

## Staff Summary for June 19-20, 2024

**13. Wildlife Rehabilitation****Today's Item**Information Action 

Consider authorizing publication of notice of intent to amend regulations regarding wildlife rehabilitation.

**Summary of Previous/Future Actions**

- Wildlife Resources Committee (WRC) vetting September 15, 2022; WRC
- WRC vetting May 17, 2023; WRC
- WRC vetting September 21, 2023; WRC
- WRC vetting and recommendation January 16, 2024; WRC
- **Today's notice hearing** **June 19-20, 2024**
- Discuss potential changes to noticed regulations (if proposed timing approved today) August 14-15, 2024
- Discussion hearing (if approved today) October 9-10, 2024
- Adoption hearing (if approved today) December 11-12, 2024

**Background**

Under multiple authorities in California Fish and Game Code, the Commission adopts regulations governing wildlife rehabilitation; pursuant to those regulations, the Department oversees permitting for wildlife rehabilitators in the state through its Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Program. A wildlife rehabilitator provides animal care and rehabilitation of sick, injured, and orphaned native wildlife, as well as wildlife conservation education and outreach to diverse local communities. Currently, there are 80 permitted wildlife rehabilitators operating wildlife rehabilitation facilities in California, and sub-permittees operate approximately 550 satellite facilities; around 100,000 animals are rehabilitated every year by these facilities. Rehabilitated animals help to maintain and bolster wild native populations.

Current wildlife rehabilitation regulations, last updated in 2007, provide a definition of "wildlife rehabilitation facilities", specify application requirements for the Department to approve and issue a permit to wildlife rehabilitation facilities that meet standards set forth in *Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation Manual* (3<sup>rd</sup> edition), provisions related to the operation of a wildlife rehabilitation facility, requirements for reporting dead or diseased animals, record keeping, the release of wildlife back into the wild, and compliance requirements with other restrictions and federal, state, city, or county laws.

The acceptable standards for wildlife rehabilitation facilities and veterinary care have changed since the last update of the regulations. The Department requests that the Commission amend the regulations to update standards for the care and possession of injured and diseased wildlife, address issues regarding animal welfare, provide clearer guidance to the public and wildlife rehabilitators, improve the Department's Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Program administration, and bolster Department authorities to take administrative action in the rehabilitation of native wildlife. As part of its proposal, the Department created *Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual* (DFW 679 Manual) that provides both general program

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information and resources, as well as regulatory actions incorporated by reference in the draft regulations.

### ***Draft Proposed Regulations***

*Note: Unless otherwise specified, all section references in this document are to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.*

The draft proposed regulation changes include:

- Repeal Section 679, regulation for possessing wildlife and wildlife rehabilitation under which the Department and rehabilitation facilities currently operate.
- Add Section 679.1, establishing definitions for terms used in the wildlife rehabilitation regulations.
- Add Section 679.2, specifying requirements for transporting and confining live wild animals.
- Add Section 679.3, establishing the process and requirements for issuing and amending permits to temporarily possess wildlife for the purpose of rehabilitation.
- Add Section 679.4, establishing facility and enclosure standards for wildlife in rehabilitation. Chapter 2 of the DFW 679 Manual contains specific enclosure requirements.
- Add 679.5, establishing humane care standards for wildlife rehabilitation. Chapter 3 of the DFW 679 Manual establishes protocol and procedures that must be adhered to, to protect the welfare of each wild animal in the care of facilities.
- Add Section 679.6, establishing protocols for releasing rehabilitated animals into the wild.
- Add Section 679.7, establishing the process and requirements for inspecting wildlife rehabilitation facilities.
- Add Section 679.8, establishing procedures and requirements for seizing animals and the transfer, euthanasia, and release of seized animals.
- Add Section 679.9, establishing the processes for permit suspensions and revocations of sub-permits and variance requests, proof of service, requests for reconsideration, and appeals.

### ***Draft Proposed Forms***

- DFW 479, Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual: This new manual is an easily accessible document that is free to the public and provides both general program information and resources, as well as regulatory actions incorporated by reference in the regulations. Only chapters 2 and 3 of the manual constitute regulatory action incorporated by reference.
- DFW 480A, Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit Application: Establishes the wildlife rehabilitation permit application and clearly informs the applicant of required information necessary to be considered for a permit.

