



## Conference Call

World Seabird Conference 2: Planned for 26 - 30 October, 2015, Cape Town, South Africa

Pacific Call – Mar 13, 2014 – 2400 GMT

Atlantic Call – Mar 20, 2014 - 1700 GMT

WSU Member Organizations & Representatives				
Member Organization	Representative	Role <sup>a</sup>	Mar 13	Mar 20
African Seabird Group	Ross Wanless	P		
American Bird Conservancy	George Wallace	P		
Argentine Seabird Group	<sup>b</sup> Pablo Yorio, South America	P		A
Argentine Seabird Group	Esteban Frere	A		
Australasian Seabird Group	Peter Dann	P		
Australasian Seabird Group	<sup>b</sup> Nicholas Carlile, Australasia, Secretary	A	A	
BirdLife International, Global Seabird Programme	Ben Sullivan/ Ben Lascelles	P		
BirdLife International, Global Seabird Programme	John Croxall	A		
Circumpolar Seabird Group (CBird)	<sup>b</sup> Dave Irons, Chair	P	A	A
Dutch Seabird Group	<sup>b</sup> Kees Camphuysen, Europe	P		
Dutch Seabird Group	JA (Jan) van Franeker	A		
European Seabirds at Sea Group	Stefan Garthe	P		
Indian Ocean Seabird Group	<sup>b</sup> Matthieu Le Corre, Africa/Indian Ocean	P		
Indian Ocean Seabird Group	Nic Dunlop	A		
Japan Seabird Group	<sup>b</sup> Yutaka Watanuki, Asia	P		
Medmaravis	Carles Carboneras	P		
NW Atlantic Marine Bird Cooperative	Melanie Steinkamp	P		
Ornithological Society of New Zealand	Graeme Taylor	P		
Pacific Seabird Group	<sup>b</sup> 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		A
The Seabird Group	Russell Wynn	P		
The Seabird Group	Ellie Owen	A		
The Waterbird Society	<sup>b</sup> Betty Anne Schreiber, Treasurer	P		
Waterbird Conservation for the Americas	Jennifer Wheeler	P		A
<sup>a</sup> Role: P=Primary Representative, A=Alternate Representative <sup>b</sup> Board member				
<b>WSC2 Committee Members</b>				
Early Career Scientists	Fiona McDuie			
Awards	Ken Morgan		A	
Awards	Anton Wolfaardt			A
Fundraising	Kim Nelson			A
<b>WSU Development Team</b>				
Seabirds.net	Grant Humphries			A
WSU Secretariat	Marischal De Armond		A	
Global Seabird Colony Register	Robb Kaler			A
MortalityIndex	Julia Parrish			
At-Sea Seabird Database	Kathy Kuletz			A
<b>Attendance: A = Attended</b>				



## Minutes

### 1. Call to Order

**13 Mar** – D Irons called the meeting to order at 1202 GMT

**20 Mar** – D Irons called the meeting to order at 1701 GMT

### 2. Update on status of selecting a conference venue in South Africa

**13 Mar** – there was nothing to report from this committee

**20 Mar** – D Irons reported that M De Armond is close to having a rental agreement in place to reserve the CTICC venue. Once the CTICC rental agreement is completed and approved, the Pacific Seabird Group (PSG) will contribute \$23K to the venue deposit.

**ACTION:** Upon completion, D Irons will send the completed CTICC contract to the PSG Chair (Jo Smith) for review and arrangement of deposit funds.

### 3. Update List of Committees

**13 Mar** – there was nothing to report from this committee

**20 Mar** – D Irons noted that he still needs final confirmation of members of a few committees and contact information for their members and their alternates. Additionally, a few committees need to confirm co-chairs.

