

Animal welfare assessment request

[REDACTED]

☺️ Reply Reply All Forward 📧 ...  
Wed 23/10/2024 5:02 pm

ⓘ This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.  
ⓘ You replied to this message on 23/10/2024 5:51 pm.

Kia ora [REDACTED]  
I'm the DOC manager accountable for our South Island kākā breed-for-release programme, which you may have seen in the media recently.  
[REDACTED] recommended I get in touch with you, as I am looking to commission an independent animal welfare assessment of a South Island kākā at the Dunedin Botanic Gardens Aviary.  
Would it be possible to have a chat with you on this?  
Ngā mihi,

[REDACTED]

RE: Animal welfare assessment request

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]  
UNCLASSIFIED

☺️ Reply Reply All Forward 📧 ...  
Wed 23/10/2024 5:51 pm

Hi [REDACTED]  
I'd love to chat. What's your timeframe as I'm just off overseas for a few days tomorrow, back and available from about midday Fri Nov 1.  
Cheers,  
[REDACTED]

RE: Animal welfare assessment request

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]  
UNCLASSIFIED  
ⓘ This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.  
ⓘ You replied to this message on 7/11/2024 9:14 pm.

☺️ Reply Reply All Forward 📧 ...  
Wed 23/10/2024 6:38 pm

Kia ora [REDACTED]  
Thanks for speedy reply, and offer to chat.  
If you are available next Friday afternoon it would be great to talk then. Would 2.30pm suit for a Teams call?  
Ngā mihi,  
[REDACTED]

RE: Animal welfare assessment request

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]  
UNCLASSIFIED

☺️ Reply Reply All Forward 📧 ...  
Wed 23/10/2024 6:40 pm

Yep sure, if you could send through an invite that would be great. I might be a bit dopey having hopped off a flight from the US that morning but I'll muster my brain power.  
Cheers,  
[REDACTED]

RE: Animal welfare assessment request

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]  
UNCLASSIFIED

☺️ Reply Reply All Forward 📧 ...  
Thu 7/11/2024 9:15 pm

ⓘ You replied to this message on 15/11/2024 4:10 pm.

DOC Charlie Welfare Assessment Proposal Nov 6 2024.docx  
33 KB

Hi [REDACTED]  
As discussed, please find attached a proposal for service. Happy to discuss.  
Cheers,  
[REDACTED]

RE: Animal welfare assessment request

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]  
UNCLASSIFIED

☺️ Reply Reply All Forward 📧 ...  
Fri 15/11/2024 4:10 pm

Hi [REDACTED]  
Just checking that you received this – any feedback?  
Cheers,  
[REDACTED]

RE: Animal welfare assessment request

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]  
UNCLASSIFIED  
This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.  
You replied to this message on 21/11/2024 9:06 am.

☺️ Reply Reply All Forward 📧 ...  
Mon 18/11/2024 12:00 pm

Kia ora [REDACTED]  
Thanks for the reminder, and for sending the proposal through. I have discussed it internally, but not in any detail with external partners, although they are aware this is progressing.  
There is strong support for the proposal, and we don't have any particular feedback on the details of it. There are some context updates, but nothing that materially changes the proposal.  
I do need to negotiate on price, as we cannot meet the proposed cost. Are you able to offer a revised cost please? Happy to discuss.  
Re. travel costs, we can either cover these directly or reimburse you – I suggest the former in case any changes are required.  
Ngā mihi,  
[REDACTED]

RE: Animal welfare assessment request

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]  
UNCLASSIFIED

☺️ Reply Reply All Forward 📧 ...  
Thu 21/11/2024 9:07 am

Hi [REDACTED]  
Thanks for getting back to me.  
Its probably easiest if you can give me an idea of your available budget for this work so that I can figure out what is feasible.  
I agree, it would be best if your team arranged travel and accommodation directly.  
Look forward to hearing back from you.  
Cheers,  
[REDACTED]

RE: Animal welfare assessment request

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]  
UNCLASSIFIED  
This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.  
Follow up. Completed on Thursday, 28 November 2024.  
You replied to this message on 22/11/2024 3:15 pm.

☺️ Reply Reply All Forward 📧 ...  
Fri 22/11/2024 4:54 pm

Kia ora [REDACTED]  
Thanks. I am wondering how essential it is that you visit Te Anau, and if you could do online interviews for the staff based there? It would mean not seeing the site, but you could get photos/videos of the aviary and Charlie there. Is that an option?  
Depending on outcome of needing to visit Te Anau, I'll come back to you on overall budget.  
Have a great weekend! And hope [REDACTED]  
Ngā mihi,  
[REDACTED]

RE: Animal welfare assessment request

[Redacted]  
o [Redacted]  
UNCLASSIFIED

☺ Reply Reply All Forward [Icon] ...  
Fri 22/11/2024 5:15 pm

Hi [Redacted]  
Yep, sure. Its really whatever is satisfactory and feasible for you.  
If the plan is still to get this started before Xmas, it would be helpful to get some dates pencilled in for travel as soon as I have to do some family negotiation.  
Cheers,  
[Redacted]

RE: Animal welfare assessment request

[Redacted]  
To [Redacted]  
UNCLASSIFIED  
This sender [Redacted] is from outside your organization.  
You replied to this message on 29/11/2024 12:51 pm.

☺ Reply Reply All Forward [Icon] ...  
Thu 28/11/2024 8:35 am

Kia ora [Redacted]  
Thanks. I think that maximising the time spent observing Charlie would be most useful, and would like you to spend 3 days in Dunedin (including travel to/from Dunedin on those days). This would enable time for you to meet with those outlined in the proposal (although note that the key opponent has relocated to Te Anau), and we could arrange space to undertake remote interviews from Dunedin too.  
If we can keep your total costs for professional time to [Redacted] we can manage that. We would cover travel costs (flights and accommodation, and arrange airport transfers in Dunedin).  
Does the week of 9 Dec work for you still for this?  
Ngā mihi,  
[Redacted]

RE: Animal welfare assessment request

[Redacted]  
To [Redacted]  
UNCLASSIFIED

☺ Reply Reply All Forward [Icon] ...  
Fri 29/11/2024 12:52 pm

Hi [Redacted]  
That sounds fine. Yes, I'm happy to do the work at a discounted rate for the professional time for this project.  
Would it suit for me to travel down early Tuesday December 10 and return evening of Thursday December 12? If that doesn't give enough time I could return on Friday Dec 13.  
With regard to the key opponent relocating, is there still scope to speak with her? Not ideal to do it online but better than not at all.  
Cheers,  
[Redacted]

update on next week?

[Redacted]  
To [Redacted]  
UNCLASSIFIED  
This message was sent with High importance.

☺ Reply Reply All Forward [Icon] ...  
Wed 4/12/2024 10:17 am

Hi [Redacted]  
I need to organize my work and personal calendars for next week – any news on the likelihood that the Dunedin visit will go ahead? No worries if not, I just need to know one way or the other.  
Cheers,  
[Redacted]

RE: update on next week?

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

🗨️ Reply 🗨️ Reply All ➡️ Forward 📧 ...

Wed 4/12/2024 10:21 am

UNCLASSIFIED

This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.  
You replied to this message on 4/12/2024 10:29 am.

Its looking good [REDACTED], just waiting for confirmation from Dunedin Botanic Gardens Aviary.  
Ngā mihi,

RE: update on next week?

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

🗨️ Reply 🗨️ Reply All ➡️ Forward 📧 ...

Wed 4/12/2024 10:30 am

UNCLASSIFIED

OK thanks, I'll work on the assumption that the visit is going ahead then and organize [REDACTED] 😊

RE: Animal welfare assessment request

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

🗨️ Reply 🗨️ Reply All ➡️ Forward 📧 ...

Wed 4/12/2024 1:29 pm

UNCLASSIFIED

This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.  
You replied to this message on 4/12/2024 2:11 pm.

Kia ora [REDACTED]

The curator at Dunedin has come back, and asked whether Mon-Weds is do-able for you next week? I think Tues-Thurs would still work, just suit them less, and perhaps any in-person discussions would be limited on Thurs.

She has also asked the following questions – are you able to respond please (I've answered one question already)?

- Can you please provide some idea of what kind of access [REDACTED] will want to Charlie?
- Inside her enclosure or from the front?
- Will [REDACTED] be shadowing me while I work?
- How much of my time is expected to be spent with [REDACTED] over those 3 days?
- Is this assessment only focusing on Charlie? YES.

The curator notes that they "have only just come out of the key opponent leaving sight and re started the process of building back the trust with Charlie so I would be reluctant to compromise that effort with a new person in her enclosure for long periods of time but understand if that is required."

Ngā mihi,

RE: Animal welfare assessment request

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

🗨️ Reply 🗨️ Reply All ➡️ Forward 📧 ...

Wed 4/12/2024 2:12 pm

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for this info.

Unfortunately, I'm unable to do Monday next week as I have multiple work commitments that can't be changed that day.

With regard to the curator's totally understandable questions:

- I don't think I need to go into Charlie's enclosure or interact with her at all.
- Most of what I'm interested in can probably be explained, supplemented by observations of the enclosure and of Charlie's behaviour over some pre-planned sample periods across the days I'm there (from out front).
- It would be useful to shadow the curator during key interactions with Charlie but only to the extent that it doesn't disrupt her day too much.
- I'd also like the chance to talk to other parties, particularly [REDACTED] and the key opponent, during the same period.

Even the rency of the disruptions Botanical Garden staff have experienced, if you feel I'd get a better/more useful reception in January it may be feasible to do the visit then instead. But I understand there may also be good reasons for getting this done soon.

Let me know what you think.

Cheers,

[REDACTED]

Released under the Official Information Act

RE: Animal welfare assessment request

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.  
You replied to this message on 4/12/2024 5:09 pm.

Thanks [REDACTED] I've been in touch further with the curator now.  
She can make Tues-Thurs next week work, and I think feels more comfortable given your responses below.  
I will now focus on getting travel booked (I'll be in touch if I need any further details for this) and then a contract to you for this (I will need some details from you on this, including completion of a 'new supplier form' for our procurement processes).  
Please give me a call [REDACTED] if you need to discuss anything.  
Are you free tomorrow afternoon/Friday for a Teams call to go over plan for next week in a little more detail?  
Ngā mihi,  
[REDACTED]

Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] Wed 4/12/2024 4:27 pm

RE: Animal welfare assessment request

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.  
You replied to this message on 4/12/2024 5:10 pm.

Kia ora [REDACTED]  
Can I please get your mobile number to associate with the travel booking?  
Ngā mihi,  
[REDACTED]

Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] Wed 4/12/2024 4:49 pm

FW: Travel Booking for External

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.  
You replied to this message on 4/12/2024 5:33 pm.

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Could you please advise your mobile number so I can make your travel bookings for next week

Thanks 😊  
Ngā mihi  
[REDACTED]

Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] Wed 4/12/2024 4:59 pm

RE: Animal welfare assessment request

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

All good. I'm free from 1.30 to 3pm tomorrow for a chat. Down at a Wellington Zoo AW committee meeting most of Friday.  
Cheers.

Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] Wed 4/12/2024 5:10 pm

RE: Animal welfare assessment request

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Sorry, reading emails sequentially 😊  
[REDACTED]

Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] Wed 4/12/2024 5:10 pm

RE: Travel Booking for External

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi [REDACTED]  
Cheers,  
[REDACTED]

Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] Wed 4/12/2024 5:33 pm



To [REDACTED]

The latest return flight to Palmerston North is 3:10pm do you want to fly the following day in the morning?

RE: Travel Booking for Ngaio

Hi [REDACTED]  
Friday morning return flight is fine (earliest possible please).  
Many thanks,

[illegible]

Kia ora

I've spoken to a few people to ensure they are aware of the plans for next week, and to let them know you'll be in touch. Some have suggested specific times, which I've noted below.

DOC SI Kākā breed-for-release programme staff:

- [REDACTED] accountable for SI Kākā breed-for-release programme. Can we meet at ~8.30am at the Christchurch Airport? I can call you when I arrive, and we can figure out a meeting point then.
- [REDACTED] for SI Kākā breed-for-release programme. Dunedin-based, but in the field next week (unless weather bad). To arrange talk on Teams, email [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] for SI Kākā breed-for-release programme. Nelson-based and free most of next week currently. To arrange talk on Teams, email [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] who previously cared for Charlie at DOC's Te Anau Bird Sanctuary / Te Punanga Manu Ō Te Anau.
- [REDACTED] who previously cared for Charlie at DOC's Te Anau Bird Sanctuary / Te Punanga Manu Ō Te Anau.  
To arrange talks on Teams with [REDACTED] (separately), please email the [REDACTED] in Te Anau, [REDACTED]

### Non-DOC people involved in Charlie's care:

- [REDACTED] at Dunedin Botanic Gardens Aviary. [REDACTED] is available from 3pm Tuesday. Contact her on: [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] at Dunedin Wildlife Hospital. [REDACTED] will be available to talk with you at 2.30pm on Wednesday, and will come up to the DBGA then for in-person chat at office. Her email is: [REDACTED]
- s.9(2)(a) [REDACTED] veterinarian who has raised concerns about Charlie's welfare, and who had previously volunteered with the Rangers to support Charlie at Te Anau. s.9(2)(a) [REDACTED] is aware this assessment is occurring, but won't have any specific details on it. Currently based in Te Anau, has been trespassed from Dunedin Botanic Gardens Aviary. To arrange a Teams meeting with her, please email [REDACTED]

I hope this helps with your planning for next week, and please get in touch if you require any further information. I will bring printed material for your context to the airport on Tuesday.

Have a great weekend.

Ngā mihi,

RE: Logistics Planning for Kākā Welfare Assessment

 To 

 This sender s from outside your organization.

 You replied to this message on 9/12/2024 2:09 pm.

Just a further update to the below – [REDACTED] is unfortunately now unavailable this week as she's had to [REDACTED]. She's asked if you can email her any questions you have – but she's unlikely to look at them this week (but potentially next week will be able to).  
Ngā mihi,  
[REDACTED]

FW: New Supplier - [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]  
Cc [REDACTED]

This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.  
You replied to this message on 17/12/2024 3:34 pm.

New or Update Supplier Form - DOCDM-1039322 (3).docx  
298 KB

Mōrena [REDACTED]

Please find attached the Department's new supplier form  
Could you please fill out the first section, sign and date, then email back to me along with your bank verification.

For the verification of your bank account - please attach a copy of either:

- your bank deposit slip or
- bank statement/letter (with any financial information removed) or
- a screenshot of your online banking

that clearly shows the bank logo, your supplier account name and/or trading name and full bank account number

Ngā mihi

RE: Logistics Planning for Kākā Welfare Assessment

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

This message was sent with High importance.

Hi [REDACTED]  
Thanks for the update – how awful for [REDACTED]  
I was about to email s.9(2)(a) to invite her to meet on Teams but wondered, given that both [REDACTED] are likely to be unavailable in Dunedin, whether I should plan to drive over to TA one day and talk to the three people there in person? There may be a good reason not to do that from your point of view but I thought I'd check before I start contacting people to arrange meetings.  
Thanks,  
[REDACTED]

RE: Logistics Planning for Kākā Welfare Assessment

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.

Kia ora [REDACTED]  
Yes, that could be an option, and may also allow a meeting with [REDACTED] but will depend on availability of [REDACTED] It is a 3.5 hour drive from Dunedin to Te Anau, so would take up a significant amount of time, and I do want to make sure you see Charlie on three days. But it could work if you drove over Weds arvo and did interviews Thurs morning (and potentially the evening before) and then came back middle-of-day on Thurs?  
Ngā mihi,  
[REDACTED]

Arranging a time to talk with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] about Charlie

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

This message was sent with High importance.

Dear [REDACTED]  
My name is [REDACTED] - I'm [REDACTED] DOC has asked me to undertake an independent animal welfare assessment for Charlie the Kākā.

I'm travelling down to Dunedin on Tuesday to make some behavioural observations of Charlie at the Botanic Gardens. I'm also hoping to be able to arrange times to speak with your rangers, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] about Charlie. [REDACTED] asked me to get in touch with you to arrange this.

