

Project Update: December 2012

The field season has begun on an excellent note. Permission was granted for work at a fourth site. In October 2012, the number of breeding pairs was determined at all four sites and success has come with the GPS tracking work currently underway. This is giving us the first insight into foraging parameters at these locations. The stable isotope prey base has already begun its development with numerous fish samples having been collected during a recent Falkland Islands Fisheries Department Research cruise. A new set of volunteers will begin working with the project as we reach the halfway mark of the field season. Results do appear to be showing differing foraging strategies across the species range in the Falkland Islands, both in terms of prey items and foraging periods. We press forward with tracking work and dietary investigations, and conclude with a chick census in late January 2013 to determine reproductive success.



Breeding pair census at Bull Roads one of the southernmost colonies in the Falklands.



Gentoo with tracker attached building its nest while partner is incubating.