



MINISTRY OF FISHERIES
Te Tautiaki i nga tini a Tangaroa

Meeting: Conservation Services Programme Technical Working Group
National Plan of Action – Seabirds Technical Working Group
Joint meeting with MFish Aquatic Environment Working Group

Date: 12 July 2010

Time: 12:30-1:30 pm

Place: MFish Head Office, Wellington

Chair: Russell Harding (ph: 04-471 3204; email: rharding@doc.govt.nz)

Present: Ed Abraham (Dragonfly), Yvan Richard (Dragonfly), Martin Cryer (MFish), Nathan Walker (MFish), Marine Pomarede (SeaFIC), Paul Breen (SeaFIC), Greg Lydon (SeaFIC), Richard Wells (DWG), Kris Ramm (DOC), Igor Debski (DOC), Graeme Taylor (DOC), David Thompson (NIWA), Paul Sagar (NIWA), Chris Francis (NIWA), Barry Baker (Latitude 42), Jeremy Helson (MFish), Paul Scofield (Canterbury Museum)

Apologies:

Note: details of the preceding MFish AEWG meeting will be made available by MFish and is not covered here.

INT2007/02. Autopsy report for seabirds killed and returned from NZ fisheries 2008/09, and update from 2009/10 fishing year. Presentation by David Thompson, NIWA.

RH opened the CSP TWG session, and apologised for the draft report not being available on the MCS website due to technical problems.

DT's presentation and draft report are now available for download alongside these minutes at www.doc.govt.nz/mcs

- GL enquired where the spotted shag captures occurred
- DT – details can be found in the report appendices
- DT/RW – there was some discussion on the timing of sooty shearwater captures. DT to provide more details
- GT – are all Buller's albatross of the Southern (sub)species?
- DT – yes, Northern/Pacific reported separately, but identification is difficult, second opinions are generally sought for difficult specimens
- GL noted that ACAP consider Buller's to be only one species

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- ID clarified that DT is required to report to the lowest taxonomic level possible regardless of current taxonomic status of species/subspecies
- RW asked for clarification of “discard”
- DT – all unnatural items, i.e. including offal
- EA enquired on the use of photos
- ID – project looking at historic photos is well progressed and will report at the next TWG. From 2010 onwards analysis of photos is being included with autopsy to create a new seabird identification project (see MCS 2010-11 Annual Plan for further details)
- CF noted the change in observer coverage (more inshore bottom longline coverage in FMA 1) was related to the increased number of black petrels autopsied
- BB noted that the number of Westland petrels autopsied was relatively low

RH called for any further written comments on the draft 2008-09 report by the end of July, and closed the session.