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1. INTRODUCTION

The Seabird Youth Network is a partnership between the Pribilof School District, the Aleut Community of St. Paul Island Tribal Government, the St. George Traditional Council, the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, and the wider scientific community.

The network creates exciting opportunities for youth on the Pribilof Islands to learn about seabirds and contribute to long-term seabird monitoring programs.

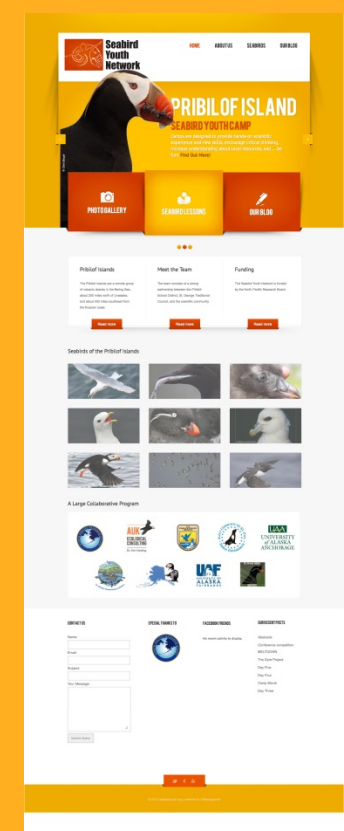
The network is dedicated to creating opportunities for Pribilof youth in four key areas: (a) Opening doors to careers in science and natural resource management; (b) Increasing a sense of ownership and understanding of local resources; (c) Providing training in marketable multi-media skills, and (d) Providing education in seabird ecology, research and conservation.

2. SEABIRDS IN SCHOOL

Students learn about seabirds through a team-mentorship program between a seabird researcher and teacher of a 5-7th grade class. Seabird fact sheets covering a different seabird topic each month are provided to the teacher, and classroom lessons are designed around these topics. Researchers and guest speakers meet with students via SKYPE to discuss each topic. Here are a few examples:

Website

- Lessons to download.
- Educational blog.
- Student and seabird photos.



Guest lecturers

- Veronica Padula, UAA.
- Dissected kittiwakes.
- Looked for plastic in the stomach.



Seabird basics

- Seabirds spend most of their life at sea.
- They eat food from the ocean.



Breeding biology

- The parents take turns feeding the chick.
- Most seabirds nest in colonies.



Feeding biology

- Surface feeders or divers?
- Whole prey or regurgitation?
- Zooplankton or fish?



Conservation

- Introduced predators.
- Over-fishing.
- Oil spills.



Seabirds and people

- Myths and legends.
- Guano farming.



Research methods

- Geolocators track location.
- This information can tell us where birds spend the winter.



Seabird as indicators

- Plastic marine debris.
- Decrease in sea-ice extent.



Making a movie

- We learned how to take video.
- And, then put video clips together to make a movie.



3. SEABIRD CAMP

Students from both islands attended a summer Seabird Camp.

Nest boxes

- Installed Least Auklet nest boxes.
- These will allow researchers to easily study the chicks.



Least auklet capture

- Mist net and noose carpet.
- Diet and blood sampling.
- Bird mass.
- Metal banding.



Mural

- Rat-free island sign for harbor.
- Learned new art skills.



Refuge monitoring

- Changes in population size.
- Changes in seabird diet.



Seabird fun

- Seabird adaptation dress-up.
- Seabird bingo.



Pribilof Island Seabird Youth Network