

Seabird Colony Database – an introduction

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Seabird nesting Colonies.



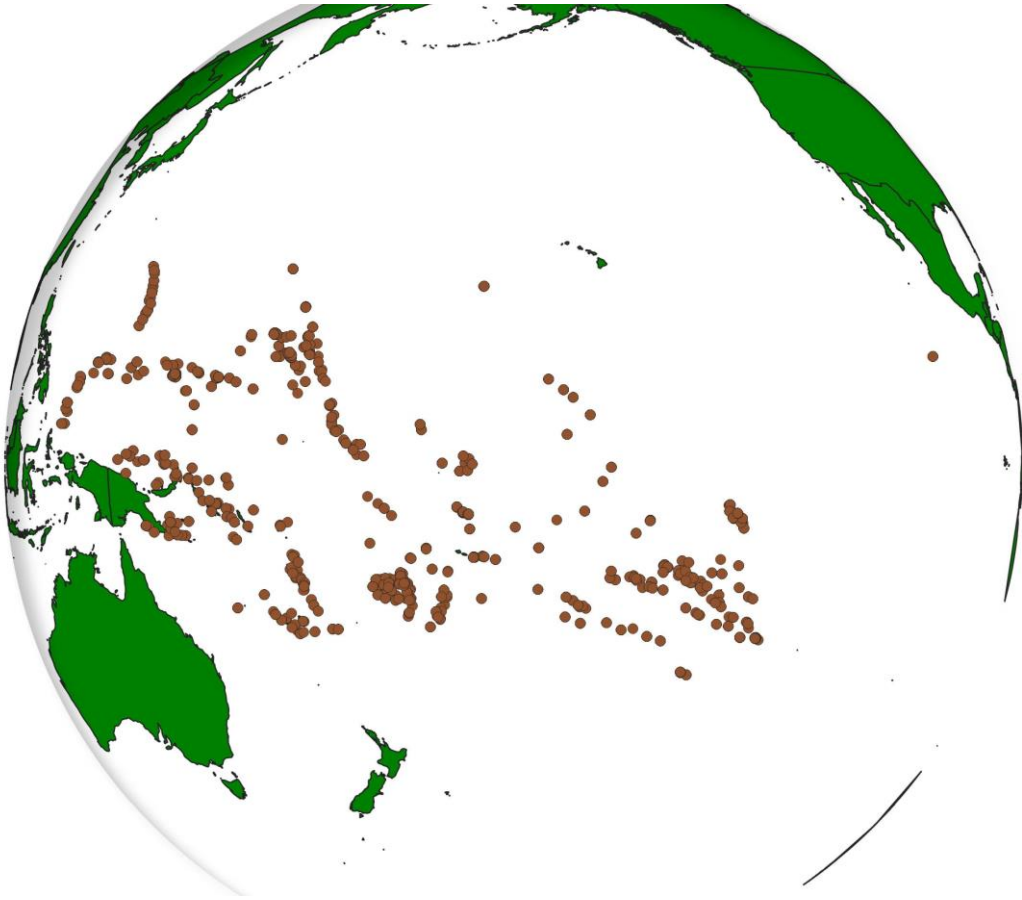
Sooty Tern Colony.

Tree-nesting Black Noddies, Red-footed Boobies and Lesser Frigatebirds.



Burrow-nesting Wedge-tailed Shearwaters.