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- DFW 480B, Wildlife Rehabilitation Sub-Permit Application: Standardizes information required for submission by a permittee to add a satellite facility operated by a sub-permittee.
- DFW 480C, Specialty Rehabilitation Authorization Form: Standardizes information required for submission by a permittee to receive authorization for specialty rehabilitation.
- DFW 480D, Permittee Notice of Revocation: Notice of revocation of a sub-permit specifying why a sub-permit is being revoked.
- DFW 481, Veterinarian of Record Agreement: Standardizes the process for providing required information specific to the “Veterinarian of Record.”
- DFW 482, Wildlife Rehabilitation List of Authorized Persons: Standardizes the process for providing required information of all individuals identified as an authorized person.
- DFW 483, Facility Emergency Action Plan: Standardizes the process for providing a written emergency plan for a facility.
- DFW 484, Authorization to Access Property: Standardizes the process for the applicant to provide authorization to the Department to access the property to conduct inspections.
- DFW 485A, Wildlife Rehabilitation Facility Inspection Form and DFW 485B, Satellite Facility Inspection Form: Standardizes the process for information to be collected by the Department during an inspection.
- DFW 485C, Wildlife Rehabilitation – Variance Request: Establishes the process of requesting a variance of any required enclosure construction design, size, or materials of specific caging requirements.
- DFW 486, Wildlife Rehabilitation Annual Report: Standardizes information to be submitted annually documenting facility rehabilitation activities for the prior calendar year.
- DFW 487, Certification of Animal Condition (Non-Releasability): Standardizes information required for certification of a non-releasable animal’s condition and request for permanent captive placement.

Further details on the draft proposed changes are available in the initial statement of reasons, draft proposed regulatory language, and draft proposed DFW forms (exhibits 2 through 5). Today, the Department will present an overview of its recommendations.

### ***Ongoing External and Internal Dialogue***

Members of the wildlife rehabilitation community have continued to share with the Department additional suggested modifications to the draft proposed regulations; furthermore, Department staff and Commission staff have identified potentially necessary changes to the regulatory language and initial statement of reasons currently before the Commission. Hence, the Department and staff anticipate recommending additional changes to the DFW 679 Manual and draft proposed regulatory language that are not reflected in the versions presented today. Staff also believes additional time will be necessary to incorporate further changes and provide the public sufficient time to review the changes prior to a discussion. For example, potential recommended changes, in summary, include:

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- Clarifications for definitions, including rehabilitation animal age classes;
- new restrictions on the movement of cervids, and disinfection protocols, to limit the spread of chronic wasting disease;
- modifications to the requirements and standards for authorized persons;
- clarifications for enclosure construction, materials, sizes, enrichment, and other specifications for certain mammal, bird, and herptile species;
- expanded requirements for amphibian and reptile treatment and care;
- accommodations for temporary wildlife enclosures;
- clarifications for Department actions with regard to permitting, revocation, and inspections;
- clarifications for administrative updates to permits and the process for removing personnel listed on permits, including establishing a 30-day grace period to obtain a new veterinarian of record if removed;
- clarifications to the fee table in Section 703; and
- other minor corrections, updates, and clarifications.

### **Next Steps**

Given the dynamic nature of this proposed rulemaking, there are several potential pathways the Commission may choose to consider, including:

1. Approve publishing a notice of intent to amend regulations using the documents currently before the Commission, with the understanding that additional proposed changes will be captured in a future "clean up" rulemaking at some point in the next five years;
2. delay notice to a future meeting to allow further development and refinement of the rulemaking documents based upon ongoing dialogue;
3. approve publishing notice of the recommended regulations for a standard three-meeting process and request that staff present details of an additional notice for Commission approval at the discussion hearing; or
4. approve publishing notice of the recommended regulations for a four-meeting process and request that staff present details of a proposed additional notice for Commission consideration and potential approval at the meeting between the notice hearing (today) and the discussion hearing (proposed for October).

### **Significant Public Comments (N/A)**

### **Recommendation**

**Commission staff:** Authorize publication of notice of intent to repeal Section 679, add sections 679.1, et al., and add chapters 2 and 3 of the DFW 679 Manual, as recommended by the Department and discussed today, without the further changes outlined in this summary under "Ongoing External and Internal Dialogue." Additionally, direct staff to bring to the August

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2024 Commission meeting for discussion and consideration the specific changes recommended for each of the ongoing dialogue items outlined in this summary, and schedule the discussion hearing for the October 2024 Commission meeting and the adoption hearing for December 2024.

**Committee:** WRC recommends that the Commission support a rulemaking regarding wildlife rehabilitation, to be noticed at the Commission's June 2024 meeting.

**Department:** Authorize publication of notice of proposed changes to the regulations regarding the temporary possession of wildlife for the purposes of rehabilitation.

### Exhibits

1. [Department memo, received May 29, 2024](#)
2. [Draft initial statement of reasons and attachments](#)
3. [Draft proposed regulatory language](#)
4. [Draft DFW 679 Manual \(Form DFW 479\)](#)
5. [Draft DFW forms](#)
6. [Draft economic and fiscal impact statement \(STD 399\) and addendum](#)
7. [Department presentation](#)

### Motion

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ that the Commission authorizes publication of a notice of its intent to repeal Section 679, add sections 679.1 et al., and add chapters 2 and 3 of *Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual* related to the temporary possession of wildlife and rehabilitation and release of wild animals, with the changes discussed today. Additionally, the Commission requests staff bring to the August 2024 meeting for Commission discussion and consideration the specific changes recommended for each of the ongoing dialogue items summarized in the staff summary. The schedule for this rulemaking is a discussion hearing in October and potential adoption in December.

