 <p data-bbox="215 542 456 580">Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels</p>	<p data-bbox="576 248 1382 286">Fourteenth Meeting of the Advisory Committee</p> <p data-bbox="871 309 1382 347"><i>Lima, Peru, 12 – 16 August 2024</i></p> <p data-bbox="502 421 1366 517">Draft Report on Progress with the Implementation of the Agreement 2022 - 2024</p> <p data-bbox="847 607 1027 645"><i>Secretariat</i></p>
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[DRAFT DOCUMENT TO BE UPDATED FOLLOWING AC14]

SUMMARY

This report has been prepared under Article IX(6)(d) of the Agreement and includes a collation of information provided under Article X(j) by Parties through the Secretariat under Article VII(1)(c) and Article VIII(10). Four Parties submitted implementation reports that were used to compile this report.

The final version of this report to MoP8 will be prepared after the conclusion of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC14), to reflect inputs from the Advisory Committee, and actions and decisions taken during this meeting.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Advisory Committee is requested to:

1. Review the information contained in this document and endorse reporting it to MoP8 to determine progress with implementation of the Agreement.
2. Suggest any additional recommendations for MoP8 that might arise from discussions during AC14.

1. SUMMARY OF REPORTS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT

This draft report will provide the basis for reporting to MoP8 on progress made with implementation of the Agreement, as required under Article IX(6)(d).

The key objectives for reporting on the implementation of the Agreement are to:

1. provide information regarding the assessment of progress towards the objectives of the Agreement;
2. gather information on lessons learned, including successes and failures, in order to conduct albatross and petrel conservation in the most efficient and effective manner;

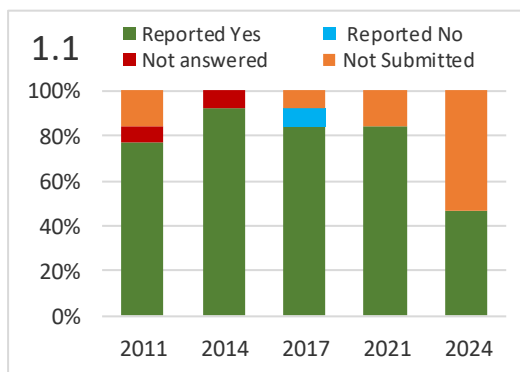
3. identify further research and conservation actions to be carried out; and
4. provide a resource on albatross and petrel conservation.

This summary report has been prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with the revised process agreed to at MoP3, using the electronic reporting system developed in 2010 - 2011. The information provided by Parties is detailed in full in Information Papers submitted to AC14 (**AC14 Inf 02 to AC14 Inf 07**).

Implementation Reports were received from six Parties (46% of Parties). This was lower than the level of response in previous years - 85% (2011), 100% (2014), 92% (2017), and 85% (2021). Reports were not received from Chile, Ecuador, France, Norway, South Africa, Spain, or Uruguay. The reports cover the period since the last round of implementation reporting closed in April 2021, to May 2024 when current reports were due. 2024 was the fifth reporting round using a consistent format; figures illustrating response trends over time for all Parties are provided for each question, except Questions 7 and 8 on priorities for land-based and at-sea conservation actions. An overview of the responses received is provided in **Table 1**.

1.1. Overview of implementation of Agreement and Action Plan

1.1.1. Has action been taken to implement the decisions of previous MoPs?



This question now contains subsections addressing specific actions endorsed in the report of the preceding MoP or agreed to in a Resolution from that meeting. See individual Party Reports (**AC14 Inf 02 - AC14 Inf 07**) for details.

Table 1. Summary of actions undertaken by ACAP Parties in 2022 - 2024 in relation to implementation of the Agreement and Action Plan.

