

 <p>Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Fifth Meeting of the Parties</b> <i>Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain, 4 - 8 May 2015</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Prioritising ACAP Conservation Actions</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Secretariat</b></p>
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### **SUMMARY**

At MoP4, the Meeting of Parties noted that a framework for identifying conservation priorities has been completed. Following intersessional consultations and discussions in Working Group meetings, an updated list of priorities for conservation actions on land and at-sea was produced at AC8.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Meeting of the Parties endorse the list of land based and at-sea threats requiring priority action.

## **1. BACKGROUND**

At MoP4, the Meeting of Parties noted that a framework for identifying conservation priorities has been completed and requested Parties, supported by the Advisory Committee at AC7 and at AC8, to 1) assess the highest priority threats, 2) determine what conservation actions are necessary to address them, and 3) to report back to MoP5 on progress made towards addressing these conservation priorities ([MoP4 Report](#), section 7.4.6).

As noted in [MoP4 Doc 17](#), although the framework provides a robust basis for decision-making to set, monitor and report on progress against priority conservation actions for ACAP listed species, it should be used along with other information, and should defer to more detailed threat information where it exists elsewhere, such as for some species populations and fisheries.

Prior to AC8, Parties, Range States and Observers were requested to suggest amendments to the existing data that produced a preliminary list of the highest priority at-sea conservation actions presented at MoP4. Not all Parties and Range States were able to provide data on their fisheries prior to AC8. Population trends in the at-sea framework and land-based threats

have also been updated by the Secretariat based on information provided in Parties' annual reports and discussions during Working Group Meetings. An updated list of priorities for conservation actions was produced at AC8 and is presented in **ANNEX 1** and **2**. The data which underpins the prioritisation framework will be reviewed prior to MoP6 to account for any threat mitigation or management actions taken, new threats emerging, or for new species being added to Annex I of the Agreement.

## **2. LAND-BASED THREATS**

[AC8 Doc 14 Rev 2](#) details the procedure used to generate a list of priorities for land based threats. A summary of the ranked threats is provided in **ANNEX 1**. The highest five priority actions with regard to "Habitat loss or destruction/predation by alien species" would be to remove Cats from Grande Terre (Kerguelen), House Mouse from Gough Island, Reindeer from Grande Terre (Kerguelen), and permanent control of Cats at breeding sites on Formentera and Menorca. The highest priority action with regard to a Parasite or Pathogen would be to address the problem of Avian cholera at Ile Amsterdam. It is important to note that the prioritisation did not take account of the financial cost of the management action. In addition, the bulk of the costs would be 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.

## **3. AT-SEA THREATS**

[MoP4 Inf 06 Rev 1](#) details the procedure used to generate a list of priority populations and fisheries where at-sea threat should be addressed. 87 at-sea threats (c.7% of all records) were identified as the highest priority for conservation action at the cut-off score of 42 (out of possible 50), although because many of the threats affected multiple seabird species, combining them resulted in priority conservation actions to address threats to 28 seabird populations from 27 fisheries (**ANNEX 2**). It should be noted that these tables only include fisheries that have been reported on by Parties or Range States, and therefore the number of possible fisheries that could be assessed is higher than those currently included.

## ANNEX 1. 2014 PRIORITIES FOR LAND-BASED CONSERVATION ACTIONS

Ranking of threats to ACAP breeding sites based on vulnerability of population, threat magnitude and likelihood of success of management action. Economy of effort would greatly reduce total cost for eradication campaigns for multiple threat species at the same island or island group (cells highlighted using the same colour). Analysis excludes sites with <1% of global breeding numbers.

