



Managing Our Natural Resources




Environmental Protection – Recycling Resources

- ▶ Two Presentation Dates:
 - ▶ November 8, 2018 – An Example of How Our Choices Affect Other Species
 - ▶ January 10, 2019 – Current Situation of Waste Management – the Negatives and Positives; Recycling Project for Our Chapter (T-shirts to Totes) – Bring fabric scissors and ruler (t-shirts if you want to keep)
- ▶ Call to Action – Let's Be More Proactive!
 - ▶ Committee to propose and review projects



Environmental Protection – Recycling Resources

- ▶ Chapter Website Now Contains A Link To:
 - ▶ **Natural Areas/Environmental Protection and Recycling**
 - ▶ Presentations
 - ▶ Recycling Resources in Our Area
 - ▶ Personal Projects By Members
 - ▶ Websites of Interest



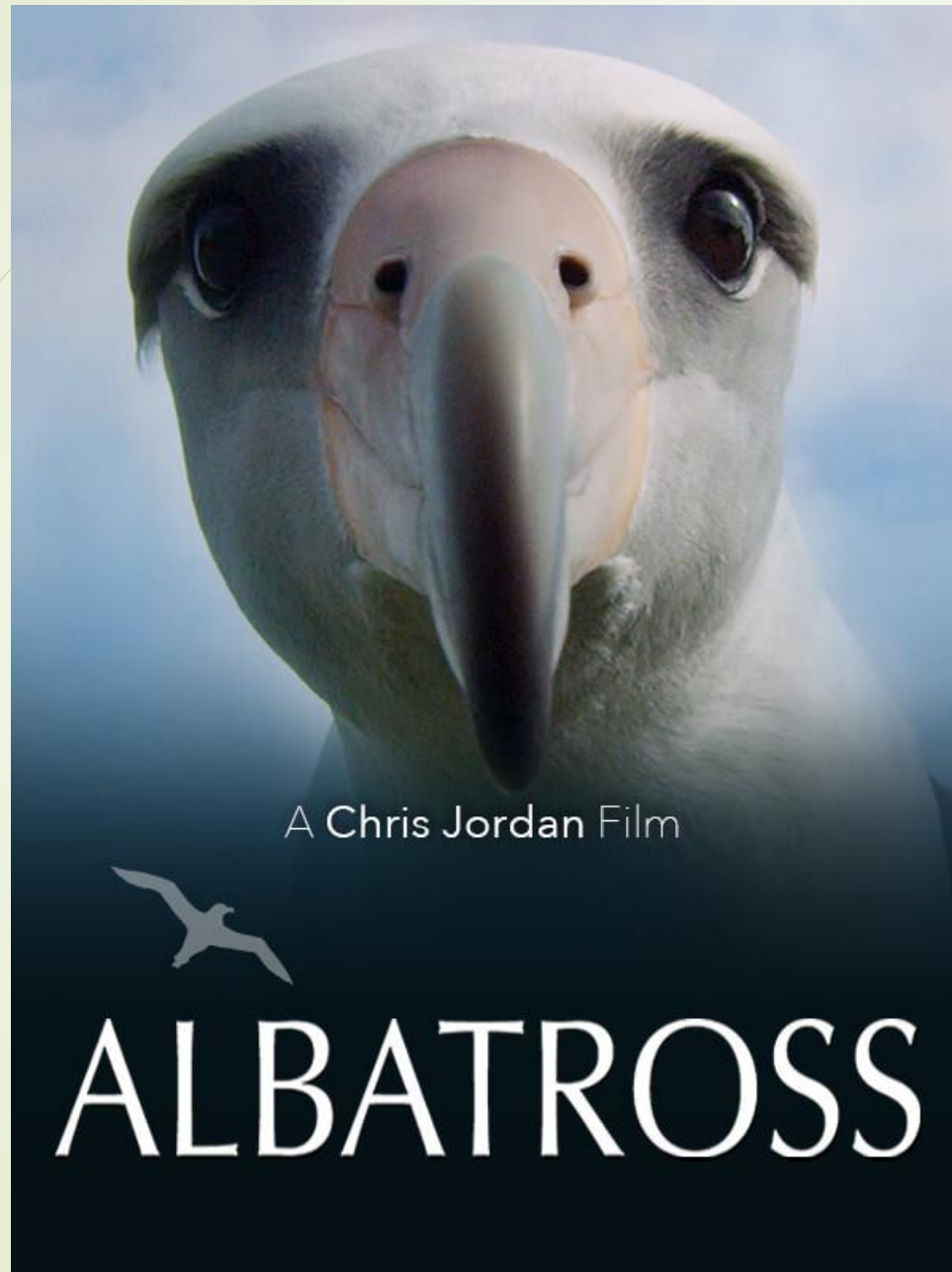
November 8, 2018 – Part I

- ▶ An Example of How Our Choices Affect Other Species
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Consequences of Our Human Waste Management

- By All Peoples On Other Species
