

Penguin Incident Reporting Protocols

Penguin found with oil on feathers or known marine oil spill

- If there is evidence of an oil or contaminant spill, record exact location and immediately call **Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Hotline on 1800 005 171** (available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week). The EPA will manage the investigation/response of any potential marine oil/contaminant spill. EPA will contact the Marine Conservation Program (MCP) to manage any animal welfare response if necessary.
- If a suspected oiled penguin is found, please also call Bonorong wildlife rescue **0447 264 625** (all hours) and the Whale Hotline **0427 942 537 (0427 WHALES)** also all hours.

If you do receive any oiled penguins, to ensure appropriate and accurate analysis of the oil contaminant, it is important that the following procedure for collection of samples is followed:

1. Use a piece of regular paper towel (or basic tissue, without aloe vera, etc) to wipe some of the contaminant off the animal before it is washed. Try to concentrate a swab onto a small section of the paper.
2. Repeat for a second sample.
3. Place each of these in separate, labelled food-safe snap lock bags, labelled 'Sample A' and 'Sample B'.
4. Place a third, **un-used** piece of the paper towel or tissue used to collect the samples in a third separate food-safe snap lock bag. Label the third bag 'Control'. This will allow the analysts to identify any background chemicals that may occur in the paper.
5. Advise the EPA you have collected samples and they can arrange collection for analysis.

If you suspect a dog attack on a colony.

If possible, leave carcasses in situ to allow compliance rangers to analyse the scene, effectively treating the area as a crime scene. Otherwise follow instructions from compliance rangers. If a carcass is taken to you and you suspect dog attack, you can chill the carcass in a fridge **but do not freeze**.

To report the incident:

Please ring the on-call Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) compliance number **0488 184 847** or the Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Investigations and Enforcement (IES) on-call wildlife ranger on **0417 661 234** as soon as possible.

Rangers will manage the investigation into the dog attack and collect relevant evidence. If follow up animal welfare monitoring, investigation, or management is required PWS, or IES Wildlife Rangers will contact the Marine Conservation Program.

Useful information to have ready to pass on:

- Your details.
- Precise location of the incident – if you have a mobile phone, it is useful to 'pin drop' the location and send through to the Ranger following the initial call.
- How you found out about the incident including contact details of anyone reporting it to you.
- The approximate number of carcasses located.
- Any photos of the site or of carcasses.
- Do not move or interfere with carcasses unless instructed to do so.

Injured and orphaned penguins – phone Bonorong Wildlife Rescue **0447 264 625** (all hours).

For vagrant penguins sightings (i.e. species other than Little Penguin), call the Marine Conservation Program's Hotline on **0427 942 537 (0427 WHALES)**, particularly if they are moulting and/or you think they may be at risk.