Island	Threat	Rank	Explanation
<b>Habitat loss or destruction/predation by alien species</b>			
Kerguelen (Grande Terre)	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	1	Threat to three ACAP populations
Gough Island	<i>Mus musculus</i> (House mouse)	2	Threat to two substantial/large ACAP populations
Kerguelen (Grande Terre)	<i>Rangifer tarandus</i> (Reindeer)	3	Threat to two ACAP populations. High probability of eradication
Formentera <sup>a</sup>	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	4	Major threat to substantial, declining population. Permanent control at breeding sites.
Menorca <sup>a</sup>	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	4	Major threat to substantial, declining population. Exclusion feasible by physical barriers.
Kerguelen (Grande Terre)	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	6	Threat to two ACAP populations. Medium feasibility of eradication
Cabrera <sup>a</sup>	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	7	Low threat to substantial, declining population <sup>b</sup>
Cabrera <sup>a</sup>	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	7	Low threat to substantial, declining population. Eradication feasible
Formentera <sup>a</sup>	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	7	Low threat to substantial, declining population
Ibiza <sup>a</sup>	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	7	Low threat to substantial, declining population
Mallorca <sup>a</sup>	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	7	Low threat to substantial, declining population
Menorca <sup>a</sup>	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	7	Low threat to substantial, declining population
Ile Saint Lanne Gramont	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	13	High feasibility of eradication
Ile Saint Lanne Gramont	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	13	High feasibility of eradication
South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur) <sup>1</sup>	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i> (Brown (Norwegian) rat)	15	Medium feasibility of eradication
Auckland Island <sup>c</sup>	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	16	Medium feasibility of eradication
Auckland Island <sup>c</sup>	<i>Sus scrofa</i> (Pig)	16	Medium feasibility of eradication
Marion Island	<i>Mus musculus</i> (House mouse)	18	Medium feasibility of eradication
<b>Parasite or Pathogen</b>			
Ile Amsterdam	<i>Pasteurella multocida</i> (Avian cholera)	1	Major threat to several ACAP species
Isla Espanola	Mosquito	2	Low threat. Low feasibility of action

<sup>1</sup> "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"

Island	Threat	Rank	Explanation
Albatross Island (AU)	Avian pox virus	3	Low threat. Low feasibility of action.
<b>Increased competition with native species</b>			
Pedra Branca	<i>Morus serrator</i> (Australasian gannet)	1	Threat to small population
<b>Human disturbance</b>			
Ibiza <sup>d</sup>	Recreation/tourism	1	Low threat to substantial, declining population

<sup>a</sup> Refers to affected colonies which may include offshore islets

<sup>b</sup> Eradication project in progress, nearly completed

<sup>c</sup> Management at this site would also benefit small breeding populations (<1% global) of other ACAP species affected by the same threat.

<sup>d</sup> Problem in specific colonies, currently Tagomago and potentially Conillera

## ANNEX 2. 2014 PRIORITIES FOR AT-SEA CONSERVATION ACTIONS

**Table 1. Summarised by fishery.** Note that this table only includes fisheries that have been reported on by Parties or Range States, and therefore the number of possible fisheries that could be assessed is likely to be higher than those currently included.

Fishery method	Island Group populations
Angola Pelagic LL	Tristan Albatross Gough Island
Argentina Demersal trawl	Northern Royal Albatross Chatham Islands
	Southern Giant Petrel Islas de los Estados & Observatorio
	Wandering Albatross SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>
Australia Demersal LL	Shy Albatross Pedra Branca
Australia Demersal trawl	Indian yellow-nosed Albatross Amsterdam Island
Australia Pelagic trawl	Black Petrel Great and Little Barrier Islands
Australia Trawl	Shy Albatross Pedra Branca
Brazil Demersal LL	Tristan Albatross Gough Island
	Wandering Albatross SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>
Brazil Pelagic LL	Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross Tristan da Cunha
	Northern Royal Albatross Chatham Islands
	Tristan Albatross Gough Island
	Wandering Albatross SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>
	White-chinned Petrel SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>
Brazil Pelagic LL (Itaipava fleet)	Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross Tristan da Cunha
	Tristan Albatross Gough Island
	Wandering Albatross SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>
	White-chinned Petrel SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>
CCSBT Pelagic LL	Antipodean Albatross Auckland Islands
	Black-browed Albatross Antipodes Islands
	Black-browed Albatross Campbell Island
	Black-browed Albatross Iles Crozet
	Black-browed Albatross SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>
	Black Petrel Great and Little Barrier Islands
	Campbell Albatross Campbell Island
	Grey-headed Albatross SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>
	Grey Petrel All sites
	Indian yellow-nosed Albatross Amsterdam Island
	Indian yellow-nosed Albatross Crozet Island
	Northern Giant Petrel Prince Edward Islands
	Northern Royal Albatross Chatham Islands
	Sooty Albatross Iles Crozet