**OR**

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ that the Commission authorizes publication of a notice of its intent to repeal Section 679, add sections 679.1 et al., and add chapters 2 and 3 of *Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual*, related to the temporary possession of wildlife and rehabilitation and release of wild animals, with the changes discussed today, [*with or without*] the ongoing dialogue items summarized in the staff summary.

# Memorandum

Date: May 20, 2024

To: Melissa Miller-Henson  
Executive Director  
Fish and Game Commission

From: Charlton H. Bonham  
Director

Subject: **Initial Statement of Reasons to Repeal Section 679, Possession of Wildlife and Wildlife Rehabilitation, Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR); Add Sections 679.1 through 679.9, Rehabilitation of Wildlife; Add Chapter 2 and Chapter 3 of the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual; Add Subsection 703(c)(2), Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Permits and Fees**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) requests that the Fish and Game Commission (Commission) authorize publishing notice of its intent to implement new regulations by adding Sections 679.1 through 679.9, Title 14, CCR:

- Add Section 679.1 “Definitions” to define terms in the regulatory text. The “Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual, Chapters 2 and 3 (form DFW 479 (New 01/2025))” is incorporated by reference.
- Add Section 679.2 “Transportation and Confinement of Live Wild Animals” to establish requirements for the temporary confinement of wildlife for the purpose of transporting to a permitted wildlife rehabilitator.
- Add Section 679.3 “Permits for Wildlife Rehabilitation” to establish the requirements for becoming a permitted wildlife rehabilitator.
- Add Section 679.4 “Facility and Housing Standards” to establish the requirements for the operation of any wildlife rehabilitation facility, and the housing and enclosure requirements for rehabilitation animals. Add “679 Wildlife Rehabilitation Regulation Manual, Chapter 2 (New 01/2025)” to establish enclosure enrichment requirements and the requirements for minimum enclosure size for pre-release conditioning and neonate rehabilitation animals.
- Add Section 679.5 “Humane Care Standards” to establish requirements for the humane care and treatment of rehabilitation animals. Add “679 Wildlife Rehabilitation Regulation Manual, Chapter 3 (New 01/2025)” to establish the requirements for care and treatment standards, and diseases of concern, for rehabilitation animals.
- Add Section 679.6 “Release of Animals into the Wild” to establish the requirements for the release of native wildlife returned to the wild, and guidelines for animals not native to California.

Melissa Miller-Henson, Executive Director  
Fish and Game Commission  
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- Add Section 679.7 “Inspection of Wildlife Rehabilitation Facilities” to establish the requirements for the inspection of wildlife rehabilitation facilities, enclosures, rehabilitation animals, and required records by the department, or their designee, and permittees or their designee.
- Add Sections 679.8 “Seizure of Animals” and 679.9 “Revocation of Permit, Sub-Permit, or Variance Request” to establish and clarify departmental authority to seize live animals, and to deny or revoke a permit, sub-permit, or variance.
- Amend subsection 703(c) adding the fees for rehabilitation permit applications.

The purpose of the proposed regulations is to update the requirements for the temporary possession and rehabilitation of injured, sick, and orphaned wildlife for the purpose of their release to the wild. Further, these proposed regulations are intended to address the deficiencies and issues that have been observed by the Department in the humane care and treatment of these wild animals. These provisions are necessary since the requirements, acceptable standards, and best practices for wildlife rehabilitation have changed significantly since the last minor regulation change in 2007.

Additionally, the new regulations (679.1(k)) incorporate by reference Chapter 2 and Chapter 3 of the new form DFW 479 entitled the “Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual”. The manual is a resource for the rehabilitation permittees and public setting forth the requirements for the temporary habitat and care of the wildlife in the permittee’s possession.

The Department has attached, as Exhibits to this rulemaking, 13 new forms which are provided for the convenience of the applicants. The language of these regulations detail the required information and content of different wildlife rehabilitation permit application, variance request, and other required record forms. The forms contain the same information as the regulations and are therefore not incorporated by reference for inclusion in these proposed regulations.

If you have any questions regarding this item, please contact Scott Gardner, Branch Chief, by telephone at (916) 801-6257. The Department’s point of contact for public notice of this rulemaking is Vicky Monroe, Statewide Conflict Programs Coordinator. She can be reached by telephone at (916) 358-2790 or email at [Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov).

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State of California  
Fish and Game Commission  
Initial Statement of Reasons for Regulatory Action

Repeal Section 679

Add Sections 679.1, 679.2, 679.3, 679.4, 679.5, 679.6, 679.7, 679.8, 679.9, and  
Chapter 2 and Chapter 3 of the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual  
Title 14, California Code of Regulations  
Re: Possession of Wildlife and Wildlife Rehabilitation

I. Date of Initial Statement of Reasons: May 1, 2024

II. Dates and Locations of Scheduled Hearings

(a) Notice Hearing

Date: June 20, 2024

Location: Mammoth Lakes, CA

(b) Discussion Hearing

Date: October 10, 2024

Location: Sacramento, CA

(c) Adoption Hearing

Date: December 12, 2024

Location: San Diego, CA

III. Description of Regulatory Action

(a) Statement of Specific Purpose of Regulatory Change and Factual Basis for Determining that Regulation Change is Reasonably Necessary

*Unless otherwise specified, all section references in this document are to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR).*

The purpose of the proposed regulations is to update standards for the care and possession of injured and diseased wildlife, and to address issues regarding animal welfare and program administration by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) in the rehabilitation of these animals. This is necessary since the acceptable standards for wildlife rehabilitation facilities and veterinary care have changed.

