007

Jurisdiction	Island Group	Breeding Site	Species	Population Estimate at breeding site (annual breeding pairs)	% of total known global population	Survey Accuracy	Latest year of population data for the site or part-site
United Kingdom	Tristan da Cunha	Tristan da Cunha	*Thalassarche chlororhynchos*	9,307-23,900	61	Low	2015
United Kingdom	Tristan da Cunha	Tristan da Cunha	*Phoebetria fusca*	2,000-3,000	21	Unknown	1974
USA	Hawaii	Laysan Island	*Phoebastria nigripes*	24,565	34	High	2012
USA	Hawaii	Laysan Island	*Phoebastria immutabilis*	134,835	19	Medium	2012

figure is for all Kerguelen

[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 Sándwich del Sur) and the surrounding maritime areas

Table 3: Availability of **demographic information** for all ACAP species (including data collected but not yet analysed). Cells in grey not yet in the database.

Species	Number of sites	Number of Island Groups	Adult survival data Sites	Juvenile survival data Sites	Breeding success data sites
Diomedea amsterdamensis	1	1	Plateau des Tourbieres	Plateau des Tourbieres	Plateau des Tourbieres
Diomedea antipodensis	6	4	Antipodes Island	Antipodes Island	Antipodes Island
			Adams Island	Adams Island	Adams Island
Diomedea dabbenena	2	2	Gough Island	Gough Island	Gough Island
Diomedea epomophora	4	2	Enderby Island	Campbell Island	Enderby Island
			Campbell Island		Campbell Island
Diomedea exulans	39	5	Macquarie Island	Macquarie Island	Macquarie Island
			Ile de la Possession	Ile de la Possession	Ile de la Possession
			Courbet Peninsula	Courbet Peninsula	Courbet Peninsula
			Marion Island	Marion Island	Marion Island
			Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]	Albatross Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]
					Prion Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]
					Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]
Diomedea sanfordi	5	3	The Forty-fours	Taiaroa Head	The Big Sister
			Taiaroa Head		The Forty-fours
					The Little (Middle) Sister
					Taiaroa Head
Phoebastria albatrus	2	2	Torishima	Mukojima*	Torishima
			Mukojima*		Mukojima*
Phoebastria immutabilis	17	5	Midway Atoll	Midway Atoll	Midway
			Laysan Island	Laysan Island	Laysan
			French Frigate Shoals	French Frigate Shoals	French Frigate Shoals
			Kaua'i	Kaua'i	O'ahu
			O'ahu	O'ahu	
Phoebastria irrorata	2	2	Isla Espanola	Isla Espanola	Isla Espanola

Species	Number of sites	Number of Island Groups	Adult survival data Sites	Juvenile survival data Sites	Breeding success data sites
Phoebastria nigripes	15	4	Midway Atoll	Midway Atoll	Midway
			French Frigate Shoals	French Frigate Shoals	French Frigate Shoals
			Laysan Island	Laysan Island	Laysan Island
Phoebetria fusca	15	6	Ile de la Possession	Ile de la Possession	Ile de la Possession
					Marion Island
					Gough Island
Phoebetria palpebrata	73	9	Ile de la Possession	Macquarie Island	Macquarie Island
			Jeanne d'Arc Peninsula	Jeanne d'Arc Peninsula	Ile de la Possession
					Campbell Island
					Marion Island
					Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]
					Jeanne d'Arc Peninsula
Thalassarche bulleri	10	4	North-East Island	North-East Island	North-East Island
			The Little (Middle) Sister		Great Solander Island
Thalassarche carteri	6	5	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux
Thalassarche cauta	3	1	Albatross Island (AU)	Albatross Island (AU)	Albatross Island (AU)
					The Mewstone
					Pedra Branca
Thalassarche chlororhynchos	6	2	Gough Island	Gough Island	Gough Island
			Tristan da Cunha		Inaccessible Island
					Tristan da Cunha
Thalassarche chrysostoma	29	8	Macquarie Island	Macquarie Island	Macquarie Island
			Campbell Island	Campbell Island	Campbell Island
			Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]
			Marion Island		Marion Island
Thalassarche eremita	1	1	The Pyramid	The Pyramid*	The Pyramid
Thalassarche impavida	2	1	Campbell Island	Campbell Island	Campbell Island

Species	Number of sites	Number of Island Groups	Adult survival data Sites	Juvenile survival data Sites	Breeding success data sites
Thalassarche melanophris	65	14	Macquarie Island	Macquarie Island	Macquarie Island
			Jeanne d'Arc Peninsula	Jeanne d'Arc Peninsula	Jeanne d'Arc Peninsula
			Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]
			New Island		Saunders Island
					New Island
					Steeple Jason
					West Point Island
					Grave Cove, Dunbar
Thalassarche salvini	12	4	Toru Islet	No data	Toru Islet
			Proclamation Island		Proclamation Island
Thalassarche steadi	5	3	Auckland Island	No data	Auckland Island
			Disappointment Island		Disappointment Island
Ardenna creatopus	3	2	No data	Isla Mocha	Isla Mocha
				Isla Santa Clara	Isla Santa Clara
				Isla Robinson Crusoe	Isla Robinson Crusoe
Macronectes giganteus	123	26	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]	Isla Arce
			Marion Island		Isla Gran Robredo
			Ile de la Possession		Macquarie Island
					Ile de la Possession
					Laurie Island
					Nelson Island
					Marion Island
					Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]
					Gough Island
					Golden Knob (Elephant Cays)
					Sandy Cay (Elephant Cays)
					Steeple Jason

Species	Number of sites	Number of Island Groups	Adult survival data Sites	Juvenile survival data Sites	Breeding success data sites
					Anvers Island
Macronectes halli	52	11	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]
			Marion Island	The Forty-fours	Macquarie Island
			Ile de la Possession		Ile de la Possession
			The Forty-fours		Marion Island
					Courbet Peninsula
Procellaria aequinoctialis	78	8	Ile de la Possession	Ile de la Possession	Ile de la Possession
			Ile Haute	Ile Haute	Marion Island
			Antipodes Island		Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]
			Adams Island		Ile Haute
Procellaria cinerea	16	9	Golfe du Morbihan	Golfe du Morbihan	Macquarie Island
					Marion Island
					Gough Island
					Golfe du Morbihan
Procellaria conspicillata	1	1	No data	No data	No data
Procellaria parkinsoni	2	1	Great Barrier Island	Little Barrier Island	Little Barrier Island
			Little Barrier Island	Great Barrier Island	Great Barrier Island
Procellaria westlandica	1	1	Punakaiki	Punakaiki	Punakaiki
Puffinus mauretanicus	5	1	Mallorca	Mallorca	Mallorca
			Ibiza	Ibiza	Cabrera
					Menorca
					Ibiza

* Translocated population

[1] A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty of 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.

