



Seabirds

Introduction

A seabird is a bird that depends mostly on the ocean for its survival. [Introduce yourself to the birds of the National Marine Sanctuary System](#) and explore the fascinating seabirds that call [Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary](#), [Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary](#), and [Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary](#) home.

Check out a [virtual seabird scavenger hunt](#) to learn more about the birds of Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary.

Complete the [Winged Ambassadors introductory seabird handout](#) centered around two specific seabird species, the Laysan albatross and the black-footed albatross. Pair it with [Winged Ambassadors' video of nesting albatross](#) to see their mating dances and the lifecycle of their young.

Marine Debris and Seabirds

Did you know that seabirds are one of many marine animals affected by plastic pollution? Follow along with this [presentation about albatross chicks](#) to learn about how their parents care for them and what a bolus is. Next, try your hand at identifying what's in an albatross chick's bolus with [this digital dissection!](#) Recognize anything familiar?

Check out this article on [Birds as Indicators of Ecosystem Health](#) to find out how else seabirds can help us learn about our environment.

Want to help stop human debris from entering our waterways? Grab a pair of gloves and a trash bag for a debris pickup! This can be at a location on your street, in your neighborhood, or at a local park, beach, or stream. Seabirds everywhere will thank you! Record your findings using this [debris survey](#). Please use proper safety precautions when doing this activity, do not pick up anything sharp or unsafe.



Photo: Laura Morse/NOAA



Photo: Claire Fackler/NOAA



Photo: NOAA

Love to kayak? [Read the Kayaker's Guide to Seabird Protection](#) to learn how to best protect our seabirds when out on the water! Pair this with the [National Marine Sanctuaries Wildlife Viewing Guidelines](#) and you will be on your way to recreating responsibly!

Seabird Fun!

With seabird themed word scrambles, mazes, and even a make-your-own albatross flier, this [Seabirds and Shorebirds of Hawai'i Activity Book](#) is sure to be a whole lot of fun!

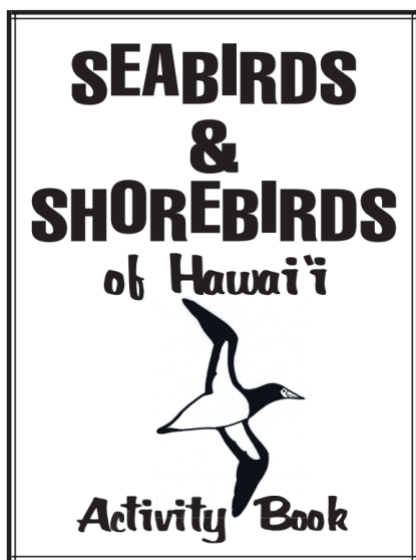


Photo: Mark Sullivan/NOAA

Check this out! The [Channel Islands Bald Eagle Webcams](#) provide an intimate view of the breeding and nesting behavior of bald eagles at the Channel Islands. We may not always think of these as seabirds, but bald eagles feed mainly on fish and usually live near large bodies of open water, which sometimes includes the waters of our national marine sanctuaries.

[Download the ParkPassport App](#) to learn more about national marine sanctuaries. Take virtual tours, view live webcams, earn digital badges, and more.

All information in this document was adapted from the NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries' resources. This collection was developed in partnership with the National Park Trust in support of the 50th anniversary of the National Marine Sanctuary System. *The inclusion of links in this guide does not imply endorsement or support of any of the linked information, services, products, or providers.*

