



Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

Sixth Meeting of Advisory Committee

Guayaquil, Ecuador, 29 August – 2 September 2011

Report on the Implementation of the Agreement 2008-2011 – New Zealand

New Zealand

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Report for the Meeting of Parties - MOP-4 (2012)

Submitted by - New Zealand

Coverage of report - New Zealand

1. Overview of implementation of Agreement and Action Plan

1.1 Has action been taken to implement the decisions of previous MoPs? Yes

1.2 Is action for national implementation planned to occur in the next three years? Yes

2. Species conservation

2.1 Has the Party provided any exemptions to prohibitions on the taking or harmful interference with albatrosses and petrels? No
 Note: New Zealand’s Wildlife Act provides for the cultural harvest of sooty shearwater (*Puffinus griseus*) and grey-faced petrel (*Pterodroma macroptera*) subject to Minister’s notification and conditions.

2.2 Has any use or trade in albatrosses or petrels occurred? Yes
 Seabird carcasses (e.g. fisheries bycaught birds) of a number of species (including ACAP species), have continued to be made available for customary use as traditional materials.

2.3 Has the Party implemented any new single or multi-species conservation strategies / Action Plans? No
 Note: a number of relevant strategies and plans are currently under cyclical review, including:
 Conservation Management Strategies
 National Plan of Action Seabirds
 Conservation Services Programme 5 year Strategic and Research Plans

2.4 Has the Party taken any emergency measures involving albatrosses or petrels? No

2.5 Has the Party conducted any re-establishment schemes? No
 Note: New Zealand has continued to conduct a number of re-establishment projects for non-ACAP seabird species.

2.6 Has the Party introduced any new legal or policy instruments for species protection of albatrosses and petrels? Not answered

2.7 Has the Party implemented any legal or policy instruments for environmental impact assessments? No

2.8 Does the Party have any species it would like to submit for addition to Annex 1? No

2.9 Are there any other conservation projects for ACAP species not already mentioned? Yes
 New Zealand has continued to conduct a number of research and monitoring projects of ACAP species, including the following species:
 Northern Royal Albatross *Diomedea sanfordi*
 Antipodean Albatross *Diomedea antipodensis*
 Grey-headed Albatross *Thalassarche chrysostoma*
 Black-browed Albatross *Thalassarche melanophris*
 Campbell Albatross *Thalassarche impavida*
 Buller’s Albatross *Thalassarche bulleri*
 White-capped Albatross *Thalassarche steadi*
 Chatham Albatross *Thalassarche eremita*
 Salvin’s Albatross *Thalassarche salvini*
 White-chinned Petrel *Procellaria aequinoctialis*
 Black Petrel *Procellaria parkinsoni*
 Westland Petrel *Procellaria westlandica*

Grey Petrel *Procellaria cinerea*
 Some recent reports and publications include:
<http://www.doc.govt.nz/publications/conservation/marine-and-coastal/marine-conservation-services/csp-reports/population-parameters-of-black-petrels-on-great-barrier-aotea-island-2009-10/>
<http://www.doc.govt.nz/publications/conservation/marine-and-coastal/marine-conservation-services/other-publications/bullers-albatross-2010-field-report/>
<http://www.doc.govt.nz/publications/conservation/marine-and-coastal/marine-conservation-services/csp-reports/white-capped-albatrosses-alter-fine-scale-foraging-behavior-patterns-when-associated-with-fishing-vessels/>
 Landers, TJ, Rayner, MJ, Phillips, RA, Hauber, ME. 2011 Dynamics of Seasonal Movements by a Trans-Pacific Migrant, the Westland Petrel. *The Condor* Vol. 113, No. 1 (February 2011) (pp. 71-79)
 (<http://www.jstor.org/stable/info/10.1525/cond.2011.100064>)

