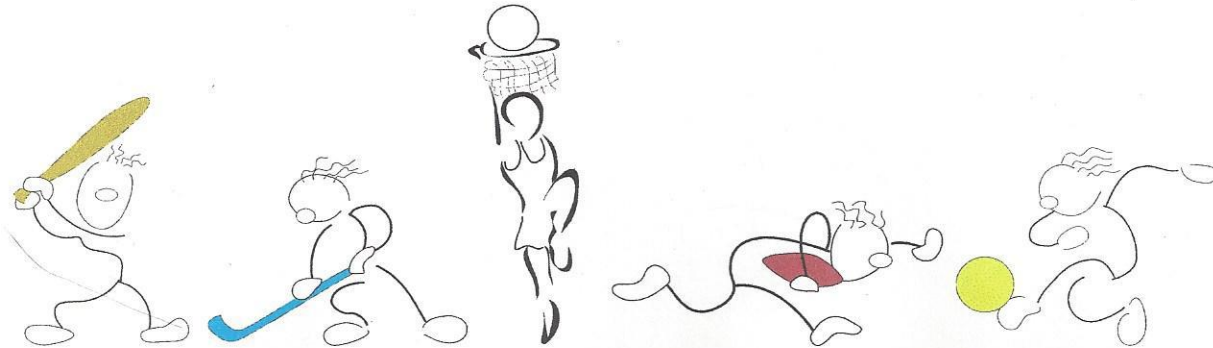


REHABILITATORS &
VETERINARIANS

WORKING TOGETHER TO KEEP NORTH IDAHO WILD

TEAM EFFORT



Baseball, Hockey, Basketball, Football, Soccer all involve team effort. All focus is on the ball (or puck). WILDLIFE REHABILITATION is no different! The team includes dedicated, trained professional rehabbers, state and federal wildlife agencies and the communities where these facilities operate. The focus is on the wild animal in need.

Teaming up & working together

- North Idaho Animal Hospital
- Warm Hearts & Cold Noses
- Maintenance of pets
- Paid staff
- Cat and Dog owners
- Vet school knowledge
- Major trauma situations
- American Heritage Wildlife Foundation
- Conserving all our native neighbors
- Rehabilitative care
- Volunteer efforts
- Community support*
- Wildlife journal guidance
- Minor triage situations

* = Less than 1% of all grants available are for wildlife organizations and the majority of those are for a specific project not general operating.

AHWF began in 2001

- Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws created.
- 501 c 3 IRS nonprofit status approved in 2002.
- Idaho State nonprofit incorporation status approved.
- Federal Migratory Bird rehabilitation permits from USFWS.
- Nongame Mammals and Bird rehabilitation permits from IDFG.
- As soon as enclosures are constructed we will have permission to care for the large game species.
- Membership with National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association and International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council.
- Certified Wildlife Habitat certification with the National Wildlife Federation.
- Membership with Idaho Nonprofit Development Center & Small Nonprofits Organization.
- We are one of over 5,000 national wildlife rehabilitators.

Mission & Fact

- AHWF works to conserve the local wildlife through rehabilitation of the injured and orphaned as well community education.
- It is illegal to possess any wild animal without proper licensing – do not attempt rehabilitation on your own. Do not allow the rescuer (or a friend) to keep the animal. The internet will not provide sufficient information. The wild animal is the one who ultimately suffers because of inadequate nutrition and inappropriate housing.

The reality of rehab

- American Heritage Wildlife Foundation is presently operated by volunteers.
- There are no paid staff members. We need our community to help!
- We do not receive federal state or county funding.
- Financial support is acquired only because of our community. (less than 1% of all available grants provide for general operating expenses).
- Under close scrutiny to spend less than 49% of total budget on marketing & fundraising.
- No other North Idaho facility has federal and state permits for mammals and birds.
- Over \$10,000 annual budget for general operating expenses and wildlife care.

