REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: COLOUR-RINGED SWIFT TERMS

Swift Tern Sterna bergii chicks have been ringed on islands in the southwestern Cape since 1977. After breeding, adults along with young birds spread out along the coastline at least as far east as Richard's Bay, Natal, and up the west coast to at least Walvis Bay. Red colour rings were used in 1979, yellow in 1980 and blue in 1981. This year white has been used when members of the African Seabird Group ringed 2 555 chicks at Marcus Island on 17 and 22 April. To date, 7 164 chicks have been ringed. Sightings of these colour-ringed birds along with flock size and numbers of juveniles (heavily barred individuals) present are requested. The date and locality are also needed.

Send all observations to:

J.Cooper African Seabird Group c/o FitzPatrick Institute University of Cape Town Rondebosch 7700