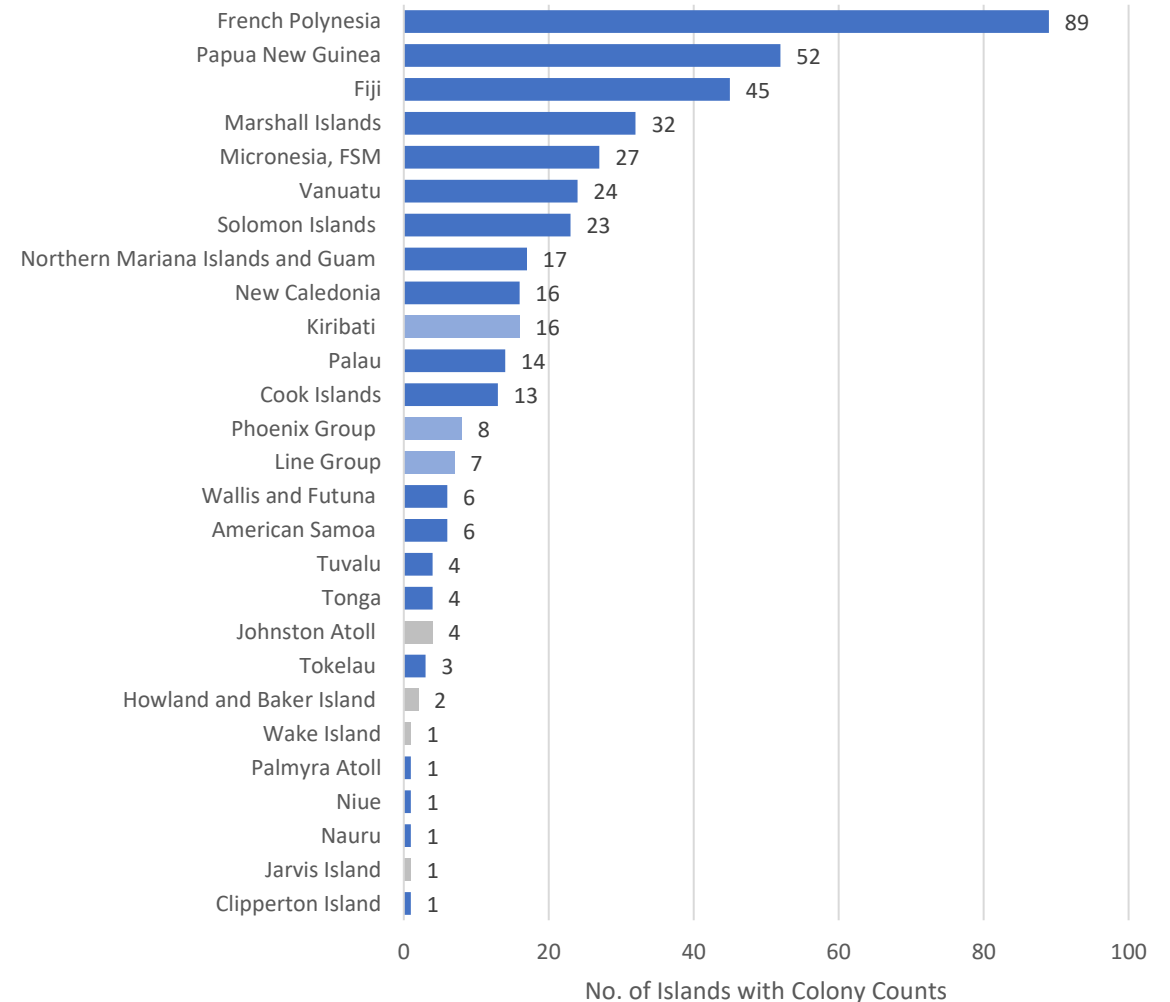
Distribution of Recorded Seabird Colonies in the Pacific.



- Colonies from Helen Reef, Palau, in the west to Clipperton in the East, and from Marotiri, French Polynesia in the south to Uracus, N. Marianas in the north.
- Nearly 6,000 rows of data.
- Each row represents a single survey of a single species at a single colony.
- Data from 656AD to 2011 (archaeological data is only a tiny fraction of total data!)

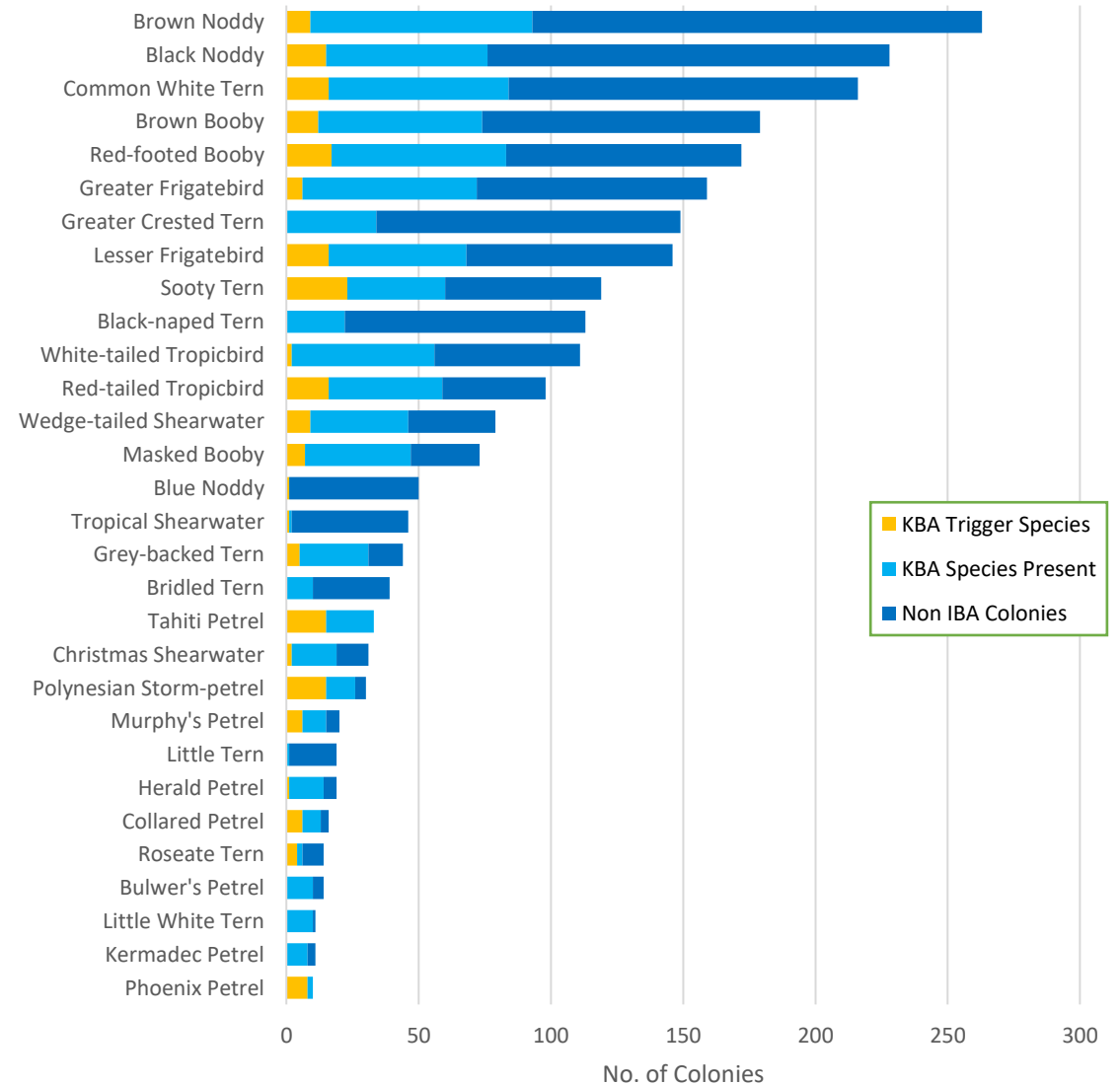
Number of islands per country with a recorded Seabird colony.