The cost of rehab

- 80% of wildlife in need of care is due to human activity.
Our patients don't have pockets so please help us help them; donate your time, treasure or talent today.
- The importance of returning a wild animal back into its natural habitat = PRICELESS!
- Medical attention: some years our total was \$4,000 per year. Veterinary care: (some of the doctors are able to donate their time; but the cost of supplies remains).
- Supplies: Paper towels, Laundry Soap, Dish Soap, Bleach, Antibiotics, Bandages, Cloth Towels.
- Equipment: Precision Scale, Stethoscope, Gloves, Nets, Heat light hoods and bulbs, Hot pads, Incubator, Feed and Water Dishes, Microscope, Reference manuals & professional organization membership, Vari-Kennels, Aquariums, Cages, rakes & shovels, rubber boots. Construction Materials: lumber, plywood, wire, nails, screws, chain link
- Food (varies on the species):
 - Songbirds - from nestling to release = up to \$300
Some patients require every 15 minutes for 16 hours daily feedings for two (or more) weeks.
 - Raptors - from nestling to release = over \$100 per month.
 - Waterfowl - from hatchling to release = up to \$300
 - Small Mammals - from pre-weaned to release = up to \$500
- Shelter: Electricity = \$75+/month. Currently the lease/rent = \$0* (\$60,000 will purchase the property upon which the facility resides).
- Outreach and Awareness: Phone = \$65/month, I-Net = \$20/month (dial-up), Webhost/domain = \$100/year, Phone Book (Local Pages yellow pages) = \$45/month

An average year at AHWF

- Average of 250 phone calls each year. In 2015, over 300.
- Average of 2,500 hours of labor. In 2015, over 3,500 hours.

(between 60 and 70 hours each week during the 'busy season' of April through October)

- Average 50 wildlife (bird & mammal) cases – each requiring daily care. In 2016, over 80 cases (*Some species needed fed 16 hours/day others required round the clock care on a 24 hour schedule.*)

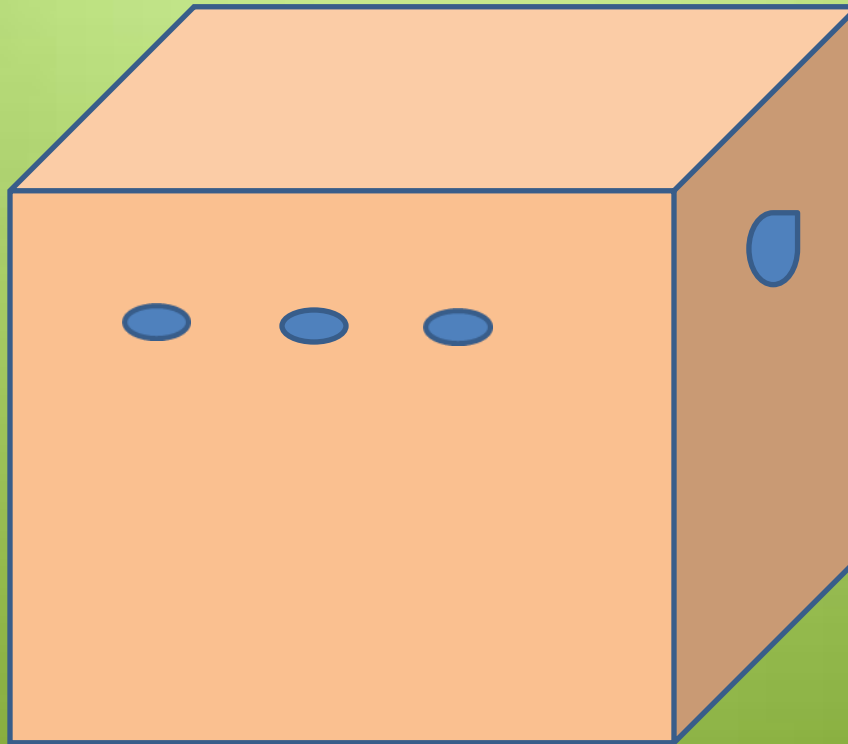
What is wildlife rehab?

