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# Report of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group

*Punta del Este, Uruguay, 8 – 9 September 2014*

## 1. PURPOSE

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 2011 (AC6) and adopted at MoP4 in 2012, incorporating revisions agreed at AC7. The report also reflects discussions and advice resulting from the 2nd Meeting of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group (PaCSWG2) held on 8-9 September in Punta del Este, Uruguay.

## 2. MEMBERSHIP AND MEETING PARTICIPANTS

Current PaCSWG membership and PaCSWG2 meeting participants are listed in **ANNEX 1**. Co-convenor of the PaCSWG, Richard Phillips, and Vice-convenor, Flavio Quintana, thanked WG members and observers for attending the meeting, and presented apologies from Rosemary Gales (Co-convenor) and Henri Weimerskirch (Vice-convenor). The meeting was attended by Working Group members from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, New Zealand, South Africa, United Kingdom and BirdLife International, the Advisory Committee Chair, as well as experts and observers from government agencies and non-government organisations.

## 3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The WG accepted the proposed agenda and meeting documents (**PaCSWG2 Doc 01** and **PaCSWG2 Doc 02**).

## 4. PROGRESS REPORTS

### 4.1. Database updates

Wiesława Misiak (Science Officer), reported on progress during the intersessional period, noting the good level of engagement regarding PaCSWG data updates. A standard set of data outputs has been developed that summarises population and demographic monitoring, trends, and breeding site management actions. These data are included in Tables 1 to 6 of the report. WG members were asked to check the lists of priorities to ensure they adequately covered the populations and breeding sites within their jurisdictions.

The Science Officer also noted that some improvements were made to the database structure and interface pages for site editors since the last meeting. A further upgrade to the

data portal, and in particular to the user interface, will take place in the coming intersessional period to take account of the expanding structure and capabilities of the database.

#### **4.2. Updates of ACAP Species Assessments**

The assessments summarise current knowledge of biology and conservation of ACAP species, including population trends, distribution and threats. Specialists were identified at AC7 who could assist with updating these assessments, to be overseen by a panel to ensure consistency of the revisions. However, the progress with updating the assessment has been much slower than anticipated and this process will now extend into early 2015. The revised documents will also contain updated distribution maps to be provided by BirdLife International and members were encouraged to review some example maps available to the meeting and provide feedback within the next few weeks. Jonathon Barrington (Australia) advised the WG that maps of the Australian distribution of some species have been updated and may be useful to BirdLife in the production of the maps for the species assessments.

The WG was informed that there were inconsistencies in the taxonomy used by ACAP and that used by the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS). BirdLife International suggested that ACAP could make use of a comprehensive taxonomic list that has been produced recently by BirdLife and IUCN (see also Agenda Item 11.1). The Science Officer reported that these issues have been noted in **AC8 Doc 24** which recommends that the Taxonomy Working Group (TWG) provide advice on the use of an appropriate taxonomic list.

#### **4.3. Plastic band codes coordination**

The Science Officer reported that a table has been produced to summarise the colour and alphanumeric codes on plastic bands used for each ACAP species, populated with data provided by France. This will be circulated to WG members and other data holders, asking them to fill in the relevant data so that the table can be made available on the ACAP website. A list of contact details of banding authorities to which metal band recovery details can be submitted has been compiled and that this list will also be made available on the ACAP website by the end of 2014.

#### **4.4. Review of diseases in ACAP species**

Marcela Uhart (University of California, Davis) presented an updated review of pathogens described in ACAP species (**PaCSWG2 Doc 04**). The report highlights that there have been few surveys of disease among ACAP species. Of greatest concern are the reports of persistent mortalities in threatened species at Amsterdam Island, and it was suggested that it would be useful if current information on the situation on the island, including mitigation actions could be made more widely available. The report identified a number of other issues: that disease should be considered as a risk factor in seabird re-introductions and translocations (useful resources on this are available from the IUCN Wildlife Health Specialist Group), the importance of considering possible disease issues in translocation projects; that monitoring of foreign pathogens in species which showed associations with humans may provide potential tests of the effectiveness of biosecurity regimes; and that researchers in contact with albatrosses and petrels should observe preventative health measures to avoid

zoonotic disease transmission. WG members were encouraged to provide comments and information on any unpublished or published studies not included in the review.

The WG agreed that it may be informative to examine health issues using samples from beach-cast and bycaught seabirds, but cautioned against making requests for samples for this purpose without a coherent plan for their analysis, particularly given the difficulty of exporting tissue samples from some countries. The Science Officer agreed to compile a list of researchers that may have access to samples from dead birds that could be used in such studies. The development of essentially an identical list of researchers but with the aim of determining the availability of samples for genetic analyses is a task allocated to the TWG in the AC Work Programme for 2015 (**AC8 Doc 16**).

Marcela Uhart suggested that the project funded recently by ACAP, which aims to establish capacity in South America to determine health status and prevent disease transfer in albatrosses and petrels, would be a useful pilot for similar studies that could be undertaken on bycaught birds obtained in other regions. The WG discussed the advantages of combining sampling of tissues of bycaught birds for both DNA analysis (to determine provenance) and disease assessment. Marcela Uhart kindly agreed to provide advice on updates to the ACAP Biosecurity and Translocation guidelines. There was also a suggestion that a formal relationship regarding health issues in ACAP species may be established between ACAP and the One Health Institute, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, Davis.

#### **ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The Working Group recommends that the Advisory Committee:

- i) requests Parties develop and implement effective biosecurity plans for albatross and petrel breeding sites to minimize the risk of disease transmission;
- ii) encourages the implementation of disease surveillance programmes, including in birds obtained as fisheries bycatch;
- iii) advises Parties to investigate thoroughly albatross disease or mortality events when they occur; and
- iii) considers developing an MoU between ACAP and the One Health Institute, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, Davis.

#### **4.5. Standard population and threat assessment tables**

These tables were considered under agenda item 7.1.

## 5. POPULATION STATUS AND TRENDS

### 5.1. Data updates

Paul Sagar (New Zealand) introduced **PaCSWG2 Inf 05**, that reported on an analysis of population trends of Salvin's Albatrosses at the Bounty Islands, which hold c. 98.5% of the breeding population. Whole-island ground counts of apparently occupied nests were completed on Proclamation Island in 1997, 2004 and 2011 using the same methods, which suggest numbers decreased by 14% in 1997-2004 and by a further 13% over 2004-11 (30% overall between 1997 and 2011). Based on aerial surveys, there were an estimated 31,000 and 40,000 breeding pairs in 2010 and 2013, respectively, in the entire island group. Ground verification was only possible for the 2013 count, but the two surveys were completed during the same time in October and so the same correction factor was applied to the 2010 estimate. The contrasting results indicate that further ground and aerial surveys are required before the long-term population trend of Salvin's Albatross can be determined with confidence.

Paul Sagar also introduced **PaCSWG2 Inf 04**, that reported population estimates and trends of Campbell and Grey-headed albatrosses at Campbell Island. In colonies dominated by Grey-headed Albatrosses, numbers had declined by 82-88% over the 55 years from 1940-1995. However, based on a TRIM analysis of counts of nests in photographs, there was a non-significant increase in breeding numbers between 1995-97 and 2006-2012. The number of Campbell Albatrosses increased slightly between the 1940s and the 1960s, decreased by 47% between the 1960s and the 1980s, and then increased from the 1980s to 1997. There was a non-significant decline from 1995-2012, especially in the large colonies on the inaccessible Correjollas Peninsula. Assuming that the proportions of each species have remained similar since 1995-97 at all colonies, then the mean number of pairs of Grey-headed and Campbell albatrosses breeding at Campbell Island was estimated at 8,611 and 21,648 pairs, respectively, in each year during the period 2006-2012.

The WG discussed the importance of further censuses, including ground-truthing, to determine long-term trends for these species, particularly as a 30% decline would be grounds for the up-listing of Salvin's Albatross by IUCN.

### 5.2 Current population trends of ACAP species

The WG reviewed the current global trends of ACAP species, based on TRIM analyses of the census data submitted to the ACAP database as well as on results of more comprehensive population models, where available. The results of those discussions are presented in **Table 1**. Eight species (c. 27%) were considered to be increasing, 12 (40%) to be decreasing, eight (c. 27%) to be stable, and the trend for two others (c. 7%, both New Zealand endemics) over the last 20-year period remains unknown. The confidence of the assigned trend reflects both the accuracy and extent of the population data.

Table 1. 2014 Summary of status and trends of ACAP species.

