

Nurdle Collection Information Sheet

WHAT IS A NURDLE

Nurdles are small plastic pellets about the size of a lentil used in the manufacturing of plastic products.



How to collect and what to do with them:

- Collection of nurdles can be undertaken by: Sieving areas of sand, collecting sand in buckets of water and waiting for the nurdles to float or by shaking clumps of seaweed over a bucket or sieve.
- Disposal: All Nurdles collected need to be disposed of at one of the designated collection points, this is to gather information about the Nurdles such as location, quantities and collection date. Place the nurdles into the ziplock bags provided at the collection points and record the date and location of collection on the bag.
- Disposal points are located at Shelly Beach, Hopkins River Milk Bar, Pavillion, Levys carpark, Killarny toilet block, Port fairy Surf Club, Moyne Shire Offices-Port Fairy, (Mat King's) Lindsay Street Yambuck or staging locations when setup.
- Any observations of note including nurdle densities or locations can be passed onto field coordinator at staging location.

Working around hooded Plover nest areas:

Call to get an update on the nesting activity at locations: Robyn Bush of Parks Victoria on 0403261145 to determine if there are nest sites on the beach (usually marked by signage and fencing) and whether they are "active" (ie presently or imminently have chicks or eggs)

- Do not go inside the fenced area – there is a real risk of treading on nests, eggs and chicks. If nurdles are within the fenced areas a special activity under the guidance of experienced Hooded Plover monitors will be conducted to remove these.
- For sites with chicks, which move about the beach well beyond the fenced area, an experienced Hooded Plover monitor needs to determine the location of the family of birds immediately before the clean-up.
- The 'disturbance zone' for Hooded Plovers is the area in front of the nest sites and 100m either side. Do not set up marquees, tents, tables, bases of operation, rest points, sit, loiter, etc in the 'disturbance zone'
- Do not use machinery in the 'disturbance zone' hand sieve instead.
- Limit time working in the 'disturbance zone' to 20 minutes per hour if temperature is less than 25 degrees or 10 minutes per hour if greater than 25 degrees. Returning to the area after a break of 40-50 minutes to allow birds time for incubation/brooding duties.

Sick or dead wildlife:

- Report any sick or freshly dead wildlife found on the beach to the field coordinator at the staging area along with its location and species and condition.

Field Coordinator: _____ Phone Number: _____