- The many lessons to learn about wild animal rehabilitation can be intimidating. The first and most important one is that wild animals are wild. Do not anthropomorphize them. They have learned to fear humans. As a professional wildlife rehabilitator, it is your duty to respect this. This fear of humans is vital to these wild animals' surviving in the wild.
- The second rule about wild animal rehabilitation is that food or water is NOT the first action to take. It is critical the animal is first warmed. If you feed a cold animal you will kill it. If you feed an emaciated or starving animal you will kill it. The order is always warmth, and then water, and then food.
- The third rule is to keep your presence quick and with minimal interference. Stress of handling can send the animal into shock. Keep the exam short - be quick but deliberate. Cover the eyes and use visual barriers once confined.
- The reality of wildlife rehabilitation is that 80 % of cases are due to human related activities. The reality of wildlife rehabilitation is that not all animals will survive (national survey results 65% rate). The reality of wildlife rehabilitation is life in captivity is not always the best choice; remember wild animals have an instinct to fear to humans. Additionally, quality of life is a real factor to consider at all times. Euthanasia means 'good death' – it is the means to end the suffering.

Signs of STRESS

- Trembling
- Muscle weakness
- Panting
- Pupil dilation
- high water intake...frequent urination
- Lack of movement
- Obsessive preening
- Bilaterally symmetrical alopecia
- Repetitive movements or Pacing
- Weight loss
- Poor wound healing or Self-nursing

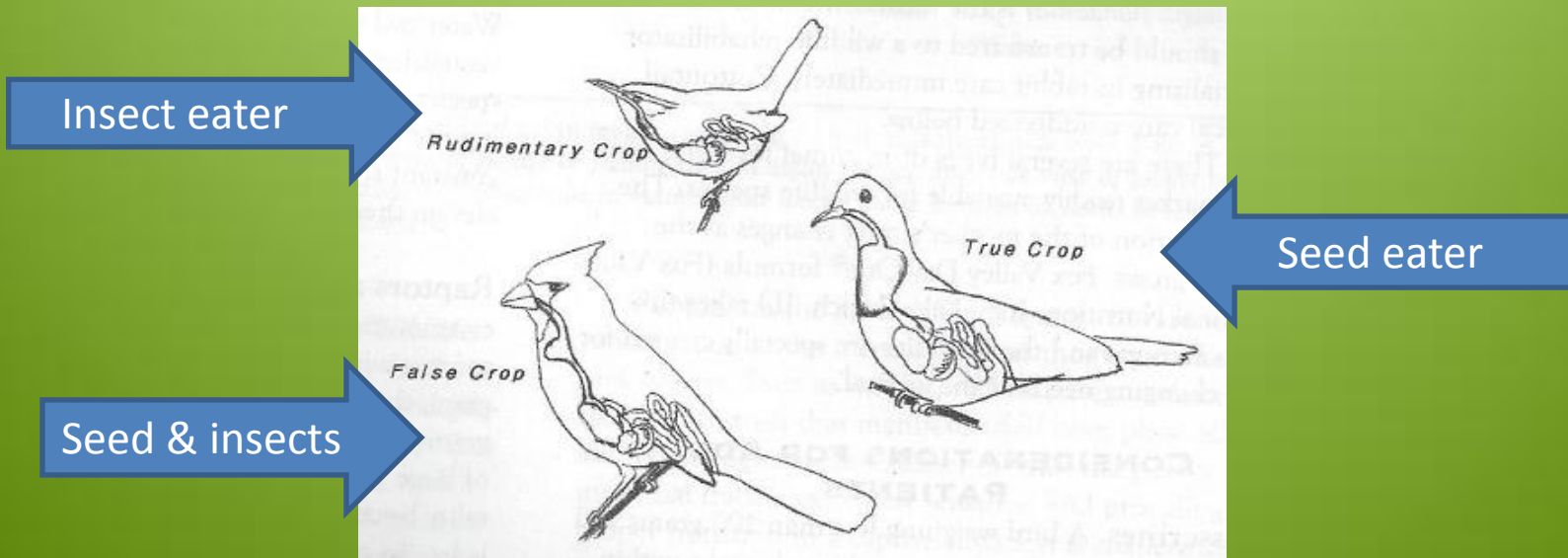
What's in the box?