IUCN Status 2014 <sup>1</sup>	Common name	Number of sites (ACAP) <sup>2</sup>	Single Country Endemic	Annual breeding pairs (ACAP) <sup>3</sup>	Trend Confidence	Population Trend 1993-2013 <sup>4</sup>
CR	Amsterdam Albatross	1	France	31	High	↑
CR	Balearic Shearwater	5	Spain	2,954	Medium	↓
CR	Tristan Albatross	1	UK	1,650	High	↓
CR	Waved Albatross	1	Ecuador	9,615	Low	↓
EN	Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross	6	UK	33,650	Low	↔
EN	Grey-headed Albatross	29		97,716	Medium	↓
EN	Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross	6		39,320	Medium	↓
EN	Northern Royal Albatross	5	NZ	5,782	-	?
EN	Sooty Albatross	15		12,170	Very Low	↓
VU	Antipodean Albatross	6	NZ	8,274	Medium	↓
VU	Black Petrel	2	NZ	1,577	Medium	↓
VU	Campbell Albatross	2	NZ	21,648	Low	↔
VU	Chatham Albatross	1	NZ	5,245	Medium	↔
VU	Salvin's Albatross	12	NZ	42,219	Low	↓
VU	Short-tailed Albatross	2		592	High	↑
VU	Southern Royal Albatross	4	NZ	7,941	Medium	↔
VU	Spectacled Petrel	1	UK	14,400	High	↑
VU	Wandering Albatross	28		8,132	High	↓
VU	Westland Petrel	1	NZ	2,827	Low	↔
VU	White-chinned Petrel	73		1,057,930	Very Low	↓
NT	Black-browed Albatross	65		673,048	High	↑
NT	Black-footed Albatross	13		71,592	High	↑
NT	Buller's Albatross	10	NZ	29,948	Low	↔
NT	Grey Petrel	17		79,649	Very Low	↓
NT	Laysan Albatross	17		676,785	High	↔
NT	Light-mantled Albatross	71		12,082	Low	↔
NT	Shy Albatross	3	Australia	14,618	Low	↑
NT	White-capped Albatross	5	NZ	100,525	-	?
LC	Northern Giant Petrel	50		10,318	Medium	↑
LC	Southern Giant Petrel	119		47,083	Medium	↑

<sup>1</sup> **IUCN Status:** CR = Critically Endangered, EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable, NT = Near Threatened, LC = Least Concern. IUCN 2014. IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. <[www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org)>.

<sup>2</sup> **Site:** usually an entire, distinct island or islet, or section of a large island

<sup>3</sup> ACAP database. <[data.acap.aq](http://data.acap.aq)>. May 2014.

<sup>4</sup> **ACAP Trend:** ↑ increasing, ↓ declining, ↔ stable, ? unknown

## 6. THREATS AND PRIORITISATION

### 6.1. Updates on management of land-based threats

The main change in the intersessional period was the inclusion in the ACAP database of threats to the Balearic Shearwater. Information on management responses to the threats listed in the database were provided by Parties prior PaCSWG2, and members of the WG were asked to check these entries. This update highlights that considerable progress has been made by Parties in mitigating or removing some threats, including some recent or ongoing eradication programmes for introduced species (**ANNEX 2**).

## 6.2. Review of terrestrial threat prioritisation

The prioritisation of conservation actions addressing terrestrial threats to ACAP species is based on the vulnerability of each population, the magnitude of the threat and the likelihood of success of management for each breeding site in the ACAP database. It is intended that prioritisation analysis be updated to include threats to the North Pacific albatrosses and the Balearic Shearwater, as well as to indicate other changes including the recent successful eradication of Ship rats, House mice and European rabbits from Macquarie Island and the near-complete eradication of Reindeer from South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)<sup>1</sup>. The results will be incorporated into a revision of **AC8 Doc 14**. Following discussions in a breakout group on indicators, the Convenor suggested that he work with the Science Officer and WG members during the inter-sessional period to review and potentially refine the ACAP threat criteria.

## 6.3. High priority species or populations based on trends and threats

The WG reviewed the interim priority populations for conservation management identified at AC6. These five breeding populations represented sizeable proportions (>10%) of the global total and were in rapid decline (>3% a year), for which a major underlying cause was incidental mortality in fisheries: Wandering and Black-browed albatrosses at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)<sup>1</sup>, Tristan Albatross at Gough Island, and Sooty Albatross at the Crozet and Prince Edward Islands.

**Wandering Albatross at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)<sup>1</sup>** - remains a priority. Counts of breeding numbers at Bird Island suggest that the rapid decline from the mid 1990s to mid 2000s (>4% a year) has ceased and that the population has been broadly stable in the last 6-7 years, at about half the number present in the 1960s. There are plans for a full census of South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)<sup>1</sup> in the coming season. An analysis of the overlap and potential for interaction of Wandering albatrosses with fisheries in the southwest Atlantic has been carried out by Sebastián Jiménez (Uruguay) in a secondment to the UK funded by ACAP. In addition there is an ongoing analysis of demographic changes in relation to fisheries and climate. Preliminary results from both these studies and an analysis of interaction of Wandering albatrosses with fisheries in Argentina will be presented to the Seabird Bycatch WG (**SBWG6 Doc 17** and **SBWG6 Inf 05**, respectively).

**Black-browed Albatross at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)<sup>1</sup>** – remains a priority. A recent census of Bird Island indicates a substantial decline (>15%) of breeding numbers on the island since 2004 (last full island census), confirmed the trends from the study colonies counted annually. Demographic analyses are underway to examine the effects of fisheries and climate.

**Tristan Albatross at Gough Island** - remains a priority. A study published recently on the distribution of non-breeding Tristan Albatrosses fills a previous data gap (Reid *et al.* 2013. *Endangered Species Research* 22: 39-49). Although most non-breeding birds remained in the South Atlantic, the distribution extended across the southern Indian Ocean. Tracked birds

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



overlapped with a range of pelagic longline fisheries, especially off southern Africa. It is of concern that the distribution also extended north of 25°S, as this area is not presently covered by ICCAT's seabird conservation measures.

**Sooty Albatross at Crozet Islands** – no new information was provided.

**Sooty Albatross at Prince Edward Islands** - no new information was provided.

Cleo Small (BirdLife International) and Igor Debski (New Zealand) suggested that it would be useful to develop census guidelines specifically for Sooty and Light-mantled albatrosses, and White-chinned Petrels, respectively (see Agenda Item 9.1).

Furthermore, the following populations were identified as declining at more than 3% per year over a 20-year period (1993-2013):

**Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross at Amsterdam Island**, based on data from Sous Ferdinand (2002-13). The Science Officer agreed to contact France to assess the possible inclusion of this population as an ACAP priority.

**Waved Albatross at Española**, based on data from Punta Suarez (1994-2007). Caroline Galarza (Ecuador) informed the WG that there are unpublished population data available for this species and that ACAP should request these from the Government of Ecuador. The Science Officer agreed to contact Gustavo Jiménez-Uzcátegui and Kate Huyvaert during the inter-sessional period to discuss building a case for possible inclusion of the Waved Albatross population at Española as an ACAP priority.

**Grey-headed Albatross at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)**<sup>1</sup>, based on data from Bird Island (1993-2013). The Convenor agreed to progress this.

#### **ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The Working Group recommends that the Advisory Committee:

- i) requests that ACAP Parties continue to focus on the five high-priority populations that were identified at AC6 as requiring urgent attention.
- ii) asks the Chair of the AC to write a letter to the relevant authorities in support of the eradication of the introduced House Mouse at Gough Island, in light of the threat that predation by this species presents to the Tristan Albatross.

## **7. DATA GAPS**

### **7.1. Identification of key gaps in population data**

Jonathon Barrington (Australia) reported on the development of a high resolution, time-efficient, remote camera technology – 'Gigapan' that enables monitoring colony-wide nesting behaviour from a proximal vantage point (**PaCSWG2 Inf 06**). This technology is based on NASA's Mars Rover camera systems, and allows analysis of combined, multiple megapixel

images in a gigapixel format. Software applications enable a colony, as well as individual nests, to be monitored over time.

WG members were asked to review tables that summarise data availability and a variety of data gaps, including by jurisdiction, the final versions of which are provided below (**Tables 2 - 5**).

**Table 2. Island groups** that comprise at least 5% of the species' total global breeding pairs, which have not been monitored at any site within the given island group in at least the last 10 years (since 2002). Island groups not monitored for more than 20 years (since 1993) are highlighted in pink.

Island Group		Species	% known global pop	Latest year of data
Disputed – North Pacific	Senkaku Retto of southern Ryukyu Islands	Short-tailed Albatross	8	2002
France	Crozet	Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross	18	1984
		Grey-headed Albatross	6	1982
	Kerguelen	Grey-headed Albatross	8	1985
		Light-mantled Albatross	40	1987
New Zealand	Campbell Islands	Light-mantled Albatross	10	1996
	Auckland Islands	White-chinned Petrel	9	1988
United Kingdom	Gough	Grey Petrel	23	2001

New Zealand has made significant progress recently filling monitoring gaps identified at the last meeting, with new data now available for Grey Petrel on the Antipodes as well as Grey-headed Albatross and Campbell Albatross on Campbell Island. Count data are now also available for a small study population of Light-mantled Albatrosses from the Auckland Islands. Likewise, France has also now filled a previously identified monitoring data gap for the Northern Giant Petrel from the Kerguelen archipelago. The addition of the Grey Petrel data from the Antipodes means that the Grey Petrel population on Ile de l'Est no longer meets the >10% of global breeding pairs threshold and this population has therefore been removed from consideration as a data gap under this criterion. However, two new population monitoring data gaps have been identified, one at island group level for the Short-tailed Albatross on the Senkaku Islands (**Table 2**), and the other for Buller's Albatross on Great Solander Island (**Table 3**).

Progress has also been made by New Zealand in collecting juvenile survival data for three of its endemic species for which juvenile survival data were previously unavailable (**Table 4 and 5**).

**Table 3. Sites** with >10% of species' global breeding pairs where population estimate has not been conducted in at least the last 10 years (i.e. latest estimate is pre: 2003) (excludes sites where part-site/study colony counts have been conducted). Sites which have not been monitored for more than 20 years (last estimate is pre 1993) are highlighted in pink.

