

# Dr Janelle Ward

Department of Conservation

## *Physical Exam and Considerations for their Findings*

### About

Janelle is a wildlife veterinarian with avian, zoo, and conservation medicine expertise. Janelle has worked in many aspects of wildlife health, including research, pathology, oil response and wildlife medicine and surgery. She currently works for the Department of Conservation part-time, advising on permits, rehabilitation resources, and guidelines.



Janelle also created eight DOC wildlife training modules in practical avian health techniques and continues to teach avian health and rehabilitation via her online training business, Learn Bird Care Ltd (co-founded with Mandy Robertson).

### Presentation Synopsis

Dr Janelle Ward (DOC) will discuss criteria and recommendations for the release (or euthanasia) of wild birds with permanent disabilities, based on an extensive literature review.

The purpose of the review is to look at evidence of successful rehabilitation, release and post-release survival for injuries where there is uncertainty about the ability of these birds to thrive in the wild. Evidence of free-living birds surviving or breeding in the wild with disabilities is also discussed. Findings from this review should assist in triage decision-making for rehabilitators and veterinarians whether to proceed with rehabilitation or to elect euthanasia for uncertain or complex cases.