

 <p>Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels</p>	<p>Fourth Meeting of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group</p> <p><i>Wellington, New Zealand, 7 – 8 September 2017</i></p> <p>Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment for Species</p> <p><i>Nikhil K Advani and Jonathon HS Barrington</i></p>
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SUMMARY

World Wildlife Fund (WWF) has developed a tool for assessing the vulnerability or resilience of species to climate change. The tool assesses the vulnerability of species based on four factors: sensitivity, adaptive capacity, exposure, and other threats, on a scale from low vulnerability to high vulnerability. Application of the tool provides policy makers with information about areas of medium to high vulnerability, and information gaps that may be considered in implementing climate-adaptation strategies, and in conducting further research in support of species management planning. WWF invites submission of completed vulnerability assessments for albatross and petrel species that will be considered for inclusion in future WWF publications.

1. CLIMATE CHANGE VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT FOR SPECIES

World Wildlife Fund (WWF) has developed a tool for assessing the vulnerability or resilience of species to climate change (see <https://www.worldwildlife.org/initiatives/wildlife-and-climate-change> and Attachment A). This tool assesses the vulnerability of species based on four factors: sensitivity, adaptive capacity, exposure, and other threats, on a scale from low vulnerability to high vulnerability.

Resources are provided to assist in the assessment process including guidance on the assessment process (see <https://www.worldwildlife.org/pages/wildlife-and-climate-change-educator-resources>) and an interactive online tutorial about the assessment process (see: http://wwfadapt.org/wildlife-and-climate-change/en/story_html5.html).

The results of the assessment highlight traits that make the species resilient or vulnerable to changes in climate. The assessment provides policy makers with information about areas of medium to high vulnerability, and information gaps. This information is relevant to considering implementing climate-adaptation strategies and conducting further research in support of species management planning.

WWF invites submission of completed vulnerability assessments for albatrosses and petrels. The assessments will be considered for inclusion in future WWF publications. The website has already completed assessments for a number of priority species (see <https://www.worldwildlife.org/initiatives/wildlife-and-climate-change>).

ATTACHEMENT A: Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment for Species