At this stage I'm not sure whether the conversations will be online or whether I might be able to pop over to meet in person. That will depend on when your rangers would be available.

Could you let me know when they might be able to meet with me – perhaps late Wednesday afternoon and/or first thing Thursday morning?

Many thanks in advance,  
[REDACTED]

Reply Reply All Forward  
Mon 9/12/2024 11:16 am

Reply Reply All Forward  
Mon 9/12/2024 2:10 pm

Reply Reply All Forward  
Mon 9/12/2024 2:31 pm

Reply Reply All Forward  
Mon 9/12/2024 10:58 pm

Catching up tomorrow about Charlie

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

This message was sent with High Importance.

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for agreeing to spend some time with me this week to help me complete an independent evaluation of Charlie's welfare – I appreciate this matter has already taken up a lot of your time/energy and I hope to make as little extra disturbance as possible.

[REDACTED] tells me that you are available after 3pm tomorrow (Tues). I'd be grateful if we could start by having a look around the aviaries and if you could tell me about how Charlie is cared for. I'd also like to spend some time figuring out how I can make some behaviour observations over the days I'm there – I'm told that will need to be from behind Charlie's habitat because of solid fencing in front? If you are also able to spare a bit of time on Wednesday, it would be really helpful to sit down with you for a hour and have a more detailed chat about the history of this situation from your point of view.

My number is [REDACTED] and I'll be in Dunedin from around 1pm tomorrow.

Many thanks in advance,

Re: Arranging a time to talk with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] about Charlie

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.

You replied to this message on 10/12/2024 7:02 am.

If there are problems with how this message is displayed, click here to view it in a web browser.

Mörena [REDACTED]

I'll aim to get back to you with suitable times by midday today. Tomorrow afternoon and/or Thurs morning are both likely to suit.

Wishing you safe travels to Dunedin.

Kia pai te rā,

RE: Arranging a time to talk with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] about Charlie

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Thanks heaps, [REDACTED]

Re: Arranging a time to talk with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] about Charlie

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.

You replied to this message on 10/12/2024 2:53 pm.

Kia ora [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] are very flexible - they said they can work with whatever time suits you. They'd love to meet you in person if possible.

What time is best for you?

Cheers,

RE: Arranging a time to talk with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] about Charlie

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you so much for helping me arrange this – I appreciate how busy you are.

The plan is to head over the Te Anau on Wednesday night so that I can meet with the rangers first thing Thursday morning, if that suits. I'd like to meet each ranger separately for up to an hour. If its possible, I'd also like to be shown around the sanctuary on Thursday.

My number is [REDACTED]

Thanks again,

😊 Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Mon 9/12/2024 10:46 pm

😊 Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Tue 10/12/2024 5:55 am

😊 Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Tue 10/12/2024 7:03 am

😊 Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Tue 10/12/2024 1:56 pm

😊 Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Tue 10/12/2024 2:54 pm



Re: Arranging a time to talk with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] about Charlie

To [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.  
Follow up. Completed on Friday, 13 December 2024.  
You replied to this message on 10/12/2024 10:59 pm.

Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
Tue 10/12/2024 3:12 pm

Great, let's lock in the following:

[REDACTED] 8-9am (please meet her at the public carpark)  
[REDACTED] 9-10am (and she can show you around)

Contact details in case needed:

[REDACTED]

I'll give them both your phone number too :)

RE: Arranging a time to talk with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] about Charlie

To [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
UNCLASSIFIED

Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
Tue 10/12/2024 11:00 pm

Fantastic, thank you.

Cheers  
[REDACTED]

Kākā Welfare Assessment Contract

To [REDACTED]  
This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.  
You replied to this message on 10/12/2024 3:49 pm.  
DRAFT Contract - Kaka Welfare Assessment - Beausoleil - FY24-25.docx  
196 KB

Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
Fri 13/12/2024 11:04 am

Kia ora [REDACTED]  
I hope your trip to Dunedin and Te Anau was a success. If you can provide an update that would be much appreciated.  
I've attached a draft contract for this work - can you please review and let me know if any changes are required?  
Ngā mihi,  
[REDACTED]

FW: Obs notes on Charlie for DBGA

To [REDACTED]  
This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.  
You replied to this message on 10/12/2024 9:39 am.

Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
Fri 13/12/2024 12:47 pm

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

It was lovely to meet you the other day, thank you so much for your time. You must have done a heroic amount of notetaking by the end of the day!  
I had meant to explain before [REDACTED] spoke to you that she has had no involvement whatsoever in the campaign to bring Charlie home, so I felt she was not only very experienced in knowing Charlie's normal, but also as independent a witness as we could hope to find.  
I am forwarding the letter I sent via my technical support officer to Charlie's keepers back in July, some weeks into her Dunedin stay.

Ngā mihi nui  
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, 4 July 2024 9:35 am  
To: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Re: Obs notes on Charlie for DBGA

Thanks [REDACTED]

I've forwarded that on to [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Sent: 04 July 2024 08:59

To:

Subject: Obs notes on Charlie for DBSA

Kia ora kōrua

asked me to assist with locating obs notes when I got back from leave, but I am keen to help sooner.

All our detailed recent obs are of Rata, Charlie gets a mention, but she was not the focus or our concern so comments around her behaviour were incidental. I hope this info from me will be helpful. Charlie's usual behaviour involves being quite active over all areas of her cage such as perches, netting walls and netting ceiling. She loves to bathe and will submerge herself and roll onto her side in the water. I think she will be enjoying the misters in her Dunedin aviary. In recent years we have noticed that Charlie rests out of public view more than other kākā we have kept with or beside her. We have only seen her fly if panicked, or in pursuit of her target stick during training, and these have only been short flights, so far. Charlie is quite vocal and will engage in a good dawn screaming session with other birds and she and used to do a call and response throughout the day.

Unsurprisingly, given her long captive history, Charlie loves people, especially children and school groups in particular. She doesn't like people in her aviary, not even her keepers sometimes, but she loves them through the netting and will come down to 'dance' and whistle for people. She really enjoys fresh vegetation, which will sometimes keep her engaged for hours. She responds well to other enrichments including puzzle feeders. She's not much of a chewer or branch stripper (other than broadleaf which she will strip in the pre-breeding and breeding seasons).

Behaviours we notice when Charlie is uncomfortable are raised head feathers, hanging on vertical netting by her beak (feet on perch or holding onto netting), biting left foot, tipping. We wondered if the damage to the feathers on her right wing could have been barbing in response to pain. Prior to getting her medication sorted we sometimes found her unwilling to engage and spending more time on her porch, slightly fluffed.

The stereotypical behaviour we used to see has finally disappeared. She only swings these days in panic situations such as when we are catching an aviary mate. This swinging, either on the netting wall or ceiling, was something she once did for hours at a stretch. It is similar to the happy dance she briefly does for people but the two could not be confused.

Pre-breeding, Charlie becomes aggressively territorial and picky about who she will tolerate in her aviary. She spends more time on the aviary floor and generally looking around for potential nest sites. Aggressive behaviour stops as soon as eggs are laid, and once chicks are hatched she is absolutely fine with them being checked and weighed.

While her appetite goes up and down through the year, her weight remains amazingly stable at 480g. She climbs on the scales willingly for weighing, providing we watch from behind the aviary door. That is all I can think of, and I hope it will be helpful.

Ngā mihi

9(2)(g)(ii)

Charlie / Te Anau Bird Sanctuary

To

This sender from outside your organization.

You replied to this message on 16/12/2024 9:38 am.

Obs notes Charlie.pdf  
116 KB

You don't often get email from . Learn why this is important

Thank you for your time talking with us and for listening.

I've attached the observational notes wrote for Charlie back in July. Not sure who this was shared with, but we were assured had been sent it.

Some follow-up notes to clarify some points and add a couple.

Firstly though, can you please clarify a point for us? Our understanding is that you have been asked to present information regarding the 5 domains model of welfare for Charlie, are you also making a recommendation for Charlie based on this?

