

Welfare challenges for the injured wild bird in Aotearoa

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Wildlife health care in Aotearoa New Zealand is a complex space with many intersecting stakeholders – veterinarians specialising in the care of wildlife, general practice veterinarians, rehabilitators, iwi, the Department of Conservation, the Ministry for Primary Industries, the public, and of course the birds themselves. In this presentation I will explore the challenges that injured wild birds confront as they interact with these stakeholders, including my upcoming research into the triage protocols of general practice veterinarians. My goal is to ensure that all stakeholders understand and are committed to their legal and ethical obligations to reduce suffering and facilitate swift and appropriate care for injured wildlife, so safeguarding their welfare.