出國報告(出國類別：其他)

出席「信天翁與水薙鳥保育協定第 12 屆諮詢委員會議」視訊報告

服務機關：海洋委員會海洋保育署
姓名職稱：黃向文署長、郭庭羽科長、許明雄專員、
范怡均科員、鄭純青職務代理
派赴國家/地區：臺灣，中華民國
出國期間：**110** 年 **8** 月 **17** 日至 **9** 月 **2** 日
報告日期：**110** 年 **12** 月 **2** 日

目次

摘要

為避免信天翁等海鳥族群因為漁業誤捕、海洋污染、外來種威脅而導致滅絕，包括澳洲、紐西蘭、英國、祕魯、厄瓜多、阿根廷、智利、烏拉圭等國於 2004 年設立「信天翁與水薙鳥保育協定」（Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels，簡稱 ACAP）。該協定透過國際合作，致力保育海鳥族群，整合各國研究與教育推廣，提出最佳避鳥措施，也獲得許多國際區域性漁業組織的肯定，並成為正式的決議，要求各漁業國漁船在這些海鳥分布的高緯度作業時必須採用相關避鳥措施，保育海鳥族群。

受到全球新冠肺炎(Covid-19)疫情影響，信天翁與水薙鳥保育協定第 12 屆諮詢委員會會議(Advisory Committee 12, AC12)於 2021 年 8 月 31 日至 9 月 2 日(AEST/UTC+10)以視訊方式舉行。並於 AC12 會議前，以視訊方式於 2021 年 8 月 17 日至 8 月 19 日召開第 10 屆海鳥混獲工作小組(SBWG10)，2021 年 8 月 24 日至 8 月 25 日召開第六屆海鳥保育工作小組(PCSWG6)。為延續我國參與動能，海洋委員會海洋保育署邀請行政院農業委員會漁業署、外交部等相關機關及專家學者，共同參與會議。本屆與會者包括阿根廷、澳洲、巴西、智利、厄瓜多、紐西蘭、挪威、秘魯、南非、西班牙、英國、烏拉圭等 12 個會員國，及以觀察員身分參加的如我國、加拿大、納米比亞、美國等國家，與國際鳥盟(BirdLife International)等非政府組織。

本次我國於觀察員聲明文件中表示，我國為減少漁業作業對海鳥之影響，於 2006 年通過減少延繩釣漁業意外捕獲海鳥之國家行動計畫，並於 2014 年更新，同時遵守 RFMOs 所通過之養護管理措施，加以內國法化，並要求我國漁船遵守規範，漁政單位也派遣遠洋觀察員蒐集相關資訊，以便繼續為漁民作進一步研究和推廣計畫，持續開發和試驗忌避措施以利永續漁業和海鳥族群保育。

本次會議決議後續第 7 屆會員大會(MoP7)預計於 2022 年 5 月於澳洲塔斯馬尼亞(Tasmania)召開，並於明年 1 月 2 日前視疫情決定舉辦實體或線上會議。第 13 屆諮詢委員會議(AC13)則預定於 2023 年 5 月至 6 月中旬間，由於厄瓜多受疫情影響無意舉辦，後續可能改由英國主辦。

壹、目的

為避免信天翁等海鳥族群因為漁業誤捕、海洋污染、外來種威脅而導致滅絕，包括澳洲、紐西蘭、英國、祕魯、厄瓜多、阿根廷、智利、烏拉圭等國於 2004 年設立「信天翁與水薙鳥保育協定」（Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels，簡稱 ACAP）。該協定透過國際合作，致力保育海鳥族群。特別是該協定整合各國研究與教育推廣，提出最佳避鳥措施，也獲得許多國際區域性漁業組織的肯定，並成為正式的決議，要求各漁業國漁船在這些海鳥分布的高緯度作業時必須採用相關避鳥措施。

ACAP 會員大會每三年舉辦一次，期間會舉辦諮詢委員會，討論各項保育措施與建議提供給大會參考。第 11 屆諮詢委員會於 2019 年 5 月 13 至 17 日於巴西佛羅里安諾波里斯舉行，與會者除了九個會員國之外，包括我國、美國、加拿大、巴哈馬、納米比亞均以觀察員身分參加，還有幾個非政府組織，共同討論海鳥的族群狀況及如何降低威脅。

我國是由海洋委員會海洋保育署黃向文署長率團參加第 11 屆諮詢委員會，此為我國第一次以觀察員身分參加此國際組織，象徵我國對於海洋生物保育的國際合作跨出第一步。本年度第 12 屆諮詢委員會議(AC12)及其下第 10 屆海鳥混獲工作小組會議(SBWG10)及第 6 屆族群及保育狀態工作小組會議(PaCSWG6)因全球 COVID-19 疫情延期至 2021 年 8 月中旬至 9 月初以視訊會議召開，為延續我國參與動能，海委會海保署邀請漁業署、外交部、南華大學及國立臺灣海洋大學等相關機關及專家學者(如表 1)，共同組團參與本屆會議，以了解國際海鳥保育之相關策略及方向。

表 1 我國參與第 12 屆諮詢委員會議人員

機關	姓名職稱
海洋委員會海洋保育署	黃向文署長、郭庭羽科長、許明雄專員、范怡均科員、鄭純青職務代理
海洋委員會國際發展處	蔡明勳科員
外交部	陳言楷科長
南華大學	葉裕民副教授
國立臺灣海洋大學 (漁業署薦派代表)	郭庭君助理教授

貳、過程

海洋保育署 2021 年 7 月 13 日邀請外交部、行政院農業委員會漁業署、海洋委員會國際發展處等機關，以及南華大學葉裕民副教授及國立臺灣海洋大學郭庭君助理教授 2 位學者召開籌備會議，決議比照正式國際會議，組代表團出席 AC12 及相關會議，並於 7 月 17 日向 ACAP 秘書處電郵報名參加本屆會議。

ACAP 秘書處於會議前將相關會議報告及資訊報告(information paper)公布於官網，供與會者先行下載參閱，經統計 AC12 會議報告 19 件、資訊報告 8 件，SBWG10 會議報告 19 件、資訊報告 23 件，PaCSWG6 會議報告 4 件、資訊報告 22 件，共計會議報告 42 件、資訊報告 53 件。

海保署於 AC12 及相關會議前，召開 2 次會議與相關機關及專家者研商會議報告及資訊報告，並由本署及漁業署分別就海鳥保育、海鳥混獲忌避措施及電子觀察員等相關議題，提供相關與會資料。

一、 第 10 屆海鳥混獲工作小組會議(SBWG10)

第 10 屆海鳥混獲工作小組會議(The tenth meeting of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group, SBWG10)於 2021 年 8 月 17 日開始為期三天，有 22 名會員國人員、39 名諮詢委員會成員和顧問，以及 34 名觀察員身分人員與會，共審議 19 篇報告及 23 篇參考文件。會議由紐西蘭主辦，視訊會議和實體進行的方式主要不同處，包括省略與會人士的自我介紹以及會議文件的宣讀，基本假設是與會人員已閱讀過所有會議報告與資訊報告，並已對重要會議報告提出書面評論。遵循議程順序，逐一針對相關報告檢視確認內容與評論，原則上由會議報告的主要作者快速導覽內容與評論後，開放與會人士表達意見。為有效達成共識以修訂文件內容，會後透過電子郵件方式回饋各方的評論，再由相關召集人整合至會議中確認。

(一) 2021 年 8 月 17 日

會議由召集人(SBWG convener) Igor Debski 開幕致詞並確認議程，接著主持議程 4 及議程 5，議程 6 由會議副召集人(SBWG Vice-convener)Seco Pon 主持，議程7由Sebastian Jiménez主持，議程主要討論各類漁法漁業的海鳥混獲忌避措施及電子觀察員(Electronic Monitoring, EM)。

議程5為拖網漁業的海鳥混獲忌避措施，對於是否建議一可能的忌避措施(側拋切碎的廢棄魚雜(mincing offal or discard)至某種尺寸易於海鳥吞食)議題上，多有討論，惟許多與會者抱持存疑立場，如切碎的動作造成人力負擔、切碎的大小、本可活放的小魚卻活不了等考量。亦有學者分享研究成果，認為聲音、時間、季節、海域、作業方式與漁具等對於海鳥的混獲才是關鍵因素，氣味因子似乎影響不大。

議程 6為底層延繩釣漁業的海鳥混獲忌避措施，唯一進行簡報的是第15號文件，為支繩加重的沉降速度研究，沉降速度攸關此忌避措施成效。漁具規格與支繩加重的設計為關鍵因素，因此各漁業與二者相關之研究都皆有進行必要。

在各toolbox的討論上，小組建議因為不同國家的漁船作業方式和漁具規格大相逕庭，對於海鳥忌避措施的建議規範只能做原則性要求，如避鳥繩的主杆高度至少離海平面7公尺。

另討論第8號文件時，有與會人員質疑建議電子觀察員作為忌避措施之一是否妥適?強調主要重點是船上之觀測，無論是衛星、EM、觀察員或任何攝影設備等，只要能監測忌避措施皆是可行方式。

(二) 2021 年 8 月 18 日

本日接續探討前日未完議題，會議召集人 Igor Debski 一開始先宣布接下來的討論共識形成可透過兩種做法，若議題不急切，可於此次 SBWG 會議結束後至下一次 SBWG 會議的 18 個月之間，以書信往返溝通確認，若為急切的議題則在本屆 AC12 會議前完成。

接續前日議程 7 有關中上層延繩釣漁業海鳥混獲忌避措施，第 12 號文件關於水下投餌裝置(Underwater bait setting)忌避措施。此裝置除可達到零海鳥混獲目標外，還具許多自動化功能，可蒐集各式海洋環境資料與作業資訊。使用此裝置，魚鉤下沉至 6 公尺只需 16 秒，下沉至 10 公尺只需 19 秒，且可降低非目標魚種混獲。目前已有紐西蘭、澳洲、日本、巴西、烏拉圭等國進行相關試驗，並應用在部分商業漁船上。雖然仍有許多實際面考量，如維修、成本及與其他忌避措施整合問題等，但由於其海鳥忌避效果極佳，將列為最佳實踐(Best practice)之一。並建議必須針對這種水下投餌裝置的規格及標準，有明確定義，並加上通用設計描述（而非限制特定規格），未來只要能達到通用設計要求的類似設計也可視為最佳實踐，Jonathon 將整合意見後草擬文字後再行確認。

第 13 號文件探討關於 Hookpod mini 忌避措施。Hookpod mini 重約 48 公克，大小為 120mmx97mm。與會者關心此大小是否會被海鳥吞食、影響海鳥攻擊率與沉降速度等。巴西學者分享 2017-2020 年間，試驗了 84000 鉤，沒有發生過海鳥吞食事件。另試驗資料顯示，86%試驗作業天數中，有 0~30%下鉤發生在白天，其餘 14%試驗作業天數，則有 70%~100%的下鉤發生在白天，結果皆是零混獲。因紐西蘭漁船於晚間作業，無法觀測到海鳥是否會攻擊 Hookpod mini。討論結論 Hookpod mini 將列為最佳實踐之一。

議程 12 為電子觀察員，討論第 14 號文件關於 ACAP 對於漁業電子觀察員的指導原則。國際鳥盟建議應有精簡版本，以利傳遞溝通，並列出為海鳥保育目的的必要蒐集資料項目即可。巴西代表分享該國目前已開始研究運用 AI 機器學習技術分析影像，許多大公司也有意願採用 EM。

議程 15 為海鳥混獲忌避措施之實施，探討第 11 號文件，藉由社群媒體提高聲量、持續推動 ACAP 在區域性漁業管理組織(RFMOs)參與、市場機制（如向大型零售商施壓）等增進海鳥忌避措施的實施。阿根廷代表分享該國海鳥行動方案進展與更新資訊。

(三) 2021 年 8 月 19 日

會議召集人 Igor Debski 於會議開始前，先說明目前第 8、9、10、12、13、14 號等文件修訂統整情形，以確保內容用詞一致性，並接續請與會人員於會議結束後，48 小時內提出意見(原提議 24 小時，後經協議延長)。

議程 15 為海鳥混獲忌避措施之實施，與會者 Ed 表示關於 8 月 18 日討論到藉由市場機制增進海鳥混獲忌避措施（如接觸及施壓 Walmart 或 Amazon 購買實施海鳥忌避措施的水產品），並提議可透過現有的廠商購置永續水產品計畫（如有 MSC 標章的海鮮）來推動。Rory Crawford 分享過去要求市場端購買永續水產品經驗，提醒此作法涉及的物種和漁業行為是否為該等公司所關心議題等，以及若以 MSC 產品為標準，需注意有些產品雖然有 MSC 標章，可能仍有很高的海鳥混獲情形。Mark Tasker 談及與其他團體的合作，表示 MSC 的評估機制會考量 ACAP 發表資訊，但 IUCN 對某些物種的評估常特別關注 red list 而忽略 ACAP 提

及的混獲影響，此可能是未來可加強溝通和合作的部分。秘書處則表示會提倡類似世界信天翁日行動，並持續努力。

議程 14 為與區域漁業管理組織活動之協調，關於與 RFMOs 互動協調活動，討論第 17 號文件的修訂，主要為 2 個行動方案的更新：1. 改善溝通策略以及 2. 積極參與 RFMOs 中的遵循相關的討論（如提交 Info paper）。與會人員希望向 RFMOs 強調海鳥保育的危機，並加強忌避措施的落實管理。秘書處表示因 Covid19 疫情與 RFMOs 較無多餘時間處理海鳥保育相關議題。

議程 17 為工具與指引(Tools and guidelines)，由 Igor 簡報觀察員資料蒐集議題，Roy 建議應準備摘要才易於溝通。修訂的部分以通信進行，其中針對 EM 的 Fact Sheet 的部分提出可有更多圖示或用流程圖幫助漁民瞭解等。Roy 簡報第 17 號文件，提供忌避措施實務層面的資料，例如如何處理纏繞問題，如何在起鉤時確保船員安全等。與會人員一致讚揚此篇報告的貢獻，建議 EM 等或許也可如法炮製。亦有會員建議考慮閱讀者可能是漁民，或許可有簡易圖文並茂版本。

議程 11 為 ACAP 海鳥混獲表現指標，Wavi 簡介第 5 號文件，關於 ACAP 海鳥混獲表現指標(Performance indicator)與通報系統。表現指標受限於很多漁業頂多提供原始觀察員資料(raw observer data)，而沒有混獲數和死亡率估計，因此較可能的指標是混獲率、忌避措施的使用率等。將於下一次實體的工作坊討論原始觀察員資料、以及如何處理的部分。日本 Tsuji 提出根本性原則問題，認為需要釐清使用此指標預期測量什麼？另外此些指標（如 CPUE）的意義與其測量的物種、族群等有何相關性，此外許多資料並沒有提到這些層級。Eric 提出每年約有 36,000 隻海鳥混獲，並建議或許可根據現有文獻，整理表格列出各國各漁業海鳥混獲狀況。

議程 9 為 ACAP 資助項目，簡介第 19 號文件，內容關於其他漁業的忌避措施建議，會議同意納入新的 toolbox。

議程 13 為 FAO IPOA/NPOA-Seabirds，關於海鳥國家行動方案，智利與紐西蘭提供相關文件，智利強調 2020 年該國更新內容，包括所有拖網和延繩釣漁業皆落實海鳥忌避措施。阿根廷與烏拉圭也分享該國國家

行動方案，包含區域合作，自 2019 年 11 月開始，整合各個利益相關者(環保團體等)，開始生物、生態等各方面相關研究。

議程 16 為優先保護行動，Roy 簡介第 16 號文件，回顧全球拖網漁業海鳥混獲狀況。大部分會員的意見是資料合理性。Roy 強調此篇報告僅是根據現有文獻整合，並未做新的估計分析。

議程 18、19 及 20 (work programme)，與會人員無意見。

議程 22 為討論提送 AC12 會議的報告，逐一審視內容，後續將以通信修改的書面結果，故本日僅確認是否有先前尚未提出的意見。

二、 第 6 屆海鳥保育工作小組會議(PaCSWG6)

第 6 屆海鳥族群及保育狀態工作小組會議(The sixth meeting of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group, PaCSWG6)會議為期二天，議程主要在檢視 ACAP 關注之 31 種海鳥物種的族群狀況和趨勢、威脅和優先等級及海鳥保育議題等。

(一) 2021 年 8 月 24 日

PaCSWG6 會議由召集人 Patricia Serafini、Marco Favero 和 ACAP 秘書處分項主持。會議進行方式是逐序討論議程文件與資訊文件，先由主持人摘要報告內容以及事先提出得書面意見/回覆，再開放討論。一開始進入議程 2 工作小組會員及介紹，宣布 PaCSWG6 會議小組會員名錄已公布在 ACAP 網頁。隨後進入議程 3 通過議程，議程只做了在不同議程項目些微文件的調動，之後確認無臨時動議，議程無異議通過。

議程 4 為進度報告，由秘書處報告資料庫與 ACAP 鳥種評估報告更新狀態。秘書處強調資料庫內容對於 ACAP 報告相當重要，尤其是提交至締約方大會的實施報告，並感謝協助更新資料人員。至於物種評估報告方面，未有太多更新進度，預計下屆 PaCSWG 再行審查。

議程 5 為族群狀態，(一)北方皇家信天翁(Northern royal albatross)的族群趨勢不明，由於其鳥種兩年繁殖一次，在判別和計算繁殖季時有其困難，目前雖有空中目擊計算數據，但仍需地面研究資料。(二)大黑風鱸 (Westland petrel)的保育等級上升到瀕危，但近期資料收集方式所得結果不易與之前資料比對，故其族群趨勢自「上升」改成「未知」。(三)黑風鱸 (Black petrel) 基於之前的模型趨勢判斷其族群下降，但仍有一些參數假設不確定（如幼鳥的存活率），將於下次會議時再納入新資料考量。(四)薩文氏信天翁 (Salvin's albatross) 過去族群數量研究係依據航空器拍到空中的鳥隻進行計算，但無法分辨繁殖鳥和非繁殖鳥，且近期資訊不明確，因此趨勢判別為「未知」。(五)白頂信天翁(Shy albatross)的族群狀況，因過去使用不同資料來源進行研究，產出不同結論，因此趨勢評估為「未知」。(六)據研究灰頭信天翁(Grey-headed albatross)羽毛中的水銀含量在過去 25 年增加 3 倍，且在亞南極和亞熱帶水域的灰頭信天翁羽毛汞含量遠高於在南極水域的個體，目前推論可能是因為食性變換（信天翁改攝食更多高階物種）或覓食範圍變動所致，但仍需持續研究釐清。

議程 6 為威脅與優先順序，資訊文件 6 (漂泊信天翁於西南大西洋與漁業之互動及重疊區域) 內說明，以 AIS 觀察發現漂泊信天翁與延繩釣漁船的互動最高，尤其韓國漁船。並提及臺灣南方黑鮪魚漁船作業海域和海鳥分佈大量重疊，認為我國有責任提供相關的數據與分析。前一屆會議的資訊文件(Info 18 and 19)及此屆資訊文件(Info 06) 皆顯示日本、臺灣及韓國，此三國之漁業對海鳥族群有很大的衝擊。因此有關資訊應提送到 SBWG，並希望藉由 RFMOs，以凸顯實施海鳥忌避措施的重要。而資訊文件 15 (阿根廷和巴西沿岸信天翁及海燕攝入塑膠) 研究顯示，除了漁業混獲，誤食塑膠廢棄物亦對海鳥健康造成威脅。未來將擴大研究樣本量，區分成不同海鳥成長階段、攝入之塑膠種類等更細部之研究。另針對南方巨鷸(Southern giant petrel)於育雛階段，親鳥間接將塑膠哺育給幼雛的情形也將採集樣本研究。並工作小組建議諮詢委員會(AC)重申 ACAP 締約方應採取一切可行行動以保護繁殖地，特別是預防對於信天翁或水薙鳥族群有危害的外來入侵動物或植物入侵，或是確保有效控制或甚至根除有害的外來物種。

(二) 2021 年 8 月 25 日

進入議程 7 資料落差，秘書處和與會人員進行資料庫更新，進行檢視更新島嶼監測相關資料庫內容。

議程 8 ACAP 優先族群，由主席 Marco Favero 主持討論，現行 ACAP 優先保育族群共有 9 個物種，其中 4 個物種於 2011 年通過，4 個在 2016 年通過，最後一個則於 2017 年通過。經討論後，無建議新增鳥種。議程 8.1，國際鳥盟(BirdLife International)希望了解目前是否有進行關於優先保育族群的雙邊或多邊合作研究計畫。與會者回應阿根廷、烏拉圭、紐西蘭、澳洲與智利等國有對於 ACAP 保育優先族群進行區域型雙邊或多邊合作研究計畫。與會人員強調採取保育行動以及 RFMOs 應加強海鳥保育的急切性，並應加強落實管理。建議後續 SBWG 和 PaCSWG 應召開聯合會議討論相關議題。另，第 16 號資訊文件討論到加島信天翁(Waved albatross)族群約三分之二分布於烏拉圭和秘魯地區，而兩國旅遊業可能對該族群造成危害，應將旅遊業衝擊納入評估，外來入侵種及新興漁業等議題也應納入，以擬定保育行動方案。亦有與會者討論到若某國對某物種的存續有責任，但該國並非 ACAP 成員，是否能鼓勵其參與（如短尾信天翁(short-tailed albatross)目前並非優先物種/族群，可能原因之一係因其主要分布範圍國家（日本）

並非 ACAP 成員。秘書處認為，雖此提議合理，但因涉及政治，建議提至 AC12 討論。

議程 9 ACAP 表現指標，由秘書處及與會人員共同檢視族群動態指標、繁殖棲地概況及追蹤資料(tracking data)現況等，相關表格文件後續將提送至第七屆締約方大會(MoP7)。也建議鼓勵研究者上傳追蹤資料至國際鳥盟(BirdLife International, BLI)的追蹤資料庫，相關資料亦將一併帶入 ACAP 資料庫。

議程 10 最佳實踐指引及其他線上資源，此議程討論最佳實踐(Best-Practice)的技術指引。建議下次會議將聲學及遙測技術相關指引，以及群落(colony)管理策略納入討論。並建議增加光害管理技術指引。Brothers 認為某些針對 ACAP 關注物種的光害議題和忌避措施未在目前版本提及。Barrington 提議與會者可考慮藉由分析 BLI 的追蹤資料瞭解 ACAP 關注物種在不同天氣、環境中飛行行為是否會受影響，以有助於瞭解各種人造工程（如風電、光害）與物種行為相關性。

後續議程進展速度很快，主要是和 ACAP 補助計畫經費規畫以及工作計畫有關，討論建議補助研究的方向，如信天翁體內(肝、羽毛等)水銀含量對於其繁殖成功率的影響，或各種影像(包括衛星遙測)解析判讀的技術等。

會議結論於 8 月 27 日寄送報告初稿給與會人員確認，後於 8 月 29 日確認後提送 AC12 正式會議。

三、 第 12 屆諮詢委員會議(AC12)

第 12 屆諮詢委員會議(The Twelfth Meeting of ACAP's Advisory Committee, AC12)於 2021 年 8 月 31 日開始至 9 月 2 日為期 3 天，每天 4 小時(03:00~07:00，台北時間)，以視訊的方式由紐西蘭主辦，本會議辦理情形如下。

(一) 2021 年 8 月 31 日

會議主席為紐西蘭Nathan Walker，副主席為巴西Tatiana Neves。在AC12會議前，按往例先召開代表團團長會議(Head of Delegation)，本次未開放觀察員參加，爰我國並未參與。

諮詢委員會於主席確認議程及無臨時動議後，由秘書處重點報告議事規則、工作匯報、財務經費以及AC工作計畫，接續由澳洲代表說明保管協定託存報告現況。

秘書處表示於AC11擬定計畫，已在2019~2021年間邀請各國潛在單位加入ACAP，例如墨西哥、葡萄牙、及邀請納米比亞成為締約方，並在相關國際組織中呼籲其他遷移性野生動物保育公約(Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals，CMS)締約方加入ACAP。美國也報告了其在嘗試加入ACAP方面取得的進展。

有關財務報告，主要因為COVID-19影響，造成2020-2021年支出不足，另報告2022年來自會員及團體的捐款、撥款計畫和借調計畫。

觀察員報告部分，本次有我國、納米比亞及美國，以及國際鳥盟等3非政府組織以觀察員身分提供聲明文件，我國於該份文件表示，為減少漁業作業對海鳥之影響，已於2006年通過「減少延繩釣漁業意外捕獲海鳥」之國家行動計畫，並在2014年更新。遵守RFMOs所通過之養護管理措施，加以內國法化，並要求我國漁船遵守規範，漁政單位也派遣遠洋觀察員蒐集相關資訊，以便繼續為漁民作進一步研究和推廣計畫，持續開發和試驗忌避措施以利永續漁業和海鳥族群保育。

族群和保育狀態工作小組(PaCSWG)報告，由召集人英國Mark Tasker說明並提出下列主要建議

1、重申採取可行行動保護繁殖地的重要性，確保控制或根除可能對海鳥族群有害的外來物種。

2、鼓勵ACAP締約方進一步優先追蹤研究的物種，包括某些善潛水而導致較高混獲率、或族群易受影響物種，例如某些族群繁殖地有外來種引入。

3、建議諮詢委員會鼓勵ACAP締約方和負責ACAP物種族群繁殖的國家，實施優先監測計劃，以增進對族群目前規模、趨勢、數量的資訊掌握。

4、針對加島信天翁(Waved albatross)，希望祕魯或厄瓜多能針對旅遊衝擊的部分，在2023年諮詢委員會前提出更新行動計畫。

5、贊同野生動物的光害準則，以利評估和管理人造光源對海鳥(包含信天翁及海燕)之影響。

(二) 2021 年 9 月 1 日

副召集Tatiana Neves主持議程12海鳥混獲工作小組(SBWG10)報告，後續議程由召集人Nathan Walker接手主持。海鳥混獲工作小組(SBWG10)報告，由SBWG10召集人Igor Debski簡要說明會議，再針對小組會議報告逐項說明摘要內容，並提出下列主要建議

1、海鳥混獲忌避措施

(1) 贊同減少拖網漁業、底層延繩釣漁業對海鳥影響的最新審查和最佳做法建議，鼓勵各漁業減輕混獲之研究。

(2) 認可遠洋延繩釣漁業更新ACAP針對改善船員安全之建議。

(3) 關於遠延繩釣漁業最佳做法部分，確認新增兩項忌避措施，水下投餌及魚鉤遮蔽裝置(Hookpod)。

2、電子觀察員：宣傳和鼓勵使用ACAP的EM指引，為漁業EM系統提供資訊及加強基本標準。定期更新ACAP的EM指引以適時回應變化，例如，監控海洋捕撈漁業與海鳥交互作用、修正混獲管理措施、開發新忌避措施方法以及改進EM技術等。

3、與區域性漁業管理組織(RFMOs)相關活動之協調：主要為2個行動方案之更新(改善溝通策略、積極參與RFMOs中的遵循相關規範之討論)，希望向RFMOs強調海鳥保育之危機，並加強忌避措施落實管理。

阿根廷提醒不同組織有各自之目標，ACAP之目標應該是要求RFMOs考慮ACAP對保育信天翁和海燕之建議，不應為遵守其他組織之經濟原則，而損害保護目標。

諮詢委員會依據SBWG回顧全球拖網漁業海鳥混獲狀況之優先保護行動，認同以下建議

1、鼓勵ACAP會員國提高拖網漁業的最低觀察員覆蓋率(人員或 EM)，以增加對海鳥混獲之認知。

2、鼓勵ACAP會員國優先收集拖網漁業之海鳥混獲數據，特別是以前研究有限之船隊。

3、鼓勵在拖網漁業使用數據收集指南，將數據標準化，如SBWG10文件中所提供之準則。

4、鼓勵會員國優先有效管理廢棄魚雜，作為拖網減少海鳥混獲之主要手段。

議程13(Advisory Committee)討論諮詢委員會2019-2022工作計畫，即介於會員大會(Meeting of the Parties，MoP)期間之工作計畫相關項目，另外討論過程中對於世界信天翁日(World Albatross Day)等在社群媒體上宣傳及搭配相關活動之議題上也多有討論。

議程14(Avisory Committee Work Programme)主要討論聚焦於各會員國資料與報告之繳交議題(包含族群狀態、棲息地狀態及追蹤資料等)，以便後續由秘書處與國際鳥盟彙整並綜整為正確指標。

議程15(Listing of New Species)今年無新增ACAP關注鳥種。

(三) 2021 年 9 月 2 日

會議由主席Nathan Walker與副主席Tatiana Neves輪流主持

針對AC報告逐項確認內容，包含討論並修正本次會議報告、確認諮詢委員會與秘書室2023-2025工作計畫及2023-2025預算項目等。並遴選出下屆新任AC主席為澳洲Mike Double、SBWG召集人為Sebastián Jiménez，副召集人為巴西 Dr. Dima Gianuca。而分類(Taxonomy)工作小組副召集人從缺。

有關阿根廷對於SBWG的第16號文件(回顧全球拖網漁業海鳥混獲狀況)相關內容的修正文字。主席表示這頗具爭議，原則上，並無法在AC去增修SBWG報告內容。但阿根廷表示主要是要求能將相關文字反映在AC報告內，後續修正內容會再確認。

後續第7屆會員大會(MoP7)預計於2022年5月於澳洲塔斯馬尼亞(Tasmania)召開，並於明年1月2日前視疫情決定舉辦實體或線上會議。另確認並修正MoP7預定議程。

第13屆諮詢委員會議(AC13)則預定於2023年5月至6月中旬間，由於厄瓜多因受疫情影響無意舉辦，有可能改由英國主辦。另確認並修正AC13預定議程。

參、心得與建議

自我國 107 年成立海洋委員會及其所屬機關後，海洋野生動物保育相

關業務，即自行政院農業委員會林務局轉移至海洋委員會海洋保育署，其中亦包括海鳥保育相關業務。本次為參與 ACAP AC12 會議與其所屬會議，會前需蒐集資料除我國海鳥保育相關作為外，亦包含與海鳥混獲相關漁船作業管理辦法，如沿近海鮪延繩釣漁船作業管理辦法(第 16 條)、漁船從事魷釣漁撈作業管理辦法(第 20 條)、漁船赴北太平洋從事秋刀魚漁撈作業管理辦法(第 20 條)等，為行政院農業委員會漁業署主管業務。且海鳥為遷移性物種，其保育係屬國際事務，因此極需外交部等專業協助。跨部會通力合作，才能在參與海鳥保育國際事務上，發揮我漁業大國的優勢能量，建立良好形象，以儘量爭取國際合作的機會，培養研究能量與國際視野，並採取主動積極的態度，設定後續中長程目標。

我國相關主管機關，平時即投入經費預算，進行遠洋混獲忌避及電子觀察員相關調查與研究計畫，後續應儘量爭取會議報告的篇幅，以充分反映我國研究成果，有利建立我國國際形象。

另國際視訊會議，因限於與會人員來自世界各地，時區差異大，每日會議時間壓縮在四小時，因此議程常調整異動。面對遠距國際會議，團隊應分工合作，分別安排負責注意會議討論內容人員、及時紀錄人員、負責回應人員及資料準備人員等，如此能更有利於緊湊的會議中及時應對，順利完成任務。

肆、 附錄

一、第 10 屆海鳥混獲工作小組會議議程

SBWG10 Doc 01
Agenda Item 3

Tenth Meeting of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group

Virtual meeting, 17 - 19 August 2021 (UTC+10)