The PacSWG reviewed priority monitoring programmes identified for each ACAP species by region; recent progress is summarised in **Table 4**.

Table 4. Summary of progress on **regional priority monitoring programmes**.

Priority monitoring programmes	Progress since AC14
ANTARCTICA: two species; 50 sites, two of unknown size	
(i) Resurvey Southern Giant Petrel at King George and Nelson Islands, South Shetland Islands	*None reported*
(ii) Maintain long-term population and productivity monitoring of Southern Giant Petrels at Signy Island, South Orkney Islands.	*Maintained all programmes*
NEW 2026 (iii) Resurvey Southern Giant Petrels at Antarctic Peninsula sites	
ARGENTINA: one species (Southern Giant Petrel) at four sites, population size known for all sites but no recent breeding pairs trend data; no survival data; potential impact of introduced species at Isla de los Estados	
(i) Maintain population and productivity monitoring at Isla Arce and Isla Gran Robredo.	*None reported*
(ii) Resurvey the two sites at Isla de los Estados.	*None reported*
AUSTRALIA: eight species at 17 sites in three island groups; 18% of populations of unknown size.	
(i) Maintain long-term demographic, productivity or population monitoring at Macquarie Island (seven ACAP species) and Tasmania (Shy Albatross).	*Population monitoring maintained for six species at Macquarie Island (chick census only for SGP; sub-colony survey of Grey Petrel in 2025). Monitoring maintained for Shy Albatross.*
(ii) Resurvey Shy Albatross at Mewstone	*Aerial surveys during incubation (breeding pairs) and pre-fledging.*
(iii) Resurvey Black-browed and Light-mantled Albatrosses at Heard Island.	*None reported*
(iv) Resurvey Black-browed Albatrosses at Bishop and Clerk Islands.	*No survey work. Investigating options for ship-based UAV surveys.*
CHILE: four species at 36 sites in nine island groups; no demographic data.	
(i) Begin long-term demographic monitoring of Black-browed and Grey-headed Albatrosses at minimum of one island group.	*None reported*
(ii) Resurvey all island groups.	*None reported*
(iii) Re-survey Southern Giant Petrel at Isla Noir.	*None reported*
(iv) Survey Pink-footed Shearwater on Isla Mocha and on at least one of the islands in Juan Fernández archipelago	*None reported*

Priority monitoring programmes	Progress since AC14
(v) Initiate a long-term demogrpahic monitoring programme for Pink-footed Shearwater in at least one the island groups where it breeds	*None reported*
DISPUTED – SOUTH ATLANTIC: seven species at 232 sites; 34% of populations of unknown size; steep declines in Wandering, Black-browed and Grey-headed Albatrosses, and White-chinned Petrel; possible decline in Light-mantled Albatross.	
(i) Maintain long-term demographic or productivity monitoring at Bird Island, South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] (seven ACAP species).	*Maintained all programmes*
(ii) Maintain long-term population (3 species) and productivity monitoring (1 species) at Prion Island, South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] (three ACAP species).	*Maintained all programmes*
(iii) Maintain White-chinned Petrel population monitoring at six sites at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1].	*Maintained at five sites. Demographic monitoring (with PIT tags) started at Bird Island in 2025/26*
(iv) Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Black-browed Albatross ~~at two sites~~ in the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)[1].	*Maintained at all sites*
(vi) Resurvey Southern Giant Petrels at the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)[1].	*Annual monitoring at selected sites maintained.* *Decadal island-group wide census planned for 2026-27.*
(vii) Re-survey all Wandering Albatross, Black-browed Albatross, Grey-headed Albatross breeding sites at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] every 10 years	*Paper published (Mackley et al. 2025. https://doi.org/10.3354/esr01427) and 2023/24 counts added to ACAP database.*
(viii) Maintain long-term population and productivity monitoring of Northern and Southern Giant Petrels at Cumberland Bay, South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1].	*Maintained all programmes.*
ECUADOR: single endemic species (Waved Albatross) at two sites, declining; no juvenile survival data.	
(i) Survey all of Española, Galapagos Islands.	*None reported*
(ii) Establish demographic monitoring in the interior colonies ('Colonia Central') on Española.	*None reported*
(iii) Establish long-term population and productivity monitoring at Isla de la Plata.	*None reported*
FRANCE: 12 species at 99 sites in three island groups; 20% of populations of unknown size; steep declines in Sooty Albatross and Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross.	
(i) Maintain long-term demographic or population monitoring at Kerguelen (5 species).	*None reported*

Priority monitoring programmes	Progress since AC14
(ii) Maintain long-term demographic or population monitoring at Crozet (6 species).	*None reported*
(iii) Maintain long-term demographic or population monitoring at Amsterdam Island (3 species).	*None reported*
(iv) Resurvey; Sooty and Light-mantled Albatross at Ile de l'Est, Crozet and at Kerguelen; Northern and Southern Giant Petrels at Cochons and Ile de l'Est, Crozet; White-chinned Petrel at Possession Island, Crozet, and; Grey Petrel at Kerguelen	*None reported*
JAPAN: three species; current trend, adult survival and productivity unknown for four populations.	
(i) Establish long-term demographic monitoring at all sites.	*None reported*
MEXICO: one species (Laysan Albatross) at four sites; no trend or demographic data.	
(i) Establish demographic monitoring at all sites	*None reported*
NEW ZEALAND: 16 species (10 endemic) including 98 populations; 27% of populations of unknown size.	
(ii) Survey Salvin's Albatross at Bounty Islands.	*Drone-based surveys completed 2023-2026. One further survey planned for 2027, completing five consecutive surveys.*
(iii) Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Black Petrel at Great Barrier Island.	*Programme maintained. Integrated population model underway*
(iv) Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Antipodean Albatross at Adams Island, Auckland Islands.	*Programme maintained. Full island estimate completed. Integrated population model underway*
(v) Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Buller's Albatross at the Snares.	*Programme maintained*
(vi) Maintain population monitoring of White-capped Albatross at all sites in the Auckland Islands.	*Two landings attempted in 2024 and 2025 but failed. Attempts for upcoming seasons underway.*
(viii) Collate existing data on Light-mantled Albatross populations and survey at major breeding sites.	*Nest survival estimates underway, planning for wider surveys underway.*
(ix) Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Antipodean Albatross at Antipodes Island	*Programme maintained. Full island estimate completed.*
(x) Survey Southern Royal Albatross at Campbell Island and maintain demographic monitoring.	*~25% of population surveyed during 2023-25. At least one more year planned. Demographic programme maintained.*
(xi) Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Westland Petrels at Punakaiki	*Programme maintained*

