

# Pacific Seabird Group



DEDICATED TO THE STUDY AND CONSERVATION OF PACIFIC SEABIRDS AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT

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March 9, 2009

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Dear Ambassador Warren,

Please pass on the following message to His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales in response to his message to the Pacific Seabird Group at their meeting in Hakodate, Hokkaido, Japan in February 2009.

Sir:

The Pacific Seabird Group (PSG) was delighted to receive your warmest good wishes for a successful meeting in Japan. Indeed, our 36<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting was the first ever to be held in Japan and it was a great success. We had 171 participants representing eleven countries. Ninety-eight scientific talks and thirty-six posters were presented over the course of the four day scientific program which included a symposium open to the public. Many well attended presentations were made on albatross conservation, including four from Japan and, in particular, a plenary lecture by Dr. Hiroshi Hasegawa on his stunningly successful work on Short-tailed Albatross recovery on Torishima, Japan. Collectively, the PSG meeting presented seabird conservation (including albatross-fishery interactions) to the Japanese public and officials through the public symposium, show-cased extensive conservation-related research and management on North Pacific albatrosses and also facilitated side-meetings with Japanese officials to discuss possible Japanese future involvement with the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP). The

Ambassador David Warren

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PSG awarded Dr. Yutaka Watanuki with a Special Achievement Award and also recognized the significant contributions of Dr. Haruo Ogi to seabird conservation science with a Lifetime Achievement Award. Twenty-three students received travel support from PSG and our local planning committee in Hakodate. Four outstanding students received awards for their presentations.


The Pacific Seabird Group is a non-profit society of professional seabird researchers and managers dedicated to the study and conservation of seabirds and their environment (<http://www.pacificseabirdgroup.org/>). To promote global collaboration among seabird researchers and conservationists the Pacific Seabird Group is hosting the first World Seabird Conference in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, from 7 -11 September 2010. We have formed an International Organizing Committee and seek participation of all scientific seabird groups from around the globe. To date we have representatives from twenty-one seabird groups who plan to attend the WSC. We are preparing an ambitious agenda which includes four symposia to be published (topics will include seabird / fishery interactions [especially with albatrosses], global climate change and seabirds, seabird island restoration, and seabird movements around the globe), many special paper sessions, workshops and products such as global databases. We have posted information on the World Seabird Conference on PSG's website at:  
<http://www.pacificseabirdgroup.org/index.php?f=WSC2010&t=&s=1>

Because of your strong interests and advocacy regarding seabird conservation we wish to request that you do us the honour of opening the first World Seabird Conference in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada in September 2010. We believe that your involvement would most certainly raise the profile of seabird conservation issues in the world's eyes and will therefore assist in the transfer of seabird conservation science and ideals to the broadest of audiences.

We would greatly appreciate your consideration of our request to open the first World Seabird Conference on September 8, 2010. Please note that the event will be held at the Victoria Conference Centre which is equipped with the level of security required to host heads of state. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

In closing we wish to reiterate our deepest thanks for your support for our meeting in Japan and for our conservation activities in general.

Sincerely,



Greg Balogh, Chair  
Pacific Seabird Group



By fax: 0138 23 0239

Professor Yutaka Watanuki  
Chair, Japan Group  
Pacific Seabird Group  
C/o Hakodate Kokusai Hotel  
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From the Ambassador  
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Dear Professor Watanuki,

I have been asked by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales to pass on the enclosed message to the Pacific Seabird Group at their meeting in Hokkaido. As Chair of the Japan Group I should be very grateful if you could convey HRH's message to your colleagues at the meeting.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

**David Warren**



**TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE  
PRINCE OF WALES TO THE PACIFIC SEABIRD GROUP**

Begins:

If I may, and in view of the fact that I discussed this with the Prime Minister during my visit to Japan in October last year, I just wanted to send my warmest good wishes for the current meeting of the Pacific Seabird Group.

I know how vital Japan's support is for the future of the Pacific seabird and so could not be more delighted that Japan has agreed to host this important event.

The cause of the Pacific Seabird has long been close to my heart and I have often been involved in trying to help efforts to prevent their destruction and, indeed, their threatened extinction. I believe most strongly that if as many countries as possible – and particularly Japan – could ratify the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, then it would go a long way towards assisting the long term survival of these beautiful and endangered creatures.

I pray with all my heart that your meeting will be a success and that it will make a vital contribution towards halting the decline of these remarkably evocative birds which have had such a close association with Man.

Ends