Draft Meeting Agenda

SBWG Convenors and Vice-convenors

SBWG10 Draft Agenda	
1.	**Welcome and opening remarks**
2.	**WG membership and introduction**
3.	**Adoption of Agenda**
4.	**ACAP seabird bycatch mitigation best practice advice – definition and criteria**
5.	**Seabird Bycatch Mitigation in Trawl Fisheries** 5.1 Review recent developments in mitigation research and update Best Practice Advice 5.2 Update Mitigation Fact Sheets if required 5.3 Consider priorities for mitigation research
6.	**Seabird Bycatch Mitigation in Demersal Longline Fisheries** 6.1 Review recent developments in mitigation research and update Best Practice Advice 6.2 Update Mitigation Fact Sheets if required 6.3 Consider priorities for mitigation research
7.	**Seabird Bycatch Mitigation in Pelagic Longline Fisheries** 7.1 Review recent developments in mitigation research and update Best Practice Advice 7.2 Update Mitigation Fact Sheets if required 7.3 Consider priorities for mitigation research
8.	**Artisanal and Small-scale Fisheries** 8.1 Review recent developments in mitigation research and update toolbox advice
9.	**Seabird bycatch mitigation in net fishing methods other than gillnet and trawl** 9.1 Review recent developments in mitigation research and update toolbox advice 9.2 Assessment of risks and development of ACAP advice for any other relevant fisheries

17 June 2021

10.	**Seabird Bycatch Mitigation in Gillnet Fisheries** 10.1 Consider recent developments in mitigation research and consider priorities for further research
11.	**ACAP Performance Indicators: Seabird Bycatch** 11.1 Review of bycatch indicators and data submitted to the reporting framework
12.	**Electronic Monitoring** 12.1 The further development of advice for the use of E-Monitoring in relation to seabird bycatch
13.	**FAO IPOA/NPOA-Seabirds** 13.1 Review of status of implementation of NPOA-Seabirds
14.	**Coordination of activities relating to RFMOs** 14.1 Feedback on and update of RFMO engagement strategy
15.	**Enhancing implementation of best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures**
16.	**Priority conservation actions** 16.1 Review of at-sea priorities
17.	**Tools and Guidelines** 17.1 Updates and new guidelines 17.2 Mitigation Fact Sheets
18.	**Listing of species on Annex 1** 18.1 Proposals to list new species on Annex 1
19.	**ACAP funded programmes** 19.1 Small Grants and Secondments 2019 and 2020 19.2 Funding priorities for 2023 -2025
20.	**SBWG Work Programme** 20.1 Work Programme 2019 - 2022 20.2 Work Programme 2023 - 2025
21.	**Any other business**
22.	**Reporting to AC12**
23.	**Close of Meeting**

二、第 6 屆海鳥保育工作小組會議議程

PaCSWG6 Doc 01 Rev 3
Agenda Item 3

Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

Sixth Meeting of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group

Virtual meeting, 24 – 25 August 2021 (UTC+10)

Draft Meeting Agenda

PaCSWG Convenors and Vice-convenor

PaCSWG6 – DRAFT AGENDA	
1. Welcome and opening remarks	
2. WG membership and introduction	
3. Adoption of the Agenda	PaCSWG6 Doc 01 PaCSWG6 Doc 02
4. Progress reports 4.1. Database updates 4.2. Updates and reviews of ACAP Species Assessments	ACAP website
5. Population status and trends 5.1. Population trends of ACAP species	PaCSWG6 Inf 03 PaCSWG6 Inf 05 PaCSWG6 Inf 10 PaCSWG6 Inf 11 PaCSWG6 Inf 13
6. Threats and prioritisation 6.1. Updates on management of land-based threats 6.2. Overlap of birds and at-sea threats, including fisheries 6.3. Review terrestrial threat prioritisation	PaCSWG6 Inf 02 PaCSWG6 Doc 04 PaCSWG6 Inf 01 PaCSWG6 Inf 04 PaCSWG6 Inf 06 PaCSWG6 Inf 07 PaCSWG6 Inf 08 PaCSWG6 Inf 14 PaCSWG6 Inf 15 PaCSWG6 Inf 17 PaCSWG6 Inf 18 PaCSWG6 Inf 22

7. Data gaps 7.1. Review key gaps in population data 7.2. Review key gaps in tracking data	
8. ACAP Priority Populations 8.1. Review key research and management actions for ACAP priority populations 8.2. Development of an ACAP strategy for priority populations 8.3. Proposals for high priority species or populations	PaCSWG6 Doc 04 PaCSWG6 Inf 01 PaCSWG6 Inf 03 PaCSWG6 Inf 06 PaCSWG6 Inf 07 PaCSWG6 Inf 12 PaCSWG6 Inf 16 PaCSWG6 Inf 20
9. ACAP performance indicators 9.1. Review the agreed indicators of population status, breeding site condition and tracking data availability	
10. Best-practice guidelines and other online resources 10.1. Updates to existing guidelines 10.2. Guidelines on mitigating bird strikes from artificial lights 10.3. New guidelines	ACAP website PaCSWG6 Doc 03 PaCSWG6 Inf 09
11. ACAP funded programmes 11.1 Small Grants and Secondments 2019 and 2020 11.2. Funding priorities for 2023 - 2025	AC12 Inf 01 PaCSWG6 Inf 21
12. Listing of species on Annex 1 12.1.Proposals to list new species on Annex 1	
13. Reviews and information	PaCSWG6 Inf 19
14. Future Work Programme 14.1. Work Programme 2019 - 2022 14.2. Work Programme 2023 - 2025	 AC12 Doc 15 AC12 Doc 16
15. Any other business	
16. Reporting to AC12	
17. Closing remarks	

三、第 12 屆諮詢委員會議議程

AC12 Doc 01
Agenda Item 2

Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

Twelfth Meeting of the Advisory Committee

Virtual meeting, 31 August – 2 September 2021 (UTC+10)

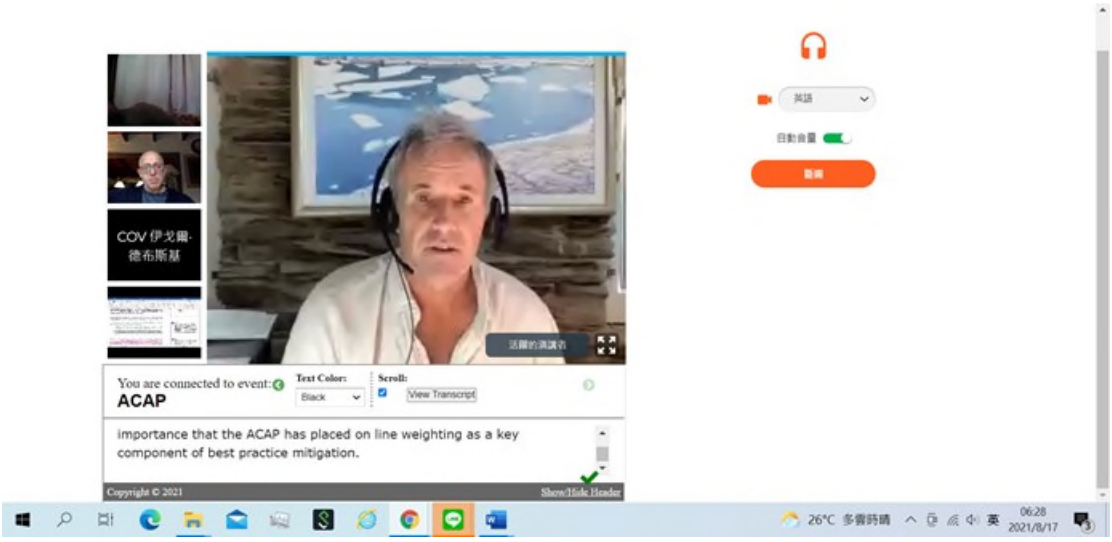
Draft Meeting Agenda

Advisory Committee, Secretariat

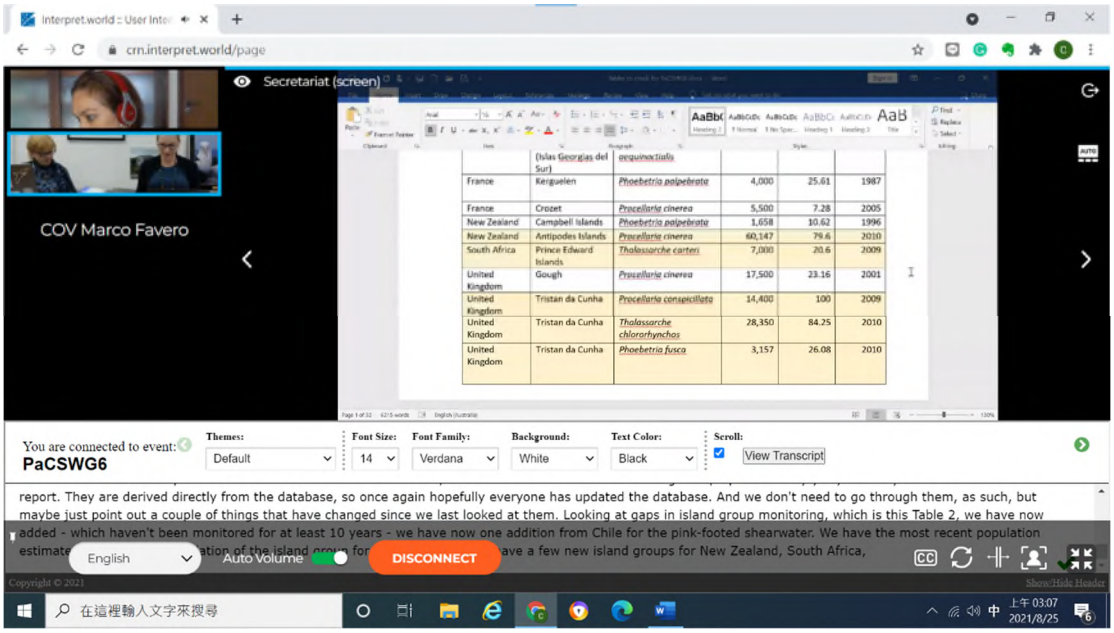
DRAFT AC12 AGENDA
1. Opening Remarks
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Rules of Procedure
4. Report of the Depositary
5. ACAP Secretariat 5.1 Activities undertaken in 2019/2021 intersessional period 5.2 Secretariat Work Programme 2019 – 2022 5.3 Secretariat Work Programme 2023 – 2025
6. Agreement's Financial Matters 6.1 Financial Report 6.2 Agreement Budget 2023 – 2025
7. Observer Reports 7.1 Reports from Observers to AC12
8. Report on the Implementation of the Agreement
9. Advisory Committee Report to the Seventh Meeting of the Parties
10. Population and Conservation Status of Albatrosses and Petrels 10.1 Report of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group
11. Taxonomy of Albatrosses and Petrels 11.1 Report of the Taxonomy Working Group
12. Seabird Bycatch 12.1 Report of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group
13. Advisory Committee 13.1 Advisory Committee Work Programme 2019 – 2022

13.2 Advisory Committee Work Programme 2023 – 2025 13.3 Agreement Grant Scheme and Secondment Programme
14. Indicators to Measure the Success of ACAP
15. Listing of New Species
16. Election and Appointment of AC Officers if required
17. Seventh Meeting of the Parties 17.1 Timing and Venue 17.2 Draft Provisional Agenda
18. Thirteenth Meeting of the Advisory Committee 18.1 Timing and Venue 18.2 Draft Agenda:
19. Other Business
20. Adoption of Report
21. Closing Remarks

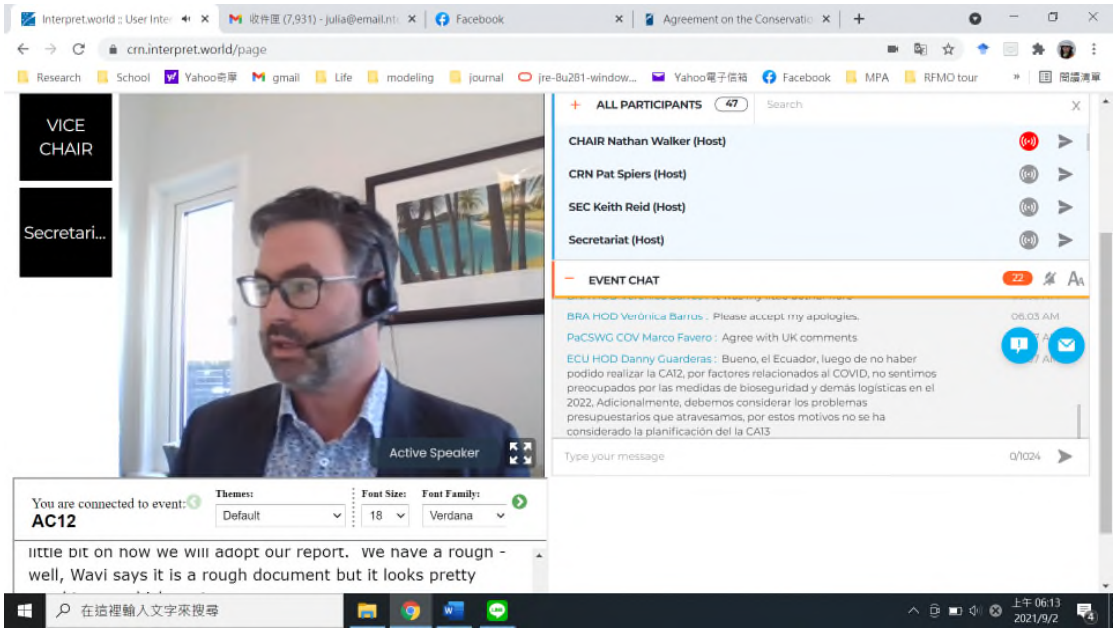
四、　線上會議截圖



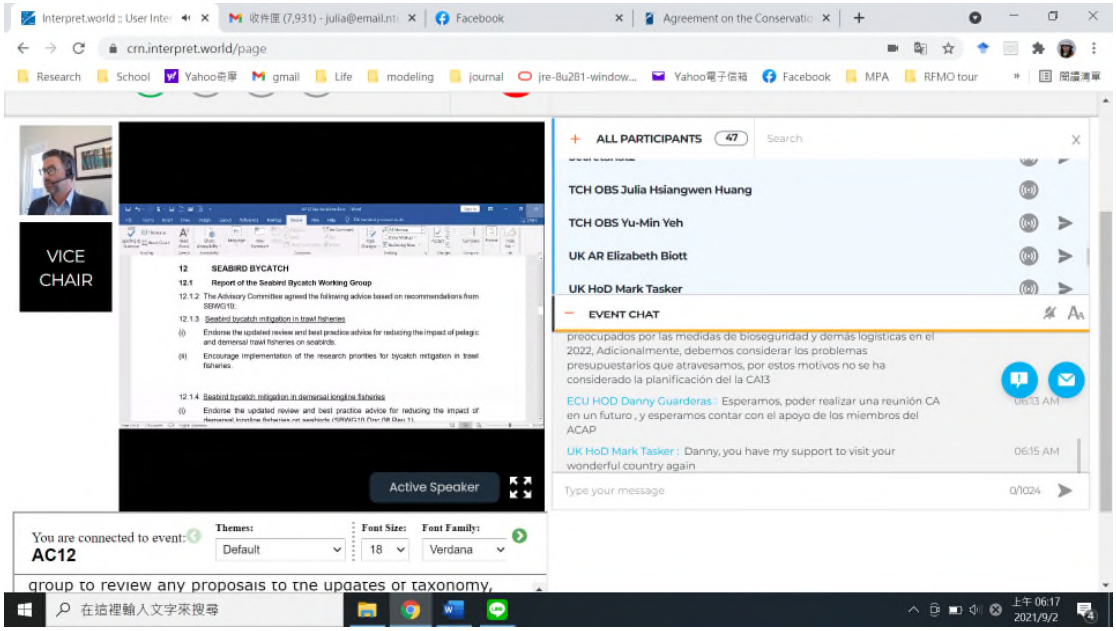
SBWG10 會議截圖



PaCSWG6 會議截圖



AC12 會議截圖



AC12 會議截圖

五、 AC12 會議報告

Agreement on the Conservation of
Albatrosses and Petrels

REPORT OF
THE TWELFTH MEETING OF
THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Virtual meeting,
31 August – 2 September 2021 (UTC+10)

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ABNJ	Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction
AC	Advisory Committee (AC1, AC2 etc. refer to the first, second, etc. meetings of the Advisory Committee)
ACAP	Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels
ANCP	ACAP National Contact Point
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum
BLI	BirdLife International
CCAMLR	Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources
CMS	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
EM	Electronic Monitoring
HSI	Humane Society International
IAC	Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
MoP	Meeting of the Parties (MoP1, MoP2 etc. refer to the first, second etc. Session of the Meeting of Parties)
PaCSWG	Population and Conservation Status Working Group (PaCSWG1, PaCSWG2 etc. refer to the first, second, etc. meetings of the PaCSWG)
SBWG	Seabird Bycatch Working Group (SBWG1, SBWG2 etc. refer to the first, second, etc. meetings of the SBWG)
SES	Senior Executive Service
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organisation
TWG	Taxonomy Working Group
UK	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
UN	United Nations
USA	United States of America
UTC	Coordinated Universal Time
WGs	Working Groups

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1 OPENING REMARKS

1.1 The Twelfth Meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC12) to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) was held online, from 31 August to 2 September 2021 (UTC+10), with Mr Nathan Walker as Chair and Mrs Tatiana Neves as Vice-chair.

1.2 Twelve Parties were represented: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, South Africa, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK) and Uruguay.

1.3 In addition, three Range States and one APEC member economy participated as Observers: Canada, Namibia, the United States of America (USA) and Chinese Taipei.

1.4 BirdLife International (BLI), Grupo de Ecología y Conservación de Islas, A.C., Humane Society International (HSI) and the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC) attended the meeting as Observers.

1.5 The list of participants is provided in **ANNEX 1**. The list of meeting documents and information papers is provided in **ANNEX 2**.

1.6 The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all delegates. The Chair outlined the logistical arrangements for the virtual meeting and noted the shortened time available. He observed that, as an Advisory Committee meeting immediately preceding a Meeting of the Parties (MoP), AC12 had some additional tasks. Key tasks for AC12 included: preparing an Advisory Committee report to the MoP; reporting on the implementation of the Agreement; and reviewing the indicators of success of the Agreement; in addition to the Advisory Committee's regular tasks of reviewing the work of the Committee's Working Groups and the Secretariat.

2 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

2.1 The draft agenda was adopted by the meeting and is provided in **ANNEX 3.**

3 RULES OF PROCEDURE

3.1 The meeting adopted the Rules of Procedure as well as the ad-hoc guidelines that had been developed specifically for this meeting (see **AC12 Circular 5**).

4 REPORT OF THE DEPOSITARY

4.1 Australia tabled the Report of the Depositary Government to the Agreement (AC12 Doc 06 Rev 1), which indicated that there have been no new accessions or notifications to the Agreement since AC11, Florianópolis, Brazil, 13 – 17 May 2019.

4.2 The Executive Secretary described activities undertaken by the Secretariat to encourage accession to the Agreement. In 2019 she made a liaison visit to Mexico. Following the cessation of travel due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Secretariat had maintained contact by correspondence with prospective Parties, Namibia, and the USA. Correspondence about ACAP membership had been sent to Portugal. The Secretariat had also used meetings of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) and other bodies to urge relevant participating countries to become ACAP Parties.

5 ACAP SECRETARIAT

5.1 Activities undertaken in 2019 - 2021 intersessional period

5.1.1 The Executive Secretary introduced AC12 Doc 07 which provides a report on activities undertaken by the Secretariat during the 2019 - 2021 intersessional period. A significant activity during that period was the 2020 - 2021 intersessional decision-making process undertaken by internal correspondence, which was necessitated by the postponement of AC12 and MoP7. The first phase included endorsement by the Advisory Committee of amendments to the AC 2019 - 2021 Work Programme to encompass an additional year of activities (meaning that it is now the 2019 - 2022 Work Programme). ACAP Parties then provided initial comments on a range of proposed decisions, including a draft Budget and scale of contributions for 2022. Despite a fruitful dialogue between many Parties and the Secretariat, leading to a large degree of agreement on a draft Budget, it was not possible to adopt this in the voting phase. Instead, as consensus could not be reached, the 2022 Budget is simply a rollover of the 2021 Budget as per Article VII (2) (b) of the Agreement. A Record of Decisions from this process is available on the ACAP website, including several intersessional Resolutions.

5.1.2 The Advisory Committee thanked the Secretariat for the report.

5.2 Secretariat Work Programme 2019 - 2022

5.2.1 It was agreed that the Secretariat Work Programme for the current quadrennium (AC12 Doc 17) would be amended to align with changes to the 2019 - 2022 Advisory Committee Work Programme.

5.2.2 The meeting highlighted updating the Species Assessments as a high priority task for the Secretariat (Task 3.3 in the Work Programme) and noted the importance of these documents for ACAP and as a contribution to the IUCN Red List process. AC12 welcomed news that updated species assessments would soon be available and noted the willingness of relevant Parties and Range States to contribute to this task to ensure the updates are completed before AC13.

5.3 Secretariat Work Programme 2023 - 2025

5.3.1 It was agreed that the Secretariat Work Programme for 2023 – 2025 (AC12 Doc 18) would be amended to include any additional items requested by the Advisory Committee for action by the Secretariat in its 2023 - 2025 Work Programme. The amended draft Work Programme will be presented to MoP7 for approval.

6 AGREEMENT'S FINANCIAL MATTERS

6.1 Financial Report

6.1.1 The Executive Secretary introduced the 2021 Provisional Financial Report (AC12 Doc 08 Rev 3) and confirmed that the audited financial statements for the 2021 financial year would be distributed to ACAP Parties in accordance with Financial Regulations 10.2 and 11.3. She noted that expenditure for the year was below budget allocations, mainly due to the impact of COVID-19 on travel, together with lower vehicle costs.

6.1.2 The level of arrears from some Parties remains a concern for the Agreement and could put at risk a balanced budget for 2022 and subsequent years. The 2022 Budget will depend in some measure on carry-over of under-expenditure from previous years, and on timely payment of Parties' contributions.

6.1.3 The Executive Secretary highlighted voluntary contributions towards the AC Work Programme from Abercrombie and Kent Philanthropy ($9,376) and France ($24,738).

6.1.4 Argentina commended the Secretariat for their efficient financial management of the Agreement, especially given the difficulties that some Parties are experiencing due to the ongoing pandemic.

6.2 Agreement Budget 2023 - 2025

6.2.1 The Executive Secretary introduced a draft budget for the Agreement for the 2023 - 2025 triennium (AC12 Doc 09 Rev 2), prepared in accordance with Regulation 3.1 of the Finance Regulations. The draft budget includes a statement of the significant financial implications for the 2023 - 2025 triennium in respect of proposed work programmes. It was based on an estimated inflation rate of 2.6% p.a., which was the average three-year (2017 - 2019) pre-COVID-19 pandemic rate for Hobart.

6.2.2 The Executive Secretary noted that approximately $40,000 extra per year was estimated to be needed to contract a part time communications adviser. This would exceed the 2.6% increase for Item 1.2.5 and the shortfall would need to be made up from funds for other consultancies being partially re-directed to this purpose, especially in the first year of the triennium.

6.2.3 The Executive Secretary also noted that the estimated cost of holding AC and MoP meetings was for moderate cost locations and if meetings were to

be held in higher cost regions, voluntary contributions from Parties to assist with attendance of delegates would be welcome. Furthermore, travel costs for future AC and MoP meetings could be considerably higher than the estimated increase of 2.6% per year.

6.2.4 The AC Chair noted that voluntary contributions from Parties could also assist with supporting the communications advisor contract or supplementing the Small Grants Programme.

6.2.5 Australia suggested that the allocation for the communications advisor could be added as a separate item to employee salaries.

6.2.6 The UK suggested that the Executive Secretary's salary should reflect the increase that would happen over four years at SES Level 2 of the Tasmanian public service rather than from the base level.

6.2.7 Australia agreed, and also noted that when the draft budget is presented to MoP7 it would be helpful for Parties to understand the extent of savings from the current quadrennium and the extent to which they have been carried over into 2023, 2024, and 2025.

6.2.8 The Executive Secretary clarified that some of the underspent funds from 2020 and 2021 would be used for expenditure in 2022, as the 2022 Budget replicates the 2021 allocation and is not specifically adapted to 2022 activities (see paragraph 5.1.1, above). She noted that in budgeting for a new triennium, ACAP practice has generally been to assign funds from income (mainly Parties' contributions), but for Parties to agree on one-off payments from savings in the General Fund for specific activities, as is proposed in the draft 2023 - 2025 Budget for item 1.2.6 (relocation expenses - staff).

6.2.9 The meeting noted that not all items in the AC Work Programme were allocated at a 2.6% increase.

6.2.10 The Advisory Committee thanked the Executive Secretary for the draft budget.

7 OBSERVER REPORTS

7.1 Reports from Observers to AC12

7.1.1 Statements from Namibia, USA, Chinese Taipei, Birdlife International, Grupo de Ecología y Conservación de Islas, A.C., and Humane Society International were provided prior to the meeting and are attached as **ANNEXES 8** to **13.**

7.1.2 The AC thanked the observers for their engagement.

8 REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT

8.1 The Secretariat presented the Draft Report on Progress with the Implementation of the Agreement 2018 – 2021 (AC12 Doc 14). Implementation reports were received from six Parties (AC12 Inf 04 to AC12 Inf 09).

8.2 The information contained in Part 1 of this draft report had been obtained by the Secretariat from Parties pursuant to Article VII (1) (c) and Article VIII (10) of the Agreement. Part 2 contains information provided by Parties and Range States on an annual basis to assist with the Agreement's work. The Draft Report will be further updated taking account of discussions and outcomes from SBWG10, PaCSWG6 and AC12.

8.3 The Advisory Committee noted that seven Parties were yet to submit their individual implementation reports. These Parties were strongly encouraged to do so as soon as possible to facilitate a complete and comprehensive final report being prepared in time for MoP7.

8.4 AC members made a commitment to providing outstanding reports within three months, by 30 November 2021, so that a full report to MoP7 on the implementation of the Agreement can be prepared.

9 ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE SEVENTH MEETING OF PARTIES

9.1 The AC Chair introduced the Draft Advisory Committee Report to MoP7 (AC12 Doc 10). The report will be modified by the Chair and the Vice-chair after the conclusion of the current meeting (AC12) to incorporate its outcomes, as well as the progress noted in SBWG10 and PaCSWG6.

9.2 The Advisory Committee thanked the AC Chair, Vice-chair and the Secretariat for the drafting of this document.

9.3 The Advisory Committee suggested amendments to Section 2.2 (Progress with Actions under Article IX of the Agreement) in relation to Species Assessments and to improving crew safety while hauling branch lines, as well as inclusion of the new ACAP guidelines and two stand-alone mitigation measures for pelagic longline fisheries recommended by SBWG10 and endorsed by the AC (see 12.1.5).

9.4 The AC Chair reiterated concerns expressed under Agenda Item 8, about the difficulty of providing full implementation data to the MoP if the Parties do not submit their Implementation Reports.

9.5 Australia suggested that the completion of the communications review and the identified need for additional support for the Secretariat concerning communications be noted in Section 2.2.6 (Other Activities). Australia also proposed adding in Section 3.2 (Difficulties encountered and challenges for the next triennium) a reference to the challenges of maintaining ACAP's public profile and providing information about conservation-related activities without adequate support for the Secretariat's communications activities.

9.6 New Zealand proposed that Section 3.2 also highlight the impacts of the lack of fisheries data on reporting bycatch indicators.

9.7 The UK suggested that a reference be added in the same section to the planned workshop on fisheries and bycatch data submission by Parties (see 14.2 (iii)).

10 POPULATION AND CONSERVATION STATUS OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS

10.1 Report of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group

10.1.1 The Co-convenors of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group (PaCSWG), Patricia Pereira Serafini (Brazil) and Dr Marco Favero (Argentina), introduced the report of the Sixth Meeting of the PaCSWG (AC12 Doc 11). This report outlined intersessional progress against the Work Programme of the PaCSWG as well as discussions and advice resulting from the meeting of PaCSWG6 held online from 24 – 25 August 2021 (UTC+10).

10.1.2 The Advisory Committee took note of the report when updating the AC Work Programme and agreed the following advice based on recommendations from PaCSWG6:

10.1.3 Threats and prioritisation

(i) Reiterate the importance of ACAP Parties taking all feasible action to protect breeding sites, in particular by preventing the introduction of, or, if already present, ensuring the control or eradication of non-native species that may be detrimental to populations of albatrosses and petrels.

(ii) Encourage more research on sub-lethal effects of pollutants, and the incorporation of these impacts when modelling population trends.

10.1.4 Data gaps

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

(ii) Encourage ACAP Parties and others to undertake the identified priority tracking studies, including those of deep diving and nocturnally active species.

10.1.5 ACAP priority populations

(i) Highlight the need to complete the revision and updating of the Binational Action Plan on the Waved Albatross *Phoebastria irrorata*, including a more concrete reference to tourism and related issues.

10.1.6 Best practice guidelines and other online resources

(i) Endorse the light pollution guidelines for wildlife as an aid for assessing and managing the impact of artificial light on seabirds including albatrosses and petrels, noting the relevance of the guidelines to other susceptible wildlife.

10.1.7 The Advisory Committee noted the concerted action plan for the Antipodean Albatross *Diomedea antipodensis* involving Australia, Chile, and New Zealand, and the bilateral regional plan of action between Uruguay and Argentina. The Advisory Committee agreed that these action plans and other papers considered by PaCSWG6 had highlighted the importance of holding a joint PaCSWG and SBWG meeting; an initiative that was endorsed at AC11 but had not been feasible this year given the online nature of the meetings.

10.1.8 Peru supported the recommendation to revise and update the Binational Action Plan on the Waved Albatross *Phoebastria irrorata* noting that the results of a small grant funded by ACAP in 2019 had provided improved knowledge of the population size and trends of the Waved Albatross on Española Island.

10.1.9 The Advisory Committee looked forward to a further update on this process at AC13.

10.1.10 The Advisory Committee noted the discussion in the PaCSWG about uncertainties relating to the Short-tailed Albatross *Phoebastria albatrus* population on its western-most current breeding site and referred this matter to the Meeting of the Parties for further guidance.

10.1.11 The AC Chair thanked the PaCSWG and its Convenors for their considerable work and report.

11 TAXONOMY OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS

11.1 Report of the Taxonomy Working Group

11.1.1 The Convenor of the Taxonomy Working Group (TWG), Mark Tasker, introduced the report of the TWG (AC12 Doc 12) and thanked the other members of the group for their continued engagement.

11.1.2 The Advisory Committee noted the progress of the TWG and endorsed the request to consider nominating additional experts to the TWG.

11.1.3 The Advisory Committee requested the TWG to review any proposals for updates to the taxonomy of Buller's *Thalassarche bulleri* and Short-tailed *P. albatrus* albatrosses noting that such updates may have consequences for Annex 1 of the Agreement.

11.1.4 New Zealand noted that recently collected DNA samples from Buller's Albatross *T. bulleri* should help to inform the review of the taxonomy of this species and encouraged the TWG to await the results of this work, which should be available later in the intersessional period.

12 SEABIRD BYCATCH

12.1 Report of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group

12.1.1 The Convenor of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group (SBWG), Dr Igor Debski (New Zealand), introduced the report of the 10th Meeting of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group (SBWG10). This report (AC12 Doc 13) outlined intersessional progress against the SBWG Work Programme as well as discussions and advice resulting from the meeting of SBWG10 held online from 17 - 19 August (UTC+10). The SBWG Convenor noted the challenges faced by the Working Group in conducting a virtual meeting and thanked the vice-convenors (Dr Sebastián Jiménez, Uruguay, and Dr Juan Pablo Seco Pon, Argentina) and all participants in the meeting for their goodwill and engagement.

12.1.2 The Advisory Committee thanked the SBWG Convenors and the Secretariat for preparing this report, and agreed the following advice based on recommendations from the SBWG, and took note of it when developing the AC Work Programme:

12.1.3 Seabird bycatch mitigation in trawl fisheries

(i) Endorse the updated review and best practice advice for reducing the impact of pelagic and demersal trawl fisheries on seabirds.

(ii) Encourage implementation of the research priorities for bycatch mitigation in trawl fisheries.

12.1.4. Seabird bycatch mitigation in demersal longline fisheries

(i) Endorse the updated review and best practice advice for reducing the impact of demersal longline fisheries on seabirds (**SBWG10 Doc 08 Rev 1**).

