

Spring
2021



Number of Wildlife Patients
Treated since 2009: > 27,900

2021, HERE WE COME!

"...responsible stewardship of wildlife and habitat."

A Season of Renewal

As we step softly into spring, hope is on the horizon. We've loved and lost, but we continue to learn and grow stronger from the challenges we face together. Sometimes life's problems can seem so big, so overwhelming, it's easy to feel helpless and alone. However, last year brought into sharp focus the impact each individual's choices can make. For instance, we saw air pollution drastically decrease when humans began traveling significantly less. Likewise, wearing masks, to help keep each other safe, highlights our interconnectedness. When we as a global community work together and participate in small everyday acts of consideration, we make a huge difference in the world. As we walk forward into a new year, let us support each other through a time of recovery and rejuvenation.

Take a moment to enjoy the poem (right), written by a twelve year old child. It reflects the peace and beauty that can be found in the natural world. A peace and hope that we can hold in our hearts for the future. ~ Elizabeth La Madeleine



Buz Marthaler

 Find us on
Facebook @ Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Northern Utah



Walk Through the Forest

Walk through the forest,
Feel the gentle breeze. Look up,
See sun through the leaves.

Blue sky all around,
Sunshine softly dapples the ground.
Pine needles crunch under the shoe,
An owl sleepily calls, "Whooo, whooo."

Take a deep breath,
Smell the fresh air.
Listen to the birdsong
Flowing through the air.
Watch the mystic cougar
Blinking amber eyes.
See the little sparrows
Flitting through the skies.
Great golden sun
Slowly sinks on the horizon.
Sunset's colors,
Purple-bellied clouds.
Sun's last rays,
Beauty abounds.
Cicadas serenade at whim,
Evening gently closes in.
Night time's creatures realm has come.
Our time is tomorrow
Wait and dream
Of the sunshine's first soft gleam.

~ Elizabeth S. (12) ~

WRCNU's Fall Speaker Series Continues:



Due to the pandemic we have lost several opportunities to implement our normal fundraiser events (Wildlife Baby Showers, Christmas for Critters and our 3rd Speaker Series). Fingers crossed, we have set into motion our Fall Speaker Series event for the end of this year—**SAVE THE DATE: Saturday evening, November, 6th!**

Are you feeling a bit “Landlocked”?

While many people are lucky to enjoy our amazing North American coastlines, there are those of us living so far inland that it makes it difficult to see and enjoy the amazing ecosystems and wildlife along our coasts.

Make a “*Save the Date*” note for **Saturday Nov 6th, 2021** on your calendar TODAY and participate in WRCNU's 3rd Annual Fall Speaker Series with guest speaker Jeff Foster.

Hear Jeff speak about his amazing work with marine mammals at home and around the world.

Jeff Foster, Marine Mammal Biologist and Rehabilitator, has worked in all facets of the marine mammal field including capture, animal husbandry, training, rehabilitation, research and reintroduction.

Jeff oversaw the sea otter rescue along the Kenai Peninsula during the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill. He was Director of Research & Field Operations for the Keiko Project, the attempted reintroduction of the Killer Whale from the movie, “Free Willy,” and he oversaw the capture, rehabilitation and successful reintroduction of “Springer” an out-of-habitat orphan Killer Whale in the Pacific Northwest.

He is also the “Site Search, Animal Transfer & Rehab Coordinator for the Whale Sanctuary Project.”

Jeff has received numerous accolades and awards for his contributions to the marine mammal field, including NOAA's “Environmental Hero of the Year” in 2006, received for his dolphin rescue work during hurricane Katrina and the tsunami in Southeast Asia.

His work has been featured in National Geographic, CNN, 60 Minutes, Date Line, the BBC and the New York Times.



Welcome to
amazon smile

You shop. **Amazon gives.**

Ways to support WRCNU without additional cost to you!

Smith's
INSPIRING DONATIONS

Our website (www.wrcnu.org) is a perfect place for one-stop shopping. Go to our “Donate” page for many ideas, including links to our *Amazon Wish List*, *Smith's Rewards Card*, *Needs List*, *vehicle donations*, *etc.*

Increase your support without additional costs: If you shop on Amazon it's EASY. If you have a Smith's Market Rewards card, it's EASY. Go to wrcnu.org/donate and drop down to the “*While Shopping ...*” section. Click on the **AmazonSmile** and **Smith's Inspiring Donations** logos to link your accounts to WRCNU. When you spend, Amazon and Smith's donate to WRCNU at no cost to you!

A Welcome Addition to Our Wildlife Rehabilitation “Tool Kit”

The keys to the successful treatment of sick and injured wildlife are the ability to quickly diagnose the injuries or diseases correctly. Many times, illness and diseases may have similar symptoms and since our wildlife patients can't tell us many details, our wildlife specialists end up being Super Sleuths.

Many raptors that we see at WRCNU are afflicted with **West Nile Virus** (a mosquito-borne virus) or **Lead Poisoning** (which may come from direct or indirect sources.) The clinical symptoms of these diseases are very similar. Clinical symptoms of **West Nile Virus** in birds may include: *Loss of coordination, Head Tilt, Tremors, Weakness and Apparent Blindness*. Clinical symptoms of **Lead Poisoning** in birds may include: *Inability to stand - may appear “drunk” as lead in the system may cause brain swelling that interferes with vision and nerve function, Respiratory Distress, Muscle Weakness, Paralysis of Wings and Legs, Vomiting and Seizures*.

As the treatments for both diseases are very different, we need to quickly ascertain which one the patient has. A generous gift from a supporter last year has allowed us to take our investigation and analysis to a new level - we were able to purchase an in-house lead testing kit!

The former process for testing for lead poisoning included taking the patient to our veterinarian, drawing blood and then submitting the blood sample for testing to an outside lab. Typically, we would wait anywhere from 3 - 14 days until the test results came back in. During the “wait” we are administering costly medications to combat both diseases.

Now, with our onsite testing kit, we can have test results on lead poisoning in minutes. This saves the birds the stress of being transported, saving them from taking unnecessary medication (and saving us \$\$ and time), and allows almost immediate administration of the correct medication and care protocols. One more tool in our rehabilitator's Super Sleuthing kit!

Thank you, Supporters – your generosity has taken our diagnostic abilities to the next level!



Due to the symptoms this patient (a young Bald Eagle) was displaying when it arrived at WRCNU, the normal protocol would be chelation injections () twice a day until the results of the lab test came back. Thanks to our new testing station, this youngster didn't have to endure the unnecessary stress and handling for these injections. Furthermore, WRCNU saved your donated funds and our wildlife specialists were able to focus on the more likely cause of her injuries, which appear to be caused by physical trauma/impact. (*Note: chelation drugs bind to lead and other heavy metals to allow the body to pass the toxins)*

References:

Lead Poisoning in Bald Eagles Admitted to Wildlife Rehabilitation Facilities in Iowa, 2004–2014 Taylor Yaw ; Kay Neumann ; Linette Bernard ; Jodeane Cancilla ; Terese Evans ; Adam Martin-Schwarze ; Bianca Zaffarano, *Journal of Fish and Wildlife Management* (2017) 8 (2): 465–473.

[West Nile Virus Bulletin](#) Cornell University – College of Veterinary Medicine Animal Health Diagnostic Center

Volunteer Highlight

Due to COVID-19, we decided to put all our faith into our battle tested and most trustworthy volunteers—we did not take on any new volunteers in 2020. As difficult a year as it was, we could not have done it without YOU, the literal CORE of our operation. THANK YOU for your dedication, sacrifices, and for trusting WRCNU to also keep you safe while helping us keep our doors open for our wildlife patients.

2020 Volunteer Crew

Alison	Emily	Rachel, L	Steven
Bonnie	Haley	Rhett	Sydney
Chris	Laurie	Richard	Tais
Claudia	Michiko	Shannon	
Debbye	Rachel, A	Shelby	

Staff

DaLyn
Erin
Lisa
Stephanie
Elizabeth (moved July 2020)

Board of Directors

Alison	David
Buz	Erin
Claudia	Shellie
DaLyn	Stacie

2021 Wildlife Patients



Above, a young Bald Eagle is prepped for an expensive CT Scan.

