

Introduction to the Aims of the Global Seabird Legacy Workshops

Convenors: David Irons (US Fish & Wildlife Service, david_irons@fws.gov)
John Croxall (BirdLife International, john.croxall@birdlife.org)

Abstract:

A main aim of the WSC is to generate better communication and collaboration between seabird researchers and organisations worldwide. We hope to do this by: a) facilitating improved interaction between existing seabird groups by establishing a formal coalition of relevant bodies and a web-based communication system, and b) establishing better opportunities and systems for assembling and linking appropriate data on seabirds. This series of workshops has been organised to discuss these objectives and the best ways of addressing them. This recognises that many aspects of effective research and conservation of seabirds would be greatly enhanced by the ability to link and analyze data at regional and global scales. It is also important to enhance input of seabird data to current initiatives relating to e.g. ocean health, climate change and marine biodiversity, which will require improved coordination of existing data and more effective links to data and databases on marine systems generally. In these workshops, we will review topics such as seabird monitoring (including colony registers), seabirds as indicators, at-sea distribution of seabirds, and mechanisms to enhance collaboration and cooperation among scientists and seabird groups.