(ii) Encourage implementation of the research priorities for bycatch mitigation in demersal longline.

12.1.5. Seabird bycatch mitigation in pelagic longline fisheries

(i) Endorse the updated ACAP advice on improving crew safety when hauling branch lines during pelagic longline operations (**SBWG10 Doc 09 Rev 1**).

(ii) Endorse the updated review and best practice advice for reducing the impact of pelagic longline fisheries on seabirds, with the inclusion of underwater bait setting devices, specifically the Underwater Bait Setter (Skadia Technologies), and the addition of the Hookpod-mini as an assessed hook-shielding device, as ACAP best practice seabird bycatch mitigation options, as contained in **SBWG10 Doc 10 Rev 1**.

(iii) Encourage implementation of the research priorities for reducing seabird bycatch associated with pelagic longline gear.

12.1.6 Assessment of risks posed to ACAP species from net fishing methods other than gillnet and trawl

(i) Endorse the updated purse seine toolbox advice (ANNEX 3 of **AC12 Doc 13**).

(ii) Encourage the use of the toolbox format in developing seabird bycatch mitigation advice for other fisheries as an accessible and informative instrument for users and decision-makers.

12.1.7 Electronic monitoring

(i) Adopt the ACAP Guidelines on Fisheries Electronic Monitoring (EM) Systems in **SBWG10 Doc 14 Rev 1**.

(ii) Disseminate and encourage use of ACAP's EM guidelines to inform and strengthen essential standards for fisheries EM systems.

(iii) Periodically update ACAP's EM guidelines to reflect changes, for example, in objectives of monitoring seabird interactions in marine capture fisheries, amendments to bycatch management measures, the development of new bycatch mitigation methods, and improvements in EM technology.

12.1.8 The Advisory Committee considered the review of the ACAP RFMO engagement strategy (**SBWG10 Doc 07 Rev 1**), including the list of priority actions, and supported the implementation of these actions, including the provision of resources necessary to achieve this, recognising the conservation crisis facing ACAP-listed species.

12.1.9 Argentina reflected that, noting the aims of different organisations, ACAP's objective should be for RFMOs to take into account ACAP recommendations in relation to albatrosses and petrels and that ACAP should not compromise the conservation objectives in order to adhere to the economic principles of other organisations.

12.1.10 The Advisory Committee noted the ongoing discussion on ABNJ in the UN context and that this would continue to involve seabird issues and also involve different RFMOs in the next phase of discussion that will commence in 2022.

12.1.11 The Advisory Committee welcomed an update on the bilateral regional plan of action between Uruguay and Argentina (see also 10.1.7) and noted that the engagement in the Argentinian and Uruguay Maritime Front Organisation was also relevant to the broader topic of engagement with RFMOs.

12.1.12 The Advisory Committee noted the discussion in SBWG10 on the deliberate take and killing of ACAP species and endorsed the engagement of Dr Sebastián Jiménez and Dr Igor Debski in the CMS intersessional working group on intentional killing of seabirds.

12.1.13 The Advisory Committee noted the discussion in SBWG10 on enhancing implementation of best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures and agreed:

(i) that a sub-group of SBWG should continue to pursue opportunities to engage with relevant seafood certification schemes.

(ii) to instruct the Secretariat to continue to receive notifications from seafood certification schemes and to share these as relevant with the sub-group.

(iii) to instruct the Secretariat to continue to engage, as required, a consultant to provide advice on ensuring that information from ACAP is included as inputs in the development of new and revised standards for certification schemes.

(iv) to note the importance of developing ACAP's communications strategy, including the desirability of a possible secondment to investigate further specific communications areas and to supplement the work of any part time consultant that the Secretariat might employ as a communications adviser.

(v) to endorse ongoing celebration of World Albatross Day as a useful communications activity to elevate and maintain awareness around the conservation of albatrosses as a flagship group of species.

12.1.14 The UK acknowledged the importance placed on World Albatross Day and emphasised the need to consider the appropriate communication platforms to target fishers as a key audience in relation to at-sea threats posed by seabird bycatch.

12.1.15 The Advisory Committee agreed the following advice on priority conservation actions based on recommendations from the SBWG arising from a draft global review of seabird bycatch in trawl fisheries (**SBWG10 Doc 16**):

(i) Encourage ACAP Parties to increase minimum observer-coverage standards (human or EM) in trawl fleets to improve knowledge of seabird bycatch.

(ii) Encourage ACAP Parties to prioritise collection of data on seabird bycatch in trawl fisheries, particularly in fleets with limited previous studies. Data collection should include warp cable, netsonde and paravane interactions, and estimates of cryptic mortality, to improve estimates of fleet-specific and global trawl mortality.

(iii) Encourage standardised data collection in trawl fisheries using relevant data collection guidelines such as those provided in **SBWG10 Doc 06 Rev 1** and **SBWG10 Doc 14 Rev 1**.

(iv) Encourage Parties to prioritise effective management of offal and discards as the principal means of mitigating seabird bycatch in trawl fisheries.

12.1.16 Some Parties raised the issue that the SBWG Report (**AC12 Doc 13**) did not express in detail the discussions that took place during the presentation of **SBWG10 Doc 16**.

12.1.17 Argentina stated that the study contained in the document presents different problems of methodology and scales of analysis, which leads to oversizing

the problem it studies and expressed that it could be counterproductive for conservation efforts. Argentina called for the study to be more inclusive and representative and aimed at strengthening cooperation between the Parties in the spirit of the Agreement.

12.1.18 Along the same lines, Chile noted that experience has shown that the only way to solve the bycatch problem is with the participation and commitment of fishermen, which largely depends on a common understanding and the trust generated with the stakeholders, which can be adversely affected by the presentation of sensitive information that is not entirely accurate. **SBWG10 Doc 16** contains information that would not reflect the current condition and management of seabird bycatch in trawl fleets operating in Chile, where measures have been implemented in 2019 along with control at sea through EM systems in all vessels and high levels of observer coverage for scientific monitoring. Chile valued the work presented and offered all its collaboration to the authors to provide the background information that allows updating the information regarding bycatch and the measures implemented in the national trawl fleets. Additionally, it expressed strong support for the proposal of Argentina to strengthen the cooperation between Parties of the Agreement.

12.1.19 For its part, Uruguay agreed with the views expressed by Argentina and Chile.

12.1.20 The UK welcomed the analysis presented in **SBWG10 Doc 16** noting that it was an unpublished draft and was based on available data and highlighted that the rate of seabird bycatch in trawl fisheries globally could be considerably greater than previously considered.

12.1.21 Birdlife International thanked Argentina, Chile, Uruguay and UK for their helpful comments and noted that the paper is currently a draft and not in the public domain. Furthermore, Birdlife International noted that the analysis presented in **SBWG10 Doc 16** is based only on available information and can always be improved as new data becomes available. BirdLife International welcomed engagement by all Parties to correct and improve the manuscript.

12.1.22 The Advisory Committee noted the discussion in SBWG on tools and guidelines and agreed to:

(i) Endorse the data collection guidelines for observer programmes provided in **SBWG10 Doc 06 Rev 1**.

(ii) Support the update of the remaining Mitigation Fact Sheets to the new simplified format in a phased approach prioritising measures that are considered best practice and allocate funding to achieve this aim.

12.1.23 The Convenor of the SBWG recognised that progress in all these tasks was only possible due to the considerable preparatory work during the intersessional period by numerous working group members, authors of papers and other participants, and thanked them all for these contributions.

13 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

13.1 Advisory Committee Work Programme 2019 - 2022

13.1.1 The 2019 - 2022 Work Programme (**AC12 Doc 15)** was reviewed during the meetings of SBWG10 and PaCSWG6. The AC Chair noted that the Work Programme had been amended intersessionally by the AC in 2020 to account for an additional year (2022), and subsequently adopted intersessionally by the Meeting of the Parties in May 2021. The Advisory Committee agreed on some further updates and revisions to the Work Programme for the current quadrennium (**ANNEX 4**).

13.2 Advisory Committee Work Programme 2023 - 2025

13.2.1 The draft 2023 - 2025 Work Programme (**AC12 Doc 16**) was reviewed during SBWG10 and PaCSWG6, and further amended during AC12 (**ANNEX 5**). It was endorsed by the Advisory Committee for presentation to MoP7.

13.2.2 The SBWG Convenor noted that the SBWG might refine its plan of work in the future given the range of advice the Working Group is now providing. This might result in some changes to the Work Programme further down the track.

13.3 Agreement Grant Scheme and Secondment Programme

13.3.1 The AC Chair noted that application rounds for both programmes were held during 2019 and 2020. AC12 Inf 01 summarises progress with projects funded in 2018, 2019 and 2020. Although some of those projects have been delayed, many were underway, and several have been completed.

13.3.2 The Secretariat advised that Secondments awarded in 2019 are still on hold, due to current travel restrictions. No applications were received in the 2020 round, despite the criteria being amended ad-hoc, as agreed intersessionally by the Advisory Committee (AC Circular 2020-01), to allow for proposals which did not depend on international travel.

13.3.3 The Advisory Committee noted the importance of capacity building and agreed to retain the amendments to the Secondments criteria as long as necessary, to allow maximum flexibility for arrangements within or between countries and to encourage more applications.

13.3.4 The Advisory Committee considered the merits of holding the next call for Small Grant and Secondment applications in the coming months or carrying over the funds to the 2023 round, due to take place following AC13. It was agreed that given the pending election of a new AC Chair, and the ongoing uncertainties around the pandemic, the Small Grants Subcommittee would advise early in 2022 on a timetable for the next round.

13.3.5 The AC Chair recalled that the usual practice is for a round to be held twice in a triennium, with each round following an AC meeting.

14 INDICATORS TO MEASURE THE SUCCESS OF ACAP

14.1 The SBWG Convenor recalled the discussion at SBWG10 on seabird bycatch indicators and data submitted to the reporting framework. He noted that the low level of reporting of seabird bycatch (as total estimated mortality or rates per unit effort) prevented analyses to progress indicator development and implementation.

14.2 The Advisory Committee noted the challenges associated with the submission and analysis of the bycatch indicator data, and, based on recommendations from SBWG, agreed to:

(i) Reiterate the importance of Parties and Range States reporting bycatch estimates using appropriate statistical methods, or, where this is not available, observed bycatch data using relevant strata.

(ii) Reiterate the importance of Parties and Range States including fisheries where data are either extremely poor or lacking altogether in their reporting, and identifying the reasons for, and approaches to resolve the paucity of data.

(iii) Endorse the proposal for a workshop to address data submission and development of analyses to derive performance indicators.

14.3 HSI highlighted the importance of reporting the extent of implementation of best practice mitigation measures in an open and transparent manner, which currently is not sufficiently reported by Parties. HSI suggested that it would be helpful to strengthen the obligation to report this information.

14.4 The Advisory Committee recalled that the option to report implementation of best practice mitigation measures is already included in the template for online reporting by Parties prior to AC meetings. The AC recommended that the proposed workshop review approaches to improving data reporting rates, including through reviewing reporting requirements and processes.

14.5 The Secretariat noted that due to the truncated nature of the online meetings mitigation measures were not focused on this year but that the agreed bycatch indicators include a response indicator on implementation of mitigation, and the mechanism for reporting is in place. The challenge remains to obtain the information necessary to construct meaningful indicators.

14.6 The Advisory Committee reiterated the importance of implementing measures to reduce or eliminate the incidental mortality of albatrosses and petrels resulting from fishing activities, including where possible following ACAP current best practice consistent with Item 3.2.1 of the ACAP Action Plan at Annex 2 of the Agreement.

14.7 The PaCSWG Co-convenor, Dr Marco Favero, reported on breeding sites and populations indicator data submitted to the ACAP database, and the seabird tracking data derived from the BirdLife International Seabird Tracking Database. Separate indicators can be generated for the original 26 species

listed on Annex 1 of the Agreement in 2004, the 29 species listed in 2009, and the 31 species listed currently.

14.8 The Advisory Committee noted the progress with land-based indicators and based on recommendations from PaCSWG, agreed to:

(i) Encourage data holders to submit their land-based indicators data to the Secretariat to enable the summary indicators to be reported accurately.

(ii) Encourage data holders to submit their tracking data to the BirdLife International Seabird Tracking Database to enable the summary indicators to be reported accurately.

14.9 The Advisory Committee recalled **MoP6 Doc 21 Rev 1** and references made to capacity building in Article 4 of the Agreement. The Advisory Committee noted that the performance indicators on capacity building were built following the state pressure response approach and were adopted by MoP6. The Secretariat has included these capacity building indicators in the national reporting system and will present the first review of them to MoP7.

15 LISTING OF NEW SPECIES

15.1 Proposals to list new species on Annex 1

15.1.1 There were no proposals for listing of species on Annex 1. The Advisory Committee endorsed recommendations from both the SBWG and PaCSWG that any future proposals be presented to the Advisory Committee immediately after a Meeting of the Parties to allow sufficient time for consideration ahead of the following MoP. The Advisory Committee noted that the recommendation would also apply to changes to species listed in Annex 1 arising from taxonomic reviews.

16 ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF AC OFFICERS

16.1 The AC Chair noted that the election of AC officials usually occurs at the Advisory Committee following the MoP but that some changes in circumstances had created a requirement for an election for the position of Co-convenor of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group and the Chair of the Advisory Committee. He called for nominations for those two positions.

16.2 New Zealand proposed Dr Sebastián Jiménez (Uruguay) for the position of Seabird Bycatch Working Group Co-convenor. Since there were no other nominations, and the AC endorsed the proposal, Dr Jiménez was duly elected.

16.3 The Advisory Committee noted that the appointment of Dr Jiménez as Co-convenor had created a vacancy for Co-vice convenor of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group.

16.4 Uruguay proposed Dr Dimas Gianuca (Brazil) for the position of Seabird Bycatch Working Group Co-vice convenor. Since there were no other nominations, and the AC endorsed the proposal, Dr Gianuca was duly elected.

16.5 The UK proposed Dr Michael Double (Australia) as the new Chair of the Advisory Committee. Since there were no other nominations, and the AC endorsed the proposal, Dr Double was duly elected.

16.6 The Advisory Committee noted that the appointment of Dr Double as Advisory Committee Chair created a vacancy for Vice-convenor of the Taxonomy Working Group.

16.7 There were no nominations for this position. The TWG Convenor recalled the recommendation for Parties to nominate relevant experts to this working group and confirmed the post and call for nominations would remain open during the intersessional period.

16.8 AC12 congratulated Drs Double, Jiménez and Gianuca on their appointments.

17 SEVENTH MEETING OF PARTIES

17.1 Timing and Venue

17.1.1 The AC Vice-chair advised the meeting that, as previously noted, Australia would be the host of the Seventh Session of the Meeting of Parties, planned for May 2022. As advised in ACAP ANCP Circular 2021-03, a decision would be required before 2 January 2022 on whether the meeting will be in-person or online.

17.2 Draft Provisional Agenda

17.2.1 The draft provisional agenda for MoP7 (**AC12 Doc 19**), prepared by the MoP6 Chair and the AC Chair, was reviewed, noting the need to examine the intersessional decision-making process given the increased attention to this issue recently (**ANNEX 6**). The revised draft provisional agenda will be submitted to Parties for their comments in advance of MoP7.

18 THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

18.1 Timing and Venue

18.1.1 The AC Vice-chair reminded the meeting that Parties had agreed intersessionally (ACAP ANCP Circular 2021-03) to invite Ecuador to host AC13, if it so wished, because the COVID-19 pandemic meant it was not possible to hold AC12 in Ecuador.

18.1.2 Ecuador indicated that because of budgetary and biosecurity considerations it would not be in a position to host AC13. Ecuador stressed that it would be interested to host a future AC meeting.

18.1.3 The UK informed AC12 that it was aiming to host a future ACAP meeting but would have to investigate further whether this would be possible in 2023.

18.1.4 The Advisory Committee welcomed the interest from the UK and Ecuador in hosting future AC meetings, and would await intersessional advice from the UK before any further planning would be possible for AC13.

18.2 Draft Agenda

18.2.1 A draft agenda for AC13 was reviewed by the Advisory Committee (**ANNEX 7**) and will be forwarded to AC members for their consideration ahead of AC13.

19 OTHER BUSINESS

19.1 There were no additional issues raised under this agenda item.

20 ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

20.1 The Advisory Committee reviewed and confirmed decisions of the previous two days. The Chair reminded AC12 that the meeting report would be adopted by correspondence. A draft would be sent to all participants and comments invited.

21 CLOSING REMARKS

21.1 The Vice-chair thanked everybody who had taken part in the meeting, the Secretariat, the technical staff, the interpreters, the stenographers, and everyone else involved in meeting organisation. She welcomed the new appointees to ACAP positions. The Vice-chair then reflected on her close working relationship and friendship with the out-going Chair, Nathan Walker. She thanked him for his outstanding contribution to ACAP's work and wished him well in his future endeavours.

21.2 Many other delegates then expressed their thanks to the Chair for his dedicated work on behalf of ACAP.

21.3 The Chair, in his closing remarks, described his experiences as AC Chair and how much he had learned from this role. He recalled the many experiences and friendships around the world that had come his way through his ACAP work. He highlighted the progress achieved by the Agreement over this period and noted challenges ahead. The Chair also recalled the excellent contribution to ACAP's work by Dr Anton Wolfaardt (who has left his position as Co-convenor of the SBWG to manage the Marion Island

mouse eradication project) and John Cooper, ACAP's honorary Information Officer, who has given years of dedication to the Agreement and will be retiring in mid-2022. Finally, the Chair thanked all ACAP officials for their hard work and dedication, and reiterated the Vice-chair's thanks to all involved in running the meeting.

21.4 The Advisory Committee thanked the Chair and Vice-chair for their excellent stewardship during the meeting.

ANNEX 1. LIST OF MEETING PARTICIPANTS

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ANNEX 2. LIST OF MEETING DOCUMENTS

WORKING DOCUMENTS			
Paper	**Title**	**Agenda Item**	**Submitted by**
AC12 Doc 01	Meeting Agenda	2	AC Chair, Secretariat
AC12 Doc 02	Annotated Agenda	2	AC Chair, Secretariat
AC12 Doc 03 Rev 1	Meeting Schedule	2	AC Chair, Secretariat
AC12 Doc 04	List of Meeting Participants	2	Secretariat
AC12 Doc 05	List of Meeting Documents	2	AC Chair, Secretariat
AC12 Doc 06 Rev 1	Report of the Depositary Government on the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (Canberra, 19 June 2001)	4	Australia
AC12 Doc 07	Secretariat Report	5.1	Secretariat
AC12 Doc 08 Rev 3	2021 Provisional Financial Report	6.1	Secretariat
AC12 Doc 09 Rev 2	Draft Agreement Budget 2023 - 2025	6.2	Secretariat
AC12 Doc 10	Draft Advisory Committee Report to MoP7	9	AC Chair, Vice-chair
AC12 Doc 11	Report of Population and Conservation Status Working Group	10.1	PaCSWG
AC12 Doc 12	Report of the Taxonomy Working Group	11.1	TWG
AC12 Doc 13	Report of Seabird Bycatch Working Group	12.1	SBWG
AC12 Doc 14	Draft Report on Progress with the Implementation of the Agreement 2018 - 2021	8	Secretariat, AC Officials
AC12 Doc 15	Advisory Committee Work Programme 2019 - 2022	13.1	AC Chair, Vice-chair, Secretariat
AC12 Doc 16	Draft Advisory Committee Work Programme 2023 - 2025	13.2	AC Chair, Vice-chair, Secretariat
AC12 Doc 17	Secretariat Work Programme 2019 - 2022	5.2	Secretariat
AC12 Doc 18	Draft Secretariat Work Programme 2023 - 2025	5.3	Secretariat
AC12 Doc 19	Draft Provisional Agenda - MoP7	18.2	MoP Chair, AC Chair, Secretariat

INFORMATION PAPERS			
Paper	**Title**	**Agenda Item**	**Submitted by**
AC12 Inf 01	Small Grants and Secondment Programmes supported by the AC	13.3	Secretariat
AC12 Inf 02	Engaging with seafood market schemes: a guide for ACAP	9, 12.1	Secretariat
AC12 Inf 03	ACAP communications review and strategy	9, 12.1	Secretariat
AC12 Inf 04	2021 Implementation Report - Argentina	8	Argentina
AC12 Inf 05	2021 Implementation Report - Australia	8	Australia
AC12 Inf 06	2021 Implementation Report - Brazil	8	Brazil
AC12 Inf 07	2021 Implementation Report - New Zealand	8	New Zealand
AC12 Inf 08	2021 Implementation Report - Peru	8	Peru
AC12 Inf 09	2021 Implementation Report - UK	8	United Kingdom

ANNEX 3. AC12 AGENDA

AC12 AGENDA
1. Opening Remarks
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Rules of Procedure
4. Report of the Depositary
5. ACAP Secretariat 5.1 Activities undertaken in 2019/2021 intersessional period 5.2 Secretariat Work Programme 2019 – 2022 5.3 Secretariat Work Programme 2023 – 2025
6. Agreement's Financial Matters 6.1 Financial Report 6.2 Agreement Budget 2023 - 2025
7. Observer Reports 7.2 Reports from Observers to AC12
8. Report on the Implementation of the Agreement
9. Advisory Committee Report to the Seventh Meeting of the Parties
10. Population and Conservation Status of Albatrosses and Petrels 10.1 Report of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group
11. Taxonomy of Albatrosses and Petrels 11.1 Report of the Taxonomy Working Group
12. Seabird Bycatch 12.1 Report of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group
13. Advisory Committee 14.1 Advisory Committee Work Programme 2019 - 2022 14.2 Advisory Committee Work Programme 2023 - 2025 14.3 Agreement Grant Scheme and Secondment Programme
14. Indicators to Measure the Success of ACAP
15. Listing of New Species
16. Election and Appointment of AC Officers
17. Seventh Meeting of Parties 17.1 Timing and Venue 17.2 Draft Provisional Agenda

18. Thirteenth Meeting of the Advisory Committee 18.1 Timing and Venue 18.2 Draft Agenda
19. Other Business
20. Adoption of Report
21. Closing Remarks

ANNEX 4. ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2019 – 2022

This Work Programme provides indicative costs (in AUD) and time required to complete the tasks. Significant levels of financial and staffing resources will be required from other sources to undertake the work programme, primarily from the Secretariat and the Advisory Committee Officials, but also from Parties, Range States and NGOs. Note that these staffing resources are in most cases provided pro-bono. The hours shown do not include time spent by the Parties or other organisations but is a reflection of the amount of time that AC Officials and the Secretariat will spend on these tasks. The Work Programme was adopted by MoP6 and amended by AC11. Actions that have been completed or are no longer relevant are crossed out. New actions or timeframes identified during AC12 are in blue text.

	Topic/ Task	Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
1.	**Taxonomy and Annex 1 review**					
1.1	Keep the Taxonomy Working Group's bibliographic database updated	TWG led by Convenor	Ongoing	0.5 week per annum (p.a.)	0	Ensure that ACAP's bibliographic database is kept updated
1.2	Continue the establishment of a morphometric and plumage database	TWG led by Convenor, Science Officer	2019-~~2021~~ 2022	2 weeks	0	This will facilitate the taxonomic process, the identification of bycatch specimens, and the long-term storage of valuable data. Possibly a catalogue of taxa that are difficult to separate visually instead.
1.3	Maintain a database of site-specific information on the availability of samples relevant to studies of population genetics of ACAP species	TWG	2019-~~2021~~ 2022	2 months	?	In co-operation with PaCSWG a database of researchers holding site specific samples was developed initially.
1.4	Consider taxonomic issues relating to species proposed for addition to Annex 1 of the Agreement	Parties and AC	Ongoing	0.5-week p.a.	0	Development of papers as required, using species assessment template.
1.5	Respond to queries on taxonomic issues relating to ACAP species	TWG led by Convenor	Ongoing	1-2 weeks p.a.	0	Encourage ongoing harmonisation with CMS and IUCN. Maintain species reference table with scientific and common names across multiple languages.

	Topic/ Task	Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
2.	**Information on status, trends and breeding sites**					
2.1	Consider gaps in population, tracking, breeding site management, threats and regulatory protection data submitted to ACAP; request any outstanding data and incorporate changes.	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	8 weeks p.a.	0	Parties to provide new or outstanding data each year. Science Officer to issue reminders in June each year. Maximise use of existing data (could be suitable for **secondments**).
2.2	Review and refine standardised queries and outputs for analysis and interpretation. Continue to improve data portal structure and queries.	Science Officer, Convenors, Vice Convenors, PaCSWG	Ongoing	12 weeks p.a.	0	
2.3	Accurately assess and update global population trends	PaCSWG Convenors, Science Officer and BirdLife International with other experts as required	Ongoing	3 weeks	5,000 (core)	May require further data portal updates. Consider alternative approaches as required. Review at AC12.
2.4	Update ACAP Species Assessments	Science Officer, PaCSWG leads	Ongoing	6 weeks p.a.	4,000 (core)	Costs for BirdLife to update maps. Prioritise a small group of species for urgent completion (starting with Priority Populations), followed by all remaining species.
2.5	Translate updates to Species Assessments and ACAP guidelines into Spanish and French	Science Officer	Ongoing		~~10,000~~ 13,000 (core)	
2.6	Identify priorities for monitoring of numbers, trends and demography	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	2 weeks p.a.	0	Review and update priorities and reflect on progress against priorities and provide reports to each AC Meeting.
2.7	Review availability of albatross and petrel tracking/distribution data to ensure representativeness of species/age classes. Prioritise gaps and encourage studies to fill gaps.	PaCSWG, AC, Science Officer and BirdLife International	~~2020~~ 2021	1 week ~~p.a.~~	1,000 (core)	Review at AC12

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
2.8	Identify and review Priority Populations for conservation actions.	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Review at each AC Meeting
2.9	Review and prioritise the threats to breeding sites and identify gaps in knowledge.	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Annual updating of priorities by Parties, re-run prioritisation for AC12.
2.10	Review and update best-practice guidelines	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	3 weeks p.a.	0	
2.11	Provide reports on activities to AC meetings	PaCSWG, Science Officer	As needed	12 weeks	0	
3.	**Seabird Bycatch**					
3.1	Continue to implement the RFMO and CCAMLR engagement strategy for ACAP ~~(SBWG8 Doc 13)~~ ~~(SBWG9 Doc 07 Rev 1)~~ (SBWG10 Doc 07 Rev 1) and review at each SBWG meeting. Relevant Parties to engage and assist RFMOs and other relevant international bodies in assessing and minimising bycatch of albatrosses and petrels. Develop ACAP specific products on best practice bycatch data collection and reporting for presentation to RFMOs. Reformat ACAP RFMO Engagement Strategy document. Convert Table 1 into a more efficient format for reporting, with clearer actions.	Individual RFMO co-ordinators, Secretariat, SBWC and AC Anton Wolfaardt, Igor Debski, Sebastián Jiménez, Secretariat, SBWG	Ongoing	a) 18 weeks p.a. b) 18 weeks p.a. c) 2 weeks p.a.	(a+b) 30,000 p.a. (core) 3,000 (core)	a) Travel etc costs for attendance at selected RFMO meetings (less if Party can contribute directly) b) RFMO co-ordinator activities c) Review of process and recommend changes (SBWG) Includes development and dissemination of resources Translation costs. These guidelines will also be relevant for national (Party) observer programmes

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.2	Intersessional review of ACAP Best Practice Advice and Review documents for pelagic and demersal longline and trawl fishing gear	SBWG via leads – Pelagic LL: Jonathon Barrington, Sebastián Jiménez Demersal LL: Oli Yates, Anton Wolfaardt, Ed Melvin to help Trawl: Amanda Kuepfer, Igor Debski	Ongoing			
3.3	Further development of mitigation advice for purse-seine fisheries Formalisation of ACAP Advice document for the purse seine mitigation advice. This advice document will include introductory and explanatory text, and will be made available on the ACAP website Finalise ACAP guidelines for removing entangled seabirds from nets (purse-seine and trawl)	SBWG, via leads: Cristian Suazo, ~~Barry Baker~~ Joanna Alfaro (Jonathon Barrington to help) Jonathon Barrington, Cristián Suazo, JP Seco Pon, Secretariat	Ongoing	4 weeks	3,000 (core)	Using the toolbox approach. Costs for translation of advice document and guidelines, plus guidelines design.
3.4	Continue to update Mitigation Fact Sheets using new simplified format in a phased approach: ~~1) complete fact sheets for pelagic LL line weighting and hook shielding devices~~, 2) line weighting safety practices 3) updated advice on bird scaring lines for pelagic and demersal LL, and 4) fact sheets dealing with ACAP Best Practice measures.	SBWG, BirdLife, Secretariat	2019-~~2021~~ 2022	1 week per fact sheet	~~10,000~~ 13,000 (core, for translation, and for new factsheets)	New fact sheet on improving crew safety when using branch line weighting (either as separate fact sheet or as part of line weighting fact sheet). ~~Opportunity of FAO funding with timeline~~.

	Topic/ Task	Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.5	Further ~~investigate the barriers and drivers in the and~~ pursue approaches to improve uptake of best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures ~~(e.g. produce report on lessons from mitigation success stories in commercial fisheries, develop the flagship species approach to raise the profile of seabird bycatch, bycatch mitigation and other conservation measures in fisheries in high-risk areas/ for high priority populations)~~. Develop communication strategy and products to: ▪ Reinvigorate advice ▪ Communicate with different audiences (e.g. presentations, videos, other multi-media) to include success stories and information aimed at overcoming impediments to implementation Model bycatch threat to seabird populations to communicate the extinction risk to ACAP species. Engage with certification schemes, by: ▪ Contributing to reviews of standards on bycatch considerations to encourage these to be informed by ACAP advice. ▪ Providing information to Parties and others to enable comment on individual fisheries assessments	SBWG, PaCSWG Secretariat Secretariat, SBWG	2019 ~~2021~~ 2022		5,000 (core) for a **secondee**/ contractee to lead the process 5,000? (core) for a secondee/ contractee to lead the process	Aimed to help inform the development of future strategies for engagement with fishing fleets. Scope of work dependent on outputs of investigation into drivers and barriers. Media **secondment** Note cross-over with PaCSWG, communication is important for these matters as well How to make advice more user-friendly to fisheries managers and policy makers to enhance use. Will require resources (possible **secondment/small grant** opportunity) ACAP should respond to relevant opportunities. Secretariat to find a suitable **secondee** or place a contract to lead the process, working with known experts in this area. A sub-group of SBWG would also be consulted/provide guidance to the lead person. ACAP Secretariat to ask fishery certification schemes to notify it of new applications and to then pass on notifications as information to relevant ACAP Parties and/or SBWG members.

	Topic/ Task	Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.6	~~Recommend priority actions to advance implementation of line weighting in pelagic longline fisheries. Extend fly-back safety studies to consider hook tear-outs and 80 g weight if practicable.~~ Make available and disseminate ACAP advice on improving safety when hauling branch lines during pelagic longline operations. [BPA doc completed, now being picked up in Task 3.4 (Mitigation Facts Sheets)].	SBWG	Ongoing			~~Will be informed by output of research underway in 2017, the results of which will be reported to SBWG9.~~ Note studies done with 40, 45 and 60g, not presently feasible to test 80g.
3.7	Development of bycatch indicators and associated data, methodological approaches and reporting required	SBWG, Secretariat	2019 ~~2021~~ 2022	20 weeks	10,000 (core)	~~Possibility for continued **secondments** to build capacity.~~ Need for contract support as this is a key element of work (0.25 FTE?)
3.8	Review and update the prioritisation framework for at-sea threats	SBWG	~~2020~~ 2021 (for MoP7)	1 week	5,000 (core)	Analysis and update of data relating to threats and mitigation. **Possible workshop**. This might be best as a two step-approach: i) update for MoP7 and ii) revise the framework for future use, taking account of risk assessment initiatives recently completed or currently underway.
3.9	Further development/update of best practice advice for mitigation in artisanal, small scale and recreational fisheries, including research for these fisheries. Make advice (toolboxes) available on ACAP website and facilitate dissemination of advice.	SBWG, Lead: Jeff Mangel	Ongoing		~~0~~ 2,000 (core, for translation)	Continued development of the toolbox to provide advice on mitigation options available for artisanal and small-scale fisheries. Good opportunity for **secondment.** Before posting on website, include introductory text explaining the context, purpose and use of the advice.

