

## RECOVERY OUTLINE

# Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross

1	Family	Diomedidae
2	Scientific name	<i>Thalassarche chlororhynchos</i> (Gmelin, 1789)
3	Common name	Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross
4	Conservation status	
	Population visiting Australian territory	Vulnerable: A2d

### 5 Reasons for listing

The size of the population visiting Australian waters will probably decrease by more than 20% over the next three generations (15 years: Vulnerable: A2) as a result of fishing bycatch (d). Globally, the species is listed as Data Deficient but listed here on a precautionary basis given trends in congeners.

Australian Fishing Zone	Estimate	Reliability
Extent of occurrence	5,000,000 km <sup>2</sup>	medium
trend	stable	medium
Area of occupancy	5,000 km <sup>2</sup>	low
trend	stable	medium
No. of breeding birds	73,000	low
trend	decreasing	low
Number of populations:	1	high
Generation time	15 years	medium

### 6 Intraspecific taxa

None described, the species having recently been separated from the Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross *T. carteri* (Robertson and Nunn, 1998).

### 7 Past range and abundance

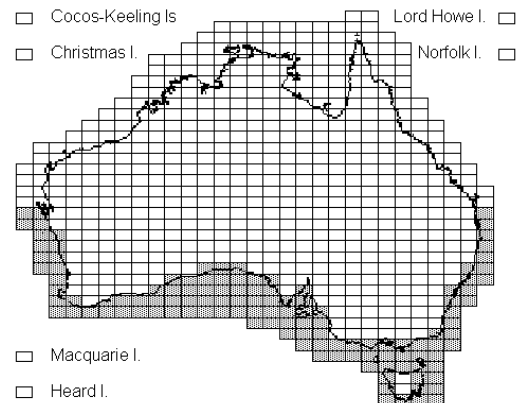
Breeding on islands of the southern Atlantic Ocean (Gough I. and five in Tristan da Cunha group); usually feeding in surrounding waters (Gales, 1998), but occasionally reaching Australian waters, south of 20°S (Marchant and Higgins, 1990).

### 8 Present range and abundance

Current global population estimated at 165,000-185,000 individuals, with 27,000 to 46,000 pairs estimated to breed annually in the 1970s and no recent estimates (Croxall and Gales, 1998). Colony at Gough I. may have decreased in size by 12-31% since the 1980s, but no reliable estimates for the other populations (Croxall and Gales, 1998, Gales, 1998). No evidence that distribution of the Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross has diminished over historical time.

### 9 Ecology

The Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross is a colonial nester that probably eats squid and fish (Cherel and Klages, 1998), although it has been recorded scavenging from fishing vessels (Adams, 1992, EABG, 1999).



### 10 Threats

Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatrosses are frequently trapped and drowned in longline fishing gear or collide with cables and warps used on fishing trawlers (Gales, 1998, Neves and Olmos, 1998, EABG, 1999).

### 11 Information required

- 11.1 Develop genetic profiles to determine provenance of birds caught as bycatch.

### 12 Recovery objectives

- 12.1 Reduce at-sea threats to acceptable levels.  
 12.2 Obtain global agreement on conservation measures required.  
 12.3 Promote public awareness of the conservation needs of albatrosses.

### 13 Actions completed or under way

- 13.1 A Threat Abatement Plan (TAP) to minimise fishing bycatch has been prepared (EABG, 1998).  
 13.2 Effective mitigation techniques have been developed and are being improved.  
 13.3 Bycatch rates in the AFZ and the success of mitigation measures are monitored and the results quickly analysed.  
 13.4 Measures known to be effective in mitigating seabird bycatch within the AFZ are promoted by legislation, a code of practice and education programs.

- 13.5 A Recovery Plan has been written and a Recovery Team is in place. Australian Fisheries Management Authority, Convention for Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, Ecologically Related Species Working Group of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna, Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations and its Committee on Fisheries, Incidental Mortality Arising from Longline Fishing – ad hoc Working Group of the Working Group on Fish Stock Assessment of Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, Tasmanian Fisheries Service, professional fishing industry groups.
- 14 Management actions required  
None.
- 15 Organisations responsible for conservation  
Environment Australia
- 16 Other organisations involved  
Antarctic Science Advisory Committee, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australian Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry - Australia,

#### 17 Staff and financial resources required for recovery to be carried out

<i>Staff resources required 2001-2005</i>	1.0	<i>Project Officer (international liaison)<sup>1</sup></i>	
	1.0	<i>Extension Officer<sup>1</sup></i>	
	3.0	<i>Technical Officers (fisheries observers)<sup>1</sup></i>	
<i>Financial resources required 2001-2005</i>			
<i>Action</i>	<i>Conservation agencies</i>	<i>Other funding sources</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Develop improved fishing bycatch mitigation<sup>1</sup></i>	\$10,500	\$10,500	\$21,000
<i>Monitor bycatch rates in the AFZ and success of mitigation measures<sup>1</sup></i>	\$3,600	\$8,600	\$12,200
<i>Analysis of annual bycatch data<sup>1</sup></i>	\$8,300	\$0	\$8,300
<i>Educate fishers in the AFZ in mitigation techniques<sup>1</sup></i>	\$6,300	\$5,400	\$11,700
<i>Inform national fora about the TAP<sup>11</sup></i>	\$2,300	\$0	\$2,300
<i>Inform international fora about the TAP and pursue international threat abatement</i>	\$3,900	\$0	\$3,900
<i>Maintain currency of TAP and report annually<sup>1</sup></i>	\$2,100	\$0	\$2,100
<i>Research on genetics<sup>2</sup></i>	\$500	\$500	\$1,000
<i>Managing recovery process<sup>2</sup></i>	\$4,600	\$1,800	\$6,400
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b>\$42,100</b>	<b>\$26,800</b>	<b>\$68,900</b>

<sup>1</sup> Costs for TAP actions divided amongst all 20 albatrosses, <sup>2</sup> giant-petrels, White-chinned Petrel and Grey Petrel

<sup>2</sup> Costs shared among 20 albatrosses and 2 giant-petrels

#### 18 Bibliography

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