Baby Bird ID
All About Birds
(cornell university)
What Bird is it?
are all online sites

It's a bird....

- The beak will give clues to the type of bird.
Long & pointed = probing for insects. Stout and compact = ingesting seeds. / Sharp tip = tearing meat.
- The size & shape & feet will give clues to the type of bird.
Small, compact with delicate feet = perching bird with high metabolism requirements. / All mouth and wings = aerial insect eater.
- Some species of birds have true crops; others require continual feedings as they have no crop for food storage.





Doves



Male



Yellowish male



Female

Finches

Seeds

cone shaped beak

they must have grit to break down the seed hulls!



"Slate-colored" race



"Pink-sided" race



Dark Eyed Juncos

"Oregon" race



"Gray-headed" race



Black Headed Grosbeak

Male



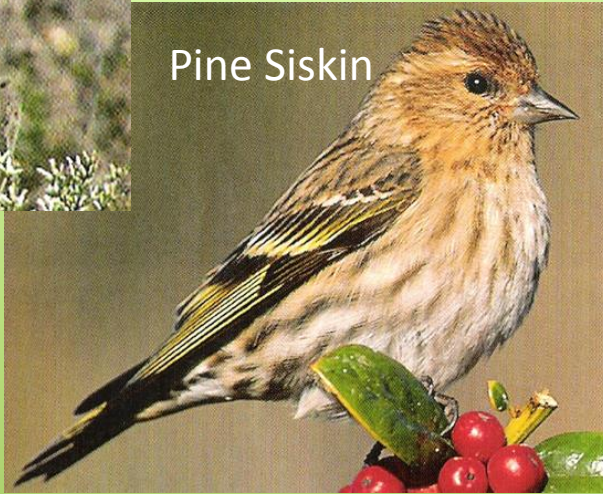
Crow



Chickadees



Pine Siskin



Insects and seeds
pointed beak



Thrushes



Jays



Summer male



American
Goldfinch

Meadowlarks





Kinglets



Flycatchers

Insects
*very pointed beak or
all mouth & wings
also = small 'vibrissae' type
feathers at corners of beak*