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.10	Further development of best practice advice for mitigation in gillnet fisheries.	SBWG	Ongoing	2 weeks	0	Through liaison with external initiatives. It is anticipated that the first step of this process will be a comprehensive literature review of all gillnet mitigation research across taxa to be compiled for the next meeting, and that ACAP Parties contribute towards this work, as appropriate.
3.11	Further development of best practice guidelines in the use of Electronic Monitoring for the assessment and monitoring of seabird bycatch	SBWG Leads: ~~Nathan Walker and Jonathon Barrington~~ Eric Gilman	2019-~~2021~~ 2022			~~Will hopefully~~ Planned to commence ~~prior to in the triennium ending 2018~~ in 2020. Will be a useful input to Task 3.1 (RFMO Engagement).
3.12	Evaluate the factors that drive or limit success of NPOA-Seabirds in reducing the bycatch of seabirds	SBWG	2019-~~2021~~ 2022	20 weeks	0	~~Will be taken forward by the work being undertaken by Barry Baker and BirdLife. Outcomes should be presented to SBWG9 and will inform future actions for this triennium.~~
3.13	Help facilitate and support collaborative seabird impact and risk assessments at various scales	SBWG	2019-~~2021~~ 2022			Encourage and help facilitate and support collaborative efforts to undertake seabird bycatch risk and impact assessments, including building capacity to undertake assessments – **secondment** opportunity. A number of initiatives currently underway. Progress ~~will be~~ reported at SBWG9, and will inform further actions.
3.14	Maintain bibliography of relevant bycatch information.	~~BirdLife~~/SBWG Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Includes both published and unpublished literature. Replace working papers with published papers where possible. Submission of information from Parties and others encouraged. Refer and link to BMIS and other online bycatch databases.

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
~~3.15~~	~~Prepare review of knowledge on deliberate take/killing of ACAP species at sea~~	~~SBWG Leads: Barry Baker and Joanna Alfaro~~	~~2019-2021~~			~~Possible actions dependent on outcome of investigation planned for 2017-2018.~~
3.16	Prepare a review of available information on the nature and extent of seabird bycatch associated with floated demersal longlines, and ways to increase the sink rate of this gear	SBWG intersessional group. Lead: Anton Wolfaardt	2019-~~2020~~ 2021			Possible **secondment**
3.17	CMS intersessional group on intentional take and mutilation of bills	SBWG. Lead: Igor Debski and Sebastian Jimenez	2021-2022			Report to AC13 about progress
4.	**Capacity building, New Parties, Organisation of Work**					
4.1	Provide assistance and capacity building to facilitate drafting and implementation of NPOA-Seabirds	AC, Parties and BirdLife to consider	Ongoing	10 weeks	0	Capacity building in accordance with the needs identified by interested Parties in order to encourage implementation, particularly in Ecuador, France, Peru, South Africa, (Angola, Namibia, Mozambique, Madagascar), Tristan da Cunha (UK), and EC external fisheries
4.2	Continue to develop and implement the strategy for adding further Parties, and engaging with Range States not Party to ACAP	AC, Parties	Ongoing		0	Initial work carried out at AC7, further work intersessionally, work with lead Parties and Secretariat as needed.
4.3	Consider Working Group structure and function, including role and participation of members and experts	WGs, AC	Ongoing		0	
4.4	Populate and measure capacity building indicators	Argentina, Australia, Brazil, New Zealand, UK	Ongoing		0	

	Topic/ Task	Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
5.	**Indicators, priorities, reviews and collective conservation action**					
5.1	Review data inputs to breeding sites and at-sea prioritisation frameworks agreed at MoP4, revise conservation priorities and identify actions required to address these priority threats.	WG Convenors and WGs	~~2020~~ 2021	4 weeks	?	
5.2	Review existing Action Plans (for National Plans, when asked by relevant Party), and advise on new Action Plans for ACAP species and Priority Populations	PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, AC, Parties	Ongoing	16 weeks	0	Intersessional group on Priority Populations to respond to requests by Parties e.g. the implementation of the Waved Albatross *P. irrorata* Action Plan.
5.3	Review, refine and standardise criteria to include new species on Annex 1.	PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week	0	Develop delisting criteria. Update scores as needed.
5.4	Review and update any publications not already specified in the Work Programme	PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, Secretariat	Ongoing	4 weeks	0	If Seabird Bycatch ID guide not updated by the end of 2018, it will be a high priority for this ~~triennium. Core funds of 20,000 AUD proposed (see 5.15 of 2016 2018 WP).~~
5.5	Implement system of indicators for the success of the ACAP Agreement	Parties, Secretariat, BirdLife and AC	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	
5.6	Review ACAP performance indicators	PaCSWG, SBWG Convenors, Science Officer and BirdLife International	~~2020~~ 2021	3 weeks	0	
5.7	Manage database of relevant scientific literature	Secretariat	Ongoing	2 weeks p.a.	0	
5.8	Manage directory of relevant legislation	Secretariat	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Parties to supply further information, as available

	Topic/ Task	Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
5.9	Manage a list of authorities, research centres, scientists and non-governmental organisations relevant to ACAP	Secretariat	Ongoing	2 days p.a.	0	Parties and AC to supply further information, as available
5.10	Review information and drafts of triennial implementation report.	AC, Secretariat	~~2020~~ 2021		0	In accordance with Article IX 6 (d) of the Agreement
5.11	Continue to update analysis of overlaps of distributions, and interactions, of albatrosses and petrels with fisheries and bycatch information to aid prioritisation and targeting of actions to reduce the risk of fishing operations to ACAP species in waters subject to national jurisdiction and those managed by RFMOs.	SBWG, PaCSWG and Parties	Ongoing	16 weeks	10,000 (core) 10,000 (grant)	Assess any capacity building requirements to facilitate regional coordination to better assess bycatch. Increase focus on ACAP Priority Populations and high-risk bycatch areas.
5.12	Support for World Albatross Day	Secretariat, PaCSWG, SBWG	2021-2022		3,000 p.a. (core)	Developing, producing and distributing WAD~~2021~~ materials e.g. logo, posters, brochure
6.	**Management of AC work, secretariat oversight and liaison, and interaction of ACAP bodies**					
6.1	Consider and advise on budget matters as needed	AC	Ongoing	2 weeks p.a.	0	Short-term advice provided by the AC Chair
6.2	Consider and advise on Staff matters as needed	AC	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Short-term advice provided by the AC Chair
6.3	Oversee, advise and guide Secretariat in relation to database, web portal	Convenors, Chair and Vice-chair	Ongoing	6 weeks p.a.	0	
6.4	Manage work of Advisory Committee	Chair, Vice-chair and Convenors	Ongoing	18 weeks p.a.	0	

ANNEX 5. DRAFT ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2023 - 2025

This Work Programme provides indicative costs (in AUD) and time required to complete the tasks. Significant levels of financial and staffing resources will be required from other sources to undertake the work programme, primarily from the Secretariat and the Advisory Committee Officials, but also from Parties, Range States and NGOs. Note that these staffing resources are in most cases provided pro-bono. The hours shown do not include time spent by the Parties or other organisations but reflect the amount of time that AC Officials and the Secretariat will spend on these tasks.

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
1. Taxonomy and Annex 1 review						
1.1	Keep the Taxonomy Working Group's bibliographic database updated	TWG led by Convenor	Ongoing	0.5 week per annum (p.a.)	0	Ensure that ACAP's bibliographic database is kept updated
1.2	Continue the establishment of a morphometric and plumage database	TWG led by Convenor, Science Officer	2023-2025	2 weeks	0	This will facilitate the taxonomic process, the identification of bycatch specimens, and the long-term storage of valuable data. Possibly a catalogue of taxa that are difficult to separate visually instead.
1.3	Maintain a database of site-specific information on the availability of samples relevant to studies of population genetics of ACAP species	TWG	2023-2025	2 months	?	In co-operation with PaCSWG a database of researchers holding site specific samples was developed initially.
1.4	Consider taxonomic issues relating to species proposed for addition to Annex 1 of the Agreement	Parties and AC	Ongoing	0.5 week p.a.	0	Respond to proposals (using species assessment template) submitted by Parties
1.5	Respond to queries on taxonomic issues relating to ACAP species	TWG led by Convenor	Ongoing	1-2 weeks p.a.	0	Encourage ongoing harmonisation with CMS and IUCN. Maintain species reference table with scientific and common names across multiple languages.

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
2. Information on status, trends and breeding sites						
2.1	Consider gaps in population, tracking, breeding site management, threats and regulatory protection data submitted to ACAP; request any outstanding data and incorporate changes.	PaCSWG, Science Officer, BLI	Ongoing	8 weeks p.a.	0	Parties to provide new or outstanding data each year. Science Officer to issue reminders each year. Maximise use of existing data (could be suitable for **secondments**).
2.2	Review and refine standardised queries and outputs for analysis and interpretation. Continue to improve data portal structure and queries.	Science Officer, Convenors, Vice Convenors, PaCSWG	Ongoing	12 weeks p.a.	0	
2.3	Accurately assess and update global population trends	PaCSWG Convenors, Science Officer and BirdLife International with other experts as required	Ongoing	3 weeks	5,000 (core)	May require further data portal updates. Consider alternative approaches as required. Review at AC14.
2.4	Update ACAP Species Assessments	Science Officer, PaCSWG leads	Ongoing	6 weeks p.a.	4,000 (core)	Costs for BirdLife to update maps.
2.5	Translate updates to Species Assessments and ACAP guidelines into Spanish and French	Science Officer	Ongoing		12,000 (core)	
2.6	Identify priorities for monitoring of numbers, trends and demography	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	2 weeks p.a.	0	Review and update priorities and reflect on progress against priorities and provide reports to each AC Meeting.
2.7	Review availability of albatross and petrel tracking/distribution data to ensure representativeness of species/age classes. Prioritise gaps and encourage studies to fill gaps.	PaCSWG, AC, Science Officer and BirdLife International	2024	1 week p.a.	1,000 (core)	Review at AC14
2.8	Identify and review Priority Populations for conservation actions.	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Review at each AC Meeting

	Topic/ Task	Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
2.9	Review and prioritise the threats to breeding sites and identify gaps in knowledge.	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Annual updating of priorities by Parties, re-run prioritisation for AC14.
2.10	Review and update best-practice guidelines	PaCSWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	3 weeks p.a.	0	
2.11	Provide reports on activities to AC meetings	PaCSWG, Science Officer	As needed	12 weeks	0	
2.12	Develop new guidelines for priority issues	SG Subcommittee, Secretariat and experts as required (identify leads)	Ongoing	?	?	Opportunity for **secondments** and **small grants**. E.g colony 'management', acoustic monitoring, remote sensing. Review at each AC
3.	**Seabird Bycatch**					
3.1	Continue to implement the RFMO and CCAMLR engagement strategy for ACAP (**SBWG10 Doc 07 Rev 1**) and review at each SBWG meeting. Relevant Parties to engage and assist RFMOs and other relevant international bodies in assessing and minimising bycatch of albatrosses and petrels. Refine ACAP specific products on best practice bycatch data collection and reporting, and present to RFMOs.	Individual RFMO co-ordinators, Secretariat, SBWG and AC Individual RFMO co-ordinators, Secretariat, SBWG	Ongoing	a) 18 weeks p.a. b) 18 weeks p.a. c) 2 weeks p.a.	(a+b) 30,000 p.a. (core) 3,000 (core)	a) Travel etc costs for attendance at selected RFMO meetings (less if Party can contribute directly) b) RFMO co-ordinator activities c) Review of process and recommend changes (SBWG) Includes development and dissemination of resources Translation costs. These guidelines will also be relevant for national (Party) observer programmes

	Topic/ Task	Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.2	Intersessional review of ACAP Best Practice Advice and Review documents for pelagic and demersal longline and trawl fishing gear	SBWG via leads – Pelagic LL: Jonathon Barrington, Sebastián Jiménez Demersal LL: Oli Yates, Ed Melvin to help Trawl: Amanda Kuepfer, Igor Debski	Ongoing			
3.3	Further development of mitigation advice for purse-seine fisheries Formalisation of ACAP Advice document for the purse seine mitigation advice. This advice document will include introductory and explanatory text, and will be made available on the ACAP website Finalise ACAP guidelines for removing entangled seabirds from nets (purse-seine and trawl)	SBWG, via leads: Cristian Suazo, Joanna Alfaro (Jonathon Barrington to help) Jonathon Barrington, Cristián Suazo, JP Seco Pon, Secretariat	Ongoing	4 weeks	3,000 (core)	Using the toolbox approach. Costs for translation of advice document and guidelines, plus guidelines design.
3.4	Continue to update Mitigation Fact Sheets using new simplified format in a phased approach: 1) line weighting safety practices 2) updated advice on bird scaring lines for pelagic and demersal LL, and 3) fact sheets dealing with ACAP Best Practice measures.	SBWG, BirdLife, Secretariat	Ongoing	1 week per fact sheet	10, 000 (core, for translation, and for new factsheets)	

	Topic/ Task	Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.5	Further pursue approaches to improve uptake of best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures. Continue to develop and refine communication strategy and products to: ▪ Reinvigorate advice ▪ Communicate with different audiences (e.g. presentations, videos, other multi-media) to include success stories and information aimed at overcoming impediments to implementation Model bycatch threat to seabird populations to communicate the extinction risk to ACAP Species. Continue to engage with certification schemes, by: ▪ Contributing to reviews of standards on bycatch considerations to encourage these to be informed by ACAP advice. ▪ Providing information to Parties and others to enable comment on individual fisheries assessments	SBWG, PaCSWG Secretariat Secretariat, SBWG	Ongoing		5,000 (core) for a **secondee**/ contractee to participate in the process 5,000 (core) for a secondee/ contractee to continue to provide advice on the process	Aimed to help inform the development of future strategies for engagement with fishing fleets. Scope of work dependent on ongoing investigation into enhancing implementation of mitigation measures Possible **secondment** to investigate further specific communications areas and to supplement work of any part time consultant that the Secretariat might employ as communications adviser. Note cross-over with PaCSWG, communication is important for these matters as well How to make advice more user-friendly to fisheries managers and policy makers to enhance use. Will require resources (possible **secondment/small grant** opportunity). ACAP should respond to relevant opportunities. Secretariat continue to engage, as required, consultant who has already provided advice on this process. A sub-group of SBWG will continue to pursue opportunities to engage with relevant schemes and will indicate when further input from the consultant would be helpful. Secretariat will continue to receive notifications from fishery certification schemes and will share these as relevant with the sub-group.

	Topic/ Task	Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.6	Make available and disseminate ACAP advice on improving safety when hauling branch lines during pelagic longline operations.	SBWG, RFMO Leads	Ongoing			Note studies done with 40, 45 and 60g, not presently feasible to test 80g.
3.7	Reporting on bycatch indicators and associated data, methodological approaches and reporting format refined as required	Parties, SBWG, Secretariat	Ongoing	20 weeks	10,000 p.a. (core)	Need for contract support as this is a key element of work (0.25 FTE?) **Workshop** pre SBWG11.
3.8	Review and update the prioritisation framework for at-sea threats	SBWG	2023-2024	1 week	5,000 (core)	Analysis and update of data relating to threats and mitigation. Possible **workshop**. i) revise the framework for future use at SBWG11, taking account of risk assessment initiatives recently completed or currently underway. ii) update for MoP8
3.9	Further development/update of best practice advice for mitigation in artisanal, small scale and recreational fisheries, including research for these fisheries. Make advice (toolboxes) available on ACAP website and facilitate dissemination of advice.	SBWG, Lead: Jeff Mangel	Ongoing		2,000 (core, for translation)	Continued development of the toolbox to provide advice on mitigation options available for artisanal and small-scale fisheries. Good opportunity for **secondment.** Before posting on website, include introductory text explaining the context, purpose and use of the advice.
3.10	Further development of best practice advice for mitigation in gillnet fisheries.	SBWG	Ongoing	2 weeks	0	Through liaison with external initiatives. It is anticipated that the first step of this process will be a comprehensive literature review of all gillnet mitigation research across taxa to be compiled for the next meeting, and that ACAP Parties contribute towards this work, as appropriate.
3.11	Review of best practice guidelines in the use of Electronic Monitoring for the assessment and monitoring of seabird bycatch	SBWG Lead: Eric Gilman	Ongoing			Draft guidelines were developed in 2021. Task 3.1 (RFMO Engagement) will be an important mechanism for dissemination.

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
3.12	Evaluate the factors that drive or limit success of NPOA-Seabirds in reducing the bycatch of seabirds	SBWG	Ongoing	20 weeks	0	
3.13	Help facilitate and support collaborative seabird impact and risk assessments at various scales	SBWG	Ongoing			Encourage and help facilitate and support collaborative efforts to undertake seabird bycatch risk and impact assessments, including building capacity to undertake assessments – **secondment** opportunity. A number of initiatives currently underway. Progress reported at SBWG9, and will inform further actions.
3.14	Maintain bibliography of relevant bycatch information.	SBWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Includes both published and unpublished literature. Replace working papers with published papers where possible. Submission of information from Parties and others encouraged. Refer and link to BMIS and other online bycatch databases.
3.15	Prepare a review of available information on the nature and extent of seabird bycatch associated with floated demersal longlines, and ways to increase the sink rate of this gear	SBWG intersessional group.	2023			Possible **secondment**
4. Capacity building, New Parties, Organisation of Work						
4.1	Provide assistance and capacity building to facilitate drafting and implementation of NPOA-Seabirds	AC, Parties and BirdLife to consider	Ongoing	10 weeks	0	Capacity building in accordance with the needs identified by interested Parties in order to encourage implementation, particularly in Ecuador, France, Peru, South Africa, (Angola, Namibia, Mozambique, Madagascar), Tristan da Cunha (UK), and EC external fisheries

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
4.2	Continue to develop and implement the strategy for adding further Parties, and engaging with States not Party to ACAP	AC, Parties	Ongoing		0	Initial work carried out at AC7, further work intersessionally, work with lead Parties and Secretariat as needed.
4.3	Consider Working Group structure and function, including role and participation of members and experts	WGs, AC	Ongoing		0	
4.4	Populate and measure capacity building indicators	Argentina, Australia, Brazil, New Zealand, UK	Ongoing		0	
5. Indicators, priorities, reviews and collective conservation action						
5.1	Review data inputs to breeding sites and at-sea prioritisation frameworks agreed at MoP4, revise conservation priorities and identify actions required to address these priority threats.	WG Convenors and WGs	2024	4 weeks	?	
5.2	Review existing Action Plans (for National Plans, when asked by relevant Party), and advise on new Action Plans for ACAP species and Priority Populations	PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, AC, Parties	Ongoing	16 weeks	0	Intersessional group on Priority Populations to respond to requests by Parties e.g. the implementation of the Waved Albatross *P. irrorata* Action Plan.
5.3	Review, refine and standardise criteria to include new species on Annex 1.	PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, Science Officer	Ongoing	1 week	0	Develop delisting criteria. Update scores as needed.
5.4	Review and update any publications not already specified in the Work Programme	PaCSWG, SBWG, TWG, Secretariat	Ongoing	4 weeks	0	
5.5	Implement system of indicators for the success of the ACAP Agreement	Parties, Secretariat, BirdLife and AC	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Requires reporting by Parties, collation of information by Secretariat (HSI to assist by providing paper)

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
5.6	Review ACAP performance indicators	PaCSWG, SBWG Convenors, Science Officer and BirdLife International	2024	3 weeks	0	Examine ways to improve reporting of implementation of best practice mitigation measures by Parties.
5.7	Manage database of relevant scientific literature	Secretariat	Ongoing	2 weeks p.a.	0	
5.8	Manage directory of relevant legislation	Secretariat	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Parties to supply further information, as available
5.9	Manage a list of authorities, research centres, scientists and non-governmental organisations relevant to ACAP	Secretariat	Ongoing	2 days p.a.	0	Parties and AC to supply further information, as available
5.10	Review information and drafts of triennial implementation report.	Advisory Committee, Secretariat	2024		0	In accordance with Article IX 6 (d) of the Agreement
5.11	Continue to update analysis of overlaps of distributions, and interactions, of albatrosses and petrels with fisheries and bycatch information to aid prioritisation and targeting of actions to reduce the risk of fishing operations to ACAP species in waters subject to national jurisdiction and those managed by RFMOs.	SBWG, PaCSWG and Parties	Ongoing	16 weeks	10,000 (core) 10,000 (grant)	Assess any capacity building requirements to facilitate regional coordination to better assess bycatch. Increase focus on ACAP Priority Populations and high-risk bycatch areas.
5.12	Support for World Albatross Day	Secretariat, PaCSWG, SBWG, Parties	Ongoing		3,000 p.a (core)	Developing, producing and distributing WAD materials e.g. logo, posters, brochure. Support other means of promoting WAD, e.g competitions etc
6. Management of AC work, Secretariat oversight and liaison, and interaction of ACAP bodies						
6.1	Consider and advise on budget matters as needed	AC	Ongoing	2 weeks p.a.	0	Short-term advice provided by the AC Chair

Topic/ Task		Responsible group	Time frame	Resources		Action detail/ comments
				Time	Funds (AUD)	
6.2	Consider and advise on Staff matters as needed	AC	Ongoing	1 week p.a.	0	Short-term advice provided by the AC Chair
6.3	Oversee, advise and guide Secretariat in relation to database, web portal	Convenors, Chair and Vice-chair	Ongoing	6 weeks p.a.	0	
6.4	Manage work of Advisory Committee	Chair, Vice-chair and Convenors	Ongoing	18 weeks p.a.	0	

ANNEX 6. DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA – MOP7

Draft Provisional Agenda Seventh Session of the Meeting of the Parties to ACAP	
1.	**Official Opening**
	1.1 Official Opening and Opening Statements
2.	**Procedural Issues**
	2.1 Adoption of Agenda
	2.2 Amendments to the MoP Rules of Procedure
	2.2.1 Rules for intersessional process
	2.3 Establishment of Credentials Committee
3.	**Reports**
	3.1 Report of Credentials Committee
	3.2 Report of the Depositary
	3.3 Reports of Observers
4.	**Operation of the Secretariat**
	4.1 Report of the Secretariat
	4.2 Secretariat Work Programme 2023 - 2025
	4.3 Review of Staff Regulations
	4.4 Review of Financial Regulations
5.	**Operation of the Meeting of the Parties**
6.	**Operation of the Advisory Committee**
	6.1 Report of the Advisory Committee
	6.2 Advisory Committee Work Programme 2023 - 2025
7.	**Operation of the Agreement**
	7.1 Report on Implementation of the Agreement
	7.2 Criteria for listing and de-listing species in Annex 1
	7.3 Proposed Amendment to Annex 1 - listing of new species
	7.4 Identification of Priority Actions for Conservation Measures
	7.5 Indicators to Measure the Success of the Agreement
	7.6 Capacity Building
	7.7 Arrangements with Other Organisations
	7.8 Financial Report
	7.9 Agreement Budget 2023 - 2025
	7.10 Scale of Contributions
	7.11 National Plans of Action
	7.12 Accession of non-Party Range States to the Agreement

8.	**Provisional Date and Venue of the Eighth Meeting**
9.	**Other Business** 9.1 Media Release
10.	**Adoption of MoP7 Report**
11.	**Closing Remarks**

ANNEX 7. DRAFT AC13 AGENDA

DRAFT AC13 AGENDA
1. Opening Remarks
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Rules of Procedure
4. Report of the Depositary
5. ACAP Secretariat 5.1 Activities undertaken in 2022 - 2023 intersessional period 5.2 Secretariat Work Programme 2023 - 2025
6. Agreement's Financial Matters 6.1 Financial Report
7. Observer Reports 7.1 Reports from Observers to AC13
8. Report from the Seventh Meeting of the Parties
9. Population and Conservation Status of Albatrosses and Petrels 9.1 Report of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group
10. Taxonomy of Albatrosses and Petrels 10.1 Report of the Taxonomy Working Group
11. Seabird Bycatch 11.1 Report of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group 11.2 Report from workshop on data collection
12. Advisory Committee 12.1 Advisory Committee Work Programme 2023 - 2025 12.2 Agreement Grant Scheme and Secondment Programme
13. Listing of New Species
14. Election and Appointment of AC Officers
15. Fourteenth Meeting of the Advisory Committee 15.1 Timing and Venue 15.2 Draft Agenda
16. Other Business
17. Adoption of Report
18. Closing Remarks

ANNEX 8. STATEMENTS FROM OBSERVERS – NAMIBIA

The Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources was at the final stage of acceding to ACAP with finalizing documents to be tabled in the National Assembly. However, the FISHROT scandal came to disturb the process. The scandal involves the Ministry and the Icelandic Fishing company Samherji paying bribes to Namibian politicians and businessmen to gain access to fishing quotas in Namibia. Since November 2019, the process of Namibia becoming a party to ACAP has been halted since the Minister and the co-accused were arrested in December 2019 by the Anti-Corruption Commission of Namibia and the Ministry recently got a newly appointed minister this year (2021). The Planning Policy and Economics Directorate within the Ministry have to brief the newly appointed minister on the ACAP accession issue.

ANNEX 9. STATEMENTS FROM OBSERVERS – USA

The United States thanks the Secretariat and ACAP Parties for organizing this virtual 12th Meeting of the Advisory Committee of ACAP. While we would have preferred to meet in person, we are pleased to participate in discussions without further delay on a range of seabird conservation topics with ACAP Parties, other Range States and APEC member economies, and observers.

We find great value in learning about the progress made in other parts of the world on seabird conservation and in working with you to make progress on some key issues related to addressing threats to seabirds, such as seabird bycatch mitigation and eradicating non-native species.

ACAP Parties are already aware that, for the 4th time, legislation that would allow the United States to join ACAP was introduced in Congress around World Albatross Day. This bill is the same in content as the bill that was introduced previously. Re-introduction is necessary for the current Congress, which is in effect from 2021 to 2022, to consider this matter. This bill would need to pass both chambers of Congress, including the House of Representatives and the Senate, and then be signed by the President. The Senate will also need to provide advice and consent before the United States can join ACAP. With the several steps ahead, the process is far from predictable. However, should the United States be in a position to join ACAP, we would be able to enhance our contributions and further our commitment towards international seabird conservation efforts.

We would like to highlight several recent activities in the United States related to ACAP and other seabird species that may be of interest to ACAP Parties and observers:

In 2020, the National Seabird Program of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) prepared a five-year (2020-2024) strategic plan with five strategic initiatives: (1) monitor and estimate seabird bycatch; (2) mitigate seabird bycatch; (3) strengthen key partnerships; (4) promote seabirds in advancing ecosystem-based fisheries management; and (5) elevate awareness of and support for the NSP. A steering committee is coordinating implementation of the initiatives and goals and documenting milestones.

Effective January 10, 2020, streamer line or night setting requirements for groundfish longline vessels fishing in the U.S. Pacific West Coast EEZ were extended to vessels that are between 26 ft (7.9 m) to 55 ft (16.8 m) in length overall when using bottom longline gear north of 36°N latitude. The action was necessary to fulfill the terms and conditions of a 2017 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Biological Opinion to minimize the take of Short-tailed Albatross in this fishery.

A Pink-footed Shearwater Identification Guide was printed to assist fishermen and fisheries observers with identification and proper handling guidelines. The brochure is being translated into Spanish to reach a larger audience.

In the Hawaii pelagic deep-set longline fishery, NMFS has been collaborating with the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council and the Hawaii Longline Association on the

design and field trials of tori lines, and the use of electronic monitoring technology to monitor effectiveness, in response to recent higher rates of Black-footed Albatross interactions. Cooperative research conducted in 2020 showed that Laysan and Black-footed Albatross contacts with baited hooks were three times less likely when tori-lines were deployed than in sets without a tori line (see SBWG10 Inf 05 for more information; Gilman et al., 2021). Results from additional tori-line research conducted in early 2021 are forthcoming.

A partnership involving U.S. Government Departments and NGOs is implementing an innovative conservation effort to establish new breeding colonies for seabirds affected by sea level rise and increased storm intensity. Five hundred eleven seabird chicks of four species (Laysan Albatross, Black-footed Albatross, Bonin Petrel, and Tristram's Storm-Petrel) have been translocated to a predator-proof fenced area at James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge on Oahu primarily from low islands in Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument over the last 6 years. Of those, 471 (92%) have fledged and adult birds of all four species have returned to the site. Translocated Bonin Petrels have already started breeding and successfully fledging chicks from the Refuge. This conservation effort provides climate-resilient nesting habitat for species threatened by sea level rise in the low-lying areas of the Monument. More than 95% of the entire world populations of the two albatross species and the Bonin Petrels nest on low-lying islands.

Motivated by the same reasons as described above, USFWS and Pacific Rim Conservation, together with Mexico's Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas (CONANP) and the Mexican environmental NGO Grupo de Ecología y Conservación de Islas (GECI) collaborated to reintroduce Black-footed Albatrosses from the U.S. Midway Atoll National Refuge to Guadalupe Island Biosphere Reserve, Mexico. In early 2021, 21 eggs and 9 chicks were moved from Hawaii to Guadalupe Island and the 27 surviving chicks were expected to fledge in June. More birds will be moved in 2022 and 2023.

Operations that had commenced in 2020 to eradicate the house mouse (*Mus musculus*) from Midway Atoll were suspended due to pandemic concerns. USFWS and Island Conservation are now deliberating on whether or not to start implementing the plan in 2022.

Scientists working at Midway Atoll obtained preliminary results from the deployment of bio-logging devices that contain GPS and radar detecting sensors on Laysan and Black-footed Albatrosses. The same tag type will be deployed again this year to assess the interactions between international fishing fleets on the high seas and albatrosses associated with the Midway colony.

In May, the resident pair of Short-tailed Albatross at Midway Atoll fledged their third chick in as many years. In February of 2021, their chick from a previous season visited the nest site and was detected by the automatic camera.

After seven years of data management, researchers from the USFWS and U.S. Geological Survey have completed the vetting of a large quantity of Laysan and Black-footed Albatross monitoring data from USFWS refuge lands. These data will now be analyzed to discover demographic rates of these two species occurring at four sites in Hawai'i and the tropical Pacific.

ANNEX 10. STATEMENTS FROM OBSERVERS – CHINESE TAIPEI

Chinese Taipei expresses its gratitude to the Secretariat for organizing and hosting the virtual meetings of ACAP's AC12 and associated working groups, under the severe condition of the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks to the Chair of the AC meeting and the Convenors of the working groups for leading the discussion and managing the operation of the working groups, more active suggestions and actions for seabird conservation measures are proposed in the AC meeting.

It is Chinese Taipei's 2nd consecutive attendance at the ACAP meetings, which indicates our faith in international albatross and petrel conservation efforts. We are pleased to attend this meeting and would like to express our appreciation to the ACAP for adopting Resolution 6.8 in 2018.

In order to reduce the impact of fishery operations on seabirds, we adopted a National Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Tuna Longline Fisheries in 2006 and updated it in 2014. In order to comply with the conservation management measures adopted by various RFMOs, we have announced related regulations and requested our fishing vessels to abide by the regulations. Observers are deployed to collect information for further research and outreach programs for fishermen continue. Persistent development and trial of mitigation measures will benefit the sustainability of fisheries and the seabird population.

We are looking forward to having more opportunities to learn the experience from the continued collaborative work of Parties, Range States, the attending APEC member economy, and Non-Governmental Organizations and seeking future cooperation for the conservation and recovery of seabirds.

