

Hello, we are the seventh grade (grade 7, second year) students of Bernica middle-school in Reunion.

For the contest of young reporters for the environment, we want to raise awareness of the threats to a species endemic to our island: the Barau's Petrel.

To help us, we welcome a specialist from the SEOR (Ornithological Studies Society of Reunion), Julie Tourmetz.

Young Reporter: Julie, what do you do at the SEOR ?

Julie Tourmetz: I'm responsible for the care center at SEOR, I co-lead a network of volunteers who help organize the repatriation of injured and / or stranded birds.

YR: How do we avoid attracting cats and rats to where the Barau's Petrels nest?

JT: To avoid attracting these exotic, introduced predators, we must simply reduce the waste in the wild. There are several environmental organizations that deal with this by raising the awareness of the users of the mountain. Also, by having an organization recover the waste at the *gîtes*. And finally, there is of course, enforcement of laws for the people who choose to conduct themselves improperly.

YR: How do we reduce the impact of urban lighting?

JT: There is an eco-label called "protected Petrels" which was created with the participation of EDF that sets up several guidelines to reduce urban lighting. The first recommendation asks communities to simply reform the lights that are unnecessary, for example, those in areas rarely visited by people. The second solution is to redirect the light towards the ground and not toward the sky which has a very negative impact on marine birds. And finally, there is an astronomical clock that exists that can automatically cut off the city lights.

YR: What do you do if you find a stranded Petrel Barau?

JT: If there is a stranded Barau's Petrel, or any other wild bird, you must simply put it in a box with previously drilled holes, call SEOR at 02.62.20.46.65. and, of course, not handle it more than necessary.

Rescue me (Save me)

Stranded Barau's Petrel = SEOR, 02.62.20.46.65

Save, protect, preserve ...

(All together) ... because we are all concerned !