# Salvin's albatross: Bounty Islands population project – ground component

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Background

- Two-year project
- First fieldwork October 2018
- Four-person field team, up to five days at the islands
- Evohe provided transport and support, remaining with field team
- >95% Salvin's albatross breed at the Bounty Islands
- High risk species
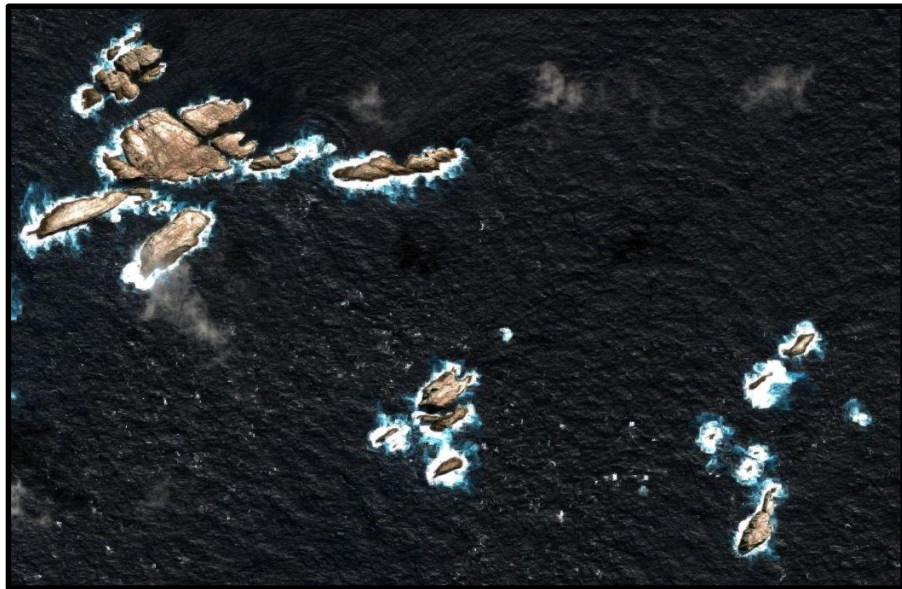
Objectives

On Proclamation Island:

- Deployment of transmitting GPS tags and light-based geolocation tags
- Band breeding birds and re-sight banded birds: potential for study colony
- Ground-truth aerial survey
- Deployment of time-lapse cameras

Deployment of tags

- 7 Wildlife Computers Rainier-S20 solar GPS tags

- 7 Lotek PinPoint GPS tags

- Each GPS-ed bird also fitted with Migrate Technology C330 geolocation tag

- Additional 40 birds fitted with C330 geolocation tags

Banding and re-sighting

- 1985: 590 well-grown chicks banded in 1985, 50 breeding adults in 2012

- In the same area (on Proclamation Island), 98 breeding adults banded (all but one with both stainless steel and plastic bands)

- Six birds from the 1985 cohort re-sighted

- Eight birds from 2012 re-sighted

Ground-truth aerial survey

Time	Transect	Nest with egg and bird	Empty nest with bird	Loafers	Total birds	Proportion of birds breeding
10:25	1	42	7	39	88	0.48
	2	50	20	31	101	0.49
	3	47	20	37	104	0.45
	4	26	16	16	58	0.45
12:15	5	43	19	23	85	0.50
	6	33	16	14	63	0.52
	7	32	12	28	72	0.44
	8	30	14	26	70	0.43
13:30	9	38	6	31	75	0.51
	10	32	5	25	62	0.52
	11	36	22	30	88	0.41
	12	30	12	31	73	0.41

22 October, transects 2 m wide, overall mean 0.47

Deployment of time-lapse cameras

- Six cameras deployed 21 October, rock bolts and aluminium mounts, with some extra waterproofing

- Overlooking ca. 41 active nests

- Programmed to take hourly photographs during daylight