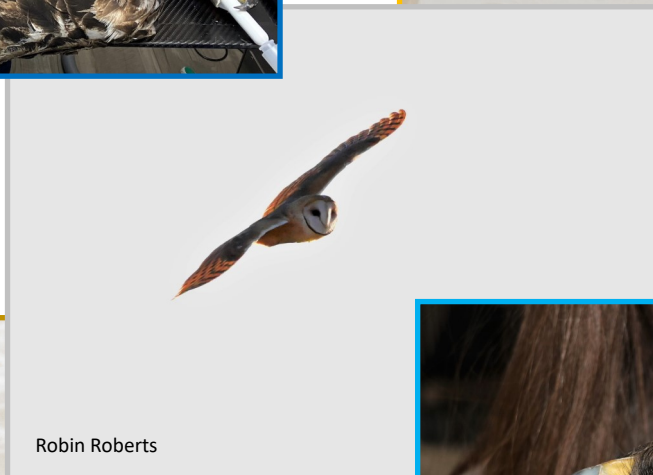
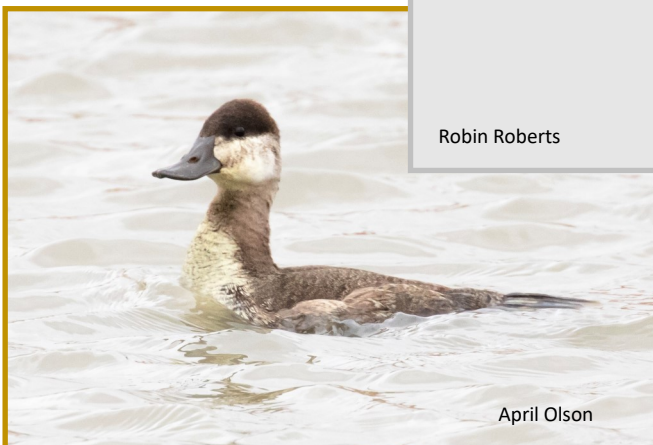
Right, a Barn Owl released at sunset.

Below, A Ruddy Duck released.



Above, a Ring-necked Duck released in February.

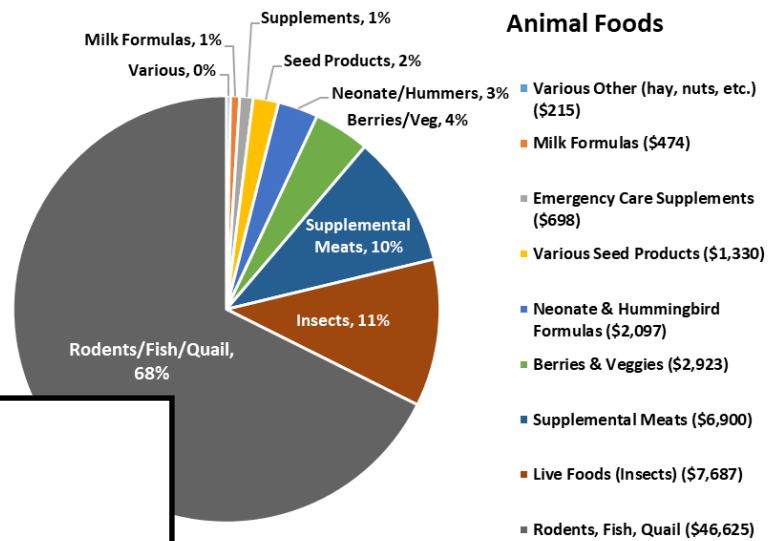
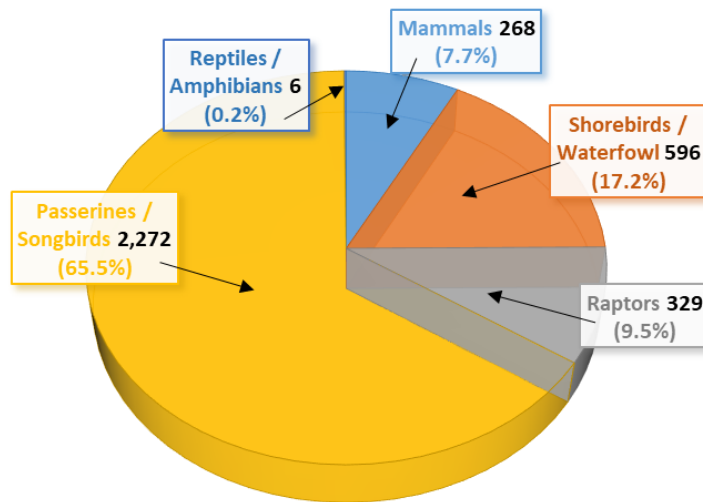
Below, A Golden Eagle in treatment.



