

CHRONOLOGICAL TIMELINE OF BLACK-CAPPED PETREL RESCUE

Provided by Philippe Bayard

A) Friday, July 13, 2012

1. Karine and Ghislaine Rocourt find the black capped petrel on the 3rd floor office balcony of Haiti's Central Bank at 2:00PM
2. They call Philippe Bayard who instruct them to place the bird in a box and bring all to him
3. Philippe calls Anderson Jean, Field Biologist at SAH. Anderson suggest to give some sweetened water.
4. Philippe Bayard meets the sisters and confirms that it is indeed a black capped petrel
5. He contacts Eladio Fernandez by phone in the Dominican Republic who recommends that the bird should be checked first for injuries and be force fed with canned sardines in water, making sure there is no oil or spices involved and this, until his crop is full and prominent.
6. He is then in touch with Stephanie Kadletz, who was recommended by George Wallace, from ABC Birds. Her suggestion is to do a blood work as well which will help better determine if there are injuries or possible infection, force feeding him 4 times a day and by Monday, if we don't have any other leads on getting the bird somewhere, that an attempt at release might be best for the bird.
7. The following calls are for: Jim Goetz, Christina Schutt, Arnaud Dupuy and Joel Timyan.
8. The bird is taken out of the box by Philippe Bayard with gloved hands and carefully examined for external injuries and none are found. Some pictures are taken and it is noted that there is no aggressiveness from the petrel, nor is he trying to get away or bite. He almost seem domesticated in his reactions to human contact
9. A decision is made to bring the petrel to Philippe Bayard's house
10. The Rocourt sisters go purchase some canned sardines in water
11. At the house, the decision is made to try and feed the animal so tasks are distributed between all who came to help and feeding tools are improvised: a small dropper, a cup with lightly sweetened water, a can of sardines in water, a set of plastic straws (to load the small pieces of fish), a cotton swab (to push the food down the straw) and an extra pair of garden gloves
12. The bird reacts to the smell of fish so the open can of sardines is placed in front of him and he makes a move to pick on the offered food. He stops however after a few tries and moves away from the can
13. One person with gloved hands holds the bird while another pries his beak open gently pushing his head back to allow the food to get to the throat and another person, using the filled up straw, lets the food in by pushing it with the cotton swab. The experience is successful.
14. Lightly sweetened water is also given, using a dropper and after the droplets are left outside the midsection of the larger part of the beak, the bird swallows on its own.

15. During one of the pauses taken to allow the bird to rest between attempts to feed, it started walking very short distances , did some feather cleaning on his wings after spreading them completely one after the other
16. As night was falling, it was observed that the bird became more active
17. Rain was falling and the bird was taken outside. An attempt was made by Philippe Bayard to check the wing span by holding the bird and giving an up and down movement to which the bird reacting by flapping said wings but with no attempt to fly
18. The bird was returned inside and received more food alternated with very small amounts of sweetened water directly poured in his open beak
19. It was decided that the bird would spend the night in Philippe and Nora Bayard's bathroom to keep him safe from any unwanted encounter with another animal, whatever it may be

B) Saturday, July 14, 2012

1. Mention was made that the bird had seemed to be very active during the night and was found far from where he was last left
2. From first observation, it seemed to react faster to movement around him although he remained totally non aggressive
3. Another feeding took place, this time with shrimp cut in very small pieces, using the same feeding technique as the day before.
4. The bird had obviously gained strength and was, however, reluctantly accepting the food, probably due to the method of feeding
5. Several feeding ensued during the day
6. Philippe Bayard continued to make calls and contact via email and was receiving feedback from different sources. Those contacted were reaching out themselves to others and getting back to him.
7. The bird survived another night

C) Sunday, July 15, 2012

1. Philippe Bayard is contacted by Kelly Crowdis, a veterinarian doing missionary work in Haiti. Kelly is referred to us by Stephanie Kadletz and Keith Flanagan. She was told about the Black-Capped Petrel that had been rescued and asked that the bird be brought to her in Croix-des-Bouquets.
2. The petrel is put back in the box and taken and left with Mrs. Crowdis
3. Kelly Crowdis takes the bird to the sea shore and it is noticed that he is showing growing excitement as they are getting closer to the sea
4. The bird is put on a big rock facing the sea at the edge of the water at about 3:30pm.
5. Although it did not react immediately, he suddenly flew "like a bat out of hell" obviously back to his element and natural habitat.
6. Philippe Bayard makes the announcement that the black capped petrel found on Friday had been saved and is now back on track to his migration destination