



Conference Call

World Seabird Conference 2

26 - 30 October, 2015, Cape Town, South Africa

Atlantic Call – Dec 11, 2014 - 1700 GMT

Pacific Call – Dec 16, 2014 – 2400 GMT

WSU Member Organizations & Representatives				
Member Organization	Representative	Role ^a	Atlantic	Pacific
African Seabird Group	Ross Wanless	P		
American Bird Conservancy	Hannah Rose Nevins	P		
American Bird Conservancy	George Wallace	A		
Argentine Seabird Group	^b Pablo Yorio, South America	P		
Argentine Seabird Group	Esteban Frere	A		
Australasian Seabird Group	Peter Dann	P		
Australasian Seabird Group	^b Nicholas Carlile, Australasia, Secretary	A		
BirdLife International, Global Seabird Programme	Ben Sullivan/ Ben Lascelles	P		
BirdLife International, Global Seabird Programme	John Croxall	A	A	
Circumpolar Seabird Group (CBird)	^b Dave Irons, Chair	P	A	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		
Ornithological Society of New Zealand	Graeme Taylor	P		A
Pacific Seabird Group	^b Pat Jodice, North America	P		
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 for the Americas	Jennifer Wheeler	P		A
^a Role: P=Primary Representative, A=Alternate Representative ^b Board member				
WSC2 Committee Members				
Early Career Scientists	Fiona McDuie			A
Awards	Ken Morgan			A
Awards	Anton Wolfaardt			
Fundraising	Kim Nelson			
Scientific Program	Peter Ryan		A	
WSU Development Team				
Seabirds.net	Grant Humphries			
WSU Secretariat	Marischal De Armond, Michelle Smith		A	A
Global Seabird Colony Register	Robb Kaler		A	
MortalityIndex	Julia Parrish			
At-Sea Seabird Database	Kathy Kuletz			
Attendance: A = Attended				



Minutes

1. Call to Order

11 Dec (ATL) – D Irons called the meeting to order at 1715 GMT

16 Dec (PAC) – D Irons called the meeting to order at 2403 GMT

2. Update on timing of next payment to conference venue in South Africa

11 Dec (ATL) –

16 Dec (PAC) –

3. Update on Scientific Program Committee

11 Dec (ATL) – P Ryan reported that 26 symposia concepts were received. Symposia participants will now be responsible for submitting their own abstracts and the online submission form is ready to launch to collect these. In the end, due to attrition or other circumstances some of these symposia may not proceed. The program committee is ok with proceeding with a minimum of 20 symposia. Also ready to launch is the general call for submissions. The closing date for all submissions is January 31st with some options to extend if need by. Possible extensions need to consider implications of award submission dates. P Ryan also noted that submissions received via the open call that may connect to symposia will be shared with symposia leaders in case they want to include them in the symposia. Current program design is tending to reflect a 4 day program (one of which will be a short day to allow for excursions). Two days are expected to have 4 parallel sessions; the other 2 days are expected to have 3 parallel sessions.

16 Dec (PAC) – No additional updates

4. Update on Fund Raising Committee

11 Dec (ATL) – D Irons noted good progress on fundraising initiatives. V Head has had particular strong responses from South African National Parks, Department of Parks/Environment, Distell wines, a large fishing consortium. Other support is anticipated from the Oiled Seabird Foundation, Audubon and a few other organizations. Should these all come through, the Fundraising target is expected to be met.

16 Dec (PAC) – No additional updates

5. Update on Local Committee

11 Dec (ATL) – LoCo met with African Agenda and has established good understanding of their offerings and how we can best use their services. Decisions have been taken on conference clothing, bags, etc. and final details should be available soon. Also took their advice on providing info for local restaurants and their service provider details for airport transfer options. Relevant info should be provided to Michelle from DeArmond soon, where appropriate.

16 Dec (PAC) – No additional updates

6. Update on Legacy Initiatives Committee and “Legacy Initiatives”

11 Dec (ATL) – J Croxall indicated that the Legacy Workshop on Outcomes Based Conservation is awaiting final confirmation from S Hall, which once confirmed will be forwarded to P Ryan for scheduling into the program

16 Dec (PAC) – No additional updates



7. Update on Travel Awards Committee

11 Dec (ATL) – D Irons update from K Morgan that the travel award info is now integrated with the submission process

16 Dec (PAC) – K Morgan reiterated that the online submission process is indeed now live. F McDuie asked if previous award winners could apply again and it was agreed that the awards considerations would be done with a clean slate. F McDuie also asked if her committee members could apply even if they were not submitting a presentation. K Morgan noted that a policy should be developed from the WSC that he can then implement.

