

Avian Species Codes and Status – For OWCN/Wildlife Processing Unit

Bird species, 4-letter codes, suggested federal band sizes, likelihood of each to be processed at California wildlife processing centers, and special status (as of July 2012; see state and federal lists at time of spill to verify). *Carcasses of federal or state special status (endangered, threatened, special concern) are to be placed in morgue boxes designated for special status carcasses, and must be reported promptly to your supervisor. All other identified carcasses are to be placed in morgue boxes with no designation.* This table is not exhaustive and is generalized for all of coastal California. You may encounter species not occurring here (e.g., landbirds); see the Bird Banding Lab website for appropriate federal band size and code (<http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/BBL/manual/bandsize.htm>). The lowest taxonomic designation that can be made with certainty should be recorded, such as “GULL”, “LOON”; spell this out if not on the list below. It may be necessary to leave the designation as “BIRD” if the remains are too damaged, or if there is not adequate time to make a positive identification out of a degraded carcass. Additionally, for individuals where all evidence points to it being of a given species or taxa, but some definitive criteria is missing b/c of condition of the bird so you can't say this with 100% certainty, record the taxa as the likely 4-letter code followed by a question mark (e.g., “SUSC?”); if likelihood is not high, simply classify as the next taxonomic level of which you are confident. Birds are listed in alphabetical order.

Species	Code	Band	Likelihood	Status ¹
Albatross, Black-footed	BFAL	7B	Rare	No Status
Albatross, Laysan	LAAL	7B	Rare	No Status
Albatross, Short-tailed	STAL	8	Extremely Rare	FE
Alcid, Unidentified	ALCI	n/a	n/a	Unidentified
Auklet, Cassin's	CAAU	3B-3A	Common	No Status
Auklet, Parakeet	PAAU	4	Rare	No Status
Auklet, Rhinoceros	RHAU	6-5	Common	No Status
Avocet, American	AMAV	4-4A ^o	Extremely Rare	No Status
Blackbird, Red-winged	RWBL	2-1A-1D	Rare	No Status
Blackbird, Tricolored	TRBL	2	Rare	S-BSSC
Brant	BRAN	7A	Uncommon	S-BSSC
Bufflehead	BUFF	5	Rare	No Status
Canvasback	CANV	7A	Rare	No Status
Coot, American	AMCO	6-5	Rare	No Status
Cormorant, Brandt's	BRAC	8	Common	No Status
Cormorant, Double-crested	DCCO	8-7B	Uncommon	No Status
Cormorant, Pelagic	PECO	7A-7B	Common	No Status
Cormorant, Unidentified	CORM	n/a	n/a	Unidentified
Curlew, Long-billed	LBCU	6 ^o -5	Rare	No Status
Dowitcher, Long-billed	LBDO	2	Rare	No Status
Dowitcher, Short-billed	SBDO	2	Rare	No Status
Dowitcher, Unidentified	DOWI	2	n/a	Unidentified
Duck, Harlequin	HARD	5	Rare	S-BSSC
Duck, Ring-necked	RNDU	6	Rare	No Status
Duck, Ruddy	RUDU	6-7A	Uncommon	No Status
Duck, Unidentified	DUCK	n/a	n/a	Unidentified
Dunlin	DUNL	1B-1A	Rare	No Status
Egret, Great	GREG	7A-7B	Extremely Rare	No Status
Egret, Snowy	SNEG	6	Extremely Rare	No Status
Fulmar, Northern	NOFU	6	Common	No Status
Gadwall	GADW	6	Rare	No Status
Godwit, Marbled	MAGO	4	Rare	No Status
Goldeneye, Barrow's	BAGO	7A	Extremely Rare	No Status
Goldeneye, Common	COGO	6-7A	Rare	No Status
Goldeneye, Unidentified	GOLD	n/a	n/a	Unidentified
Goose, Canada	CAGO	8-7B	Rare	No Status
Goose, Cackling	CACG	7A		
Goose, Greater White-fronted	GWFG	7B-8	Extremely Rare	S-BSSC
Grebe, Clark's	CLGR	7A-7B	Rare	No Status
Grebe, Eared	EAGR	5	Common	No Status
Grebe, Horned	HAGR	6-5	Common	No Status
Grebe, Pied-billed	PBGR	5-6	Rare	No Status

