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International Steering Committee

David Irons, Chair

David Irons is the Alaska Seabird Coordinator for the US Fish and Wildlife Service; he also serves as Chair for the Circumpolar Seabird Group (CBird), a subject expert group of the international Arctic organization, Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF); Chair of the International Steering Committee for the 1st World Seabird Conference (September 2010); an adjunct professor with University of Alaska, Anchorage and served as Chair of the Pacific Seabird Group in 2003.

David went to Alaska in 1976 from Penn State University to work on a sea otter project in the Aleutian Islands, where he spent many cold hours underwater in leaky dry suits counting sea urchins and other benthic invertebrates. He received his MS from Oregon State University in 1982. With his attention switching from marine mammals and the nearshore community to seabirds and the marine ecosystem, David received his Ph D from UC Irvine in 1992. His work throughout Alaska has focused on seabird foraging behaviour and ecology and population changes related to food availability and climate change. Recently he has been working with seabird scientists from the circumpolar Arctic to investigate the effects of climate change at the circumpolar scale. He is also working with colleagues from around the world to create Global Networks of Seabird Colony Databases and Seabird Productivity Information as well as many ongoing field studies. Results of his work are published in more than 50 scientific journal articles.

Representing [Circumpolar Seabird Group \(CBird\)](#) and [Pacific Seabird Group](#)

Liliana Ayala

Liliana began studied seabirds in 1997 in Peruvian Sea Institute (IMARPE) working on breeding biology and ecology of Peruvian Guano birds. Besides, she participated in some research projects on the R.V. Humboldt in Peru and Antarctica, relating seabirds with their preys, anchovy in Peru and krill in Antarctica.

In the last five years a group of professionals interested in marine conservation and research are working in several projects in APECO and they develop the Marine-Coastal Program. She has the researcher or co-researcher of several projects: Bycatch of Albatross and Petrel in Peru, Humboldt Penguin (*Spheniscus humboldti*) Conservation in northern Peru, Breeding Biology and ecology of Antarctic Tern (*Sterna vittata*) in King George island, Antarctica, Humboldt Penguin Conservation in central and southern Peru, Distribution and abundance of Wedged-rumped Storm Petrel (*Oceanodroma tethys kelsalli*) and Interactions between marine wildlife and the industrial anchovy fishing fleet. Also, she held an educational and outreach event at the National Library of Peru where four videos about seabird conservation were showed to the public and invited policy-makers.

Since 2000, she has been considered six times to be part of the selected group of researchers in Peruvian Antarctic Expedition. Since 2006, APECO was the first time that a non-government organization that participates in a Peruvian Expedition to Antarctica with the project: "Climate and microclimate effects on breeding ecology of Antarctic tern". That multi-year project runs by her, is a part of the 23 projects that participate in Latin America Census of Antarctic Marine Life (CAML) program.

She has received some support from Rufford Small grants for Nature Conservation, Oak Foundation, Duke Center for Marine Conservation, Idea Wild, Peruvian Antarctic Institute, Pacific Seabird Group (PSG), Overbrook Fellows, Agreement on the Conservation of albatrosses and petrels (ACAP) and American Bird Conservancy (ABC).

Representing [Peruvian Association for the Conservation of Nature \(APECO\)](#)

Lisa Balance

Representing [Pacific Seabird Group](#)

John Borg

John J. Borg is the Principal Curator of the Natural History Unit of Heritage Malta, the National Agency for the Conservation, Preservation and Promotion of Malta's Cultural Heritage. He is council member of BirdLife Malta (1995-2009) and Board Member of the Mediterranean Seabird Research Group (MEDMARAVIS)(1996-2009). Since 1983 he has been researching three species of Procellariiformes breeding in the Maltese islands, namely; *Calonectris diomedea*, *Puffinus yelkouan* and *Hydrobates pelagicus melitensis*. His main interest being their breeding biology and ecology and their interactions with human activities in his island home. Since 2006 John has been coordinating the research aspect of the EU Life funded Yelkouan Shearwater project which among other issues includes satellite tracking and the use of data loggers and micro-geolocators. Since 2007 John has been researching the impacts of offshore tuna farms on seabirds, in particular on the breeding behaviour of the Mediterranean Storm Petrel. He is also part-time lecturer at the Institute of Tourism Studies dealing with the interactions of the natural environment and human activities.

