

## Code Key for OWCN/Wildlife Processing Unit Live & Dead Oiled Animal Data Logs

Record incident name, location, and page; circle live vs. dead. Please be sure all fields are filled in with the appropriate code.

The following list of fields are filled out by receivers upon the animal's arrival:

**Intake #:** Starting with L for live and D for dead, record the sequential i.d. number which animal was given upon arrival.

**Date and Time Collected (2 fields):** Date and time (24-hour format) of collection.

**Collector Name:** Record first initial and last name of collector (from bag/box); if public, put phone number as well.

**Beach Search Number:** Record the official beach search code if the system is implemented.

**Collection Location:** Name of initial collection/capture location. If necessary use Notes on back for overflow.

**GPS Coordinates (2 fields):** Coordinates of collection/capture location.

**Field Band Number:** Provide # of temporary band affixed during initial collection/capture; for dead this will be only band.

**Date and Time Arrived (2 fields):** Date and time (24-hour format) animal arrived at processing station.

The following list of fields are filled out during processing, not during receiving, or are transferred from other forms:

**Date and Time Processed (2 fields):** Date and time (24-hour format) the rest of processing (data fields below) was initiated.

**Processor Name:** First initial and last name of data collector for the individual animal.

**Species:** Standard 4-letter abbreviation; if unknown, indicate lowest taxonomic category determined (e.g. gull; alcid; bird).

**Temp Band/Tag #:** For birds enter color and number of band (i.e., B198 if Blue band #198) placed on leg (or elsewhere with string as necessary for incomplete carcasses). This is for live birds other than shorebirds, and dead birds not given a field band. For turtles or phocids, plastic NMFS tags should be fitted on the hind flipper. For otariids, tags go on front flipper

**Condition:** (dead log only) **1**=freshly dead whole carcass with no evidence of scavenging; **2**=freshly dead and scavenged with no body parts missing; indicate in Notes the location (e.g., breast) of scavenging. **3**=decomposing whole carcass; **4**=body parts only - fresh (elaborate on which body parts are present in Notes); **5**=body parts only - decomposing (elaborate in Notes); **6**=desiccated, mummified carcass; **99**=not evaluated.

**Extent of Scavenging:** (dead log only) **0**=none detected; **1**=light; **2**=moderate; **3**=heavy

**Oiling Status:** In hierarchical order (choosing lowest number to apply), indicate presence of oil (jet fuel, diesel, gasoline, vegetable oil, fish oil or other) by: **0**=no signs of oil detected; **1**=yes, oil visually detected; **2**=yes, smell oil; **3**=yes, skin burned; **4**=unknown but skin wet/not waterproof; **5**=unknown but plumage misaligned, parted, or sticky; **99**=not evaluated.

**% of Bird Oiled or Sheened:** (dead log; for live, transferred over from medical forms) **1**=<2% of body; **2**=2-25% of body; **3**=26-50% of body; **4**=51-75% of body; **5**=76-100% of body; **6**=oil detected but extent undeterminable due to state of carcass; **7**=no oil detected but this may be due to state of carcass (i.e., partial); **99**=not evaluated or applicable (use if not visibly oiled).

**Depth of Oil:** (dead log only) **1**=surface (oil penetrated  $\leq 1/4$  way down feather shaft); **2**=moderate ( $\leq 1/2$  down shaft); **3**=deep (penetrated to skin); **99**=not evaluated or applicable (use if not visibly oiled).

**Where Oiled:** (dead log only) **1**=bill/mouth area only; **2**=body (1 spot); **3**=spotty (spots in multiple areas); **4**=waterline (keel downwards); **5**=entire body; **99**=not evaluated or applicable (use if not visibly oiled).

**Feather/Oil Sample Taken?:** Take a sample from oiled locations. If no apparent oil, take samples from areas frequently oiled. **Y**=feather/fur/tissue/swab sample taken; **N**=no sample taken. Shiny or dull side makes no difference. Record the following on both the envelope AND foil in which sample is placed: intake #, species code, band number, processing date, spill event name.

**Photo Taken?:** **Y**=yes; **N**=no. Write the time it was taken on photo (if polaroid); see protocols if not polaroid. In photo itself backdrop should clearly show: intake #, species code, band number, date, facility, and spill name (if designated).

**Disposition Date:** (live log only): Record the date of the disposition (transferred over from Post Mortality Log).

**Disposition Status:** (live log only): Manner in which live animals left the care of veterinarians at the facility. **R**=released; **T**=transferred for rehabilitation; **E**=euthanized; **D**=died (transferred over from Post Mortality Log).

**Federal Band number:** Record here any federal metal bands birds arrived with; federal bands given to shorebirds in lieu of temporary plastic bands; and federal bands given upon release. WPU will report recoveries and OWCN newly placed bands.

**Morphometrics and Age/Sex:** If time allows, during processing on dead birds record the unflattened wing, tarsus, bill depth(s), nares to tip, exposed culmen, age, and sex, as appropriate for the species. Proper training is required; refer to the complete protocols for the Wildlife Processing Unit for a thorough description of how to collect each data type.

**Morgue Box #:** Box # in which the carcasses is placed. If bags are used record those numbers also. Live and dead are given different series (alpha vs. numeric); Special Status and unidentified birds placed in unique boxes. Live are transferred over from Post Mortality Log.

**Notes:** Any extra observations, e.g., breeding condition; conspicuous cause of death if not related to oil; contamination by other petroleum products (e.g. wrapped in plastic) or other carcasses; and **detection of toe or wing clipping** on dead birds.