Priority monitoring programmes	Progress since AC14
SOUTH AFRICA: 9 species including 17 populations; 18% of populations of unknown size; no survival data for 13 populations.	
(i) Maintain long-term population monitoring of Sooty and Light-mantled Albatrosses at Marion Island.	*Programme maintained*
(ii) Survey White-chinned and Grey Petrels at Marion and Prince Edward Islands.	*Programme maintained on breeding success for* White-chinned*, only survey on Grey Petrels*
(iii) Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Wandering and Grey-headed Albatrosses at Marion Island.	*Programme maintained*
(iv) Maintain intermittent population monitoring	*Programme maintained in 2023 for Prince Edward Island*
SPAIN: 1 species in one archipelago (Balearics), five island groups within a main archipelago (Balearics).	
(i) Establish and maintain long term monitoring programmes in all the major island groups, including ongoing initiatives in Dragonera/Sa Cella (Mallorca group) and Conillera/Bosc (Ibiza). Ensure that these ongoing programmes collect the relevant information necessary to assess demographic trends.	*Monitoring in Dragonera/Sa Cella long focused on tracking (i.e. mainly visits to capture and tag birds, usually incubation, not always chick-rearing), not exhaustive. However, recent work in Sa Dragonera (2023 onwards?) has paid more attention to breeding monitoring. (University of Oxford & IMEDEA)* *Monitoring in Ibiza has had some logistical constrains in recent years. No monitoring in 2020 due to COVID, the remaining years always visited but not always covering incubation and chick-rearing. Biosecurity monitoring in 2022-2025 to assess potential arrival of predators (a rat arrived in Sep. 2022). (SEO/BirdLife, IRBI & AZTI)* *Regular monitoring in Conills de Malgrats (Mallorca) since 2017, by IRBI, with support of SEO/BirdLife & AZTI.* *Regular monitoring of Mola de Maó (Menorca) since 2017 by IRBI and SEO/BirdLife, with support of AZTI. Aim to build a barrier, so far too many bureaucratic constrains, pending (MITECO).*
(ii) Recover the available information collected in the last 12 years on behalf of the local administration	*None reported*
(iii) Update population information for the whole archipelago, and investigate the potential existence of unknown/not confirmed breeding sites	*Recent update of colony sites, based on visits to non-monitored sites plus sound-recorders in Cabrera and Formentera, plus expert assessment (García 2024).*

Priority monitoring programmes	Progress since AC14
UNITED KINGDOM: 6 species including 16 populations on two island groups	
(i) Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Tristan and Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatrosses and Southern Giant Petrels at Gough Island.	*Monitoring programme paused for Tristan Albatross and Southern Giant Petrels since 2025; for Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross since 2024.* *All data submitted to the Tristan da Cunha Portal hosted by the Polar Data Centre at the British Antarctic Survey.*
(ii) Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross at Tristan and Nightingale islands.	*None reported*
(iii) Maintain intermittent population monitoring of Sooty Albatross at Gough Island.	*Monitoring programme paused since 2023*
(iv) Maintain intermittent population monitoring of Spectacled Petrel at Inaccessible Island.	*Last update done in 2018, next one planned for 2028.*
(v) Establish intermittent population monitoring of Sooty Albatross at Tristan Island.	*None reported*
(vi) Survey Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross at Tristan Island.	*Monitoring programme paused since 2023.*
(vii) Maintain population and productivity monitoring in study plots of Grey Petrel at Gough Island.	*Monitoring programme paused since 2023.*
(viii) Confirm breeding of Grey Petrel at Inaccessible and Tristan islands.	*Not yet confirmed*
UNITED STATES: three species, 26 populations, all of known size; few demographic data.	
(i) Maintain long-term demographic monitoring at several sites.	*None reported*
(ii) Survey the five breeding sites where not currently monitored, and at all sites at five-year intervals.	*None reported*
WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC: two species at two sites; current population trends unknown; no survival data.	
(i) Begin long-term population monitoring of Short-tailed Albatross at Minami-Kojima	*146 nesting individuals in 2020 and 156 in 2022 (Otsubo and Higuchi 2026).*

[1]A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty of 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.

7.2. Review of key gaps in tracking data

The WG reviewed recent progress in the priority tracking programmes identified for each ACAP species by region (**Table 5)**.

Table 5. Summary of progress on **regional tracking priorities**.

	Tracking Priorities	Progress since AC14 (August 2024)
ARGENTINA	**i)** Southern Giant Petrels (non-breeding adults and juveniles) at Isla Arce and Isla Gran Robredo.	*None reported*
	ii) Southern Giant Petrels (breeding and non-breeding adults) at Isla Arce and/or Isla Gran Robredo.	*None reported*
AUSTRALIA	Shy Albatross (juveniles) in Tasmania; juveniles of all albatross species at Macquarie Island.	*No progress on Shy Albatross juvenile tracking.* *Eight GHA juveniles tracked with satellite PTT April 2025.* *12 LMA juveniles tracked with satellite PTT May 2025.* *GPS tracking including flight height/behavioural data obtained in 2025/26 on 6 SGP, 6 NGP, 6 BBA, 6 GHA and 6 LMA.* *GPS tracking including flight height/behaviour data of 27 Shy Albatross adults from Albatross Island in 2025/26.*
CHILE	**i)** Juvenile and nonbreeding Black-browed and Grey-headed Albatrosses at all island groups, and particularly at Diego Ramirez; tracking of adults during all breeding stages from Islands Groups other than Diego Ramirez;	*ACAP Small Grant 2024 for GHA tracking*
	ii) tracking of Southern Giant Petrels at Isla Noir.	*None reported*
DISPUTED	**i)** All ACAP species at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] at a site other than Bird Island.	*Tracking of breeding and nonbreeding Wandering albatrosses at Prion Island (two papers published), White-chinned petrels at Cooper Island and King Edward Point (manuscript submitted), Northern and Southern giant petrels at Maiviken and Harpon (to be analysed by student in 2027).* *ACAP Small Grant 2024 for GHA tracking*
	ii) Light-mantled Albatross at Bird Island, South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1]. Limited data suggest population decline.	*No progress*
ECUADOR	**i)** Waved Albatross (juveniles) at Galapagos.	*None reported*
	ii) Waved albatross (breeding adults during the non-breeding season) at Galapagos.	*None reported*

