

TAXON SUMMARY

White-necked Petrel

1	Family	Procellariidae
2	Scientific name	<i>Pterodroma cervicalis</i> (Rothschild, 1893)
3	Common name	White-necked Petrel
4	Conservation status	
	Australian breeding population	Vulnerable: D2
	Population visiting Australian territory	Vulnerable: D2

5 Reasons for listing

The population is small enough to be listed as Critically Endangered: D but, because it is a new colonist, its status is downgraded (as per Gärdenfors *et al.*, 1999) to match its global status, which is also Vulnerable.

Australian breeding colonies	Estimate	Reliability
Extent of occurrence	500 km ²	low
trend	stable	high
Area of occupancy	1 km ²	high
trend	stable	high
No. of breeding birds	10	low
trend	increasing	medium
No. of sub-populations	1	high
Generation time	10 years	low
Global population share	<1 %	high
Level of genetic exchange	high	high

6 Intraspecific taxa

None described.

7 Past range and abundance

Before 1995, breeding recorded only on Macauley I. and Raoul I. in the Kermadec group. It migrates to the north Pacific Ocean when not breeding (Marchant and Higgins, 1990).

8 Present range and abundance

Recorded breeding in Australian territory on Phillip I. near Norfolk I. only in the last 5 years (Heather and Robertson, 1996). Locally extinct on Raoul I. early in the 20th century. Population of 100,000 on Macauley I. may be expanding.

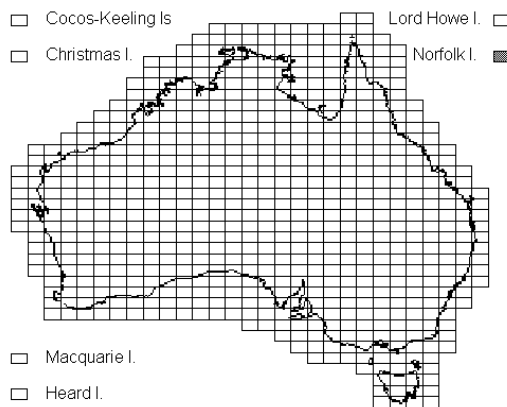
9 Ecology

White-necked Petrels nest in burrows excavated in gently sloping grassy areas, and eat cephalopods and crustaceans taken from the open ocean (Marchant and Higgins, 1990, Heather and Robertson, 1996).

10 Threats

As breeding is confined to one islet, the species is vulnerable to catastrophe, such as the accidental introduction of the Black Rat *Rattus rattus*, which

occurs on the adjacent Norfolk I. Brown rats *Rattus norvegicus* are thought to have caused their extinction from Raoul I. (Marchant and Higgins, 1990). Further information is required to determine whether the species is affected by longline fishing.



11 Information required

None

12 Recovery objectives

12.1 Maintain protection for current breeding population, to enable expansion.

13 Actions completed or under way

13.1 The Phillip I. breeding sub-population is monitored by the Norfolk Island Naturalists' Association.

13.2 Strict quarantine is maintained on any vessels visiting Phillip I.

13.3 Rat baiting and cat trapping is occurring in Norfolk Island National Park, and this may enable colonisation.

13.4 Responsible cat ownership on Norfolk I. is being encouraged through sponsorship of a cat de-sexing clinic, and a ban on the importation of reproductively-competent cats is being supported.

14 Management actions required

14.1 Census sub-population on Phillip I. every three years.

- 14.2 Establish cooperative rodent control programs throughout Norfolk I, with a view to rat eradication.
- 14.3 Enhance rat baiting and cat trapping on Norfolk I. and monitor its efficacy.
- 15 Organisations responsible for conservation
Environment Australia.
- 16 Other organisations involved
Norfolk Island Naturalists' Association.

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

Staff resources required 2001-2005

0.05

Technical Officer¹

Financial resources required 2001-2005

Action	Conservation agencies	Other funding sources	Total
Monitoring Phillip I. ¹	\$2,500	\$500	\$3,000
Rat baiting in Norfolk Island National Park ²	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
Cooperative rodent control on Norfolk I. ²	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
Cat trapping Norfolk I. ²	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
Encourage responsible cat ownership on Norfolk I. ²	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000
Total	\$137,500	\$500	\$138,000

1. Cost divided among Providence Petrel, Kermadec Petrel, White-necked Petrel, Little Shearwater, Masked Booby and Grey Ternlet

2. Cost divided among threatened taxa on Norfolk I.

18 Bibliography

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.

Heather, B. D. and Robertson, H. A. 1996. *A Field Guide to the Birds of New Zealand*. Auckland, Viking Press.

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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