

**From:** [McChesney, Gerry](#)  
**To:** [Russ Bradley](#)  
**Cc:** [Shore, Jonathan](#)  
**Subject:** Need your input on Farallon Target Viability  
**Date:** Friday, May 5, 2017 5:00:51 PM  
**Attachments:** [SFComplex TargetViability Goals 20170504 Farallon.xlsx](#)  
**Importance:** High

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Hi Russ,

We're trying to finish off the target viability worksheet. If you recall, you helped us get this started several weeks ago. We need this wrapped up before our next workshop on May 16.

We've been forced to narrow this down further. Categories are now ASSP pop size, ASSP survivorship, seabird (non-ASSP) repro success, seabird population size, native plant cover and composition, and pinniped population size.

Can you please look this over and provide any comments you have. Keep in mind that what we decide in this process will impact the surveys that are done on the island, so your input is important.

In particular, I'd like you to review:

- Indicator,
- the definitions for Poor, Fair, Good and Very Good condition;
- Scale Information Source,
- Current measure year (should use most recent available)
- Trend (this is best estimate of current trend).
- Goal statement.

I know you're in the field and tough to work on this now, but whatever you can do would really help.

For ASSP pop size and survivorship, we gleaned what we could from the Nur et al. report, but I'm not sure we interpreted the info correctly. The actual estimates were not provided; only models. Is that information more readily available? The values we give now can be modified later, but we're trying to provide the best we can now and at least make sure the method we're proposing makes sense.

For seabird breeding success rating, we debated whether to use current method of comparing annual to long-term mean or going with long-term trend to measure status (basically, the way Sydeman et al. looked at breeding success and identified that WEGU and ASSP were on declining trend). We end up going with current method because that's what we have now, but we could modify if we feel trend is better. One of the hard parts of this is how to identify Poor, Fair, etc. for seabirds as a whole. So I'd appreciate your feedback on this.

For pinnipeds, we decided that best measure for population trend was adult and pup counts during the breeding season. I think this works ok for most but maybe not for Zalophus, which are still mainly a non-breeder and peak numbers are in usually in fall. But since the main one goal is to provide what the minimum survey effort would be, breeding season counts (June-July for most, Jan-Feb for E Seals), that's what we decided on. However, I'm not sure we have current trends for all species. Please take a look. I'm not aware of a 2016 ecosystem report. Is

there one?

If you want to go over this on the phone, we can do that. Let me know what would work for you.

Thanks!

Gerry

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