### **Essential** information

- The guidance is not exhaustive and you should do everything in your power and control to prevent harm to the wider public and wildlife.
- If you are planning on using a drone to commercially film wildlife or for research purposes please contact the Environmental Officer.
- If there is an incident or a near miss between a drone and wildlife please report this to the Environmental Officer.

#### **Useful Numbers**

• Department of Civil Aviation: 28496

• Environmental Department: 28449

 Falkland Islands Government Air Service: 27301

• Falklands Conservation: 22247

• Falkland Islands Tourist Board: 22215

#### **Falkland Islands Government**

Environment Department The Secretariat Stanley

Telephone: +500 28449

Email: environment@sec.gov.fk



# Drones & Wildlife



## Using your drones near wildlife

Our wildlife is **precious** and unique. If you are planning on flying your UAV around wildlife you **must adhere** to the following **guidelines**.

Small Unmanned Aircrafts are also known as UAVs, Drones, Quadcopters, Model Aircraft etc. This guidance applied to all Small Unmanned Aircrafts.





- ✓ Always check landowner permission.
- Minimum 50m distance to any wildlife sites at all times (launch distance, flying altitude and flight distance).
- Do not use your UAV around: southern giant petrels, flying seabird colonies and/or breeding pinniped sites.
- Only operate your UAV in wind speeds and gusts less than 15mph. Avoid turbulent or gusty environments.
- Operate UAV with at least two people—one person should be assessing wildlife behaviour at all times. If your UAV causes a reaction then increase altitude till there is no further reaction.
- Avoid **sudden or jerky movements** and fast accelerations of the UAV when approaching or over to wildlife sites.

It is an offence to deliberately disturb breeding protected species in the Falkland Islands. Such actions may constitute in a fine of up to £4,000.

Civil Aviation regulations also apply. Contact the Civil Aviation Department: www.fig.gov.fk/aviation