

Winter
2022/23



Number of Wildlife Patients
Treated since 2009: > 33,600

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

Yet Another Uniquely Different Year, Come and Gone!

So, You Want To Be A Wildlife Rehabber! Do You Have What It Takes?

Through the course of the year, we often get asked what it takes to become a Wildlife Rehabilitator in the State of Utah.

Let's start with the basic definition of wildlife rehabilitation from the Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation (MSWR.) It is defined as "the treatment and temporary care of injured, diseased and displaced indigenous animals and the subsequent release of healthy animals into appropriate habitats in the wild." The key to this statement is the fact that we are only temporary caretakers with the goal to release the animals back into the wild – they are not captive, they are not ours, they are not pets and are not in rehabilitation for our personal or business gains or entertainment.

Aside from the "unwritten" requirements of: bucket loads of sweat and tears along with long hours, no vacations during the heavy season, low wages, absolute passion and dedication to our wildlife friends and a HUGE heart, you also will need funding, a location set aside for the rehabilitation work and supportive/understanding friends and family! Equally important, are many more formalized state and federal requirements to conduct wildlife rehabilitation activities;

A Federal Special Purpose Permit must be obtained from the US Fish and Wildlife Service for anyone rehabilitating birds and endangered species in the US as required under the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 50 CFR 21.27.

A valid Certificate of Registration from the State of Utah based on compliance to Utah State Administrative Rule R657-40 which includes the following:

- Applicants must be 18 years or older.
- A detailed diagram of all the wildlife rehabilitation facilities and cages in which protected wildlife will be held must be provided.
- The name, address and signed statement from a licensed veterinarian agreeing to assist the applicant in wildlife rehabilitation activities.
- A signed, written statement from a licensed wildlife rehabilitator indicating the applicant has a minimum of two years' experience performing wildlife rehabilitation under that person's direction.
- A signed, written statement from the city or county granting approval for the proposed activities.
- Documentation of a passing score on an exam covering wildlife rehabilitation techniques, biology and natural history, habitat requirements, safety considerations in handling and transport practices and state and federal laws that apply to wildlife rehabilitation.
- Each rehabilitator must keep a current log with date of acquisition, location, and disposition of all wildlife held in possession of the rehabilitator. An annual report must be submitted by January 31st, of all the previous years' rehabilitation activities.
- Certificates of Registration must be renewed every three years.

Note that these are just some of the highlights of the regulations. You can view the full document at the Utah Division of Wildlife Resource page: <https://wildlife.utah.gov/r657-40.html>

Photos Left to Right:

- 1 - 2022 involved lots of quarantined patients due to the Avian Influenza
- 2 - Continuing Education for Staff
- 3 - Swainson's Hawk Pre-release exam



So, Do You Have What It Takes?

Some 2022 Wildlife Patient Releases

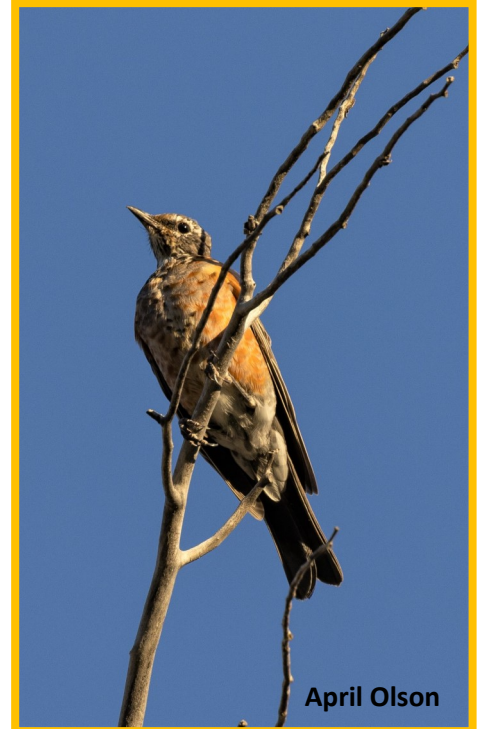
Stephanie Peck



Red Tree Squirrel orphan ready for release.
It didn't take this youngster long to begin investigating its new home and surroundings.



Stephanie Peck



April Olson

A young American Robin taking in the surroundings shortly after her release.



April Olson

Left: A young hummingbird patient quickly locates one of many feeders after it's soft release in this WRCNU Co-founder's yard.

Right: A young human imprinted female American Kestrel.

Sadly, when individuals attempt to take on the care of young wild animals the end result ends almost 100% of the time in the animal suffering and dying, euthanasia, or a lifetime in captivity.

ALWAYS take any wildlife to a licensed rehabber IMMEDIATELY.



