

# Migratory behavior and dispersal strategies of black-legged kittiwakes

**Date** 18th Mar (Fri.)

**Time** 16:00 (UTC+8)

**Venue** Zoom



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Knowledge on seabird movements has been rather restricted to the breeding period, yet pressures during the nonbreeding period may significantly impact survival and population demographics. The study of individual migration can help identify important areas used by overwintering birds, and to compare the characteristics of short and long-distance migrations. In this study, we tracked Black-legged Kittiwakes *Rissa tridactyla* from Isle of Canna, Scotland, using combined geolocators and wet-dry sensors to understand nonbreeding distributions and activity patterns, the oceanographic characteristics of overwintering sites, and their overlap with anthropogenic pressures. This study provides insight on the variability in nonbreeding dispersal strategies of a relatively unstudied population of kittiwakes, highlighting the drivers of dispersal and factors that may affect them during overwintering.

**All are welcome!**



**Pia Ricca** is a research assistant in the Conservation Forensics lab at HKU, assisting on various molecular research projects. She will soon start working on a long-term research project on the white-shouldered starling to monitor a population in Hong Kong. She completed her master's degree at the University of Aberdeen, which she will be presenting the results of her thesis in this talk. She is hoping to begin her PhD at HKU in September 2022 to research shark population genetics for conservation and management.