	Argentina	Australia	Brazil	Chile	Ecuador	France	New Zealand	Norway	Peru	South Africa	Spain	United Kingdom	Uruguay
1. Overview of implementation													
1.1 Has action been taken to implement the decisions of previous MoPs?	✓	✓	✓	-	-	-	✓	-	✓	-	-	✓	-
1.2 Is action for national implementation planned to occur in the next three years?	✓	✓	✓	-	-	-	✓	-	✓	-	-	✓	-
2. Species Conservation – Has the Party:													
2.1 provided any exemptions to prohibitions on the taking or harmful interference with albatrosses and petrels?	✗	✗	✗	-	-	-	✗	-	✗	-	-	✗	-
2.2 Has any use or trade in albatrosses or petrels occurred? (e.g. for scientific purposes)	✗	✗	✓	-	-	-	✓	-	✗	-	-	✗	-
2.3 implemented any new single or multi-species conservation strategies / Action Plans?	✗	✓	✓	-	-	-	✓	-	✗	-	-	✓	-
2.4 taken any emergency measures involving albatrosses or petrels?	✗	✗	✓	-	-	-	✗	-	✓	-	-	✗	-
2.5 conducted any re-establishment schemes?	✗	✗	✗	-	-	-	✗	-	✗	-	-	✗	-
2.6 introduced any new legal or policy instruments for species protection of albatrosses and petrels?	✗	✓	✗	-	-	-	✗	-	✗	-	-	✓	-
2.7 implemented any legal or policy instruments for environmental impact assessments?	✓	✓	✗	-	-	-	✗	-	✗	-	-	✗	-
2.8 Does the Party have any species it would like to submit for addition to Annex 1?	✗	✗	✗	-	-	-	✗	-	✗	-	-	✗	-
2.9 Are there any other conservation projects for ACAP species not already mentioned?	✗	✗	✓	-	-	-	✓	-	✗	-	-	✗	-
3. Habitat Conservation - Has the Party:													
3.1 introduced any legal or policy instruments or actions to implement protection and management of breeding sites, including habitat restoration?	✗	✗	N/A	-	-	-	✗	-	N/A	-	-	✓	N/A

	Argentina	Australia	Brazil	Chile	Ecuador	France	New Zealand	Norway	Peru	South Africa	Spain	United Kingdom	Uruguay
3.2 implemented any sustainable management measures for marine living resources which provide food for albatrosses and petrels?	✓	✗	✗	—	—	—	✗	—	✗	—	—	✓	—
3.3 implemented any management or protection of important marine areas for albatrosses and petrels?	✓	✓	✓	—	—	—	✗	—	✓	—	—	✓	—
4. Management of human activities - Has the Party:													
4.1 completed any new environmental impact assessments related to albatrosses and petrels?	✓	✗	✗	—	—	—	✓	—	✗	—	—	✗	—
4.2 implemented any new measures to minimise discharge of pollutants and marine debris (MARPOL)?	✗	✓	✗	—	—	—	✗	—	✗	—	—	✗	—
4.3 introduced any new measures to minimise the disturbance to albatrosses and petrels in marine and terrestrial habitats?	✗	✗	✗	—	—	—	✓	—	✗	—	—	✓	—
5. Research Programmes - Does the Party have any:													
5.1 ongoing research programmes relating to the conservation of albatrosses and petrels not already reported on?	✗	✗	✓	—	—	—	✗	—	✗	—	—	✓	—
5.2 new national institutions (authorities or research centres), or NGOs involved in albatross and petrel conservation?	✗	✗	✗	—	—	—	✗	—	✗	—	—	✓	—
6. Education and Public Awareness – Has the Party:													
6.1 conducted training or provided information for user audiences (eg scientists, fishers, etc)?	✓	✓	✓	—	—	—	✓	—	✓	—	—	✓	—
6.2 conducted training or provided information to the general public?	✓	✓	✓	—	—	—	✓	—	✓	—	—	✓	—
9. Other													
9.1 Does the Party have any new information to report on research into observed impacts, or mitigation of, climate change on albatrosses and petrels?	✗	✓	✗	—	—	—	✗	—	✗	—	—	✗	—

✓ Yes

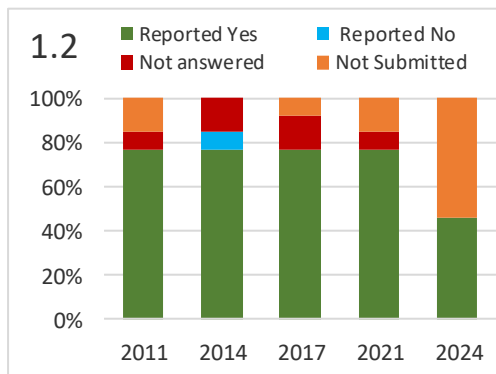
✗ No

N/A Not applicable

? not answered

— Report not submitted at time of compilation

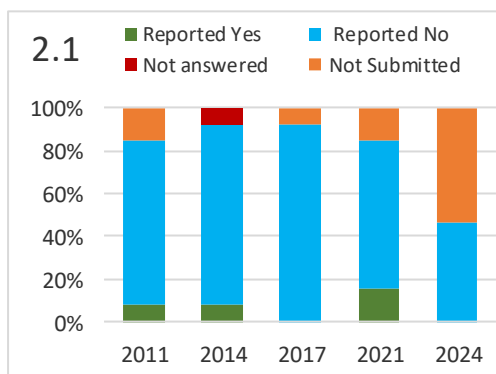
1.1.2. Is action for national implementation planned to occur in the next three years?