<sup>1</sup> "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"

Fishery method	Island Group populations
	Sooty Albatross Prince Edward Islands
	Southern Giant Petrel Prince Edward Islands
	Tristan Albatross Gough Island
	Wandering Albatross Iles Kerguelen
	Wandering Albatross SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>
	White-chinned Petrel SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>
IATTC Pelagic LL	Laysan Albatross Central Pacific - Laysan
	Waved Albatross Islas Galapagos
ICCAT Pelagic LL	Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross Tristan da Cunha
	Black-browed Albatross SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>
	Grey-headed Albatross SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>
	Grey Petrel All sites
	Northern Royal Albatross Chatham Islands
	Tristan Albatross Gough Island
	Wandering Albatross SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>
	White-chinned Petrel SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>
IOTC Pelagic LL	Grey-headed Albatross SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>
	Grey Petrel All sites
	Indian yellow-nosed Albatross Amsterdam Island
	Indian yellow-nosed Albatross Crozet Island
	Indian yellow-nosed Albatross Prince Edward Island
	Northern Giant Petrel Prince Edward Islands
	Shy Albatross Pedra Branca
	Sooty Albatross Iles Crozet
	Sooty Albatross Prince Edward Islands
	Southern Giant Petrel Prince Edward Islands
	Tristan Albatross Gough Island
	Wandering Albatross Iles Kerguelen
Namibia Demersal LL	Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross Tristan da Cunha
	Black-browed Albatross SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>
	Shy Albatross Pedra Branca
	Tristan Albatross Gough Island
Namibia Demersal trawl	Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross Tristan da Cunha
Namibia Pelagic LL	Shy Albatross Pedra Branca
Namibia Pelagic trawl	Shy Albatross Pedra Branca
Peru Demersal LL	Black Petrel Great and Little Barrier Islands
	Grey Petrel All sites
Peru Pelagic LL	Black Petrel Great and Little Barrier Islands
	Grey Petrel All sites
SEAFO Demersal trawl	Black-browed Albatross SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>
Spain Demersal LL	Balearic Shearwater Balearic Archipelago
Spain Pelagic LL	Balearic Shearwater Balearic Archipelago
Spain Purse seine	Balearic Shearwater Balearic Archipelago
Spain Trawl	Balearic Shearwater Balearic Archipelago

Fishery method	Island Group populations
SPRFMO Demersal trawl	Black Petrel Great and Little Barrier Islands
UK (OT) Pelagic LL	Grey Petrel All sites
WCPFC Pelagic LL	Antipodean Albatross Antipodes Islands
	Antipodean Albatross Auckland Islands
	Black-browed Albatross Antipodes Islands
	Black-browed Albatross Campbell Island
	Black Petrel Great and Little Barrier Islands
	Campbell Albatross Campbell Island
	Grey Petrel All sites
	Laysan Albatross Central Pacific - Laysan
	Northern Royal Albatross Chatham Islands

**Table 2. Summarised by Island Groups populations.** Note that this table only includes fisheries that have been reported on by Parties or Range States, and therefore the number of possible fisheries that could be assessed is likely to be higher than those currently included.

