



BEACH PATROL SCHEME CONVENOR

ROLE DESCRIPTION

Objectives

The overall objective of beach patrolling is to collect, record and disseminate information on all birds found dead on beaches, including seabirds, landbirds and wetland bird species.

Specific objectives are:

- To collect and document information on the species, location and numbers of all birds found dead on the New Zealand coastline, including islands.
- To record, where possible, the reasons for bird mortality.
- To provide information for scientific study about birds found dead on coastlines.
- To contribute to the collection of bird specimens for museums, especially of rarely found species.
- To provide specimens for scientific study.
- To increase opportunities for recovering banded birds.
- To provide opportunities for members to identify seabirds.

Duties for achieving these objectives

To achieve these objectives the following duties are considered to be the main priorities:

1. To efficiently manage the Beach Patrol Scheme and the Beach Patrol database. As necessary, maintain effective liaison with the Society's website contractor to achieve proper management of the database.
2. To provide Regional Representatives and members with information on how to:
 - carry out beach patrols effectively.
 - accurately identify bird species, noting any band numbers, evidence of oiling, obvious causes of death including the presence of fishing hooks / tackle and evidence of a mass die-off ("wreck").
 - submit beach records into the on-line database through the Beach Patrol Reporting Page on the Birds New Zealand website.
3. To assist patrollers to identify specimens, or take photographs, and to encourage patrollers to forward specimens to a museum for identification.
4. To act as an adjudicator to review each Beach Patrol submission to ensure that it is realistic and meaningful in respect of the identity of birds, locality records, comments made, measurements provided and the quality of photographs. As required, or as necessary, the adjudicator will cooperate with experts to verify information provided in Beach Patrol submissions.

5. To provide feedback to patrollers and other members about the results of their efforts by writing an annual summary of the previous year's patrolling results for publication in the *Birds New Zealand* magazine.
6. To provide specific information derived from the Beach Patrol database to Society members, or other researchers, for scientific study.

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