	Tracking Priorities	Progress since AC14 (August 2024)
FRANCE	Grey-headed and Indian Yellow-nosed Albatrosses at Crozet Islands, Grey-headed Albatross at Kerguelen	*None reported*
JAPAN	Black-footed Albatross at Ogasawara Islands.	*None reported*
NEW ZEALAND	**iii)** Light-mantled Albatross at key sites.	*Nine birds tracked from Campbell, four from Adams, and three from Antipodes. Further deployments planned in 2026/27*
	iv) Satellite tracking of Southern Royal Albatross from Campbell	*50 sat tag deployments and 60 GLS tag deployments completed.*
	~~**v) Satellite tracking of Southern Buller's Albatross from Snares and Solander**~~	*>70 sat tags deployed on Snares and 20 at Solander. Tracking coverage considered completed.*
	NEW 2024 Satellite tracking of juveniles of various taxa, including Gibson's, Northern Royal, Southern Buller's and Salvin's Albatross as well as Northern Giant, Black, and Westland Petrels	*Juvenile tracking ongoing. ~40 Gibson's, ~40 Northern Royal, and 5 Southern Royal Albatross juveniles tracked since 2022. ~35 Northern Giant Petrel juveniles tracked since 2023. Buller's juvenile tracking planned in 2026, Salvin's in 2027, and White-capped in 2028. ~50 Black petrel juveniles tracked in 2026 as well.*
	NEW 2024 Satellite tracking of Grey-headed Albatross from Campbell Island	*20 individuals tracked with sat tags in 2025/26. 25 GLS deployed. Further developments planned in 2026/27*
	NEW 2024 Satellite tracking of Northern Giant Petrel from Motuhara and Rangitutahi	*25 GLS deployed and to be recovered.*
	NEW 2024 Satellite tracking of Campbell Albatross from Campbell Island	*13 sat tags deployed 2024-26 as well as 25 GLS waiting to be recovered.*
	NEW 2026 Satellite tracking of Grey Petrels from Antipodes Island	*Planned deployments in 2027*
	NEW 2026 non-breeding tracking of Northern Royal Albatross at both Motuhara and Rangitutahi	*25 GLS deployed at Motuhara, further GLS planned for deployment on Rangitutathi in 2026.*
SOUTH AFRICA	Juveniles of all species at Prince Edward Islands (*Phoebetria* species higher priority).	*5 PTT tags deployed at Marion Island*
	NEW 2026 Grey-headed Albatross on Marion Island	*Small Grant 2024 for GHA tracking*

	Tracking Priorities	Progress since AC14 (August 2024)
SPAIN	**(i)** Balearic Shearwater juveniles (only pilot study with five birds) and adults in early stages of breeding period. Major effort required in Menorca, where taxonomic status uncertain, influenced by Yelkouan Shearwater *Puffinus yelkouan* (could affect bird movements).	*GLS tracking has been conducted every year in different colonies, within the monitoring programmes mentioned above. No detail available of GPS tracking by University of Oxford.* *SEO/BirdLife in collaboration with IRBI and AZTI tagged:* - *Mola de Maó (Menorca): 5 juvs with PTT in 2020, 4 juvs and 13 adults with GPS/GSM in 2021, 4 juvs and 2 ads with GPS/GSM in 2022, 4 juvs and 1 adult with GPS/GSM in 2024.* - *Conills de Malgrats (Mallorca): 11 adults with GPS/GSM in 2022.*
	(ii) Tracking of birds captured at sea during breeding season, to assess connectivity with colonies and explore the possible existence of unknown colonies	*SEO/BirdLife captured and tagged birds at sea off Barcelona with PTT (2020) and GPS/GSM (2021-2025): 1 bird (2020), 9 birds (2021), 11 birds (2022), 5 birds (2024) and 8 birds (2025).*
	(iii) Tracking of birds bycaught alive by fishing vessels.	*4 bycaught birds were tagged with PTTs in 2020 at l'Escala (Girona, Catalunya).*
UK	Juveniles of most species at Gough and Tristan da Cunha.	*Currently seeking funding for gap analysis (Tristan tracking database).*
USA	Black-footed Albatross at Laysan Island.	*PTT tracking of breeding and non-breeding adults from Laysan Island in 2024 and 2025.* *Year-round GLS tracking of breeding adults from Laysan Island – though only around 3 loggers will be retrieved.*

[1]A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty of 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.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PaCSWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

24. Encourage ACAP Parties and Range States responsible for breeding populations of ACAP species to implement the priority monitoring programmes to increase current knowledge of their population size, trends and demography;

25. Encourage ACAP Parties and others to undertake the identified priority tracking studies.

26. Encourage data-holders to submit their tracking data to the BirdLife International Seabird Tracking Database to enable multi-species analyses of overlap between ACAP species and fisheries.

8. BEST-PRACTICE GUIDELINES AND OTHER ONLINE RESOURCES

8.1 Updates to existing guidelines and resources

Methodological approaches relevant to ACAP census guidelines in **PaCSWG9 Inf 01** (Fine-scale assessment of temporal variability in nest attendance using repeated drone surveys of Southern Giant Petrels) were addressed under Agenda Item 5.1. **PaCWG9 Inf 01** presented preliminary results of the study and more comprehensive guidelines and recommendations will be provided to PaCSWG10.

8.2. New guidelines

No new guidelines were proposed**.**

9. REVIEWS AND INFORMATION

9.1. Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) update

Albatrosses and petrels, due to their role as wide-ranging apex predators, are recognised as key Essential Ocean Variables (EOVs) and an important part of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), a permanent global system for observing, modelling, and analysing marine and ocean variables. It is co-sponsored by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the International Science Council (ISC). **PaCSWG9 Doc 07** reported that the Seabird EOV specification sheet has undergone substantial revision through a coordinated process involving international workshops and broad expert online consultation in 2025 to ensure scientific robustness, operational feasibility, and global applicability. EOVs considered subvariables on abundance / counts (mature individuals), at-sea distributions, mortality events and other supporting variables as breeding success, diet etc. ACAP maintains one of the most comprehensive global datasets on albatross and petrel populations and plays a central role in developing best-practice monitoring guidelines. Its expertise and existing data systems are directly relevant to the implementation and refinement of the seabird EOV.

