

# Memorandum of Understanding

between

**The Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc.**

and

**The Ornithological Society of New Zealand Inc.**

**Background:** A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between The Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc. (RFBPS) and The Ornithological Society of New Zealand Inc. (OSNZ) (hereafter referred to as "the Societies") was agreed to on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2002. The Societies have common constitutional interests concerning New Zealand's birds.

The RFBPS has capacity to promote the preservation and protection of the indigenous flora and fauna and the natural features of New Zealand, whereas OSNZ has detailed ornithological knowledge and capacity to promote the study of birds and habitats within New Zealand and to support the wider knowledge and enjoyment of birds.

The objectives of the Societies could be enhanced through maintaining a close working relationship, particularly in the exchange of information and for purposes that are complementary to the interests of both Societies. From discussions between representatives in 2014 it has been agreed that both Societies wish to continue to develop and maintain a close working relationship, in particular for fostering and supporting the wider knowledge and enjoyment of birds and habitats in the New Zealand region and their conservation.

**Common Constitutional Obligations:** The Societies have the following common constitutional obligations:

## OSNZ:

1. Encourage, organise and promote the study of birds and their habitat use within the New Zealand region and to encourage the wider knowledge and enjoyment of birds.
2. Promote the recording and circulation of the results of bird studies and to produce a journal and other publications containing matters of ornithological interest.
3. Promote co-operation and exchange of information with other organisations having similar aims and objects.
4. Assist the conservation and management of birds by providing information from which sound management decisions can be derived.

## RFBPS:

1. To take all reasonable steps to achieve the preservation and protection of the indigenous flora and fauna and the natural features of New Zealand.

**Collaboration for the Provision and Use of Information:** The objectives of the Societies could be better achieved through collaboration and maintaining a close working relationship generally and the provision and use of information specifically that is complementary to the interests of both Societies.

This MoU covers the sharing and use of information between the Societies.

It is agreed between the Societies that:

1. **OSNZ** undertakes to provide technical information, including images, charts and tables, to RFBPS upon request and without charge where this information will contribute towards making sound decisions for the conservation and management of birds. The intellectual property in information provided to RFBPS shall remain with OSNZ and with the members who collected it.
2. **RFBPS** undertakes to use technical information provided by OSNZ only for purposes agreed by the Societies and shall acknowledge OSNZ for information so provided. RFBPS may publish information provided by OSNZ when the owners of that information agree with its publication.
3. **RFBPS** shall provide information without charge to OSNZ about birds and their habitats that encourages the wider knowledge and enjoyment of birds and will promote co-operation between the Societies.
4. **The Societies** may collaborate on activities that are of mutual interest and where information sharing and technical cooperation will allow the comparative strengths of both societies to be applied.
5. **The Societies** undertake to meet at regular intervals (regionally and nationally) and to collaborate on surveys to collect, analyse and report technical information for purposes that will encourage the wider knowledge, conservation, management and enjoyment of birds.

**Review of this Memorandum of Understanding:** The Societies agree that this MoU should be reviewed at not more than five-yearly intervals.

Signed at 29<sup>th</sup> on May 2015.

President 

Chief Executive 

The Ornithological Society of New Zealand Inc. The Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc.