

Summary of DOC response to advice from the CSP RAG in development of the Draft CSP Annual Plan 2015/16.

Note: proposals considered by the CSP RAG are listed here in interim priority order (as presented to the CSP RAG based on DOC scoring against the CSP prioritisation framework) by type of project (interaction, population, mitigation).

CSP RAG proposal		Comments from CSP RAG 18 Feb 2015	DOC response for CSP 2015/16 Annual Plan
INT-2	Identification of marine mammals, turtles and protected fish captured in New Zealand fisheries	Agree high priority, but may be relatively lower than some other INT proposals.	Proposal included in Draft CSP Annual Plan 2015/16.
INT-3	Identification tools for marine mammals, turtles and protected fish captured in New Zealand fisheries	Split views- suggested that could be delivered as part of the observer programme. Others highlighted that this would need to be resourced	Proposal included in Draft CSP Annual Plan 2015/16.
INT-6	Identification and storage of cold-water coral bycatch specimens	Support – suggestion it should be linked with POP 17 and 18	Proposal included in Draft CSP Annual Plan 2015/16.
INT-7	Black petrel and flesh-footed shearwater foraging behaviour around fishing vessels	Should be higher priority.	Proposal included in Draft CSP Annual Plan 2015/16.
INT-4	Supporting genetic analysis of protected fish species	General support – suggestion that this should be expanded to include other protected taxa and that specimen collection should consider more than just genetic analysis (e.g. stable isotope analysis). It was noted there could be a high element of public good research in such a project.	Proposal included in Draft CSP Annual Plan 2015/16.

INT-8	Indirect effects of commercial fishing on yellow-eyed penguins	Should include an assessment of diet and foraging. Scope should include assessing all available information. Could consider other species that may also be indirectly effected.	Insufficient priority for inclusion in CSP Annual Plan 2015/16. The proposal should be considered and developed further by CSP RAG for possible delivery in 2016/17.
INT-5	Post release survival of white pointer sharks in New Zealand setnet fisheries	Split views – questions over the necessary sample size and methodology preference from some for a workshop on live release to be conducted with industry ahead of this work and that this could be completed as core work. Others noted that this work fulfils a number of objective in the NPOA sharks around maximising post release survival of sharks.	Insufficient priority for inclusion in CSP Annual Plan 2015/16. This proposal will be reconsidered for the 2016/17 annual plan depending on the results of observer coverage in the relevant setnet fisheries. Workshop with key skippers will be progressed in order to better understand the nature of the problem
INT-9	Indirect effects of commercial fishing on Buller's shearwater	Should initially document and present the range of available information before considering further research.	Insufficient priority for inclusion in CSP Annual Plan 2015/16. The proposal should be considered and developed further by CSP RAG for possible delivery in 2016/17.
POP-16	Marine reptiles - review of interactions and populations	Agree high priority, but should be lower than some other proposals related to very high risk species. Objective 4 should explicitly consider recommendations on observer coverage. Could be progressed collaboratively between DOC, MPI and industry.	Proposal included in Draft CSP Annual Plan 2015/16.
POP-9	Northern Buller's albatross: review taxonomy	Agree high priority, but should be lower than some other proposals related to very high risk species. Need to consider possible overlap with proposed industry funding to Victoria University.	Proposal included in Draft CSP Annual Plan 2015/16. Note: indicative cost reduced due to potential synergies with existing research interests.
POP-14	Cetacean habitat suitability modelling project	General support for work, some uncertainty expressed as to how this would feed in to current MMRA.	Insufficient priority for inclusion in CSP Annual Plan 2015/16. Other avenues for progressing this research are being explored outside the CSP programme

POP-1	Black petrel: Aotea/Great Barrier Island & Hauturu/Little Barrier Island population project	Support, very high priority.	Proposal included in Draft CSP Annual Plan 2015/16.
POP-2	Salvin's albatross: Bounty Islands population project	Support, very high priority, though need to consider methodology in more depth.	Proposal not included in Draft CSP Annual Plan 2015/16 due to high cost and limited budget. This proposal should be reconsidered for delivery in 2016/17 with a higher priority. Possibilities for cost efficiencies will also be sought.
POP-4	Flesh-footed shearwater: Various locations population project	Support, very high priority, though population monitoring methodology (Objective 2) needs detailed consideration.	Proposal included in Draft CSP Annual Plan 2015/16.
POP-13	New Zealand Sea Lion: Auckland Islands Population Project	Broad support expressed, high priority, but some concern expressed as to whether this work would be covered by CSP or the current TMP.	Proposal included in Draft CSP Annual Plan 2015/16.
POP-3	Southern Buller's albatross: Snares/Tini Heke population project	Split views. Some recommend reconsidering the need and scope following updated modelling currently underway.	Proposal not included in Draft CSP Annual Plan 2015/16 due to limited budget. This proposal should be reconsidered for delivery in 2016/17, noting that modelling results will be available at that time.
POP-5	Gibson's albatross: Adam's Island population project	General agreement on importance of the research, though noted that international and ocean factors may be important considerations for this taxon.	Proposal included in Draft CSP Annual Plan 2015/16.

