

BEACHED BIRD DATA FORM

(Use one form per survey date)

Date: _____ Beach Name: _____ Observer(s): _____

Refind? (Y/N)	Tag#	Identification (species or family group)	Oil code (0-4)	Age	Sex	Entanglements	Degree of Emaciation (1-4)	Condition of Carcass (0-4)	Proportion of Carcass Remaining (0-4)	Suspected Cause of Mortality

Categories:

Oil Code:

- 0 - no oil on bird
- 1- slightly oiled-smudges of oil that do not totally penetrate the breast feathers or coat the wings
- 2 - moderately oiled - oil penetrates to base of feathers or saturates wings; <25% of the body is affected
- 3 - heavily oiled - oil penetrates to the base of feathers; >25% of the body affected
- 4 - unable to determine - if there is less than half the plumage remaining. If this code is used, inspect the remaining plumage to determine if any oil is present.

Degree of emaciation:

- 1 - round - the breast is rounded like a lifeboat and you can't feel the keel of the breastbone
- 2 - even - the breast slopes away from the keel evenly, like the roof of an A-frame house
- 3 - concave - the sides of the breast bow inward like the concave hull of a sailboat
- 4 - unable to determine - if carcass is old, badly decomposed or scavenged

Proportion of carcass remaining:

- 0 - intact
- 1 - 1-10% of flesh removed
- 2 - 11-80% of flesh removed
- 3 - almost completely removed (>80%)
- 4 - no information possible

Age:

Adult
Immature
FY = first year
SY = second year
TY = third year
U = unknown

Entanglements:

Fish net
Fish line
Fishing lure
Other fish gear
Six-pack holder
Other garbage

Condition of carcass:

- 0 - barely alive
- 1 - very fresh (no smell)
- 2 - slight decomposition, but feathers still firmly attached
- 3 - very decomposed, rotten (feathers falling off)
- 4 - very old, mummified (likely many weeks old)

Cause of Mortality (see page 10 of Instructions for details, but here are some common causes):

entanglement in fishing gear
drowning
choking
predation
oiling
starvation
shot
broken wing, leg, or other trauma
unknown

Please don't guess unless there is evidence for the cause of mortality

If you find live oiled birds or several oiled carcasses, call Canada's Environmental Emergency Hotline: 1-800-565-1633