

Interactive comment on “Seabirds as samplers of the marine environment – a case study in Northern Gannets” by Stefan Garthe et al.

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In addition to the very helpful comments by the two reviewers I would like to encourage the authors to see to the following points:

- the quantitative results of this manuscript should be backed up by statistical analyses of the data used. So far it reads more like a collection of case studies. It would also be nice to see statistically based error estimates where feasible.
- the manuscript does not reference “outside” data, nor does it provide a comparison with other studies either on the same species or location.
- no use is made of the data sets available in COSYNA or, for instance, through the Helgoland Roads time-series station. As this paper is part of the COSYNA special issue

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the link to and synergies with the other components of COSYNA should be discussed, for the past as well as with regard to a future potential for cooperation.

Some minor comments are to be found in the annotated manuscript.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<http://www.ocean-sci-discuss.net/os-2016-22/os-2016-22-EC1-supplement.pdf>

Interactive comment on Ocean Sci. Discuss., doi:10.5194/os-2016-22, 2016.

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