POP-6	New Zealand white-capped albatross: Auckland Islands population project	General agreement, particularly if cost efficiencies maximised over use of helicopter at the Auckland Islands.	Proposal included in Draft CSP Annual Plan 2015/16. Note: indicative cost reduced due to potential synergies with existing research interests.
POP-7	Antipodean albatross: Antipodes Island population project	General agreement on the importance of the research, though noted that international and ocean factors may be important considerations for this taxon.	Insufficient priority for inclusion in CSP Annual Plan 2015/16. The proposal should be considered for possible delivery in 2016/17 with higher priority.
POP-17	The age and growth of New Zealand protected corals at high risk	Considered by some to be a lower priority. Felt it could be merged with POP-18	Insufficient priority for inclusion in CSP Annual Plan 2015/16. Other avenues for progressing this research are being explored outside the CSP programme
POP-18	Cold-water coral connectivity in New Zealand	Considered by some to be a lower priority. Felt it could be merged with POP-18	Insufficient priority for inclusion in CSP Annual Plan 2015/16. Other avenues for progressing this research are being explored outside the CSP programme
POP-10	White-chinned petrel: Auckland Islands population project	Support given high cost efficiencies. Need for access to raw data noted.	Proposal included in Draft CSP Annual Plan 2015/16. Note: this proposal maximises cost efficiencies with existing external research planned for 2015/16.
POP-8	Westland petrel: Mainland population project	It was suggested this proposal be reconsidered once relevant existing research currently in prep is available for the RAG to review.	Insufficient priority for inclusion in CSP Annual Plan 2015/16. The proposal should be considered for possible delivery in 2016/17 noting existing research results should be published by that time.

POP-15	Updated basking shark bycatch review	Split view – some felt it should be lower priority others felt it should be higher.	Insufficient priority for inclusion in CSP Annual Plan 2015/16. The proposal should be considered for possible delivery in 2016/17
POP-11	Northern giant petrel: Auckland Islands population project	Split views on priority. Potential for cost efficiencies noted, and the lack of current knowledge concerning given medium risk of this species.	Proposal included in Draft CSP Annual Plan 2015/16. Note: indicative cost reduced as this project can be delivered cost effectively alongside other Auckland Island seabird research projects.
POP-12	NZ storm petrel: Little Barrier Island population project	Agree relatively low priority	Insufficient priority for inclusion in CSP Annual Plan 2015/16.
POP-19	NZ fur seal: Bounty Islands population assessment	General support, but lowered threat status of this species has meant that it is not high on the priority list compared to other projects.	Insufficient priority, due the non threatened status of this species, for inclusion in CSP Annual Plan 2015/16.
MIT-1	Inshore small vessel bottom longline: seabird mitigation	Need to build on earlier research recognised, could best be delivered alongside MIT-2 (see below).	Modified proposal included in Draft CSP Annual Plan 2015/16. Proposal combined with MIT-3 with a focus on verification of the efficacy of mitigation devices identified by liaison officers and their implementation throughout the fleet. Project budget was also significantly reduced
MIT-2	Seabird Liaison Officers	Liaison should be highest priority, expand coverage, coordinate with other collaborative activities.	Proposal included in Draft CSP Annual Plan 2015/16 with scope expanded to include a coordination role across seabird bycatch reduction work programmes, a focus on surface longline operations and greater interface with the observer programme

MIT-4	Inshore small vessel trawl: seabird mitigation	Focus on implementation was recognised. Industry liaison work was highlighted. Focus should offal management, and ensuring current devices and strategies are efficient and available as a secondary measure.	Proposal not included in CSP Annual Plan 2015/16. Work is still ongoing for related project MIT2012-04.
MIT-3	Small vessel surface longline: seabird mitigation	Need for liaison in the fishery was recognised, with increased focus on compliance. Practical and effective measures are still required and could be developed in association with liaison work.	Proposal combined with MIT-1 with a focus on verification of the efficacy of mitigation devices identified by liaison officers and their implementation throughout the fleet. Project budget was also significantly reduced
MIT-5	Entanglement of whales in pot/trap lines and setnets and a review of potential mitigation methods	General support expressed, but not high on priority list compared to other projects.	Insufficient priority for inclusion in CSP Annual Plan 2015/16. The proposal should be considered for possible delivery in 2016/17 with higher priority.
MIT-6	Review of mitigation techniques in pelagic trawl fisheries: marine mammal mitigation	General support expressed, but may be worth reviewing similar work done in Australia, before engaging in this project. Not high on the priority list.	Insufficient priority for inclusion in CSP Annual Plan 2015/16.