Warblers

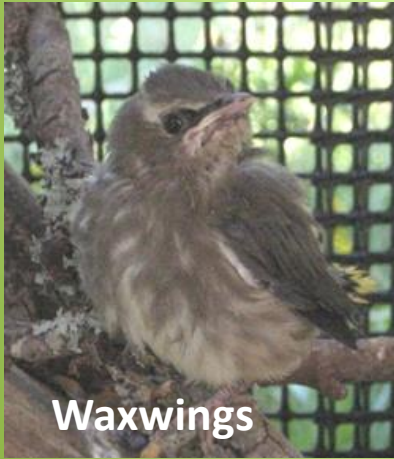
Woodpeckers & Nuthatches



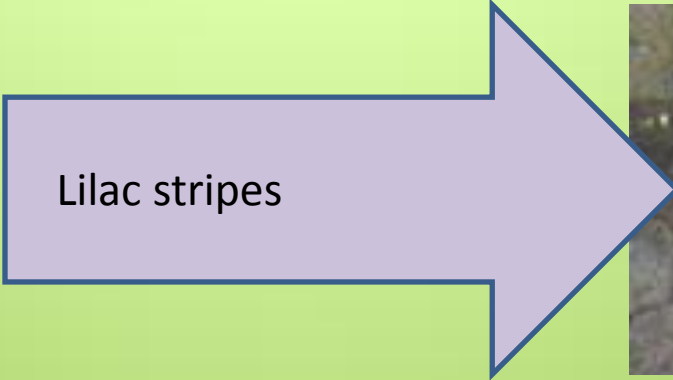
Swallows



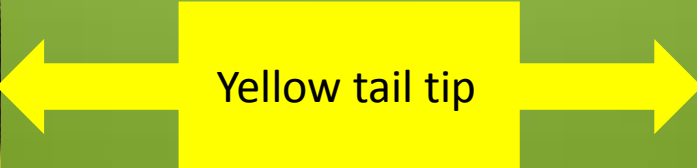
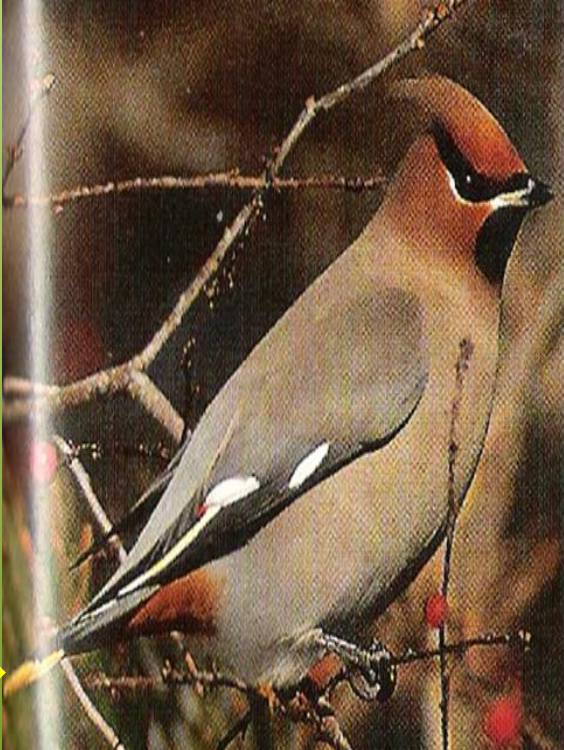
Wrens



Waxwings



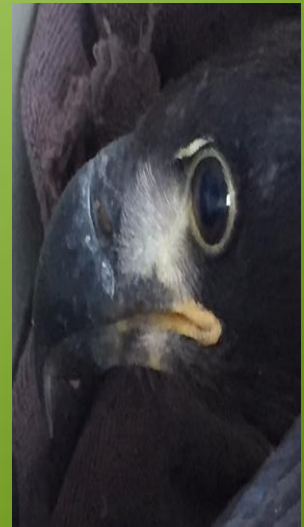
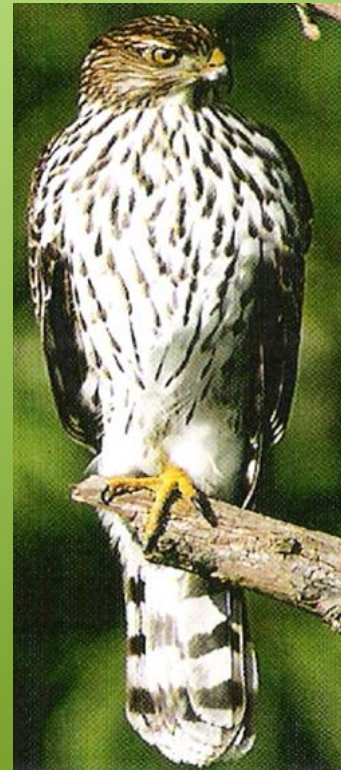
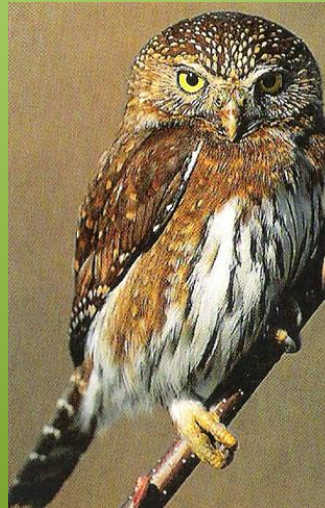
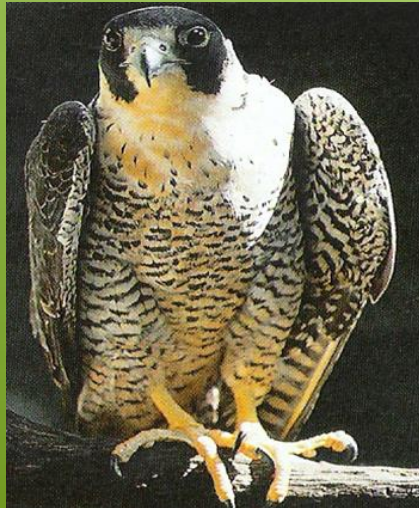
Fruit & insects
wide beak