Highest Patient Numbers Ever!

2020 brought us 3,471 patients, mostly passerines (hummingbirds to ravens—see graph below). Out of the 596 waterfowl patients, we received 472 Mallard ducks, mostly ducklings separated from their mothers and often due to improper human interaction.

2020 PATIENT NUMBERS



Animal Foods Served Up at WRCNU

When you are in the hospital you may not enjoy your hospital food, but guaranteed it is fresh, not expired, it is food that is “good for you” and will help heal your illness.

Our patients are no different: only high quality wholesome foods, like those they would receive in the wild and often much better. Food is our single highest budget item each year.

The Irony Of It All

We are constantly publicizing how “over worked we are” and asking you to help us reduce our workload and so...

“What we’ve got here is (a) failure to communicate” our real meaning.

Lately we have had an influx of people who have stated they know how incredibly busy we are and so they were trying to help by “rehabbing” the animals themselves. **Unlicensed Individual + Animal in Distress = DISASTER!**

The problem with attempts to treat the patient yourself is that it will actually make our job even harder. Here’s Why:

First, you must be licensed to treat any native wild animal—that’s the law. Now that the animal has been getting treatment by an inexperienced individual for several days, it “seems to be going downhill fast”, so they turn to us after the animal has not eaten in days, it seems to be dying, it still cannot fly, OR maybe it was a baby and so now it is sadly imprinted on their human caretaker.

At this point, more often than not, there is nothing we can do to save the animal—broken bones are healing out of alignment, infections from disease or open wounds are out of control, stress from improper handling and interaction with this wild animal has taken its toll, it is likely starving and dehydrated, A.K.A. “emaciated”—except humane euthanasia.

The most important thing the public can do to “Help Us” is to take our recommendations for “Prevention” seriously. Implementing recommended preventive measures should eliminate most problems/conflicts that bring wildlife to our door. When you actually have a sick, injured or orphaned animal, then...

...PLEASE “BOTHER US” ASAP!!!

Give us a call; give us a fighting chance to help the patient as soon as you find it—this is its only hope and why we are here.

IF you really want to help us, then contact us immediately; place the animal in a dark box with a towel on the bottom; keep it closed, dark, warm; DO NOT give water DO NOT give food and follow the rehabber’s directions to get the patient into us quickly.

WRCNU Sustainers!



Join our group of WRCNU Sustainers

In uncertain times, you can be part of the growing number of supporters who help remove the uncertainty. YOU can become a WRCNU Sustainer. Here's how it works:

- 1) Monthly donations. Starting as low as \$8/month to *"The sky is the limit!"* Make these donations by check, credit/debit card or through your PayPal account.
- 2) Annual Donations. Donate a total of \$100 (or more)/annually in consecutive years. Your second annual minimum Sustainer donation will make you a *"WRCNU Sustainer"*!

The Easiest Way? ... is Through Automatic Recurring Payments! You'll never miss it!

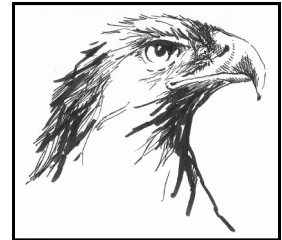
We are happy to help you setup Automatic Recurring credit/debit card donations . OR ... you may setup recurring donations through your bank's "Bill Pay" account. Once set up, your bank will send us a check each month. Yet another way, is to setup recurring payments through your PayPal account.