This question now contains subsections addressing specific areas of implementation: species conservation, habitat conservation, management of human activities, research programmes, education and public awareness, and impacts or mitigation of climate change. See individual Party Reports (**AC14 Inf 02 - AC14 Inf 07**) for details.

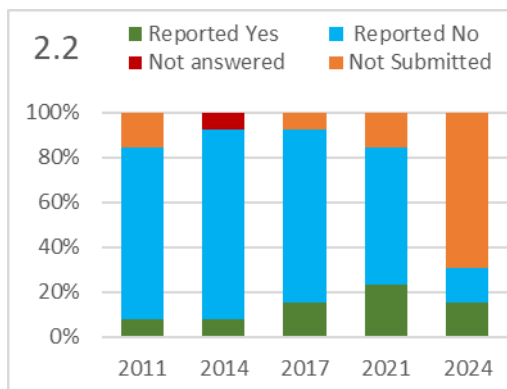
1.2 Species conservation

1.2.1. Has the Party provided any exemptions to prohibitions on the taking or harmful interference with albatrosses and petrels (do not include exemptions provided for scientific research purposes here)?



This question was clarified to exclude exemptions as part of scientific research, or for museums and research institutions.

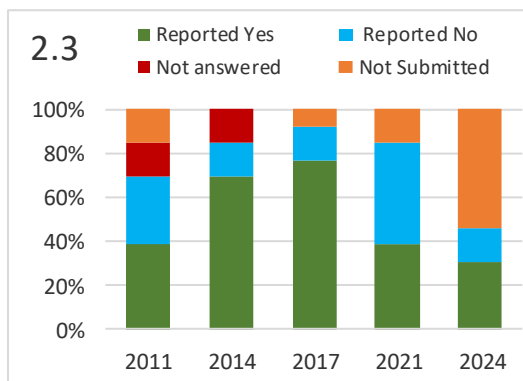
1.2.2. Has any authorised use or trade in albatrosses or petrels occurred (e.g. to accommodate the traditional needs and practices of Indigenous people, for scientific, educational, or similar purposes)?



One Party, New Zealand, consistently reports bycaught ACAP species being retained for necropsy and subsequently made available (free of charge) to indigenous people for traditional uses, as well as to museums and researchers.

Brazil issues permits for scientific purposes and the rehabilitation of birds found on the coast.

1.2.3. Has the Party implemented any new single or multi-species conservation strategies / Action Plans?



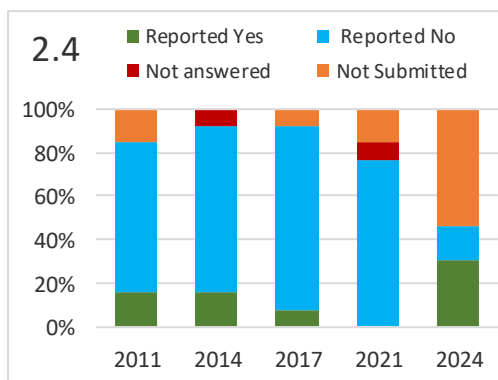
Three Parties provided details of new Plans. Australia updated its Nation Recovery Plan for albatrosses and petrels in 2022. It covers 23 ACAP species.

Brazil has begun the fourth implementation cycle of the National Plan for the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels - PLANACAP, which covers 11 ACAP species.

New Zealand has developed a new International Seabird Strategy, which includes three ACAP

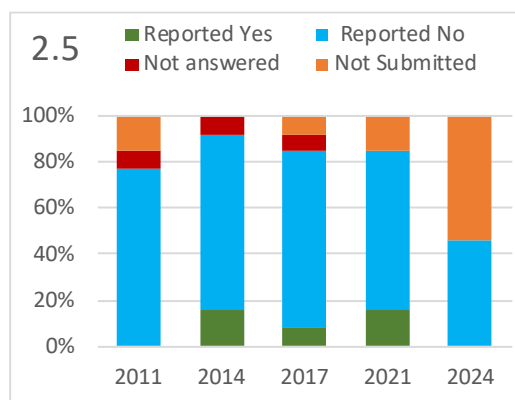
species to help focus the engagement with relevant fishing nations and economies: Antipodean Albatross *Diomedea antipodensis*, Buller’s Albatross *Thalassarche bulleri*, and Black Petrel *Procellaria parkinsonii*.