Raptors and Ravens and Vultures

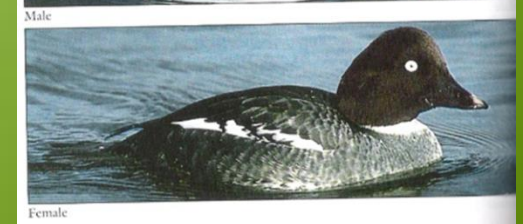


Scavengers & Meat
*sharp beaks & most have
powerful feet/sharp talons*





Waterfowl –
not all are vegetarians
powerful beaks and nails



Help AHWF solve the mystery!

What clues must be found

- **B**ody posturing
- **L**ocation and conditions found
- **U**rates and feces
- **E**yes color/ condition
- **K**eel
- **F**eather condition
- **O**ld injuries



fluffed up or smooth & even

What goes in ...comes out.
Urates are white. Bile is green in raptors,
green is also indicative of infection.



Eye color may tell age. Eye condition also offers other insight of health issues.



Feel the keel - what amount of muscle?



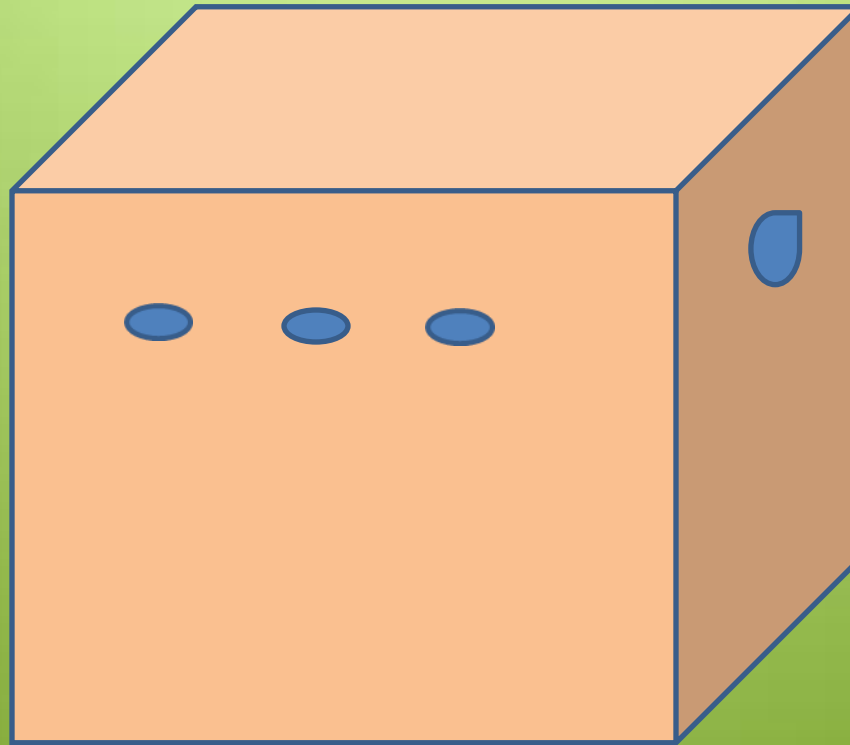
(shiny) clean with no frayed edges



Indicators of old injuries.

BLUE KFO's
(kindly flying object
.....blue sky)

What's in the box?



It's a mammal....



- These animals are ingrained with the fear of humans.
- A wild mammals should not be handled as you would a domestic animal. They will not become domestic pets.
- All have some type of defense. You must think of your own safety while restraining.

Handle with care – or get hurt!