Grebe, Red-necked	RNGR	7A	Rare	No Status
Grebe, Western	WEGR	7A-B	Very Common	No Status
Grebe, Western/Clark's	WCGR	7A-B	n/a	Unidentified
Grebe, Eared/Horned	EHGR	5-6	n/a	Unidentified
Grebe, Unidentified	GREB	n/a	n/a	Unidentified
Guillemot, Pigeon	PIGU	4A	Common	No Status
Gull, Bonaparte's	BOGU	3-3B	Uncommon	No Status
Gull, California	CAGU	5	Common	No Status
Gull, Glaucous	GLGU	7A	Rare	No Status
Gull, Glaucous-winged	GWGU	7A	Common	No Status
Gull, Heerman's	HEEG	4A	Common	No Status
Gull, Herring	HERG	6	Common	No Status
Gull, Mew	MEGU	4A	Common	No Status
Gull, Ring-billed	RBGU	4A	Common	No Status
Gull, Sabine's	SAGU	3	Uncommon	No Status
Gull, Thayer's	THGU	6	Common	No Status
Gull, Western	WEGU	6	Very Common	No Status
Gull, Western x Glaucous-winged	HYGU	6-7A	Common	No Status
Gull, Unidentified	GULL	n/a	n/a	Unidentified
Heron, Black-crowned Night	BCNH	7A	Rare	No Status
Heron, Great Blue	GBHE	7B	Extremely Rare	No Status
Heron/Egret, Unidentified	HERO	n/a	n/a	Unidentified
Jaeger, Long-tailed	LTJA	4A-4	Rare	No Status
Jaeger, Parasitic	PAJA	4A	Rare	No Status
Jaeger, Pomarine	POJA	5	Rare	No Status
Killdeer	KILL	2	Uncommon	No Status
Kingfisher, Belted	BEKI	3B-3A	Uncommon	No Status
Kittiwake, Black-legged	BLKI	4A	Common	No Status
Loon, Arctic	ARLO	7B	Uncommon	No Status
Loon, Common	COLO	8-9	Common	No Status
Loon, Pacific	PALO	7B	Common	No Status
Loon, Red-throated	RTLO	7B	Common	No Status
Loon, Yellow-billed	YBLO	9	Extremely Rare	No Status
Loon, Unidentified	LOON	n/a	n/a	Unidentified
Mallard	MALL	7A	Rare	No Status
Merganser, Common	COME	7A	Rare	No Status
Merganser, Hooded	HOME	5-5A-6	Rare	No Status
Merganser, Red-breasted	RBME	6-5	Rare	No Status
Murre, Common	COMU	6M	Very common	No Status
Murrelet, Ancient	ANMU	3B-3	Rare	No Status
Murrelet, Craveri's	CRMU	2	Rare	No Status
Murrelet, Guadalupe	GUMU ²	2	Rare	ST ²
Murrelet, Marbled	MAMU	3B-3	Rare	FT, SE
Murrelet, Scripp's	SCMU²	2	Rare	ST²
Oystercatcher, Black	BLOY	5	Rare	No Status
Peep, Unidentified "Peep" shorebird	PEEP	n/a		Unidentified
Pelican, American White	AWPE	9-9C	Rare	S-BSSC
Pelican, Brown	BRPE	8-8A-9	Common	No Status
Petrel, Mottled	MOPE	3	Extremely Rare	No Status
Phalarope, Red	REPH	1A	Common	No Status
Phalarope, Red-necked	RNPH	1B	Common	No Status
Phalarope, Wilson's	WIPH	1A-2-1D	Uncommon	No Status
Pintail, Northern	NOPI	6	Rare	No Status
Plover, Black-bellied	BBPL	3B	Rare	No Status
Plover, Semipalmated	SEPL	1A-1B	Rare	No Status
Plover, Snowy	SNPL	1P	Rare	FT
Plover, Unidentified	PLOV	n/a	n/a	Unidentified
Puffin, Horned	HOPU	5	Rare	No Status
Puffin, Tufted	TUPU	6-5	Rare	S-BSSC
Rail, Black	BLRA	2-1A-1D	Extremely Rare	ST
Rail, Clapper	CLRA	5	Extremely Rare	FE, SE/ST