Find us on
Facebook

@ Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Northern



*The wood fibers used for this package
originated from a Responsibly Managed Forest.*

Sustainable Forest Management



More 2022 Wildlife Patients



April Olson

A Juvenile Swainson's Hawk is released after being treated at the Center.



PUMPING WINGS HARD, this Swainson's Hawk was successfully released over an Alfalfa field just in time for his fall migration southward.



April Olson

A Uintah Ground Squirrel is released back into its habitat after getting fat on at the WRCNU B&B!



Make Room For Your Reindeer Games By Donating Your Vehicle

We accept all types of vehicles, running or not! The pick-up is free, and your donation is tax-deductible.

Give Today

To start the vehicle donation process:
Find the "Cars" link at <https://wrcnu.org/donate>

Or call (855) 500-RIDE (7433)



This 2022 Long-eared Owl youngster came to WRC in an emaciated condition and wearing poorly fitted falconry gear.

We have reported the incident to Division of Wildlife Resources.

She will not be releasable as a result of her condition, but will hopefully become a good Ambassador animal for education once healthy and the investigation is completed.

The September “Valley Fire” Too Close For Comfort!



Over the 12 years WRCNU has been on Park Boulevard we have witnessed 3-4 human caused wildfires nearby. Thankfully none have turned in a direction to truly threaten the “neighborhood” we share with The Timberline Restaurant and Dinosaur Park.

That said, this wildfire, located behind and to the south of Rainbow Gardens was in a position to cause some worry.

Thanks to ALL of the First Responders who put their lives on the line every single day to protect our community!



Right: A juvenile Ferruginous Hawk is gaining strength after arriving in an emaciated condition.

This beauty was initially suspected of having the HPAI virus, but tested negative. She was released the end of October.



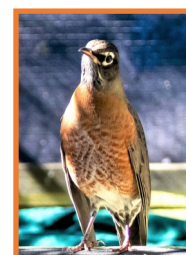
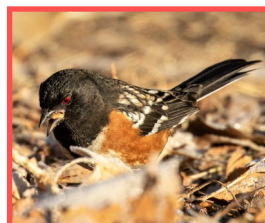
WRCNU's E-Newsletter

Left: This Great Horned Owl's story was recently posted on our November E-Newsletter.

If you are interested in being added to this new monthly educational adventure, please send your name and email address to:

newsletter@wrcnu.org

If You Haven't Already, then please leave your garden clean-up for Spring! Leaf mulch is a healthy compost for your yard, keeps weeds down and BEST OF ALL many of our winter backyard birds feed from the seedheads left on flowers and shrubs and the yummy bugs hiding under the leaf matter—birds are a natural “insecticide” without the chemicals.



Photos by April Olson, Left to Right: White-crowned Sparrow, Spotted Towhee, American Robin, and Dark-eyed Junco

Ogden's Harvest Moon Festival



Back in the Saddle Again! WRCNU took part once again in the September Harvest Moon Festival on Historic 25th Street. We estimate that our booth was visited by thousands, to include at least 1,000 kids who took part in our very busy children's' Craft tables. For info on future Ogden City Events please visit:

www.ogdencity.com/773/Annual-Events

Northern Utah Trailfest (NUT)



Great Fun and Great Weather; the PERFECT way to end the summer season!

October 7-9th, WRCNU participated in the 1st Annual Northern Utah Trailfest along with many vendors (on Saturday Oct 8th) and it was a huge success! The plans by the Goal Foundation & Trails Foundation of Northern Utah are already in the works for next year (October 13-15th, 2023), so put this great outdoor event on your calendars. Camping, hiking, races, live music, food vendors, fireside fun and entrance for the festival was free.

www.northernutahtrailfest.com



Arya the WRCNU Barn Owl was out along with Nemo our American Kestrel to provide community education during Harvest Moon.



Crow or Raven?

At WRCNU we get to see both of these beautiful black birds of the family Corvidae (Corvids, for short) up close and personal so we have an “in” to identification, but what about you? Have you ever wondered what that black bird is in your backyard or flying high overhead? Here are some helpful hints:

- Ravens are larger – slightly larger than a Red-tailed Hawk; crows are slightly larger than a typical pigeon
- Ravens have larger, stouter/heavier beaks

If you don’t see them side by side, the physical differences may be difficult to assess so here are a couple more ways to identify them:

- Crows are typically found in open habitat settings (beaches, farmland, suburbs) while ravens are found in more rural areas (tundra, forests, arid brushlands and mountainous regions).
- Crows may travel in a large group (called a “murder”) and during the fall/winter season roost communally at night in flocks reaching thousands, while ravens typically travel in pairs or small family groups of 3-4 (often called a “rave”).
- Crows vocalize with “caws” while ravens have a deeper, throatier “croak.”
- On the ground, crows stride with a pronounced waddle and hop when in a hurry, while ravens normally walk and rarely hop.
- In flight, the crow has a fan-shaped tail with tail feathers the same length whereas the raven’s tail is more wedge-shaped. Crows have shorter relatively broader wings, while ravens have longer narrower wings.