 - Specifically – Plastics and the Albatross of the Midway Island(s)



All video references in this slideshow
are from "Albatross the film" at
<https://www.albatrossthefilm.com>

Laysan Albatross



Chris Jordan and Team

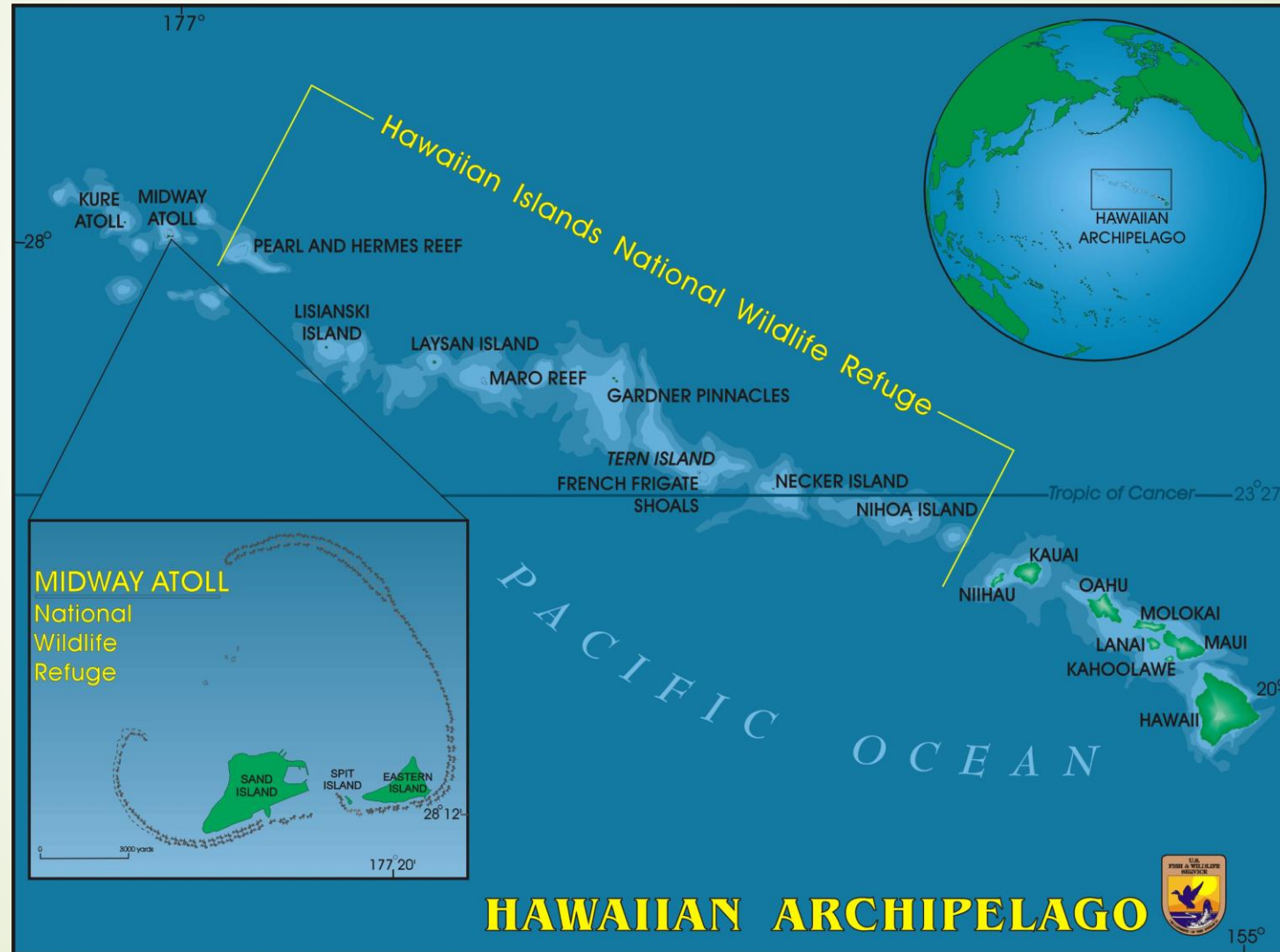
- Chris is an internationally acclaimed **artist** whose work explores contemporary mass culture from multiple perspectives, connecting the viewer viscerally to the enormity and power of humanity's collective unconscious. His film crew includes Manuel Maqueda.
- Maqueda **co-founded the Midway Project** with Chris Jordan. He also co-founded the **Plastic Pollution Coalition**, and founded a Spanish organization called El Plastico Mata. Manuel is also an accomplished **photographer**, and on Trip 6 he captured the stunning photo featured in the film, of a parent albatross feeding shards of plastic to her chick. plasticpollutioncoalition.org | <http://elplasticomata.com>
- **Learn more at <https://www.albatrossthefilm.com>**



