

The Marine SPA Team



Jim Reid

Head of Seabirds
& Cetaceans section



Sue O'Brien



Linda Wilson



Matt Parsons

Senior Seabird Ecologists



Tim Dunn
Information
Manager



Chris Bingham



Julie Black



Kerstin Kober



Ilka Win

Seabird Ecologists

Jim Reid *Head of Seabirds and Cetaceans section*

jim.reid@jncc.gov.uk

Despite a PhD in crow ecology and previous research experience on domestic dog scent-marking behaviour, Jim joined JNCC in 1995 as Seabirds at Sea Team Leader and took over as Head of Seabirds and Cetaceans in 1997. Immediate previous employment had been with Scottish Natural Heritage and RSPB. His main role is to manage the team and the direction of seabirds work, including the SPA programme. Regrettably, he doesn't get his hands too dirty with data analyses these days but (despite the management) remains numerate enough to make a contribution.

Sue O'Brien *Senior Seabird Ecologist (part-time)*

sue.obrien@jncc.gov.uk

Sue O'Brien first worked for JNCC's Seabirds & Cetaceans team in 1997 and 1998, returning to join the team in 2005 after completing a PhD. Her main role, as Senior Seabird Ecologist, is to analyse inshore aerial survey data to identify the most suitable territories for inshore SPAs for aggregations of waterbirds outwith the breeding season. This includes finding and implementing optimal statistical techniques for selecting the most suitable areas. Recently her work has focused on providing advice to the country agencies and devolved administrations on inshore SPAs for red-throated divers and common scoter outwith the breeding season, as well as marine SPAs for terns during the breeding season.

Linda Wilson *Senior Seabird Ecologist*

linda.wilson@jncc.gov.uk

Linda joined the team in 2005, initially as a Marine Surveyor, after having worked as a research assistant at several seabird colonies across the UK and abroad. The core of her work involves managing work in support of identifying marine SPAs for terns, as well as data analysis in support of identifying inshore SPAs. A large component of her work also involves contract management of aerial, boat and land-based surveys. Linda is the Communications Officer for the team, coordinating the implementation of the team's communication plan.

Matt Parsons *Senior Seabird Ecologist*

matt.parsons@jncc.gov.uk

Matt started a 1 year FTA with the team on 1 April, taking forward SPA work in England. He joined JNCC in 2002, initially helping to complete work for the 'Seabird 2000' census and then working for the Seabird Monitoring Programme. His main responsibilities are managing work in support of identifying marine SPAs for little terns, the Critically Endangered Balearic shearwater and looking at possible areas for consideration as 'migration hotspots' under UK SPA selection guidelines. Also he will be liaising with the French authorities (Agence des aires marine protégées) over cross border work with respect to possible SPAs.

Kerstin Kober *Seabird Ecologist (Offshore SPAs)*

kerstin.kober@jncc.gov.uk

Kerstin joined the team in January 2007. Her work is mostly concerned about the identification of important offshore areas for seabirds, which could be suitable Special Protection Areas. Kerstin's duty involves the analysis of large datasets of the ESAS (European Seabirds at Sea) database with help of a large variety of statistical and modelling techniques, and contract placement and management.

Ilka Win *Seabird Ecologist*

ilka.win@jncc.gov.uk

Ilka joined the team in March 2006, initially as Marine Surveyor and was responsible for assisting in planning the aerial survey program, survey navigation and reports writing. Since November 2006 she has been working on inshore SPA related topics as Seabird Ecologist. Her main work focuses on inshore SPA spatial analysis, report writing and contract management.

Julie Black *Seabird Ecologist*

julie.black@jncc.gov.uk

Julie joined the team in January 2009 and is currently working on identifying important areas for foraging breeding terns. As well as building tern habitat preference models, she is involved in survey design and implementation. Julie also assists in other projects as when required, primarily related to marine SPAs.

Chris Bingham *Seabird Ecologist*

chris.bingham@jncc.gov.uk

Chris joined the team in March 2009. His fieldwork duties include assisting with work to identify important foraging areas for breeding terns, and also carrying out surveys in support of identifying marine SPAs for the Balearic shearwater. In the office, he has played a major role in the small team spatially analysing inshore survey data.

Tim Dunn *Information Manager*

tim.dunn@jncc.gov.uk

Tim is the Information Manager for JNCC's Seabirds and Cetaceans section in Aberdeen. He was appointed in 1999 to collect, collate and manage data during the Seabird 2000 census. Tim now manages national and international datasets, including the European Seabirds at Sea database; provides IT support; and regularly assists in SPA fieldwork. Tim currently manages the Joint Cetacean Protocol project, which aims to provide a common format for cetacean datasets throughout Europe.