ANNEX 11. STATEMENTS FROM OBSERVERS – BIRDLIFE INTERNATIONAL

BirdLife International is grateful to the Secretariat for the arrangements leading up to and during the Working Groups and 12th meeting of the Advisory Committee. Bringing the Parties together to share progress and coordinate activities to mitigate threats to albatross and petrel populations is of great importance, and the online platform has worked well. We are truly sad not to have been able to attend in person, which limits the extremely valuable discussions in the margins of the meetings but appreciate the opportunity to continue our attendance. We thank the Parties and the Secretariat for this consideration and hope to see everyone again soon.

We are pleased to see the proposal of new best practice measures in the Seabird Bycatch Working Group, further expanding the available options to the fishing industry of highly effective solutions that prevent the bycatch of seabirds. This remains the greatest at-sea threat to the survival of many albatrosses and petrels, and the practical implementation of these best practice measures, in tuna longline fisheries in particular, is still far from being achieved. We continue to engage at a local, regional and international level to encourage uptake of these measures and are thankful to the Secretariat and Parties for the support and collaboration in this engagement.

It is positive to see the emphasis ACAP is placing on enhancing implementation of mitigation measures in the Seabird Bycatch Working Groups, and we look forward to contributing to engagement at Regional Fishery Management Organisations. We feel there is great strength in harnessing the experience of the Parties, where impressive reductions in seabird bycatch have been demonstrably achieved, and we encourage Parties to share their lessons learned from that experience to support and replicate similar successes elsewhere.

Finally, we thank Parties and members of the Working Groups for the constructive input and discussion that continues to inform and improve the many outputs of this Agreement and BirdLife's Marine Programme.

ANNEX 12. STATEMENTS FROM OBSERVERS – GRUPO DE ECOLOGÍA Y CONSERVACIÓN DE ISLAS, A. C.

El Grupo de Ecología y Conservación de Islas, A. C. (GECI) agradece al Secretariado por brindar todas las facilidades para participar en esta 12va Reunión del Comité Asesor del ACAP. La conservación y restauración de las poblaciones de aves marinas es de alta prioridad para México ya que ocupa el tercer lugar en diversidad (126 especies) y el segundo lugar en endemismos (10 especies) en el mundo. Por ello, como resultado de una estrecha colaboración interinstitucional a nivel nacional e internacional, durante más de dos décadas hemos implementado un exitoso programa de conservación integral de aves marinas que incluye la mitigación de amenazas en los sitios de anidación y forrajeo, el uso de técnicas de restauración activa y el mejoramiento del hábitat. México fue pionero en Latinoamérica en el uso de técnicas de restauración activa para incentivar la recuperación de las poblaciones diezmadas de aves marinas. En colaboración con el gobierno federal, principalmente con la Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas (CONANP), la Comisión Nacional para el Uso y Conocimiento de la Biodiversidad (CONABIO) y la Secretaría de Marina (SEMAR), por más de una década GECI ha implementado sistemas de atracción social (señuelos, madrigueras artificiales y sistemas de sonido) en 46 colonias de 18 especies en 14 islas y un islote, principalmente en el Pacífico mexicano. A la fecha, estas técnicas han sido exitosas para 14 especies en alrededor del 60% de las colonias, incluyendo el albatros de Laysan (*Phoebastria immutabilis*), la pardela de Revillagigedo (*Puffinus auricularis*), la pardela mexicana (*Puffinus opisthomelas*) y varias especies de petreles de tormenta (*Hydrobates spp.*). Continuamos, además, con la implementación del programa nacional de restauración insular, con avances significativos en las erradicaciones de gato feral en las islas Guadalupe y Socorro, ambas sitios importantes de anidación para especies de albatros y petreles. Entre enero y junio de 2021, como un esfuerzo binacional entre México y Estados Unidos, GECI y Pacific Rim Conservation (PRC) llevaron a cabo la primera translocación de albatros patas negras (*Phoebastria nigripes*) desde el atolón Midway, Hawái hasta la Reserva de la Biosfera Isla Guadalupe, en el Pacífico mexicano, para establecer una nueva colonia e incrementar la resiliencia de la especie ante el cambio climático. Este innovador y exitoso proyecto logró la sobrevivencia a etapa juvenil del 100% de los 27 individuos transportados como huevos o polluelos y que fueron criados en la isla Guadalupe. En los próximos cuatro años se continuará con la translocación hasta lograr la crianza exitosa de al menos 100 volantones. Finalmente, en temas de gestión y políticas públicas, durante 2020 y 2021 México desarrolló su primer programa nacional de acción para la conservación de las aves marinas (PACE Aves Marinas), el cual actualmente se encuentra en proceso de publicación. Este programa incluye las acciones prioritarias de conservación, manejo y restauración para 13 especies clave —5 petreles y 2 pardelas— que pueden extender los beneficios a todas las otras especies de aves marinas que se distribuyen en México. Éste será implementado por la CONANP.

ANNEX 13. STATEMENTS FROM OBSERVERS – HUMANE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

Humane Society International (HSI) appreciates ACAP Parties making HSI's ongoing attendance possible at both Working Group meetings and this 12th meeting of the Advisory Committee, HSI's 7th consecutive attendance at ACAP. Our attendance is clear evidence of our belief in and ongoing commitment to international albatross and petrel conservation efforts.

At AC11 a conservation crisis was declared for albatrosses and petrels. We were pleased to see the focus of SBWG9 on the drivers and barriers of adoption of more effective seabird bycatch mitigation in particular by those fishing industries recognised to be impacting the population status of seabirds such as pelagic longlining and certain trawl fisheries. Whilst the focus of SBWG10 has shifted appropriately to enhancing and progressing implementation, we remain concerned at the lack of urgency in discussions attached to this in light of the conservation crisis.

Whilst PaCSWG6 has provided the AC with no recommended addition of species to Annex 1, the priority species or population list, none were proposed for de-listing either. HSI endorses the sentiment expressed about the importance of the species assessments and for AC to expedite the outstanding and ongoing update and revision task. Such information is vital in the face of the conservation crisis and for ACAP engagement strategies generally.

The ongoing failure of ACAP Party reports to include best practice mitigation uptake reporting is concerning. It is clear that without a clear reporting obligation this will continue not to occur. Compliance with best practice advice and any observed seabird interaction data must be reported on to enable ACAP's SBWG to adjust their advice accordingly.

Clear advice is required from the AC to address the conservation crisis. We suggest this could be aided by a resolution to be considered at the Meeting of Parties calling for all parties to make best efforts to ensure full implementation of the BPA in fisheries under their jurisdiction; and to specifically report to future Meetings on the status of implementation of the BPA in all domestic and high seas fisheries. Such reporting should be a standing item on the agenda of every Session of the Meeting of the Parties.

HSI acknowledges the commitment of Parties to conservation of albatrosses and petrels by their participation as members of ACAP. But we also believe that Parties can no longer acknowledge the need to follow the advice of the ACAP to improve fisheries seabird bycatch mitigation performance without taking the lead through their own public reporting. It is necessary for Parties to lead by example in terms of implementing ACAP best practice advice and publicly reporting against this.

We remain confident the ACAP will continue to consolidate its credibility, effective influence and guiding role for improving international conservation against the greatest immediate threat albatrosses and petrels face, their indiscriminate but avoidable killing by fisheries.

六、 SBWG10 會議報告

AC12 Doc 13 Rev 1
Agenda Item 12.1

Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

Twelfth Meeting of the Advisory Committee

Virtual meeting, 31 August – 2 September 2021 (UTC+10)

Report of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group

Seabird Bycatch Working Group

Report of the Tenth Meeting of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group, Virtual meeting, 17 - 19 August, 2021

PURPOSE

This Report documents discussions and recommendations of the Tenth Meeting of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group (SBWG10), held online, from 17 - 19 August (AEST/UTC+10).

1. INTRODUCTION

The SBWG Convenor, Igor Debski (New Zealand), welcomed all SBWG members and observers (**ANNEX 1**) to the virtual 10th meeting of the SBWG. He introduced SBWG's Vice-convenors, Sebastián Jiménez (Uruguay) and Juan Pablo Seco Pon (Argentina). The Convenor outlined the logistical arrangements for the virtual meeting. These arrangements meant that regrettably Information papers could not be presented or considered in any depth and the focus of the meeting would be on updating advice for the Advisory Committee to consider. It also meant that the joint session planned with PaCSWG could not occur at this meeting. All hoped that normal post-COVID 19 activities and meetings would resume as soon as possible.

2. SBWG MEMBERSHIP

The Convenor noted that Co-convenor Anton Wolfaardt had stepped down to take up a new role as Project Manager of the Mouse Free Marion project. SBWG10 joined him in acknowledging and thanking Anton for his great contribution to the working group over many years. The Convenor reported that Oliver Yates of BirdLife International has stepped down from the Working Group. He welcomed three new members of the SBWG: Stephanie Prince and Rory Crawford of BirdLife International and Marco Herrera, nominated by Ecuador. He noted that Parties can nominate Working Group members at any time.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Convenor introduced the Agenda and related documents. The meeting adopted the Agenda.

4. ACAP SEABIRD BYCATCH MITIGATION BEST PRACTICE ADVICE - DEFINITION AND CRITERIA

The Convenor noted that this agenda item serves as a reminder to continually review the definition and criteria for ACAP Best Practice Advice to ensure the Advice remains fit-for-purpose. Although there were no papers to consider under this agenda item, some relevant amendments are contained in **SBWG10 Doc 08**, considered under Agenda Item 6.1.

5. SEABIRD BYCATCH MITIGATION IN TRAWL FISHERIES

5.1 Review recent developments in mitigation research and update Best Practice Advice

SBWG10 noted that although there were no working documents submitted under this agenda item there was relevant information in **SBWG10 Doc 08,** which is considered under Item 6.1. To ensure consistency between ACAP seabird bycatch mitigation advice documents, the amendments proposed in **SBWG10 Doc 08** have been applied to the corresponding sections of the "ACAP review of seabird bycatch mitigation measures for pelagic and demersal trawl fisheries" as appropriate, and the relevant pages are presented in **ANNEX 2**.

SBWG10 thanked the authors of information papers SBWG10 Inf 06, SBWG10 Inf 14, SBWG10 Inf 19 and SBWG10 Inf 20 and invited consideration of aspects of those papers that directly addressed the threat posed to seabirds in trawl fisheries.

SBWG10 noted that the net capture mitigation trials in the New Zealand squid fishery described in **SBWG10 Inf 14** are scheduled to take place early in 2022 and would be conducted in the manner described in the paper. SBWG looked forward to receiving the results of these trials as well as results from other research currently being planned or undertaken in trawl fisheries in the USA and the South Atlantic.

SBWG10 welcomed the information from Argentinean side-haul ice trawlers (freshers not freezers) in **SBWG10 Inf 19** and noted that mitigation measures for this fresher fleet are still under evaluation.

SBWG10 Inf 20 reported that the discharge of minced discards (crushed into 25 mm pieces) had worse outcomes for Black-browed Albatross *Thalassarche melanophris* and Cape Petrel *Daption capense* compared to mixed discard for trawlers operating in Argentinean waters.

SBWG10 recalled that the current advice on offal management was, in order of preference, to (i) Retain, (ii) Meal, (iii) Batch and (iv) Mince and that it would be important to provide an operational definition of "Mince', including a specification of minimum particle size required for mincing, as this is likely to be an important determinant of the effectiveness of this form of offal management.

Amanda Kuepfer and Igor Debski remain the SBWG leads for bycatch mitigation in trawl fisheries. The next intersessional review of ACAP's review and best practice advice for trawl fisheries would include considering options to provide better definition and description of bird baffler devices and mincing of discharge, for consideration at SBWG11.

5.2 Update Mitigation Fact Sheets if required

SBWG noted that there was no requirement to update the mitigation fact sheets.

5.3 Consider priorities for mitigation research

SBWG reiterated that the highest priorities for research on reducing seabird bycatch in trawl fisheries continue to be:

(i) reduce seabird interactions with cables, in particular net monitoring cables;

The trend for the Westland Petrel *Procellaria westlandica* was reclassified as increasing, given new data in recent literature. PaCSWG noted the species nests in very thick forest on rugged hills that restricts access to some areas, and there has been an increase in landslides in recent years. As such, there is contrasting trend information from different studies. Research is underway, including trialling new methods, to obtain better estimates of demographic parameters for this species.

The trend for the Black Petrel *Procellaria parkinsoni* was cautiously reclassified as stable. PaCSWG noted that although trends have been monitored in a study area on Great Barrier Island for over 20 years, it might not be representative of the entire site, and recent population modelling yielded mixed results. Efforts to better estimate potential immigration and emigration from the study site, and juvenile survival, are underway, to improve modelling of the population trajectory. A whole-island census for the main breeding site (Great Barrier Island, which holds >90% of the global population) was recently completed for the first time.

New census data allows increased confidence in the stable trend assigned to Campbell Albatross *Thalassarche impavida,* which breeds entirely on Campbell Island. Accordingly, trend confidence for this species was revised from Low to Medium.

Similarly, recent census data for Buller's Albatross *Thalassarche bulleri* from the Chatham Islands group, where more than 50%of the global population breeds, allows confidence about a stable trend for this species to be increased to Medium.

For two species, Light-mantled Albatross *Phoebetria palpebrata* and White-capped Albatross *Thalassarche steadi*, the trend remains unknown. *P. palpebrata* is a challenging species to census, and there is very high annual variability in breeding numbers at different sites. Although counts of the entire *T. steadi* population have been undertaken by aerial survey over several years, appropriate correction factors still need to be determined to account for the presence of non-breeding birds. This is currently being addressed.

PaCSWG agreed that categorising some population trends as unknown or uncertain was appropriate given the nature of the data but recognised that conveying a complex scenario in simplified terms may create difficulties in highlighting the conservation crisis - which ACAP declared at the last Advisory Committee meeting in 2019 - in policy fora such as RFMOs where there is a desire for greater certainty. PaCSWG highlighted the importance of adequate monitoring as a key source of robust data about population trends that helps to underpin advocacy about the conservation crisis affecting albatrosses and petrels.

PaCSWG agreed on the importance of Table 1 and the desire for a simple table that summarises the population trends for ACAP species and which also contains sufficient explanatory notes and caveats for appropriate interpretation. PaCSWG noted that as more data become available for a number of ACAP species at different sites it may be timely to revisit the rules for assigning trends and the hierarchy with which those are applied.

SBWG10 recognised that, due to the range of operational differences amongst demersal longline fishing vessels, a 'toolbox' approach may be appropriate to describe the most effective mitigation measures that can be implemented given the prevailing operational conditions. For example, night setting has been shown to be effective in reducing seabird bycatch in a large number of studies; however, specifying night-setting in high-latitude fisheries operating in the summer (when there is no 'night') is not sensible. SBWG10 noted the benefits of highlighting how bycatch mitigation advice can be translated into fishery/situation-specific procedures, rather than emphasising the caveats and/or limitations of a one-size-fits-all approach.

SBWG10 noted that each section of **SBWG10 Doc 08** contained notes on Implementation Monitoring and that different aspects of this monitoring could potentially be achieved through satellite monitoring, scientific observers, and electronic monitoring. A need was also identified to clarify the characterisation of 'independent' monitoring when the monitoring activity takes place on a vessel, e.g., monitoring from a source other than the normal vessel logbook data.

SBWG10 Doc 08 Rev 1 reflects the changes endorsed by SBWG. A number of additional suggestions were made which would be considered during the next intersessional review. This included consideration of embedding a 'toolbox' approach to the advice and specifications related to bird scaring lines.

Some of the minor changes to the demersal longline mitigation advice document in **SBWG10 Doc 08 Rev 1** were also relevant to mitigation advice documents for trawl and pelagic longline fisheries and these documents (see **ANNEX 2** and SBWG10 Doc 10 Rev 1, respectively) were updated accordingly to ensure consistency between mitigation advice documents.

SBWG10 Doc 15 provided an analysis of sink rates of demersal floated longlines in the Austral hake fishery off Chile and recommendations for changes to gear and practice to increase sink rates of baited hooks.

SBWG10 noted that some existing data did not provide any evidence of an increased rate of capture of white-chinned petrels *Procellaria aequinoctialis* or black-browed albatrosses *T. melanophris* in demersal floated longlines despite the increased duration over which the hooks were near the surface. However, anecdotal observations suggest that more birds are caught on hooks near the floats compared to hooks near the weights.

SBWG noted that **SBWG10 Doc 15** should be referred to in section 19 of **SBWG10 Doc 08** and that consideration be given to developing best practice mitigation advice specific to floated demersal longlines (which should include consideration of the practices outlined in **SBWG10 Doc 15**).

SBWG10 thanked the authors of information papers SBWG10 Inf 01, SBWG10 Inf 02, SBWG10 Inf 10, SBWG10 Inf 13 Rev 1 and SBWG10 Inf 17 noting that these papers contributed to the agreed research priorities and addressed important threats posed to seabirds in demersal longline fisheries.

6.2 Update Mitigation Fact Sheets if required

The SBWG noted that there was no requirement to update the mitigation fact sheets.

6.3 Consider priorities for mitigation research

SBWG10 reiterated the continued importance of further identifying mitigation measures that improve the sink rate of baited hooks on floated longlines and noted that the priorities for future research included reducing the number of hooks positioned close to floats and the shape and design of weights to achieve higher sink rates. SBWG10 also encouraged the synthesis of experience and information from other demersal floated longline fisheries to be reported to SBWG11 to help inform the development of advice for this gear.

The SBWG leads for bycatch mitigation in demersal longline fisheries are Ed Melvin and Juan Pablo Seco Pon.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SBWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

1. Endorse the updated review and best practice advice for reducing the impact of demersal longline fisheries on seabirds (SBWG10 Doc 08 Rev 1).
2. Encourage implementation of the research priorities for bycatch mitigation in demersal longline fisheries identified in Section 6.3.

7. SEABIRD BYCATCH MITIGATION IN PELAGIC LONGLINE FISHERIES

7.1 Review recent developments in mitigation research and update Best Practice Advice

SBWG10 considered the following working papers: **SBWG10 Doc 09; SBWG10 Doc 10**; SBWG10 Doc 12; SBWG10 Doc 13.

SBWG10 Doc 12 and **SBWG10 Doc 13** proposed the review of two new mitigation measures against criteria for assessing and recommending them as best practice: Underwater bait setting **(SBWG10 Doc 12)** and the Hookpod-mini **(SBWG10 Doc 13).**

SBWG10 Doc 12 assessed the Underwater Bait Setter (Skadia Technologies) based on experimental and operational data from the Australian Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery, the Uruguayan Pelagic Longline Fishery, and the New Zealand Pelagic Longline Fishery. Underwater bait setting devices deploy baited hooks at a pre-determined depth immediately at the stern of the vessel. These trials showed promising results, with impressive reductions in bycatch.

After discussion of the various considerations related to this device, the SBWG agreed to recommend to the Advisory Committee that underwater bait setting devices be added as a stand-alone ACAP best practice seabird bycatch mitigation option, with the details of the recommendation added to SBWG10 Doc 10 Rev 1 (ACAP Review of mitigation measures for Reducing the Impact of Pelagic Longline Fisheries on Seabirds). The recommendation describes the generic aspects of such devices, and lists the Underwater Bait Setter (Skadia Technologies) as having been assessed to meet performance requirements.

To avoid any conflict of interest, Jonathon Barrington, SBWG member, recused himself from the SBWG decision on this recommendation.

SBWG10 Doc 13 assessed the Hookpod-mini (48 g weight), based on experimental and operational data from pelagic longline fisheries in Brazil and New Zealand. SBWG10 noted that ACAP had already approved the Hookpod-LED (68 g minimum weight) as a stand-alone best practice mitigation option. Given the similarity between the two devices (the Hookpod-mini being about 25% smaller) there was some discussion as to whether the Hookpod-mini had needed a stringent assessment process or would have already been covered under the existing advice on hook-shielding devices. The authors were thanked for presenting the assessment of the Hookpod-mini. SBWG endorsed recommending this device to the Advisory Committee as a best practice seabird bycatch mitigation option, and details of this recommendation were added to **SBWG10 Doc 10 Rev 1**. This assessment was based on the Hookpod-mini meeting ACAP minimum criteria for hook-shielding devices, as well as consideration of performance data from both types of Hookpod.

To avoid any conflict of interest, Jonathon Barrington, SBWG member, recused himself from the Working Group's decision on this recommendation.

SBWG10 Doc 10 provided a range of proposed amendments to ACAP's pelagic longline mitigation advice document, following routine intersessional review. A number of further suggested amendments were identified during the meeting and through written comments ahead of, and immediately following, the meeting.

SBWG agreed on updates to the document reflected in **SBWG10 Doc 10 Rev 1**, including the addition of the new mitigation options described in **SBWG10 Doc 12** and **SBWG10 Doc 13**, as well as minor revisions from relevant parts of **SBWG10 Doc 08 Rev 1** to ensure consistency between mitigation advice documents.

SBWG10 Doc 09 proposed updates to ACAP's advice on improving crew safety when hauling branch lines during pelagic longline fishing operations.

SBWG10 identified a number of further changes to this document, generally related to its structure and the preferred approach for providing advice as compared to scientific research. Given the priority of this issue, fishers' safety concerns, SBWG agreed to finalise the document prior to AC12, for Advisory Committee endorsement. The changes identified were incorporated into SBWG10 Doc 09 Rev 1. SBWG10 noted elements that might be added to the advice at a later stage, such as angled hauling and weighted float systems, and these could be considered through an intersessional review.

The following information papers were also relevant to the agenda item: SBWG10 Inf 01; SBWG10 Inf 02; SBWG10 Inf 03; SBWG10 Inf 05; SBWG10 Inf 07; SBWG10 Inf 09; SBWG10 Inf 10; SBWG10 Inf 13 Rev 1; SBWG10 Inf 16.

7.2 Update Mitigation Fact Sheets if required

This issue was discussed under Agenda item 17.2.

7.3 Consider priorities for mitigation research

SBWG confirmed the following mitigation research priorities for pelagic longline fisheries:

Weighted branch lines: carry out further collaborative field research on the relationship between the current ACAP Best Practice Advice concerning line-weighting regimes and resulting seabird mortalities and/ or seabird attack rates, impacts on catch rates of target species, other bycatch species (e.g., sea turtles), and safety aspects associated with using line-weighting. Conduct further research to investigate the effect of the total length of branch lines on sink rates.

Improved branch line weighting for high seas fisheries: develop an experimental branch line with hook sink rates consistent with ACAP's best practice line weighting advice (e.g., 60 g located ≤ 1 m from hooks) in the upper levels of the water column (0–2 m depth). Fast sink rates in the shallow depth ranges are advantageous to seabird conservation and act as a safeguard against any failure to use bird scaring lines or to set by night. An average sink rate of ≥0.4 m/s to 2 m depth should be used to inform the development of the new weighting regime. A single weight, or an improved version of the existing double weight system, might be the operationally preferred weighting option. A multi-disciplinary approach, potentially involving key members of the fishing industry, marine engineers and others as deemed appropriate, is encouraged.

Hook-shielding devices: conduct further field research to evaluate the relative contributions of the sink rate and hook protection components of hook-shielding devices in reducing bycatch, including through entanglements. Research on hook-shielding devices should also investigate their long-term durability or failure rates, and the possibility of increasing the depth (or time) of protection provided. Further research on the effectiveness of the Hookpod-mini (48 g) is encouraged. Research on the performance of any hook-shielding device should collect data on seabird attacks on baited hooks to assess the risk of entanglement or being swallowed together with the bait.

Bird scaring lines: developing bird scaring line configuration for smaller vessels and methods that minimize entanglements of the in-water portion of bird scaring lines with longline floats, while creating sufficient drag to maximize aerial extent, remains the highest priority for research on bird scaring lines. Research activities evaluating the effectiveness of one vs. two bird scaring lines, bird scaring line design features (streamer lengths, configurations, and materials), and methods for efficient retrieval and stowage of bird scaring lines remain research priorities.

Time-of-day: determine the relative effectiveness of bird scaring lines and branch line weighting at night by characterising seabird behaviour at night using thermal or night-vision technologies.

Underwater bait setting devices: evaluate performance with unweighted vs weighted branch lines.

Combinations of mitigation measures: evaluate the effectiveness of the simultaneous use of various combinations of two best practice mitigation methods (night-setting, branch line weighting and bird scaring lines) as called for by existing Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (RFMO) seabird conservation measures. Continue to evaluate the effectiveness of the simultaneous use of all three ACAP best practice mitigation measures, including comparative catch rates for both bycatch and target species.

Novel/emerging technologies: continue to develop novel and or emerging technologies. Also consider innovation in independent monitoring of fishing activities.

Sensory ecology: encourage and initiate research to examine the sensory capabilities of seabirds (visual, acoustic, olfactory systems) to inform the development of sensory-based safe mitigation technologies and measures as an alternative to trial-and-error approaches. This research priority has application to the development of mitigation options across a broad range of fishing methods.

Live bird haul capture: investigate the nature and extent of live bird haul capture in pelagic longline fisheries.

Haul mitigation technologies: develop methods that minimise seabird hooking during hook retrieval.

Time/area closures: update seabird tracking/fishing effort overlap maps to advance options for time/area management.

Bait-casting machines: conduct a survey to characterise the extent of use of bait-casting machines, and their operational attributes that may influence seabird bycatch risk.

Jonathon Barrington and Sebastián Jiménez remain the SBWG leads for bycatch mitigation in pelagic longline fisheries.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SBWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

1. Endorse the updated ACAP advice on improving crew safety when hauling branch lines during pelagic longline operations (provided in SBWG10 Doc 09 Rev 1).
2. Endorse the updated review and best practice advice for reducing the impact of pelagic longline fisheries on seabirds, with the inclusion of underwater bait setting devices, specifically the Underwater Bait Setter (Skadia Technologies), and the addition of the Hookpod-mini as an assessed hook-shielding device, as ACAP best practice seabird bycatch mitigation options, as contained in SBWG10 Doc 10 Rev 1.
3. Encourage implementation of the research priorities identified in Section 7.3 for reducing seabird bycatch associated with pelagic longline gear.

8. ARTISANAL AND SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES

8.1 Review recent developments in mitigation research and update toolbox advice

There were no working documents submitted under this agenda item.

SBWG10 noted the update in SBWG10 Inf 22 on the observer programme in the Peruvian jumbo squid fishery including approaches to reducing the attractiveness of offal to seabirds.

9. SEABIRD BYCATCH MITIGATION IN NET FISHING METHODS OTHER THAN GILLNET AND TRAWL

9.1 Review recent developments in mitigation research and update toolbox advice

SBWG10 Doc 19 presented a toolbox for seabird bycatch mitigation measures in purse seine fisheries. Given the recent limitations on face-to-face activities, this information was communicated to fishers and evaluated through social networks and virtual meetings. This allowed greater use of animation and dynamic infographics, which were well received by the audience and allowed the message to have a wider reach. The mitigation measures proposed in the toolbox will be further reviewed and updated with more focus on ACAP species.

SBWG acknowledged the importance of this advice specific to purse seine fishing and the appropriateness of the toolbox approach, and endorsed the updated toolbox. It was agreed that seabird bycatch mitigation in purse seine fisheries should be considered under its own agenda item in future meetings.

The following information papers were also relevant to the agenda item: SBWG10 Inf 06 and SBWG10 Inf 21.

9.2 Assessment of risks and development of ACAP advice for any other relevant fisheries

There were no working documents submitted under this agenda item.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SBWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

1. Endorse the updated purse seine toolbox advice (see **ANNEX 3**).
2. Encourage the use of the toolbox format in developing seabird bycatch mitigation advice for other fisheries as an accessible and informative instrument for users and decision-makers.

10. SEABIRD BYCATCH MITIGATION IN GILLNET FISHERIES

10.1 Consider recent developments in mitigation research and consider priorities for further research

SBWG10 noted a workshop on marine megafauna in global gillnet fisheries (https://www.birdlife.org/sites/default/files/attachments/gillnet_workshop_final_report_july2021.pdf) and welcomed future updates relevant to ACAP species.

11. ACAP PERFORMANCE INDICATORS: SEABIRD BYCATCH

11.1 Review of bycatch indicators and data submitted to the reporting framework

SBWG10 Doc 05 provided an update on intersessional progress in developing ACAP seabird bycatch indicators and a reporting framework on which these indicators are based. The Secretariat noted an increase in data reporting since the last meeting, and that this had provided an opportunity to review the design of forms to make data submissions easier. Nevertheless, the low level of reporting of seabird bycatch as total estimated mortality or rates per unit effort prevented any further analyses to progress indicator development and implementation.

SBWG reiterated the importance of this reporting as part of the Agreement's work, which has been endorsed by the Advisory Committee (AC) and the Meeting of the Parties (MoP).

SBWG noted that there continue to be technical and logistical challenges that impede the submission of bycatch data and relevant fisheries information.

SBWG noted that the overall objective of the ACAP Performance Indicators is to provide a means to demonstrate the effectiveness of measures to address seabird bycatch and recognised that the objectives for, and interpretation of, those indicators would need to be clearly described.

SBWG agreed that a workshop to address data submission and the development of analyses to derive performance indicators, proposed to be held immediately prior to SBWG11 (assuming that the meeting is an in-person meeting), would be beneficial.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SBWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

1. Reiterate the importance of Parties and Range States reporting bycatch estimates using appropriate statistical methods, or where this is not available, observed bycatch data using relevant strata.
2. Reiterate the importance of Parties and Range States including fisheries where data are either extremely poor or lacking altogether in their reporting, and to identify the reasons for, and approaches to resolve the paucity of data.
3. Endorse the proposal for a workshop to address data submission and development of analyses to derive performance indicators.

12. ELECTRONIC MONITORING

12.1 The further development of advice for the use of EM in relation to seabird bycatch.

SBWG10 Doc 14 Rev 1 highlighted the potential for EM to address limitations in capacity for observer monitoring in fisheries in which seabird bycatch is understood to be problematic. It noted that EM can be used to address potential biases in observer data arising from inter-observer differences (observer effects) and limitations on observer activities due to workload and/or coercion.

In discussion of **SBWG10 Doc 14 Rev 1** SBWG10 noted that:

(i) a condensed summary that could be provided as a 'briefing guide' would be beneficial to enhance communication of ACAP objectives with respect to e-monitoring;

(ii) data fields identified as minimum/essential standards need to be practicable and avoid setting unrealistic expectations that might deter engagement;

(iii) EM requirements should be harmonised with existing observer data collection requirements and data collected by EM systems should be designed to support reporting of seabird bycatch and the implementation of mitigation measures specific to seabird interactions;

(iv) engagement of market-leading fishing companies in developing operational approaches to EM can provide leverage to broader engagement but initial costs may be a disincentive for smaller operators.

SBWG agreed that ACAP's role is not to drive the technical development of EM but to provide the information required to inform development of EM to get to the best data outcomes to support the work of ACAP.

SBWG10 Doc 18 described the intentional killing and harming of seabirds in the South Atlantic and noted that EM might provide insights into this behaviour as fisher behaviour changes when observers are on board a vessel (so that there are activities that are not observed and/or observable). While the issue appears to be restricted to south-eastern South America, it was noted that the development of ACAP guidelines for EM and observer programmes could help ensure appropriate data is collected in future to better understand the nature and extent of the problem.

The Convenor noted that the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) Sessional Committee recently had also considered the issues covered in **SBWG10 Doc 18** and had established an intersessional working group in which SBWG had been invited to collaborate. SBWG agreed that it should accept this invitation and include this engagement into their intersessional plan. The Convenor offered to coordinate this collaboration.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SBWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

1. Adopt the ACAP Guidelines on Fisheries Electronic Monitoring Systems in SBWG10 Doc 14 Rev 1.
2. Disseminate and encourage use of ACAP's EM guidelines to inform and strengthen essential standards for fisheries EM systems.
3. Periodically update ACAP's EM guidelines to reflect changes, for example, in objectives of monitoring seabird interactions in marine capture fisheries, amendments to bycatch management measures, the development of new bycatch mitigation methods, and improvements in EM technology.
4. Endorse the engagement of SBWG in the CMS intersessional working group on intentional killing of seabirds.

13. FAO INTERNATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION/NATIONAL PLANS OF ACTION (NPOA)-SEABIRDS

13.1 Review of status of implementation of NPOA-Seabirds

Two information papers were submitted under this agenda item: SBWG10 Inf 11 and SBWG 10 Inf 23.

