**PSG 2017 Website**

**Tacoma, WA**

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**HOME**

Welcome to the 2017 PSG Annual Meeting webpage!

The 2017 Annual Meeting of the Pacific Seabird Group will be held at the [Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center](http://gtctc.org/) in downtown [Tacoma](https://goo.gl/maps/zxQu2HpWR6N2), WA, 22-25 February 2017.

Tacoma is ideally situated along the shores of southern Puget Sound where you’ll find great places to run, hike, kayak, paddleboard and, of course, birdwatch - Puget Sound is a nationally significant wintering area for a wide diversity of marine birds. Boasting stunning natural surroundings, with Mount Rainier in full view, you can enjoy the mesmerizing outdoors just minutes from the downtown.  Tacoma’s downtown core has undergone significant urban renewal with growing food, music and artistic scenes. Conference attendees will have easy access to museums, urban parks, fine dining, nightlife, microbreweries, and local coffee and tea shops. Within walking distance of the conference hotel, attendees will find the [Washington State History Museum](http://www.washingtonhistory.org/), the [Tacoma Art Museum](http://www.tacomaartmuseum.org/), and the [Tacoma Museum of Glass](https://museumofglass.org/) (think Dale Chihuly). A bit further away, you will find the [Point Defiance Zoo](http://www.pdza.org/) located in the vast and beautiful [Point Defiance Park](http://www.metroparkstacoma.org/point-defiance-park/).

Questions? Contact the following people:

**Local committee Co-Chairs**

Peter Hodum, Oikonos Ecosystem Knowledge

Scott Pearson, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Nathalie Hamel, Puget Sound Partnership

Email: locochair@pacificseabirdgroup.org

**Scientific Program Chair**

Kyra Mills-Parker, Oiled Wildlife Care Network

Email: programchair@pacificseabirdgroup.org

**Awards Chair**

Kathy Kuletz

Email: kathy\_kuletz@fws.gov

**Student representative**

Chris Tyson

Email: cwtyson@ucdavis.edu

**PROGRAM & SCHEDULE**

**Important dates:**

Deadline for proposing Special Paper Sessions, Symposia and nominations of Plenary Speakers: Friday, August 19th, 2016

Registration and abstract submission opens: Friday, September 30th, 2016

Travel award deadline: Friday, October 28th, 2016

Abstract submission deadline: Friday, November 18th, 2016

Abstract and travel award acceptance notification: Friday, December 9th, 2016

Early registration ends and rates increase by $50: Friday, December 30th, 2016

**Meeting overview:**

February 22nd, 2017: registration, committee meetings

February 23rd, 2017: regular paper sessions ~8:30am -5pm; evening poster session reception 6:30pm

February 24th, 2017: regular paper sessions ~8:30am -5pm; evening student mentoring mixer 6:30pm

February 25th,2017: regular paper sessions ~8:30am -5pm; closing banquet 6:30pm

Program and detailed schedule:

Coming soon.

**REGISTRATION**

Registration and abstract submission opens: Friday, September 30th, 2016

To register, go to: www.regonline.com/psg2017

Early bird rates\* (before December 30th, 2016) are:

Member: $355

Non-member: $400

Student member: $225

Student non-member: $250

One day: $170

**\* After the early bird registration deadline (December 30th), registration rates in all categories will increase by $50\*. There will be an extra $10 processing fee for registration online.**

**If you submit an abstract and opt to pay later, you must pay by the early registration deadline, or your rate will increased by $50.**

Registration fee covers for attendance to the scientific program, welcome reception, coffee breaks, poster session reception, lunch for the Executive Committee meeting, and lunch for the Conservation Committee meeting.

**Food and banquet:**

Lunches are not included except for those attending the Conservation Committee meeting. On Saturday February 25th, we will have the banquet which will be $70. A limited number of banquet tickets are available when you register and on-site during the meeting if any are left. Please purchase tickets early to assist the Local Committee Chair with planning the event.

**How to change your registration or pay with a different credit card:**

If you would like to register, pay on a business card and then add items that you will pay for on a different card (i.e. field trips, banquets, shirts etc) please download the following pictoral guide that will walk you through it. You will need access to the e-mail account you registered with during this process to complete the transaction.

**Registration or regonline questions?** E-mail: loco@pacificseabirdgroup.org

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

\*\*Abstract submission instructions, oral and poster presentation guidelines coming soon!\*\*

**43rd PSG: First call for Symposia, Special Paper Sessions, and Plenary Speakers**

In preparation for this great meeting, now is the time to put your thinking caps on, as we need help lining up great Plenary speakers and putting together engaging Special Paper Sessions and Symposia.

To suggest a **Plenary Speaker**, please submit a name, contact information, and presentation topic to me by **19 AUGUST 2016**.

Would you like to organize or co-organize a **Special Paper Session** or **Symposium**? If so, please submit your proposal to me by **19 AUGUST 2016**. If you are interested in suggesting a Special Paper Session or Symposium, please email me for a form to fill out.

**Special Paper Sessions** are a coherent set of talks not designed to be published. The session could involve 6-18 speakers, depending on the scope of the topic, and be scheduled for half or full day of the conference. They can include a series of relevant studies with an overview presentation to bring together experts in a particular field (e.g. species-specific such as "Foraging and breeding ecology of a high Arctic auk, the Dovekie *Alle alle*", or broader topics such as "Move them or lure them: translocation and social attraction in seabird conservation" (both from PSG 2016). They could also be comprised of mainly student papers on a specific topic to highlight student research or increase student participation at PSG. Be creative!