PaCSWG9 was asked to:

(i) Review the updated seabird EOV specification sheet and provide technical feedback on its scientific robustness, feasibility, and alignment with ACAP monitoring frameworks.

(ii) Identify opportunities to align ACAP datasets and protocols with the seabird EOV, including standardisation and data sharing and interoperability.

(iii) Advise on priority variables and implementation considerations, including emerging threats such as HPAI.

The Meeting discussed the possibility of population trends produced by the Trends IG to also be considered as a reference when discussing abundance data frameworks for the GOOS EOV Seabirds. Regarding data sharing, given that ACAP is not the data owner, data should instead be shared directly by ACAP Parties, data custodians and relevant researchers to GOOS/BioEco Portal and the Ocean Biodiversity Information System (OBIS).

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PaCSWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

27. Encourages ACAP WGs to continue collaboration with the GOOS BioEco Panel, including the development of EOVs, and other global initiatives to enhance integration of seabird data into ocean observing systems.

28. Encourages ACAP Parties and data owners to contribute data directly.

10. REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PREVIOUS PACSWG MEETINGS

The Secretariat collated recommendations from previous PaCSWG meetings into a searchable database which can be used to track recommendations over time to avoid duplication and note progress against agreed actions. This resource will be made available prior to PaCSWG10 so that WG members and authors can check the status of existing recommendations in advance of drafting meeting documents.

11. PACSWG WORK PROGRAMME

11.1. Review Work Programme 2026 - 2028

The Work Programme for 2026 - 2028 **(AC15 Doc 14)** was updated based on discussions during the meeting, to be considered by the Advisory Committee.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was raised.

13. REPORTING TO AC15

This report was prepared for consideration by the Advisory Committee.

14. CLOSING REMARKS

The PaCSWG Convenors and Vice-convenor thanked those present, and the authors of papers and rapporteurs, for their valuable contributions to the meeting. The Convenors also thanked all PaCSWG members for progressing the work of the PaCSWG during the intersessional period. The Secretariat was thanked for providing support to the Working Group at the meeting as well as during the intersessional period. The Convenors warmly thanked the hosts, Namibia. Sandra Hale and Cecilia Alal were also gratefully acknowledged for their interpretation services, as were the sound technicians and Plaza Hotel staff for facilitating the smooth running of the meeting. PaCSWG9 in turn thanked the Convenors and Vice-convenor for chairing the meeting.

ANNEX 1. LIST OF MEETING PARTICIPANTS AND NON-ATTENDING PaCSWG MEMBERS

PaCSWG9 MEETING PARTICIPANTS

PaCSWG Members	
Marco Favero	PaCSWG Co-convenor, Instituto de Investigaciones Marinas y Costeras, CONICET-UNMDP, Argentina
Patricia Pereira Serafini	PaCSWG Co-convenor, CEMAVE - National Center for Wild Bird Research and Conservation, ICMBio/Ministry of Environment, Brazil
Richard Phillips	PaCSWG Vice-convenor, BAS, United Kingdom
Barry Baker	Charles Darwin University, Australia
Igor Debski	Department of Conservation, New Zealand
Johannes Fischer	Department of Conservation, New Zealand
Gustavo Jiménez	Charles Darwin Foundation, Ecuador
Sebastián Jiménez	DINARA, Uruguay
Mandi Livesey	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Australian Antarctic Division
Azwianewi Makhado	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, South Africa
Megan Tierney	Joint Nature Conservation Committee, United Kingdom

Invited Experts	
Johannes Chambon	University of Otago
Thomas Clay	Environmental Defense Fund

Advisory Committee Officials, Members, Representatives and Advisors	
Pedro Albuquerque	Representative, Brazil
Gabriel Canani Sampaio	Advisor, Brazil
Thando Cebekhulu	Alternate Representative, South Africa
Lawrence Chlebeck	Advisor, Australia
Mike Double	AC Chair
Makhudu Masotla	Alternate Representative, South Africa
Tatiana Neves	AC Vice-chair
Mark Tasker	Member, United Kingdom/ TWG Convenor

Observers	
Andrea Angel	BirdLife International
Chris Bartholomae	Namibia
Sarah Becker	University of Colorado Bouler
Dimas Gianuca	BirdLife International
Zoe Jacobs	BirdLife International
John Kathena	Namibia
Anja Kreiner	Namibia
Samantha Matjila	Namibia Nature Foundation
Elia Nambahu	Namibia Nature Foundation
Clemens Naomab	Namibia Nature Foundation
Daisuke Ochi	Japan
Sarah Paulus	Namibia
Etienne Rouby	INSTAAR, CU Boulder
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Lizette Voges	SEAFO
Oliver Yates	BirdLife International

ACAP Secretariat	
Jonathon Barrington	Executive Secretary
Wiesława Misiak	Science Officer

Interpreters
Cecilia Alal
Sandra Hale

PaCSWG MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING PaCSWG9

José Arcos	SEO/BirdLife
Ana Bertoldi Carneiro	BirdLife International
Leandro Bugoni	Universidade Federal do Rio Grande (FURG), Brazil
Karine Delord	Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS), France
Sebastien Descamps	Norwegian Polar Institute, Norway
Elizabeth Flint	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, USA
Caroline Fox	Environment and Climate Change Canada
Hiroshi Hasegawa	Toho University, Japan

Sheryl Hamilton	Department of Natural Resources and Environment (Tasmania), Australia
Kathryn Huyvaert	Washington State University, USA
Marcela Mónica Libertelli	Instituto Antártico Argentino, Argentina
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Ken Morgan	Emeritus, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment and Climate Change Canada
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Flavio Quintana	National Research Council of Argentina (CONICET), Argentina
Paul Sagar	New Zealand
Marcela Uhart	Karen C. Drayer Wildlife Health Center, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, Davis, USA
Barbara Wienecke	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Australian Antarctic Division, Australia
Henri Weimerskirch	Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS), France
Carlos Zavalaga	Universidad Científica del Sur, Peru