Island Group		Breeding Site	Species	Population Estimate (annual breeding pairs)	% of total known population	Survey Accuracy	Latest year of estimate
Disputed – South Atlantic	South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur) <sup>1</sup>	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS)) <sup>1</sup>	Northern Giant Petrel	2 062	19	High	1996
France	Crozet	Ile aux Cochons	Wandering Albatross	1 060	13		1981
		Ile de l'Est	Sooty Albatross	1 300	11	Medium	1984
		Ile des Pingouins	Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross	5 800	15	High	1984
New Zealand	Solander Islands	Great Solander Island	Buller's Albatross	4 579	15		2002
United Kingdom	Tristan da Cunha	Tristan da Cunha	Sooty Albatross	2 000-3 000	14-23	Unknown	1974
			Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross	16 000-30 000	48-89	Low	1974
	Gough	Gough Island	Grey Petrel	10 000-25 000	13-31	Unknown	2001

**Table 4:** ACAP species for which no demographic data are known.

Demographic statistics	ACAP species	Region/Parties responsible	
No data on adult survival	Spectacled Petrel	UK	
No data on juvenile survival (10 species)	Northern Giant Petrel	Australia	
		Disputed – South Atlantic	
		France	
		New Zealand	
		South Africa	
	Chatham Albatross Salvin's Albatross* Southern Royal Albatross* Westland Petrel* White-capped Albatross	New Zealand	
		Light-mantled Albatross	Australia
			Disputed – South Atlantic
			France
			New Zealand
South Africa			
Short-tailed Albatross	Japan		
Spectacled Petrel	UK		
Balearic Shearwater	Spain		
No data on productivity (3 species)	Chatham Albatross Salvin's Albatross	New Zealand	
	Spectacled Petrel	UK	

\* Data collected but require analysis or manuscript in preparation

**Table 5:** Demographic information for all ACAP species

IUCN status	ACAP species	Number of sites	Number of island groups	Number of sites with:		
				Adult survival data	Juvenile survival data	Breeding success data
CR	Amsterdam Albatross	1	1	1	1	1
VU	Antipodean Albatross	6	3	2	2	2
CR	Tristan Albatross	1	1	1	(1)	1
VU	Southern Royal Albatross	4	2	2	0	2
VU	Wandering Albatross	28	5	4	4	6
EN	Northern Royal Albatross	5	3	2	1	4
LC	Southern Giant Petrel	119	25	3	1	14
LC	Northern Giant Petrel	50	9	2	0	3
VU	Short-tailed Albatross	2	2	1	0	1
NT	Laysan Albatross	17	5	1 (+1)	(1)	1
CR	Waved Albatross	3	2	1	(1)	1
NT	Black-footed Albatross	13	4	1 (+1)	(1)	?
EN	Sooty Albatross	15	6	1	1	3
NT	Light-mantled Albatross	71	9	2	0	5
VU	White-chinned Petrel	73	8	1	1	3

IUCN status	ACAP species	Number of sites	Number of island groups	Number of sites with:		
				Adult survival data	Juvenile survival data	Breeding success data
NT	Grey Petrel	17	9	(1)	(1)	2
VU	Spectacled Petrel	1	1	0	0	0
VU	Black Petrel	2	1	1	2	2
VU	Westland Petrel	1	1	1	(1)*	1
CR	Balearic Shearwater	5	1	1	1	2
NT	Buller's Albatross	10	4	2	1	2
EN	Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross	6	4	1	1	1
NT	Shy Albatross	3	1	1	(1)	1
EN	Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross	6	2	2	1	3
EN	Grey-headed Albatross	29	8	4	3	4
VU	Chatham Albatross	1	1	1	0	0
VU	Campbell Albatross	2	1	1	1	1
NT	Black-browed Albatross	66	15	4	3	7
VU	Salvin's Albatross	12	4	1	0	0
NT	White-capped Albatross	5	3	1	0	1

() indicate data collection in progress

\* manuscript in preparation

### Priority programmes

The WG reviewed the priority programmes identified at AC6 for ACAP species by jurisdiction, and progress against these priorities since AC7 (2013). Population (census), productivity (breeding success) and demographic (breeding age, breeding rate and survival) monitoring is intended to be annual unless stated otherwise.

**Table 6.** Summary of progress on regional priority programmes.

	Priority programmes	Progress since AC7
<b>ANTARCTICA</b> two species; 50 sites, two of unknown size	<b>(i)</b> Resurvey Southern Giant Petrel at King George and Nelson Islands, South Shetland Islands	<i>None reported</i>
	<b>New (ii)</b> Maintain long-term population and productivity monitoring of Southern Giant Petrels at Signy Island, South Orkney Islands.	
<b>ARGENTINA:</b> 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	<b>(i)</b> Maintain population and productivity monitoring at Isla Arce and Isla Gran Robredo.	<i>Maintained long-term programmes.</i>
	<b>(ii)</b> Resurvey the two sites at Isla de los Estados.	<i>None reported.</i>

	Priority programmes	Progress since AC7
impact of introduced species at Isla de los Estados		
<b>AUSTRALIA:</b> eight species at 17 sites in three island groups; 18% of populations of unknown size.	<b>(i)</b> Maintain long-term demographic, productivity or population monitoring at Macquarie Island (seven ACAP species) and Tasmania (Shy Albatross).	<i>Maintained all six long term programmes.</i>
	<b>(ii)</b> Resurvey Shy Albatross at Mewstone	<i>None reported</i>
	<b>(iii)</b> Resurvey Black-browed and Light-mantled Albatrosses at Heard Island.	<i>None</i>
	<b>(iv)</b> Resurvey Black-browed Albatrosses at Bishop and Clerk Islands.	<i>None reported.</i>
<b>CHILE:</b> three species at 33 sites in seven island groups; no demographic data.	<b>(i)</b> Begin long-term demographic monitoring of Black-browed and Grey-headed Albatrosses at minimum of one island group.	<i>None reported</i>
	<b>(ii)</b> Resurvey all island groups.	<i>None reported</i>
	<b>(iii)</b> Re-survey Southern Giant Petrel at Isla Noir.	<i>None reported</i>
<b>DISPUTED – NORTH PACIFIC:</b> two species at two sites; current population trends unknown; no survival data.	<b>(i)</b> Confirm breeding and begin long-term population monitoring of Short-tailed Albatross at Minami-Kojima in the Senkaku (Diaoyu) Islands.	<i>None (political dispute limits access).</i>
<b>DISPUTED – SOUTH ATLANTIC:</b> 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.	<b>(i)</b> Maintain long-term demographic or productivity monitoring at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur) <sup>1</sup> (six ACAP species).	<i>Maintained all programmes</i>
	<b>(ii)</b> Maintain long-term population monitoring at other sites at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur) <sup>1</sup> (three ACAP species).	<i>Maintained all programmes.</i>
	<b>(iii)</b> Resurvey White-chinned Petrel at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur) <sup>1</sup> .	<i>Study plots were established in 2012 at three sites on the mainland of South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)<sup>1</sup>.</i>
	<b>(iv)</b> Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Black-browed Albatross at two sites in the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas) <sup>1</sup> .	<i>Both programmes maintained.</i>
	<b>(v)</b> Maintain long-term population monitoring of Black-browed Albatross elsewhere in the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas) <sup>1</sup> .	<i>Aerial surveys completed.</i>
	<b>(vi)</b> Resurvey Southern Giant Petrel at the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas) <sup>1</sup> .	<i>None reported.</i>
<b>ECUADOR:</b> single endemic species (Waved Albatross) at two sites, declining; no	<b>(i)</b> Survey all of Española, Galapagos Islands.	<i>None reported</i>
	<b>(ii)</b> Establish demographic monitoring in the interior colonies ('Colonia Central') on Española.	<i>None reported.</i>

	Priority programmes	Progress since AC7
juvenile survival data.	(iii) Establish long-term population and productivity monitoring at Isla de la Plata.	<i>None reported.</i>
<b>FRANCE:</b> twelve species at 99 sites in three island groups; 20% of populations of unknown size; steep declines in Sooty Albatross.	(i) Maintain long-term demographic or population monitoring at Kerguelen (5 species).	<i>None reported</i>
	(ii) Maintain long-term demographic or population monitoring at Crozet (6 species).	<i>None reported</i>
	(iii) Maintain long-term demographic or population monitoring at Amsterdam Island (3 species).	<i>None reported</i>
	(iv) Resurvey Wandering Albatross at Cochons and Ile de l'Est, Crozet, and western colonies, Kerguelen; Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross at Pingouins and Apotres, Crozet; Grey-headed Albatross at Pingouins, Crozet and Iles Nuageuses, Kerguelen; Sooty and Light-mantled Albatross at Ile de l'Est, Crozet; 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	<i>None reported</i>
<b>JAPAN:</b> three species; current trend, adult survival and productivity unknown for four populations; no juvenile survival data.	(i) Establish long-term demographic monitoring at all sites.	<i>None reported.</i>
<b>MEXICO:</b> one species (Laysan Albatross) at four sites; no trend or demographic data.	(i) Establish demographic monitoring at all sites	<i>None reported.</i>
<b>NEW ZEALAND:</b> 16 species (10 endemic) including 98 populations; 27% of populations of unknown size.	(i) Resurvey Campbell Albatross at Campbell Island.	<i>Standardised photo survey point field work has been completed and were reported to PaCSWG2 (Inf_04). Further survey work, particularly at Courrejolles Peninsula and Bull Rock, using aerial or ground methods, respectively, would be required to provide greater certainty.</i>
	(ii) Survey Salvin's Albatross at Bounty Islands.	<i>An analysis of existing ground-based survey work 1997-2011 and an aerial census in 2013 have been completed and reported to PaCSWG2 (Inf 05). Due to uncertainty in the trends described, additional future</i>