ACTION: Award criteria to be updated to clarify the opportunity for travel awards with 'clean slates'

ACTION: F McDuie to forward to D Irons & M De Armond scenarios that speak to possible submissions from active committee members who may request financial assistance without submitting a presentation

ACTION: D Irons and M De Armond to review these issues and, if required, decide on possible policy for people wishing to request travel awards in the absence of submitting presentations

8. Update on Student Paper Awards Committee

11 Dec (ATL) – No updates

16 Dec (PAC) – No updates

9. Update on Communications Committee

11 Dec (ATL) – Communications committee per submitted report:

- Promotional video was completed and put online. Requested changes will be made by Martin. Another one will be put together by Martin with updated information as it comes through.
- We have been attempting to contact someone to write a letter/do a video greeting for the conference. David Attenborough declined (very gracefully). Searching other avenues right now, including Doug Allan (film maker and camera man for BBC who has worked on many of the BBC nature mini series).
- Christina will be working with local media sources to get the word out and hopefully have a presence at the conference itself.
- Discussions have begun about live-tweeting the conference. We plan to find a group of people attending the conference who would be willing to tweet. We would also like to find a projector/computer and screen setup for the conference in order to have the live tweeting visualized throughout the conference. We have been discussing appropriate hashtags to better curate the social media impact from the conference.

Twitter conference

- Planning in earnest has begun and infrastructure soon to be put in place.
- Tentative dates: March 19 - 21.

Seabirds.net and other

- We have started a "research" blog that will be written by Rebecca Mattson and edited by myself (for the time being)
- Sjurður Hammer has taken over the Twitter handle for us due to my own time constraints, and has already made a huge impact with #SeabirderSaturday. That is, seabirders who are on twitter post on Saturdays with the hashtag #SeabirderSaturday, and some small seabird fact/photo from their own work. This already has hit over 500 tweets in only three Saturdays.
- Seabirds.net is continually being updated with WSC2 content.



16 Dec (PAC) – M Smith confirmed that another email is being sent to the full database in the next day or two advising people about the dates for submissions (symposia and general papers). D Irons wishes to make sure that each of the WSU contacts recirculates the email to their respective members. M Smith suggested Desmond Tutu as a potential special speaker

ACTION: D Irons to send email to each of the WSU contacts to ensure they forward our emails to their members

10. Update on Early Career Scientist Committee

11 Dec (ATL) – No updates

16 Dec (PAC) – F McDuie confirmed that plans are progressing well. V Head is engaged in supporting an ECS event that will support his sponsor request to support this community in SA

ECS events to include a 2 hour workshop with 5 presentations, focused on jobs and funding and an ECS “speed dating” type social evening with good engagement between ECS and senior leaders

ACTION: D Irons to contact F McDuie regarding sponsor opportunities to connect with early career scientists per V Head’s engagement with a potential sponsor and their needs

ACTION: F McDuie to provide M Smith with event details including expected timing and attendance figures, event needs, presentations titles and summaries et al

ACTION: D Irons and M De Armond to draft an overall conference plan including both Scientific Sessions and other events, like the ECS events to ensure all conference activities properly identified and scheduled

ACTION: All to provide suggestions to F McDuie for possible participants/presenters for ECS events. The goal is to have participation from all regions/continents.

11. Other business

During the PSG Meeting in Feb, D Irons will arrange a WSU/WSC meeting, likely to be in the early evening on the day of pre-meeting meetings. Once details are in place, D Irons will circulate information about the event to all WSU/WSC folks who will be in attendance at PSG.

12. Next Conference Call

Atlantic Call - 1700 GMT 29 January, 2015

Pacific Call - 2400 GMT 29 January, 2015

13. Adjournment

11 Dec (ATL) – D Irons called the meeting to a close at 1751 GMT

16 Dec (PAC) – D Irons called the meeting to a close at 0058 GMT