1014-92-521 James L. Hayward* (hayward@andrews.edu), Biology Department, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0410, and Shandelle M. Henson (henson@andrews.edu), Department of Mathematics, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0410. Predicting the Behavior of Seabirds Using Compartmental Models.

Animal behavior arises from a complicated interaction of demographic and environmental factors. The influence of environmental factors on some behaviors can be sufficiently deterministic to allow for mathematical prediction at the aggregate level. We propose a general differential equation compartmental model for predicting multiple behaviors in multiple habitats. We use this methodology to explain and predict the dynamics of habitat occupancy and sleep in a seabird colony. (Received September 19, 2005)