We now know (recently from OIA) that MPI's investigation was informed (in part at least) by from DWH and it is apparent from it that she had not seen notes (attached) and relied on extracting information from our daily diaries believing this to be the full extent of our record keeping. As these are informal format only intended for other Bird Sanctuary rangers/relievers to refer to they can easily be misinterpreted and do not give a full or accurate account of any individual, species or event.

We are working on improvements to our record keeping for Kaka and collating it in an easily accessible format.

MPI had committed to visiting and myself at the Bird Sanctuary to further inform their investigation but in the end closed the case before the visit took place. We had no other opportunity to provide information ourselves and believe we have been misrepresented by false information circulating within our DOC team, DBS and DWH.

We have recently become aware of this through OIA releases. The false information includes welfare and conditions at Te Anau including aviary size, vet access, stereotypic behaviours in Kaka previously transferred (Bling and Taonga) and that Charlie was housed alone without an opportunity to breed. All of this we can evidence is not the case.

We believe that had MPI had the relevant and correct information it would have shown a breach of their standards as she has not been protected from fear and distress, and that this is indicated by a significant change in her behaviour (stereotypical behaviour not normal for her, excessive toe licking and wire biting), that she is in pain (indicated by wing-droop and toe-biting), that her normal breeding behaviour has changed (failure to show bonding or seasonal hormonal/resting activity) and that she is in fear and danger of physical harm from the aggressive male she has been assigned.

Communication has been difficult, and we have been directed not to have direct communication with any of the parties involved (DBG, DWH and the DOC Kaka management team).

Had we had open communication and been informed of Charlie's weaving on arrival at DWH and DBG we could have been clear that this was definitely not normal for her and indicates distress. Our technical advisor and management team do not have the intimate knowledge of Charlie's normal and misrepresented it by stating it was a known behaviour as it was seen on the day of her capture.

report to MPI also incorrectly portrays Charlie's weaving behaviour as a known behaviour from Te Anau and that toe licking was also a known factor. While we saw toe-biting on occasion that would indicate pain or discomfort which we responded to by changes in her medication and physical therapy training, the excessive toe licking seen at Dunedin, wire biting and wing droop we have never seen.

Charlie has never been housed alone but always had an aviary mate either housed permanently with her (Bling), or neighbouring in the adjoining aviary with mingling access ad-lib. The Kaka husbandry manual notes that housing with or near non-conspecific species (such as the Antipodes Kakariki) as well as human bonds are considerations in addition to their own kind.

I mentioned the aviaries provide complete screening from the public if the birds wish to retreat and that this has not always been the case, but I should have clarified that previously we provided retreat screening with thick vegetation such as manuka, positioned to give them privacy from the public and/or neighbouring birds.

Also to clarify – many years ago the Kaka aviary was two separate aviaries that had major renovation by adding the middle section and joining them together. This was prior to the Kaka moving in. The Kaka were formerly housed where the Antipodes Kakariki now are. The Kaka that were housed here historically lived in one of the separate aviaries and had been at the Sanctuary since a time before there was a husbandry manual and recommended aviary sizes for them. Fortunately, the keepers at the time were able to provide adequate enrichment and care that neither bird (to my knowledge) developed any stereotypical or concerning behaviours.

We have a difficult but professional relationship with DWH and a positive professional relationship with Riversdale vet who has the complete trust and confidence (and was in fact recommended to us) by DWH. There is also an avian vet in Invercargill who likewise works well with

My answer to your question about what we would do with unlimited budget would be to improve all the aviaries (the bigger the better – we would love world-class walk-in aviaries) and more staff. Ideally, we would actually like to have a Sanctuary manager as a dedicated role for an individual with animal husbandry/welfare/zoo-keeping experience. We have not felt well supported by our DOC team in recent times and have advocated for change to address this. It is likely there will be a change in management (shifting away from DOC) going forward.

Additionally – with unlimited budget, I would happily take a year of paid leave to up-skill myself by studying for a formal qualification.

We have managed without this largely by the dedication of former rangers and current rangers [REDACTED] to seek and find the right places/people to help and advise us.

It is our informed opinion that Charlie is finding the environment at Dunedin over-stimulating and stressful, and that this has affected her physical and mental health. She is not performing as a breeding bird and is unlikely to. We feel she should continue her medication and with the re-introduction of her physical therapy this could be reduced. The appropriate solution for her would be a return to her familiar environment where she has thrived with a suitable partner or aviary mates.

I realise you have not been asked to comment on Jimmy but we feel our aviaries are well-suited for his individual needs (being prone to falls) and that he would be a suitable companion for Charlie with or without his current assigned mate Cleo. We fear that in Dunedin Jimmy is in danger from another injury from a fall and is still showing distress at a frequency that is of some concern.

We do not believe that continuing on at DBG or a move to yet another facility, even if the physical therapy and training is replicated, would meet Charlie's individual needs or result in a positive outcome for her. She has now been at Dunedin for 5 months and doesn't seem to have shown any improvement.

Thanks again,

RE: Catching up tomorrow about Charlie

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]  
UNCLASSIFIED

😊 Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] ⋮

Mon 16/12/2024 9:37 am

Dear [REDACTED]  
Just wanted to say a big thank you for the time you took to talk to me and show me around last week. I will be working my way through all the information provided and the observations made over the next few weeks.  
I hope you have a restful break and happy holidays.

Cheers,

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, 10 December 2024 8:02 am  
To: [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: Catching up tomorrow about Charlie

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Thank you for the email and we look forward to your arrival and assessment of Charlie.

My number is [REDACTED] If you just text me when you are on site, I will come and find you and we can take it from there.

I will be free from 3pm today apologies I had two training sessions I could not move around. If you arrive before this time please feel free to walk around the site while you wait.

Nga mihi nui

RE: Obs notes on Charlie for DBGA

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]  
UNCLASSIFIED

😊 Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] ⋮

Mon 16/12/2024 9:39 am

Dear [REDACTED]  
Many thanks for the time you took to speak with me last week and for providing this additional information.  
I will be working my way through all the information provided and the observations made over the next few weeks.  
I hope you have a restful break and happy holidays.

Cheers,

RE: Charlie / Te Anau Bird Sanctuary

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]  
UNCLASSIFIED

😊 Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] ⋮

Mon 16/12/2024 9:38 am

Dear [REDACTED]  
Many thanks for the time you took to speak with me last week and for providing this additional information.  
I will be working my way through all the information provided and the observations made over the next few weeks.  
I hope you have a restful break and happy holidays.

Cheers,

time to chat about Charlie

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]  
UNCLASSIFIED

😊 Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] ⋮

Mon 16/12/2024 9:26 am

ⓘ This message was sent with high importance.

Hi [REDACTED]  
I have been asked by [REDACTED] on the recommendation of MPI, to complete a Five Domains welfare assessment of Charlie the kākā. Last week I spent some time at Dunedin Botanic Gardens observing Charlie and also spoke at length with the curator, the rangers in Te Anau and the key opponent.  
I wonder if we could find a time for a chat this week – I imagine it would take no more than one hour. I'm mostly free within school hours over the next few days.  
Many thanks in advance,

RE: time to chat about Charlie

Hi [redacted]  
To [redacted]  
UNCLASSIFIED  
This sender [redacted] is from outside your organization.  
You replied to this message on 16/12/2024 2:31 pm.

Mon 16/12/2024 11:19 am

Hi [redacted]  
Can we do tomorrow at 11? Or this afternoon.

[redacted]

RE: time to chat about Charlie

Hi [redacted]  
To [redacted]  
UNCLASSIFIED

Mon 16/12/2024 12:05 pm

Thanks [redacted] - how about 2.30 this avo?

