

## Summary

### Wildlife Disturbance Reporting Form

WITNESSES SHOULD NOT APPROACH OR CONTACT ANYONE SUSPECTED OF CAUSING A WILDLIFE DISTURBANCE

#### **SECTION A: TYPE OF DISTURBANCE**

This portion of the form simply requires an identification of the **type of disturbance** (i.e., Vessel, Aircraft, Land-based, or Other).

#### **SECTION B: INCIDENT INFORMATION**

This section requires specific information regarding the wildlife disturbance incident (i.e., **date, time, environmental conditions**, and a **description of the incident**). Definitions of the Beaufort conditions are included on page 3.

Record observations of anthropogenic (human) disturbances. Any event where humans cause disturbance(s) to seabirds and/or marine mammals will be recorded, including: vessels; aircraft; and land-based. In addition, Record ALL vessels approaching within about 1,500 feet (460 meters, or 0.28 miles), and aircraft flying at or below 1,000 vertical feet (305 meters) and within 1,500 horizontal feet, of a nesting sub-colony.

**Photographs and video can be entered as evidence in court cases.** Record the subject of each photo and the photo number in SECTION H: Additional Notes. Always have a camera available and when possible obtain photos of the vessel, kayak, or aircraft causing a disturbance. Ideally these photos should be able to identify the aircraft or vessel, show its relation to the wildlife area affected, and show birds being disturbed. Zoom in and get a clear photo of the identification number on the vessel or aircraft. If photos or video were captured, record the **contact** where the images can be obtained from.

Record **other witnesses** that observed the wildlife disturbance incident. This does not include the reporter's information (reporter's information is requested on page 5).

Describe all **agencies** notified of the incident. More than one agency can be described in this section.

#### **SECTION C: DISTURBANCE OBSERVATIONS**

The primary focus of the protocol is to record the **number and species of seabirds or marine mammals** flushed, agitated and/or displaced. See laminated field reporting form for the definitions of species four-letter codes (i.e., COMU, BRCO, etc.)

Record the **duration of the disturbance** (i.e., single pass, multiple passes, hovering/lingering, unknown) and note the number of passes or the length of time the disturbance was present.

Note the **behavior of any animals affected during the incident**. More than one box can be described. You may check all that apply.

**Did affected animals return to their original behavior after incident?** If no, describe how the behavior changed following the incident.

#### **SECTION D: VESSEL DISTURBANCE**

When possible, record the "**CF**" **identification number** of the vessel, and name (when applicable). If the name and full description of the vessel cannot be made, then a full or partial vessel I.D. number must be obtained in order for enforcement to be able to follow up. Note the **home port and/or vessel nationality** and any **special characteristics and/or special markings** of the vessel. Also of importance is the **vessel color**.

**Vessel type and vessel length** are important. Please be as accurate as possible. If the exact description is not available, add the description in SECTION H: Additional Notes.

**Approximate vessel distance to wildlife disturbed.** Note: 100 yards is approximately the length of a football field. Please **describe the landmark and/or equipment used to determine approximate distance.** The landmark may be used to verify the vessel distance to the wildlife disturbed.

Record the **direction of travel** of the vessel (i.e., N, S, E, W, NW, SW, NE, SE).

Mark the box if a vessel is observed within a **Special Closure**. Special Closures are a type of marine protected area that prohibits access to sensitive seabird colonies and marine mammal haul-out areas.

#### **SECTION E: LAND-BASED DISTURBANCE**

Identify the **type of land-based disturbance**. If "other" is the most appropriate category, please describe the activity. Note the **approximate distance** the land-based disturbance is from the wildlife that is being disturbed.

Note if **habitat is altered or removed** from the site. If so, describe the **type of habitat**. It is important to record the **number of people involved** in the incident, **vehicle license number or other forms of I.D.**, provide a **description of the person(s) creating the disturbance**, along with any **further details** of the incident.

#### **SECTION F: AIRCRAFT DISTURBANCE**

When possible, record the **tail number** of the aircraft. The aircraft color and description is also helpful.

Record the **type of aircraft**. If "other" is the most appropriate category, please describe. Note the **approximate height of the aircraft**. Be sure to choose "**above sea level**" or "**above ground level**." Please note any **landmarks and equipment used to estimate the altitude**. For example, if an aircraft flies over Southeast Farallon Island, the lighthouse is a landmark with a known height, which can be used to estimate the altitude of the aircraft. Also **estimate the horizontal distance from the aircraft to the disturbed area**. Record the **ceiling height**. This is an approximation.

Provide a **description of the aircraft**. If "other" is the most appropriate category, please describe. If the aircraft is a **helicopter**, describe the **number of top rotors** and the **landing gear**.

If the aircraft is a **jet**, mark jet and continue onto SECTION G. If the aircraft has a **propeller(s)**, describe the **number and location of the props**, the **wing arrangement** and the **landing gear**.

#### **SECTION G: REPORTER'S NAME & CONTACT INFORMATION**

Record the **reporter's first and last names**, most reliable **phone number** and **email**, the **date** the form was completed, and the **agency or organization** the reporter represents, if applicable.

This form does **not** contain personal information of anyone suspected of a wildlife disturbance. Once the incident is reported to the law enforcement agency, personal information will be kept within the incident database. This information will only be accessible by a limited number of people that use the database. An ID number can be sent via the internet.

#### **SECTION H: ADDITIONAL NOTES**

Use this section to provide **additional notes** and/or a **more detailed description** of the incident.