**ACTION:** D Irons to work with a few committees to confirm co-chairs

**ACTION:** Committee members should identify their alternates and pass that information to D Irons.

### 4. Update WSC2 Executive Committee

**13 Mar** – there was nothing to report from this committee

**20 Mar** – The WSC2 ExCo is largely complete but need to confirm a co-chair.

**ACTION:** D Irons to identify a co-chair for the WSC2 ExCo

### 5. Update on Scientific Program Committee

**13 Mar** – 2nd circular draft is in circulation for feedback with intent to get 2nd draft distributed for next meeting

**20 Mar** – The SP Committee is moving forward on developing the program basics, calls for proposals and related programming elements. Timeline of important dates for the WSC2 are solidifying. Final round of input on the circular is nearly complete and will be sent out for initial communications regarding open calls for program elements. P Jodice explained that the intention is bottom-up input by the seabird community on the WSC2 scientific program. A call for symposia would ideally go out May 1, but may need to push release date back to ~15 May, and allow for a 7-8 week time window to solicit proposed ideas. Responses to the call for symposia should be monitored at 4-6 weeks to help assess if different steps need to be taken to encourage input from the global seabird community.

### 6. Update on Fund Raising Committee

**13 Mar** – D Irons reported that K Nelson pursuing additional members with broader geographic representation.



**20 Mar** – K Nelson said that the Packard Foundation has confirmed a \$75K contribution, and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) will contribute \$75K, for a fundraising total of \$150K. Additionally, the PSG has agreed to contribute \$23K for the venue. Once M De Armond has completed a tentative budget for the WSC2, he will send it to K Nelson. Currently, K Nelson and the FR Committee aim to raise another \$200K. K Nelson has discussed possible funding support from the U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), which would be interested in seeing a symposia/paper session on seabirds and energy development. K Kuletz will also approach her BOEM contact, but would like to have a prospectus that describes the WSC2's objectives and goals prior to doing so.

**ACTION:** K Nelson to send K Kuletz a copy of her prospectus letter for seeking financial support for the WSC2.

**7. Update on Local Committee**

**13 Mar and 20 Mar** – there was nothing to report from this committee

**8. Update on Legacy Initiatives Committee and “Legacy Initiatives”**

**13 Mar** – there was nothing to report from this committee

**20 Mar** – D Irons reported that J Croxall has outlined ideas for new legacy initiatives and Legacy Committee members have been tentatively assigned to specific workshop ideas to support the development of these new initiatives from concept to delivery

**9. Update on Travel Awards Committee**

**13 Mar** – K Morgan & A Wolfaardt – still working on eligibility on travel awards and needs input on who should be funded – some ideas include:

- Students only
- Students anywhere or only developing world
- Students & ECS only
- Students & ECS anywhere or only developing world
- Above, plus scientists from developing world

D Irons feels it should be focused more on students and scientists from developing countries. K Morgan commented that Society for Conservation Biology (SCB) has a link to such a list of developing countries [<http://www.conbio.org/membership/become-a-member/developing-countries>]

KM also provided some input on key dates as follows

- date for submission of abstracts and awards should be aligned.
- date for awards approval to take place a week after abstracts acceptance notice has been issued

**ACTION:** K Morgan and A Wolfaardt to provide recommendation on policy for discussion at Mar 20 meeting.

**20 Mar** – A Wolfaardt reiterated the coordination needed for key dates and timelines (i.e., once the Scientific Committee accepts an abstract, then the TA Committee could determine eligibility of travel award applicants).



**23 JAN ACTION:** To clarify potential award qualification requirements, F McDuire to develop a definition of what constitutes an Early Career Scientist and K. Morgan/A Wolfaardt to source a list of countries considered to be “developing nations”

**23 JAN ACTION:** K Morgan/A Wolfaardt to develop award submission requirements for M De Armond. M De Armond to develop a process for collecting these submissions electronically.

**10. Update on Student Paper Awards Committee**

**13 Mar and 20 Mar** – there was nothing to report from this committee

**23 JAN ACTION:** D Irons to contact P Mancini and L Ayala to confirm their active participation chairing this committee

**11. Update on Communications Committee**

**13 Mar** – there was nothing to report

**20 Mar** – G Humphries and the Communications Committee intend to begin aggressive marketing for the WSC2 in the next month. The Comms Committee will continue to spread the word via the Seabirds.net web site, and will also launch a Facebook page for the WSC2. Stay tuned for a media explosion.

