



# Baycare News

The voice for an environmental network of SE Qld Community Organisations

## 2010 – International Year of Biodiversity

### Statistics tell a Story

By Pelican & Seabird Rescue Inc.

Worrying facts are found in last year's statistics about injured and deceased wildlife. Baywatch has studied the statistics for the period of January to December 2009 in the Bi Annual Rescue Record by the Pelican and Seabird Rescue Inc.

A significant percentage of the 1140 creatures listed in this report were birds needing attention.

The number of birds rescued with fishing line entanglement or internal tackle would be approx 50% of their calls which equates to around 500 in a single year. (Approx 10 per week!)

The discarded lines and fishing gear resulted in different injuries including: line entanglement around leg, wing & beak; fishing lures embedded in body joint; internal fishing line and hooks; birds caught up together with fishing line unable to fly, loss of leg or wing due to entanglement from lines.

**CONTACT THE PELICAN & SEABIRD RESCUE  
RESCUE HOTLINE: 0404 118 301 (24 HRS)**

### Discarded Fishing Line and Tackle

Sunfish's Deputy Chairman, David Bateman, has given valuable advice on the issue of fishing gear and wildlife entanglement. Sunfish holds popular classes for children with "Learn to Fish" programs with an improved component of responsibility to educate children on environmental issues regarding fishing rubbish that must be carefully collected and binned. Mr Bateman understands the danger to marine and avian wildlife of discarded fishing rubbish. He agreed that waste bins should be provided at fishing platforms & cleaning stations. Baywatch contacted DPI & Fisheries, Brisbane City Council & Port of Brisbane and received positive responses about the installation of fishing line bins.

Pelican & Seabird Rescue Inc volunteers will be sharing their expertise on this and wildlife issues through possible funding will conduct an education program for the general public and the ardent recreational fishermen.