The regulation change is a significant undertaking requiring the repeal of the current Section 679 Wildlife Rehabilitation (adopted in 1994 and amended in 2007). Proposed are nine new sections, 679.1 through 679.9, formation of a new wildlife rehabilitation regulations manual, and creation of new forms used by the Department for application, permitting, and continued monitoring of rehabilitation facilities.

The new regulations set forth in greater specificity and detail the necessary experience and expertise required of those persons whose care these animals are given, the relevant permitting processes, the level of treatment from intake to release, the facility requirements for appropriate safe and sanitary wildlife care, inspection standards, better defined authorities for Department administrative determinations, and the appeals processes for those decisions.

## **Background**

Under a wildlife rehabilitation permit, the Department authorizes qualified individuals, hereafter wildlife rehabilitators, to temporarily possess sick, injured, and orphaned wildlife for the purpose of rehabilitation to restore them to a condition of good health for their release to the wild or humane euthanasia to alleviate suffering, if deemed most appropriate, to protect animal welfare and native wildlife. Wildlife rehabilitators often work tirelessly to provide humane care and treatment to the most vulnerable of wild birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians with the goal to release them to the wild. Currently, there are 80 permitted wildlife rehabilitators operating wildlife rehabilitation facilities in California in addition to approximately 550 satellite facilities operated by sub-permittees under their permit. Approximately 100,000 animals are rehabilitated every year by these facilities. Rehabilitated animals released from these facilities help to maintain and bolster wild native populations.

Minor updates to these regulations for wildlife rehabilitation were made in 2007. Since those regulations were written, standards for wildlife facilities and veterinary care have changed. Both the Department and the Fish and Game Commission (Commission) are invested in bringing these regulations up to date to meet new standards and establishing new regulations to address issues that have been observed in the care of native wild animals in the past.

Currently, the Department approves and issues a permit in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to those wildlife rehabilitation facilities which meet the wildlife care standards set forth in the Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation, 2000, Third Edition manual published jointly by the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council and the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association; or as provided in the MOU. The current permit requirements and processes do not meet the needs of California's wildlife rehabilitators, the ethical standards that they strive to maintain, or the native wild animals that they rehabilitate and return to the wild. Nor do they meet the current needs of the Department in administering and monitoring the program.

## **Current Regulations**

Fish and Game Code (FGC), Section 200, authorizes the Commission to regulate the taking or possession of wild birds, mammals, fish, amphibians, and reptiles, which includes possession for the purpose of rehabilitation. FGC Section 1050 authorizes the Department to prepare and issue a permit to a person, granting certain privileges under that permit. FGC Section 2118 prohibits the import, transport, possess, or release alive of any wild

animal in California, except under a revocable, nontransferable permit. FGC Section 3005.5 subdivision (b) authorizes the Commission to promulgate regulations permitting the temporary confinement of game mammals, game birds, nongame birds, nongame mammals, or furbearers for the purpose of treating the animals, if injured or diseased.

Section 679 currently establishes the requirements by which the Department issues permits specific to the temporary confinement, possession, and release of wild animals for the purpose of wildlife rehabilitation. The regulations state that the Department may approve and issue a permit in the form of a MOU to those wildlife rehabilitation facilities which meet the wildlife care standards. These standards are set forth in the Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation, 2000, Third Edition manual; or as provided in the MOU. Applicants may submit permit applications using the “Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit Application/Renewal form,” FG 542. The proposal deletes the current application form.

Section 679 outlines 1) a general prohibition on the possession of any live game mammal or bird, nongame mammal or bird, furbearer, reptile or amphibian except as provided in subsection (b) or as otherwise authorized; 2) requirements for the temporary confinement of injured, diseased or orphaned animals; 3) a prohibition on the possession of big game mammals listed in Section 350 or any fully protected, endangered or threatened bird, mammal, fish, reptile or amphibian except under permit or written authorization from the department; 4) a general prohibition on picking up disabled wildlife in a Department designated oil/toxic spill area.

Further, the current regulations provide:

- 1) definition of Wildlife Rehabilitation Facilities.
- 2) the application requirements for the Department to approve and issue a permit in the form of a MOU to wildlife rehabilitation facilities which meet the standards set forth in the Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation Manual (3<sup>rd</sup> edition), 2000.
- 3) the provisions related to the operation of a wildlife rehabilitation facility.
- 4) the requirements for reporting dead or disease animals, record keeping, and the release of wildlife back into the wild; and
- 5) compliance requirements with other restrictions and federal, state, city, or county law, ordinance, or regulations.