- All data has been extracted from published and unpublished documents up until 2012.
- 418 Island groups have recorded Seabird Colonies
- French Polynesia is well-researched for seabird colonies– and there are lots of islands....
- 100 of these colonies has been identified as holding globally important bird populations – and are listed on the Global KBA database.



Number of Colonies in the Pacific where species were recorded.

- All species recorded at 10 or more colonies in the Pacific region.
- Brown Noddies are the most widespread of species – being recorded on 263 of the 418 colonies on the database.
- A further 21 species were recorded at fewer than 10 colonies.
- Of these, 5 species - Fiji Petrel (1 site), White-necked Petrel (2), White-winged Petrel (3), Heinroth's Shearwater (3) and Fairy Tern (5) are KBA trigger species.



Colony Database – Information required

Colony_ID	
EEZ	
Atoll	
Island_Name	
Corrected Island Name	
Local_Island_Name	
Island_GID_Code	
Longitude	
Latitude	
SitRecID	
KBA/IBA?	No/Yes/Whole/Part
Polygon? Y/N	Yes/No

Scientific_Name		Common Name		
Red_List_Status				
Breeding status				
Population	Min.		Max.	
	Band min.		Band max.	
	Units			
	Derivation			
	Abundance			
	Data quality			
	Start year			
	End Year			
	Season			
	Month			

Citation	
Reference	
Survey Breeding Notes	
Data Entry Notes	

Colony Database - Single Record

Colony_ID	
EEZ	Palau Exclusive Economic Zone
Atoll	
Island_Name	
Corrected Island Name	Sonsorol Islands
Local_Island_Name	
Island_GID_Code_New	345357
Longitude	132.223
Latitude	5.327
SitRecID	
KBA/IBA?	
Polygon? Y/N	

Scientific_Name	<i>Phaethon lepturus</i>	Common Name	White-tailed Tropicbird	
Red_List_Status	LC			
Breeding status	Confirmed			
Population	Min.	20	Max.	50
	Band min.		Band max.	
	Units	individuals		
	Derivation			
	Abundance			
	Data quality	good		
	Start year	1979		
	End Year	1979		
	Season			
	Month			

Citation	Engbring (1983)
Reference	Engbring, J. 1983. Avifauna of the South West Islands of Palau. Atoll Research Bulletin 267: pp. 24.
Survey Breeding Notes	
Data Entry Notes	

Useful additions to the Database?

Information/Evidence of Breeding Success

Information on 100% mortality events of Brown Noddy juveniles in 2019/2020 were reported at

- Naringel, Manus, PNG
- nr Kanton, Kiribati

It would be good to capture these events to keep a record of frequency of occurrence, etc.

Fixed Point Photographs of colonies/sites?

Many colonies are very large and difficult to assess, unless time can be directly allocated.

Photographs of colonies, together with information on location of fixed point could help with monitoring.

Determining location of colony within island.

Maps showing where the birds are breeding can more precisely locate colonies and/or important areas within colony/island.

Change in vegetation on Vatu I Ra since Cyclone Winston.

View from the old lighthouse stand in February 2012.



April 2016 – 1 month after Winston



November 2019



Many thanks for listening.

