



ALABAMA AUDUBON

The **ALABAMA Coast** provides important habitat for a variety of wildlife. There are several bird species that nest on our beaches and islands, and all of them are facing threats from human disturbance and habitat loss.



Adult birds flushing from nests can increase chances of egg and chick predation. It can also make eggs and chicks more susceptible to overheating and death. These birds are protected by federal law as part of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

HOW YOU CAN HELP



While you are exploring our coastal waters please be sure to give birds plenty of space while they are nesting, resting, and feeding. If you come across signs indicating nesting on our beaches or islands, do not enter that area.

Entanglement in fishing line is a common occurrence for our coastal birds and can cause them to become stranded, drown, or even die of starvation. There are a lot of things you can do to help. Picking up or properly disposing of fishing line is a great first step. Flip over for tips on **WHAT TO DO** if you encounter an entangled bird.

WHAT TO DO



WATCH TUTORIAL

How to handle a hooked or entangled bird

REMEMBER The bird is a scared, wild animal and there is an accepted risk of injury if you choose to intervene.

DO NOT CUT THE LINE Cutting the line leaves the bird open to getting further entangled or stranded. Slowly and smoothly reel the bird in. Do not jerk the line, this could cause further injury to the bird.

WEAR EYE PROTECTION Sharp beaks can inflict injury. Wear gloves if you have them. Enlist help if possible. Gently but firmly control the head first. Fold the wings naturally against the body.

CUT ANY LINE & REMOVE HOOKS

If there is an exposed hook in the bird, very carefully cut the hook in half with pliers and remove both sections.

NOT INJURED

Point the bird towards water, release, and let it fly away on its own.

INJURED If the bird is seriously injured, has swallowed a hook, or is lethargic, it should be taken to a vet or wildlife rehabilitator.



Orange Beach Wildlife

844-303-9453

Mobile Environmental Studies Center

251-221-5000

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