### **Proposed Regulations**

The Commission proposes to repeal Section 679, Title 14, CCR and form DFG 542 (03/07), and add new Sections 679.1 through 679.9 and incorporate by reference Chapters 2 and 3 of the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual (New DFW 479, 01/2025), hereafter “DFW 679 Manual”.

The proposed additions to Title 14, CCR, recommended by the Department are described below by section and corresponding subsections. The proposed additions, as described herein, are organized into “parts” with statements of specific purpose of regulatory change

and factual basis for determining that regulation change is necessary for each section and corresponding subsection.

**1. Part 1.**

- Add Section 679.1
- Section 679.2
- Section 679.3

**2. Part 2.**

- Add Section 679.4
- Add Chapter 2 of the DFW 679 Manual

**3. Part 3.**

- Add Section 679.5
- Add Chapter 3 of the DFW 679 Manual

**4. Part 4.**

- Add Section 679.6
- Section 679.7
- Section 679.8
- Section 679.9

**Part 1. Add Sections 679.1, 679.2, and 679.3**

**Subsection 679.1 (a), Definitions.**

Adds subsections (a) through (z) to define the following terms in Section 679.1: "animal welfare," "authorized person," "animal welfare," "authorized person," "conspecific," "designee," "eagle and falcon specialty rehabilitation," "enrichment," "euthanasia," "habituated," "large carnivore specialty rehabilitation," "mal-imprinted," "neonate," "non-releasable animal," "orphan," "permit," "qualified handler," "rehabilitation animal," "required record," "satellite facility," "specialty rehabilitation permit," "sub-permit," "ungulate specialty rehabilitation," "venomous snake specialty rehabilitation," "veterinarian of record," "wildlife rehabilitation," "wildlife rehabilitation facility," and "native wildlife rehabilitation regulations manual." The purpose of defining these terms is to provide specificity and clarity to make it easier for individuals to follow and comply with the regulations, thereby minimizing enforcement issues.

- Add subsection (a) to define "Animal Welfare." This provision is necessary to clarify that certain conditions must be met to provide for an animal's physical and behavioral needs, and ability to express its innate behavior.
- Add subsection (b) to define "Authorized Person." This provision is necessary to clarify personnel temporarily possessing a wild animal under a permit for the purposes of rehabilitation demonstrate the minimum qualifications necessary required to maintain the welfare of each animal.

- Add subsection (c) to define “Conspecific.” This provision is necessary to clarify potentially compatible animals of the same species that may be housed together if the welfare of each animal can be maintained.
- Add subsection (d) to define “Designee.” This provision is necessary to clarify the requirements and conditions necessary for a person to oversee the daily operations of wildlife rehabilitation facility maintained under another persons’ wildlife rehabilitation permit.
- Add subsection (e) to define “Eagle and Falcon Specialty Rehabilitation.” This provision is necessary to establish and clarify the conditions required to maintain and improve the welfare of each eagle and falcon which require specialized experience to manage.
- Add subsection (f) to define “Enrichment.” This provision is necessary as without proper enrichment, an animal is unable to display its natural behaviors and will not be able to be successfully released into the wild (See Attachment 10, Figure 1).
- Add subsection (g) to define “Euthanasia.” This provision is necessary to clarify the requirements and conditions necessary to maintain the welfare of each animal (See Attachment 9, Figure 9).
- Add subsection (h) to define “Habituated.” This is necessary as an animal that becomes habituated is not suitable for release into the wild as it will seek out humans to provide food and will come into conflict with humans or domestic animals.
- Add subsection (i) to define “Large Carnivore Specialty Rehabilitation.” This provision is necessary to clarify the requirements and conditions necessary to maintain the welfare of large carnivores as these species require specialized care and experience to manage safely (See Attachment 9, Table 5).
- Add subsection (j) to define “Mal-imprinted.” This is necessary as a mal-imprinted animal is unable to survive on its own in the wild and therefore cannot be released.
- Add subsection (k) to establish the “679 Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Regulations Manual” as a resource (New Form DFW 479) to be made readily available on the department website that incorporates Chapters 2 and 3 of the DFW 679 Manual in these regulations. This provision is necessary to clarify what form can be consulted to find information on wildlife rehabilitation activities and where the form can be found and accessed.
- Add subsection (l) to define “Neonate.” This provision is necessary as neonate animals are unable to survive without parental care and therefore cannot be released until they reach an age that they can care for themselves.
- Add subsection (m) to define “Non-releasable Animal.” This provision is necessary to clarify when a rehabilitation animal should not be released to the wild. Releasing an animal that is not able to survive and thrive on its own is inhumane and does not maintain the welfare of the animal.