Rail, Virginia	VIRA	2-3 ^o	Extremely Rare	No Status
Redhead	REDH	6	Extremely Rare	S-BSSC
Sanderling	SAND	1A	Rare	No Status
Sandpiper, Least	LESA	1-1B	Rare	No Status
Sandpiper, Pectoral	PESA	1A-1D	Extremely Rare	No Status
Sandpiper, Spotted	SPSA	1B-1A	Rare	No Status
Sandpiper, Western	WESA	1B	Rare	No Status
Scaup, Greater	GRSC	6-5	Rare	No Status
Scaup, Lesser	LESC	6-5	Rare	No Status
Scaup, Unidentified	SCAU	6-5	n/a	Unidentified
Scoter, Black	BLSC	7A	Rare	No Status
Scoter, Surf	SUSC	7A	Common	No Status
Scoter, White-winged	WWSC	7A	Common	No Status
Scoter, Unidentified	SCOT	7A	n/a	Unidentified
Shearwater, Black-vented	BVSH	4	Rare	No Status
Shearwater, Bulwer's	BULS	4	Uncommon	No Status
Shearwater, Flesh-footed	FFSH	4	Uncommon	No Status
Shearwater, Pink-footed	PFSH	4	Common	No Status
Shearwater, Short-tailed	SHOS	4	Common	No Status
Shearwater, Sooty	SOSH	4-5	Common	No Status
Shearwater, Unidentified	SHEA	n/a	n/a	Unidentified
Shoveler, Northern	NSHO	5-6	Rare	No Status
Skimmer, Black	BLSK	4-3A	Rare	S-BSSC
Snipe, Wilson's	WISN	3	Rare	No Status
Sora	SORA	2 ^o	Extremely Rare	No Status
Stilt, Black-necked	BNST	3A-4 ^o	Rare	No Status
Storm-Petrel, Ashy	ASSP	1B	Rare	S-BSSC
Storm-Petrel, Black	BLSP	1A	Rare	S-BSSC
Storm-Petrel, Fork-tailed	FTSP	1B	Rare	S-BSSC
Storm-Petrel, Leach's	LHSP	1B	Rare	No Status
Storm-Petrel, Unidentified	SPSP	n/a	n/a	Unidentified
Surfbird	SURF	2	Rare	No Status
Tattler, Wandering	WATA	3-2	Rare	No Status
Teal, American Green-winged	AGWT	4-4A	Rare	No Status
Teal, Blue-winged	BWTE	5-4A	Rare	No Status
Teal, Cinnamon	CITE	5-4A	Rare	No Status
Tern, Arctic	ARTE	2-1A-1D	Rare	No Status
Tern, Black	BLTE	2-1A-1D	Extremely Rare	S-BSSC
Tern, Caspian	CATE	5-4A	Rare	No Status
Tern, Common	COTE	2	Rare	No Status
Tern, Elegant	ELTE	3	Rare	No Status
Tern, Forster's	FOTE	3	Rare	No Status
Tern, Least	LETE	1A-1B	Rare	FE, SE
Tern, Royal	ROYT	4A	Rare	No Status
Tern, Unidentified	TERN	n/a	n/a	Unidentified
Turnstone, Black	BLTU	2	Rare	No Status
Turnstone, Ruddy	RUTU	2-3	Rare	No Status
Turnstone, Unidentified	TURN	n/a	n/a	Unidentified
Vulture, Turkey	TUVU	8V ³	Extremely Rare	No Status
Whimbrel	WHIM	4	Rare	No Status
Wigeon, American	AMWI	6	Rare	No Status
Willet	WILL	4	Rare	No Status
Yellowlegs, Greater	GRYE	3-3B	Rare	No Status
Yellowlegs, Lesser	LEYE	2	Extremely Rare	No Status
Yellowlegs, Unidentified	YELL	n/a	n/a	Unidentified

Last modified September 2013

¹Federal or state status as of July 2012 (check for updates at beginning of each spill); FE=Federally Endangered; FT=Federally Threatened; SE=State Endangered (CA); ST=State Threatened (CA); S-BSSC=California Bird Species of Special Concern

²Split from Xantus's Murrelet July 2012; codes and status pending at the time this document was updated.

³Cannot be banded with metal bands – special bands only

^o Band above the tarsometatarsal joint only.