**16 & 23 JAN ACTION:** M De Armond and G Humphries to collaborate on the development of a communications plan

**16 & 23 JAN ACTION:** M De Armond to develop a key dates guide

**16 & 23 JAN ACTION:** M De Armond to update WSC 2 website with a focus on ECS, Submissions and Awards

**16 & 23 JAN ACTION:** M De Armond to update existing and/or develop new promotional documents, including a flyer, poster, WSC1 photo collage and program ad for use at other conferences to promote WSC 2

**12. Update on Early Career Scientist Committee**

**13 Mar** – there was nothing new to report

**20 Mar** – F McDuire circulated an ECS initiatives proposal that provides a vision for pre-conference and at-conference events. G Humphries elaborated on the details of a pre-conference twitter conference contest called “Tweet Your Research”. Online judges would score contestants (perhaps restricted to 6 tweets, at 140 characters per tweet, may include additional media such as figures, graphs, video) and prizes could be awarded for “Most creative use of social media” or “Most innovative research”. Contest prizes could include waiving WSC2 registration fees.

**ACTION:** D Irons to join the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and get Twitter and Facebook accounts.

**23 JAN ACTION:** F McDuire to provide appropriate ECS content to M De Armond to incorporate into webpage and promotional materials

**13. Other business**

**WSU Board Member Transition Process**



**13 Mar** – D Irons reported that WSU Board representation need to start process of rolling over board members and transition planning

- D Irons confirmed he will end his role as chair at the end of WSC2
- Variety of options discussed including flexibility on terms vs absolute terms, active members vs inactive board members “basically filling a seat”. Need to continue to renew participation and to engage younger scientists/scientists earlier in their careers. MD to prepare discussion paper on this.

**ACTION:** M De Armond will draft a discussion paper on board member roll-over and transition process

#### **Habitat destruction, oil spill et al issues – set up a conservation committee?**

**13 Mar** – N Carlile suggested that regional reps should be leading the response on seabird conservation issues from their region with input/support from such a conservation committee. If there were consensus from the WSU Board, then N Carlile and F McDuire would lead the steps toward establishing a WSU Conservation Committee and search out participants.

**20 Mar** – D Irons brought up N Carlile’s thoughts on developing a WSU Conservation Committee and opened the floor for member’s to share their thoughts.

- K Kuletz commented that many of the WSU member organizations may already have a Conservation Committee established (e.g., PSG) and suggested that developing a clearinghouse where member organizations could share information and discuss possible actions.

- J Wheeler commented that simple sign-on letters are good, but that letters would need to be vetted across the WSU membership.

- P Yorio emphasized the benefits of a Conservation Committee in helping direct local efforts in regions where seabird-focused groups may not exist or do not have conservation-specific committees.

- P Jodice suggested that N Carlile draft a scoping document that outlines the vision of the suggested Conservation Committee, then sharing that with the WSU membership as a point to begin the discussion. P Jodice also commented that the WSU should consider how the Conservation Committee fits into the original WSU vision of goals and objectives. Specifically, does a conservation committee fit into the WSU Bylaws, or is it a need that has evolved?

- D Irons responded that it probably does not fall under the current WSU Bylaws and if it is a new objective of the WSU, it would need to be formally vetted and documented in the WSU Bylaws.

**ACTION:** N Carlile to draft a scoping document discussing the vision of a WSU Conservation Committee.

**16 JAN ACTION:** N Carlile to provide the Aust. SG letter for the WSU to consider response at its next meeting.

#### **14. Next Conference Call**

Atlantic Call 1700 GMT 10 April, 2014

Pacific Call 2400 GMT 17 April, 2014

#### **15. Adjournment**

**13 Mar** – D Irons called the meeting to a close at 1255 GMT

**20 Mar** – D Irons called the meeting to a close at 1755 GMT