

## In order to help a pelican...follow these steps.

**1**

**If you hook a pelican while fishing - reel it in smoothly and firmly. DO NOT CUT YOUR LINE.**

The bird will probably struggle, but keep in mind it only weighs about 6 pounds. If you cut your line and the bird flies away the dangling line can become tangled in a tree or bush. The tangled line traps the pelican, and the bird will suffer, and starve to death.



**Remember your safety is the most important factor.**

Approach the pelican with a sheet or lightweight towel, and cover the bird's head. Usually if the bird's eyes are covered, it will relax.

**2**



**3**

**Reach around the outside of the towel and hold the pelican's bill closed with one hand. NEVER TAPE THE BILL SHUT!**

Do not let go of the beak. Taping, tying, or strapping the beak shut will stress and harm the animal. The best thing to do is to hold the beak shut with your hand.

While holding the beak with one hand, use the other hand to fold the pelican's wings into their natural position against the bird's body.

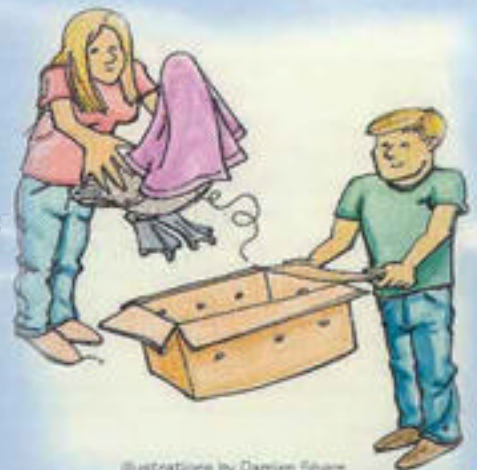


**Lift the bird and place it in a secure carrier or box.**

With one hand holding the beak and the other arm holding the wings in place, tuck the bird under one arm to lift it.

Be sure to carry the bird in a solid cardboard box, or other secure animal carrier while continually holding the beak shut.

**4**



Illustrations by Damien Share