

## RECOVERY OUTLINE

# Round Island Petrel

|   |                     |   |
|---|---------------------|---|
| 1 | Family              | Procellariidae  |
| 2 | Scientific name     | <i>Pterodroma arminjoniana</i> Giglioli and Salvadori, 1869 |
| 3 | Common name         | Round Island Petrel   |
| 4 | Conservation status | Critically Endangered: D                                    |

### 5 Reasons for listing

In Australian territory, this species has a tiny population restricted to one location (Critically Endangered D). Globally, the species breeds at fewer than five locations (Vulnerable D2). There is no evidence to suggest that the species is newly arrived or there is genetic exchange with extralimital 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         | 1 km <sup>2</sup> | high        |
| trend                        | stable            | low         |
| Area of occupancy            | 1 km <sup>2</sup> | low         |
| trend                        | stable            | low         |
| No. of breeding birds        | 25                | low         |
| trend                        | stable            | low         |
| No. of sub-populations       | 1                 | high        |
| Generation time              | 10 years          | low         |
| Global population share      | < 1 %             | medium      |
| Level of genetic exchange    | low               | low         |

### 6 Intraspecific taxa

None described. Recently separated from Herald Petrel *P. heraldica* of the Pacific Ocean (Brooke and Rowe, 1996).

### 7 Past range and abundance

In Australian territory, probably breeding on North Keeling I. (Stokes and Goh, 1987). Also breeding on Round I., near Mauritius and Trinidad I. and Martin Vaz Rocks in the Atlantic Ocean. Foraging in surrounding waters, mostly south of the equator (Marchant and Higgins, 1990, Brooke and Rowe, 1996).

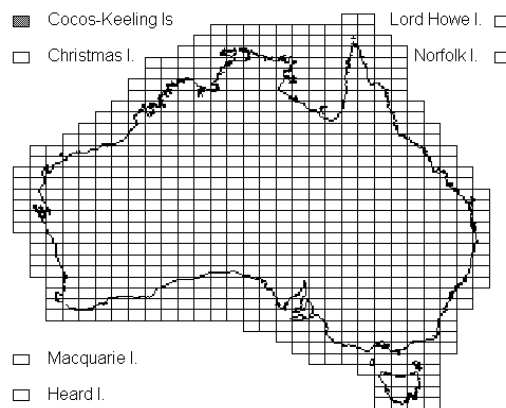
### 8 Present range and abundance

As above, with the population on North Keeling I. very small (Stokes and Goh, 1987).

### 9 Ecology

Round Island Petrels have been recorded nesting on the rocky Round I., but also, like the Herald Petrel, appear to be able to nest among shrubs on sand cays.

They forage at sea, probably for cephalopods, though their diet is virtually unknown (Marchant and Higgins, 1990).



### 10 Threats

The tiny population on North Keeling I. would be vulnerable to catastrophe, such as the accidental introduction of predators.

### 11 Information required

- 11.1 Determine size and population trends on North Keeling I. by timing annual visits to coincide with most likely breeding season (Feb. - July).

### 12 Recovery objectives

- 12.1 Maintain population on North Keeling I.

### 13 Actions completed or under way

None.

### 14 Management actions required

- 14.1 Through education and other means ensure strict quarantine on North Keeling I.

### 15 Organisations responsible for conservation

Environment Australia.

### 16 Other organisations involved

None.

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

Staff resources required 2001-2005

0.05

Technical Officer<sup>1</sup>

Financial resources required 2001-2005

| Action  | Conservation agencies | Other funding sources | Total          |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Monitor North Keeling I. <sup>1</sup>               | \$3,800               | \$0                   | \$3,800        |
| Ensure quarantine for North Keeling I. <sup>1</sup> | \$5,000               | \$0                   | \$5,000        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>\$8,800</b>        | <b>\$0</b>            | <b>\$8,800</b> |

<sup>1</sup> Costs shared among Round Island Petrel, Masked Booby, White-tailed Tropicbird and Buff-banded Rail

## 18 Bibliography

Brooke, M. de L. and Rowe, G. 1996. Behavioural and molecular evidence for specific status of the light and dark morphs of the Herald Petrel *Pterodroma heraldica*. *Ibis* 138:420-432.

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.

Stokes, T. and Goh, P. 1987. Records of Herald Petrels and the Christmas Frigatebird from North Keeling Island, Indian Ocean. *Aust. Bird Watcher* 12:132-133.

Comments received from  
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