	Priority programmes	Progress since AC7
		<i>monitoring of this population will remain a priority.</i>
	<b>(iii)</b> Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Black Petrel at Great Barrier Island.	<i>Monitoring continued during 2013-14.</i>
	<b>(iv)</b> Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Antipodean Albatross at Adams Island, Auckland Islands.	<i>Monitoring continued during 2013-14.</i>
	<b>(v)</b> Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Buller's Albatross at the Snares, and resurvey Snares and Solander Islands.	<i>Monitoring continued at the Snares during 2013-14. An aerial census of Little Solander was completed in 2013/14 and a census of Big Solander is planned for 2014/15.</i>
	<b>(vi)</b> Maintain population monitoring of White-capped Albatross at all sites in the Auckland Islands.	<i>Monitoring of population size was continued during 2013-14. Collecting further demographic data remains a priority.</i>
	<b>(vii)</b> Survey White-chinned Petrel at the Auckland Islands.	<i>A project has been initiated to collect demographic data from White-chinned Petrels at Adams Island, Auckland Islands, and a population estimate is planned for Disappointment Island, Auckland Islands in 2014/15 with support from ACAP.</i>
	<b>(viii)</b> Collate existing data on Light-mantled Albatross populations and survey at major breeding sites.	<i>Limited counts made at Adams Island, Auckland Islands 1999-2013 have been entered into the ACAP database. Data from Campbell Island is still being sought. An initial trial of aerial survey methods at the Auckland Islands were undertaken during 2013/14 and will be reported more fully to the group intersessionally.</i>
<b>SOUTH AFRICA:</b> 9 species including 17 populations; 18% of populations of unknown	<b>(i)</b> Maintain long-term population monitoring of Sooty and Light-mantled Albatrosses at Marion Island.	<i>None reported.</i>
	<b>(ii)</b> Survey White-chinned and Grey Petrels at	<i>None reported</i>



	Priority programmes	Progress since AC7
size; no survival data for 13 populations.	Marion and Prince Edward Islands.	
	<b>(iii)</b> Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Wandering and Grey-headed Albatrosses at Marion Island.	<i>None reported</i>
	<b>(iv)</b> Maintain intermittent population monitoring	<i>None reported</i>
<b>SPAIN:</b> 1 species in one archipelago (Balearics), 5 island groups within a main archipelago (Balearics).	<p><b>New (i)</b> Establish 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.</p> <p><b>New (ii)</b> Recover the available information collected in the last 12 years on behalf of the local administration</p>	
<b>UNITED KINGDOM:</b> 6 species including 16 populations on two island groups	<b>(i)</b> Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Tristan and Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatrosses and Southern Giant Petrels at Gough Island.	<i>Maintained all programmes</i>
	<b>(ii)</b> Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross at Tristan and Nightingale islands.	<i>Maintained all programmes. Aerial photographic survey with ground-truthing counts to be attempted in September 2014</i>
	<b>(iii)</b> Maintain intermittent population monitoring of Sooty Albatross at Gough Island.	<i>Long-term annual demographic monitoring commenced in the 2012/13 breeding season</i>
	<b>(iv)</b> Maintain intermittent population monitoring of Spectacled Petrel at Inaccessible Island.	<i>No survey work since AC6.</i>
	<b>(v)</b> Establish intermittent population monitoring of Sooty Albatross at Tristan Island.	<i>None</i>
	<b>(vi)</b> Survey Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross at Tristan Island.	<i>Aerial photographic survey with ground-truthing counts to be attempted in September 2014</i>
	<b>(vii)</b> Survey all island and establish intermittent population monitoring in study plots of Grey Petrel at Gough Island.	<i>None. Some monitoring of Grey Petrels undertaken in 2014</i>
	<b>(viii)</b> Confirm breeding of Grey Petrel at Inaccessible and Tristan islands.	<i>None</i>
<b>UNITED STATES:</b> two species, 25 populations, all of known size; few demographic data.	<b>(i)</b> Maintain long-term demographic monitoring at several sites.	<i>Monitoring of adult survival in Black-footed Albatross continues at Midway Atoll but has been suspended at Laysan and French Frigate Shoals.</i>

	Priority programmes	Progress since AC7
	(ii) Survey the five breeding sites where not currently monitored, and at all sites at 5-year intervals population monitoring.	<i>None reported.</i>

#### ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Working Group recommends that the Advisory Committee:

- i) encourages Parties and others responsible for breeding populations of ACAP species to implement the monitoring programmes identified as priorities at AC6 in order to increase current knowledge of population size, trends and demography of ACAP species.

## 7.2. Identification of key gaps in tracking data

The Convenor introduced the tracking data gap analysis carried out by BirdLife International, based on data submitted to the BirdLife Tracking Ocean Wanderers (TOW) database, a literature review, and responses from data holders to a request for information on any data that have been collected, but not analysed (e.g. from GLS deployments) or not submitted to TOW, or from studies still in progress (i.e. devices deployed on juveniles or nonbreeding adults and not yet retrieved) (**PaCSWG2 Doc 03**). The TOW database includes tracks of ACAP species collected from 89 colonies covering a range of life-history stages. The gap analysis discriminated between data collected during different breeding stages, from non-breeding adults and juveniles/immatures, because of the often substantial differences in distribution of birds in different life-history phases. The results highlighted that there were tracking data available for the non-breeding season for most species, but from very few juveniles and immatures.

WG members were asked to check that the details in the tables and annexes of PacSWG2 Doc 03 were accurate and provide updates or corrections directly to Maria Dias at BirdLife International before the end of September 2014. WG members were requested to use the information in the BirdLife paper to update the list of priority tracking programmes identified for each Party at AC6 and AC7, and report on progress. The results of this work are as follows:

**ARGENTINA** – Southern Giant Petrels (non-breeding adults and juveniles) at Isla Arce and Isla Gran Robredo.

**Progress since AC7** – *Recent tracking data reported in PacSWG Inf 03.*

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

**Progress since AC7**– *None reported.*

**CHILE** – 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; tracking of Southern Giant Petrels at Isla Noir.  
**Progress since AC7** – *Geolocators have been retrieved from Black-browed Albatrosses from Diego Ramirez, and analyses are in progress.*

**DISPUTED** - Black-browed and Grey-headed albatrosses (juveniles) at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)<sup>1</sup>

**Progress since AC7** – *GLS loggers were deployed on juvenile Grey-headed Albatrosses at Bird Island in June 2014.*

**New i)** White-chinned Petrels (adults and juveniles) at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)<sup>1</sup>

**New ii)** Light mantled Albatross (adults in incubation and brood) at Bird Island, South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)<sup>1</sup>

**ECUADOR** - Waved Albatross (juveniles) at Galapagos.

**Progress since AC7** – *None reported.*

**FRANCE** - Grey-headed and Indian Yellow-nosed albatrosses at Crozet Islands, Grey-headed Albatross at Kerguelen.

**Progress since AC7**– *None reported.*

**JAPAN** - Black-footed Albatross at Ogasawara Islands.

**Progress since AC7** - *None reported.*

**NEW ZEALAND** –

**i)** Campbell and Grey-headed albatrosses at Campbell Island;

**Progress since AC7**; *73 Campbell Albatross were GLS tracked for at least 1 year each over 2009-2012, and 66 Grey-headed Albatross were GLS tracked for at least one year each over 2009-2013.*

**ii)** Salvin's Albatross at Bounty Islands;

**Progress since AC7**; *24 of the 50 GLS devices deployed on Salvin's Albatross were retrieved in 2013, but only 13 had complete or partial tracks due to gear failure. Due to gear failure further tracking remains a priority.*

**iii)** White-chinned Petrel at Auckland Islands;

**Progress since AC7**; *GLS devices have been deployed at Adams Island, Auckland Islands during 2013-14. Retrieval and further deployments are planned for 2014/15.*

**iv)** Light-mantled Albatross at key sites.

**Progress since AC7**; *no progress.*

The remaining New Zealand sites listed in PaCSWG Doc 03 as having no tracking data are part of island groups for which tracking data are available at other sites, and are therefore of a lower priority for New Zealand.

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

**Progress since AC7** - Further deployments on 6 juvenile Sooty and 4 juvenile Light-mantled albatrosses at Marion Island in 2014.

**SPAIN** – **New** Balearic Shearwater juveniles (only pilot study with 5 birds) and adults in early stages of breeding period. Major effort required in Menorca, where taxonomic status uncertain, influenced by Mediterranean shearwater (could affect bird movements)

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

**Progress since AC7-** GPS tracks of adult Tristan, Atlantic Yellow-nosed and Sooty albatrosses, and Grey and Southern Giant petrels breeding at Gough Island. Deployment on 5 juvenile Sooty Albatrosses and 5 juvenile Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatrosses at Gough Island in 2014.

**USA** - Black-footed Albatross at Laysan Island.

**Progress since AC7** – None reported.

#### **ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The Working Group recommends that the Advisory Committee:

- i) encourages Parties, where possible, to undertake or plan for the tracking studies identified as priorities to take place;
- ii) requests Parties inform BirdLife International of sample sizes in recent or ongoing tracking studies that are not captured the current gap analysis, and;
- ii) encourages researchers conducting tracking studies to submit their data to the BirdLife International Seabird Tracking Database.

