



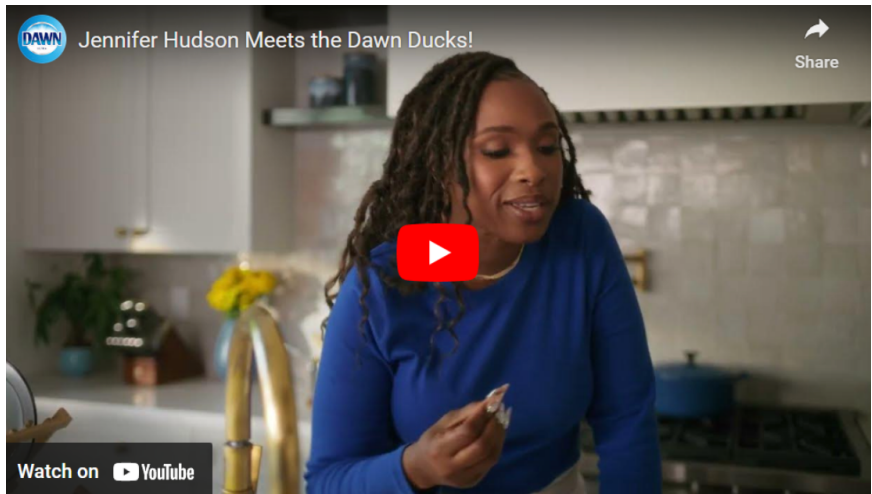
Wildlife Responsibility Bulletin

Oiled Western Burrowing Owl Gets a Second Chance

A recent oiled bird patient, Western Burrowing Owl, is a reminder that International Bird Rescue's specialized decontamination efforts often include non-aquatic bird species. Bird Rescue's two California wildlife centers are central to the Oiled Wildlife Care Network (OWCN) providing important and safe care for oiled and contaminated wildlife.



This owl, native to grasslands, wound up outside its natural habitat in the Pacific Ocean in Santa Barbara County after it became contaminated by oil, rendering its feathers useless for insulation and flight. Once stabilized, the bird was thoroughly washed using light sedation to keep the bird calm. It was released back in the Santa Barbara area.



Jennifer Hudson, award-winning singer and actress, appears in a new series of TV ads as part of this new promotion. [See YouTube video](#)

Pragmatic Partnerships: Jennifer Hudson & DAWN Dish Soap Help Save Wildlife

International Bird Rescue's longtime sponsor Dawn dish soap partnered with Jennifer Hudson as a spokesperson to support and educate the

public about our mission. This fall, shoppers and wildlife lovers made a difference for wild birds by downloading a \$1 coupon which raised \$100,000 for Bird Rescue! [See video](#)

"We are grateful for Jennifer Hudson's support of our work with wild birds!"

—JD Bergeron, CEO,
International Bird Rescue

DAWN has been supporting Bird Rescue for decades with product and yearly donations. The organization has been using DAWN to clean contaminated birds for more than 40 years.

To learn more about Dawn and Bird Rescue, please visit: <https://dawn-dish.com/en-us/dawn-saves-wildlife/>

Educating and Collaborating at Oilapalooza Spill Conference

Five International Bird Rescue team members attended Oilapalooza, the Oiled Wildlife Care Network (OWCN) biennial spill response conference in Bakersfield, CA, on October 23 and 24. Attendees took part in a valuable opportunity to both teach and learn and then apply those skills in the Full Deployment Drill on Day 2.

Our team participated in two panels that took place on Day 1. Dr. Rebecca Duerr, Director of Research and Veterinary Science, discussed protocols for managing **Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza** AKA bird flu, sharing critical insights to help protect both birds and responders.

Oilapalooza is designed to provide California's OWCN attendees with opportunities to meet and share experiences with other members. Read abstracts from the sessions [here](#).



Dr. Rebecca Duerr, Director of Research and Veterinary Science, discusses protocols for managing bird flu at Oilapalooza hosted by the Oiled Wildlife Care Network(OWCN) in Bakersfield CA.



Note to Clients:

Bird flu, also known as HPAI H5N1 (Avian Influenza), is an ongoing crisis for wild birds. Testing and quarantine must be part of any wildlife response plan for the safety of both birds and volunteers. Safety protocols should be followed to protect humans who handle wildlife. Bird Rescue has been at the forefront of responding responsibly to this developing crisis over several years. Our screening protocols have effectively prevented exposure. [Learn more](#)

Bird-Friendly Coffee Partnership

As the colder weather sets in, we have the perfect gift for coffee lovers and bird enthusiasts alike. International Bird Rescue and [Ampersand Coffee Roasters](#) have partnered together to launch a unique, bird-friendly coffee roast: Flying Free Blend. With each bag sold, 12.5% of the proceeds will support Bird Rescue's efforts in saving waterbirds in crisis.