RE: time to chat about Charlie

Hi [redacted]  
To [redacted]  
UNCLASSIFIED

Mon 16/12/2024 2:32 pm

Hi [redacted]  
Want to call me on [redacted]  
Cheers,  
[redacted]

RE: New Supplier - Ngaio Beausoleil

Hi [redacted]  
To [redacted]  
Cc [redacted]  
UNCLASSIFIED  
New or Update Supplier Form - DOCDM-1039322 Beausoleil.docx  
359 KB

Tue 17/12/2024 3:35 pm

Hi [redacted]  
Sorry for the delay.  
Supplier form is attached and screenshot of bank details below.  
Please let me know if you need any further information.  
Many thanks,  
[redacted]

RE: Kākā Welfare Assessment Contract

Hi [redacted]  
To [redacted]  
UNCLASSIFIED  
Follow up. Completed on Friday, 14 February 2025.  
DRAFT Contract -Kaka Welfare Assessment - Beausoleil - FY24-25.docx  
241 KB

Wed 18/12/2024 8:50 pm

Hi [redacted]  
Apologies for the delay in providing this update and the signed contract, which is attached.

Update on progress:

Interviews:

- Tuesday 10/12 - [redacted] about the situation from her point of view and her perceptions of Charlie's behaviour and welfare
- Wednesday 11/12 - [redacted] detailed interview about kaka management at DBG
- Thursday 12/12 - [redacted] followed by [redacted] about timeline of events, management of Charlie at Te Anau and their ongoing concerns
- Thursday 12/12 - [redacted] about her observations of, and interactions with, Charlie and ongoing concerns
- Monday 16/12 - [redacted] about kaka captive breeding programme and Charlie in that context

Structured observations of Charlie's behaviour (8 x 30-minute blocks over 2.5 days)

- Tuesday early evening
- Tuesday dusk - two blocks; when birds expected to be active and when observations by staff not usually possible
- Wednesday dawn - two blocks; when birds expected to be active and when observations by staff not usually possible
- Wednesday late morning - did not include food presentation; included a school group visit by chance
- Thursday early evening
- Thursday dusk

Other

- Visual evaluation of Te Anau kaka enclosures (plus dimensions provided by [redacted])



Needed

- Dimensions of DBG kaka enclosure(s)

A central focus for all parties is the expression of abnormal repetitive behaviour (stereotypies). While all parties acknowledge Charlie's ARBs, their frequency, triggers and meaning are disputed. Because of the lack of systematically and objectively collected behavioural data, both before and after the move, it is not possible to clearly understand how these behaviours have changed over time. I will summarize the behavioural observations I collected but, as acknowledged at the start of this process, these provide only a snapshot of a couple of days and they have to be interpreted within the context of Charlie's 'normal'. If you'd like to see the behaviour time budgets I can try to get those done later this week.

Also, if it is acceptable to you, I have arranged to discuss Charlie's ARBs with a UK colleague with particular expertise in this area. I would like to show her some videos I took of the behaviours (just viewed during the call, not sent as files) and hear her views on their quality and possible meaning in terms of mental state. Is that OK?

At this stage, I think it would be useful to speak with [REDACTED] and possibly to [REDACTED]. I'm not sure there is a need to talk to [REDACTED]. Is there anyone else you think would be useful – [REDACTED]. I've also been approached by [REDACTED] (via [REDACTED]) but I've put that interview on hold for now as I feel that her perspective may be sufficiently represented by [REDACTED] (who has sent 15 or so files for my consideration).

I'm free to talk further tomorrow from 1.15pm.

Cheers,

RE: Kākā Welfare Assessment Contract

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Thanks for this update, much appreciated.

I'll send a Teams invite for later this arvo – let me know if this time works for you.

Ngā mihi,

one quick request

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

You replied to this message on 6/01/2025 1:45 pm.  
This message was sent with High importance.

Hi [REDACTED]  
Sorry for the late request but wondering if you have the dimensions of Charlie and Bling's enclosure, please (to allow calculation of volume).

Many thanks and I hope you have a really restful break.

Cheers,

RE: Kākā Welfare Assessment Contract

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.

You replied to this message on 23/12/2024 11:02 am.

Contract - Kaka Welfare Assessment - Beauroleil - FY24-25.pdf  
228 KB

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Please see attached a final signed contract.

I have made two further changes – due date is now 24 Jan and there is an additional standard (#6) relating to providing recommendations. Please confirm if you are happy with these changes – I can edit further if required.

Ngā mihi,

RE: Kākā Welfare Assessment Contract

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Thanks [REDACTED] I'm happy with those edits and will take this version as the final signed contract.  
Have a wonderful holiday.

Cheers,



RE: Kākā Welfare Assessment Contract

[REDACTED]  
To: [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

- This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.
- You replied to this message on 7/01/2025 11:52 am.

Thanks [REDACTED] hope you had a great break and 2025 is off to a good start for you.

Please let me know if you require anything else regarding the assessment, or wish to discuss anything further, otherwise I look forward to seeing the final report on 24 Jan.

Ngā mihi,

[REDACTED]

RE: one quick request

[REDACTED]  
To: [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

- This message was sent with High importance.

Hi [REDACTED]

Hope you managed to have a restful break.

I'm just following up on the requested information below about kākā aviary dimensions (W x L x H), separately for the on and off display areas please.

A few other questions that have arisen from my holiday reading/viewing:

- Can you please clarify for me when, how and why Charlie was separated from [REDACTED] and allowed to select her preferred aviary and cage-mate/Bling? I've seen lots of videos from July, Sept and Oct and the male's leg bands look the same so not possible to tell who is who at each point and thus when the pairings changed. I didn't see a way that the adjacent enclosures could be opened to provide free movement between them.
- Has T perch (or any other) training been undertaken with any of the kākā at DBG over the last 2 years?
- Is a water blaster used to clean the inside areas of the kākā (or other bird) enclosures at DBG?
- Mention is made in a report that DBG 'alters method of feeding so birds have to manipulate objects and/or work to obtain food' – how/what is done?

Many thanks!

[REDACTED]

RE: one quick request

[REDACTED]  
To: [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

- This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.
- You replied to this message on 8/01/2025 6:31 pm.

Hi [REDACTED]

Hopefully, I have provided the detail you are after. Happy for further questions if needed just fire any my way or just ring me if its quicker 😊

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

If this message is not intended for you please delete it and notify us immediately; you are warned that any further use, dissemination, distribution or reproduction of this material by you is prohibited.

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2025 1:45 PM  
To: [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: one quick request  
Importance: High

Hi [REDACTED]

Hope you managed to have a restful break.

I'm just following up on the requested information below about kākā aviary dimensions (W x L x H), separately for the on and off display areas please.

Charlie and Bling's enclosure are the following dimensions.

Feed area is 1.5m wide, 3m length and 4m high.

Main enclosure is, 3.5m wide, 8m length and 8m high.

A few other questions that have arisen from my holiday reading/viewing:

- Can you please clarify for me when, how and why Charlie was separated from Caesar and allowed to select her preferred aviary and cage-mate/Bling? I've seen lots of videos from July, Sept and Oct and the male's leg bands look the same so not possible to tell who is who at each point and thus when the pairings changed. **Charlie and Caesar were split in September due to Charlie showing no interest in Caesar after a trial period of about 5 weeks~. All 4 Kaka were flocked on and off together over a 10 day period to gauge interest between the 2 pairs. Caesar was in breeding mode and took an interest in the other female and Bling seemed to prefer being in Charlie's enclosure. Bling was Charlie's ex mate, so the decision was made to keep them together and let Caesar breed with the other female. The males, Bling and Caesar both have different identifying leg bands so they can be identified easily so you may only be looking at video of just one of the males I think. I didn't see a way that the adjacent enclosures could be opened to provide free movement between them. There is a small internal hatch lower down in the 2 adjacent enclosures that can be opened and closed. I did point this out to you when you were watching Charlie from the feed area. It is not visible from the front of the enclosure.**
- Has T perch (or any other) training been undertaken with any of the kākā at DBG over the last 2 years? **No, we do not do training with any of our Kaka like that. I have done T perch training with Charlie if she was a willing participant. But given the choice to interact with us or to do any form of training she prefers not to engage with us at this stage. She did initially when she arrived a couple of times then lost interest. We catch the Kaka to check weight and do health checks.**
- Is a water blaster used to clean the inside areas of the kākā (or other bird) enclosures at DBG? **Yes, we water blast the concrete and large stones/perches within all the enclosure on a monthly or as needed bases.**
- Mention is made in a report that DBG 'alters method of feeding so birds have to manipulate objects and/or work to obtain food' – how/what is done? **In rotten logs, fruit kebabs, in cardboard boxes, flax weaved boxes, in different sized containers for dry food and wet food, food variety and size changes, hidden amongst fresh browse**

RE: Kākā Welfare Assessment Contract

██████████  
To: ██████████  
UNCLASSIFIED

🗑️ ↩️ Reply ↩️ Reply All ➡️ Forward 📧 ⋮

Tue 7/01/2025 11:53 am

Hi ██████████

S.9(2)(a)

I've been chugging through videos and emails and other documents. Still waiting for a response from ██████████ (resent request yesterday) and have yet to look through info ██████████ (sent yesterday) but hopefully I have most of what I need now.