### **8. ACAP PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

#### **8.1. Select the most useful indicators of population status and breeding site condition**

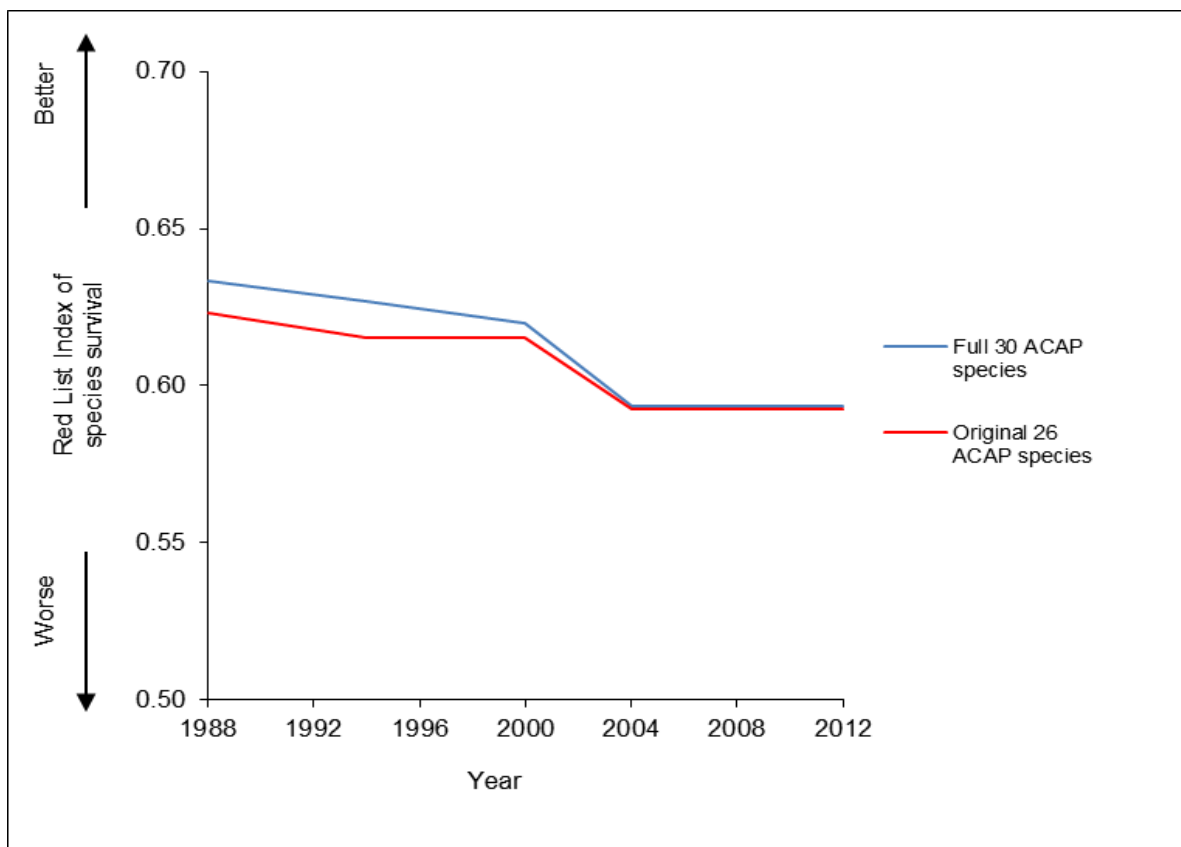
A breakout group considered the indicators for site condition and population status and trends in MoP4 Doc 23. The list was reduced to a smaller set of indicators that the group considered best reflected the objectives of the Agreement in terms of availability of data on population size and demography, threats to breeding sites and their management, etc. The group also considered the importance of identifying indicators that are representative; in practice, for most indicators; this will require that information is available from at least one site in each island group in the last 10 or 20 years, as appropriate. Redundancy among indicators was reduced. The WG also agreed that some indicators only provide a meaningful record of changes over time if restricted to the original ACAP species (southern hemisphere albatrosses, both giant and all five *Procellaria* petrels), because retrospective assessments of state or pressure indicators for species added more recently may not be possible.

The second Session of the Meeting of Parties (MoP2) in 2006 agreed that the relevant IUCN Red List Indices (RLI) would be used as an interim indicator. The Convenor thanked BirdLife International for providing updated IUCN Red List Indices during the intersessional period that were hind-cast to the year of ratification (2004) for (i) the original ACAP species, and (ii) all current ACAP species including Balearic Shearwater and the three North Pacific albatross species.

The latest update to this indicator is shown in **Figure 1**. Recent changes in the underlying data (compared to earlier versions provided to ACAP) include the down-listing of both Black-browed Albatross and Black-footed Albatross to Near Threatened, based on improved understanding of their population trends over the last few decades, rather than genuine improvements in status. Both are now estimated to have qualified as Near Threatened since 1988 (the first year for which RLI data are available), and hence no longer drive the decline in RLI value. The species driving the negative trends in the ACAP RLI are as follows:

<i>Phoebastria irrorata</i>	Waved Albatross	Qualified for up-listing from Vulnerable to Critically Endangered in 2000-2004
<i>Diomedea dabbenena</i>	Tristan Albatross	Qualified for up-listing from Endangered to Critically Endangered in 1988-1994
<i>Phoebetria fusca</i>	Sooty Albatross	Qualified for up-listing from Vulnerable to Endangered in 2000-2004
<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>	Balearic Shearwater	Qualified for up-listing from Vulnerable to Endangered in 1994-2000, and from Endangered to Critically Endangered in 2000-2004

In addition, Grey-headed Albatross was up-listed in 2013 from Vulnerable to Endangered, but this was a consequence of improved knowledge rather than genuine deterioration in status. This affects the absolute value of the RLI, but not its trend during 1988-2012.



**Figure 1.** Red list indicators for ACAP species

The flat line in recent years reflects a number of issues: (a) new data are added at 4-yearly intervals (when comprehensive IUCN Red List assessments are carried out for all 10,000 bird species by BirdLife), accordingly the most recent data point is for 2012 (and the next will be in 2016); (b) IUCN Red List categories are relatively broad classes of extinction risk, so species may have to undergo potentially substantial changes in population or distribution size or trends in order to cross an IUCN Red List category threshold and hence qualify for a lower or higher category thereby contributing to the index trend; (c) the suite of relevant species is small; and (d) the period from 2004 (ACAP signing) to 2012 (the most recent datum) is relatively short. However, it suggests that substantial changes in extinction risk since 2004 for the relevant species have not occurred (or have not yet been detected).

The WG considered the reduced list of indicators identified by the breakout group, the IUCN Red List indicator produced by BirdLife International, and two new tracking data indicators, and suggested these, or a subset, be considered for adoption by the AC (**Table 7**).

**Table 7.** Final breeding sites, populations and tracking data indicators.

<b>Indicator</b>	
<b>Breeding Sites</b>	
S1	Islands with alien species
P1	Sites with threats
R1	Sites with Eradications or Management actions to abate threats
R3	Sites with Biosecurity Protocol (Biosecurity Plan or Quarantine)
<b>Populations</b>	
S1 b)	Sites counted within last 10 years
S1 b)	Island Groups counted within the last 10 years (at least 50% of sites per Island Group)
S2	Island Groups where breeding numbers at least 1 site are estimated annually (including. part-sites) within the last 10 years – 9 or 10/10 years
S3	Sites (or part sites) with ongoing annual monitoring - demography
S4 b)	Island Groups – Population trend increasing/stable over last 10 years
<b>Tracking</b>	
S1	Island Groups with at least 15 tracks each from incubation, brood guard, post-guard chick rearing, non-breeding adults (from any island)
S2	Island Groups with at least 15 tracks from juveniles/immatures (from any island)

**ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The Working Group recommends that the Advisory Committee:

- i) considers which of the suggested list of indicators of population status, breeding site condition and tracking data availability should be endorsed.

## **9. BEST-PRACTICE GUIDELINES AND OTHER ONLINE RESOURCES**

### **9.1. Updates to existing guidelines (Eradications, and Guideline Census Methodologies for Surface Nesting Albatrosses and Petrels)**

The Eradication Guidelines will be updated with improved advice on monitoring and mitigation of non-target mortality by end 2014, incorporating information from eradication programmes conducted in recent years at a number of sites, including Macquarie Island, Henderson Island and South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)<sup>1</sup>.

Marcela Uhart presented **PaCSWG2 Inf 01** *Programa Nacional para la Conservación del Petrel Gigante del Sur: avances sobre recomendaciones de bioseguridad y buena practicas*, funded by an ACAP grant. This document provides a set of biosecurity guidelines and best practices to minimize the risk of pathogen transmission at Southern Giant Petrel breeding sites in Argentina. These recommendations, which can be made available in English for other Parties, were produced in response to priorities identified in the Southern Giant Petrel Conservation Plan for Argentina and at AC7.

Anton Wolfaardt (UK) and Marcela Uhart offered to update the Biosecurity Guidelines by the end of 2014 to take account of current practices to restrict the risk of potential human transfer of pathogens between albatross colonies at Amsterdam Island, and any other relevant information provided in PaCSWG2 Inf 01, or arising from the update of the review of pathogens (Agenda Item 4.4).

Discussions under Agenda Item 6.3 highlighted that it would be useful to develop specific census guidelines for Sooty and Light-mantled Albatrosses, and White-chinned Petrels. The Convenor agreed to help develop these guidelines in the intersessional period with assistance from other members of the WG.

### **9.2 Hook removal guidelines**

A poster illustrating best-practice guidelines to remove fishing hooks from albatrosses and petrels was developed by the Secretariat with further advice from PaCSWG and SBWG members during the intersessional period. The guide is now available on the ACAP website in two formats (A3 and A4). French, Spanish, Portuguese, Korean, Japanese and Chinese versions will also be available by the end of 2014. The possibility of producing hard copies of these guidelines will be discussed at AC8. In addition, the ACAP Secretariat urged members to suggest ideas for the optimal distribution of this material to users. Jonathon Barrington (Australia) suggested that the guidelines be provided to the tuna RFMOs, by way of information papers, to ensure their wider availability. The Science Officer advised that the guidelines will be provided to the forthcoming meeting of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), as a first step in this process of dissemination of the guides to RFMOs.

