



HAWAII WILDLIFE CENTER

Press contact for wildlife response:
Rae Okawa, Development Coordinator
development@hawaiiwildlifecenter.org
(808) 884-5000

Reminder: It's seabird fledging season!

What to look out for and how to help

Kapa'au, HI – September 18, 2014: Every year from Mid-September to December, seabird chicks throughout Hawai'i leave their nests and make their first nocturnal flight from their nesting burrow to the sea. Guided by moonlight, the lights from cities, towns and homes can confuse these young birds - and even some adults - and cause them to fall inland rather than continue out to the ocean.



Downed seabirds may acquire impact injuries and, once grounded, are also vulnerable to dangers including passing cars and predators. You can help protect our native seabirds by being prepared and knowing what to do if you find a downed seabird.

Don't know if you have found a seabird?

For help identifying a bird, call the Hawai'i Wildlife Center at (808) 884-5000 or consult this guide: [What is a Seabird? Seabird Identification Guide](#)

How to prepare: keep a clean towel, pillow case or large t-shirt and a ventilated cardboard box, pet carrier or other non-airtight container in your car. If you are on foot, just a towel will do.

How to rescue a downed seabird: gently pick up the bird from behind with a towel, carefully wrapping the material completely around its back and wings. Place it in the ventilated container as soon as possible. Keep the container

covered and in a quiet, cool location. **Do not feed the bird, give it water or handle it.** Do not attempt to release the bird yourself as it may have internal injuries or be too tired or weak to survive. Throwing the bird in the air could also cause additional harm.

Take the bird to a permitted wildlife rehabilitation center, wildlife response group or contact your island's Division of Forestry and Wildlife office for further directions (contact numbers provided below).

Hawai'i Island:

[Hawai'i Wildlife Center](#): (808) 884-5000

DOFAW Office: (808) 887-6063 or (808) 974-4226

Maui Nui:

[Maui Nui Seabird Recovery Project](#): (808) 573-2473

[Save our Seabirds](#): (808) 280-4114

DOFAW Office: (808) 984-8100

O'ahu:

DOFAW Office: (808) 973-9776

Kaua'i

Save our Shearwaters, Kaua'i Humane Society: (808) 635-5117

DOFAW Office: (808) 274-3433

For more information, including a step-by-step breakdown on how to rescue a downed seabird and ways that you can help reduce light attraction, visit the Hawai'i Wildlife Center seabird fallout response page at www.hawaiiwildlifecenter.org/seabird-fallout-response.html.



About The Hawai'i Wildlife Center

The mission of the Hawai'i Wildlife Center is to protect, conserve and aid in the recovery of Hawai'i's native wildlife through hands-on treatment, research, training, science education and cultural programs.

The HWC is Hawai'i's only state-of-the-art rescue, rehabilitation, research and education facility exclusively for native wildlife. We take a very hands-on and comprehensive approach to conservation and species recovery and currently have the only facility in the state that meets all federal, state and local standards for accommodating a large-scale rescue and rehabilitation effort targeting sick, injured or oiled wildlife. We serve all Hawaiian Islands, including the Northwestern Islands extending to Midway and Kure Atolls. We are fully permitted for the rehabilitation of all native bird species and the Hawaiian hoary bat.

The HWC is not a zoo or a preserve, it is a professional organization that focuses on the rehabilitation and conservation of our native wildlife. The HWC

only accepts native seabirds, shorebirds, birds of prey, waterbirds, forest birds and the Hawaiian hoary bat.

To find out more about the HWC, support HWC programs, or join the HWC volunteer 'ohana, please visit www.hawaiiwildlifecenter.org.

