

Pigeon Guillemot Survey Breeding Season Planning Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 25, 2021 5:00-6:30 PM

Terence conducted the welcome remarks to inform the audience about changes to expect during the 2021 survey period, and began the introductions for the attendees. He also hosted the opening activity of PIGU trivia (via Zoom Poll), and a surprising fact was identified: PIGU have both partial and full molts, but only the full molt leaves the birds unable to fly.

Terence presented changes for the 2021 Season:

1. We will conduct simultaneous colony-wide surveys to allow us to be able to compare our data like other survey groups, avoid double counting, and get needed data points for population modeling. This will make scheduling surveys more challenging for colonies with multiple observation sites. Please respond to the requests (Survey Monkey) for scheduling to allow this to be a smooth process.

2. In order to better coordinate our teams and data collection, we will be creating colony-wide planning teams and team leads (for single-site colonies, also). This will aid us in scheduling surveyors and any need for substitutes, as well the post-survey data scrub for each visit. Team leads are responsible for collecting data sheets from each site post-survey, identifying and answering any questions for each sheet, and entering the information into Survey 123.

3. COVID-specific guidelines are still in effect, and no carpooling will be conducted, except between members of the same household. Masks and social distancing are required, even during post-survey huddles. Please be aware that parking at the various colonies may become problematic. Be sure to use team leads and planning team members to check for waste and recycling disposal, as well as tides, during scheduling.

Q&A session responses:

1. We need to be careful to not double count birds during the simultaneous surveys, and team leaders need to deconflict this in the huddle before data entry occurs.

2. We will use pre-season surveys to identify which colonies to include this year, and we cannot assume non-use for this year, if a site was not used last year. Remember, no activity is important information also.

3. Survey start times will be no later than arriving at 7:45, to conduct settling in period and hour survey, and survey volunteer hours are set at a minimum of 1.5 hours – but longer is okay to account for different driving times/access.

Training dates presented:

Overview and Protocol Training

May 15 - 10am - 1pm - Virtual Zoom training (assuming COVID will be ongoing)

Survey 123 Training – choose one session from the two listed below

*May 19th: 6:30-7:30pm **OR** May 22: 10-11am*

Reflection time was provided for attendees to share stories, poems, pictures from last season. Shannon shared a photo with PIGU in 3 different plumage patterns: winter, transitional, and breeding PIGU