### **9.3 Tissue-sampling guidelines following disease outbreak**

The Science Officer has provided links on the ACAP website to external protocols on tissue sampling. WG members agreed that it may be useful to add other web links. Marcela Uhart offered to assist with this process, in consultation with other experts, to provide guidance on whether further sampling recommendations were required.

### **9.4 Tissue-sampling guidelines for bycaught seabirds**

ACAP is in the process of developing tissue-sampling guidelines to provide material for genetics studies. Preliminary guidelines are already included in the ACAP ID Guide for bycaught seabirds. WG members discussed the possibility of additional guidelines that would encourage the collection of samples from beach-cast or bycaught birds for health and disease studies. Marcela Uhart and Flavio Quintana (Argentina) suggested that these could be developed from the outcomes of the ACAP-funded project “Establishing capacity in South America to build knowledge on albatross and petrel health and prevent disease introduction”, which is to include an observer training programme for tissue sampling. The WG agreed that before more comprehensive guidelines were produced, it was essential to ensure there was a well-coordinated framework for transportation, storage and analysis of samples, and the initial objective should be to facilitate genetic analysis for determining provenance, which would also require samples or genetic data from birds at breeding colonies. The WG agreed that it would be useful to set up a small *ad hoc* working group to progress this during the intersessional period. The Science Officer indicated that some progress had already been made to collate information on the availability of published genetic data, and of tissue samples collected at breeding sites (see also Agenda Item 4.4).

### **9.5 Photo ID guide for bycaught seabirds**

The ACAP guide to bycaught seabirds is close to completion pending further graphics work. WG members were asked to provide comments and photographs. The Science Officer has a list of species and types of photograph (particularly head, belly and back of dead birds) that are still required.

### **9.6. Review new translocation guidelines**

Igor Debski (New Zealand) presented a paper on best-practice guidelines for the translocation of ACAP species (**PaCSWG2 Doc 05**). The WG appreciated the large amount of work involved in producing these guidelines. The WG was asked to provide comments within the next few weeks, including on ensuring that the guidelines adequately cover the risk of pathogen transfer, to be undertaken in consultation with Marcela Uhart. Beth Flint (USA) had reported prior to the meeting that the guidelines would also be revised to include information on the best time to move surface-breeding species based on the recent translocation of Chatham Albatrosses. It is intended that the guidelines will be available on the ACAP website by the end of 2014.

#### **ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The Working Group recommends that the Advisory Committee:



- i) encourages the use of the guidelines for the translocation of albatrosses and petrels as a conservation tool when populations can be enhanced by moving birds back to sites that were occupied previously as part of an ecological restoration, or to assist colonization of new sites in response to emerging threats at existing colonies;
- ii) cautions Parties that to increase the likelihood of success in a translocation programme, careful consideration must be given to site selection and preparation, future biosecurity, assessment of the number and characteristics of birds to be moved, chick care at the new site, and post-translocation monitoring and management. In addition, there should be an assessment of the risk of possible disease transfer, and of effects of the action on the source population, the translocated birds and the ecosystem at the translocation site.

## **10. REVIEW ACAP-FUNDED PROGRAMMES**

### **10.1. Funding priorities for 2013 - 2015**

The AC Chair presented **AC8 Inf 01** Conservation Projects and Secondments Supported in 2013 and **AC8 Inf 02** Outcomes of projects supported in 2009-2012 AC Grants Programme. No new funding priorities were identified.

### **10.2. Funding priorities for 2016 - 2018**

Parties were encouraged to fill existing data gaps, particularly for ACAP Priority Populations.

## **11. LISTING OF NEW SPECIES ON ANNEX 1**

### **11.1 Consider criteria for listing and delisting of candidate species**

The Science Officer presented **AC8 Doc 24**, which noted that that discussion on criteria and process for listing species on ACAP Annex 1 dates back to AC2, and led to the development of draft criteria based on the global conservation status, listing within CMS, current population trend, population size, level of endemism, migratory nature, land-based threats and at-sea threats (AC3 Doc 18). Recognising that the process and criteria had not been endorsed, AC7 requested the further development of criteria for listing and delisting of species, also taking into account the limited resources of the Agreement, and the large number of potential candidate species. The suggestion in AC8 Doc24 was that six of the eight criteria presented in AC3 Doc 18 be retained when evaluating amendments to Annex 1, removing the criteria on population trend and population size. The document also recommended that the procedure outlined in AC7 Doc 20 Rev 1 be followed for future nominations. A suggestion was made for possible delisting criteria.

The WG agreed that it was valuable for ACAP to have listing criteria in order to provide an independent tool to assess the merit of a species being listed relative to other species. The WG recognised that decisions on listing would take into account other considerations, for

example the capacity of ACAP, and the extent to which international cooperation could benefit the species.

The WG recognised that two reasons proposed for removing the two criteria: (i) population size and trend are incorporated to some extent in the IUCN status, leading to some duplication in weighting of these characteristics, and (ii) removal of these two criteria would, from a pragmatic perspective, make it easier to maintain up-to-date information on which to base assessment. The Science Officer reported that there were only subtle changes in ranking if listing within CMS was ignored. The WG also noted that there is a process underway in CMS to establish a set of criteria for listing, and that ACAP would need to take account of any outcoming revisions.

The Working Group discussed whether it would be appropriate to add additional weight to the IUCN status criterion. In addition, changes in taxonomy (lumping or splitting) would need to be accounted for if the scoring were to be updated.

The group concluded that removing criteria 3 and 4 would be the most pragmatic approach to the listing criteria, as it would reduce the work required by the Secretariat, as well as increase the stability of species rankings over time.

For delisting criteria, the WG noted that it is possible for one or more populations of a species to be of unfavourable conservation status, even if the species as a whole is not listed as threatened by IUCN. Given this consideration, the WG did not consider it appropriate to delist a species based solely on a reduction in IUCN status to Least Concern. CMS is also developing a delisting process; no information on this was available at the meeting.

The WG agreed to advise the AC that criteria for delisting should be related to criteria for listing and, in principle, as a starting point the criteria should be the same, as noted in AC8 Doc 24. The WG agreed to undertake work intersessionally to consider the implications of this.

Similarly to criteria for listing of species, it was noted that delisting criteria would be a tool to guide decision-making, but other factors would likely to be taken into account; hence, ACAP may decide to retain a species on Annex 1 after taking into consideration its scoring. Even if a species was to be delisted, the WG considered it important to establish a mechanism to ensure any subsequent deterioration in conservation status would not go unnoticed.

With regard to request in AC8 Doc 24 that the Taxonomy WG would be asked to review options for the production of a world list of albatrosses and petrels, BirdLife International suggested that the seabird taxonomic rankings produced for the Lynx/BirdLife (2014) Checklist of the Birds of the World (Vol. 1 Non-passerines) may be useful.

## **11.2 Proposals to list new species on Annex 1**

No proposals were submitted.

<b>ADVICE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE</b>
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The Working Group recommends that the Advisory Committee:

- i) adopt the ranking procedure outlined in AC8 Doc 24 for future nominations but consider dropping the criteria on population trend and population size, given some duplication of these characteristics in IUCN listing, and as a pragmatic measure given the work involved in updating values assigned to each species when the scoring requires revision and;
- ii) adopt the same ranking procedure for delisting, as for listing of species.

## **12. REVIEW AND INFORMATION**

### **12.1. National Plan for the conservation of the Southern Giant Petrel in Argentina**

Flavio Quintana presented Argentina's National Programme for the Conservation of the Southern Giant Petrel, as adopted by the Federal Council for the Environment, which describes the basis for the development of the programme, the process followed, the objectives and the actions to be taken to meet those objectives (**PaCSWG2 Inf 02**). Flavio Quintana also introduced a paper on the the distribution and habitat use of adult and juvenile Southern Giant Petrels from northern Patagonian colonies during the austral winter (**PaCSWG2 Inf 03**).

### **12.2. Paper on conservation of ACAP species**

The Convenor provided an update of a manuscript collating information on the taxonomy, distribution, population trends and threats (at sea and on land) and conservation of ACAP species. The intention is to submit this multi-authored review for publication by the end of 2014.

### **12.3. 2<sup>nd</sup> World Seabird Conference**

Marco Favero (AC Chair) informed the WG that a joint ACAP-BirdLife symposium proposal on international agreements and seabird conservation will be submitted to the Scientific Committee of the 2nd World Seabird Conference. The conference is scheduled for 12-16 October 2015 in Cape Town, South Africa.

## **13. FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME**

The draft work programmes for 2013-15 and 2016-18 were updated (**AC8 Doc 16** and **AC8 Doc 17**).

## **14. REPORTING TO AC8**

This report was prepared for consideration by the Advisory Committee.

## 15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

### 15.1 Engagement with other intergovernmental organisations

The Science Officer drew the meeting's attention to **AC8 Inf 18** and noted that a number of issues considered by the CMS recently have direct relevance to this WG. WG members were encouraged to bring to the attention of the WG and in particular the Secretariat any similar work in other fora they attend or interact with that might have synergies with the tasks of PaCSWG.