1.2.4. Has the Party taken any emergency measures, as defined in [Resolution 1.4](#), involving albatrosses or petrels?



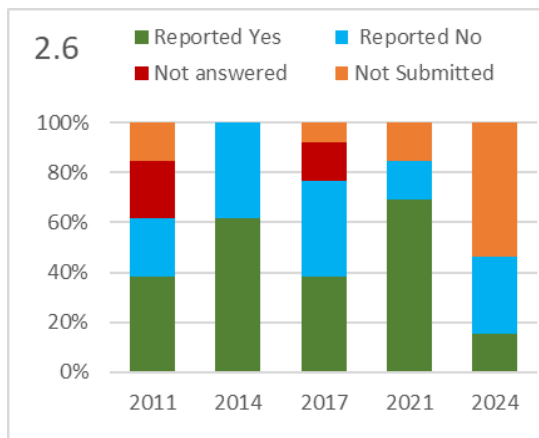
Brazil, and Peru (in November 2022), have declared a state of animal health emergency due to the detection of infection by the highly pathogenic avian influenza virus (HPAI) in wild birds. This included two individuals of the Waved Albatross *Phoebastria irrorata* tested by Peruvian authorities.

1.2.5. Has the Party conducted any re-establishment schemes?



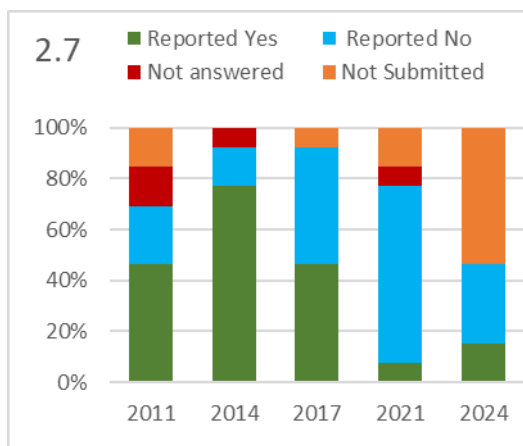
New Zealand completed the Chatham Albatross *Thalassarche eremita* translocation programme in the previous quadriennium.

1.2.6. Has the Party introduced any new legal or policy instruments for species protection of albatrosses and petrels?



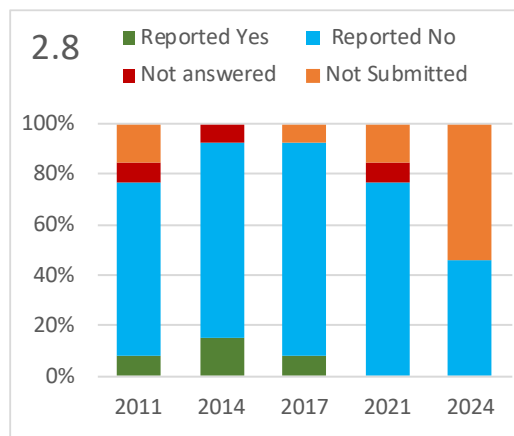
Australia commissioned a consultancy to review the potential impacts on birds from offshore wind farms in Australia, and a strategy including research priorities concerning the potential impacts of offshore renewable energy.

1.2.7. Has the Party implemented any legal or policy instruments for environmental impact assessments?



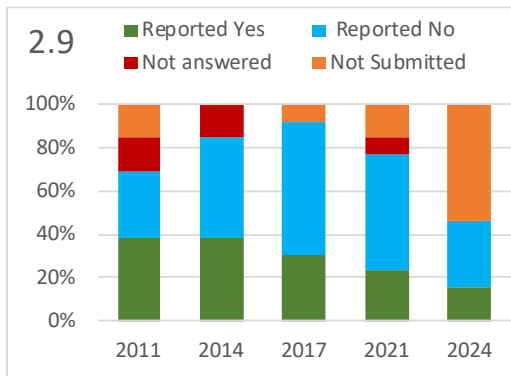
Australia has developed guidance for offshore renewal energy environmental approvals.

