

44TH Annual Meeting of the Pacific Seabird Group
Tacoma Convention Center in Tacoma, Washington
February 21-25, 2017

North Pacific Albatross Working Group Meeting
Boardroom S
Friday, February 24th
Meeting Time: 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

AGENDA

Welcome and introductions, opening remarks and overview of the 2017 meeting agenda, NPAWG administrative business, special announcements. Please be mindful of the limited time we have to conduct the meeting. In order to allow for ample discussion time, please try and limit the duration of your principle delivery to no more than 10 minutes.

Information updates and presentations

1. **Beth Flint**, USFWS, Pacific Marine National Monuments
Status of Laysan and Black-footed albatross populations based on nest counts at Midway and Kure Atolls, monitoring activities, expansion of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument and the ramifications of that action for albatross conservation, new research and collaboration, current goings on with ACAP. Update on status and achievements of the Laysan and Black-footed albatross demography study (for Roberta Swift et. al.).
2. **Eric VanderWerf** and **Lindsay Young**, Pacific Rim Conservation
Updates on translocations of Laysan albatross in the main Hawaiian Islands, Laysan albatross demographic research on Oahu, status of the criminal investigation surrounding albatross deaths at Kaena Point.
3. **Meg Duhr-Schultz**, USFWS, Midway Atoll NWR
Update on the extent and severity of injuries inflicted by nonnative mice on Laysan and Black-footed albatross at Midway Atoll and agency strategies to address and reduce impacts including mouse eradication efforts; observations of increased frequency and severity of storm events, habitat inundation, and adverse effects on breeding habitat and reproductive success of albatrosses.
4. **Rob Suryan**, Oregon State University
Update on issues and activities associated with the Short-tailed albatross Recovery Team and status of key initiatives.

5. **Laura Todd**, USFWS, Newport Field Office
Update on current ESA Section 7 consultations with USFWS and NMFS on the groundfish fishery, West Coast NMFS research, West Coast longline fishery, and the EPA related to fishery offal discharge.
6. **Tom Good**, NMFS Northwest Fisheries Sciences Center
Overview of albatross bycatch in West Coast groundfish fisheries; status of project to improve seabird bycatch monitoring and estimation on West Coast trawl vessels.
7. **Anne Marie Eich**, NMFS Alaska Regional Office and **Erin Knoll**, USFWS, Anchorage Field Office
Overview of the recent USFWS Biological Opinion concerning effects of the Gulf of Alaska and Aleutian Islands-Bering Sea groundfish fishery on Short-tailed albatross, incidental take statement, and resultant working group; background on process and how forming the working group is tied to the take statement and BO.
8. **Shannon Fitzgerald**, NMFS Alaska Fisheries Sciences Center
Overview of albatross bycatch in North Pacific fisheries including trawlers; summary of results from albatross bycatch necropsy work covering Alaska, Hawaii, and now the West Coast; food habit studies based on bycatch birds; deploying surveillance technologies to improve seabird bycatch monitoring.
9. **Ed Melvin**, University of Washington, Sea Grant
Continuing efforts to engage fishermen through outreach to reduce and/or prevent albatross bycatch in Alaska fisheries, status of seabird bycatch reduction technologies.
10. **Arden Blumenthal**, Purdue University
Characterizing the visual systems of seabirds and the effect of laser exposure on seabird vision and sensitivity to visual deterrents.
11. **John Peschon**, NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office
Overview of seabird interactions in Hawaii's longline fisheries in 2015 and summary of band recoveries from albatrosses in the deep and shallow set longline fisheries in Hawaii.
12. **Hannah Nevins**, American Bird Conservancy
Update on the status and conservation needs of Waved albatross.

Closing Remarks

Adjournment