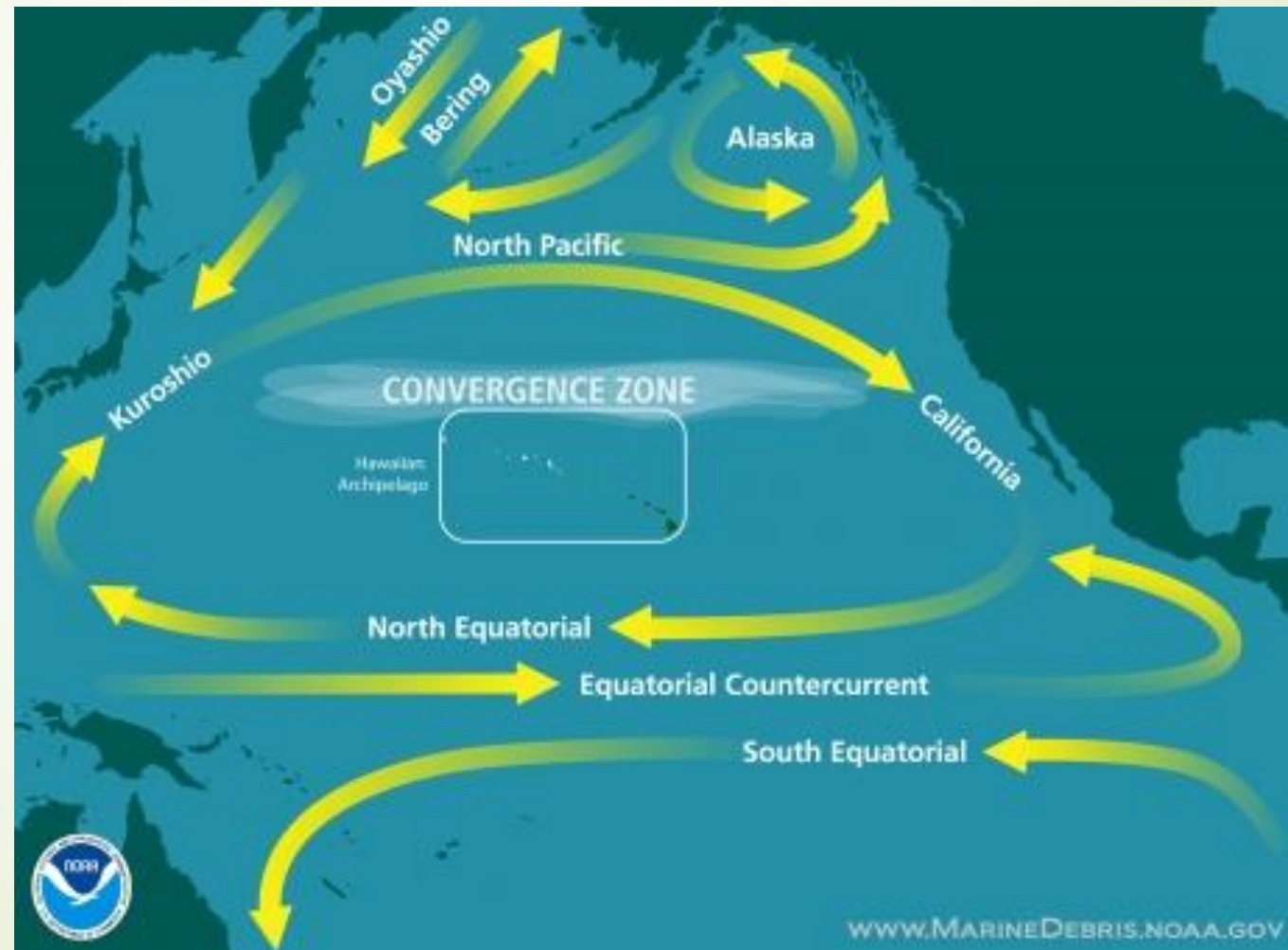
Midway Island

- Midway Island (Atoll – ring of islands formed of coral) is:
 - ~1,200 miles away from Hawaiian Islands
 - ~ 5 sq. miles in diameter
 - No longer populated (airstrip and military installations are now closed); was part of Department of Defense
 - Now an official bird sanctuary and protected wildlife refuge
 - Administered by the US Fish and Wildlife Service
 - ~ 1 million Albatross nest here (primarily Black footed, Laysan, and Short tailed)

Midway Island(s) and Hawaii



Map Showing Midway Island(s) and Ocean Currents



The Albatross

- ▶ **Biological Family** = Diomedidae
 - ▶ Large seabirds, such as petrels
- ▶ **Range** = Southern Oceans
 - ▶ Lately absent from the Atlantic Ocean
- ▶ **Size** = Among the largest of flying birds
 - ▶ Great Albatross = longest wingspan of living birds = 12 ft
- ▶ **Food** = Feed on squid, fish, and krill; tiger sharks known to feed on fledglings
- ▶ **Sea Life:** Spend life at sea except for Breeding – can land on and take off from water
- ▶ **Dynamic flying soaring and maneuvers**, with speeds up to 67 mph
 - ▶ Capable of travelling 10,000 miles in a single journey and circumnavigating the globe in 46 days



The Albatross

- **Breeding** = Are colonial; Lifetime bonding (~60 yrs); Single egg in each breeding attempt
- **Breeding Arrival Date** - At Midway Island, October/November taking up to a year to fledge young
 - Then won't leave Island for:
 - *Incubation* 70 - 80 days
 - *Fledging* 140-280 days
- **First Breed** – attempts at 3-5 years old; better success 8-9 years old