3. Habitat conservation

- 3.1 Has the Party introduced any legal or policy instruments or actions to implement protection and management of breeding sites, including habitat restoration? No
 Note: existing efforts continued, including quarantine measures and maintenance of pest-free status or pest control at many breeding sites
- 3.2 Has the Party implemented any sustainable management measures for marine living resources which provide food for albatrosses and petrels? No
 Note: Fishery resources continue to be managed under New Zealand's Quota Management System
- 3.3 Has the Party implemented any management or protection of important marine areas for albatrosses and petrels? Yes
 Campbell Island, Bounty Islands and the Antipodes Island Group marine reserves have recently been approved
<http://www.doc.govt.nz/about-doc/news/media-releases/subantarctic-islands-to-become-marine-reserves/>
 A process is underway to identify marine areas for protection off the west coast of the South Island, including areas adjacent to the Westland petrel breeding colony:
<http://www.westmarine.org.nz/>

4. Management of human activities

- 4.1 Has the Party completed any new environmental impact assessments related to albatrosses and petrels? Yes
 Two risk assessments for incidental bycatch of seabirds, including ACAP species, by New Zealand fisheries:
 Level 1 Risk Assessment for Incidental Seabird Mortality Associated with New Zealand Fisheries in the NZ-EEZ:
 Rowe, S. Research Report, Department of Conservation, Wellington, New Zealand.
<http://www.doc.govt.nz/publications/conservation/marine-and-coastal/marine-conservation-services/other-publications/level-1-risk-assessment-for-incidentalseabird-mortality-associated-with-new-zealand-fisheries-in-the-nz-eez/>
 Assessment of the risk to seabird populations from New Zealand commercial fisheries (Level 2):
 Richard, Y, Abraham, E, Filippi, D. Final Research Report prepared for the Ministry of Fisheries, Wellington, New Zealand (project IPA2009/19, Objective 1 Milestone 4; project IPA2009/20, Objective 1, Milestone 4)
http://www.fish.govt.nz/NR/rdonlyres/6A38D8A4-6AE7-473B-AC94-BE59B1B3E79C/0/FRR_Seabird_risk_assessmen_2011t.pdf
- 4.2 Has the Party implemented any new measures to minimise discharge of pollutants and marine debris (MARPOL)? Yes
 In addition to existing measures a Regional Coastal Plan is being developed for New Zealand's sub-Antarctic Islands which includes measures related to pollution, disturbance and biosecurity:
<http://www.doc.govt.nz/getting-involved/consultations/current/proposed-regional-coastal-plan-kermadec-and-subantarctic-islands/>

4.3 Has the Party introduced any new measures to minimise the disturbance to albatrosses and petrels in marine and terrestrial habitats? Yes
 In addition to existing measures a Regional Coastal Plan is being developed for New Zealand's sub-Antarctic Islands which includes measures related to pollution, disturbance and biosecurity:
<http://www.doc.govt.nz/getting-involved/consultations/current/proposed-regional-coastal-plan-kermadec-and-subantarctic-islands/>

5. Research programmes

5.1 Does the Party have any ongoing research programmes relating to the conservation of albatrosses and petrels not already reported on? No

5.2 Does the Party have any additional national institutions (authorities or research centres), or NGOs involved in albatross and petrel conservation? Yes
 Ministry of Fisheries
 National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Ltd
 National Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa
 World Wide Fund for Nature New Zealand
 Environment and Conservation Organisations of Aotearoa New Zealand
 Southern Seabird Solutions
 Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand
 Ornithological Society of New Zealand
 New Zealand Seafood Industry Council Limited
 Deepwater Group Limited
 New Zealand Federation of Commercial Fishermen

6. Education and public awareness

6.1 Has the Party conducted training or provided information for user audiences (eg scientists, fishers, etc)? Yes
 Training of fisheries observers in seabird identification, bycatch mechanisms, and mitigation.
 Bycatch awareness and mitigation training to commercial fishers, including work shops, newsletters and manuals.

6.2 Has the Party conducted training or provided information to the general public? Yes
 General media releases and web-based information.
 All Government commissioned research and policy is reported via the web, e.g. <http://www.doc.govt.nz/mcs> and <http://www.fish.govt.nz/en-nz/Environmental/Seabirds/>
 Many stakeholder organisations listed in 5.2 maintain seabird-related material on their web pages or in their publications

7. Other

Does the Party have any new information to report on research into observed impacts, or mitigation of, climate change on albatrosses and petrels? No

8. Additional Comments

Final submission details

Report is closed for editing.

Status - New -

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