In addition, SBWG members from Argentina and Uruguay informed the meeting that they have initiated the process of developing a Regional Plan of Action to mitigate seabird interaction with fisheries. This initiative, which began in November 2019, is being developed within the framework of the Joint Technical Commission of the Maritime Front (CTMFM) that manages the resources of the Río de la Plata Treaty and its Maritime Front. During 2020 and 2021 several virtual meetings were held for the development of various points of the plan, and all the Argentinian and Uruguayan members of the ACAP SBWG are participating in this work along with other experts from both countries, managers, and non-governmental organisations. It is expected that a consolidated draft document can be presented to the CTMFM authorities very soon.

A SBWG member from Chile reported on progress with updating Chile's NPOA-Seabirds to include mitigation measures for trawl fisheries and measures that will apply to purse seine fisheries, as a step towards having all the fisheries covered in the Plan. The NPOA should be finalized by the end of the year.

SBWG10 welcomed these reports.

14. COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES RELATING TO RFMOS

14.1 Feedback on and update of RFMO engagement strategy

SBWG10 Doc 07 Rev 1 outlined ACAP's strategy for engagement with RFMOs. The paper describes the policy and structural changes to the strategy arising from the RFMO workshop held prior to SBWG9 and decisions of AC11 (in May 2019). The paper reports on engagement activities since AC11 and proposes engagement priorities for the coming period, under three main thematic areas.

SBWG welcomed the update and suggested that a useful input to RFMO discussions, including on compliance, over the coming period, would be briefings on the new updates to ACAP's Best Practice Advice including on underwater bait setting and the Hookpod-mini.

SBWG acknowledged the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on RFMO engagement. Online meetings of RFMOs, with reduced agendas and limited consideration of non-target impacts, provided reduced opportunities for engagement on seabird issues.

SBWG agreed that continued engagement with RFMOs was an important aspect of the work of ACAP and supported the proposals outlined in **SBWG10 Doc 07 Rev 1.** It also noted the importance of supporting the required capacity for effective engagement with RFMOs.

SBWG10 Inf 08 was also relevant to the agenda item.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SBWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

1. Consider this review of the ACAP RFMO engagement strategy, including the list of priority actions, and contribute to the further development of this strategy.
2. Support the implementation of these actions, including the provision of resources necessary to achieve this, recognising the conservation crisis facing ACAP-listed species.

15. ENHANCING IMPLEMENTATION OF BEST PRACTICE SEABIRD BYCATCH MITIGATION MEASURES

SBWG10 Doc 11 outlined approaches and further actions that SBWG and ACAP could take to enhance implementation of best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures. A number of case studies, including socio-economic approaches, were descried in SBWG10 Inf 04, SBWG10 Inf 12 and SBWG10 Inf 15.

ACAP has been successful in providing information and best practice advice but evaluating the levels of compliance with best practice implementation requires reporting from Parties. The need for a clear reporting mechanism was raised. It was noted this could be aided by a resolution from the Meeting of the Parties calling for all parties to make best efforts to ensure full implementation of the best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures in fisheries under

their jurisdiction; and to specifically report to future Meetings on the status of implementation of best practice mitigation in all domestic and high seas fisheries. Such reporting could be a standing item on the agenda of every Session of the Meeting of the Parties.

The Secretariat clarified that the database forms already request mitigation information to be provided for each fishery, including whether it is ACAP best practice mitigation or not.

SBWG noted that engaging with seafood certification schemes (see AC12 Inf 02) provides an appropriate mechanism for engagement in market-driven processes and noted the potential complexity of attempting direct engagement with individual retailers.

SBWG noted that the role of ACAP in engagement with seafood certification schemes should focus on ensuring that information, including the list of ACAP Species and the relevant best practice seabird bycatch mitigation, is used as inputs in the development of new and revised standards for certification scheme.

SBWG noted the importance of ACAP's communication strategy (see AC12 Inf 03) and the potential for engaging external expertise to assist in the further development and implementation of this strategy. SBWG10 welcomed the inauguration of World Albatross Day.

It was noted that work on enhancing implementation of bycatch mitigation measures does not fall only on ACAP, but that Parties can be encouraged to implement national initiatives for enhancing implementation of best practice and reporting progress to future SBWG meetings would be welcomed.

SBWG10 recalled that the third World Seabird Conference had been postponed and would now be taking place online in October 2021. The Convenor informed SBWG that a paper describing approaches to enhancing the implementation of best practice seabird bycatch mitigation, and an overview of the activities of the SBWG in this area, would be presented at the conference.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SBWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

1. Agree that a sub-group of SBWG should continue to pursue opportunities to engage with relevant seafood certification schemes.
2. Instruct the Secretariat to continue to receive notifications from seafood certification schemes and to share these as relevant with the sub-group.
3. Instruct the Secretariat to continue to engage, as required, a consultant to provide advice on ensuring that information from ACAP is included as inputs in the development of new and revised standards for certification schemes.
4. Note the importance of developing ACAP's communications strategy, including the desirability of a possible secondment to investigate further specific communications areas and to supplement the work of any part time consultant that the Secretariat might employ as a communications adviser.
5. Endorse ongoing celebration of World Albatross Day as a useful communications activity to elevate and maintain awareness around the conservation of albatross as a flagship group of species.

16. PRIORITY CONSERVATION ACTIONS

SBWG10 Doc 16 presented a global review of incidental bycatch of seabirds in trawl fisheries. It complements the global estimates of bycatch in longline and gillnet fisheries in the published literature. According to this paper, approximately 106,000 seabirds were estimated to be killed annually in trawl fisheries for which bycatch data were available. However, information on bycatch rates was sparse or non-existent for many fisheries, with considerably more gaps in relation to trawl fisheries than for those other fisheries.

SBWG10 reviewed this paper and noted the importance of this work. Some SBWG members expressed significant concerns about the approach used to arrive at the estimates, noting that data for some fleets was inaccurate and incomplete, or used different metrics. This resulted in overestimates in the numbers of bycaught birds and inappropriate comparisons, and did not reflect the current situation for those fleets. Concerns about the approach taken to regionalise fisheries, significant fishing effort asymmetries between regions, as well as the use of limited and poorly stratified data to extrapolate mortality figures were also expressed. SBWG10 noted that there was considerable effort made in some fleets recently to accurately record seabird bycatch and that publishing inaccurate or outdated information could damage the progress of that process. SBWG10 offered to work with the authors to strengthen the draft with more representative and up to date information.

The authors appreciated the feedback and welcomed the offers to help refine this work. They noted that as this is a review paper, it was relying on information that is already publicly available, rather than performing new analyses.

SBWG10 noted that PaCSWG6 Inf 01, which addressed global political responsibility for the conservation of albatrosses and large petrels, was also relevant to this agenda item. Accordingly, SBWG10 encouraged any further research to also include non-ACAP species and to also consider the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) in future work.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SBWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

1. Encourage ACAP Parties to increase minimum observer-coverage standards (human or EM) in trawl fleets to improve knowledge of seabird bycatch;
2. Encourage ACAP Parties to prioritise collection of data on seabird bycatch in trawl fisheries, particularly in fleets with limited previous studies. Data collection should include warp cable, netsonde and paravane interactions, and estimates of cryptic mortality to improve estimates of fleet-specific and global trawl mortality;
3. Encourage standardised data-collection in trawl fisheries using relevant data collection guidelines such as those provided in SBWG10 Doc 06 Rev 1 and SBWG10 Doc 14 Rev 1;
4. Encourage Parties to prioritise effective management of offal and discards as the principal means of mitigating seabird bycatch in trawl fisheries.

17. TOOLS AND GUIDELINES

17.1 Updates and new guidelines

SBWG10 Doc 06 provided proposed guidelines for observer programmes on the collection of seabird bycatch and associated data. These complement the guidelines prepared for electronic monitoring (**SBWG10 Doc 14 Rev 1**) and were based on recommendations from SBWG9.

SBWG10 welcomed the guidelines and made a small number of suggestions for additions/improvements, which were incorporated into SBWG10 Doc 06 Rev 1. In addition, it was agreed that a summary would be prepared to highlight the key points that could be presented to RFMOs, fishers and others.

PaCSWG6 Doc 03 on light pollution guidelines for wildlife was also noted as relevant to this agenda item.

17.2 Mitigation Fact Sheets

SBWG10 Doc 17 reported progress in updating the existing Introductory Factsheet and creating a new Factsheet on "Improving Safety When Hauling Branch lines", following the new simplified design, while noting that the bird scaring lines sheets had not yet been completed.

SBWG10 welcomed the new factsheets, regarding them as an excellent tool. SBWG10 provided comments on ways to make the factsheets even more accessible for fishers (such as providing more images). Priorities for further factsheet updates included those for trawl fisheries, particularly on the management of offal and discards. It was also noted that, pending endorsement by the Advisory Committee of new seabird bycatch mitigation advice for pelagic longline fisheries, a new factsheet would be required for underwater bait setters and the factsheet on hook-shielding devices would need updating. An intersessional group of SBWG members will provide ongoing guidance in developing the remaining factsheets.

SBWG10 also noted that a separate information sheet on electronic monitoring would be useful, although this would not fall under the rubric of "mitigation factsheets".

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SBWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

1. Endorse the data collection guidelines for observer programmes provided in SBWG10 Doc 06 Rev 1.
2. Support the update of the remaining Mitigation Fact Sheets to the new simplified format in a phased approach prioritising measures that are considered best practice and allocate funding to achieve this aim.

18. LISTING OF SPECIES ON ANNEX 1

18.1 Proposals to list new species on Annex 1

There were no proposals for listing of species on Annex 1 or other papers to consider under this agenda item. Nevertheless, SBWG10 noted the benefits of ensuring any future proposals are presented to the Advisory Committee immediately after a Meeting of the Parties to allow sufficient time for consideration ahead of the following MoP.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SBWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

1. Reiterate to Parties the benefits of presenting any proposals to list new species on Annex 1 at the Advisory Committee meeting immediately following a Meeting of the Parties so that they can be considered in detail before the next MoP.

19. ACAP FUNDED PROGRAMMES

AC12 Inf 01 provided a summary of the conservation projects supported by ACAP small grants in the 2018, 2019 and 2020 rounds, and secondments awarded in the 2019 round. Several of the projects have suffered delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic. SBWG10 Inf 18 and SBWG10 Inf 16 reported on projects carried out with ACAP grant support.

The SBWG noted this update and looked forward to seeing more progress reports in due course.

20. SBWG WORK PROGRAMME

20.1 Work Programme 2019 - 2022

Tasks relevant to SBWG in the 2019-2021 Advisory Committee Work Programme approved by MoP6 (**AC11 Doc 11**) were reviewed following discussions at SBWG9 and during an intersessional consideration by the Advisory Committee and the MoP in 2020 - 2021. An updated version of the Work Programme for the 2019-2022 quadrennium has been prepared for consideration by the Advisory Committee (**AC12 Doc 15**).

20.2 Work Programme 2023 - 2025

A Work Programme for 2023-2025 has been prepared for consideration by the Advisory Committee (**AC2 Doc 16**).

21. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no items raised under this agenda item.

22. REPORTING TO AC12

This report has been prepared for the consideration of the Advisory Committee.

23. CLOSING REMARKS

The Convenor thanked the Vice convenors for their assistance, the authors of the papers submitted for consideration, and Members and Observers for their valuable contributions to the meeting. The Convenor also thanked the ACAP Secretariat and the technical support team in organising and running the meeting. He also thanked the interpreters and the stenographer for their valuable efforts during the meeting.

ANNEX 1. LIST OF SBWG10 MEETING PARTICIPANTS

SBWG Members	
Igor Debski	SBWG Convenor, Department of Conservation, New Zealand
Sebastián Jiménez	SBWG Vice-convenor, Dirección Nacional de Recursos Acuáticos, Uruguay
Juan Pablo Seco Pon	SBWG Vice-convenor, Instituto de Investigaciones Marinas y Costeras, CONICET-UNMDP, Argentina
Luis Adasme	Instituto de Fomento Pesquero, Chile
Jonathon Barrington	Department of the Environment and Energy, Australian Antarctic Division, Australia
Nigel Brothers	Humane Society International
Rory Crawford	BirdLife International
Andrés Domingo	Dirección Nacional de Recursos Acuáticos, Uruguay
Marco Favero	Instituto de Investigaciones Marinas y Costeras, CONICET, Argentina
Eric Gilman	The Safina Center
Elisa Goya	Instituto del Mar del Peru (IMARPE), Peru
Marco Herrera	Insituto Público de Investigaciones en Acuacultura y Pesca, Ecuador
Ed Melvin	University of Washington, USA
Ken Morgan	Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment and Climate Change Canada
Gabriela Navarro	Subsecretaría de Pesca y Acuicultura, Ministerio de Agroindustria, Argentina
Tatiana Neves	Projeto Albatroz, Brazil
Stephanie Prince	BirdLife International
Graham Robertson	Unaffiliated
Roberto Sarralde	Instituto Español de Oceanografía, Spain
Cristián Suazo	Albatross Task Force - Chile, BirdLife International
Mark Tasker	Joint Nature Conservation Committee, United Kingdom/ TWG Convenor
Megan Tierney	Joint Nature Conservation Committee, United Kingdom
Barbara Wienecke	Department of the Environment and Energy, Australian Antarctic Division, Australia
Advisory Committee Members and Advisors	
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Christine Bogle	Executive Secretary
John Cooper	Information Officer
Wiesława Misiak	Science Officer
Keith Reid	Meeting support

Interpreters
Cecilia Alal
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Non-attending SBWG members	
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ANNEX 2. ACAP REVIEW OF SEABIRD BYCATCH MITIGATION MEASURES FOR PELAGIC AND DEMERSAL TRAWL FISHERIES[1]

Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

ACAP REVIEW OF SEABIRD BYCATCH MITIGATION MEASURES FOR PELAGIC AND DEMERSAL TRAWL FISHERIES

Reviewed at the Twelfth Meeting of the Advisory Committee
Virtual meeting, 31 August – 2 September 2021

INTRODUCTION

A range of technical and operational mitigation methods have been designed or adapted for use in trawl fisheries. In all cases, the discharge of offal and discards is the most important factor attracting seabirds to the stern of trawl vessels, where they are at risk of cable and net interactions. Managing offal discharge and discards while fishing gear is deployed has been shown to reduce seabird attendance of vessels and consequent risk of interactions and bycatch. Even with management of offal and discards there may be residual risk of cable strikes and net entanglement. Other mitigation measures have been developed to address these residual risks. Apart from being technically effective at reducing seabird bycatch, mitigation methods should be easy and safe to implement, cost effective, enforceable and should not reduce catch rates of target species.

The feasibility, effectiveness and specifications of mitigation measures may vary by area, seabird assemblages, fishery, vessel type, and gear configuration. Some of the mitigation methods are well established and explicitly prescribed in trawl fisheries; however, additional measures are undergoing further testing and refinements.

The Seabird Bycatch Working Group (SBWG) of ACAP has comprehensively reviewed the scientific literature dealing with seabird bycatch mitigation in trawl fisheries. This document is a distillation of that review.

THE ACAP REVIEW PROCESS

At each of its meetings, the ACAP SBWG considers any new research or information pertaining to seabird bycatch mitigation in trawl fisheries. The following criteria are used by

[1] Only the amended component of the review document is presented here as noted in 5.1, and not the full advice and review document.

ACAP to guide the assessment process, and to determine whether a particular fishing technology or measure can be considered best practice to reduce the incidental mortality of albatrosses and petrels in fishing operations.

Best Practice Seabird Bycatch Mitigation Criteria and Definition

i. Individual fishing technologies and techniques should be selected from those shown by experimental research to significantly[2] reduce the rate of seabird incidental mortality[3] to the lowest achievable levels. Experimental research yields definitive results when performance of candidate mitigation technologies is compared to a control (no deterrent), or to status quo in the fishery. When testing relative performance of mitigation approaches, analysis of fishery observer data can be plagued with a myriad of confounding factors. Where a significant relationship is demonstrated between seabird behaviour and seabird mortality in a particular system or seabird assemblage, significant reductions in seabird behaviours, such as the rate of seabirds attacking baited hooks, can serve as a proxy for reduced seabird mortality. Ideally, where simultaneous use of fishing technologies and practices is recommended as best practice, research should demonstrate significantly improved performance of the combined measures.

ii. Fishing technologies and techniques, or a combination thereof, should have clear and proven specifications and minimum performance standards for their deployment and use. Examples would include: specific bird scaring line designs (lengths, streamer length and materials; etc.), number (one vs. two) and deployment specifications (such as aerial extent and timing of deployment); night fishing defined by the time between the end of nautical dusk and start of nautical dawn; and, line weighting configurations specifying mass and placement of weights or weighted sections.

iii. Fishing technologies and techniques should be demonstrated to be practical, cost effective and widely available. Commercial fishing operators are likely to select for seabird bycatch reduction measures and devices that meet these criteria including practical aspects concerning safe fishing practices at sea.

iv. Fishing technologies and techniques should, to the extent practicable, maintain catch rates of target species. This approach should increase the likelihood of acceptance and compliance by fishers.

v. Fishing technologies and techniques should, to the extent practicable, not increase the bycatch of other taxa. For example, measures that increase the likelihood of catching other protected species such as sea turtles, sharks and marine mammals, should not be considered best practice (or only so in exceptional circumstances).

vi. Minimum performance standards and methods of ensuring compliance should be provided for fishing technologies and techniques, and clearly specified in fishery regulations. Relatively simple methods to check compliance should include, but not be

[2] Any use of the word 'significant' in this document is meant in the statistical context.

[3] This may be determined by either a direct reduction in seabird mortality or by reduction in seabird attack rates, as a proxy.

limited to, port inspections of branch lines to determine compliance with branch line weighting, determination of the presence of davits (tori poles) to support bird scaring lines, and inspections of bird scaring lines for conformance with design requirements. Compliance monitoring and reporting should be a high priority for enforcement authorities.

On the basis of these criteria, the scientific evidence for the effectiveness of mitigation measures or fishing technologies/techniques in reducing seabird bycatch is assessed, and explicit information is provided on whether the measure is recommended as being effective, and thus considered best practice, or not. The ACAP review also provides notes and caveats for each measure, together with information on performance standards and further research needs. Following each meeting of ACAP's SBWG and Advisory Committee, this review document and ACAP's best practice advice is updated (if required). A summary of ACAP's current best practice advice for trawl fisheries is provided in the preceding section of this document.

ANNEX 3. MITIGATION TOOLBOX FOR PURSE SEINE FISHERIES

Mitigation	Function	Testing	Findings	Additional benefits	Limitations/ considerations	Source	Status *
Water spraying	Physical barrier for seabirds (Mexico)	NSE	Preliminary trials may affect seabird presence in risk areas into the net (*e.g.* pelicans)	N/A	1. Needs to be handled by one person in a reduced crew (*e.g.*, small-scale purse seine) 2. Absence of appropriate facilities and training would be harmful for seabirds (water cannon instead of water spraying) 3. The use of waters pumped from the same waste waters may contain edible oils can potentially affect seabird plumage	Suazo *et al.* (2017a)	
Edible oil release	Sensorial / physical deterrent to keep away seabirds (Australia)	NSE	Trials demonstrated no effects of shark oil *vs* controls on seabird feeding activity of shearwaters	N/A	1. Oil should attract other seabird or non-target taxa to fishing operations 2. Available re-supplies on board are needed 3. The use of oil may have other detrimental effects (*e.g.* plumage)	Puglisi (2007)	

Mitigation	Function	Testing	Findings	Additional benefits	Limitations/ considerations	Source	Status *
Sound	Sensorial deterrent to keep away seabirds (Chile)	NSE	Trials demonstrated effects of noise deterrents on the abundance of some sensitive seabird species (*e.g.* gulls) in contrast to Procellariiform species	N/A	1.Recommended additional sound devices to influence in other seabird species than gulls with unexpected harmful effects on seabirds and crews 2. Consideration of noise pollution when communal fishing exists (*e.g.* small scale purse seine)	Diez (2017)	
Laser	Sensorial deterrent to keep away seabirds (Chile)	NSE	Preliminary trials showed operational limitations during daylight and for certain seabird species like gulls	N/A	1. Potential detrimental effects on seabirds and crews must be taken into account and evaluated 2. Not recommended without an appropriate experimental design and safety protocols	Diez (2017)	
Modified purse seine (MPS)	Structural package of on fishing gear for the reduction of entanglement of seabirds with the purse seine gear (Chile)	ST	Trials showed the reduction in seabird bycatch for diving seabird species by 98% related to the reduction of entanglement in fishing gear	1. Modified purse seine showed improvement in catch success of the target fish species 2. Reduction in netting material with savings in future maintenance or new fishing gear		Suazo *et al.* (2016; 2017a,b; 2019)	

Mitigation	Function	Testing	Findings	Additional benefits	Limitations/ considerations	Source	Status *
Bird scaring device (Scaring kite)	Physical barrier to reduce the presence of seabirds in risk areas (Portugal)	ST	Trials showed the effect of this scaring device on activity of seabirds but with no bycatch events recorded for treatment and control sets. Reduction in numbers of certain seabird species like gulls but not for ACAP species like the Balearic shearwater	N/A	1. Need operation by a crew member 2. Need to be trialled in areas of high occurrence of ACAP listed species	Oliveira (2020)	

TESTING: need systematic evaluation (NSE) or systematically trialled (ST).
ADDITIONAL BENEFITS: none available (N/A).

***STATUS** (proposed categorisation of status in terms of mitigation efficacy):

	Reduced bycatch of ACAP species
	Reduced seabird bycatch, not proven for ACAP species
	No reduction in seabird bycatch, but reduced other bycatch fauna
	Testing in progress
	No reduction in bycatch

七、 PaCSWG6 會議報告

AC12 Doc 11
Agenda Item 10.1

Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

Twelfth Meeting of the Advisory Committee
Virtual meeting, 31 August – 2 September 2021 (UTC +10)

Report of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group

Population and Conservation Status Working Group

Report of the Sixth Population and Conservation Status Working Group Meeting

Virtual meeting, 24 – 25 August 2021 (UTC+10)

This report outlines progress during the intersessional period against the Work Programme of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group (hereafter PaCSWG or WG), approved by the Sixth Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MoP6) in 2018 and updated at the 11th ACAP Advisory Committee (AC) meeting in 2019 (AC11). The report also reflects discussions and advice resulting from the Sixth Meeting of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group (PaCSWG6) held online from 24 to 25 August 2021.

1. WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

PaCSWG Co-convenor Patricia Serafini (Brazil), together with Co-convenor Marco Favero (Argentina) and Vice-convenor Richard Phillips (UK) welcomed all PaCSWG members and observers **(ANNEX 1)** to the virtual Sixth Meeting of the PaCS Working Group. Regretting that it had not been possible for the group to meet in person in Ecuador, as originally planned, she outlined the logistical arrangements for the virtual meeting. The reduced time available for the virtual meeting meant that only Working Documents would be presented by their authors. All Information Papers would be briefly presented by the convenors and taken as read. Time would be given to the participants to ask questions and for brief discussion.

2. WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIP AND INTRODUCTION

The Convenors of the PaCSWG welcomed two new members to the Working Group since the last meeting, Marcela Uhart of the University of California, Davis, and Ana Bertoldi Carneiro of BirdLife International, who replaces Maria Dias. The WG thanked Maria, who has taken up a post at Lisbon University, for her contribution. Co-convenor Patricia Serafini stressed the importance of keeping the list of Working Group members current with those who are able to be active in the Group's work, noting that Parties can nominate and change Working Group members at any time.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Co-convenor Patricia Serafini introduced the proposed Agenda and related documents (**PaCSWG6 Doc 01** and **PaCSWG6 Doc 02**). PaCSWG adopted the Agenda.

4. PROGRESS REPORTS

4.1. Database updates

The Science Officer thanked all data contributors for their commitment to keeping the ACAP database up to date and noted its fundamental importance for generating reports on populations, breeding sites, terrestrial threats and management of ACAP species to track progress within the PaCSWG, and as a wider reporting mechanism for the Agreement. WG members and other users of the database were encouraged to provide feedback to the Secretariat on their experience with the data portal or suggestions for enhancements at any time.

4.2. Updates and Reviews of ACAP Species Assessments

The species assessments summarise current knowledge of biology and conservation of ACAP species, including population trends, distribution, and threats. Noting that this task has been pending for some time, the Science Officer advised that progress with updating the documents has been slow due to limited capacity within the Secretariat. However, with extra support allocated at AC11 to address some of the competing tasks, the documents will be shared for review with experts in the coming weeks. This timeframe will also allow up to date documents to be provided to BLI for the review of the status of ACAP species in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species later this year. The WG reflected that the assessments are a valuable resource for the Agreement and WG members reiterated their offer to assist with the revisions.

5. POPULATION STATUS AND TRENDS

5.1. Population trends of ACAP species

The WG reviewed changes to the current population trends (2001 to 2020) of ACAP species, and the level of confidence in the trend according to the accuracy and availability of data for the different populations (**Table 1**). The current trend of 28 species remained unchanged due to either lack of new data since the last review in 2017, or new data being available only for sites with a relatively small proportion of the global breeding population. However, information was updated for several species endemic to New Zealand, based on most recent data submitted to the ACAP database and published literature where available.

The trend for Northern Royal Albatross *Diomedea sanfordi* was changed from unknown to declining, following an aerial census of >99% of the global breeding population, and an apparent decline in adult survival rate. However, the low level of confidence for this trend reflects the uncertainties around estimates of breeding pairs obtained in the previous decade. WG member Igor Debski noted that undertaking more research to better determine the population trend of this species is a priority for New Zealand.

The level of confidence for a stable trend in the Southern Royal Albatross *Diomedea epomophora* was changed from medium to low, given that reliable counts of almost the entire breeding population (>99%) are now over 10 years old.

The trend for the Westland Petrel *Procellaria westlandica* was reclassified as increasing, given new data in recent literature. PaCSWG noted the species nests in very thick forest on rugged hills that restricts access to some areas, and there has been an increase in landslides in recent years. As such, there is contrasting trend information from different studies. Research is underway, including trialling new methods, to obtain better estimates of demographic parameters for this species.

The trend for the Black Petrel *Procellaria parkinsoni* was cautiously reclassified as stable. PaCSWG noted that although trends have been monitored in a study area on Great Barrier Island for over 20 years, it might not be representative of the entire site, and recent population modelling yielded mixed results. Efforts to better estimate potential immigration and emigration from the study site, and juvenile survival, are underway, to improve modelling of the population trajectory. A whole-island census for the main breeding site (Great Barrier Island, which holds >90% of the global population) was recently completed for the first time.

New census data allows increased confidence in the stable trend assigned to Campbell Albatross *Thalassarche impavida,* which breeds entirely on Campbell Island. Accordingly, trend confidence for this species was revised from Low to Medium.

Similarly, recent census data for Buller's Albatross *Thalassarche bulleri* from the Chatham Islands group, where more than 50%of the global population breeds, allows confidence about a stable trend for this species to be increased to Medium.

For two species, Light-mantled Albatross *Phoebetria palpebrata* and White-capped Albatross *Thalassarche steadi*, the trend remains unknown. *P. palpebrata* is a challenging species to census, and there is very high annual variability in breeding numbers at different sites. Although counts of the entire *T. steadi* population have been undertaken by aerial survey over several years, appropriate correction factors still need to be determined to account for the presence of non-breeding birds. This is currently being addressed.

PaCSWG agreed that categorising some population trends as unknown or uncertain was appropriate given the nature of the data but recognised that conveying a complex scenario in simplified terms may create difficulties in highlighting the conservation crisis - which ACAP declared at the last Advisory Committee meeting in 2019 - in policy fora such as RFMOs where there is a desire for greater certainty. PaCSWG highlighted the importance of adequate monitoring as a key source of robust data about population trends that helps to underpin advocacy about the conservation crisis affecting albatrosses and petrels.

PaCSWG agreed on the importance of Table 1 and the desire for a simple table that summarises the population trends for ACAP species and which also contains sufficient explanatory notes and caveats for appropriate interpretation. PaCSWG noted that as more data become available for a number of ACAP species at different sites it may be timely to revisit the rules for assigning trends and the hierarchy with which those are applied.

Table 1. *2021 Summary of global IUCN status and current trends of ACAP species.*

IUCN Status 2021[1]	*Species*	Number of sites (ACAP)[2]	Single Country Endemic	Annual breeding pairs (last census)[3]	Current Population Trend 2001 - 2020[4]	Trend Confidence
CR	*Diomedea dabbenena*	1	UK	1,456 (2015-2017)	↓	High
CR	*Phoebastria irrorata*	2	Ecuador	9,615 (2001)	↓	Medium
CR	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	5	Spain	3,184 (2008-2013)	↓	High
EN	*Diomedea amsterdamensis*	1	France	51 (2020)	↑	High
EN	*Diomedea antipodensis*	6	NZ	7,107 (1995-2020)	↓	High
EN	*Diomedea sanfordi*	5	NZ	4,080 (2018)	↓	Low
EN	*Thalassarche carteri*	6		33,974 (1984-2016)	↓	High
EN	*Thalassarche chlororhynchos*	6	UK	33,650 (1974-2011)	↔	Low
EN	*Thalassarche chrysostoma*	29		80,863 (1982-2020)	↓	Medium
EN	*Phoebetria fusca*	15		12,074 (1974-2021)	↓	Very Low
EN	*Procellaria westlandica*	1	NZ	6,223 (2019)	↑	Low
VU	*Ardenna creatopus*	3	Chile	33,520 (2009-2016)	↔	Low
VU	*Diomedea epomophora*	4	NZ	7,921 (1989-2018)	↔	Low
VU	*Diomedea exulans*	28		9,400 (1981-2021)	↓	High
VU	*Phoebastria albatrus*	2		889 (2002-2017)	↑	High
VU	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	73		1,118,033 (1984-2019)	↓	Very Low
VU	*Procellaria conspicillata*	1	UK	34,000–50,000 (2018)	↑	High
VU	*Procellaria parkinsoni*	2	NZ	6,970 (2016-2021)	↔	Low
VU	*Thalassarche eremita*	1	NZ	5,296 (2017)	↔	High
VU	*Thalassarche impavida*	2	NZ	24,338 (2020)	↔	Medium
VU	*Thalassarche salvini*	12	NZ	26,496 (1986-2019)	↓	Low
NT	*Phoebastria immutabilis*	17		806,693 (1982-2019)	↔	High
NT	*Phoebastria nigripes*	13		70,524 (1995-2019)	↑	Medium
NT	*Phoebetria palpebrata*	71		15,975* (1954-2021)	?	-
NT	*Procellaria cinerea*	17		86,959# (1981-2018)	↓	Very Low
NT	*Thalassarche bulleri*	10	NZ	33,268 (1984-2019)	↔	Medium
NT	*Thalassarche cauta*	3	Australia	15,019 (2015-2021)	↓	Low

IUCN Status 2021[1]	*Species*	Number of sites (ACAP)[2]	Single Country Endemic	Annual breeding pairs (last census)[3]	Current Population Trend 2001 - 2020[4]	Trend Confidence
NT	*Thalassarche steadi*	5	NZ	62,922 (2009-2017)	?	-
LC	*Macronectes giganteus*	119		46,127 (1958-2021)	↑	Medium
LC	*Macronectes halli*	50		11,551 (1973-2021)	↑	Medium
LC	*Thalassarche melanophris*	65		689,468 (1982-2020)	↑	High

* excluding Auckland estimates of 5,000 pairs – not reliable/supported

Incomplete global estimate - Prince Edward Islands numbers unknown

[1] ***CR*** *=Critically Endangered,* ***EN*** *= Endangered,* ***VU*** *= Vulnerable,* ***NT*** *= Near Threatened,* ***LC*** *= Least Concern.* The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2021-1. <www.iucnredlist.org>.

[2] ***Site:*** *usually an entire, distinct island or islet, or section of a large island*

[3] ACAP database. <data.acap.aq>. 27 August 2021.