Annual Sustainer Donations: Annual Donations may be in small amounts or all at once.

- Example—to meet the minimum annual donation of \$100 you might wish to make ONE donation, or smaller donations of \$10, \$15, etc. throughout the year.

- The important part is that your support meets the "Sustainer minimum" for at least two years and then for each consecutive year you wish to remain a WRCNU Sustainer.

For more Info go to www.wrcnu.org/become-a-sustainer or email us at info@wrcnu.org



Golden Eagles:

(\$417/month; \$5,000 and up annually)

Bean, Pam
Blacksmith Foundation
Broussard, Craig / Hilton, Loretta
Davis, Larina & Robert
Davis Meats
Ford, Chris & Mary
Hansen, Amber
Moss, Arthur & Ruth
Ogden City
Speers, Jennifer
The Farber Baggenstos Family Fdn
The Walbridge Fund, Ltd
Tracy Aviary
U of U "Mouse House"



Ospreys:

(\$100/month; \$1,200 - \$4,999 annually)

DeBord, Thomas & Mamie Sum
Evenden, Jeanne
Finch, Timothy
Foley's Mixed Martial Arts Trng Cntr
Hanewinkel, William
Kagan, Cynthia
Kroger (Smith's)
La Madeleine, Elizabeth & Kyle
Lee, Arlea
Lybarger, Laurie / Price, Shannon
Matro, Nancy & John
Melling, Nancy & George
Murdock, Angela (Meowser Inc.)
PacifiCorp / RMP
Page, Audrey & David
Pretti, Ted
Romesburg, Charles & Sandra
Skidmore, Kayla
Skidmore, Quinn
Smith, Leonard & Elyse
Smith, Liz
Stokes, Jessica & Cory

"In Memory Of"

WRCNU wishes to honor 2020 donors who have given in the name of family and friends who have passed away:

"Beverly Jean Coleman"

- Dawn Flynn

"Loel Dean"

- Lorl & Dixon Kapple

"Aaron Douglas Hunt ('63-'82)"

- Stewart, Jean

"Dr. Owen Linsley, DVM"

- Jill Daly
- Jeff Grunow

"Melvin"

- Gary Gugler

"Phyllis Pretti ('35-'19)"

- Pretti, Ted

"Gracie Randolph"

- Robin Griffith

"Clay Reynolds ('93-'20)"

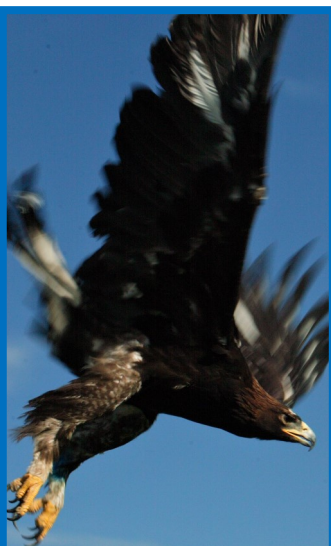
- Carina Campobasso
- Michelle Laraway
- Jan Noffsinger
- Cheyenne Ray
- Lynn & Rory Reynolds
- Johanna Skaff
- Dona Tanner
- Elise Tanner

"William Schneider"

- Kristine Knowlton

"Priscilla Schowalter"

- Robin Griffith



"Miyagi" was the first Eagle released by WRCNU back in 2009



Great Horned Owls:

(\$50/month; \$600 - \$1,199 annually)

