RECOVERY OUTLINE

Grey-backed Storm-Petrel

1	Family	Hydrobatidae
2	Scientific name	*Oceanites nereis* Gould, 1840
3	Common name	Grey-backed Storm-Petrel
4	Conservation status	
	Australian breeding population:	Endangered: D
	Population visiting Australian territory:	Least Concern

5 Reasons for listing

The Australian population is very small and appears to breed at only two locations (Vulnerable: D2). The global population is Least Concern, but it is assumed there is little genetic exchange with other sub-populations. The national status of the breeding population is therefore determined independently of the global status (as per Gärdenfors *et al*., 1999).

Australian breeding colonies	*Estimate*	*Reliability*
Extent of occurrence	*5,000,000 km²*	*medium*
trend	*stable*	*high*
Area of occupancy	*20 km²*	*medium*
trend	*stable*	*high*
No. of breeding birds	*250*	*low*
trend	*stable*	*low*
No. of sub-populations	*2*	*low*
Largest sub-population	*200*	*low*
Generation time	*10 years*	*medium*
Global population share	*< 1 %*	*high*
Level of genetic exchange	*low*	*low*

6 Infraspecific taxa

None described.

7 Past range and abundance

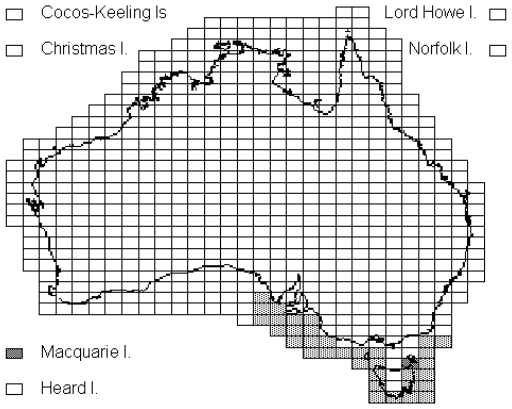
Probably breeds in Australian territory on Macquarie I., where population estimated at 100 pairs (Rounsevell and Brothers, 1984), and on islands off Tasmania (Brothers *et al*., 1996). Extralimital populations breed on islands throughout Southern Ocean. During winter, southern birds migrate northwards after breeding, and subspecies becomes more numerous near Australian coast (Marchant and Higgins, 1990).

8 Present range and abundance

Distribution as above. About 100 pairs estimated to breeds on Macquarie I. (Rounsevell and Brothers, 1984) but never proven (Marchant and Higgins, 1990).

9 Ecology

Grey-backed Storm-Petrels nest on the ground under vegetation. They eat immature barnacles, supplemented with a few small fish (Marchant and Higgins, 1990).



10 Threats

On land, Grey-backed Storm-Petrels will be particularly vulnerable to cats and rats, which could already have had an impact on the sub-population on Macquarie I.

11 Information required

11.1 Confirm presence on Macquarie I. and in Bass Strait.

11.2 Determine trends in numbers.

12 Recovery objectives

12.1 A stable or increasing population over a period of decades.

13 Actions completed or under way

13.1 Opportunistic monitoring of breeding population size and success is continuing.

13.2 Feral animal control is ongoing.

14 Management actions required

None.

15 Organisations responsible for conservation

Australian Antarctic Division, Environment Australia Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service.

16 Other organisations involved

Antarctic Science Advisory Committee.

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

Staff resources required 2001-2005

1.0	*Technical Officer (monitoring)* [1]
1.0	*Technical Officer (ferals)* [1]

Financial resources required 2001-2005

Action	*Conservation agencies*	*Other funding sources*	*Total*
Monitoring breeding population [1]	$15,800	$0	$15,800
Feral animal control [1]	$277,900	$0	$277,900
Total	$293,700	$0,000	**$293,700**

1 Costs of Macquarie I. monitoring and feral animal control shared among 19 threatened taxa.

18 Bibliography

Brothers, N., Pemberton, D., Gales, R and Skira, I. 1996. The status of seabirds in Tasmania. Pp. 181-184 in G. J. B. Ross, K. Weaver and J. C. Greig (eds) *The status of Australia's seabirds: Proceedings of the National Seabird Workshop, Canberra, 1-2 November 1993.* Biodiversity Group, Environment Australia, Canberra.

Gärdenfors, U., Rodríguez, J.P., Hilton-Taylor, C., Hyslop, C., Mace, G., Molur, S. and Poss, S. 1999. Draft guidelines for the Application of IUCN Red List Criteria at National and Regional Levels. *Species* 31-32:58-70.

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

Rounsevell, D. E. and Brothers, N. P. 1984. The status of seabirds on Macquarie Island. Pp. 587-592 in *Status and Conservation of the World's Seabirds.* ICBP Tech. Publ. 2. J. P. Croxall, P. G. H. Evans and R. W. Schreiber (eds). ICBP, Cambridge, U. K.