After looking through the SI kaka captive management plan and 24/25 flocking plan, I have a couple of queries for you:

- The management plan you sent is the 2010-2020 one. This plan was apparently designed to be self-limiting, in that success meant that captive management was no longer required. That obviously hasn't eventuated and I can only assume that's because objectives 1 and 2 weren't achieved (due to low captive breeding success until recent years?). Is there a newer (>2020) captive management plan for this population? The objectives outlined in the 23/24 and 24/25 flocking plans are different from those in the management plan so I assume there is one. Could I see that one? While this might seem a bit out of scope, its important to inform my recommendations, particularly the need for rigorous scientific research on captive behaviour for this species (\*kea). For example, if there is no longer term plan for captive management, that research may seem less important.
- In the 2010-2020 plan there is a list of birds in captivity in 2010. Six are of wild origin (Table 1 p2) – is Charlie the 1996 Southland bird? Also, I can't see her accounted for in Table 2. According to all sources, she was at TA in 2010 but there is no female bird listed there in Table 2 (p3).
- There is reference to the DOC SOP for Translocation. Is there an SOP or any other guidance document (other than what's in the respective husbandry manuals) for animal transfers between permit holders? I'm thinking about a document that outlines requirements/processes for preparation and post-move monitoring (both including structured behavioural observations to facilitate objective evaluations of changes – that has been a key point of contention for both Charlie and Jimmy's moves), handover, continuity of any special activities for individuals as well as milestones/objective thresholds for evaluating settling/suitability, options if settling is not satisfactory, a clear role hierarchy (and relationships among internal and external parties) for decision-making and so on.
- I'm trying to fill in bits of the timeline – can you tell me the years Bling was at TA and why/when he (and Taonga) were moved? There seem to be a couple of versions on this. TA had 4 birds at some point before mid-2023 but I'm not sure who those birds were (Jimmy and x; Charlie and Bling?)

Cheers,

██████████

RE: Kākā Welfare Assessment Contract

██████████  
To: ██████████  
UNCLASSIFIED  
This sender ██████████ is from outside your organization.  
You replied to this message on 7/01/2025 2:24 pm.

🗑️ ↩️ Reply ↩️ Reply All ➡️ Forward 📧 ⋮

Tue 7/01/2025 2:21 pm

Kia ora ██████████

Thanks. Unfortunately, ██████████ and had a quiet time at home – not quite what was planned!

Weather has definitely been average, but better now that I am back at work 🤗

Appreciate the update, and I have passed your queries on to ██████████ who will be best placed to respond. Will get these to you as soon as possible. Hopefully ██████████ gets back to you soon too.

Ngā mihi,

██████████

RE: Kākā Welfare Assessment Contract

██████████  
To: ██████████  
UNCLASSIFIED

🗑️ ↩️ Reply ↩️ Reply All ➡️ Forward 📧 ⋮

Tue 7/01/2025 2:25 pm

Noooooo! That is such a bummer. I'm sure it will be stunning weather as soon as the kids go back to school too.

Thanks – will look forward to that info. It's all very interesting!

Cheers,

██████████

RE: one quick request

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]  
UNCLASSIFIED

Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] ...  
Wed 8/01/2025 6:32 pm

Many thanks [REDACTED] for the information and the quick reply.

Any chance you could tell me what the leg bands are on Caesar and Bling. Its usually very difficult to see them but in most videos (July to October) it looks like R white band, L silver band. Who would that be?

Cheers!

[REDACTED]

RE: Kākā Welfare Assessment Contract

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]  
UNCLASSIFIED

This sender [REDACTED]@doc.govt.nz is from outside your organization.

Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] ...  
Wed 8/01/2025 10:35 am

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Yes, was very disappointing. In more positive news, there will be a [REDACTED] 😊  
I've heard back from [REDACTED] and I've copied in their comments (in blue) to your queries below. Let me know if you have any more questions on this.  
Ngā mihi,  
[REDACTED]

After looking through the SI kaka captive management plan and 24/25 flocking plan, I have a couple of queries for you:

- The management plan you sent is the 2010-2020 one. This plan was apparently designed to be self-limiting, in that success meant that captive management was no longer required. That obviously hasn't eventuated and I can only assume that's because objectives 1 and 2 weren't achieved (due to low captive breeding success until recent years?). Is there a newer (>2020) captive management plan for this population? The objectives outlined in the 23/24 and 24/25 flocking plans are different from those in the management plan so I assume there is one. Could I see that one? While this might seem a bit out of scope, its important to inform my recommendations, particularly the need for rigorous scientific research on captive behaviour for this species (≠ kea). For example, if there is no longer term plan for captive management, that research may seem less important.  
There is not currently a new CMP for Kākā, but one is in development – so there is a longer-term objective for captive management. The 2010-2020 CMP is still our key guiding document for now, but there may be some changes to objectives as priorities and practicalities have changed.
- In the 2010-2020 plan there is a list of birds in captivity in 2010. Six are of wild origin (Table 1 p2) – is Charlie the 1996 Southland bird? ? I [REDACTED] don't think so as she came into captivity in 1999. Also, I can't see her accounted for in Table 2. According to all sources, she was at TA in 2010 but there is no female bird listed there in Table 2 (p3). I agree, neither of these tables make sense to me. She should be listed in Table 2, as she has been at TA since 1999. Note [REDACTED] wasn't involved in developing the 2010-2020 CMP, so we are unclear why this discrepancy exists.
- There is reference to the DOC SOP for Translocation. Is there an SOP or any other guidance document (other than what's in the respective husbandry manuals) for animal transfers between permit holders? I'm thinking about a document that outlines requirements/processes for preparation and post-move monitoring (both including structured behavioural observations to facilitate objective evaluations of change – that has been a key point of contention for both Charlie and Jimmy's moves), handover, continuity of any special activities for individuals as well as milestones/objective thresholds for evaluating settling/suitability, options if settling is not satisfactory, a clear role hierarchy (and relationships among internal and external parties) for decision-making and so on.  
The Translocation SOP is not really applicable to movements between captive facilities. Such transfers are managed via DOC-issued Wildlife Act Authorisations (permits) to hold and transfer birds, and anything welfare or otherwise focused would fall under MPI legislation. There is no specific DOC guidance document that covers the aspects you describe above (e.g. preparation or monitoring), these would be captured in Husbandry Manuals only and unlikely to the level of detail suggested. In terms of role, any issues/concerns/disputes should be first considered by the facilities involved, with the captive coordinator involved if required; there is not a hierarchy as such between captive facilities.
- I'm trying to fill in bits of the timeline – can you tell me the years Bling was at TA and why/when he (and Taonga) were moved? There seem to be a couple of versions on this. TA had 4 birds at some point before mid-2023 but I'm not sure who those birds were (Jimmy and x; Charlie and Bling?)  
Toanga and Jimmy were sent to Te Anau in 2016, with the intention of swapping Jimmy as a new mate for Charlie, and giving Toanga an experienced male (Bling). Bling was at Te Anau from August 2007 to Feb 2022.  
Toanga and Bling were moved to Dunedin as part of the 23/24 flocking plan, to re-pair Toanga. Bling was moved to allow Charlie to be paired with Jimmy. TA staff suggested he was showing increased behaviour issues outside of the breeding season and should be released. We saw his behaviour improve at DBG and he was re-paired with a female to serve as foster parents.

RE: one quick request

[REDACTED]  
To [REDACTED]  
UNCLASSIFIED  
This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.

