

Roadmap for the implementation of collective actions within the Recommendations for the protection and conservation of OSPAR listed Species and Habitats

2017-2025

Action sheet 43

Action 43	Promote implementation of the European Commission Species Action Plan for the species (Balearic shearwater and Roseate tern)
Participants	Spain (Balearic shearwater) and Portugal (Roseate Stern) with the assistance of France, the United Kingdom and Ireland and the participation of EC representatives
Development Plan:	<p>In order to undertake this action we suggest to create specific working groups for these seabirds, made up of Contracting Parties (within the distribution range) and EC representatives along with experts on these species.</p> <p>The aim is to coordinate, develop, share and implement measures in order to address main actions included in the SAPs. The terms of reference and roadmaps for both working groups should be defined during the first meetings to be held in 2018.</p> <p>In the case of the WG on the Balearic shearwater, the roadmap could include next steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organize a workshop to share national/regional updated information on bycatch and on progress made regarding mitigation measures; 2. Produce a report on current knowledge on bycatch throughout the distribution range, taking into account different fisheries (including small-scale vessels), identifying knowledge gaps as well as priority areas and fisheries to be assessed; 3. Seek funding and promote surveys to assess the occurrence of bycatch in the priority areas identified and to test potential bycatch mitigation measures, working closely with fishermen; 4. Promote implementation of appropriate mitigation measures (ensuring an ecosystem-based & multi-fisheries approach), specially through the development of Seabird Bycatch Action Plans at national level; 5. Promote the consolidation of monitoring programmes in breeding colonies to assess whether the measures implemented are working; 6. Ensure effective site protection together with implementation of adequate management plans in key marine areas for the species, in the frame of the OSPAR MPAs Network;

	<p>7. Launch a public awareness campaign about predation at colonies by introduced carnivores, particularly feral cats, in collaboration with BirdLife partners</p> <p>Some of the actions related to predation at colonies are being already implemented by the Government of Balearic Island and others are expected to be executed in the frame of the new LIFE IP INTEMARES Project (e.g. installation of an anti-predator fence in one of the colonies more affected by carnivores).</p> <p>It could be convenient to establish mechanisms for collaboration and coordination with other organizations and/or conventions working also on this issue, such as the Agreement on Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) or some RFMOs. In addition, it would be necessary to promote collaboration and capacity building with Algeria and Morocco.</p> <p>Regarding the WG on the Roseate tern, next steps could be the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elaborate a document updating knowledge, monitoring work and conservation on the Roseate tern (information from MISTIC Seas Project and others); - Promote relevant monitoring programmes for the Roseate tern to assess population trends (for instance in the frame of the MSFD monitoring programmes); - Promote information flow and fast dissemination on breeding population and on conservation measures taken - Ensure site protection and implementation of appropriate management plans for key areas in breeding grounds; - Establish mechanisms for collaboration and cooperation with West Africa countries hosting wintering grounds; - Improve knowledge on distribution outside the breeding season and promote public awareness campaigns in wintering areas; - Identify funding sources to implement some of these actions.
Events	<p>A workshop on the Balearic shearwater bycatch to be held in September or October 2018</p> <p>An awareness campaign on predation by cats to be launched in February- March 2019</p>
Timeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Validation of the development sheet: ICG-POSH November 2017? • First meeting of both WGs to be held in 2018 • ToR and Roadmap (after first meetings) • Workshop on Balearic shearwater bycatch: October 2018 • Report on current knowledge on bycatch and mitigation measures: February 2019 • Development and approval of National Seabird Bycatch Action Plans: 2019? • Awareness campaign to be launched in March-April 2019 • Monitoring programmes (in the frame of MSFD): 2018? • Update document on the Roseate tern: November 2018? • Other measures to develop: from February 2019 on <p>A following-up meeting of both WGs could be scheduled each year.</p>
Stakeholders to engage	OSPAR CPs, the Regional Government of Balearic Islands, BirdLife Partners (LPO, RSPB, SEO,SPEA), experts on Balearic shearwater, fishermen
Other	Fishing authorities

Competent Authorities:	RFMOs
Product(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An updated report on Balearic shearwater bycatch - An updated document on the Roseate tern (current knowledge, monitoring and conservation actions undertaken) - Public awareness campaign materials
Barriers to progress:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Level of involvement of the CPs countries identified in the SAPs - Limited financial resources from the CPs - Need for collaboration with the fishing authorities and fishermen - Organizations supporting animal welfare