

2025 Report of the Section on Marine Birds and Mammals

The Section of Birds and Mammals (S-MBM; under the auspices of the BIO Committee) was held virtually from 17:00-20:00 (PDT) on September 11, 2025, via Zoom, hosted by the PICES Secretariat. Nine Members and three observers attended from Japan, Korea, Canada, and US. Patrick O'Hara and Miran Kim were co-chairs. There were no representatives from Russia or China. The current activities and next project associated with S-MBM ToR were discussed.

A hybrid meeting was held from 09:00-12:25 (JST) on November 8, 2025 in Yokohama, Japan. Eight Members and three observers were participated from Japan, Korea, Canada, and US (*S-MBM Endnote 1*). There were no representatives from Russia or China.



Participants of S-MBM business meeting

AGENDA ITEM 1

Adoption of agenda

The agenda was reviewed by members and approved (*S-MBM Endnote 2*)

AGENDA ITEM 2

Membership changes

No changes

AGENDA ITEM 3

Reports from participants

1. Participants reported past and future meetings related to S-MBM activities:
 - a. Pacific Seabird Group meeting in February 2026
 - b. World Seabird Conference (WSC) in September 2026 in Tasmania, Australia
2. S-MBM involvement with other PICES groups:
 - a. Dr. Elliott Hazen – S-CCME
 - b. Dr. P. O’Hara/Miran Kim – S-MPP observers
3. W7 workshop: *Response of Top Predators to Unusual Oceanographic, Climatic and Anthropogenic Events in the North Pacific*
 - a. Workshop/session in support of Activity Plan 2022-2025
 - b. 4 oral presentations
4. S12 session: *Understanding the linkages between forage species and top predators and how they may affect resilience in North Pacific ecosystems*
 - a. Workshop/session in support of Activity Plan 2022-2025
 - b. 16 oral presentations, 4 posters
5. Review 5-year Action Plan and discuss new S-MBM proposals for PICES 2026, discussion regarding future Action Plan

AGENDA ITEM 4

Discussion

1. S-MBM Activity Plan, 2022-2026: *Interaction between MBMs and other ecosystem components and stressors.*
 - a. Refinement of sub-themes, confirmation of phases
 - b. Submitted workshop/session proposals for PICES-2026

S-MBM Endnote 1

S-MBM participation list (both online and in-person meetings)

Members

Patrick O'Hara (Canada, Co-Chair)
Miran Kim (Korea, Co-Chair)
Ken Morgan (Canada)
Andrew W. Trites (Canada)
Tstomu Tamura (Japan)
Motohiro Ito (Japan)
Yu Kanaji (Japan)
Elliott Lee Hazen (USA)
William Sydeman (USA)
Toshihide Kitakado (Japan – *Ex Officio*)

Members unable to attend

Canada: Douglas F. Bertam
China: Shuai Chen, Wei Lei, Xuelei Zhang
Korea: Young-Rok An, Kyunglee Lee
Russia: Alexander Boltnev, Vjatcheslav P.
Shuntov, Andrey Vinnikov

Observers

Kaoru Hattori (Japan)
Hikari Meada (Japan)
Jim Ruzika (USA)

S-MBM Endnote 2

S-MBM meeting agenda

(On-line)

17:00 September 11, 2025 (PDT; UTC-07:00)

1. Review draft agenda
2. Review S-MBM achievements with respect to TOR (including publications)
3. Review 5-Year Activity Plan and discuss new S-MBM proposal for PICES 2026 (inc.travel support)
4. PICES/S-MBM participation in conference and meetings

(In-person)

09:00 November 8, 2025 (JST; PICES 2025)

1. Updating a progress report in 5-year Action Plans
2. Proposals discussed and developed for later submission for PICES 2026 in Canada