- Add subsection (n) to define “Orphan.” This is necessary as an orphan animal that is unable to survive without parental care cannot be released until it reaches an age that it can self-feed and display the natural life history of its species to survive in the wild.
- Add subsection (o) to define “Permit.” This provision is necessary to clarify the role of an individual receiving a permit pursuant to Section 679.3(a) from other individuals involved in wildlife rehabilitation.
- Add subsection (p) to define “Qualified Handler.” This provision is necessary to clarify that only individuals with sufficient experience are qualified to safely manage some rehabilitation animals. This is to prevent injury to both the rehabilitation animal and the handler (See Attachment 9, Figure 5).
- Add subsection (q) to define “Rehabilitation Animal.” This provision is necessary to clearly define what a rehabilitation animal is relative to other animals (non-native species, feral domestic animals, etc.) that may be mistaken by the public as injured, ill, or orphaned wildlife.
- Add subsection (r) to define “Required Record.” This provision is necessary to clarify what records and documents a permittee or sub-permittee is required to keep on file and to differentiate them from the records that are not required to be kept.
- Add subsection (s) to define “Satellite Facility.” This provision is necessary to distinguish a wildlife rehabilitation facility operated by a sub-permittee from a wildlife rehabilitation facility operated by a permittee.
- Add subsection (t) to define “Specialty Rehabilitation Permit.” This provision is necessary as these species require highly specialized care. Individuals caring for these species need to have additional training and experience specific to these animals to ensure the safety of the animal and individuals caring for it.
- Add subsection (u) to define “Sub-permit.” This provision is necessary to clarify the role, responsibilities, and requirements of a person (a sub-permittee) operating a satellite facility under the permittee’s permit.
- Add subsection (v) to define “Ungulate Specialty Rehabilitation.” This provision is necessary as ungulates require highly specialized care and any person temporarily possessing these animals for the purposes of rehabilitation needs specific training and experience to manage these animals safely.
- Add subsection (w) to define “Venomous Snake Specialty Rehabilitation.” This provision is necessary as venomous snakes require exceptional care and individuals need specific training and experience to manage these animals safely.
- Add subsection (x) to define “Veterinarian of Record.” This provision is necessary to clarify that some wildlife rehabilitation activities, such as surgery, must be performed by a licensed veterinarian with experience in caring for wildlife.

- Add subsection (y) to define “Wildlife Rehabilitation.” This provision is necessary to clarify what wildlife rehabilitation is and to differentiate it from other animal care activities for domestic, or feral domestic, animals (See Attachment 9, Figure 8).
- Add subsection (z) to define “Wildlife Rehabilitation Facility.” This provision is necessary to clarify the conditions necessary to maintain the welfare of each animal and the requirements subject to the provisions in the new regulations. This provision is necessary to clarify what a wildlife rehabilitation facility is and to distinguish it from other locations where wildlife rehabilitation activities may occur.

### **Section 679.2; Transportation and Confinement of Live Wild Animals.**

- Add subsection (a) “Temporary Confinement of Wild Animals”: establishes the requirements under which the public (i.e., non-wildlife rehabilitators) can temporarily confine and transfer a sick, injured, or orphaned wild animal to a permitted wildlife rehabilitator. Additionally, this provision establishes that a licensed veterinarian may temporarily confine a sick, injured, or orphaned wild animal for up to 48 hours if providing stabilizing care before transferring to a permitted wildlife rehabilitator. This is necessary so wildlife may be brought to rehabilitation facilities since most facilities do not have the capability to pick up animals from their original location. This subsection further specifies that a person convicted of a crime of moral turpitude or animal cruelty is prevented from temporarily confining or transporting wild animals. This is necessary to prevent persons convicted of a serious crime (particularly, but not exclusively, those against animals) from endangering native wildlife by temporarily confining or transporting a wild animal.
- Add subsection (a)(1): this provision establishes that a person must contact a permitted wildlife rehabilitator or the department within 24 hours of confining any sick, injured, or orphaned wild animal and provide the relevant information needed by the wildlife rehabilitator or their designee to provide the best guidance or assistance. This provision is necessary to inform facilities of a potential incoming patient or to redirect the person to a more appropriate facility, and to ensure that the sick, injured, or orphaned wild animal has proper care and treatment as soon as possible, and to protect native wildlife, animal welfare, and human health, or safety.
- Add subsection (a)(2): this provision establishes the requirements for a licensed veterinarian without a wildlife rehabilitation permit to receive, temporarily confine, and care for an injured, sick, or orphaned wild animal. This provision recognizes that veterinarians have a higher degree of medical training, including the capability to perform advanced medical treatments, and is necessary to protect animal welfare and native wildlife by prohibiting non-essential invasive medical procedures and by requiring appropriate recordkeeping to ensure continuity of care once transported to a wildlife rehabilitator.
- Add subsection (a)(3): “Animals not Native to California” establishes that certain species or taxa known by the state of California to be invasive species cannot be temporarily confined or transported by any member of the public for the purpose of rehabilitation and release to the wild. This provision is necessary for the department to ensure that

wildlife rehabilitation activities do not cause serious harm to native wildlife, biodiversity, agriculture interests, or the health and safety of humans.