ANNEX 2. ONGOING MANAGEMENT ACTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THREATS AT BREEDING SITES OF ACAP-LISTED SPECIES

Island Group	Breeding site	Species	Threat species	Nature of threat	Current Threat Magnitude	Ongoing management actions or why no management response in place	Why management response was or was not effective	Additional comments
Tasmania	Albatross Island (AU)	*Thalassarche cauta*	Parasite or pathogen - Pathogen	(Avian pox virus)	Low	NRE Tas (formerly DPIPWE) conducted pilot investigation for management of disease and investigating methods to more robustly quantify the impact of the disease on the population.		Nature of disease that affects chicks is poorly understood. Avian pox virus has been detected - mortality of chicks is due to a combination of factors.
	Pedra Branca	*Thalassarche cauta*	Habitat loss or destruction - Increased competition with native species	*Morus serrator* (Australasian gannet)	High	None.		Level of threat to be confirmed. Gannet populations within jurisdiction are increasing. Current trend requires quantification and this is evident at Pedra Branca. Number of albatross chicks produced annually has declined & inter-specific interactions observed. Cause & effect needs confirmation with current assessment being undertaken of gannet population size and status across its Tasmanian range. Extreme weather events (wave wash) also contributing to population decline.
Islote Albatros	Islote Albatros	*Thalassarche melanophris*	Predation by alien species	*Neovison vison* (American mink)	Low	Traps for removing all american minks have being implemented in the islet during breeding season 2015/16.		

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Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)[1]	New Island	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	Predation by alien species	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Low	Some control of cats was initiated in 2014. Preparatory steps, via a feasibility study conducted between May 2022 – June 2024 have been taken for an eradication programme of the four invasive mammal species -including *Felis catis* – which threaten fauna and flora on New Island, Falkland Islands (*Islas Malvinas*)[1]. Execution of the full eradication programme commenced in October 2025 and is expected to be completed by September 2029. An ACAP Small Grant was also awarded to Falklands Conservation in 2024 to undertake targeted predator control and monitoring (ahead of the full eradication programme) at the White-chinned Petrel colony in 2025-26. Six smart live-capture traps and five trail cameras were deployed in October 2025, with traps positioned across the colony to maximise coverage of known and potential burrow sites. A total of 20 feral cats were captured and humanely euthanised. In addition to cat captures, a number of rats were also caught opportunistically		Research carried out at New Island has shown that feral cats on New Island feed predominantly on Cottontail Rabbits, Black Rats and Thin-billed Prions (Quillfeldt et al. 2008). There is some evidence that Feral Cats prey on the chicks of White-chinned Petrels, and existing, published information on the relatively small colony of White-chinned Petrels at New Island indicates it has remained stable since 1972 (Reid et al. 2007). It is recommended that updated figures should be sought for White-chinned Petrels at New Island.

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						in traps, although rodent control was not the primary focus of this work and was not systematically recorded. Camera data confirmed continued pressure from invasive predators, including both cats and rats entering WCP burrows. No direct predation events were recorded; however, the presence and behaviour of invasive mammals within burrows strongly indicates ongoing predation risk.		
	Beauchêne	*Thalassarche melanophris*	Parasite or pathogen - Pathogen	*Avian Influenza* (Avian Influenza)	Low	Tiered response to risk of HPAI. Enhanced biosecurity measures.		Confirmed mortality of 100s of adults in 2025-26. Past mortality also evident.
South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1]	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))	*Diomedea exulans*	Parasite or pathogen - Pathogen	*Avian Influenza* (Avian Influenza)	Low	Tiered response to risk of HPAI. Enhanced biosecurity measures.		Observed mortality of >60 adults in 2023/24, including breeders, deferring adults and prebreeders, 25 adults in 2024/25, and 25 adults in 2025/26. A further three adults with symptoms were seen in 2025/26 but subsequent fate unknown.
Galapagos	Isla Espanola	*Phoebastria irrorata*	Parasite or pathogen - Parasite	(Mosquito)	Low	Continued monitoring of vectors and affected individuals.		Mosquitoes biting is a known cause of egg abandonment.

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Isla de La Plata	Isla de La Plata	*Phoebastria irrorata*	Human disturbance - Recreation/tourism		High	During nesting, the tourist trail "Machete" is closed to tourists to avoid stressing birds.	Reproductive success improved.	Visitors on the "Machete" trail cause stress to breeding adults, which may lead them to abandon their nests, thereby reducing their breeding success.
	Isla de La Plata	*Phoebastria irrorata*	Stress by alien species - Nest desertion		High	Population control through the use of anticoagulant poison in sensitive areas.	The population remains under control, as evidenced by an increase in breeding success. .	Rats induce stress in breeding adults, which may result in the abandonment of eggs or chicks, while also directly depredating eggs.
Amsterdam and St Paul	Ile Amsterdam	*Phoebetria fusca*	Parasite or pathogen - Pathogen	*Pasteurella multocida* (Avian cholera)	High			Historically principally linked to chickens
	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux	*Procellaria cinerea*	Predation by alien species	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Low			As part of the current eradication plan, eradication is suspected; to be checked with the taaf administration
	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux	*Procellaria cinerea*	Predation by alien species	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Low			
	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux	*Thalassarche carteri*	Parasite or pathogen - Pathogen	*Pasteurella multocida* (Avian cholera)	High			Historically principally linked to chickens
Crozet	Ile de la Possession	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	Predation by alien species	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Low	rodenticide used annually on study colonies		

Island Group	Breeding site	Species	Threat species	Nature of threat	Current Threat Magnitude	Ongoing management actions or why no management response in place	Why management response was or was not effective	Additional comments
Kerguelen	Baie Larose	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	Predation by alien species	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Low			
	Baie Larose	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	Habitat loss or destruction - Habitat destruction by alien species	*Rangifer tarandus* (Reindeer)	Low			
	Baie Larose	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	Predation by alien species	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Low			
	Courbet Peninsula	*Diomedea exulans*	Predation by alien species	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Low	managed locally		Research carried out at Kerguelen has shown that feral cats on Peninsula Courbet affect breeding success and rate of population growth rate of wandering albatross (Barbraud et al. 2021, Blanchard et al. 2024).
	Courbet Peninsula	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	Predation by alien species	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Low			
	Courbet Peninsula	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	Predation by alien species	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Low	managed locally		
	Golfe du Morbihan	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	Predation by alien species	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Low			
	Golfe du Morbihan	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	Habitat loss or destruction - Habitat destruction by alien species	*Rangifer tarandus* (Reindeer)	Low			
	Golfe du Morbihan	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	Predation by alien species	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Low			Eradicated on Chateau Island (2002) and on Australia Island (2005).

