

# 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**