Representing [Mediterranean Seabird Association \(Medmarvis\)](#)

Rob Butler

Rob Butler is a scientist, naturalist and author best known for his research and conservation of birds. He has written and spoken to scientific and popular audiences, advised students and governments on conservation issues, and presented conservation and science stories in the media. Rob is a Fellow International of the Explorers' Club, a Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union, and an Outstanding Alumnus of Simon Fraser University. He is the author of *The Great Blue Heron* (UBC Press) and *The Jade Coast: Ecology of the North Pacific Ocean* (Key Porter 2003), and coauthor of *Shadows of Fear* (Pacific Wildlife Foundation, 2009).

Representing [Taiwan International Birding Association](#)

Kees Camphuysen

Representing [Dutch Seabird Group](#) and [European Seabirds at Sea Group](#)

Nicholas Carlile

Nicholas Carlile (MSc), a Churchill Fellow, is a Seabird Project Officer in the Threatened Fauna Ecology Unit of the Department of Environment Climate Change and Water in New South Wales, Australia. He has been working with seabirds for more than 20 years, most notably with Gould's petrel which was recently down-listed in NSW from endangered to vulnerable under IUCN criteria. Nicholas has worked with a range of seabird groups including penguins, petrels, shearwaters, terns and gulls. His interests include island restorations, seabird translocations and intraspecific interactions. He is actively involved in several overseas seabird programs in Fiji and

Bermuda. He is the secretary of the Australasian Seabird Group where he runs a program of island surveys.

Representing [Australasian Seabird Group](#)

Caio Carlos

Since the year 2000 I have been working, in collaboration with other ornithologists, on several aspects of the taxonomy, geographical distribution pattern and conservation of seabirds, especially petrels, in Brazil. My research primarily involves intensive literature survey (from early years of Brazil in the 1500s up to now) studies of museum specimens and much field effort – beach patrols and at sea observations– on several parts of the coast. These studies have resulted, for example, not only in new, and important distributional data for a number of taxa, but also in the clarification of existing misidentifications, some of them well incorporated into the Brazilian ornithological literature. Between 2004–2007 I worked as Assistant Curator of the Seabird collection of the ‘Universidade Federal do Rio Grande’, in south Brazil, where I also received (in 2006) a Master’s Degree in Biological Oceanography after studying the geographical distribution patterns of petrels in the Brazilians seas. I am a member of the Brazilian Committee of Ornithological Records, and representative in Brazil of the Royal Naval Birdwatching Society. Next year I hope to complete the ‘Catalogue of petrels in Brazil’, which will be a comprehensive work of reference for these birds in the country. I am also working on seabird trapping (terns and skuas) and the distribution and migration of terns (especially Least Terns) on the Brazilian coast, and helping on the creation of some marine protected areas.

*Representing **Brazilian Seabird Scientists***

John Cooper

John Cooper is an honorary Research Associate at both the University of Cape Town and Stellenbosch University, following retirement after a 35-year career conducting research on seabird biology and conservation, with a special emphasis on islands in the Southern Ocean. During that time he founded and then edited Marine Ornithology for many years and is currently its Forum Editor.. He currently acts as Information Officer for the International Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) which takes him to Hobart, Australia once a year to work at the Secretariat’s offices. He also undertakes environmental management work, including running alien eradication programmes, at Marion and Gough Islands most years. He is currently working on aspects of the human history of sub-Antarctic islands and is co-authoring a popular book on the Prince Edward Islands.