Flying Free Blend: Ampersand Coffee Roasters



In Lima, Peru Field Exercise, JD Bergeron, CEO of Bird Rescue, above, participated with other wildlife responders. Right photo, celebrating merger of OceanPact and Aiuká, Erik Cunha, Barbara Callahan, Valeria Ruoppolo, and Adriano Ranieri.



Wildlife Responsibility Team Fall 2024 Field Update

After wrapping up a busy summer, the Wildlife Responsibility Team's calendar stayed full this fall. Many of our longtime clients invited our Response Team to participate in their tabletop exercises, trainings, and full-deployment drills in Alaska and Washington.

In September, Bird Rescue led a Field Exercise deployment as part of biannual **GOWRS** in-person meeting in Lima, Peru, where 10 of the world's leading Oiled Wildlife Response Organizations work collaboratively with industry partners to provide expertise and oiled wildlife assessment around the world. That same month, Bird Rescue participated in the **Alaska Regional Response Team Meeting** in Anchorage and face-timed with Regulators (USCG, EPA, USFWS, DOT). Lastly, Response & Training Manager Michelle Bellizzi participated as Evaluator with staff and volunteers during an Emergency Drill at **SFBOWCEC**.

In October, Bird Rescue's Senior Director of Response Services Barbara Callahan participated in the Wildlife Branch at the **Tidewater Barge Lines Worst Case Discharge Tabletop Exercise** in Pasco, WA.

Later in November, Callahan and Bellizzi presented Oiled Wildlife First Responder Training for our client **Alyeska Pipeline Services Company's** Vessels of Opportunity personnel in Homer, AK.

Mid November, Callahan and Bellizzi attended the **Clean Gulf Conference** in Houston, TX. While there, we connected to celebrate our ongoing partnership with longtime colleagues at **Aiuká of Brazil and their new partnership with OceanPact.**

Looking Ahead: January HAZWOPER Training

In addition to presenting at the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council's Annual Science Night, in Anchorage, in December, the team is scheduled to present a 24-Hour HAZWOPER course and a day of Advanced Oiled Wildlife Response Training in January. A Town Hall and Responder Orientation will also be offered for new members of our Response Team. Educational events like these help our organization to build the next generation of responders and are possible thanks to a generous grant from **Matson** shipping and donation of meeting space by **Hilcorp**.

Tracking Rehabilitated Pelicans With Electric Bands

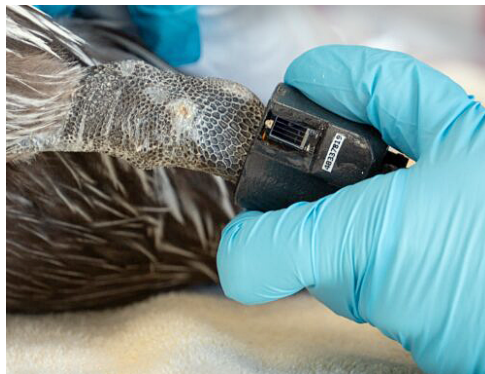
Every bird's release back into the wild is a victory, but our work doesn't stop there. Thanks to innovative tracking technology, we can now follow the post-release journeys of Brown Pelicans like never before. Eight former patients are sporting a third leg band in addition to their federal and [blue bands](#): a miniature electronic device to track their whereabouts and aid conservation research.

Led by Deborah Jaques of Pacific Eco Logic, this project is exploring the use of the newly-designed leg bands and the [Motus Wildlife Tracking System](#) to understand post-rehabilitation and fledgling dispersal and survival of the California Brown Pelican.

The e-Bands eliminate the need for a person to spot the bird in person and manually report it. Additionally, receivers cover a much larger portion of the California pelicans' range than in-person re-sightings, including the Channel Islands and several Mexico areas.



A rehabilitated Brown Pelican is released with a e-Band created by Cellular Tracking Technologies to track its whereabouts.



The e-band is attached, left, to a pelican's leg. Radio signals are detected by sensor stations located within three to 15 kilometers of the animal.

Timely Tree Trimming Now Through February Saves Lives

Wildlife Responsibility Tip

Now is the time to take action to save the lives of baby birds next spring. Trim trees responsibly from the months of September through February. This is the best time to complete your tree and shrub maintenance as most birds will have completed their breeding cycles.



**Wildlife
Responsibility
Bulletin**

The Wildlife Responsibility Bulletin is published by International Bird Rescue for its customers. **Editors:** Emily Dixon, JD Bergeron, Russ Curtis, Ariana Gastelum.. **Photos:** Ariana Gastelum, Michelle Bellizzi, Kelly Beffa. **Design:** Russ Curtis