

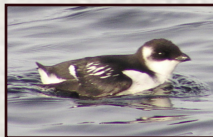
Some common seabirds found on beaches during the winter:

Names in blue refer to Newfoundland and Labrador common names.



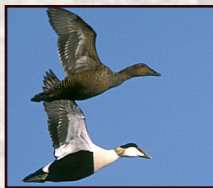
Thick-billed Murre, **turr**

- Medium-sized, stocky
- White line above bill
- White throat in winter



Dovekie, **bullbird**

- Small, thick-necked
- Stout bill



Common Eider, **duck, drake**

- Female (top), plain brown
- Male (bottom), boldly patterned

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Long-tailed Duck, **hound**

- Named after the males' very long tail which females lack



Atlantic Puffin, **sea parrot, hatchet bill**

- Smaller than Murre but larger than Dovekie
- Large colourful bill

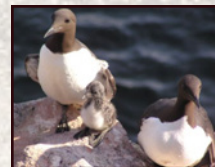
Some common seabirds found on beaches during the summer:

Names in blue refer to Newfoundland and Labrador common names.



Black-legged Kittiwake, **tickleace, tickle ass**

- Small delicate-looking gull
- Juveniles (right) have black markings



Common Murre, **murre, turr**

- Head and upper body are chocolate brown
- Longer, thinner bill



Herring Gull, **sea gull, blue gull, glue gull**

- Large gull with heavy bill
- Juveniles have brown plumage



Black Guillemot, **sea pigeon, pigeon**

- Stocky smaller than murre
- Distinct white wing patch



Northern Gannet, **gaunt, gannet**

- Large, long wings and bill
- Juveniles have brown plumage

Contact Us

For more information on the Adopt-A-Beach program, contact the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society.

Phone: 709-726-5800

Fax: 709-726-2764

Email: sdooley@cpaws.org

Write:

Adopt-A-Beach
Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
Newfoundland and Labrador Chapter
172 Military Road P.O. Box 1027, Stn C
St. John's, NL A1C 5M3

In partnership with:



Environment Canada
Atlantic Region

Environnement Canada
Région de l'Atlantique

Environmental Damages Fund

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And help protect seabirds in Newfoundland and Labrador



Help protect our seabirds:

Survey your local beach for beached birds.

Adopt-A-Beach, a chapter of Environment Canada's Newfoundland and Labrador Beached Bird Survey Program, is a volunteer program which recruits people to monitor birds washed up on their local beach. Some of these beached birds died of natural causes, but often seabirds die because they come into contact with oil on the ocean.

Oil pollution is a serious problem along the southeastern coast of Newfoundland due to the large number of ships traveling between Europe and North America. Ship operators sometimes illegally dump their oily waters after their trans-Atlantic crossings to save the costs of properly disposing of their waste. Oiled seabirds washing up on our beaches help government departments determine how often this happens.

Your donation is your commitment!

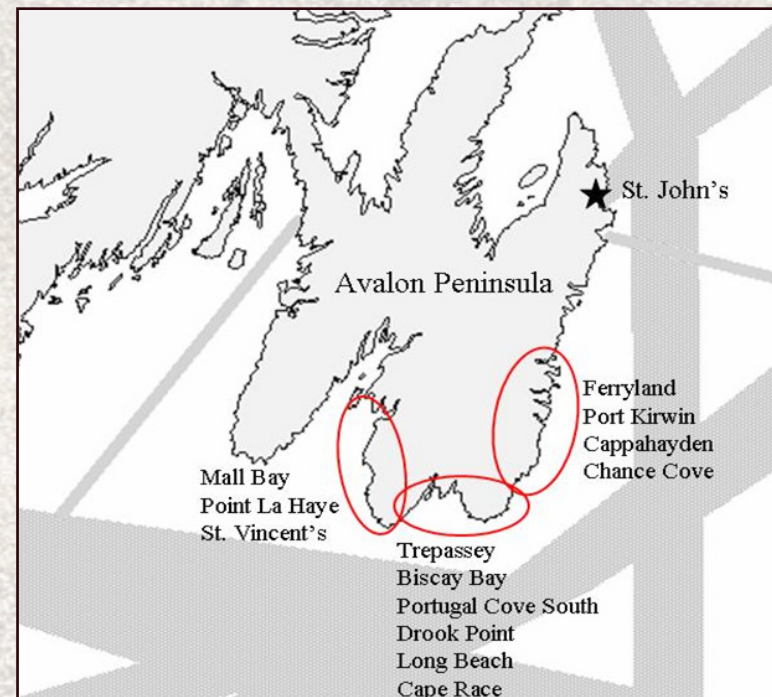
Some beaches on the Avalon Peninsula are regularly surveyed and provide important information about the oiling of seabirds. However, there are many areas that need more monitoring (see map). One of these may contain a beach often visited by you. Beach surveyors choose which beach they would like to regularly survey year-round, and will be provided with both the training and materials needed to conduct these surveys.

Increasing the number of beaches regularly surveyed for oiled birds can help government departments determine where and by whom oil is being discharged in our waters. With this information, Environment Canada is better able to understand the impacts of this illegal activity on seabird populations.

Anyone who sees oiled birds should immediately contact the Canadian Coast Guard at 1-800-563-9089.



Suitable beaches to monitor oil pollution are those close to major shipping routes (shown as grey bars below). We are, therefore, seeking volunteers to survey beaches in the following areas:



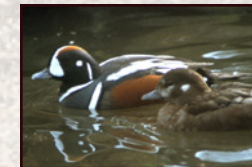
Did you know...

- Live oiled birds on beaches (as shown left) often provide the first clue that oil has recently been discharged at sea.
- Although more visible during the winter months, oil pollution is a year-round problem.
- Most birds found with oil on their feathers are Thick-billed Murres, Common Murres and Dovekies.

The waters off Newfoundland are important to tens of millions of seabirds from around the world!

Millions of murres from the Canadian Arctic, Greenland, Iceland, Norway and as far as Russia over-winter in Newfoundland waters, along with millions of Dovekies that breed in Greenland.

These waters are also an important wintering area for Common Eiders and Long-tailed Ducks breeding in the Canadian Arctic, and for the Harlequin Duck, a species of Special Concern.



A pair of Harlequin Ducks ([lords](#) and [ladies](#)).

Males are strikingly patterned; females resemble immature birds.



The Ivory Gull ([partridge](#), [ice gull](#)), an occasional wintering bird and currently a species of Special Concern, was recently assessed as Endangered.

Large numbers of Greater Shearwater ([white hagdown](#), [white bawk](#)) and Sooty Shearwaters ([black hagdown](#), [black bawk](#)) travel from their breeding grounds in the southern hemisphere to spend the summer off our coast.

These waters that are so important to the seabirds are also major shipping routes where illegal or accidental spills chronically occur. This is why there are so many oiled birds on our beaches.

Help protect our seabirds by adopting a beach today!