- Add subsection (a)(4): this provision establishes that a person who, as part of a lawful trapping activity, has confined a wild animal in a trap and found it to be injured, diseased, orphaned may transport that animal to a wildlife rehabilitation facility. This subsection is necessary to clarify that wild animals taken by a legal trapping activity may be taken to a wildlife rehabilitator for the purpose of restoring it to a condition of good health for its release back to the wild.
- Add subsection (b): “Prohibition on Possession of Big Game Mammals, Exotic Game Mammals or Fully Protected, Threatened or Endangered Species Except Under Department Permit” establishes the conditions that prohibit any person from temporarily confining or possessing these species without authorization from the department. This provision is necessary because handling, transporting, and rehabilitating these animals requires specialized equipment and/or training, or because of their unique designations under the Fish and Game Code (See Attachment 9, Figure 5).
- Add subsection (c): “Disabled Wildlife in an Oil/Toxic Spill Area” establishes that only individuals with proper incident authorization and a permit issued pursuant to Section 679.3 may enter an oil/toxic spill area to confine and transport impacted wildlife for wildlife rehabilitation. This provision is necessary to inform the public about the authorization to remove impacted wildlife from an oil/toxic spill incident, since oil spill wildlife care and rehabilitation requires specialized training regarding oiled animal care, human safety, and how to operate within the administration structures of an emergency incident command system.

### **Section 679.3. Permits for Wildlife Rehabilitation.**

- Add subsection (a): “Permit” establishes the process by which the department may issue or amend a permit, for up to a period of 3 years, authorizing a person to temporarily possess wildlife for the purpose of rehabilitation. The Commission has determined, based on the department’s experience, that a permit may require amendment at any time during the 3-year valid period, such as a specialty rehabilitation authorization or new sub-permit. This provision is necessary to establish the qualification criteria and documentation required by the department to determine if such a request meets all conditions to protect animal welfare, native wildlife, human health, and safety.
- Add subsection (a)(1): “Limited Scope” establishes that a wildlife rehabilitation permit is not transferable between individuals and does not supersede any law or other permit requirements. This provision is necessary to ensure that a permit is not improperly transferred between individuals, since permits are highly individualized with respect to the permittee, and that all activities performed under a permit are lawful.



- Add subsection (a)(2): “Qualifications” establishes that a wildlife rehabilitation permit applicant must be a resident of California, possess the specified qualifications, and be 21 years of age to qualify for and be issued a permit. This provision is necessary to clarify that an applicant must be a legal adult with the maturity to operate a wildlife rehabilitation facility safely and properly in a manner that accounts for fiscal responsibility and liability. Further, this provision is necessary to ensure that a permit holder is a legal state resident such that the department can properly enforce the requirements of these regulations.
- Add subsection (a)(3): “Conferring” establishes the process by which the department verifies the veracity of any required information during the application process. This provision is necessary to verify that information provided by an applicant on a wildlife rehabilitation permit application is true and accurate.
- Add subsection (a)(4): “Initial Request” establishes the first step in the wildlife rehabilitation permit application process. This provision is necessary for the department to evaluate the potential need for a new facility and, if so that an applicant may proceed with the next steps in the application process. This will prevent the department from having to put limited resources into administering facilities where they are not needed.
- Add subsection (a)(4)(A): establishes the requirement of an applicant to submit two letters of recommendation from qualified professionals with relevant wildlife rehabilitation experience and expertise. This provision is necessary for the department to determine the need for a new wildlife rehabilitation facility in the local area where the applicant resides.
- Add subsection (a)(4)(B): establishes the requirement of an applicant to submit a list of the species they propose to accept for intake and rehabilitation. This provision is necessary for the department to understand the wildlife rehabilitation services being proposed in the local area.
- Add subsection (a)(4)(C): establishes the qualifications required to demonstrate the expertise needed to successfully rehabilitate wildlife for their release to the wild. This provision is necessary because at least 1,000 hours of relevant experience gained within 5 years of the approval request date is reasonable, in the judgement of the Commission based on the department’s experience, to ensure an applicant knows current wildlife rehabilitation best practices. Furthermore, this 1,000-hour minimum experience requirement is an accepted standard used by half of all states (45%).
- Add subsection (a)(4)(D): establishes the department’s notification process for an initial permit application request and specifies that no wildlife may be temporarily possessed or rehabilitated until a permit is issued by the department. This provision is necessary to clarify how and when the department may approve such a request and to ensure that applicants understand that approval of an initial request alone does not permit them to possess wildlife for the purpose of rehabilitation.

