Coastal wildlife and your dog

New Zealand’s beaches provide several recreational opportunities for you and your dogs. Dogs are allowed on many of our beaches but must **always be kept under control.**

We share these beaches with some of New Zealand’s special coastal wildlife, such as little blue penguins/korora, shags/kōau, terns/tara, dotterels/tūturiwhatu and New Zealand fur seals/kekeno.

Wildlife can be present on any beach at any time and are easily disturbed. By **always carrying a lead** and following these few simple guidelines, dog owners will help ensure the wellbeing of wildlife.

If you come across wildlife on the beach:

- **Put your dog on a lead when you are within 20 m**
- **Lead your dog away**
- **Warn other dog owners at the location**
- **Notify DOC if you see wildlife being harassed by people or dogs**

**DON'T LET YOUR DOG GO WILD**
To learn about wildlife you might encounter on our beaches, go to:
Department of Conservation: www.doc.govt.nz
New Zealand Birds Online: www.nzbirdsonline.org.nz