[4] ***ACAP Trend:*** *↑ increasing, ↓declining, ↔ stable, ? unknown.* ***n.b. the overall trend for the species may not reflect particular regional or site trends.***

PaCSWG6 Inf 03 described population trends in two colonies of Wandering Albatross *Diomedea exulans*. At Bird Island, the colony declined at 3.01% per annum, while on Prion and Albatross Islands, the decline was 1.44% per annum between 1999 and 2018. Population modelling indicated that the differences in breeding success do not fully explain the observed differences in population trends. Rates of breeding success are comparable with those of other great albatross studies, suggesting higher survival in the Prion Island colonies. Further work is planned to track birds from these colonies to examine the potential role of differences in foraging environment.

PaCSWG6 Inf 05 reported on the first complete South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] archipelago-wide survey of giant petrels, *Macronectes giganteus* and *M. halli,* in 2005, 2006 and 2007 that produced estimates of 15,000 pairs of *M. halli,* and 8,803 pairs of *M. giganteus.* Comparisons of counts over 18-20 years indicated an increase of 74% and 27% in *M. halli* and *M. giganteus*, respectively, which were attributed to increased availability of carrion during the breeding season.

PaCSWG considered the potential for predation of albatross chicks by giant petrels and noted that:

(i) as albatross colony size declines, there is a relative increase in the proportion of birds at the edge of the colony that may be at a greater risk of predation by giant petrels and skuas; and

(ii) there are observations of giant petrels depredating black-browed *Thalassarche melanophris* and grey-headed *Thalassarche chrysostoma* albatrosses in late chick-rearing and as they fledge, but the extent and impact of the latter in particular is hard to quantify.

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

PaCSWG6 Inf 10 described the use of a high-resolution satellite image to count nesting Short-tailed Albatross *Phoebastria albatrus* on two islands in the Senkaku Island group, where conventional population monitoring has not occurred for 19 years due to a territorial dispute restricting access to the breeding sites. Analysis of the highest-resolution image resulted in an estimate of 122 nesting pairs in the 2021 breeding season, compared to 52 when last counted in 2002. One chick was counted in 2002 and 0 in 2021 in images of Kita-kojima. If accurate, these counts contrast with the trend at the main breeding site. The authors noted that the study was initiated in response to a known data gap that was not yet filled, and encouraged further work.

PaCSWG6 Inf 11 presented an update on Salvin's Albatross *Thalassarche salvini* at the Bounty Islands, and described the use of drones to conduct aerial surveys, and the use of fixed cameras to monitor timing and outcome of breeding events. The fixed camera data revealed a low estimated breeding success of only 28% for the first year, which is of concern. A full population census is being planned and will require drone overflight of eight islands in the group and ground-truthing to estimate detectability and nest status.

PaCSWG noted that aerial photographs and satellite-based monitoring have the potential to supplement conventional monitoring and suggested that the current ACAP guidelines on census methodologies be reviewed to include these techniques. Such a review should include methods for ground-truthing, the correction of counts of total birds to breeding pairs and how such approaches can be generalised across sites to facilitate use of remote-sensing/satellite images at sites than cannot be easily accessed. The use of AI can improve detection of animals, and citizen science can help validate images. PaCSWG noted that remote sensing and satellite imagery continues to rapidly evolve and any ACAP guidelines would need to be kept under review.

6. THREATS AND PRIORITISATION

6.1. Updates on management of land-based threats

Information on management responses to the threats listed in the ACAP database is summarised in **ANNEX 2**. Progress was reported on the Gough Island Restoration Programme, drafting of Biosecurity guidelines for western Ibiza islets, and feasibility investigations and project planning for the eradication of pigs, cats, and mice from Auckland Island.

PaCSWG6 Inf 02 provided an assessment of the threats to all 359 species of seabirds, identifying the main challenges to their mitigation, and outlining priority actions for conservation. The top three threats to seabirds are common to ACAP species and include invasive alien species, bycatch in fisheries and climate change/severe weather. The study concluded that for albatrosses, petrels and penguins in particular, it is essential to tackle both terrestrial and marine threats to reverse declines.

PaCSWG welcomed this very comprehensive review including the identification of disease as a threat for five ACAP species. PaCSWG noted the Scientific Committee of the Convention

on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) had created a group for discussing diseases in migratory species, and this may provide an opportunity for ACAP to engage further on the topic, including on disease monitoring and the importance of biosecurity.

Co-convenor of PaCSWG Patricia Serafini noted that many of the conclusions of **PaCSWG Inf 02** are of interest for both Seabird Bycatch Working Group (SBWG) and PaCSWG, and support the proposal for holding joint meetings between these Working Groups to improve coordination and integration, particularly on conservation of ACAP Priority Populations.

PaCSWG6 Inf 13 described new threats to Pink-footed Shearwater *Ardenna creatopus* at two of the three breeding sites in Chile. On one island (which holds 70% of the global population), goats were introduced in 2019 as livestock and it has not been possible to implement measures to manage this invasive species. As well, construction of new coastal infrastructure has increased light pollution on an adjacent island with a resulting increase in post-fledging chick mortality.

PaCSWG6 recalled that the Agreement urges Parties to take all feasible action to protect the breeding sites of ACAP species.

6.2. Overlap of birds and at-sea threats, including fisheries

PaCSWG6 Doc 04 reported on total mercury (THg) concentrations in body feathers from adult Grey-headed Albatrosses *T. chrysostoma*. A threefold increase was detected over the past 25 years, and is the highest recorded in the *Thalassarche* genus. Foraging habitat inferred from stable isotope ratios of carbon showed that feathers moulted in Antarctic waters had far lower THg concentrations than those moulted in subantarctic or subtropical waters. In males, birds that failed to raise a chick had significantly higher feather THg concentrations than successful birds.

PaCSWG noted that it was not clear whether the increase in THg was due to changes in diet or foraging area, ocean warming or increased anthropogenic pollution. The correlation between breeding success and THg concentrations in male birds underlined the potentially important role of seabirds as bioindicators of wider marine processes that have implications not just for wildlife but also for humans. PaCSWG noted that ACAP could play a role in conveying this message to other relevant bodies.

PaCSWG6 Inf 01 reviewed the global political responsibility for the conservation of albatrosses and large petrels using data on at-sea distributions and breeding population size to estimate the relative importance, year-round, of areas within national jurisdictions and the high seas for 39 species. The paper outlines the stake each country and regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs) have in the management of biodiversity in international waters. The paper is accompanied by a Shiny app. This tool can be used to generate a bespoke report by country on where all the populations breeding within their jurisdiction spend different proportions of time, including during the nonbreeding season (EEZs and RFMO), or by a country or RFMO to determine the breeding-range state of all populations that spend part of the year in waters within their jurisdictions. This should help promote collaboration on populations of common interest.

PaCSWG welcomed this paper and the associated app, and the clarification that the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) was not included in the study to avoid duplication arising from the overlapping jurisdictions of CCSBT and other tRFMOs. PaCSWG noted that, given the importance of CCSBT fisheries to ACAP species, that it would be useful to have the equivalent information for CCSBT available from the app.

PaCSWG6 Inf 04 combined individual tracking data and a movement model including chlorophyll-a concentrations and ocean surface winds as proxies to investigate the environmental drivers and the relative overlap of adult and juvenile White-chinned Petrels *Procellaria aequinoctialis* with fisheries, as proxies for bycatch risk. The authors found that juvenile movements are best predicted by prevailing wind patterns, whereas adults are attracted to food resources on the Patagonian Shelf. Initially the juveniles dispersed to less productive oceanic waters than those used by adults, thus overlapping less with fishing activity. The paper provided insights into the ontogeny of movement strategies within the context of learned versus innate behaviour and demonstrated that divergent movement patterns of adults and juveniles can have important implications for conservation.

PaCSWG6 Inf 06 combined data from loggers that record GPS position and detect the presence of radar transmissions from vessels, along with the positions of fishing vessels obtained from the automatic identification system (AIS), to define areas and times when bycatch risk is greatest for Wandering Albatrosses *D. exulans*. Overlap between *D. exulans* and fishing vessels occurred during incubation and chick-rearing periods when wandering albatrosses encountered many different vessels, but interaction occurred mostly with set longliners, and particularly with Korean vessels.

PaCSWG welcomed the findings in **PaCSWG6 Inf 06,** noting the usefulness of this fine-scale approach, particularly in providing new information on overlap of this ACAP Priority Population with Korean vessels and the potential bycatch risk. The WG also noted the intention to further refine the analysis and to present the findings to SBWG.

PaCSWG6 Inf 07 described how the integration of immersion with GPS data improves behavioural classification of Wandering Albatrosses *D. exulans* and shows scavenging behind fishing vessels mirrors natural foraging. The authors provide a current and generalised framework, and refine the classification of foraging strategies of seabirds. Birds show the same behavioural states whether or not they are foraging behind vessels.

PaCSWG6 Inf 08 used DNA extracted from scats to identify prey remains to inform sustainable fisheries management and ecological risk assessments for Shy Albatross *Thalassarche cauta*. The study documented within and between-year variability in diet and showed that >30% of the *T. cauta* population included fishery-related items in their diet, highlighting that fisheries still pose a potential risk to the conservation of this species in Australian waters.

PaCSWG6 Inf 14 examined sexual segregation in habitat selection by Black-browed Albatrosses *T. melanophris* wintering in the south-west Atlantic by tracking seven males and 14 females and using habitat selection models. Variables with the highest importance in habitat selection models across all groups were depth and sea-surface temperature, and no evidence of sexual segregation was found.

PaCSWG welcomed this paper and the offer from the authors to provide the tracking data to the seabird tracking database managed by BirdLife International.

PaCSWG6 Inf 15 reported plastic ingestion in seven albatross species in Argentina and Brazil. Plastic items were found in 33.1% of 133 carcasses examined, with White-chinned Petrel *P. aequinoctialis*, Southern Giant Petrel *M. giganteus* and Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross *Thalassarche chlororhynchos* showing the highest frequency of occurrence of plastic. The use of ACAP standardised protocols for analysis allowed comparisons between carcasses from different sources, as well as analyses of spatio-temporal patterns in incidence.

PaCSWG noted the plans for continuation of this study on the health impacts to ACAP species and encouraged further examination of the influence of the source of the dead birds (e.g. bycatch or beach/colony cast) and bird age, as well as further investigation of evidence of trophic transfer.

PaCSWG6 Inf 17 and **PaCSWG6 Inf 18** described respectively the spatial, seasonal and age group distribution of Buller's *T. bulleri* and Salvin's *T. salvini* albatrosses off the Peruvian coast. *T. bulleri* were more abundant during spring and overlapped with small-scale longline fisheries. *T. salvini* were abundant in northern areas in autumn where squid jigging takes place and moved southwards in spring.

PaCSWG6 Inf 22 described the presence of 47 Black Petrels *P. parkinsoni* reported on the continental slope area in the north coast of Peru in February when these birds are breeding in New Zealand.

PaCSWG noted the contribution of **PaCSWG6 Inf 17, 18** and **22** to our understanding the non-breeding distribution of ACAP species and welcomed news of the collaboration between scientists from Peru and New Zealand to integrate tracking-derived distribution data with the at-sea observational data to create improved distribution maps to assess overlap with fishing effort.

6.3. Review terrestrial threat prioritisation

The Science Officer presented the outcome of the land-based threats prioritisation exercise carried out every three years prior to the Meeting of the Parties (MoP). This was an update to the table in **MoP6 Doc 20 Rev 1**. 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.

PaCSWG6 welcomed the removal of Brown (Norwegian) Rat *Rattus norvegicus* at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] from the prioritisation table following the successful eradication programme. Other threats remain unchanged. The updated table will be presented to the next Meeting of the Parties (MoP7), currently scheduled for May 2022.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PaCSWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

1. Reiterate the importance of ACAP Parties taking all feasible action to protect breeding sites, in particular by preventing the introduction of, or, if already present, ensuring the control or eradication of introduced alien species that may be detrimental to populations of albatrosses and petrels;
2. Encourage more research on sub-lethal effects of pollutants, and the incorporation of these impacts when modelling population trends.

7. DATA GAPS

7.1. Review of key gaps in population data

PaCSWG reviewed tables that summarise data availability and a variety of data gaps. The Science Officer thanked all Parties and site custodians for submission of updated information into the ACAP database from which **Tables 2, 3 and 4** are directly derived.

There was no monitoring of 10 important populations at island group level (>5% of global breeding pairs) in the past ten years. Three populations have been added since PaCSWG5 to the list of populations for which updated information is required: *Ardenna creatopus* on Isla Mocha, *Procellaria cinerea* in Antipodes Islands, and *Thalassarche carteri* in Prince Edward Islands (**Table 2**).

Recent information is lacking for 20 populations at breeding sites holding more than >10% of the global population for that species (**Table 3**). There are seven additional populations in this iteration compared to 2019: *A. creatopus* on Isla Mocha, *P. cinerea* on Antipodes Island, *T. carteri, D. exulans* and *Phoebetria fusca* on Prince Edward Island, and *Puffinus mauretanicus* on Mallorca and Menorca.

Data gaps remain largely for island groups or breeding sites that are logistically difficult to access, and for species that are very challenging to census, as noted previously.

New sites for adult survival data include Disappointment Island for *T. steadi*, Antipodes Island for *P. aequinoctialis*, and Proclamation Island for *T. salvini*, while breeding success data has now also been collected from Grave Cove, Dunbar for *T. melanophris*. Data on breeding success and both adult and juvenile survival continue to be missing for Spectacled Petrel *Procellaria conspicillata* and Pink-footed Shearwater *A. creatopus*.

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 2010), or the data are not yet available. Island groups added since PaCSWG5 are highlighted.

Jurisdiction	Island Group	Species	Population estimate for Island Group (annual breeding pairs)	% of known global population	Latest year of data at any site within Island Group
Australia	Heard and McDonald Islands	*Macronectes giganteus*	3,500	8	2004
Chile	Isla Mocha	*Ardenna creatopus*	19,440	58	2008
Disputed	Senkaku Retto of southern Ryukyu Islands	*Phoebastria albatrus*	52	6	2002
Disputed	South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1]	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	669,443*	49	2007
France	Kerguelen	*Phoebetria palpebrata*	4,000	26	1987
France	Crozet	*Procellaria cinerea*	5,500	7	2005
New Zealand	Campbell Islands	*Phoebetria palpebrata*	1,658	11	1996
New Zealand	Antipodes Islands	*Procellaria cinerea*	60,147	80	2010
South Africa	Prince Edward Islands	*Thalassarche carteri*	7,000	21	2009
United Kingdom	Gough	*Procellaria cinerea*	10,000-25,000	23	2001

* Including 4 regions; north, south, west and north-east mainland:

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

Table 3. Sites with >10% of species' global breeding pairs where a population estimate has not been produced in at least the last 10 years, or the data are not yet available (i.e. no survey after 2010) (excludes sites where part-site/study colony counts have been conducted). Sites added since PaCSWG5 are highlighted.

Jurisdiction	Island Group	Breeding Site	Species	Population Estimate at breeding site (annual breeding pairs)	% of total known global population	Survey Accuracy	Latest year of population data for site or part-site
Chile	Isla Mocha	Isla Mocha	*Ardenna creatopus*	19,440	58		2009
Chile	Islas Diego Ramirez	Isla Bartolome	*Thalassarche chrysostoma*	10,880	13	High	2003
Disputed	South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))	*Macronectes halli*	2,281	21	High	2007
Disputed	South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)	Northwest	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	146,545	12	Medium	2007
Disputed	South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)	Nunez	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	193,838	16	Medium	2007
France	Crozet	Ile de l'Est	*Phoebetria fusca*	1,300	11	Unknown	1984
France	Kerguelen	Golfe du Morbihan	*Phoebetria palpebrata*	4,000#	26-36		1987
New Zealand	Antipodes Islands	Antipodes Island	*Procellaria cinerea*	60,147	80	Medium	2010
New Zealand	Campbell Islands	Campbell Island	*Diomedea epomophora*	7,855	99	High	2008
New Zealand	Campbell Islands	Campbell Island	*Phoebetria palpebrata*	1,600	10	Low	1996
South Africa	Prince Edward Islands	Prince Edward Island	*Thalassarche carteri*	7,000	21	High	2009
South Africa	Prince Edward Islands	Prince Edward Island	*Diomedea exulans*	1,800	19	High	2009
South Africa	Prince Edward Islands	Prince Edward Island	*Phoebetria fusca*	1,210	10	High	2009
Spain	Balearic Archipelago	Cabrera	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	449	14	Low	2008
Spain	Balearic Archipelago	Mallorca	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	900	28	Low	2009
Spain	Balearic Archipelago	Menorca	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	405	13	Low	2009
United Kingdom	Gough	Gough Island	*Procellaria cinerea*	10,000-25,000	13-31	Unknown	2001
United Kingdom	Tristan da Cunha	Nightingale	*Thalassarche chlororhynchos*	4000	12	Low	2007
United Kingdom	Tristan da Cunha	Tristan da Cunha	*Thalassarche chlororhynchos*	16,000-30,000	48-89	Low	1974
United Kingdom	Tristan da Cunha	Tristan da Cunha	*Phoebetria fusca*	2,000-3,000	16-25	Unknown	1974

figure is for all Kerguelen

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

Table 4: Availability of **demographic information** for all ACAP species (including data collected but not yet analysed).

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

Species	Number of sites	Number of Island Groups	Adult survival data Sites	Juvenile survival data Sites	Breeding success data sites
Phoebastria nigripes	15	4	Midway Atoll	Midway Atoll	Midway
			French Frigate Shoals	French Frigate Shoals	Laysan
			Laysan Island	Laysan Island	French Frigate Shoals
Phoebetria fusca	15	6	Ile de la Possession	Ile de la Possession	Ile de la Possession
					Marion Island
					Gough Island
Phoebetria palpebrata	73	9	Ile de la Possession Jeanne d'Arc Peninsula	Macquarie Island Jeanne d'Arc Peninsula	Macquarie Island
					Ile de la Possession
					Campbell Island
					Marion Island
					Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]
					Jeanne d'Arc Peninsula
Thalassarche bulleri	10	4	North-East Island	North-East Island	North-East Island
			The Little (Middle) Sister		Great Solander Island
Thalassarche carteri	6	5	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux
Thalassarche cauta	3	1	Albatross Island (AU)	Albatross Island (AU)	Albatross Island (AU)
Thalassarche chlororhynchos	6	2	Gough Island	Gough Island	Gough Island
			Tristan da Cunha		Inaccessible Island
					Tristan da Cunha
Thalassarche chrysostoma	29	8	Macquarie Island	Macquarie Island	Macquarie Island
			Campbell Island	Campbell Island	Campbell Island
			Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]	Bird Island (SGSSI (IGSISS))[1]
			Marion Island		Marion Island
Thalassarche eremita	1	1	The Pyramid	No data	No data
Thalassarche impavida	2	1	Campbell Island	Campbell Island	Campbell Island

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

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

* Translocated population

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

The WG reviewed priority monitoring programmes identified for each ACAP species by region. Recent progress against these priorities is summarised in **Table 5**.

Table 5. Summary of progress on **regional monitoring priority programmes**.

Priority programmes	Progress since AC11 (May 2019)
ANTARCTICA two species; 50 sites, two of unknown size	
(i) Resurvey Southern Giant Petrel at King George and Nelson Islands, South Shetland Islands	*None reported*
(ii) Maintain long-term population and productivity monitoring of Southern Giant Petrels at Signy Island, South Orkney Islands.	*Maintained all programmes*
ARGENTINA: one species (Southern Giant Petrel) at four sites, population size known for all sites but no recent breeding pairs trend data; no survival data; potential impact of introduced species at Isla de los Estados	
(i) Maintain population and productivity monitoring at Isla Arce and Isla Gran Robredo.	*Maintained programme*
(ii) Resurvey the two sites at Isla de los Estados.	*No progress*
AUSTRALIA: eight species at 17 sites in three island groups; 18% of populations of unknown size.	
(i) Maintain long-term demographic, productivity or population monitoring at Macquarie Island (seven ACAP species) and Tasmania (Shy Albatross).	*Maintained programmes, although monitoring at Macquarie Island affected by the COVID 19 pandemic in 2020–21*
(ii) Resurvey Shy Albatross at Mewstone	*None reported*
(iii) Resurvey Black-browed and Light-mantled Albatrosses at Heard Island.	*None reported*
(iv) Resurvey Black-browed Albatrosses at Bishop and Clerk Islands.	*None reported*
CHILE: four species at 36 sites in nine island groups; no demographic data.	
(i) Begin long-term demographic monitoring of Black-browed and Grey-headed Albatrosses at minimum of one island group.	*None reported*
(ii) Resurvey all island groups.	*None reported*
(iii) Re-survey Southern Giant Petrel at Isla Noir.	*None reported*
(iv) Survey Pink-footed Shearwater on Isla Mocha and on at least one of the islands in Juan Fernández archipelago	*Censuses of Isla Mocha and Juan Fernández completed, expected publications in 2022 (ACAP grants)*
(v) Initiate a long-term demogrpahic monitoring programme for Pink-footed Shearwater in at least one the island groups where it breeds	*None reported*

Priority programmes	Progress since AC11 (May 2019)
DISPUTED – NORTH PACIFIC: two species at two sites; current population trends unknown; no survival data.	
(i) Confirm breeding and begin long-term population monitoring of Short-tailed Albatross at Minami-Kojima in the Senkaku Islands.	*High-resolution satellite image was used to count nesting* P. albatrus*: 122 nesting pairs were estimated in the 2021 breeding season* ***(PaCSWG6 Inf 10)***
DISPUTED – SOUTH ATLANTIC: seven species at 232 sites; 34% of populations of unknown size; steep declines in Wandering, Black-browed and Grey-headed Albatrosses, and White-chinned Petrel; possible decline in Light-mantled Albatross.	
(i) Maintain long-term demographic or productivity monitoring at Bird Island, South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] (six ACAP species).	*Maintained all programmes*
(ii) Maintain long-term population (3 species) and productivity monitoring (1 species) at Bay of Isles (Albatross or Prion island) at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] (three ACAP species).	*Maintained all programmes at Prion Island. Annual monitoring of population size and productivity of 2 giant petrel species commenced at Maiviken, Greene Peninsula, Discovery Point and Harpon Bay.*
(iii) Maintain White-chinned Petrel population monitoring at six sites at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1].	*Maintained at five sites. Demographic monitoring to start at Bird Island in 2022/23.*
(iv) Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Black-browed Albatross at two sites in the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)[1].	*Maintained all programmes*
(v) Maintain long-term population monitoring of Black-browed Albatrosses elsewhere in the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)[1].	*10-year island-group-wide aerial census conducted in 2017. Results expected in 2021.* *Annual monitoring continued at Dunbar and demographic studies continued at New Island.*
(vi) Resurvey Southern Giant Petrels at the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)[1].	*Annual monitoring at selected sites maintained.*
(vii) Resurvey all Wandering Albatross, Black-headed Albatross, Grey-headed Albatross breeding sites at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] every 10 years	*No further action required since AC9.*
ECUADOR: single endemic species (Waved Albatross) at two sites, declining; no juvenile survival data.	
(i) Survey all of Española, Galapagos Islands.	*ACAP Small Grant*
(ii) Establish demographic monitoring in the interior colonies ('Colonia Central') on Española.	*None reported*
(iii) Establish long-term population and productivity monitoring at Isla de la Plata.	*None reported*
FRANCE: 12 species at 99 sites in three island groups; 20% of populations of unknown size; steep declines in Sooty Albatross and Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross.	
(i) Maintain long-term demographic or population monitoring at Kerguelen (5 species).	*Maintained all programmes*

Priority programmes	Progress since AC11 (May 2019)
(ii) Maintain long-term demographic or population monitoring at Crozet (6 species).	*Maintained all programmes*
(iii) Maintain long-term demographic or population monitoring at Amsterdam Island (3 species).	*Maintained all programmes*
(iv) Resurvey; Sooty and Light-mantled Albatross at Ile de l'Est, Crozet and at Kerguelen; Northern and Southern Giant Petrels at Cochons and Ile de l'Est, Crozet; White-chinned Petrel at Possession Island, Crozet, and; Grey Petrel at Kerguelen	
JAPAN: three species; current trend, adult survival and productivity unknown for four populations.	
(i) Establish long-term demographic monitoring at all sites.	*None reported*
MEXICO: one species (Laysan Albatross) at four sites; no trend or demographic data.	
(i) Establish demographic monitoring at all sites	*None reported*
NEW ZEALAND: 16 species (10 endemic) including 98 populations; 27% of populations of unknown size.	
~~**(i) Resurvey Campbell Albatross at Campbell Island.**~~	*Photo counts and ground-truthing complete and entered into ACAP database. Remove from list.*
(ii) Survey Salvin's Albatross at Bounty Islands.	*Further research was undertaken using drones, time-lapse cameras and ground truthing with a view to establishing longer-term monitoring methods (**PaCSWG6 Inf 11**).*
(iii) Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Black Petrel at Great Barrier Island.	*Programme maintained*
(iv) Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Antipodean Albatross at Adams Island, Auckland Islands.	*Field research planned for 2020-21 was cancelled due to Covid-19.*
(v) Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Buller's Albatross at the Snares, and resurvey Solander Islands.	*Field research planned for 2020-21 was cancelled due to Covid-19.*
(vi) Maintain population monitoring of White-capped Albatross at all sites in the Auckland Islands.	*Field research planned for 2020-21 was cancelled due to Covid-19.*
(viii) Collate existing data on Light-mantled Albatross populations and survey at major breeding sites.	*Field research planned for 2020-21 was cancelled due to Covid-19.*
NEW Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Antipodean Albatross at Antipodes Island	*Programme maintained*

Priority programmes	Progress since AC11 (May 2019)
NEW Survey southern royal albatross at Campbell Island.	*Field research planned for 2020-21 was cancelled due to Covid-19. Research to investigate the use of satellite monitoring has been initiated.*
SOUTH AFRICA: 9 species including 17 populations; 18% of populations of unknown size; no survival data for 13 populations.	
(i) Maintain long-term population monitoring of Sooty and Light-mantled Albatrosses at Marion Island.	*None reported*
(ii) Survey White-chinned and Grey Petrels at Marion and Prince Edward Islands.	*None reported*
(iii) Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Wandering and Grey-headed Albatrosses at Marion Island.	*None reported*
(iv) Maintain intermittent population monitoring	*None reported*
SPAIN: 1 species in one archipelago (Balearics), five island groups within a main archipelago (Balearics).	
(i) Establish and maintain long term monitoring programmes in all the major island groups, including ongoing initiatives in Dragonera/Sa Cella (Mallorca group) and Conillera/Bosc (Ibiza). Ensure that these ongoing programmes collect the relevant information necessary to assess demographic trends.	*New monitoring site in Mola de Maó (Menorca) since 2017. Colony with most nests inaccessible and in dangerous terrain, but about 15-20 nests monitored yearly for breeding success and adult occupancy, including ringing of adults and chicks; 20 nest boxes installed in 2020 to facilitate monitoring in the future, 1 occupied in 2021 and several more prospected.* *Also irregular monitoring in Malgrats (Mallorca) since 2018, not secured. Current proposal to the Spanish Government to support monitoring of all ongoing sites plus also Caberera.* *First demographic analysis for W Ibiza islets conducted in 2019 thanks to ACAP small grant. Results mirror those of the previous demographic analysis from Sa Cella (Mallorca), with a population decline estimated at -14% per year.*
(ii) Recover the available information collected in the last 12 years on behalf of the local administration	*No progress, seems unlikely that we'll find old information covering known gaps (mainly demographic info from Sa Cella between 2003 and 2009 is missing, although monitoring work was supposedly conducted)*
NEW Update population information for the whole archipelago, and investigate the potential existence of unknown/not confirmed breeding sites	*Regarding the confirmation of sites, this year there was a prospection of 2 islets with old information in W Ibiza, Es Vedrà (where presence confirmed through indirect evidence of occupied nests) and Es Vedranell (estimated minimum 10 nests occupied).* *In a tracking study of birds captured at sea off Barcelona, of 7 birds captured and properly transmitting, all visited colonies at known sites on Menorca, Mallorca, Cabrera and Ibiza.*

Priority programmes	Progress since AC11 (May 2019)
UNITED KINGDOM: 6 species including 16 populations on two island groups	
(i) Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Tristan and Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatrosses and Southern Giant Petrels at Gough Island.	*Maintained all programmes, but ringing will be discontinued at the end of 2021 due to licencing conditions.*
(ii) Maintain long-term demographic monitoring of Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross at Tristan and Nightingale islands.	*None reported*
(iii) Maintain intermittent population monitoring of Sooty Albatross at Gough Island.	*Nest monitoring and counts of coastal cliffs maintained.*
(iv) Maintain intermittent population monitoring of Spectacled Petrel at Inaccessible Island.	*None reported*
(v) Establish intermittent population monitoring of Sooty Albatross at Tristan Island.	*None reported*
(vi) Survey Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross at Tristan Island.	*None reported*
(vii) Survey all island and establish intermittent population monitoring in study plots of Grey Petrel at Gough Island.	*Study plot monitoring continued – breeding success only.*
(viii) Confirm breeding of Grey Petrel at Inaccessible and Tristan islands.	*None reported*
UNITED STATES: two species, 25 populations, all of known size; few demographic data.	
(i) Maintain long-term demographic monitoring at several sites.	*None reported*
(ii) Survey the five breeding sites where not currently monitored, and at all sites at five-year intervals.	*None reported*

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

7.2. Review of key gaps in tracking data

The WG reviewed recent progress in the priority tracking programmes identified for each ACAP species by region (**Table 6**).

Table 6. Summary of progress on **regional tracking priorities**.

Priorities	Progress since AC11 (May 2019)
ARGENTINA –Southern Giant Petrels (non-breeding adults and juveniles) at Isla Arce and Isla Gran Robredo.	*GPS Solar Powered loggers deployed in 2017 and 2019 breeding seasons on adults from Isla Arce. Tracking included the last and the first months of the breeding and non-breeding periods, respectively.*

Priorities	Progress since AC11 (May 2019)
NEW Southern Giant Petrels (breeding and non-breeding adults) at Isla Arce and/or Isla Gran Robredo.	
AUSTRALIA - Shy Albatross (juveniles) in Tasmania; juveniles of all albatross species at Macquarie Island.	
CHILE **i)** Juvenile and nonbreeding Black-browed and Grey-headed Albatrosses at all island groups, and particularly at Diego Ramirez; tracking of adults during all breeding stages from Islands Groups other than Diego Ramirez;	
ii) tracking of Southern Giant Petrels at Isla Noir.	
DISPUTED **i)** Black-browed and Grey-headed Albatrosses (juveniles) at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1]	*PTTs deployed on juvenile Grey-headed and Black-browed Albatrosses in May-June 2019 and 2021, respectively.*
~~**ii) White-chinned Petrel (adults and juveniles) at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)**~~[1]	*Paper published (PaCSWG6 Inf 4) - Remove from list*
iv) Wandering Albatross pre-breeders and deferring adults during the breeding season at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1]. (High-resolution data reqd. to map overlap with fleets in SW Atlantic)	*GPS-radar devices deployed on juveniles, immatures, breeders and deferring breeders (PaCSWG6 Inf 06 and Inf 07).*
NEW All ACAP species at South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1] at a site other than Bird Island, including *D. exulans* at Prion or Albatross Island.	
ECUADOR **i)** Waved Albatross (juveniles) at Galapagos.	
NEW *Waved albatross (breeding adults during the non-breeding season) at Galapagos.*	

Priorities	Progress since AC11 (May 2019)
FRANCE - Grey-headed and Indian Yellow-nosed Albatrosses at Crozet Islands, Grey-headed Albatross at Kerguelen	
JAPAN - Black-footed Albatross at Ogasawara Islands.	
NEW ZEALAND ~~**i) Salvin's Albatross at Bounty Islands;**~~	*Data collected and further analyses underway. Remove from list.*
iii) Light-mantled Albatross at key sites.	*Planned tracking of birds at Adams Island in 2020-21 cancelled due to Covid-19.*
SOUTH AFRICA - Juveniles of all species at Prince Edward Islands (*Phoebetria* species higher priority).	
SPAIN **(i)** Balearic Shearwater juveniles (only pilot study with five birds) and adults in early stages of breeding period. Major effort required in Menorca, where taxonomic status uncertain, influenced by Yelkouan Shearwater *Puffinus yelkouan* (could affect bird movements).	*Tracking conducted in Menorca 2020 & 2021. In 2020, 5 juveniles were fitted with PTTs, though only 3 transmitted. Of these, none left the Mediterranean, moving to the Gulf of Lyon and Sardinia. In 2021, 10 adults were fitted with GPS/GSM in May (early chick-rearing), moving to the Catalan and French coast, plus one bird visiting Sardinia. Again in early July 3 adults and 4 juveniles were fitted with GPS/GSMs, all remaining in the Mediterranean between the eastern Spanish Coast, the Gulf of Lyon and Corsica/Sardinia.*
(ii) Tracking of birds captured at sea during breeding season, to assess connectivity with colonies and explore the possible existence of unknown colonies	*1 bird fitted in June 2020 with PTT and 9 birds in May-June 2021 (only 7 working properly) after capturing off Barcelona. All birds in 2021 visited colony sites covering almost the whole breeding range (Menorca, Mallorca, Cabrera, Ibiza; only Formentera was not visited).*
(iii) Tracking of birds bycaught alive by fishing vessels.	*5 birds tracked with PTT in 2020 after receiving proper veterinary attention, showing an unexpectedly high survival probability (4 out of 5 kept transmitting for 1-3 weeks, while one was found dead a day after being released). This opens a promising opportunity to work with fishermen to train them to release the birds captured alive.*
UNITED KINGDOM - Grey Petrel at Gough Island; juveniles of most species at Gough and Tristan da Cunha.	*PTTs deployed on 10 juvenile Tristan Albatrosses in October/November 2018 and 2019 but due to malfunction of Northstar tags, few data obtained.*
USA - Black-footed Albatross at Laysan Island.	