### 15.2 Use of lasers in bycatch mitigation (health concerns)

Ed Melvin (USA) described the recent development of a seabird bycatch prevention technology based on innovative laser (Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation) technology. This device, the SeaBird Saver, has generated interest across the fishing industry globally, as well as raising questions regarding the safety of the Class 4 laser to humans and to seabirds. **SBWG Doc 03** reports preliminary research testing this laser aboard an Icelandic autoline vessel targeting Atlantic Cod *Gadus morhua* on coastal Icelandic fishing grounds. The laser beam (and its associated "dot") discouraged seabirds from using the area around the stern of the ship during dawn, dusk, cloudy, rainy or foggy conditions. Although class 3b lasers are used in a variety of applications as non-lethal bird deterrents, the extent that lasers, including the class 4 SeaBird Saver device, will safely and successfully deter albatrosses and petrels is unknown and untested. Agreeing that information on the sensory ecology of seabirds is lacking, the WG received a protocol to collect seabird specimens that might allow sensory evaluation of seabird visual systems for application to questions surrounding the safe use of lasers as well as applications to seabird bycatch mitigation more generally. The WG welcomed the proposal by Ed Melvin that he lead an intersessional group to share information on lasers and to assist with developing protocols for testing the efficacy of lasers for application to albatrosses and petrel conservation in commercial fisheries.

## 16. CLOSING REMARKS

The Convenor thanked those present for their valuable contributions at the meeting and in developing the report, and the Science Officer, Wiesława Misiak for her diligence and commitment to assisting the work of the Working Group during the inter-sessional period and at the meeting. The group thanked the Convenor, Vice-convenor and Science Officer for chairing the meeting.

## 17. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PaCSWG members and observers, the ACAP Secretariat and ACAP officials are thanked for progressing the work of the PaCSWG. Juan Pablo Seco Pon is thanked for technical assistance during the meeting and Sandra Hale and Cecilia Alal are gratefully acknowledged for their interpretation services.

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

### MEETING PARTICIPANTS

<b>PaCSWG Members</b>	
Javier Arata	Instituto Antartico Chileno (INACH), Chile
José Manuel (Pep) Arcos	SEO/BirdLife
Jonathon Barrington	Australian Antarctic Division (AAD), Department of the Environment, Australia
Leandro Bugoni	Universidade Federal do Rio Grande (FURG), Brazil
Igor Debski	Department of Conservation, New Zealand
Azwianewi Makhado	Department of Environmental Affairs, South Africa
Ken Morgan	Environment Canada, Canada
Richard Phillips (Convenor)	British Antarctic Survey (BAS), United Kingdom & Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR)
Flavio Quintana (Vice-convenor)	National Research Council of Argentina (CONICET), Argentina
Paul Sagar	National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA), New Zealand
Anne Saunders	Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), United Kingdom
Cleo Small	BirdLife International
<b>Expert</b>	
Marcela Uhart	University of California, Davis, USA
<b>Advisory Committee</b>	
Marco Favero	Advisory Committee Chair
<b>Observers to PaCSWG</b>	
Jorge Azócar	Chile
Nigel Brothers	American Bird Conservancy & Humane Society International
Johan De Goede	South Africa
Rodrigo Forselledo	Uruguay
Caroline Elizabeth Icaza Galarza	Ecuador
Sebastián Jiménez	Uruguay
Edward Melvin	USA
Tatiana Neves	Brazil
Joost Pompert	United Kingdom
Rodolfo Andrés Sánchez	Argentina
Augusto Silva-Costa	Projeto Albatroz
Anton Wolfaardt	United Kingdom
Juliana Yuri Saviolli	Projeto Albatroz
<b>Secretariat</b>	
John Cooper	Information Officer
Wiesława Misiak	Science Officer

Warren Papworth	Executive Secretary
Juan Pablo Seco Pon	AC8 Staff
<b>Interpreters</b>	
Sandra Hale	OnCall Interpreters and Translators
Cecilia Alal	OnCall Interpreters and Translators

<b>PaCSWG Members not attending PaCSWG2</b>	
Karine Delord	Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS), France
Sebastien Descamps	Nowegian Polar Institute, Norway
Elizabeth Flint	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, United States of America
Rosemary Gales (Co-convenor)	Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and the Environment (Tasmania), Australia
Hiroshi Hasegawa	Toho University, Japan
Gustavo Jiménez-Uzcátegui	Charles Darwin Foundation, Ecuador
Daniel Oro	Grupo d'Ecologia de Poblacions, IMEDEA (CSIC-UIB), Spain
Mark Tasker	Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), United Kingdom
Henri Weimerskirch (Vice-convenor)	Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS), France
Carlos Zavalaga	University of Nagoya, Japan

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

Species	Breeding site	Threat species	Nature of threat	Threat Magnitude	Ongoing management actions or why no management response in place	Why management response was or was not effective
<i>Thalassarche cauta</i>	Albatross Island (AU)	(Avian pox virus)	Parasite or pathogen - Pathogen	Low	DPIPWE conducting pilot investigation for management of disease and investigating methods to more robustly quantify the impact of the disease on the population.	
<i>Diomedea antipodensis</i>	Auckland Island	<i>Sus scrofa</i> (Pig)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	Eradication, as opposed to ongoing control, is considered to be the only feasible long term option. Preparatory investigations to enable the eradication, including the identification and registration of a suitable poison, have been progressed. Securing sufficient funding for an eradication programme remains a challenge and possible partners are being sought.	
<i>Diomedea epomophora</i>	Auckland Island	<i>Sus scrofa</i> (Pig)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Auckland Island	<i>Sus scrofa</i> (Pig)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Thalassarche steadi</i>	Auckland Island	<i>Sus scrofa</i> (Pig)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Thalassarche steadi</i>	Auckland Island	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Baie Larose	<i>Rangifer tarandus</i> (Reindeer)	Habitat loss or destruction - Habitat destruction by alien species	Low		
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Baie Larose	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Baie Larose	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		

Species	Breeding site	Threat species	Nature of threat	Threat Magnitude	Ongoing management actions or why no management response in place	Why management response was or was not effective
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Barff	<i>Rangifer tarandus</i> (Reindeer)	Habitat loss or destruction - Habitat destruction by alien species	Low	Eradication of reindeer from South Georgia (Islas Georgais de Sur) <sup>1</sup> is nearly completed. The first phase of the operation has completely eradicated the 2,000-strong reindeer herd on the Busen Peninsula (Stromness breeding site). The final phase has removed the remaining reindeer herd of more than 4,500 animals located on the Barff Peninsula (this breeding site). Only a few reindeer now remain in this area and they will be eradicated in the coming months (2014/15).	
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Barff	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i> (Brown (Norwegian) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	An operation was initiated in 2011 to eradicate all rodents at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur) <sup>1</sup> . The operation is adopting a phased approach, the first phase of which was implemented in March-April 2011. The second phase took place in February-June 2013 covering the area west of Cumberland bay to the western tip of the island. The final phase will likely take place in February-May 2015, to complete the baiting of the remaining portion of the island, from the Barff Peninsula (this site) to Drygalski Fjord.	This site has not been baited yet. It will be baited in the final phase of the project.
<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>	Cabrera	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	There was response through eradication campaigns, but currently no efforts to monitor potential re-colonisation (or any colony monitoring at all)	Apparently rats were eradicated in the archipelago, though they recolonised at least one islet (Rates) in 2009. No recent information
<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>	Cabrera	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	Cat reported in one out of 6 breeding islets in Cabrera, affecting about 10% of the local population. No detailed information, nor measures taken. Local government not prone to address actions to control cats, fear of social opposition.	
<i>Diomedea exulans</i>	Courbet Peninsula	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	managed locally	

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



Species	Breeding site	Threat species	Nature of threat	Threat Magnitude	Ongoing management actions or why no management response in place	Why management response was or was not effective
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Courbet Peninsula	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	managed locally	
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Courbet Peninsula	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Procellaria cinerea</i>	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Procellaria cinerea</i>	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Thalassarche carteri</i>	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux	<i>Pasteurella multocida</i> (Avian cholera)	Parasite or pathogen - Pathogen	Medium		
<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>	Formentera	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	High	Cat present in most colonies, including the historically largest one of the species, which has apparently declined severely in recent years. Predation known, not quantified. No detailed information, nor measures taken (except old eradication in a small islet, Espalador). Local government not prone to address actions to control cats, fear of social opposition.	
<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>	Formentera	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	Present in most breeding sites, no effect quantified, apparently far less impacting than cats. No measures taken (old eradication, incomplete, in Espalador)	
<i>Phoebastria immutabilis</i>	French Frigate Shoals		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	Medium		
<i>Phoebastria nigripes</i>	French Frigate Shoals		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	Medium		
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Golfe du Morbihan	<i>Rangifer tarandus</i> (Reindeer)	Habitat loss or destruction - Habitat destruction by alien species	Low		

Species	Breeding site	Threat species	Nature of threat	Threat Magnitude	Ongoing management actions or why no management response in place	Why management response was or was not effective
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Golfe du Morbihan	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Golfe du Morbihan	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Procellaria cinerea</i>	Golfe du Morbihan	<i>Rangifer tarandus</i> (Reindeer)	Habitat loss or destruction - Habitat destruction by alien species	Low		
<i>Procellaria cinerea</i>	Golfe du Morbihan	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Procellaria cinerea</i>	Golfe du Morbihan	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Diomedea dabbenena</i>	Gough Island	<i>Mus musculus</i> (House mouse)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Medium		
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Harcourt Island	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i> (Brown (Norwegian) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	An operation was initiated in 2011 to eradicate all rodents at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur) <sup>1</sup> . The operation is adopting a phased approach, the first phase of which was implemented in March-April 2011. The second phase took place in February-June 2013 covering the area west of Cumberland bay to the western tip of the island. The final phase will likely take place in February-May 2015, to complete the baiting of the remaining portion of the island, from the Barff Peninsula to Drygalski Fjord.	
<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>	Ibiza	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	Attempts of eradication, but not systematic (dependent on low budget, no specific project). Apparently low density, at least in some colonies.	
<i>Phoebastria fusca</i>	Ile Amsterdam	<i>Pasteurella multocida</i> (Avian cholera)	Parasite or pathogen - Pathogen	Low		

