

## RECOVERY OUTLINE

# Salvin's Albatross

1	Family	Diomedidae
2	Scientific name	<i>Thalassarche salvini</i> (Rothschild, 1893)
3	Common name	Salvin's Albatross
4	Conservation status	
	Population visiting Australian territory	Vulnerable: A2d

### 5 Reasons for listing

The size of the population visiting Australian waters is likely to decrease by more than 20% over the next three generations (45 years: Vulnerable: A2) as a result of fishing bycatch (d). Globally, the species breeds at fewer than five locations (Vulnerable: D2).

Australian Fishing Zone	Estimate	Reliability
Extent of occurrence	5,000,000 km <sup>2</sup>	medium
trend	stable	high
Area of occupancy	5,000 km <sup>2</sup>	low
trend	stable	medium
No. of breeding birds	62,000	low
trend	decreasing	low
No. of sub-populations	1	high
Generation time	15 years	medium

### 6 Intraspecific taxa

None described. Previously considered to be a subspecies of Shy Albatross *T. cauta*.

### 7 Past range and abundance

Nesting on Bounty, Snares and Chatham Is, south of New Zealand, as well as on Crozet Is, Indian Ocean (Gales, 1998). Forages over most of southern Pacific Ocean, where particularly common in Humboldt Current off South America. Small numbers in Indian Ocean and sometimes South Atlantic (Marchant and Higgins, 1990).

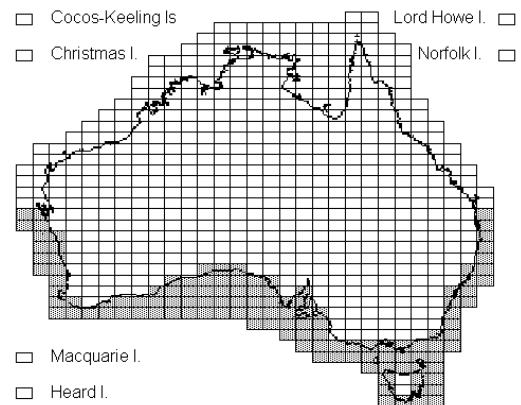
### 8 Present range and abundance

Distribution as above. Global population was estimated at 350,000 to 380,000 individuals, with 76,500 pairs breeding annually at Bounty Is (Croxall and Gales, 1998) but has since been recalculated as 30,750 pairs (Birdlife International, 2000). Population estimates used different methods so trends can only be inferred (Gales, 1998). In 1984 a further 650 pairs were estimated to breed in the Snares Is with two nests at the Pyramid, Chatham Is. and four at Ile de Pingouin, Crozet Is (Birdlife International, 2000).

### 9 Ecology

Salvin's Albatrosses nest in dense colonies on bare, rocky islands and feed primarily in shelf waters, probably taking inshore cephalopods and fish

(Marchant and Higgins, 1990). They also commonly follow fishing boats (Barton, 1979).



### 10 Threats

Coincidence of the feeding territory of Salvin's Albatross with the range of the longline fisheries exposes the species to drowning in longline fishing gear (EABG, 1999). Such deaths are likely to increase as longline fishery off Chile develops (Spear *et al.*, 1995). Deaths may also result from collision with cables and warps used on fishing trawlers (Gales, 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.

#### 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, 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.

#### 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>

#### *Financial resources required 2001-2005*

<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>1</sup></i>	\$2,300	\$0	\$2,300
<i>Inform international fora about the TAP and pursue international threat abatement<sup>1</sup></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>5</sup></i>	\$500	\$500	\$1,000
<i>Managing recovery process<sup>5</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, 2 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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#### Comments received from

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