

# Pelican returns to popular beach after surgery to repair tear caused by fishing line

<http://www.couriermail.com.au/questnews/moreton/pelican-returns-to-popular-beach-after-surgery-to-repair-tear-caused-by-fishing-line/story-fni9r1i7-1227374782394?sv=987a70f2a5e502b42bb2590ce1be530d>

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Monique the pelican was rescued from Margate on May 9. She had a large tear in her pouch, likely caused by a fishing hook.

A PELICAN was freed from fishing line without injury at Griffin last week, but another pelican nearby was not so lucky.

It is a worrying sign for wildlife groups, who are increasingly seeing birds injured because of human laziness or disregard.

At Margate earlier this month, Monique a five-year-old female pelican, fell victim to fishing tackle.

Monique, affectionately named for the nurse who operated on her, was rescued from Margate Beach, on the Redcliffe peninsula, on May 9 with a hole in her pouch "the size of a man's fist".

"She had quite a large tear in her pouch," Ms Forrest said.

"From the scar, (the tear) was about a week old."

Ms Forrest said she was not 100 per cent sure what caused the large tear but suspected it was caused by a fishing hook.

Monique was treated at the RSPCA Wildlife Hospital Wacol and taken to Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary for rehab. She was expected to be released this week.

Ms Forrest pleaded with anglers to dispose of fishing line and tackle appropriately.