Reply Reply All Forward [REDACTED] ...  
Thu 9/01/2025 8:27 am

White is Bling.

[REDACTED]



RE: Charlie and Jimmy

To: [REDACTED]  
UNCLASSIFIED

Reply Reply All Forward Wed 22/01/2025 8:00 am

Dear [REDACTED]  
Many thanks for the updated information. I will consider them along with the other information.  
Best,  
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, 21 January 2025 5:44 pm  
To: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Charlie and Jimmy

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [learn why this is important](#)  
Hi [REDACTED]

I just wanted to give you a quick update as I had the opportunity to visit the Dunedin Botanic Gardens briefly in the last few days while in Dunedin with my family while it's still school holidays.  
I want to share with you a few observations that might help inform your report.

It was apparent that Charlie has not nested and is extremely unlikely to at this late stage of the season. She was visible most of the time I was able to observe (periodically over 5 hours in an evening and 3 hours early the following morning). On both visits I observed her weaving from the ceiling of the aviary, so she is still displaying that behaviour which we only saw a handful of times over her years in Te Anau in response to stressful situations. Although I was only able to make observations on these limited occasions, the fact that she has done this each time is indicative that it is still occurring on a daily basis (or multiple times daily).

I also observed Caesar displacing her while she was engaging with some browse. He flew directly at her, and she moved away quickly to avoid contact. I have seen these fear responses from her in Caesars presence previously.

Caesar seems to have developed a repetitive action of 'strumming' the netting of the aviary wall with his toenails. There was also a negative interaction with a neighbouring bird (biting at toes through the aviary wall mesh).

Additionally, I was able to identify Jimmy in the aviary he has recently been moved to and while he did show 'normal' behaviours (engaging with rotten logs and preening), I was distressed to see him performing a 'crouch and flap' behaviour for a prolonged length of time (over 10 mins), that again, we have only ever seen him do on rare occasions in Te Anau for very short durations (seconds), and was something observed for prolonged periods at Dunedin after his transfer along with his swinging behaviour. This was dismissed at the time as 'probably hormonal'. I have a short video clip I can forward to you if necessary. He also showed some aggression towards his partner Cleo which I have not seen previously where he chased her while both on the ground, forcing her into flight to flee him.

Brief observations of other birds included Kea repetitive picking at a wood structure (like wire biting), Kaka pacing and wire biting.

Please let me know if you would like me to share any of the brief video clips of any of the birds. Charlie has been there for 7 months now and we don't want to delay your report or Charlie's return.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Draft

To: [REDACTED]  
SENSITIVE

Charlie Welfare Assessment Report DRAFT Jan 24 2025.pdf  
681 KB

Reply Reply All Forward Fri 24/01/2025 12:49 pm

Hi [REDACTED]  
Attached please find the draft report, as agreed.  
I will be taking next week away from all work so if any changes are required, I will be able to make those early the following week.  
Cheers,

[REDACTED]

Hello from Fiordland

[REDACTED]  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
This sender is from outside your organization.

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Are you able to give us an indication of when your report might be completed? Many thanks.

Ngā mihi

[REDACTED]

Reply Reply All Forward Tue 28/01/2025 10:32 am

Invoice for PO 4500065583

To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

DOC Charlie Welfare Assessment Beausoleil Invoice Jan 31 2025.pdf  
135 KB

Good afternoon,  
Attached please find the invoice for purchase order 4500065583.  
Please let me know if there are any issues.  
Many thanks,

Final report - Charlie

To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Charlie Welfare Assessment Report FINAL 2025.pdf  
572 KB

Hi [REDACTED]  
Attached, please find the final report on my welfare assessment for Charlie.  
Cheers,

RE: Final report - Charlie

To Ngaio Beausoleil

UNCLASSIFIED

This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.  
You replied to this message on 17/02/2025 12:48 pm.

Kia ora [REDACTED]  
Thanks for sending this through, we have started working on how to address recommendations you have made.  
A couple of questions:

- 1) Just checking if you did get to talk to [REDACTED] as part of this review, or just used the notes of hers provided?
- 2) We noted that there is still one footnote indicating who provided the information. On page 15, [REDACTED] is identified as interview 1, 16/12/24. No one else is identified by their date of interview, etc. Are you able to remove that reference please?

Ngā mihi,

RE: Final report - Charlie

To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Charlie Welfare Assessment Report FINAL 2025.pdf  
572 KB

Hi [REDACTED]  
Sorry the delay replying.  
I've removed [REDACTED] name and the revised final version is attached.  
Re [REDACTED] I used the reports you provided, some additional clinical notes she provided and I asked her a series of specific questions which she answered by email. We didn't end up talking by phone as I felt that the information she had provided answered the remaining questions I had.

Cheers,

RE: Final report - Charlie

To [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

This sender [REDACTED] is from outside your organization.

Kia ora [REDACTED]  
Thanks for that - much appreciated.  
Ngā mihi,

Reply Reply All Forward

Fri 31/01/2025 2:26 pm

Reply Reply All Forward

Fri 7/02/2025 9:49 am

Reply Reply All Forward

Wed 12/02/2025 10:57 am

Reply Reply All Forward

Mon 17/02/2025 12:49 pm

Reply Reply All Forward

Wed 19/02/2025 8:45 am



RE: Charlie Kākā - Draft Media Release

[Redacted]  
To [Redacted]

[Icons: Smiley, Reply, Reply All, Forward, Share, More]  
Wed 26/02/2025 8:53 am

UNCLASSIFIED  
Please treat this as Confidential.

Hi [Redacted]  
That's a great piece. Is it OK for me to share it with my comms team (with the release date) so they are aware of what's coming?  
You can direct media to me using this email. If I feel the questions are outside my remit, I'll redirect to your media email.  
Cheers,  
[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]  
Sent: Tuesday, 25 February 2025 8:13 pm  
To: [Redacted]  
Subject: Charlie Kākā - Draft Media Release  
Sensitivity: Confidential

Kia ora [Redacted]  
Just a heads up that we are planning to share the attached draft media release, along with the report, this Thursday. If you have any feedback on this, could you please let me know by noon tomorrow (Weds)?  
In the event that we do receive media enquiries on this specifically for you, are you happy for us to share your contact details? And if so, what details would you like us to share (e.g., email, Massey media team)? We are happy for you to respond to queries you receive, or redirect enquiries to [Redacted] if you'd prefer.  
Please give me a call if you'd like to discuss this at all.  
Ngā mihi,  
[Redacted]

RE: Charlie Kākā - Draft Media Release

[Redacted]  
To [Redacted]

[Icons: Smiley, Reply, Reply All, Forward, Share, More]  
Wed 26/02/2025 11:33 am

UNCLASSIFIED  
This sender [Redacted] is from outside your organization.  
You replied to this message on 26/02/2025 3:34 pm.  
Please treat this as Confidential.

Thanks Ngaio, that is great. Just looping on [Redacted] who is our comms lead on this. She is happy for you to share the media release with your team, and will share the final version once that is available too.  
Ngā mihi,  
[Redacted]

RE: Charlie Kākā - Draft Media Release

[Redacted]  
To [Redacted]

[Icons: Smiley, Reply, Reply All, Forward, Share, More]  
Wed 26/02/2025 5:06 pm

UNCLASSIFIED  
This sender [Redacted] is from outside your organization.  
You replied to this message on 27/02/2025 9:51 am.  
Please treat this as Confidential.

DOC media release SI kaka Charlie welfare assessment February 2025.docx  
42 KB

Hi [Redacted]  
I attach the final media release.

There's been a change in timing – we will put this out at 1pm tomorrow, Thursday.  
What's Massey's comms email please? I'll copy them in when it goes out tomorrow.

Thanks  
[Redacted]

RE: Charlie Kākā - Draft Media Release

[Redacted]  
To [Redacted]

[Icons: Smiley, Reply, Reply All, Forward, Share, More]  
Thu 27/02/2025 9:51 am

UNCLASSIFIED  
Please treat this as Confidential.