*Representing **African Seabird Group***

John Croxall

After a period (1972-1976) as Senior Research Officer and Director of the Oiled Seabird Research Unit at the University of Newcastle, John moved to the British Antarctic Survey in 1976 to set up a new unit on bird and mammal research. This evolved into a major multidisciplinary research group (nearly 1,000 publications over 30 years), working on interactions between seabirds and seals and their prey and environment, including man. It helped pioneer the recognition of the keystone role of seabirds and marine mammals as consumers of marine resources, and developed new understanding of the foraging (especially diving) capacity of these species and revolutionised knowledge of the migrations of seabirds and seals. Latterly the group also focused particularly on interactions with commercial fisheries, notably involving seals and albatrosses, the latter leading to major advances in (and an international campaign for) avoiding or minimising threats to their survival. He was a major architect of the long-term ecosystem monitoring programme of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living

Resources (CCAMLR) and of its Working Group that dealt with seabird incidental mortality in longline and trawl fisheries.

John has served on many national and international committees, notably as President of the British Ornithologists' Union and Chairman of Council of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and has received numerous awards, including election as a Fellow of the Royal Society and appointment as CBE. He is an Honorary Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union and received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Pacific Seabird Group in 2008. He retired in 2006 but is still active in the conservation and management of seabirds and marine systems, especially as Chair of the Global Seabird Programme of BirdLife International and as a member of the High Seas Task Force of IUCN.

Representing [BirdLife International, Global Seabird Program](#)

Peter Dann

Peter Dann is employed by the Phillip Island Nature Park in south-eastern Australia to manage a research group carrying out investigations of the Island's fauna, particularly Little Penguins and Australian Fur-seals. Peter completed his post-graduate studies at the University of Melbourne on the feeding ecology of Palearctic shorebirds in southern Australia and started working on the ecology and management of Little Penguins on Phillip Island in 1980. Peter has worked on penguins throughout the southern hemisphere and has published extensively on seabirds and shorebirds in Australasia. His main research interests are population regulation, demography and foraging ecology. He co-supervises seven post-graduate students working on a range of seabird and shorebird projects and is currently a research fellow of the Department of Zoology at the University of Melbourne, Secretary of Birds Australia, an editor of "Marine Ornithology" and the past president of the Australasian Seabird Group.

Representing [Australasian Seabird Group](#) and [Phillip Island Nature Park, Australia](#)

Craig Dockrill

Representing [Falklands Conservation](#)

Esteban Frere

Esteban Frere is a biologist and PhD in Marine Ecology, of the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina. Most of his postgraduate courses were done at the University of Washington, USA. Esteban has been studying seabird ecology and conservation, as field staff of Wildlife Conservation Society, during the last 25 years at the Patagonian Coast. He was working, particularly, on penguins, cormorants, albatross and petrels. Esteban's studies were focused on coastal Patagonia closely related to management of protected areas, assessing on the design and management of protected areas at state government. He has been working not only in the south-western Atlantic but also in the Pacific Ocean at Chile and Peru during the last years. He is a professor of the Universidad Nacional de la Patagonia Austral, Santa Cruz province and researcher of the CONICET (National Scientific Agency). During the last four years, he was coordinating the Global Seabird Programme of Birdlife International in South America.

Representing [Universidad Nacional de la Patagonia Austral](#), [Wildlife Conservation Society](#), and [BirdLife International, Global Seabird Program](#)

Jessica Hardesty

Dr. Jessica Hardesty Norris, Seabird Program Director, joined American Bird Conservancy in Spring 2007 as she wrapped up her PhD in Ecology at Duke with John Terborgh. She received

her BSc in Wildlife Biology from Humboldt State University, and then spent a few years as a field technician in the United States before heading to Ecuador with the US Peace Corps. She conducted her dissertation research in Venezuela, Peru, and Ecuador, focusing on the ecology of birds in Sangay National Park, Ecuador where she spent a year as a Fulbright Scholar. In 2005, she worked with ABC, WWF, CI, and TNC developing project abstracts for Alliance for Zero Extinction sites. Jessica now has 12 years of experience as a conservationist, ecologist and social scientist, with a focus on Latin America. She has been working on seabird policy issues such as the accession of the US to Agreement for the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, and overseas ABC field projects to benefit the world's most endangered seabirds in Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Mexico and the Dominican Republic.