Ahrens, Craig
 Allred, Susan
 Bayer, Virginia / Hartman, Wendy
 Berceau, Michiko & Tony
 Boe Debbye
 Copeland, Milada
 DeCaria, Tina
 Edwards, David & Lisa
 Galli, Robin
 Grunow, Jeff / Daly, Jill
 Henricks, Claudia & Ralph
 Hestand, David & Shelly
 Hunter, Doug & Tana
 Kauffman, Ulla & Jim
 Marthaler, Buz & DaLyn
 Marthaler, James & Marjie
 Naethe, Bonnie
 O'Kelley, Kim
 Palau, Shellie
 Palmer, Pamela & Glenn
 Perry, Mareea
 Revolution Gear & Truck Parts, LLC
 Saxon, Aaron
 Scadden, Cailin & Dakota
 Scott, Sherri
 Seikel, Paula & Tony
 Smelzer, Margot
 Stewart, Jane & Thomas
 Talenah, Heather
 Weeks, Andrea
 Woodring, Shannon

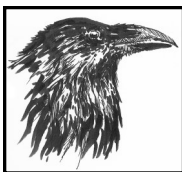


North American

Beavers:

(\$35/month or \$420 - \$599 annually)

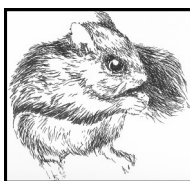
Cupal, Deborah, Dr. (Four Paws)
 Frame, Kelli
 Gregoire, Dan & Elizabeth
 Jones, Dave & Roxanne
 Justice, Michael & Christy
 Karmazyn, Joel & Coralee
 Klancic, Jill (Pet Expectations)
 Marthaler, Pamela
 Miller, Marjorie & Rod
 Peck, Stacie
 Quigley, Samuel & Colleen
 Rees, Timothia
 Schmidt, Jennifer
 Shaum, Michael & Darla
 Smith, Jolynn
 Summers, Kent & Kay
 Torstenson, Kristi
 Warren, Lee & Georgia
 Watkins, Susan



Ravens:

(\$20/Month or \$240-\$419 annually)

Ahrens, Glen
 Allaire, John & Patricia
 Aller, Keri
 Bargsley, Mary
 Batista-Rodriguez, Alicia
 Bean Family Foundation
 Bowman, Elizabeth
 Bradford, L'aura / Larabee, Valerie
 Branson, Sunny
 Buckles, Isis
 Callister, Kathleen
 Cowart, Phil & Kate
 Curtis, Julia
 Eardley, Don & Connie
 Evans, James & Diane
 Furlong, Juanita & William
 Goff, Tressa
 Hardy, Holly
 Harrison, Tracie
 Hill, Bruce & Sherri
 Hirsch, Richard
 Jenkins, Robert & Lori
 Knipe, Helen
 Laing, David
 Linton, David / Reid, Jane
 Martin, Dennis
 Matheny, Pam
 Melville, Karen / Heisler, Edward
 Murdock, Kaye
 O'Connor, Clyde & Viki
 O'Neill, Sheila
 Plocharsky, Marcia
 Rees, Kathleen
 Rice, Dee
 Rosier, Charles
 Sarno, Carol
 Schlange, Chaz & Shay
 Sharp, Thomas & Nicole
 Shaw, Nancy
 Sterret, Rebecca
 Stout-Letz, Laurie
 Stroyls, Bo & Helena
 Taylor, Jeane
 Trussell, Susan & David
 Vesper, Jennifer
 Welch, Damion
 Wendolowski, Audrey
 Wickliffe, Robin & Chris



Flying Squirrels:

(\$15/month or \$180 - \$239 annually)

Ashton, David
 Baker, Linda
 Bennett, Mike & Mary
 Bloedel, Ellen
 Bryner, Kenny & Michelle
 Carter, David & Louise

Christensen, Heidi
 Costa, Cynthia
 Fowler, Tinamarie
 Gabriel, Steven
 Hinojos, Al
 Hom, King / Barhorst, Donna
 Jones, Melanie
 Keeley, Karen
 Kitchens, Elizabeth
 Knowlton, Kristine
 Nelson, Emily & John
 Ombach, Garik
 Richardson, Rena
 Scott, Marilyn & Gentry
 Smith, Arhtur & Megan
 Wheadon, Kate



Chickadees:

(\$8/month, \$100-\$179 annually, or undisclosed CFC donations / Others)