When flying, crows use a steady rowing wingbeat, the rare glide is often with wings slightly raised. Ravens often soar or glide for long periods on flat wings.



Heavy/stout beak
This “bird is now at the Bronx Zoo



**Wedge tail and
Long narrow wings**



**Fan-shaped tail and
Shorter broader wings**

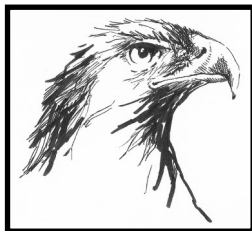


Raven or Crow?
This “bird” is now at the
E.O. Wilson Biophilia Center

So, what do you think? Crow or Raven?



Bald Eagle level:
for donations of
\$10,000 and higher



Golden Eagle level:
Minimum of \$417/Month



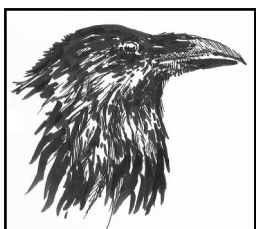
Osprey level:
Minimum of \$100/Month



Great Horned Owl level:
Minimum of \$50/Month



NA Beaver level:
Minimum of \$35/Month



Raven level:
Minimum of \$20/Month



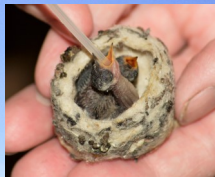
Flying Squirrel level:
Minimum of \$15/Month



Chickadee level:
Minimum of \$8/Month

For almost 14 years, we have treated more than 33,650 wildlife Patients. Please consider supporting our work as a *WRCNU Monthly Sustainer Team Member*.

Pick a Sustainer Category that fits YOU best. For more information, check out the information on the next page — Thank You!



Join our GROWING group of WRCNU Monthly 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***.

In our world, uncertainty is the biggest stressor we deal with each year. Thankfully, during our almost 14 years, we have ended each year either breaking even or having a little for the "Slush fund" to improve on our processes of treating, healing and releasing sick, injured and orphaned wildlife—Patients who are more often than not, injured through direct or indirect human impact.

During this coming Holiday Season, would you please consider helping to relieve the stress by becoming part of our growing Team of *WRCNU Monthly Sustainers*?

We began to formalize our Sustainer program back in 2014 and introduced our new "Sustainer Logos" in 2016. The growth has been slow, but steady, with a new increased interest over the past year giving us great hope for the future.

Due to the increased popularity of our program, we added a new upper level category (Bald Eagles) to better recognize those donors at the high end. ALL Levels are IMPORTANT & APPRECIATED; "this (work) takes a village". ❤️

Each year, we recognize both our "Annual" and "Monthly" *WRCNU Sustainers* in our Spring Newsletter. Our *Monthly Sustainers* help us plan and budget based on their firm Pledge of Support. It helps reduce the stress of having to wait until January 1st of each year before we know if, "we made it".

Please consider joining our Team as a "WRCNU Monthly Sustainer". From a monthly donation of as little as \$8 to as high as you are able to go. Presently our Monthly Sustainer numbers are at 95 with donations ranging from \$8 to \$500. This current Sustainer Team provides over \$42,800 annually, which pays of all of our animal medical bills and a small portion of our animal food budget. This is a REALLY GOOD feeling, to know we have so many amazing and passionate individuals/supporters who care about our native wildlife ...

... can YOU, will YOU join them? We would LOVE it if you would.

Here's how it works:

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.

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.

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

Mailing address (mail ONLY): 3127 N Pelican Drive, Farr West, UT 84404

- Correspondence or checks by mail should be addressed to *Pelican Drive*

Physical address: 1490 Park Blvd, Ogden, UT 84401

- Injured wildlife deliveries must come to *Park BLVD*

Website (Credit/PayPal) Donations at: **WRCNU.ORG**

@ WRCNU1



WRCNU PayPal



WRCNU On VENMO!



WRCNU Ambassadors

Chester, our male Swainson's Hawk Ambassador, is enjoying the sun on his back during an "enrichment walk" around the WRCNU grounds.

With limited presentations due to the Avian Influenza outbreak, these one-on-one sessions are very important to maintaining the mental health of our education birds as well as keeping them trained and ready for their next presentation.

Two Thanksgiving Season Tom's Strutting their stuff for a lady (Hen) on the WRCNU grounds.



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



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