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Kerguelen	Golfe du Morbihan	*Procellaria cinerea*	Predation by alien species	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Low			
	Golfe du Morbihan	*Procellaria cinerea*	Habitat loss or destruction - Habitat destruction by alien species	*Rangifer tarandus* (Reindeer)	Low			
	Ile Saint Lanne Gramont	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	Predation by alien species	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Low			
	Ile Saint Lanne Gramont	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	Predation by alien species	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Low			
	Joffre Peninsula	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	Predation by alien species	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Low			
	Joffre Peninsula	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	Predation by alien species	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Low			
	Joffre Peninsula	*Procellaria cinerea*	Habitat loss or destruction - Habitat destruction by alien species	*Rangifer tarandus* (Reindeer)	Low			
	Joffre Peninsula	*Procellaria cinerea*	Predation by alien species	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Low			
	Joffre Peninsula	*Procellaria cinerea*	Predation by alien species	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Low			
Auckland Islands	Auckland Island	*Diomedea antipodensis*	Predation by alien species	*Sus scrofa* (Pig)	Low	A plan for an efficient, 10-year programme of work to remove pests from the island has been developed. The plan and timeline		Eradication trials, technology and infrastructure development well underway. Further fundraising ongoing
	Auckland Island	*Diomedea epomophora*	Predation by alien species	*Sus scrofa* (Pig)	Low			

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	Auckland Island	*Thalassarche steadi*	Predation by alien species	*Sus scrofa* (Pig)	Low	for each major project component is based on extensive field-trials and research. The work plan and a team of experts are ready to lead it as soon as funding is in place.		Eradication trials, technology and infrastructure development well underway. Further fundraising ongoing
	Auckland Island	*Thalassarche steadi*	Predation by alien species	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Low			
Prince Edward Islands	Marion Island	*Phoebetria palpebrata*	Predation by alien species	*Mus musculus* (House mouse)	Low	Mouse eradication planned for winter 2027		Mice have been recorded preying on on all surface nesting albatrosses at Marion. Although the records/observations were initially (in the early 2000s) localised and infrequent, there is mounting evidence that the scale and extent of attacks is increasing, and is likely to continue doing so with ongoing and predicted changes in climatic conditions and warmer and drier conditions facilitating more favourable breeding for mice.
	Marion Island	*Procellaria cinerea*	Predation by alien species	*Mus musculus* (House mouse)	Low	Mouse eradication planned for winter 2027.		Dilley B, Schoombie S, Stevens K, Davies D, Perold V, Osborne A, Schoombie J, Brink C, Carpenter-Kling T, Ryan P (2017) Mouse predation affects breeding success of burrow-nesting petrels at sub-Antarctic Marion Island. Antarctic Science 30: 1-12
	Marion Island	*Macronectes giganteus*	Parasite or pathogen - Pathogen	*Avian Influenza* (Avian Influenza)	Low	Tiered response to risk of HPAI. Enhanced biosecurity measures.		Observed mortality on number of adults (although that includes prebreeders).
Balearic Archipelago	Cabrera	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	Predation by alien species	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Low	No measures taken. Local government not prone to address actions to control cats, fear of social opposition.		Detected in Picamosques islet, along with Genet. Cat reported in one out of 6 breeding islets in Cabrera, affecting about 10% of the local population. No detailed information.

Island Group	Breeding site	Species	Threat species	Nature of threat	Current Threat Magnitude	Ongoing management actions or why no management response in place	Why management response was or was not effective	Additional comments
Balearic Archipelago	Formentera	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	Predation by alien species	*Felis catus* (Cat)	High	No detailed information, nor measures taken (except old eradication in a small islet, Espalmador). Local government not prone to address actions to control cats, fear of social opposition.		Present in 3 out of 5 colonies (plus eradicated in another) including the historically largest one of the species, which has apparently declined severely in recent years, affecting 89.5% of the current population in Formentera. Predation known, not quantified.
	Formentera	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	Predation by alien species	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Low	No measures taken (old eradication, incomplete, in Espalmador)		Present in 4 out of 5 sites, which hold about 94% of the Formentera population. No effect quantified, apparently far less impacting than cats.
	Ibiza	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	Predation by alien species	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Low	Attempts of eradication, but not systematic (dependent on low budget, no specific project)		Most islets have rat presence in varying densities, affecting 93% of the estimated population. There have been trials of eradication, apparently not completed - and/or no monitoring programme afterwards. Impact on breeding success, apparently not severe, at least for some islets (e.g. Conillera; higher impact in Bosc). Biomonitoring pilot study in Sa Conillera, Bosc and Espartar since 2022, detection of Rattus rattus in Bosc, pending of action by local managers
	Mallorca	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	Predation by alien species	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Low	Action recently taken in Dragonera by local administration. Eradication in 2011, and follow-up work ongoing.		Formerly present in 3 out of 4 colonies, recently eradicated in Dragonera (2012), with current monitoring. Also eradication projects in Conills and Malgrat, but not post-monitoring, probably present (?). Apparently low impact, no severe effects on breeding success.

Island Group	Breeding site	Species	Threat species	Nature of threat	Current Threat Magnitude	Ongoing management actions or why no management response in place	Why management response was or was not effective	Additional comments
Balearic Archipelago	Menorca	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	Predation by alien species	*Felis catus* (Cat)	High	Local government not prone to address actions to control cats, fear of social opposition.		Present in Mola de Maá, where the major colony of Menorca is located (75% of the local population). Predation was severe, on chicks and adults in the past (up to >20 adult corpses found in a single visit. but currently there does not seem to be predation (cats confirmed in the neighbourhood with camera traps, but none in the colony since installation of cameras in 2018). Also presence of marten (Martes martes), weasel (*Mustela nivalis*), with no evidence of predation.
	Menorca	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	Predation by alien species	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Low	Some eradication trials in Mola de Mao (no success).		Present in almost all colonies (except Illa de l'Aire). Events of predation on eggs, but no apparent severe impact on breeding performance. Current work of monitoring with cameras.
Gough	Gough Island	*Diomedea dabbenena*	Predation by alien species	*Mus musculus* (House mouse)	High	The Gough Island Restoration Programme led by RSPB and Tristan da Cunha Island Council has now completed two all island bait drops to eradicate the mice. The UK Government, charitable foundations and private individuals have supported this £10.5 million project. The mice eradication operation, originally planned for 2020, was delayed until June-August 2021 due to implications caused by the global Covid-19 pandemic. While the programme was executed successfully, mice were detected		Oppel et al (2021; PaCSWG7 Inf 07) used population monitoring and mark-recapture data to estimate the past population trajectory of the critically endangered Tristan albatross *Diomedea dabbenena* by accounting for unobservable birds at sea in an integrated population model. They then projected the future population Trajectory of Tristan albatrosses for scenarios with or without predation by invasive house mice *Mus musculus* on Gough Island. Models indicated that eradicating invasive mice would lead to a two-fold increase in breeding success and a 1.8–7.6 times higher albatross population by 2050 than without this