Hi [Redacted]  
Thank you very much. I think this is great.  
[Redacted] is the general email but the person who responded yesterday was [Redacted]  
Cheers,  
[Redacted]

Media release: Captive kākā, Charlie, to stay in Dunedin

[Redacted]  
To [Redacted]  
[Redacted] (2)(g)(ii)@doc.govt.nz is from outside your organization.

[Smiley] [Reply] [Reply All] [Forward] [Share] [More]  
Thu 27/02/2025 1:37 pm

Kia ora,

Please see the media release below. The welfare assessment report is available here: [Captive kākā, Charlie, to stay in Dunedin: Media release 27 February 2025](#)



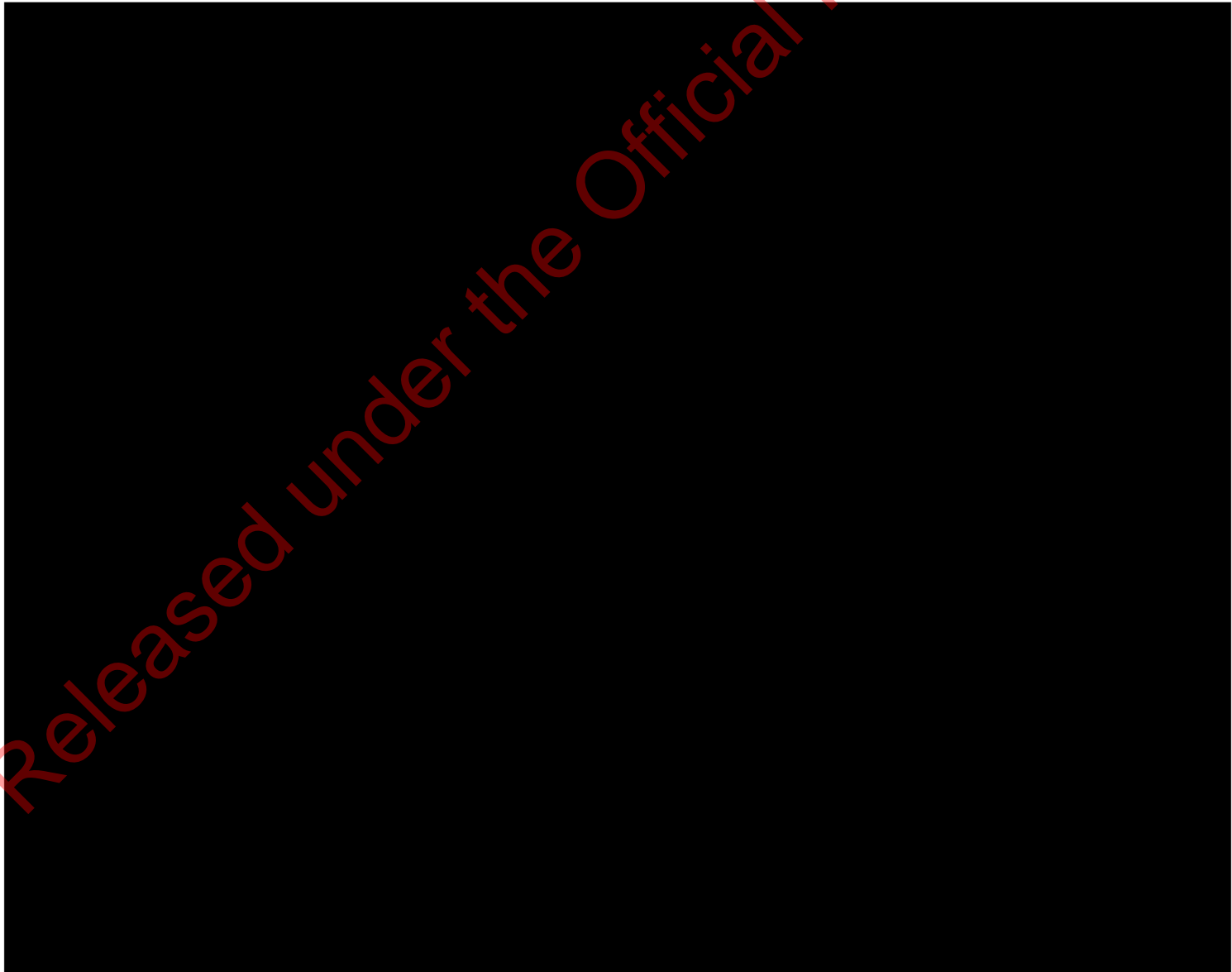
RE: Welfare Assessment of Charlie

[Redacted]  
To [Redacted]  
UNCLASSIFIED

[Smiley] [Reply] [Reply All] [Forward] [Share] [More]  
Wed 12/03/2025 11:18 am

[Info] This message is part of a tracked conversation. Click here to find all related messages or to open the original flagged message.

Hi [Redacted]  
Apologies for the delay in responding. I've been (and continue to be) incredibly busy with teaching and so haven't yet had a chance to read the detail of your email.  
Once things have settled a bit, I will do that properly.  
Many thanks,  
[Redacted]



6/11/2024

## PROPOSAL FOR SERVICE

**Requester:** [REDACTED], Department of Conservation

**Service requested:** Five Domains Welfare Assessment for Charlie the kākā

**Provider:** [REDACTED], independent consultant

**Background:** Charlie the kākā was moved from the DOC Te Anau Bird Sanctuary to an aviary in the Dunedin Botanic Garden (ZAA regional member) in June 2024; there were various reasons for this move. Since the move, some DOC staff and others have made complaints about Charlie's welfare to DOC, MPI and ZAA, which has prompted investigations by MPI as the competent authority for animal welfare. While MPI's investigations conclude that Charlie's welfare is generally acceptable, one of their recommendations was to commission an independent expert review of Charlie's welfare state using the Five Domains model. This assessment will inform DOC's plan for managing Charlie in the future, including where and when she may be moved.

**Brief description of service:** Complete an independent assessment, using the Five Domains model, of Charlie's current welfare state (snapshot) and recent and current risks to her welfare.

- Snapshot of current welfare state – compile using mainly animal-based indicators gathered by observing Charlie in her current habitat and talking to current and previous managers/veterinarians about her health and behaviour.
- Welfare risk assessment – compile using a combination of animal-based and resource/management-based indicators gathered by observing Charlie and features of her current and previous habitats and talking to various parties about her management, health and behaviour.

Data will be collected by interviewing key people in Dunedin, Te Anau and online, making observations of Charlie and her current habitat in Dunedin and observation of her previous habitat in Te Anau.

Online interviews: [REDACTED]

In person interviews:

- Dunedin - Curator of Dunedin Botanic Gardens, [REDACTED], DOC Technical lead, Key opponent (companion animal vet)
- Te Anau - Key staff at Bird Sanctuary

The data collected will be integrated with key information on kākā biology and behaviour using the Five Domains model to assess Charlie's current welfare state as well as to provide a broader understanding of the ways in which management, facilities, resources and personnel might influence her welfare (welfare risk assessment). The assessments will be presented in a written report.

### About the service provider:

Ngaio has a PhD in animal science and is Professor of Animal Welfare Science and Co-Director of the Animal Welfare Science and Bioethics Centre, School of Veterinary Science, Massey University, NZ. For the purposes of this service agreement, she is acting as an independent consultant.

Ngaio has been active in research, teaching and scholarship in relevant areas of animal physiology, behaviour and welfare science for 20 years. She is an international research leader in the theory of animal welfare and methods for welfare assessment, including co-developing the Five Domains model, and has over 90 peer-reviewed publications. She has worked extensively in the field of wild animal welfare, acts as an independent scientific expert on the Wellington Zoo AW Committee, provides advice to ZAA, was a member of DOC's Technical Advisory Group (Orca calf A-NZ) and was appointed in 2020 as the expert in wildlife welfare and ethics to the panel reviewing the Victoria State Wildlife Act.

**Activities and estimated costs:**

All costs have been included but alternatively DOC can arrange travel and accommodation directly. All travel and accommodation costs are in NZD and are accurate at the time of preparing this estimate, but actual costs will depend on availability on the date of booking. Economy airfares have been estimated for travel dates Mon Dec 9 – Thurs Dec 12.

out of scope



*The provider is not GST registered so the costs are GST exclusive.*