Albatross Pairs Perform a “Dance” that Bonds Them For Life

➤ See it at <https://www.albatrossthefilm.com>



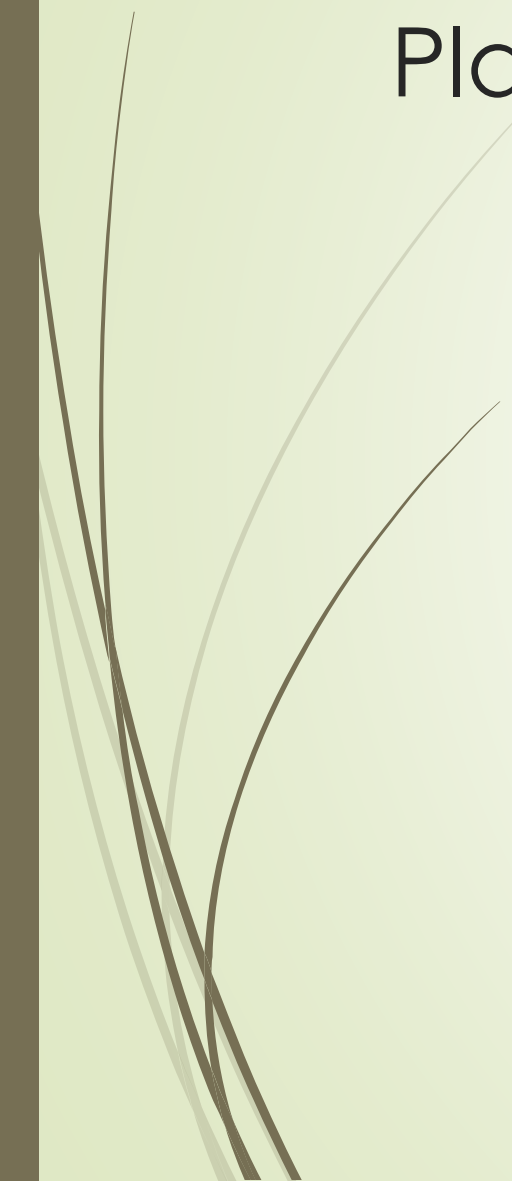



Albatross - Threats

- ▶ **22 species** recognized and **all** are listed as of concern
 - ▶ 3 species are critically endangered
 - ▶ 5 species are endangered
 - ▶ 7 species are near threatened
- ▶ Most threats
 - ▶ Introduced species, such as rats and feral cats
 - ▶ Pollution
 - ▶ Decline in fish stock (most from over-fishing)
 - ▶ Longline fishing – get hooked on lines and drown
 - ▶ 2013 - ~100,000/yr albatrosses killed
 - ▶ **Latest threat – plastics in the oceans**



Plastic Trash is now found in 90% of seabirds

- ▶ Plastics became popular in the 1960s
 - ▶ The rate of death steadily increasing as global production of plastics increases
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Plastic cuts internal organs and/or fills stomach with non-nutritional matter

- In 1960 – plastic was found in the stomachs of fewer than 5% of seabirds
- In 1980 – plastic was found in the stomachs of 80% of seabirds
- Study found 67% decline in seabird populations between 1950 and 2010



Albatross Parents

- ▶ Take turns looking for food – sometimes being at sea for a week
- ▶ The egg must be constantly tended for ~6 week
- ▶ It can take 2 days for the chick to free itself from the egg
 - ▶ With constant encouragement from the parents
 - ▶ However, many die before hatching

