



Conference Call

1700 GMT (Thursday in N. Am. & Europe), 11 April, 2013

WSU Member Organizations & Representatives				
Member Organization	Representative	Role^a	Apr 4	Apr 11
African Seabird Group	Ross Wanless	P		A
American Bird Conservancy	George Wallace	P		A
Argentine Seabird Group	^b Pablo Yorio, South America	P		A
Argentine Seabird Group	Esteban Frere	A		
Australasian Seabird Group	Peter Dann	P		
Australasian Seabird Group	^b Nicholas Carlile, Australasia, Secretary	A		A
BirdLife International, Global Seabird Programme	Ben Sullivan	P		
BirdLife International, Global Seabird Programme	John Croxall	A		A
Circumpolar Seabird Group (CBird)	^b Dave Irons, Chair	P		A
Dutch Seabird Group	^b Kees Camphuysen, Europe	P		
Dutch Seabird Group	JA (Jan) van Franeker	A		
European Seabirds at Sea Group	Stefan Garthe	P		
Indian Ocean Seabird Group	^b Matthieu Le Corre, Africa/Indian Ocean	P		
Indian Ocean Seabird Group	Nic Dunlop	A		
Japan Seabird Group	^b Yutaka Watanuki, Asia	P		
Medmaravis	Carles Carboneras	P		
NW Atlantic Marine Bird Cooperative	Melanie Steinkamp	P		A
Ornithological Society of New Zealand	Graeme Taylor	P		
Pacific Seabird Group	^b Pat Jodice, North America	P		A
Pacific Seabird Group	Michelle Kappes	A		
Peruvian Assn for the Conservation of Nature	Liliana Ayala	P		
Peruvian Assn for the Conservation of Nature	Raul Sanchez-Scaglioni	A		
Royal Naval Birdwatching Society	Steve Copsey	P		
Royal Naval Birdwatching Society	Mark Cutts	A		
Soc for the Conservation & Study of Caribbean Birds	Will Mackin	P		
The Seabird Group	Russell Wynn	P		
The Seabird Group	Ellie Owen	A		
The Waterbird Society	^b Betty Anne Schreiber, Treasurer	P		
Waterbird Conservation of the Americas	Jennifer Wheeler	P		
^a Role: P=Primary Representative, A=Alternate Representative ^b Board member				
Associate Members (non-voting)				
Associate Member Organizations	Contacts			
Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels	Mark Tasker & Marco Favero			
Associação de Pesquisa e Preservação de Ecossistemas Aquáticos	Caio Carlos			
Global Penguin Society	Pablo Garcia Borboroglu & Dee Boersma			
Prodelphinus Peru	Jeffery Mangel			
SCAR Expert Group on Birds and Marine Mammals	Mark Hindell & Yan Ropert-Coudert			
WSU Development Team				
Seabirds.net	Grant Humphries			R
WSU Secretariat	Marischal De Armond			A
Global Seabird Colony Register	Robb Kaler			A
MortalityIndex	Julia Parrsh			A
At-Sea Seabird Database	Kathy Kuletz			
Attendance: A = Attended				

Minutes

1. Call to order

D Irons called the April 11th meeting to order at 17:02 GMT. Due to a lack of available board members the April 4th meeting was not convened.



2. **WSU Society Matters**

D Irons noted that Betty Anne Schrieber has now opened a WSU bank account. Expecting \$9K of the \$17K due from PSG (from WSC1) to be deposited shortly

J Croxall confirmed that the WSU Annual Report is effectively completed and will be circulated to the Board and to the WSU members shortly

J Croxall also confirmed that a meeting of WSU members in attendance at the PSG meeting in Portland took place and the minutes of this “mini-meeting” have been circulated and will be added to the seabirds.net website

3. **World Seabird Conference 2**

J Croxall will be meeting with R Wanless in London shortly to develop the full bid and is asking for the Board’s commitment towards a Capetown, South Africa bid provisionally scheduled for Oct 12-16, 2015. The board had previously accepted the overture and related key next steps as presented at the Jan 2013 meeting. This plan was reinforced by members on this call. J Croxall asked that the first step (ie. preliminary “mark the date” announcement) now proceed and is also asking for input from the Board for the information that need to be included in the bid, to ensure they can move to completing the host bid and moving to next steps 3, 4 & 5.

R Wanless noted that the proposed conference dates align with other key seabird related events during this time including an important Seabird Festival and is expected to benefit from government and other institutional support and greater awareness as a result of the related events.

ACTION: Board members to clarify and send to J Croxall and R Wanless, prior to Apr 23rd, key items that need to be included in the full formal bid.

ACTION: Board members to begin identifying potential candidates from their respective organizations to serve on WSU2 committees (Funding, Scientific Planning, Awards et al)

4. **Legacy Developments**

a. **Seabirds.net**

G Humphries circulated a summary of activities to date inviting comment from the Board on key action items and initiatives. The report included an important initiative to internationalize the site. This project is estimated to cost \$10,000 NZ.

J Croxall invited Board members to identify potential agencies where monies might be sourced to underwrite the project costs



ACTION: All board members are to identify potential funding sources for Seabird.net initiatives and to circulate suggestions to Grant Humphries and D Irons prior to the July Meeting

b. Seabird colony databases (monitoring & register)

R Kaler – progress is positive with back-end changes moving forward. Additionally, an excel template is being completed to assist with connecting database entries that among other items will reduce data input errors. Coordination is on-going with Axiom, M Le Corre and W Mackin to integrate their respective Indian Ocean and Caribbean data resources. Test runs are expected in June after some internal testing with M Le Corre and other internal users.

Coordination of NW African and African colony efforts with K Camphuysen and R Wanless data remain a work in progress

R Wanless noted there is interest in Seabird Colony Database model for an African wide database focussed on colonial waterbird populations

c. Seabird tracking databases

J Croxall – Birdlife Intl has had funding success for one of their databases and will be bringing this initiative forward at upcoming events to bring additional stakeholders to the table

d. Seabird-at-sea databases

D Irons noted that K Kuletz had no updates to report since the last report.

e. Indicators of performance, productivity and population status

D Irons noted that there was no report to table on this subject

f. Mortality events

D Irons, noted that J Parrish, J Croxall and Charlie Wright (from J Parrish office) met at PSG in Portland and have formulated a plan to move forward

J Parrish outlined the plan by explaining that one of the first tasks is to define what a mortality database looks like.



Stage 1 — contact worldwide beach bird programs, extant and existing, to collect metadata survey results on existing mortality events. With these data, work would then proceed on developing a statistical indices based on various parameters

Stage 2 – design & test statistical models for developing quantifiable results. Existing COASST models would be modelled before incorporating the gathered input from others on developing a specific database format and mapping function

5. Other Business

D Irons referred to C Carboneras's recently distributed update on his Banding project

6. Next Conference Calls

Atlantic Call 1700 GMT 11 July, 2013,
Pacific Call 2400 GMT 18 July, 2013

7. Adjournment

D Irons adjourned the meeting at 17:50 GMT