-The strong Westerly wind and cold weather is making it very hard for many Sea Birds especially on the west coast.

The young Albatross and Giant Petrels are many miles off the coast, the older Birds have learnt how to fly around some of the storms but to many young ones it could be their first experience, to try and avoid the foul weather they fly with it ending up on the West coast.

They land on the water and try to swim ashore, the big waves pounding the beach make swimming to the safety of the beach very hard, they surf in and as soon as their feet touch the bottom they spread their huge wings to keep their balance.

The surge pushes them up the beach but before they can reach land the rip from the wave going back out rolls them over and starts dragging them back out to sea, next thing another wave crashes in and rolls the Bird onto the beach.

They get covered in sand and lose their water proofing plus the wave action puts a lot of strain on the wing joints, so by the time they drag themselves onto the beach they are very sore and weak.

As a rule they will stand on the beach for a few days waiting for the storm and rough sea to calm down.

There is so much Human activity on these beaches the Birds can’t get the rest time they need to recover, everyone likes to see these big Birds up close, some even lets their dogs chase them, every time the Bird opens its wings to ward off any trouble they end up hurting themselves to a point where the cannot mend and with die.

If you find these types of Birds on the beach please give us a call on 094381457 so we can talk to you about it.

Winter is a bad time for all Native and Wild Birds, for the new chicks this will be their first winter and have a lot to learn about trying to keep warm and how to replace their water proofing.

If you find any Bird on the ground or in trouble place them into something safe and warm for a start, never try and feed or give them water as the stress will be very high on the Bird, stress will claim many Birds.

Place something in the cage or box for them to sit on; if you place a Bird in a cardboard box with nothing on the bottom of the box the Bird will not be able to get a grip on something soft which will start the stress trouble.

If unsure just give us a call 24/7 so we can offer advice.

Robert and Robyn Webb.