

**Seabird Web Portal: seabirds.net**

*Convenor:* Scott Hatch (US Geological Survey, [shatch@usgs.gov](mailto:shatch@usgs.gov))

*Abstract:*

Seabird information sharing, including but not limited to globally comprehensive seabird databases, will be greatly facilitated by a general perception (which does not now exist) that the community of seabird professionals worldwide has a common, jointly-managed, non-proprietary, and organizationally neutral “home” on the Internet to serve as a gateway to seabird information—anything and everything on the web pertaining to seabirds. The domain name ‘Seabirds.net’ was acquired by the Pacific Seabird Group in 2008 to serve as the simplest, most generic, and most appropriate label for such an enterprise. The intent is to transfer ownership of the domain name to a world seabird professional governing body, which will host and manage the domain on behalf of all seabird societies, interest groups, and professionals. The purpose of the workshop is to introduce and discuss the concept of ‘Seabirds.net,’ to solicit ideas on how the domain should be managed, and to brainstorm ideas for useful content. Products will include a consensus model for initial content of the domain and creation of an international working group charged with implementation and oversight of ‘Seabirds.net.’