RECOVERY OUTLINE

White-bellied Storm-Petrel (Tasman Sea)

1	Family	Hydrobatidae
2	Scientific name	*Fregetta grallaria grallaria* (Vieilott, 1817)
3	Common name	White-bellied Storm-Petrel (Tasman Sea)
4	Conservation status	Vulnerable: D2

5 Reasons for listing

Within Australian territory, the subspecies has a very restricted distribution, breeding at only two locations (Vulnerable: D2). Global status also Vulnerable: D2.

Australian breeding colonies	*Estimate*	*Reliability*
Extent of occurrence	*20 km²*	*high*
trend	*stable*	*high*
Area of occupancy	*3 km²*	*high*
trend	*stable*	*high*
No. of breeding birds	*1,000*	*low*
trend	*stable*	*high*
No. of sub-populations	*2*	*medium*
Largest sub-population	*700*	*low*
Generation time	*10 years*	*low*
Global population share	*40 %*	*low*
Level of genetic exchange	*low*	*low*

6 Infraspecific taxa

The other two subspecies, *F. g. leucogaster* (Tristan da Cunha, Amsterdam I., Isle St Paul) and *F. g. segethi* (Juan Fernandez I.), both occur outside Australian territory. Globally, the species is Least Concern.

7 Past range and abundance

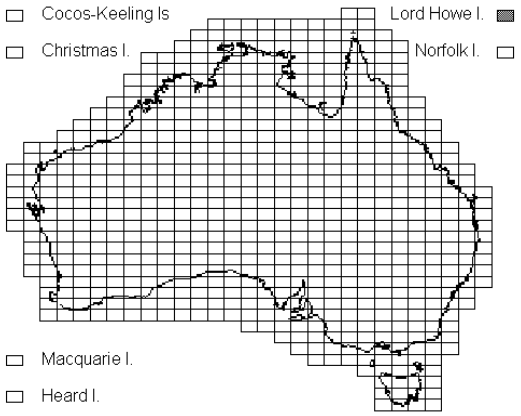
In Australian territory, breeding recorded Lord Howe I. and nearby islands (Roach I., Ball's Pyramid, Muttonbird I. and possibly Blackburn I.; Hindwood, 1940, Hutton, 1991). Also breeding on Curtis and Macauley I. (Kermadec Is), north of New Zealand. When not breeding, apparently disperses over Tasman Sea and possibly Coral Sea (Marchant and Higgins, 1990).

8 Present range and abundance

Extinct from Lord Howe I. since 1913 (Hindwood, 1940), but breeding continues on nearby islands (Marchant and Higgins, 1990, Hutton, 1991).

9 Ecology

White-bellied Storm-Petrels breed in rock crevices on islands and forage far out to sea. They feed pelagically on squid and crustaceans (Hutton, 1991).



10 Threats

Having been eliminated from Lord Howe I. within a year of the arrival of Black Rats *Rattus rattus* (Hindwood, 1940, Fullagar and Disney, 1975), White-bellied Storm-Petrels are likely to be vulnerable to accidental introduction of rats to their refuges.

11 Information required

11.1 Develop a measure of population size that can be used to indicate trends in abundance.

12 Recovery objectives

12.1 Maintain numbers on islands currently used for nesting.

12.2 Enable expansion of sub-population to Lord Howe I.

13 Actions completed or under way

13.1 Strict quarantine is maintained on any vessels visiting Roach I. and Ball's Pyramid.

14 Management actions required

14.1 Census sub-population on Roach I. and Ball's Pyramid, or measure an indicator of population size, at least once every five years.

14.2 Eradicate rats from Lord Howe I.

15 Organisations responsible for conservation

New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service.

16 Other organisations involved

None.

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

Staff resources required 2001-2005 *0.05* *Project Officer* [1]

Financial resources required 2001-2005

Action	***Conservation agencies***	***Other funding sources***	*Total*
Develop census techniques	$10,000	$10,000	$20,000
Monitoring Lord Howe I. [1]	$8,000	$0	$8,000
Rat eradication Lord Howe I.[2]	$100,000	$0	$100,000
Total	$118,000	$10,000	$128,000

1. Cost divided among Providence Petrel, Kermadec Petrel, Little Shearwater, White-bellied Storm-Petrel, Masked Booby, Woodhen, Grey Ternlet and Pied Currawong.
2. Cost divided among Providence Petrel, Kermadec Petrel, Little Shearwater, White-bellied Storm-Petrel and Grey Ternlet.

18 Bibliography

Fullagar, P. J. and Disney, H. J. de S. 1975. The birds of Lord Howe Island: a report on the rare and endangered species. *ICBP Bull.* 12:187-202.

Hindwood, K. A. 1940. The birds of Lord Howe Island. *Emu* 40:1-86.

Hutton, I. 1991. *Birds of Lord Howe Island, Past and Present*. The Author, Coffs Harbour.

Marchant, S. and Higgins, P. J. (eds) 1990. *The Handbook of Australian, New Zealand and Antarctic Birds.* Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

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