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

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PaCSWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

1. Encourage ACAP Parties and Range States responsible for breeding populations of ACAP species to implement the priority monitoring programmes to increase current knowledge of their population size, trends and demography;
2. Encourage ACAP Parties and others to undertake further identified priority tracking studies, including those applicable to the bycatch-aggravating, more proficient diving and most nocturnally active species.

8. ACAP PRIORITY POPULATIONS

8.1 Review key research and management actions for ACAP Priority Populations

PaCSWG Co-convenor Marco Favero reminded the meeting that ACAP has nine Priority Populations, of which four were adopted in 2011, four in 2016 and one in 2017 (**Table 7**).

Several of the documents and Information papers for this item had already been discussed under previous agenda items. These include: **PaCSWG6 Doc 04, PaCSWG6 Inf 01, PaCSWG6 Inf 03, PaCSWG6 Inf 06,** and **PaCSWG6 Inf 07.**

PaCSWG6 Inf 12 reported on the Australia/Chile/New Zealand concerted Action Plan for the Antipodean Albatross *Diomedea antipodensis*. The SBWG Convenor, Igor Debski, commented that SBWG10 had discussed the promotion of the Antipodean Albatross Action Plan in ACAP's RFMO Engagement Strategy, and had added this to **SBWG10 Doc 07 Rev 1**. As a WG member from New Zealand, Igor Debski also referred to activities during New Zealand's hosting of APEC to engage with various range states with fleets operating in the foraging range of the Antipodean Albatross.

A suggestion was made that ACAP might present a paper to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) Technical Compliance Committee highlighting the plight of the Antipodean Albatross and promoting the desirability of compliance-related mitigation, especially night setting, for which compliance monitoring may be more effective.

The PaCSWG Co-convenor noted that this was the type of proposal that could be considered in a joint SBWG/PaCSWG meeting, and highlighted the merit of organising such joint meeting in 2023.

Jonathon Barrington, a WG member from Australia reported that genetic analyses indicated two female Antipodean Albatrosses were breeding on Macquarie Island.

There was some discussion of bilateral (or regional) action plans for ACAP Priority Populations. PaCSWG was advised that Argentina and Uruguay had reported to SBWG10

about their development of a regional Action Plan (that should help some of the nine priority populations).

PaCSWG6 Inf 16 reported the recent initiation of tourism at the Punta Cevallos long-term monitoring site for the Waved Albatross *P. irrorata*. PaCSWG6 noted that this issue was not covered in the existing Binational Plan of Action for this Priority Population. Elisa Goya from Peru confirmed that was the case, and indicated the value of including this activity in the ongoing update of the Plan of Action (POA). Peru and Ecuador have not been able to progress the Action Plan sufficiently over the past year to prepare a final version to be submitted to the Advisory Committee. PaCSWG agreed to recommend that the Advisory Committee highlight the need to complete the revision of the plan, to include tourism and other associated issues, as well as continued demographic monitoring at the impacted sites (section 2.3 of Waved Albatross POA).

PaCSWG6 Inf 20 reported on observations at sea of the Waved Albatross by the Instituto del Mar del Peru (IMARPE) – the Peruvian Maritime Institute. Co-convenor Marco Favero reiterated comments made by the SBWG Convenor during SBWG10, that such reports were an extremely useful complement to tracking studies.

Although it is not a priority population, there was also some discussion about uncertainties relating to the Short-tailed Albatross *P. albatrus* population in the Senkaku Islands (an area known under several different names) and whether, and by what means, it would be possible for ACAP to engage with authorities in the various countries and entities, given the territorial dispute. PaCSWG noted that this topic was best discussed at the Meeting of the Parties.

PaCSWG6 recalled that the aim of identifying the highest priority ACAP populations is that in a situation where resources are scarce, focus is given to the most threatened populations in terms of enhancing collaborative efforts and outcomes. The Priority Populations could also be used by ACAP as flagships to help communicate the conservation imperatives for the Agreement as a whole.

Table 7. Populations that have been identified as meeting the criteria for **ACAP High Priority Populations** (declining at more than 3% per year, held more than 10% of the global population, and were at risk from fisheries).

Year Added	Species	Breeding Site or Island Group	Action Plan
2011	1 Wandering Albatross	South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1]	http://www.gov.gs/albatross-action-plans/
	2 Black-browed Albatross	South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1]	http://www.gov.gs/albatross-action-plans/
	3 Tristan Albatross	Gough Island	Required Generic Tristan da Cunha Plan: http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/pub10_TristandaCunhaACAPplan.pdf
	4 Sooty Albatross	Crozet Island	Required

Year Added	Species	Breeding Site or Island Group	Action Plan
2016	5 Grey-headed Albatross	South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)[1]	http://www.gov.gs/albatross-action-plans/
	6 Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross	Amsterdam Island	Required Second National Plan of Action for the Amsterdam Albatross 2018-2027 includes some actions relevant to this population: https://reserve-australes.taaf.fr/en/protection/national-action-plan-for-the-amsterdam-albatross/
	7 Balearic Shearwater	Balearic Islands	International Species Action Plan for the Balearic shearwater, *Puffinus mauretanicus* 2011 (currently being updated)
	8 Waved Albatross	Espanola Island	AC4 Doc 50 Rev 4 and AC6 Doc 29 (currently being updated, see PaCSWG5 Inf 21)
2017	9 Antipodean Albatross	Antipodes Islands	CMS Concerted Action Plan (New Zealand, Chile, Australia)

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

8.2 Development of an ACAP strategy for Priority Populations

There were no papers submitted on this agenda item. PaCSWG6 recalled that a draft template for reporting on Priority Populations was developed and presented to PaCSWG5, but there was no agreement on the proposed document or reporting responsibilities. The Secretariat clarified that work was continuing on this template, which would also need to be discussed with SBWG in a planned joint meeting of the Working Groups in 2023. If endorsed by AC13, it would then become part of the regular reporting cycle via the ACAP database.

8.3. Proposals for high priority species or populations

There were no proposals for any additional high priority species or populations.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PaCSWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

1. Highlight the need to complete the revision and updating of the Binational Action Plan on the Waved Albatross, including a more concrete reference to tourism and related issues.

9. ACAP PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

9.1 Review the agreed indicators for population status, breeding site condition and tracking data availability

The Secretariat presented an update on breeding sites, populations, and tracking data indicators for ACAP species noting that these will be finalised early next year and reported to MoP7. The indicators analyse separately the original 26 species listed on Annex 1 of the Agreement in 2004, the 29 species listed in 2009, and the current 31 species. The number and percentage of breeding sites continuously monitored over a 10-year period has decreased since the last report, perhaps reflecting challenges experienced in the last 2 years as a result of COVID-19 related access issues.

PaCSWG noted that the information on breeding sites and populations is derived directly from the ACAP database and the tracking data is provided from the BirdLife International Seabird Tracking Database. The WG was encouraged to update these databases to ensure that the data available for the indicator analysis is as comprehensive and current as possible.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PaCSWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

1. Encourage data holders to submit their land-based indicators data to the Secretariat to enable the summary indicators to be reported accurately;
2. Encourage data holders to submit their tracking data to the BirdLife International Seabird Tracking Database to enable the summary of indicators to be reported accurately.

10. BEST-PRACTICE GUIDELINES AND OTHER ONLINE RESOURCES

10.1 Updates to existing guidelines

PaCSWG Co-convenor Marco Favero noted that the range of guidelines and links to external resources that are currently available on the ACAP website (http://www.acap.aq/en/resources/acap-conservation-guidelines) is increasing in scope. Recent additions concern rehabilitation of Procellariiformes, sampling seabirds for macro and micro plastics, and light pollution. Importantly, the ACAP guidelines can easily be updated as new information becomes available.

Working Group member Marcela Uhart advised that funds have been obtained recently to translate the rehabilitation guidelines from Portuguese into English and Spanish. She noted that guidelines on sampling bycaught and beached birds which were discussed at PaCSWG4 should also be available soon.

The Secretariat advised that the planned website redesign will help improve the visibility of the guidelines.

10.2 Guidelines on mitigating bird strikes from artificial light

PaCSWG6 Doc 03 presented National Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife, including Marine Turtles, Seabirds and Migratory Shorebirds developed by Australia. The guidelines provide detail about how to manage the effects of artificial light while ensuring human activities may be carried out safely at night. Appendix G outlines the various steps required to carry out an environmental impact assessment of artificial light on seabirds, including the development of a Light Management Plan. The plan provides a seabird mitigation toolbox that offers light management options for seabirds, both for land-based facilities and at-sea operations. In early 2020, CMS endorsed and adopted these guidelines. PaCSWG agreed to recommend that the Advisory Committee endorse the guidelines and encouraged Parties to circulate them within their environment agencies, given their relevance to marine turtles and shorebirds.

PaCSWG6 Inf 09 illustrated how the above guidelines were used by the Tasmanian Ports Corporation in the development of environmental standards for light pollution.

PaCSWG6 discussed light pollution specifically affecting ACAP species that breed in high latitudes, such as searchlights on vessels sailing in ice-bound areas.

Tatiana Neves informed the meeting that a new three-year project is commencing in Brazil looking at the impact of offshore oil and gas exploration structures on seabirds, including light attraction.

10.3 New guidelines

PaCSWG6 reflected on the need for guidelines which address potential threats to colonies, so that breeding sites can be appropriately managed to pre-empt problems. PaCSWG6 recalled that **PaCSWG2 Inf 01** on managing Southern Giant Petrel breeding sites in Argentina considers diverse risks from human activities and encouraged similar papers to be submitted to PaCSWG7.

PaCSWG6 noted that in light of **PaCSWG6 Inf 10**, the next meeting of PaCSWG could also consider the progress made in remote sensing methodologies, given this is a rapidly developing area, to gauge the need for new ACAP guidelines on this topic, or for updating the existing Census Methodology guidelines. Similarly, papers on acoustic monitoring would also be welcome.

Some concern was expressed regarding the ongoing expansion of offshore wind energy projects which overlap with foraging areas of ACAP species. PaCSWG6 noted the impacts and mitigation of such developments are articulated in the specific Environmental Impact Assessments conducted by the relevant jurisdictions.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PaCSWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

1. Endorse the light pollution guidelines for wildlife as an aid for assessing and managing the impact of artificial light on seabirds including albatrosses and petrels, noting the relevance of the guidelines to other susceptible wildlife.

11. ACAP FUNDED PROGRAMMES

11.1 Small Grants and Secondments 2019 and 2020

AC12 Inf 01 provided a summary of the conservation projects supported by ACAP small grants in the 2018, 2019 and 2020 rounds, and secondments awarded in the 2019 round. Several of the projects were delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2019 secondments are still on hold. There were no applications for secondments in the 2020 round, despite new ad hoc criteria having been developed to allow for travel-free secondments. There was, however, considerable interest in the ACAP Small Grants scheme in the 2020 round.

The Secretariat reported that the ACAP website would be updated over the coming months, to give greater prominence to the small grants and secondments. The Working Group expressed its thanks to the Secretariat and the Grants Sub-committee for their work on the grants and secondments.

PaCSWG6 Inf 21 reported on a project undertaken with a 2020 ACAP grant, of which the first phase has already been completed. The project integrates an onboard observer programme with satellite-tracking data to assess overlap of adult Chatham Albatross *T. eremita* (and subsequently Buller's Albatross *T. bulleri*) with small-scale longline fisheries in wintering areas in Peru.

PaCSWG6 welcomed news of the projects completed and those still underway.

11.2 Funding priorities for 2023 – 2025

PaCSWG agreed that several of the potential guidelines that had been discussed under agenda item 10 (including on acoustic and remote sensing, and on colony management) could be flagged as priorities for secondments or small grants.

In addition, potential threats to albatrosses and petrels from contaminants, persistent organic pollutants and other anthropogenic sources were discussed.

It was agreed that these priorities would be noted in the draft AC Work Programme for 2023-2025, to be recommended to the Advisory Committee (see Agenda Item 14.2)

12. LISTING OF SPECIES ON ANNEX 1

12.1 Proposals to list new species on Annex 1

There were no new proposals to list additional species on Annex 1. Nevertheless, PaCSWG noted the benefits of ensuring any future proposals are presented to the Advisory Committee immediately after a Meeting of the Parties to allow sufficient time for consideration ahead of the following MoP.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PaCSWG recommends that the Advisory Committee:

1. Reiterate to Parties the benefits of presenting any proposals to list new species on Annex 1 at the Advisory Committee meeting immediately following a Meeting of the Parties so that they can be considered in detail before the next MoP.

13. REVIEWS AND INFORMATION

PaCSWG6 Inf 19 reported on research into stranded procellariforms on the northern coast of Peru. PaCSWG6 welcomed this research and provided feedback to the authors on topics that would merit further investigation. The authors confirmed that they had many samples and photographs and planned to carry out further detailed analysis, particularly on ingested plastics.

14. FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME

14.1. Work Programme 2019 - 2022

The work programme for 2019 - 2022 **(AC12 Doc 15)** was updated based on discussions during the meeting for the consideration of the Advisory Committee.

14.2. Work Programme 2023 - 2025

The work programme for 2023 - 2025 **(AC12 Doc 16)** was reviewed based on discussions during the meeting for the consideration of the Advisory Committee.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no items raised under this agenda item.

16. REPORTING TO AC12

This report was prepared for consideration by the Advisory Committee.

17. CLOSING REMARKS

The Convenors and Vice-convenor thanked meeting participants and the authors of papers for their valuable contributions to the meeting. ACAP Secretariat was thanked for organising the meeting and progressing the work of the PaCSWG during the intersessional period. The Congress Rental team and interpreters were also gratefully acknowledged for their technical and interpretation services. The WG thanked the Convenors and Vice-convenor for chairing a successful and productive meeting.

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

PaCSWG6 MEETING PARTICIPANTS

PaCSWG Members	
Marco Favero (Co-convenor)	Instituto de Investigaciones Marinas y Costeras, National Research Council (CONICET), Argentina
Patricia Pereira Serafini (Co-convenor)	National Center for Bird Conservation and Research/ICMBio Instituto Chico Mendes de Conservação da Biodiversidade, Brazil
Richard Phillips (Vice-convenor)	British Antarctic Survey, United Kingdom & Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR)
Pep (José Manuel) Arcos	SEO/BirdLife
Jonathon Barrington	Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Australian Antarctic Division, Australia
Ana Bertoldi Carneiro	BirdLife International
Igor Debski	Department of Conservation, New Zealand
Elizabeth Flint	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, United States of America
Kathryn (Kate) Huyvaert	Colorado State University, USA
Verónica López	Oikonos Ecosystem Knowledge, Chile
Azwianewi Makhado	Department of Environmental Affairs, South Africa
Ken Morgan	Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment and Climate Change Canada
Megan Tierney	Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), UK
Marcela Uhart	Karen C. Drayer Wildlife Health Center, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, Davis, USA
Barbara Wienecke	Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Australian Antarctic Division, Australia
Advisory Committee Members, Advisors, and Officials	
Luis Adasme	Advisor, Chile
Regina Aguilar (L)	Advisor, Peru
Verônica Alberto Barros	AC Member, Brazil
Rubén Alemán (L)	Advisor, Ecuador
Sebastián Alvarado	Advisor, Ecuador
Lady Amaro	Advisor, Peru
Krishna Barros Bonavides (L)	Advisor, Brazil
Jennifer Chauca	Advisor, Peru
Victor Chocho	Alternate, Ecuador

Katie Clemens-Seely	Alternate, New Zealand
Luis Cocas	Alternate, Chile
Mike Double (L)	Advisor, Australia, and TWG Vice-convenor
Jessica Gálvez-Durand	Advisor, Peru
William Gibson	Advisor, New Zealand
Elisa Goya	AC member, Peru
Danny Guarderas	AC Member, Ecuador
Marco Herrera	Advisor, Ecuador
Sebastián Jiménez	SBWG Vice-convenor, Uruguay
Lachlan John (L)	Advisor, Australia
Mandi Livesey (L)	Alternate, Australia
Anna MacDonald (L)	Advisor, Australia
Stephanie Martin (L)	Advisor, United Kingdom
Anne Martinussen (L)	AC Member, Norway
Makhudu Masothla (L)	Advisor, South Africa
Julie McInnes (L)	Advisor, Australia
María Andrea Meza	Advisor, Peru
Geanella Ochoa	Advisor, Ecuador
Andrea Polanowski	Advisor, Australia
Javier Antonio Quiñones Davila	Advisor, Peru
Sofia Rivadeneyra (L)	Advisor, Peru
Doris Rodriguez	Advisor, Peru
Frida Rodriguez (L)	Advisor, Peru
Aixa Rodriguez Avendaño (L)	Advisor, Argentina
Cynthia Romero	Advisor, Peru
Leonor Rosero Narváez	Advisor, Ecuador
Cristián Suazo (L)	Advisor, Chile
Tatiana Neves	AC Vice-chair
Mark Tasker	AC Member, United Kingdom, and TWG Convenor
Observers	
Yuliana Bedolla Guzmán (L)	Grupo de Ecología y Conservación de Islas, A.C., Mexico
Stephanie Borrelle	BirdLife International
Nigel Brothers	Humane Society International
Chun-Ching Cheng (L)	Chinese Taipei

Rory Crawford (L)	BirdLife International
Esteban Frere (L)	BirdLife International
Dimas Gianuca	BirdLife International
Eric Kershner (L)	USA
Mi Ae Kim (L)	USA
Ting-Yu Kuo (L)	Chinese Taipei
Federico Méndez Sánchez (L)	Grupo de Ecología y Conservación de Islas, A.C., Mexico
Daisuke Ochi	Fisheries Resource Institute, Japan
Alice Pereira (L)	Projeto Albatroz, Brazil
Roberta Swift (L)	USA
Yonat Swimmer (L)	USA
Desmond Tom (L)	Namibia
SachikoTsuji	Fisheries Resource Institute, Japan
Alexia Wellbelove (L)	Humane Society International
Richard Wells (L)	Seafood New Zealand
Yu-Min Yeh	Chinese Taipei
Secretariat	
Christine Bogle	Executive Secretary
John Cooper (L)	Information Officer
Wiesława Misiak	Science Officer
Keith Reid	Meeting support
Interpreters	
Cecilia Alal	
Joelle Coussaert	
Claire Garteiser	
Sandra Hale	

(L) Listening only attendees

PaCSWG MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING PaCSWG6

Javier Arata	Chile
Barry Baker	Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies, University of Tasmania, Australia
Leandro Bugoni	Universidade Federal do Rio Grande (FURG), Brazil
Karine Delord	Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS), France
Sebastien Descamps	Norwegian Polar Institute, Norway
Rosemary Gales	Australia

Gustavo Jiménez-Uzcátegui	Charles Darwin Foundation, Ecuador
Marcela Mónica Libertelli	Instituto Antártico Argentino, Argentina
Daniel Oro	Grupo d'Ecologia de Poblacions, IMEDEA (CSIC-UIB), Spain
Flavio Quintana	National Research Council of Argentina (CONICET), Argentina
Paul Sagar	NIWA, New Zealand
Henri Weimerskirch	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

Island Group	Breeding site	Species	Threat species	Nature of threat	Current Threat Magnitude	ongoing management actions or why no management response in place	why management response was or was not effective	Additional comments
Tasmania	Albatross Island (AU)	*Thalassarche cauta*	(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.		Nature of disease that affects chicks is poorly understood. Avian pox virus has been detected - mortality of chicks is due to a combination of factors.
	Pedra Branca	*Thalassarche cauta*	*Morus serrator* (Australasian gannet)	Habitat loss or destruction - Increased competition with native species	High	None.		Level of threat to be confirmed. Gannets are increasing throughout their range, and this is evident at Pedra Branca. Number of albatross chicks produced annually has declined & inter-specific interactions observed. Cause & effect needs confirmation.
Islote Albatros	Islote Albatros	*Thalassarche melanophris*	*Neovison vison* (American mink)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	Traps for removing all american minks have being implemented in the islet during breeding season 2015/16.		

Island Group	Breeding site	Species	Threat species	Nature of threat	Current Threat Magnitude	ongoing management actions or why no management response in place	why management response was or was not effective	Additional comments
Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)[1]	New Island	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	Some control of cats was initiated in 2014, and a number of individuals have been shot since then.		Feral cats on New Island feed predominantly on Cottontail Rabbits, Black Rats and Thin-billed Prions (Quillfeldt et al. 2008). There is some evidence that Feral Cats prey on the chicks of White-chinned Petrels, but in spite of this, the relatively small colony of White-chinned Petrels at New Island has remained stable since 1972 (Reid et al. 2007). The current policy at New Island, as expressed in Strange (2007), is to continue to monitor the impact of all invasive mammals to understand better the interactions between the suite of alien species present on the island, and prepare and implement plans, as far as is practicable to control their populations or, where possible, to eradicate them.
Galapagos	Isla Espanola	*Phoebastria irrorata*	(Mosquito)	Parasite or pathogen - Parasite	Low	Se continua con los monitoreos de enfermedades en los cuadrantes. (Continued monitoring of vectors and affected individuals).		Mosquito biting is a known cause of egg abandonment.
Isla de La Plata	Isla de La Plata	*Phoebastria irrorata*		Human disturbance - Recreation/tourism	High	Durante la temporada de anidación se cierra el Sendero "Machete" para evitar el stress a los albatros. (During nesting, the tourist trail "Machete" is closed to tourists to avoid stressing birds).	Aumento del éxito reproductivo. (Reproductive success improved).	Visitantes en el sendero "Machete" causa stress a los padres que pueden abandonar al nido, reduciendo su éxito reproductivo.

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	Isla de La Plata	*Phoebastria irrorata*		Stress by alien species - Nest desertion	High	Control de la poblaciónmediante veneno (anticcoagulante) en sitios sensibles	Se mantiene controlada la población lo que se manifiesta en el aumento del éxito reproductivo.	La rata produce stress a los padres que abandonan al huevo / polluelo y depreda a los huevos.
Amsterdam and St Paul	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux	*Procellaria cinerea*	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low			
	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux	*Procellaria cinerea*	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low			
	Falaise d'Entrecasteaux	*Thalassarche carteri*	*Pasteurella multocida* (Avian cholera)	Parasite or pathogen - Pathogen	High			Principally linked to chickens
	Ile Amsterdam	*Phoebetria fusca*	*Pasteurella multocida* (Avian cholera)	Parasite or pathogen - Pathogen	High			Principally linked to chickens
Crozet	Ile de la Possession	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	rodenticide used annually on study colonies		
Kerguelen	Baie Larose	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low			

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Kerguelen	Baie Larose	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low			
	Baie Larose	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	*Rangifer tarandus* (Reindeer)	Habitat loss or destruction - Habitat destruction by alien species	Low			
	Courbet Peninsula	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	managed locally		
	Courbet Peninsula	*Diomedea exulans*	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	managed locally		Research carried out at Kerguelen has shown that feral cats on Péninsule Courbet affects breeding success and rate of population growth rate of wandering albatross (Barbraud et al. 2021)
	Courbet Peninsula	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low			
	Golfe du Morbihan	*Procellaria cinerea*	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low			eradicated on Chateau Island (2002) and on Australia Island (2005).
	Golfe du Morbihan	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low			eradicated on Chateau Island (2002) and on Australia Island (2005).
	Golfe du Morbihan	*Procellaria cinerea*	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low			

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Kerguelen	Golfe du Morbihan	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low			
	Golfe du Morbihan	*Procellaria cinerea*	*Rangifer tarandus* (Reindeer)	Habitat loss or destruction - Habitat destruction by alien species	Low			
	Golfe du Morbihan	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	*Rangifer tarandus* (Reindeer)	Habitat loss or destruction - Habitat destruction by alien species	Low			
	Ile Saint Lanne Gramont	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low			
	Ile Saint Lanne Gramont	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low			
	Joffre Peninsula	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low			
	Joffre Peninsula	*Procellaria aequinoctialis*	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low			
	Joffre Peninsula	*Procellaria cinerea*	*Rangifer tarandus* (Reindeer)	Habitat loss or destruction - Habitat destruction by alien species	Low			

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Kerguelen	Joffre Peninsula	*Procellaria cinerea*	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low			
	Joffre Peninsula	*Procellaria cinerea*	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low			
Auckland Islands	Auckland Island	*Diomedea epomophora*	*Sus scrofa* (Pig)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	Feasibility investigations and project planning for eradication of pigs, cats and mice from Auckland Island, totalling NZD 2 million investment to date, have been completed. A number of challenges and uncertainties remain to be overcome, including securing funding and support for the duration of an eradication programme. The project was paused in April 2020 due to the financial impacts of Covid-19		
	Auckland Island	*Thalassarche steadi*	*Sus scrofa* (Pig)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low			
	Auckland Island	*Thalassarche steadi*	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low			
	Auckland Island	*Diomedea antipodensis*	*Sus scrofa* (Pig)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low			
Balearic Archipelago	Cabrera	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	No measures taken. Local government not prone to address actions to control cats, fear of social opposition.		Detected in Picamosques islet, along with Genet. Cat reported in one out of 6 breeding islets in Cabrera, affecting about 10% of the local population. No detailed information.

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Balearic Archipelago	Formentera	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	High	No detailed information, nor measures taken (except old eradication in a small islet, Espalmador). Local government not prone to address actions to control cats, fear of social opposition.		Present in 3 out of 5 colonies (plus eradicated in another) including the historically largest one of the species, which has apparently declined severely in recent years, affecting 89.5% of the current population in Formentera. Predation known, not quantified.
	Formentera	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	No measures taken (old erradication, incomplete, in Espalmador)		Present in 4 out of 5 sites, which hold about 94% of the Formentera population. No effect quantified, apparently far less impacting than cats.
	Ibiza	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	*Rattus rattus* (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)		Most islets have rat presence in varying densities, affecting 93% of the estimated population. There have been trials of eradication, apparently not completed - and/or no monitoring programme afterwards. Impact on breeding success, apparently not severe, at least for some islets (e.g. Conillera; higher impact in Bosc). Biosecurity guidelines being prepared for the W Ibiza islets (ongoing work under LIFE project PanPuffinus)
	Mallorca	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	Action recently taken in Dragonera by local administration. Eradication in 2011, and follow-up work ongoing.		Formerly present in 3 out of 4 colonies, recently eradicated in Dragonera (2012), with current monitoring. Also eradication projects in Conills and Malgrat, but not post-monitoring, probably present (?). Apparently low impact, no severe effects on breeding success.

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Balearic Archipelago	Menorca	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	*Felis catus* (Cat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	High	Local government not prone to address actions to control cats, fear of social opposition.		Present in Mola de MaÃ³, where the major colony of Menorca is located (>75% of the local population). Predation is severe, on chicks and adults in the past (up to >20 adult corpses found in a single visit), but currently there does not seem to be predation (cats confirmed in the neighbourhood with camera traps, but none in the colony since installation of cameras in 2018). Also presence of marten (Martes martes), weasel (Mustela nivalis), with no evidence of predation.
	Menorca	*Puffinus mauretanicus*	*Rattus rattus* (Black (ship) rat)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	Some eradication trials in Mola de Mao (no success).		Present in almost all colonies (except Illa de l'Aire). Events of predation on eggs, but no apparent severe impact on breeding performance. Current work of monitoring with cameras.

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Gough	Gough Island	*Diomedea dabbenena*	*Mus musculus* (House mouse)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	High	The Gough Island Restoration Programme led by RSPB and Tristan da Cunha Island Council has now completed two all island bait drops to eradicate the mice. The UK Government, charitable foundations and private individuals have supported this £10.5 million programme though further fundraising is still needed. The success of the eradication will be evaluated in two year's time.		
Gough	Gough Island	*Procellaria cinerea*	*Mus musculus* (House mouse)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low			An impact on this species has been assumed because House Mice are affecting Tristan Albatross and burrow-nesting, summer-breeding petrels. 60% of chicks failed (n=35 hatchlings) reported by Dilley et al 2015.
Hawaii	Kaula	*Phoebastria nigripes*		Human disturbance - Military action	High	The island is managed by the U.S. military and is used as a bombing target during military training.		The island is used as a bombing range for non-exploding ordnance.
Hawaii	Kaula	*Phoebastria immutabilis*		Human disturbance - Military action	High	The island is still used as a bombing range for military training.		The island is used by the U.S. Navy as a bombing range for non-exploding ordnance.
Hawaii	Kure Atoll	*Phoebastria nigripes*		Habitat loss or destruction - Vegetation encroachment	Low	Ongoing eradication program using herbicide and manual control		

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Hawaii	Kure Atoll	*Phoebastria immutabilis*		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	High	Propagation and planting of Scaevola sericea that encourages dune growth and stabilization		Loss of nests by periodic inundation due to tidal surges, storms and tsunamis.
	Kure Atoll	*Phoebastria nigripes*		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	High			
	Laysan Island	*Phoebastria nigripes*		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	High	Continue protection of the low Northwestern Hawaiian Islands to maintain healthy populations while initiating new colonies in the main Hawaiian islands.		Loss of nests by periodic inundation due to tidal surges, storms and tsunamis, especially in low-lying areas.
	Laysan Island	*Phoebastria immutabilis*		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	High			
	Lisianski Island	*Phoebastria immutabilis*		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	High			Loss of nests by periodic inundation due to tidal surges, storms and tsunamis.
	Lisianski Island	*Phoebastria nigripes*		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	High			
	Midway Atoll	*Phoebastria immutabilis*	*Mus musculus* (House mouse)	Predation by alien species - Predation by alien species	Low	Mouse population suppression in the affected areas using trapping and rodenticide. Eradication feasibility study completed in summer 2017. Bait uptake trials completed and implementation planning underway.		However, population increasing, so flagged as "not a real threat". but recent increases in mouse predation rates and potential exposure of ~ 50% of world breeding population warrants revisiting threat status.
Hawaii	Pearl and Hermes Reef	*Phoebastria nigripes*		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	High			Loss of nests, especially those in low-lying areas, by periodic inundation due to tidal surges, storms and tsunamis.

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	Pearl and Hermes Reef	*Phoebastria immutabilis*		Natural disaster - Sea-level rise	High			Loss of nests by periodic inundation due to tidal surges, storms and tsunamis, especially in low lying areas.

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