

Circumpolar Seabird Expert Group (CBird) Implementation Update Finland, 2019

The [Circumpolar Seabird Expert Group \(CBird\)](#) promotes, facilitates, and coordinates conservation, management and research activities among circumpolar countries and improves communication between seabird scientists and managers inside and outside the Arctic.



Caspian Tern logger study in Söderskär Archipelago. Photo: Antti Below



Current CBird Priorities

● Country participating ● Country not participating

- The State of the Arctic Marine Biodiversity Report (SAMBR)
- Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative (AMBI) (Implementing the Circumpolar Flyway Workplan)
- Implementation of the species-specific conservation strategies and action plans
- Contributing seabird monitoring data to State of the Arctic Marine Biodiversity Report (SAMBR) and Seabird Information Network (SIN)
- Circumpolar Review of Arctic Tern Population Trends
- Assessment of seabird bycatch in Lumpfish fisheries
- Murre harvest study and scientific recommendations to international and national harvest schemes
- Black-legged Kittiwake conservation strategy
- Publication: Circumpolar dynamics of a marine top-predator track ocean warming rates (Descamps et al. 2017, Global Change Biology)

Links with National Priorities

CBird background processes, e.g. AMBI, are important also in national work. In addition, significant synergies could be obtained as to seabird monitoring that nationally feed into e.g. HELCOM and EU reportings. While the Baltic Sea falls outside many Arctic sea area delineations, it hosts several CBird target species, many of which also are among national priorities.

In addition, cooperation could be developed with CBird as to e.g. tracking results and environmental pressures such as bycatch or shipping risks, which are important also in the Baltic Sea, as well as global environmental drivers such as climate change. The utilization of CBird work in national processes could be substantially strengthened.

Finnish representative, Mia Rönkä, currently chairs CBird. Photo: CAFF



CBird Summary of 2017-18 Country Achievements

2019 Red List of Finnish Species

Finland completed a new red list assessment (publication 8.3.2019), which includes several of the target species of CBird. The assessment will inform decision-making and policies regarding species and area protection.

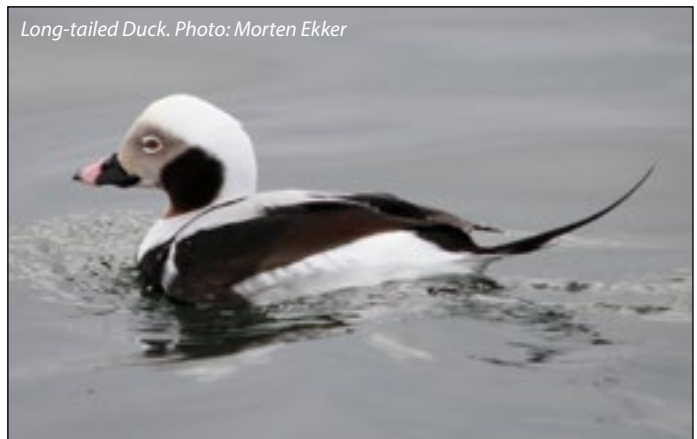
Hyvärinen, E., Juslén, A., Kempainen, E., Uddström, A. & Liukko, U.-M. (eds.) 2019. [The 2019 Red List of Finnish Species. Ympäristöministeriö & Suomen ympäristökeskus](#). Helsinki. 704 p.

State of the Arctic Marine Biodiversity Report (SAMBR)

Finland participated in the latest SAMBR publication and is continuously implementing the national archipelago bird monitoring scheme, providing data on breeding population trends of seabirds. In addition, existing data have been recorded into a constant format.

Vösa, R., Högmander, J., Nordström, M., Kosonen, E., Laine, J., Rönkä, M. & von Numers, M. 2017. [The history, population trend and current state of archipelago birds in the Turku archipelago](#). Metsähallitus.

Seabird counting in Archipelago.
Photo: Antti Below



Long-tailed Duck. Photo: Morten Ekker

Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative (AMBI) (Implementing the Circumpolar Flyway Workplan)

Finland is continuously working on the conservation and management of the Long-tailed Duck, e.g. by mapping resting areas in outer sea areas.

Implementation of the species-specific conservation strategies and action plans

Finland is continuously working on implementing the Common Eider conservation. Among other measures, in recent years nest shelters have been tested to improve breeding success.

Mia Rönkä

Adjunct Professor (CBird Chair)
Biodiversity Unit, University of Turku
Zoological Museum, Biodiversity Unit, FI-20014
University of Turku
mia.ronka@utu.fi
+358 40 592 9094
<https://www.utu.fi/en/people/mia-ronka>

Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF)

Borgir, Nordurlod
600 Akureyri, Iceland
www.caff.is/cbird
caff@caff.is

