Committee Name: PSG Delegates to the World Seabird Union
Date formed: 2012

Overview: The World Seabird Union (WSU) was incorporated in January 2012 and is made up of 802 delegates and 20 marine ornithological organizations from 54 countries. The WSU mission is to place seabird research, management, and conservation into a worldwide perspective, to facilitate partnerships and share research, knowledge, and ideas on a global level. The Pacific Seabird Group (PSG) is a founding member organization and has a primary and alternate delegate to the WSU Executive Council. The PSG delegate votes for the Executive Board and Officers and bylaw changes. They do not vote on Board decisions, but attend conference calls, contribute to discussions, participate in committees, and assist in planning the next World Seabird Conference (WSC). Committees to date include financial planning, review of conservation proposals, conference planning, fundraising, communications, early career scientists, awards, elections, and a Committee on Seabirds & Plastic Pollution (see: https://www.seabirds.net/world-seabird-union/about-us/). Delegates provide updates as needed and an annual report to the PSG Executive Council. We recommend that delegates serve for five years, allowing new representatives to begin after a WSC and help plan the next one.

Delegates Kathy Kuletz and Kim Nelson have served more than full terms, and again, would like to give others the opportunity to represent PSG! If you are interested, contact kim.nelson@oregonstate.edu, or the PSG Chair.

During 2022 the new WSU Chair, Dr. Lindsay Young, initiated development of a Strategic Plan for the WSU, and board meetings have focused on this endeavor. Dr. Young contracted Eastern Research Group – ERG, Blue Earth Team to conduct interviews with board members and delegates, to scope concepts on WSU mission, goals, and operations. The board reviewed preliminary reports and will be finalizing the plan by February 2023.

The Strategic Plan will include vision/mission, core values, performance measures, governance, staffing, budget, revenue, communications, partnerships, monitoring/evaluation/adaptive management, and other areas. A five member steering committee was established to work with ERG/Blue Earth Team to work on the plan.

Goals of the delegates:

1. Participate in WSU meetings and advise during discussions, particularly with respect to the goals and objectives of PSG
2. Serve as a liaison between the PSG and WSU Executive Councils
3. Keep the PSG Executive Council informed about WSU discussions, proposals, and actions.

Most recent report: (this is the report).

Contact: For more information, email Kathy Kuletz Kathy_kuletz@fws.gov or Kim Nelson kim.nelson@oregonstate.edu

Relevant Photo – None available