1.2.8. Does the Party have any species it would like to submit for addition to Annex 1?



In 2011, Spain indicated Balearic Shearwater *Puffinus mauretanicus*, which was added to Annex 1 in 2012. In 2014, Chile and Ecuador indicated Pink-footed Shearwater *Ardenna creatopus* and Galapagos Petrel *Pterodroma phaeopygia*, respectively. The Pink-footed Shearwater was added to Annex 1 in 2015. Ecuador reiterated its support for the listing of the Galapagos Petrel in 2017 but a new nomination proposal was not submitted.

1.2.9. Are there any other conservation projects for ACAP species not already mentioned?

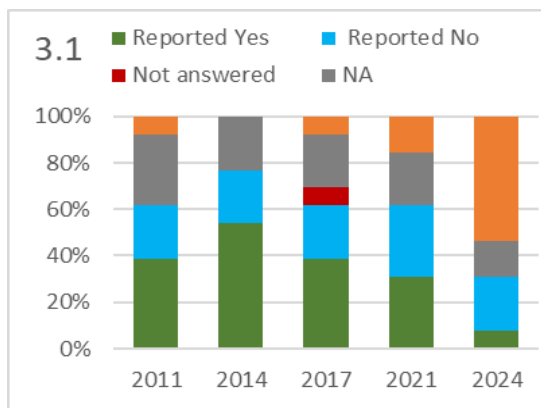


Brazil listed several projects which monitor Procellariiformes as part of environmental licence conditions for Offshore Gas and Oil Exploration and production activities.

New Zealand listed projects to address fisheries bycatch risks to ACAP species.

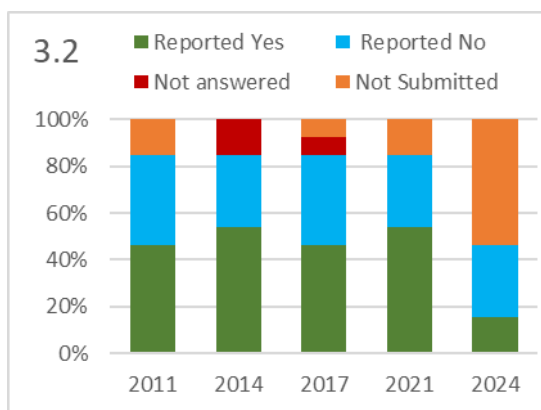
1.3. Habitat conservation

1.3.1. Has the Party introduced any legal or policy instruments or actions to implement protection and management of breeding sites, including habitat restoration?



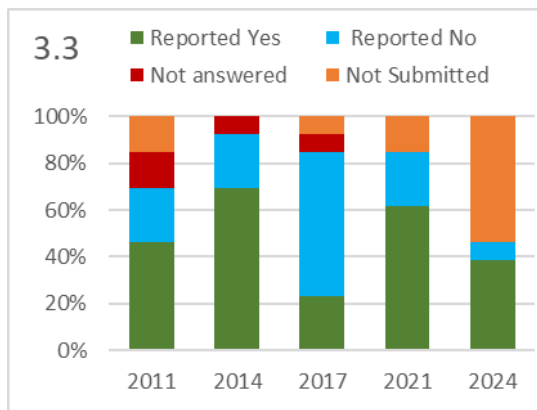
Four Parties did not have breeding sites in 2011, decreasing to three in 2014 with the listing of the Balearic Shearwater *P. mauretanicus* in 2012.

1.3.2. Has the Party implemented any sustainable management measures for marine living resources which provide food for albatrosses and petrels?



Two Parties reported implementing management measures for marine living resources: Argentina and the United Kingdom.

1.3.3. Has the Party implemented any management or protection of important marine areas for albatrosses and petrels?



Australia has significantly expanded the Macquarie Island Marine Park to cover a total area of 475,465 square kilometres, close to a 300% increase from the previous marine park area.

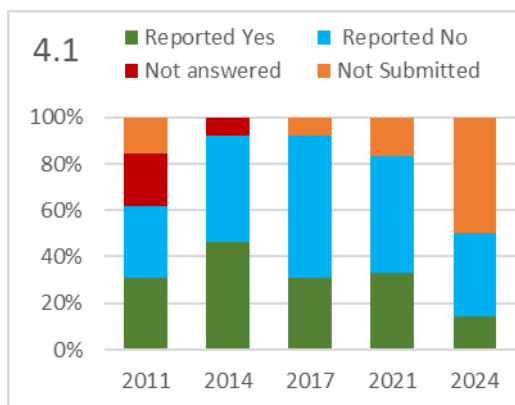
Brazil has implemented relevant protection and management actions in four marine protected areas with different levels of protection.