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						in December 2021. In 2023, RSPB initiated an investigation into why the eradication was unsuccessful. This investigation was undertaken by an independent panel of eradication, toxicology and mouse ecology experts to review all aspects of the Gough Island eradication attempt. Findings of the review were released in late 2023 and are summarised in the April 2024 addition of the RSPB's Island Restoration News: Gough and Henderson newsletter. The outputs of the review are currently being considered to help determine the best way forward for a future eradication attempt. The RSPB remains committed to working closely with the Tristan da Cunha Government and community, as well as all partners, towards a renewed attempt to eradicate House Mice from Gough Island. However, the timeline for the second attempt has yet to be determined. Available funding for the Gough Island Restoration Programme can no longer support an annual Overwintering team. As a result, no overwintering team will be		intervention – i.e. mouse eradication is necessary to halt the ongoing population decrease of the Tristan albatross. Prior to the eradication attempt in 2021 the breeding success for Tristan Albatross across the island ranged from 10 – 56% (median = 27%, IQR = 26–36%, n = 18) and has increased to 72% (IQR = 70–75%, n = 4) in the following four years (2022 – 2025).

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						stationed on Gough Island for at least three years (2025–2028). Pending approval from Tristan government and DFFE SANAP, RSPB aims to continue to send a small team on the annual relief voyage to carry out key monitoring activities. Following this three-year pause, RSPB aims to return to Gough with an overwintering team for two consecutive years, with the next overwintering team planned for deployment in September 2028. These plans remain dependent on securing sufficient funding.		
Gough	Gough Island	*Procellaria cinerea*	Predation by alien species	*Mus musculus* (House mouse)	Low			An impact on this species has been assumed because House Mice are affecting Tristan Albatross and burrow-nesting, summer-breeding petrels. 60% of Grey Petrel chicks failed (n=35 hatchlings) reported by Dilley et al 2015. Breeding success of Grey Petrels varied considerably prior to the eradication attempt, ranging from 3–50% (median = 29%, IQR = 27–42%, n = 9 years). Following the eradication attempt, success increased to 82% in 2022, before returning to pre-eradication levels (50%) in 2023.

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Hawaii	Kaula	*Phoebastria immutabilis*	Human disturbance - Military action		High	The island is still used as a bombing range for military training.		The island is used by the U.S. Navy as a bombing range for non-exploding ordnance.
	Kaula	*Phoebastria nigripes*	Human disturbance - Military action		High	The island is managed by the U.S. military and is used as a bombing target during military training.		The island is used as a bombing range for non-exploding ordnance.
	Kure Atoll	*Phoebastria nigripes*	Natural disaster - Sea-level rise		High	Propagation and planting of Scaevola sericea that encourages dune growth and stabilization		Loss of nests by periodic inundation due to tidal surges, storms and tsunamis.
	Kure Atoll	*Phoebastria nigripes*	Habitat loss or destruction - Vegetation encroachment		Low	Ongoing eradication program using herbicide and manual control		
	Laysan Island	*Phoebastria immutabilis*	Natural disaster - Sea-level rise		High	Continue protection of the low Northwestern Hawaiian Islands to maintain healthy populations while initiating new colonies in the main Hawaiian islands.		Loss of nests by periodic inundation due to tidal surges, storms and tsunamis, especially in low-lying areas.
	Laysan Island	*Phoebastria nigripes*	Natural disaster - Sea-level rise		High			
	Lisianski Island	*Phoebastria immutabilis*	Natural disaster - Sea-level rise		High			
	Lisianski Island	*Phoebastria nigripes*	Natural disaster - Sea-level rise		High	Continue protection of the low Northwestern Hawaiian Islands to maintain healthy populations while initiating new colonies in the main Hawaiian islands.		Loss of nests by periodic inundation due to tidal surges, storms and tsunamis.
	Pearl and Hermes Reef	*Phoebastria immutabilis*	Natural disaster - Sea-level rise		High			Loss of nests by periodic inundation due to tidal surges, storms and tsunamis, especially in low lying areas.

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	Pearl and Hermes Reef	*Phoebastria nigripes*	Natural disaster - Sea-level rise		High			

[1]A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty of 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.

ANNEX 3. DRAFT UPDATED ACAP IG TRENDS TERMS OF REFERENCE

To robustly estimate and communicate the trends of all ACAP species, the Intersessional Group will:

1. Review trajectories truncated at 1970, poor quality counts as identified by data holders, and review percentile cut-offs for IUCN Red List category assignments.
2. Publish the methodology developed in PaCSWG9 Doc 03 Rev 2, including placing *ACAPT* on *GitHub*.
3. Complete standardised abundance data processing, trend modelling, and conservation assessments for all ACAP species.
4. Lead development of ACAP input into IUCN Red List re-assessment process led by BirdLife International.
5. Develop updated, standardised criteria for identifying ACAP High Priority Populations.
6. Investigate trends spatially by integrating trend estimates with tracking and fishing effort data.
7. Develop outputs for reporting population counts and trends, including the use of clear and easy to understand figures and graphics.
8. Evaluate changes in trends following RFMCO resolutions and relevant domestic legislation changes.
9. Work with the ACAP Secretariat to improve the ACAP population database.
10. Provide recommendations to refine ACAP population status indicators.
11. Explore options to streamline updates to abundance and trend analyses.
12. Report back to PaCSWG10 (Aug 2027; papers due in May 2027) on the process, results, and provide recommendations for the integration of results into different ACAP products.