

To: Pacific Seabird Group Executive Council

From: Katie O'Reilly Elections Committee Coordinator

Jane Dolliver, Member, Elections Committee

Alexis Will, Member, Elections Committee

Date: 25 February 2025

PSG Elections Committee Report 2025

A. Elections overview and results

The PSG Elections for the 2025-2026 Executive Council closed on Monday, 24 February 2025 at 11:59PM. The candidates in bold below are the membership-recommended candidates to be approved by vote of the Executive Council on Thursday, 27 February 2025. There are currently no ties. There was 1 write-in candidate listed for Canada Regional Representative.

Chair-elect: **Don Lyons**

Secretary: **Laura Bliss**

Vice-Chair for Conservation: Aspen Ellis, **Scott Pearson**

Canada Regional Representative: **Kerry Woo**

Non-Pacific U.S. States Regional Representative: Natasha Gownaris, **Julia Gulka**

Southern California, Latin America and Hawaii Regional Representative: **Jim Howard**

Washington and Oregon Regional Representative: **Ryan Carle**

B. Summary of the 2025 elections process:

1. Ballots were distributed 1/26/25
2. Four reminders were sent: 2/9/25, 2/19/25, 1/22/25, 1/24/25
3. 2 members changed regions and received new ballots

C. Summary of the 2025 voter turnout

1. At close of elections, 51% of eligible voters with a current email address submitted a ballot, across all regions. This is much higher turnout than in 2024 (no reminders) and comparable to 2020-2023. The Elections Committee's goal is 50% turnout, every year – we met that goal..
2. Turnout by region: Alaska/Russia 50%, Asia/Oceania 58%, Canada 56%, Europe/Africa 40%, Non-Pacific U.S. States 52%, Northern California 50%, Southern California/Latin America/Hawaii 43%, Washington/Oregon 55%.

E. Summary of time committed by the Elections Committee

1. Prospective candidate emails ~30 hours

2. Candidate bios compile ~2 hours
3. Ballot set-up and QA/QC ~2 hours
4. Ballot checks and reminders ~2 hours
5. Final report and updates to EXCO, committee members ~2 hours
6. Total time estimated ~38 hours

F. Recommendations for future elections

1. Thanks to Juliet, this committee has secured additional volunteers
 - a. co-Chair: Alexis Will
 - b. New members: Adrian Gall, Stephanie Avery-Gomm
2. We welcome participation by EXCO members who are not running in 2026, and/or are stepping off EXCO who would like to continue to serve PSG. Please reach out!
psg_elections@pacificseabirdgroup.org