Peru established the Dorsal de Nasca National Reserve, where monitoring and surveillance of

the marine ecosystem is carried out.

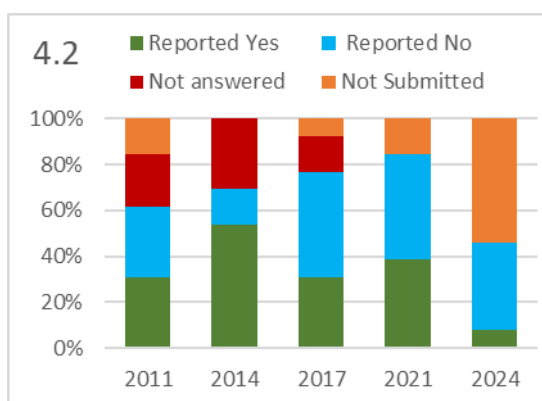
1.4. Management of human activities

1.4.1. Has the Party completed any new environmental impact assessments related to albatrosses and petrels?



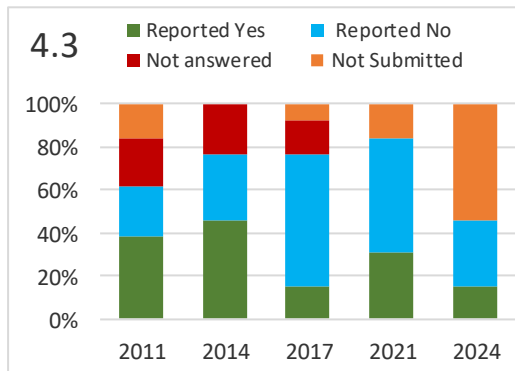
New Zealand has completed an updated assessment of the risk of commercial fisheries to New Zealand seabirds and continues to collaborate on an assessment for seabird bycatch with surface longlines in the Southern Hemisphere. A multi-threat risk assessment for Antipodean Albatross *D. antipodensis* was also completed in 2024.

1.4.2. Has the Party implemented any new measures to minimise discharge of pollutants and marine debris (MARPOL)?



Australia noted that the injury and fatality to vertebrate marine life caused by ingestion of, or entanglement in, harmful marine debris is a listed key threatening process under federal environmental laws with a threat abatement plan in effect.

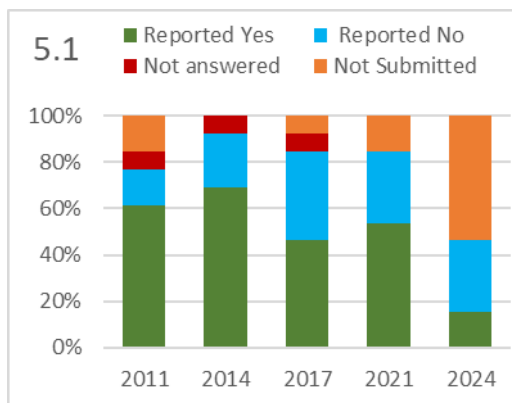
1.4.3. Has the Party introduced any new measures to minimise the disturbance to albatrosses and petrels in marine and terrestrial habitats?



New Zealand has introduced Mitigation Standards to Reduce Light-induced Vessel Strikes of Seabirds with New Zealand Commercial Fishing Vessels and has begun actively engaging with other marine users to achieve similar management of light.

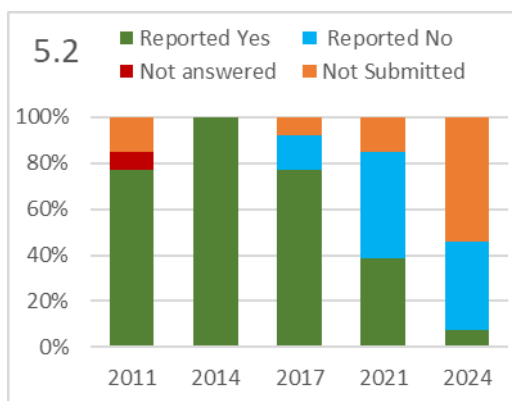
1.5. Research programmes

1.5.1. Does the Party have any ongoing research programmes relating to the conservation of albatrosses and petrels not already reported on in Sections 2, 3 and 4?



Brazil reported available resources within PLANACAP and its stakeholders have been used to implement research actions aimed at the conservation of albatrosses and petrels in the country.