A **Symposium** is a coherent set of talks designed to be published, thus everyone contributing to the Symposium will also need to prepare the paper for publication afterwards. Symposia have a synthetic overview or broad topical coverage, designed to advance a particular topic (e.g., Ecology and status of rare and threatened Pacific auks, PSG 2016).

Both Special Paper Sessions and Symposia can be comprised of invited speakers only or a combination of invited and open submission of abstracts for their topic.

Stay tuned for the First Call for Abstracts in September 2016. Please contact me if you have questions.

Thank you for your help in putting together a great meeting!

Kyra Parker-Mills, Scientific Chair

ProgramChair@PacificSeabirdGroup.org

INFORMATION ABOUT ABSTRACT SUBMISSION, REGISTRATION IS COMING SOON!

**HOTEL & TRAVEL INFO**

The Pacific Seabird Group is excited about this year’s conference venue: the [Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center](http://gtctc.org/) in downtown [Tacoma](https://goo.gl/maps/zxQu2HpWR6N2), WA. Located in Tacoma’s downtown core, the convention center is a modern building, ideally designed and situated for a scientific meeting like the PSG meeting.

We selected the [Hotel Murano](http://www.hotelmuranotacoma.com/) for accommodations. Hotel Murano is a beautiful boutique hotel located adjacent to the Tacoma Convention Center and steps from the city’s best museums and restaurants. We recommend booking your accommodations well in advance so that you can secure a room at the low rate of $112.

**Rates and Booking**

Room rates start at $112 plus tax for single and double occupants.

Online and phone reservations at the $112 rate are accepted now until February 1st, 2017. After this date, you will not be guaranteed a rate of $112.

**1. Reservation Link:**

A dedicated booking website has been created for our event and guests will be able to make, modify and cancel their hotel reservations online.

To make reservations through the website:

<http://bookings.ihotelier.com/bookings.jsp?groupID=1652494&hotelID=15048>

**2. Call-in Reservations:**

You may also call in to make reservations at **253-238-8000** or **888-862-3255.** Please ask for the **“Pacific Seabird Conference Room Block”** to ensure you receive the rate when you call before February 1st, 2017.

**Air Travel**

Multiple major air carriers service to [Seattle-Tacoma International Airport](https://www.portseattle.org/Sea-Tac/Pages/default.aspx) from the US, Canada and the Pacific Region.

**Ground transportation and parking**

The Greater Tacoma Convention Center and Hotel Murano are located 22 miles from the Seattle-Tacoma International airport.

By car, it’s about 30 minutes. Traffic can be heavy going southbound on I-5 and can easily add 15 to 30 minutes so please plan accordingly. There is parking at the hotel and convention center for a fee.

Bus service is convenient from the airport. The bus ride takes 30 minutes. Use Sound Transit, [route 574](http://m.soundtransit.org/schedules?direction=outbound#40_574). Pick up the bus at the airport Bay 2, take the 574 going in the “Tacoma-Lakewood” direction, and get off at the Tacoma Dome Station stop. From there, you can take the [Tacoma Light Rail Link](http://m.soundtransit.org/schedules#40_TLINK) to downtown, get off at the Convention Center station. The link goes by every 24 minutes.

Bus fare $3.75

Tacoma Light Rail Link free

[Uber](https://www.uber.com/cities/tacoma/) is in Tacoma, for an alternative way to get around.

**What do I bring?**

Rain jackets and sunglasses! In February, the average temperature in Tacoma ranges from 38 to 49 deg F and it may be overcast and rainy. But the sun may shine too!

**STUDENTS**

**Student Mentoring Dinner**

We will once again have a student/mentor dinner on Friday the 24th. This will be an opportunity for students to meet some of PSG’s more long standing members, as well as a chance for students to learn about career paths covering academia, government, teaching, research, management, and policy. This event is open to everyone and we encourage participation from all members from all career stages. Food will be provided and lively discussion is guaranteed. For planning purposes, if you are interested in participating, please fill out this [form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1wwahns7CEVjjsgDxir7O3JJ9og0MnO6KA2GxVyi8xTY/viewform), however RSVP’ing isn’t strictly mandatory, so please consider showing up for half an hour, or the whole night. Stay tuned for more information regarding time and place.

**Silent Auction**

The annual silent auction to benefit student travel will be held throughout the meeting. This event has been a great success in the past, thank you to everyone who has donated or bought items at the auction. We are soliciting donations for the auction and if you have something you would like to donate, please contact the student representative, Chris Tyson cwtyson@ucdavis.edu. Popular auction items include artwork, photographs, crafts, books and field guides, t-shirts, field gear, and any interesting seabird memorabilia. Thanks very much for your continued support of PSG students.

**Volunteering**

Volunteers are key to a successful meeting. Usual volunteering duties include general organizing help, troubleshooting audio/visual during the paper sessions, and judging student papers. If you are interested in volunteering, please let us know at locochair@pacificseabirdgroup.org or by selecting one of the volunteer options in regonline when you register.

**FIELD TRIPS**

**Will be announced soon.**