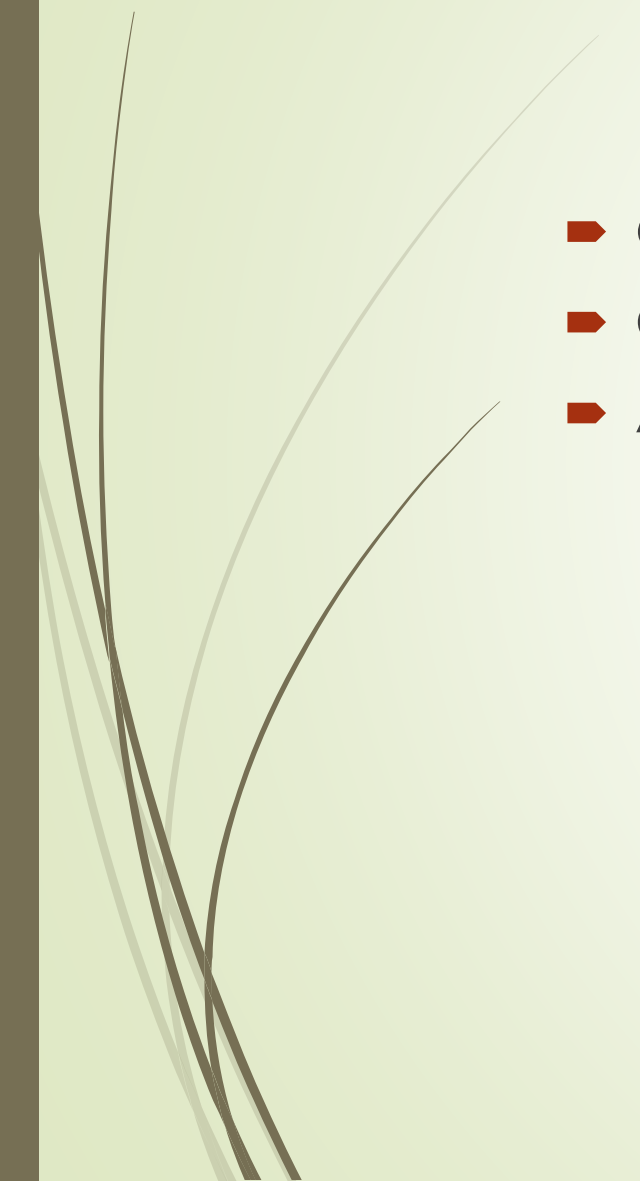


Many Chicks Die Early From Plastic Consumption

- ▶ See video depicting parents unknowingly feeding plastic to their chicks in <https://www.albatrossthefilm.com>.
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Parents Inadvertently feed plastic to their chicks

- Once hatched, it can take 7 months to fledge
 - Chicks rely exclusively on their parents to feed them
 - Adults can better regurgitate the plastic, while the chicks can not
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Almost All Albatrosses Have Ingested Plastic



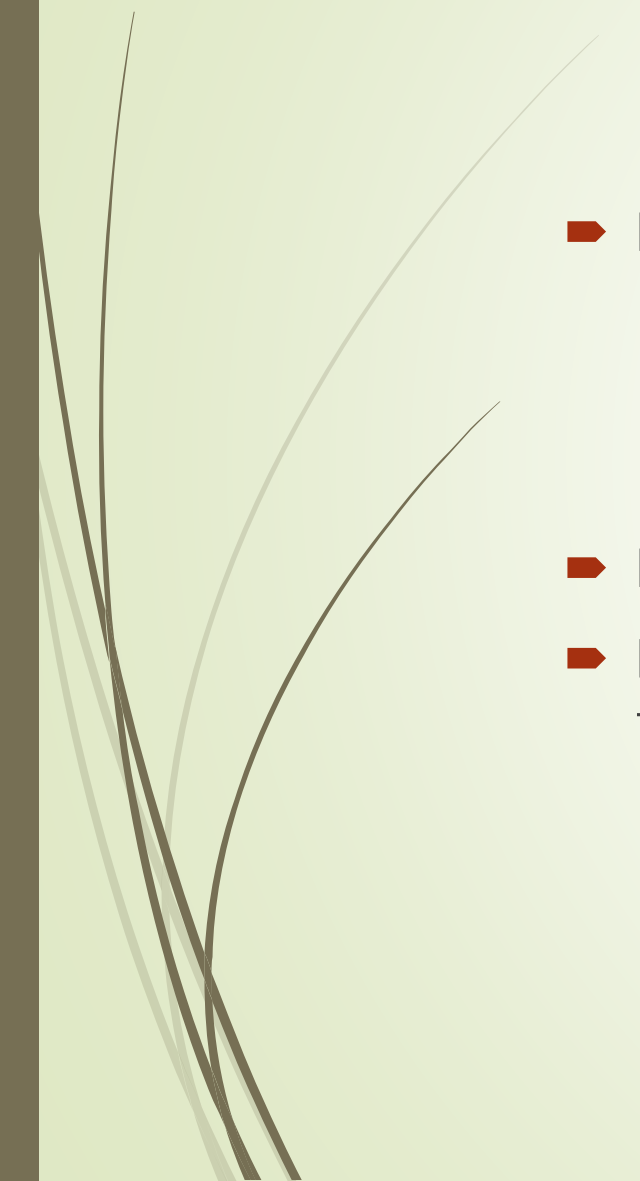


The Reality:

- See the Albatross' situation at <https://www.albatrossthefilm.com>
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Fledging:

- ▶ For those who have survived to fledge:
 - ▶ Parents leave for the sea and do not return until ready to mate again
 - ▶ That means, the fledglings will starve unless they too fly off to sea
 - ▶ Fledglings must expel contents of stomachs for lift
 - ▶ Fledglings who make it to the sea, will rest on or glide above water for 3-5 years before returning to the land to mate
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Let's Think About:

- ▶ How can I personally reduce the negative environmental impact of my actions/behaviors/choices on other species?
- ▶ How can our chapter be more proactive in Environmental Protection?
 - Join us in January for 2nd presentation: bring fabric/paper cutting scissors and ruler.
 - Sign up for the committee to discuss future projects.