Representing [**American Bird Conservancy, Seabird Program**](#)

Pat Jodice

Patrick Jodice is the Leader of the USGS South Carolina Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit and an Associate Professor in the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources at Clemson University (South Carolina, USA). Here he primarily conducts research through graduate students and contributes to the graduate degree program at Clemson University. Pat earned his Ph.D. at Oregon State University conducting research on diving and activity patterns of Marbled Murrelets and he worked as a Post-doc there conducting research on reproductive energetics of seabirds in the Gulf of Alaska. Most of his current research focuses on breeding biology, reproductive energetics, and foraging ecology of shorebirds and seabirds along the southeast coast of the U.S. Pat recently initiated a project that tracks breeding seabirds from The Bahamas. He is on the Executive Council of the Waterbird Society, is the Chair of the Publications Committee for the Pacific Seabird Group, and has played an active role in the development of the Atlantic Marine Bird Conservation Cooperative.

Representing [**The Northwest Atlantic Bird at Sea Conservation Cooperative**](#)

Matthieu Le Corre

Matthieu Le Corre is Professor at the University of Réunion Island, a French overseas territory of the Indian Ocean.

Matthieu did his MSc and Ph-D on the behavioural ecology of seabirds of Europa Island between 1993 and 1998. He is leading the "seabird team" of the Marine Ecology Laboratory of the University of Réunion island since 2000. His main research topics are on tropical seabird ecology and conservation, with a special interest on islands of the western Indian Ocean (Réunion, the French scattered islands of the Mozambique Channel, the Seychelles and Madagascar). Matthieu is author or coauthor of more than 45 scientific papers on tropical seabirds. He has recently been awarded as a Pew Fellow in Marine Conservation. One of his projects is to track seabirds of the Indian Ocean at a regional scale to identify key hotspots for the conservation of seabirds and all associated marine life. Matthieu and his team work also on the impact of invasive mammals on seabird population dynamics and conservation. Matthieu is one of the 2 coordinators of the recently created Indian Ocean Seabird Group.

Representing [**Indian Ocean Seabird Group and University Reunion, Reunion Island**](#)

Ron LeValley

Representing [**Pacific Seabird Group**](#)

Donna Patterson-Fraser

Representing [Scientific Committee on Atlantic Research](#)

Norman Ratcliffe

Norman Ratcliffe studied life history strategies of great skuas on Foula for his PhD at the University of Glasgow. After this he worked for 10 months as an offshore observer and data analyst for the JNCC Seabirds at Sea Team, before leaving to join the RSPB as their Seabird Conservation Biologist. During his 13 year period with RSPB, Norman studied the population ecology of a wide range of bird species, particularly of skuas, terns, storm-petrels and black-tailed godwits within the UK and Ireland. Overseas, he studied responses of Ascension Island's seabirds to removal of feral cats, censused Fea's petrels on Cape Verde, developed approaches to determining sustainable egg harvests for Inuit communities in Greenland, and quantified tern trapping in Ghana. He left RSPB to work for British Antarctic Survey as a penguin biologist, where he has been in post for 1.5 years. Here he is developing research into the effects of foraging conditions penguins encounter, and the decisions they make when faced with these, upon their subsequent survival and reproduction. He was elected as Chair of the Seabird Group in 2007, and serves on a number of scientific committees.

Representing [The Seabird Group](#)

Dan Roby

Representing [Pacific Seabird Group](#)

Betty Anne Schreiber

Betty Anne's primary research over the past 35 years has involved studying the breeding biology, ecology, energetics, taxonomy and conservation of tropical seabirds, working primarily on atolls in the central Pacific and Caribbean. From 1977 through 1994 she was a Research Associate in the Bird Dept. at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History where, in addition to her research she worked extensively on fund raising with the Development Division and was the co-designer of a new bird hall with her late husband, Ralph. From 1995 through 2008 she was a Research Associate in the Bird Dept. at the National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C. From 1995 to 1997 she was Executive Director of the Ornithological Council, Washington, D.C. She has published over 65 scientific papers and edited two books on marine birds. She currently is semi-retired, living in the mountains of North Carolina, and learning to be a bird watcher.