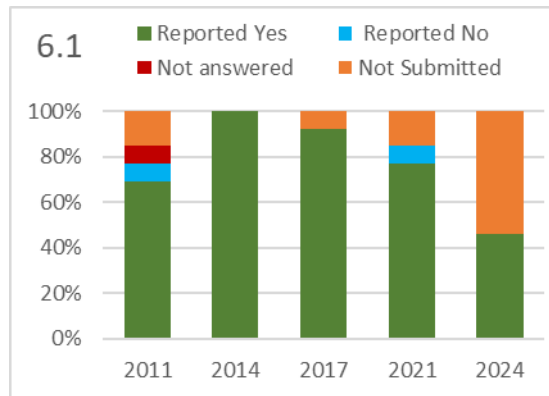
1.5.2. Does the Party have any new national institutions (authorities or research centres), or NGOs involved in albatross and petrel conservation?



This question was amended in 2021 to specify new rather than additional institutions.

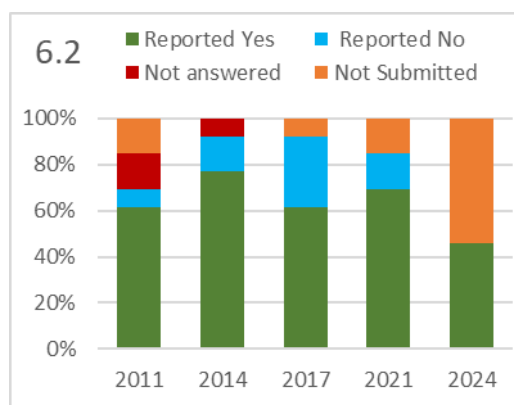
1.6. Education and public awareness

1.6.1. Has the Party conducted training or provided information for user audiences (e.g. scientists, fishers, etc)?



Most Parties are engaged in training on an ongoing basis. See individual Party Reports (AC14 Inf 02 - AC14 Inf 07) for details.

1.6.2. Has the Party conducted training or provided information to the general public?



Most Parties are engaged in education and public awareness on an ongoing basis. See individual Party Reports (AC14 Inf 02 - AC14 Inf 07) for details.

1.7. Reporting against priorities for land-based conservation actions

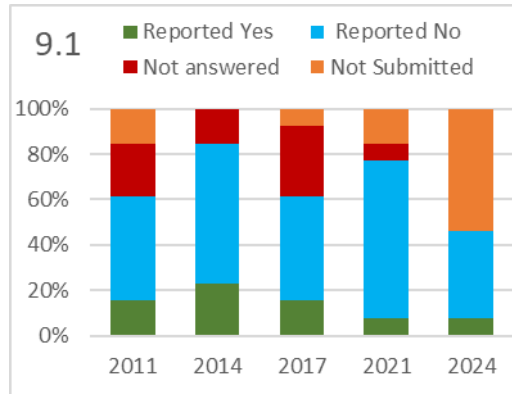
Two Parties provided details of actions they had taken, or were not able to take, regarding land-based threats (Table 2). For details, please refer to Question 7 in the individual Implementation Reports (AC14 Inf 02 to AC14 Inf 07).

1.8. Reporting against priorities for at-sea conservation actions

Four Parties provided details of actions they had taken, or were not able to take, regarding at-sea threats (Table 3). For further information, please refer to Question 8 in the individual Implementation Reports (AC14 Inf 02 to AC14 Inf 07).

1.9. Other

1.9.1 Does the Party have any new information to report on research into observed impacts, or mitigation of, climate change on albatrosses and petrels?



Australian researchers have published articles on the effects of heatwaves on Shy Albatross *T. cauta* chick mortalities, as well as on the individual consistency in localised foraging of the species, as a baseline for assessing further climate change impacts.

1.10. Additional Comments

The option to leave questions "not answered" was disabled in the form.

1.11. Issues identified

Following amendments to questions agreed at MoP6, and refinements to the reporting forms, the accuracy of answers provided by Parties appears to have improved. However, some questions continue to be misinterpreted, especially as they relate to new initiatives. The reports could also be further improved if all Parties made full use of the ability to provide additional details to 'yes/no' responses.

Not all Parties submit their Reports in a timely manner. The delays limit the conclusions that can be drawn about progress in implementing the Agreement.

1.12. Directory of legislation concerning albatrosses and petrels (Action Plan 5.1.I)

The ACAP database holds information on legislation relevant to species listed on Annex 1 to the Agreement and their breeding sites. Site editors (researchers and managers responsible for reviewing site and species information in the database) are encouraged to keep these up to date.