Species	Breeding site	Threat species	Nature of threat	Threat Magnitude	Ongoing management actions or why no management response in place	Why management response was or was not effective
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Ile de la Possession	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	rodenticide used annually on study colonies	
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Ile Saint Lanne Gramont	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Ile Saint Lanne Gramont	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Phoebastria irrorata</i>	Isla de La Plata		Human disturbance - Recreation/tourism	Medium	Durante la temporada de anidación se cierra el Sendero "Machete" para evitar el stress a los albatros	Aumento del éxito reproductivo
<i>Phoebastria irrorata</i>	Isla de La Plata	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	Stress by alien species - Nest desertion	High	Control de la población mediante veneno (anticuagulante) en sitios sensibles	Se mantiene controlada la población lo que se manifiesta en el aumento del éxito reproductivo.
<i>Phoebastria irrorata</i>	Isla Espanola		Parasite or pathogen - Parasite	Medium		
<i>Phoebastria immutabilis</i>	Isla Guadalupe	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Medium	Feral cat research and control is being implemented by Conservacion des Islas.	
<i>Phoebastria nigripes</i>	Isla Guadalupe [edit site]	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species			Cat control on the main Guadalupe island is contributing to the success of that colony.
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Joffre Peninsula	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Joffre Peninsula	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Procellaria cinerea</i>	Joffre Peninsula	<i>Rangifer tarandus</i> (Reindeer)	Habitat loss or destruction - Habitat destruction by alien species	Low		

Species	Breeding site	Threat species	Nature of threat	Threat Magnitude	Ongoing management actions or why no management response in place	Why management response was or was not effective
<i>Procellaria cinerea</i>	Joffre Peninsula	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Procellaria cinerea</i>	Joffre Peninsula	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Phoebastria immutabilis</i>	Kaula		Human disturbance - Military action	Medium	The island is still used as a bombing range for military training.	
<i>Phoebastria nigripes</i>	Kaula		Human disturbance - Military action	Medium	The island is managed by the U.S. military and is used as a bombing target during military training.	
<i>Phoebastria albatrus</i>	Kure Atoll		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	Medium		
<i>Phoebastria immutabilis</i>	Kure Atoll		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	Medium		
<i>Phoebastria nigripes</i>	Kure Atoll		Habitat loss or destruction - Vegetation encroachment	Low	Ongoing eradication program using herbicide and manual control	
<i>Phoebastria nigripes</i>	Kure Atoll		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	Medium		
<i>Phoebastria immutabilis</i>	Laysan Island		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	Medium		The only viable long term management action is to abandon management of the remote Hawaiian islands in order to improve nesting habitat on the main Hawaiian islands.
<i>Phoebastria nigripes</i>	Laysan Island		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	Medium		
<i>Phoebastria immutabilis</i>	Lisianski Island		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	Medium		The only viable long term management action is to abandon management of the remote Hawaiian islands in order to improve nesting habitat on the main Hawaiian islands.

Species	Breeding site	Threat species	Nature of threat	Threat Magnitude	Ongoing management actions or why no management response in place	Why management response was or was not effective
<i>Phoebastria nigripes</i>	Lisianski Island		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	Medium		
<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>	Mallorca	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	Rats present in some colonies, apparently low impact, no severe effects on breeding success. Action recently taken in Dragonera by local administration. Eradication in 2011, and follow-up work ongoing.	
<i>Diomedea exulans</i>	Marion Island	<i>Mus musculus</i> (House mouse)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	<i>Ad hoc</i> culling	
<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	McDonald Island		Natural disaster - Volcanic activity	Medium		
<i>Phoebetria palpebrata</i>	McDonald Island		Natural disaster - Volcanic activity	Medium		
<i>Thalassarche melanophris</i>	McDonald Island		Natural disaster - Volcanic activity	Medium		
<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>	Menorca	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	High	Presence of feral cats in the main colony of the local group, Mola de Maó, causing severe impact on chicks and adults (up to >20 adult corpses found in a single visit. Local government not prone to address actions to control cats, fear of social opposition.	
<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>	Menorca	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Phoebastria albatrus</i>	Midway Atoll		Habitat loss or destruction - Vegetation encroachment	Low	Ongoing eradication program has eliminated <i>Verbesina encelioides</i> on 52% of Eastern Island - site of the <i>Phoebastria albatrus</i> nest.	
<i>Phoebastria albatrus</i>	Midway Atoll		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	High		
<i>Phoebastria immutabilis</i>	Midway Atoll		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	Medium		
<i>Phoebastria nigripes</i>	Midway Atoll		Contamination - Toxins - man made	Low	Lead abatement ongoing.	

Species	Breeding site	Threat species	Nature of threat	Threat Magnitude	Ongoing management actions or why no management response in place	Why management response was or was not effective
<i>Phoebastria nigripes</i>	Midway Atoll		Habitat loss or destruction - Vegetation encroachment	Low	Removal of <i>Verbesina encelioides</i> by mechanical and chemical means	Ongoing <i>Verbesina</i> control has resulted in more than half of 138 ha Eastern Island at Midway being cleared.
<i>Phoebastria nigripes</i>	Midway Atoll		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	Medium		
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	New Island	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Northwest	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i> (Brown (Norwegian) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	An operation was initiated in 2011 to eradicate all rodents at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur) <sup>1</sup> . The operation is adopting a phased approach, the first phase of which was implemented in March-April 2011. The second phase took place in February-June 2013 covering the area west of Cumberland bay to the western tip of the island. The final phase will likely take place in February-May 2015, to complete the baiting of the remaining portion of the island, from the Barff Peninsula to Drygalski Fjord.	Further post-baiting monitoring for two to three years following the final phase will be required to determine the success of the eradication.
<i>Phoebastria immutabilis</i>	O'ahu	<i>Canis familiaris</i> (Dog)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Medium	Predator proof fence at Kaena Point	Predatory mammals removed from Kaena Point and predator proof constructed.
<i>Phoebastria immutabilis</i>	O'ahu	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Medium		
<i>Phoebastria immutabilis</i>	Pearl and Hermes Reef		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	Medium		
<i>Phoebastria nigripes</i>	Pearl and Hermes Reef		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	Medium		
<i>Thalassarche cauta</i>	Pedra Branca	<i>Morus serrator</i> (Australasian gannet)	Habitat loss or destruction - Increased competition with native species	High	None.	
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Saddle Island	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>	Predation by alien species - Predation	Low		The island was baited in March-April 2011. The

Species	Breeding site	Threat species	Nature of threat	Threat Magnitude	Ongoing management actions or why no management response in place	Why management response was or was not effective
		(Brown (Norwegian) rat)	by alien species			baiting operation was successfully implemented. Post-baiting monitoring work on the Thatcher and Greene Peninsulas, which were baited at the same time, has not revealed any signs of rats. Further monitoring will take place to confirm the outcome and final success of the eradication operation.
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Salisbury	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i> (Brown (Norwegian) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	An operation was initiated in 2011 to eradicate all rodents at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur) <sup>1</sup> . The operation is adopting a phased approach, the first phase of which was implemented in March-April 2011. The second phase took place in February-June 2013 covering the area west of Cumberland bay to the western tip of the island. The final phase will likely take place in February-May 2015, to complete the baiting of the remaining portion of the island, from the Barff Peninsula to Drygalski Fjord.	Further post-baiting monitoring for two to three years following the final phase will be required to determine the success of the eradication.
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Southeast	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i> (Brown (Norwegian) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low		
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Stromness and Cumberland	<i>Rangifer tarandus</i> (Reindeer)	Habitat loss or destruction - Habitat destruction by alien species	Low	The eradication of reindeer from South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur) <sup>1</sup> is nearly completed. The first phase of the operation has completely eradicated the 2,000-strong reindeer herd on the Busen Peninsula (this site). The final phase has removed the remaining reindeer herd of more than 4,500 animals located on the Barff Peninsula. Only a few reindeer now remain in this area and they will be eradicated in the coming months (2014/15).	Eradication operation nearly complete.
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Stromness and Cumberland	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i> (Brown (Norwegian) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	An operation was initiated in 2011 to eradicate all rodents at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur) <sup>1</sup> . The operation is adopting a phased approach, the first phase of which was implemented in March-April 2011, which included the Cumberland portion of this site. Post-baiting monitoring work on the Thatcher and Greene Peninsulas, which were baited at the	Further post-baiting monitoring for two to three years following the final phase will be required to determine the success of the eradication.

Species	Breeding site	Threat species	Nature of threat	Threat Magnitude	Ongoing management actions or why no management response in place	Why management response was or was not effective
					same time, have not revealed any signs of rats. The second phase took place in February-June 2013 covering the area west of Cumberland bay to the western tip of the island. The final phase will likely take place in February-May 2015, to complete the baiting of the remaining portion of the island, from the Barff Peninsula to Drygalski Fjord.	
<i>Phoebastria albatrus</i>	Torishima		Natural disaster - Volcanic activity			
<i>Phoebastria immutabilis</i>	Torishima		Natural disaster - Volcanic activity			
<i>Phoebastria nigripes</i>	Torishima		Natural disaster - Volcanic activity			
<i>Phoebastria immutabilis</i>	Wake Atoll	<i>Rattus exulans</i> (Polynesian rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	Monitoring population size and distribution at the atoll	Eradication attempt failed in 2012. An independent review of operation and possible causes for failure being conducted in June 2013 in preparation for second attempt some time in the future.