

Thu, 12 Dec 2013, 15:30

Dear Fellow Heads,

Greetings. For perhaps the last time I address you as the NOW Mafia to request your support for two administrative acts concerning our database that turned quietly 20 this year. Many thanks for all your support and hard work. I think we can be justifiable at least a little proud with the result.

First, I would like to propose for Lars van den Hoek Ostende the position of Associate Coordinator, with a special responsibility for small mammals. Lars has been tremendously active and persistent and is resolved to continue his strong involvement with the database.

Secondly, I propose that we charge the General Coordinator (me) and the three Associate Coordinators (Laura Säilä, Jussi Eronen and, hopefully, Lars Van den Hoek Ostende) with creating a formal Steering Group for NOW. The Mafia would stay on as Godfathers in an advisory capacity but the decisions would be made by the Steering Group, which might or might not include some of us (let me know if you feel tempted!).

As you probably realise I'm beginning, very cautiously, to test the waters for stepping down as General Coordinator. I'm in no hurry to do this but I feel I should at least start to put in place a bit more structural stability before I do.

Finally, I wish you all Peaceful and Enjoyable Holidays.

All the best, as ever,

Mikael