Table 2. Priority land-based conservation actions addressed by Parties in the 2024 reporting round (not in order of priority ranking). Blank cells indicate Parties not directly involved in management of affected sites. For details see **AC14 Inf 02** to **AC14 Inf 07**.

Island	Threat	Argentina	Australia	Brazil	Chile	Ecuador	France	New Zealand	Norway	Peru	South Africa	Spain	United Kingdom	Uruguay
Albatross Island (AU)	Avian pox virus		✓											
Pedra Branca	<i>Morus serrator</i> (Australasian gannet)		✓											
Isla Española	Mosquito					—								
Ile Amsterdam	<i>Pasteurella multocida</i> (Avian cholera)						—							
Ile Saint Lanne Gramont	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)						—							
Ile Saint Lanne Gramont	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)						—							
Kerguelen (Grande Terre)	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)						—							
Kerguelen (Grande Terre)	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)						—							
Kerguelen (Grande Terre)	<i>Rangifer tarandus</i> (Reindeer)						—							
Auckland Island ^a	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)							✓						
Auckland Island ^a	<i>Sus scrofa</i> (Pig)							✓						
Marion Island	<i>Mus musculus</i> (House mouse)										—			
Formentera ^b	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)											—		
Formentera ^b	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)											—		
Menorca ^b	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)											—		
Menorca ^b	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)											—		
Cabrera ^b	<i>Felis catus</i> (Cat)											—		
Cabrera ^b	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)											—		
Ibiza ^b	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)											—		
Mallorca ^b	<i>Rattus rattus</i> (Black (ship) rat)											—		
Gough Island	<i>Mus musculus</i> (House mouse)												✓	

✓ = Action taken * = No action — = Report not submitted at time of compilation

^a Management at this site would also benefit small breeding populations (<1% global) of other ACAP species affected by the same threat.

^b Refers to affected colonies which may include offshore islets

Table 3. Priority at-sea conservation actions addressed by Parties in the 2024 reporting round. Cells are blank where Parties indicated that taking actions in the fishery is not applicable to them. Note that for EU Member States, representation at RFMOs is undertaken by the European Commission and actions on behalf of these Parties may not therefore be represented here. For details see **AC14 Inf 02** to **AC14 Inf 07**.

Fishery and method	Argentina	Australia	Brazil	Chile	Ecuador	France	New Zealand	Norway	Peru	South Africa	Spain	United Kingdom	Uruguay
Angola Pelagic LL				–	–	–		–		–	–		–
Argentina Demersal trawl	✓			–	–	–		–		–	–		–
Australia Demersal trawl		✓		–	–	–		–		–	–		–
Australia Pelagic trawl		✓		–	–	–		–		–	–		–
Australia Gillnet		✓		–	–	–		–		–	–		–
Brazil Demersal LL			✓	–	–	–		–		–	–		–
Brazil Pelagic LL			✓	–	–	–		–		–	–		–
Brazil Pelagic LL (Itaipava fleet)			✓	–	–	–		–		–	–		–
Namibia Demersal trawl				–	–	–		–		–	–		–
Namibia Pelagic LL				–	–	–		–		–	–		–
Namibia Pelagic trawl				–	–	–		–		–	–		–
Peru Demersal LL				–	–	–	✓	–	✗	–	–		–
Peru Pelagic LL				–	–	–	✓	–	✗	–	–		–
Spain Demersal LL				–	–	–		–		–	–		–
Spain Pelagic LL				–	–	–	✓	–		–	–		–
Spain Purse seine				–	–	–		–		–	–		–
Spain Trawl				–	–	–		–		–	–		–
Uruguay Demersal trawl			✗	–	–	–		–		–	–		–
CCSBT Pelagic LL		✓		–	–	–	✓	–		–	–		–
IATTC Pelagic LL				–	–	–	✓	–	✓	–	–		–
ICCAT Pelagic LL				–	–	–		–		–	–	✓	–
IOTC Pelagic LL		✓		–	–	–		–		–	–	✓	–
SEAFO Demersal trawl				–	–	–		–		–	–		–
SPRFMO Demersal trawl		✓		–	–	–	✓	–	✓	–	–		–
WCPFC Pelagic LL		✓		–	–	–	✓	–		–	–		–

✓ = Action taken ✗ = No action – = Report not submitted at time of compilation