Betty Anne has served on the boards of directors of the Cooper Ornithological Society, Association of Field Ornithologists, Waterbird Society and the Ornithological Council; as member of the Policy Council of American Bird Conservancy; as President of the Waterbird Society; as a consultant to several countries on seabird conservation issues; and on innumerable ornithological society committees. She was elected to Honorary membership in the Cooper Society and is a Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union.

Representing [The Waterbird Society](#)

Bill Sydeman

Representing [Farallon Institute for Advanced Ecosystem Research](#) and [Pacific Seabird Group](#)

Mark Tasker

Mark Tasker is the Head of Marine Advice at the UK's Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC – www.jncc.gov.uk), based in Aberdeen, Scotland. His responsibility is to advise on the nature conservation of the UK's seas and oceans, including those of UK's overseas territories, and of those organisms that use these areas. He is also a Vice-Chair of the Advisory Committee of the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas (ICES – www.ices.dk), a part-time paid post and is responsible for the marine ecosystem advice given by ICES, mostly to international governance bodies. He is vice chair of the Advisory Committee of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP – www.acap.aq), having helped negotiate and establish the Agreement in 2000. In the past I have worked extensively on seabirds, especially seabird distribution at sea and on seabird colony monitoring. I was chair of the Seabird Group from 2004-07 and sat for many years on the Pacific Seabird Group's executive committee.

Representing [Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels](#)

Graeme Taylor

Representing **Research & Development Group, Department of Conservation, New Zealand**

Yutaka Watanuki

Yutaka Watanuki is Associate Professor at the Graduate School of Fisheries Sciences, Hokkaido University since 2002. He graduated his MSc and PhD degrees with the works on the daily activity pattern of Leach's storm-petrels and species, inter-colony and individual variation in diet and foraging behaviour of two species of gulls in Hokkaido in 1981-1986. He had been working as assistant professor at National Institute of Polar Research in 1987-1993 and leading the project on Adelie penguin foraging behaviour in a fast sea-ice area. After moving to Graduate School of Agriculture, Hokkaido University, he has been working on the seabird diet, foraging behaviour and breeding biology monitoring program at Teuri Island, Hokkaido and also work on diving behaviour and physiology with Thick-billed Murres collaborating with Norwegian scientists during 1993-2002. During these several years at Graduate School of Fisheries Sciences, Hokkaido University, he is continuing monitoring at Teuri Island with his students, and also work on foraging strategy of European shags, thick billed murre and Streaked shearwaters in collaborating with Scottish, Alaskan, and Japanese seabird scientists using recently developed bio-logging techniques. His special interest is to understand interactions between marine physical and biological environment and seabird's foraging behaviour and breeding ecology. He is leading Japan Seabird Group and working on colony database in Japan. He has been a member of Pacific Seabird Group and PICES (North Pacific Marine Science organization).

Representing **Japanese Seabird Group and Hokkaido University, Japan**

Pablo Yorio

Pablo Yorio completed his Doctorate in Biological Sciences at the University of Buenos Aires. He has a research position at the Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (CONICET) and is currently acting as Technical Coordinator for the Wildlife Conservation Society Argentina Program. He is also Professor at the Universidad Nacional de la Patagonia. Since 1984 he has been working on the ecology and conservation of Patagonian seabirds, including penguins, gulls, terns and cormorants. Research topics have included distribution and abundance of breeding populations, breeding biology, habitat selection, feeding ecology, interactions with human activities and conservation strategies. He has written over ninety scientific articles, book chapters, and technical reports on issues related to seabirds in Argentina. He has acted as consultant in topics related to coastal and marine conservation for several national and international organizations.

Representing [Centro Nacional Patagónico \(CONICET\)](#) and **Wildlife Conservation Society**