Island Group populations	Fishery method
Antipodean Albatross Antipodes Islands	WCPFC Pelagic LL
	WCPFC Pelagic LL
Antipodean Albatross Auckland Islands	CCSBT Pelagic LL
Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross Tristan da Cunha	Brazil Pelagic LL
	Brazil Pelagic LL
	ICCAT Pelagic LL
	Namibia Demersal LL
	Namibia Demersal trawl
Balearic Shearwater Balearic Archipelago	Spain Demersal LL
	Spain Purse seine
	Spain Pelagic LL
	Spain Trawl
Black-browed Albatross Antipodes Islands	CCSBT Pelagic LL
	WCPFC Pelagic LL
Black-browed Albatross Campbell Island	CCSBT Pelagic LL
	WCPFC Pelagic LL
Black-browed Albatross Iles Crozet	CCSBT Pelagic LL
Black-browed Albatross SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>	ICCAT Pelagic LL
	CCSBT Pelagic LL
	Namibia Demersal LL
	SEAFO Demersal trawl
Black Petrel Great and Little Barrier Islands	CCSBT Pelagic LL
	WCPFC Pelagic LL
	Peru Pelagic LL
	Australia Pelagic trawl
	Peru Demersal LL
Campbell Albatross Campbell Island	SPRFMO Demersal trawl
	CCSBT Pelagic LL
Grey-headed Albatross SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>	WCPFC Pelagic LL
	CCSBT Pelagic LL
	ICCAT Pelagic LL
Grey Petrel All sites	IOTC Pelagic LL
	CCSBT Pelagic LL
	ICCAT Pelagic LL
	IOTC Pelagic LL
	WCPFC Pelagic LL
	Peru Pelagic LL
Indian yellow-nosed Albatross Amsterdam Island	UK (OT) Pelagic LL
	CCSBT Pelagic LL
	IOTC Pelagic LL



Island Group populations	Fishery method
	Australia Demersal trawl
Indian yellow-nosed Albatross Crozet Island	CCSBT Pelagic LL
	IOTC Pelagic LL
Indian yellow-nosed Albatross Prince Edward Island	IOTC Pelagic LL
Laysan Albatross Central Pacific - Laysan	IATTC Pelagic LL
	WCPFC Pelagic LL
Northern Giant Petrel Prince Edward Islands	CCSBT Pelagic LL
	IOTC Pelagic LL
Northern Royal Albatross Chatham Islands	Brazil Pelagic LL
	Argentina Demersal trawl
	CCSBT Pelagic LL
	ICCAT Pelagic LL
	WCPFC Pelagic LL
Shy Albatross Pedra Branca	Australia Trawl
	Australia Demersal LL
	IOTC Pelagic LL
	Namibia Demersal LL
	Namibia Pelagic LL
	Namibia Pelagic trawl
Sooty Albatross Iles Crozet	CCSBT Pelagic LL
	IOTC Pelagic LL
Sooty Albatross Prince Edward Islands	CCSBT Pelagic LL
	IOTC Pelagic LL
Southern Giant Petrel Islas de los Estados & Observatorio	Argentina Demersal trawl
Southern Giant Petrel Prince Edward Islands	CCSBT Pelagic LL
	IOTC Pelagic LL
Tristan Albatross Gough Island	Brazil Pelagic LL
	Brazil Pelagic LL
	CCSBT Pelagic LL
	ICCAT Pelagic LL
	IOTC Pelagic LL
	Angola Pelagic LL
	Brazil Demersal LL
	Namibia Demersal LL
Wandering Albatross Iles Kerguelen	CCSBT Pelagic LL
	IOTC Pelagic LL
Wandering Albatross SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>	Brazil Pelagic LL
	CCSBT Pelagic LL
	ICCAT Pelagic LL
	Brazil Pelagic LL
	Argentina Demersal trawl
	Brazil Demersal LL
Waved Albatross Islas Galapagos	IATTC Pelagic LL

Island Group populations	Fishery method
White-chinned Petrel SG (IGS) <sup>1</sup>	Brazil Pelagic LL
	Brazil Pelagic LL
	CCSBT Pelagic LL
	ICCAT Pelagic LL

<sup>1</sup> “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”