Memorandum of Understanding

between

Young Birders New Zealand

and

Birds New Zealand | Te Kāhui Mātai Manu o Aotearoa (The Ornithological Society of New Zealand Incorporated)

Date

18 February 2025

Background

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Young Birders New Zealand (YBNZ) and Birds New Zealand (The Ornithological Society of New Zealand Incorporated; hereafter Birds NZ) (hereafter referred to as 'the Parties') was sought to align the common interests of the Parties concerning Aotearoa New Zealand's bird life.

YBNZ seeks to inspire youth interest in birds and their habitats and skills in ornithology, while Birds NZ aims to enhance the knowledge, understanding and enjoyment of birds in Aotearoa New Zealand and the South Pacific, and is recognised as an independent, trusted, science-based organisation focussed on birds and their habitats.

The aims of the Parties can be enhanced through maintaining a close working relationship, particularly by exchanging information to enhance the aims of both Parties.

Purpose

The purpose of this MoU is to record the ongoing relationship between the Parties and to describe the ways in which the Parties intend to work together to advance their common aims.

The relationships of the Parties under this MoU is not one of legal partnership, and the Parties do not intend this MoU to be legally binding.

Collaboration and roles

Birds NZ and its members will provide relevant information, advice, and mentorship on topics relating to ornithology or Society activities as sought by YBNZ and its members. Birds NZ will contribute to the costs of web-hosting of the YBNZ website.

YBNZ will provide Birds NZ with information on YBNZ membership numbers and annual activities undertaken by YBNZ, or participated in by YBNZ members.

YBNZ may be asked to provide youth perspectives on Birds NZ activities from time to time. To facilitate this, the Birds NZ Council invites one member of Young Birders New Zealand to act as Liaison for a period of up to one year. The Liaison will be invited to a session during Birds NZ Council meetings (online and in-person), where they may choose to present any items of significance for YBNZ, and to provide youth perspectives on behalf of YBNZ to Birds NZ. Liaison representation will not extend to participation in Council decision-making on YBNZ issues. The purpose of the Liaison role is to help develop a closer relationship between the two organisations, and to support YBNZ members in developing professional skills.

The Parties may collaborate on activities of mutual interest, where information-sharing and collaboration can enhance the outcomes of such activities.

Term

This MoU is effective from 1 March 2025 for a period of three years, expiring on 1 March 2027, at which time the MoU may be reviewed, revised, and re-signed. Either party may withdraw from the agreement by giving 4 weeks written notice to the other party.

This agreement is signed by the following on behalf of their respective organisations:

SIGNED on behalf of Birds New Zealand by Natalie Forsdick

3 May 2025

Signed on behalf of Young Birders New Zealand by Samuel Amaris

18 February 2025

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