

BCBBS Beached Bird Data Form



Birds Canada
4841 Delta St, #206, Delta, BC V4K 2T9
Edited December 2019

Date: _____ (yyyy/mm/dd) Beach Name: _____ Observer(s): _____

Refind (Y/N)	Tag #	Photo (Y/N)	Identification (species or family group)	Oil Code (0-4)	Age	Sex	Entanglements	Degree of Emaciation	Carcass Condition	Carcass Removed	Wing (cm)	Tarsus (mm)	Bill (mm)	Suspected Cause of Mortality

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

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

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

Carcass Condition:
 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)

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

Cause of Mortality
 Entanglement in fishing gear
 Drowning
 Choking
 Predation
 Oiling
 Starvation
 Shot
 Broken wing, leg or other trauma
 Unknown
 Other (specify)
Please don't guess unless there is evidence.

If you find an oil spill, live oiled birds or several oiled carcasses call the Environmental Emergency 24 hour Hotline at **1-800-663-3456**