Becker, Susan
 Benson, Donelle
 Berthrong, Candace
 Bevan, John
 Brinkman, Lisa
 Carmichael, Gordon
 Cassity, Lee & Diane
 Christensen, Alex / Novak, Jessica
 Coleman, Lianna
 Cooper, Susan L.
 Countryman, Diane
 Cragun, Tracey
 Croft, Christy
 Devey, John & Marie
 Dummer, Jennifer
 Eddy, Deborah
 Elmer, Karen & Bob
 Evans, Tara & James
 Fish, Carlton
 Forman, Janet
 Fritz, Ray & Clara
 Garner, Robert & Linda
 Gilbert, Dawn
 Gledhill, Doug
 Grathwohl, Jeffrey
 Hagen, Mardee
 Hall, Christopher & Sherrie
 Haltiner, Maurine
 Haycock, Maridee & Steve
 Hendrix, Richard & Cori
 Hogan, Tracey
 Isbell, Kira
 Jensen, Lynda & Ed
 Johnson, Linde
 Johnston, Kiersten
 Kapple, Lori & Dixon
 LeFevre, Nancy
 Madlang, Fran & Rudy
 Marin, Debra / Behring, Michael
 Marken, Erica
 McChristal, James
 Miklavcic, Beth
 Miller, Carolyn
 Neill, SaraLee
 Neumann, Kathryn
 Neuvar, Elizabeth
 Nielsen, Ruth
 Ogata, Wendy
 Paige, John & Shelley
 Pardoe, Todd & Debi

Peterson, Donald
 Peterson, Marilynn
 Phillips, Nick
 Rabkin, Paula
 Rasmussen, Lisa
 Rees, Irene
 Roberts, Cynthia & Robert
 Roberts, Robin
 Romero, Mike & Angela
 Ronayne, Raichel
 Sanders, Jamie
 Sanders, Stanley & Janet
 Schenk, Alison & Joel
 Schuyler, Howard K.
 Stearns, Linda
 Stevens, Kathleen & William
 Stewart, Michelle
 Stump, Michael & Amanda
 Styer, Joseph & Kathleen
 Thomas, Patty
 Turek, Marla & Greg
 Vagstad, Dawn & Gregg
 Wendt, Sharon
 Williams, Janet / Tompkins, David
 Winegrad, Bernard
 Woods, Danelle
 Wurst, Gloria

Synergy Partners:

Barlow Service Experts
 Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge
 Brookside Animal Hospital
 Eye Care for Animals
 Great Basin Wildlife Rehab/Ed.
 GSL Audubon
 HawkWatch International (SLC)
 Lafeber (Emeraid)
 Parrish Creek Veterinary Clinic
 Second Chance Wildlife Rehab.
 The Humane Society of the U.S.
 Tracy Aviary
 Weber State University
 Western Wildlife Conservancy
 Wild Friends—Best Friends
 Wild Utah Project

"In Honor Of"

WRCNU wishes to honor 2020
 donors who have given in the
 name of family and friends:

"April Beard"
 - Alan Beard

"Jerry Bergosh"
 - Robin Griffith

"Tana Miller"
 - Dawn Gilbert

"Haley Olson"
 - Palfreyman Family

"Makenna Sinclair"
 - Bonnie Lee

"Alison Schenk"
 - Natalie Massarotti





WRCNU

The Foot of a Bald Eagle

Birds have many amazing adaptations, from feathers (insulation, camo, display, flight, etc.) to beaks/bills adapted specifically for the many varying diets of each species, to the many different styles of legs/feet.

The feet and talons of the many raptor species are probably the most awe-inspiring of these adaptations.

The strength of an eagle's feet can literally crush bone. "Lightening-speed fast" and powerful, once engaged they do not disengage until the raptor decides to let go.

Notice the rough foot pads on the bottom; these help add a layer of protection, but also help them securely grip their favorite prey ... the slippery slimy fish Bald Eagles love to eat.

January Patient Released: Ruddy Duck



April Olson

Wildlife Rehabilitation Center
of Northern Utah
3127 N Pelican Drive
Farr West, UT 84404
www.WRCNU.ORG



Non-Profit
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 181
Ogden, UT