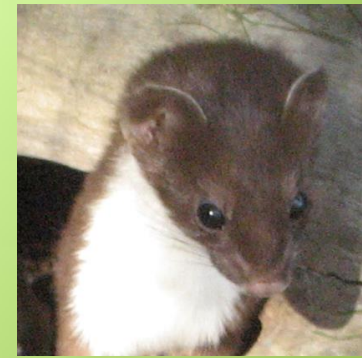


- Wear appropriate gloves!
- Rodents (squirrels, muskrat, etc.) can bite through welding gloves.
- Predators (raccoon, coyote, etc.) are very strong, fast and agile.
- Utilize towels to aid restraint techniques.
- Use coverings over the eyes to calm the animal.
- Reduce human voices and excessive handling.



Coyotes

Common predatory species
The young will follow their mother at 6 – 12 weeks of age depending. Usually late spring/early summer the young are seen exploring.
Defenses = claws and teeth.



Weasels

April or May birth usually.
As with many muselids, delayed implantation.

Breeding takes place in January to March with 4 to 7 pups in a typical litter being born after a 60 – 63 day gestation.



Raccoons

Born February – March. @ 3 months age they are exploring with their mother & siblings.



Skunks

Young are born May though June after a winter (Feb. – April) courtship. Males are excitable and will spray randomly.



Deer

Fawns born late May-June.

They are not orphaned unless extremely vocal.

Young remain with mother through the winter.



Prey species defenses vary with type of animal & age. Rodents have sharp teeth, Lagomorphs sharp teeth and powerful legs/toenails.



Bats

Hibernate October to April. Young born in late April +, cling to mother until able to remain in 'nursery roost'. Consume 50% - 100% body weight nightly in insects.

Not sick if seen in daylight. Are in need of help if found on the ground or in your house.

Allow the bat to land and remain in one spot for 30 min. (the body temp drops therefore less able to fly). Use a gloved hands and a large wide mouth plastic container, slowly place over the bat. Use cardboard to slide between the jar and the wall/ceiling. Place cardboard on an elevated location outside such as a bush - never put them on the ground.



Squirrels – three kinds in N. Idaho

Breed February to March and again June to late July.

Gestation 5 wks. 2 to 7 young are born, usually 4 to 5.

Young explore around 6 – 8 weeks of age. Young disperse and independent at 4 – 5 months age. Not sexually mature until 1 year old



Flying Squirrel – nocturnal & single litter



Snowshoe Hare & Mountain (Pygmy) Cottontail Rabbit

Mature at 1 year of age. March to August breeding.

Gestation is 5 weeks. 1 to 8 in each litter (average 4).

1 to 4 litters per year.



Mature at 12 – 20 wks. February to September breeding.

Gestation is 26 – 30 days One to nine young in each litter. Avg. 4 to 5.

It's a *wild* animal....

- Even if the animal is exhibiting no physical trauma – it is still under duress. The presence of humans in close proximity causes stress. *Using towels to cover the eyes and talking in hushed tones helps.*
- As a wildlife caretaker to these wild animals it is vital to identify the animal in an instant and be part surrogate mother, part medic, part behavioral scientist, part chef. Requirements include being patient and professional at all times, dedicated to the animals in care – meaning willing to put your personal needs second, emotionally tough (statistics show if there is a 30% success rate you are doing well), determined to continued learning and knowing your own limitations. *The animal will never be a pet & should not be treated as such.*
- As a wildlife caretaker you must balance the stress of the situation with the resolution to the problem.
Example: adult bird has a broken wing wrapped in co-flex. Bird slips out of wrap. Wing has been healing for one week. Bird is able to position wing naturally. You must weigh the stress caused by attempting to rewrap with the severity of the break and the wing position without the wrap. Ask yourself 'Is the need so great that it is worth the risk of potentially causing capture myopathy'.

STRESS kills

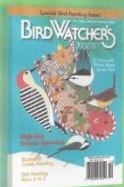
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- high water intake...frequent urination
- Lack of movement
- Obsessive preening
- Bilaterally symmetrical alopecia
- Repetitive movements or Pacing
- Weight loss
- Poor wound healing or Self-nursing

We cannot keep North Idaho WILD without you!

- We need cooperation.
- We need volunteers.
- We need directors for our board.
- We need outreach activities promotion.
- We need event coordinators.
- We need funding support through direct donations and the many percentage type programs such as amazon & yokes.



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