- Add subsection (a)(5): “Wildlife Rehabilitation Examination” establishes the requirement of an applicant to take the free California State Wildlife Rehabilitation Examination administered by the department. This provision is necessary for the department to evaluate an applicant’s ability to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of both generalized knowledge and competence to rehabilitate wildlife, and of various requirements under these regulations.
- Add subsection (a)(5)(A): this provision establishes which persons are required to take the wildlife rehabilitation examination as part of the application process. This provision is necessary so that individuals understand the examination requirement for a new or existing permit.
- Add subsection (a)(5)(B): this provision establishes the process for an applicant to pass the wildlife rehabilitation examination, including the minimum passing score, the timeframe a passing score is valid, and the timeframe to retake the examination if the applicant has failed the examination. This provision is necessary so that an applicant understands what score they need to pass the examination, how long a passing score is valid for, and what the process is for retaking the exam if they do not pass. A limited period to retake the exam after failure is necessary because wildlife care standards change and are updated frequently.
- Add subsection (a)(5)(C): “Unauthorized Communication, Publication, and Sharing Penalties” establishes the process by which the department addresses potential unauthorized sharing or reproduction of examination content by any person, including any penalties related to such unauthorized activities. This provision is necessary because the department has experienced cheating activity on other similar qualification examinations, and the Commission has determined based on the department’s experience, the act of cheating demonstrates a lack of expertise and a failure to meet the standards necessary to comply with the rule of law. This provision is necessary so that an individual understands the consequences of unauthorized communication about the examination.
- Add subsection (a)(6): “Final Approval” establishes the process for an applicant who has passed the wildlife rehabilitation examination to submit the essential information for the department to review and determine if all requirements are met to issue a wildlife rehabilitation permit. The following provisions are necessary to clarify the required contents of an application packet, how to submit the application, and associated fees.
- Add subsection (a)(6)(A): this provision establishes the required information to be submitted on a specified wildlife rehabilitation permit application form.
- Add subsection (a)(6)(A)1. “Applicant and Facility Information” requires an applicant to provide the following information: applicant information, required experience, public contact information, and designee information. This provision is necessary for the Department to create and maintain an ALDS customer profile for tracking purposes.

- Add subsection (a)(6)(A)2. “Required Experience” requires an applicant to provide professional references and a brief description of their relevant experience that may include volunteer or work experience and education in related fields that may be relevant. This provision is necessary to ensure that the applicant has met the required minimum hours of experience needed to protect animal welfare and native wildlife. This submission is a more detailed account of experience than is required for the initial approval, to ensure that the instruction meets the proper standards of education.
- Add subsection (a)(6)(A)3. “Public Contact Information” requires an applicant to provide contact information for the proposed facility that may be posted publicly on the department website. This provision is necessary for the department to track what information it may provide to the public.
- Add subsection (a)(6)(A)4. “Designee Information” requires an applicant to identify the name and contact information of a person that may oversee facility operations on their behalf under the permit. This provision is necessary for the department to have a contact to ensure that all requirements are met, if the applicant wishes to so designate another person.
- Add subsection (a)(6)(A)5. “Proposed Rehabilitation Animals” establishes information from an applicant specific to the species or taxonomic group they propose to rehabilitate and the maximum number (capacity) that may be temporarily possessed at one time at the proposed facility. This provision is necessary to clarify the required standards, as well as the relevant federal permits that may be required.
- Add subsection (a)(6)(A)6. “Declaration of Pre-release Enclosures” requires submission of animal enclosure details, which are necessary to establish that pre-release conditioning enclosures have been or will be constructed in accordance with the requirements listed in the DFW 679 Manual, or variances will be sought for any deviations.
- Add subsection (a)(6)(A)7. “Facility Operation Plan” establishes the standard operating procedures enumerated therein which are necessary for the wellbeing and responsible care of wildlife. The applicant must specify the standard operating procedures that include data storage method, euthanasia, staff and volunteer training, intake and triage, humane care, biosafety plan, and a contingency plan. This provision is necessary for the department to ensure that rehabilitation facilities will have a specific, enumerated strategy to provide for the wellbeing and responsible care of rehabilitation animals.
- Add subsection (a)(6)(A)8. “Acknowledgement and Signature” requires that the person completing the form certifies that the information is true and correct, and that the possession of any wildlife is lawful. The applicant must sign the form accordingly. This provision is necessary for the department to ensure that an applicant provides accurate information as required per FGC section 2353.

- Add subsection (a)(6)(B): “Veterinarian of Record Agreement” establishes in writing the necessary applicant and veterinarian information and responsibilities under their respective roles, in addition to the services that the licensed veterinarian agrees to provide to the applicant as their Veterinarian of Record. This provision is necessary to ensure the continued medical care of wildlife under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian.
- Add subsection (a)(6)(C): “List of Persons” establishes for all personnel identified by the permittee to fulfill all the responsibilities of the permittee. This provision is necessary for the Department to determine that there are sufficient personnel available and professionally trained to provide care for all wild animals temporarily possessed for the purposes of rehabilitation. The requirement that individuals may not be listed under multiple permits will ensure that personnel are not overcommitted.
- Add subsection (a)(6)(D): “Facility Emergency Action Plan” establishes what information an applicant must provide for facility emergency preparedness. The applicant must provide contact and facility information for emergency protocols including animal capture equipment, animal transport equipment, animal emergency supplies, facility safety and emergency alert, list of local emergency telephone numbers, personnel evacuation leads, and evacuation protocol. This provision is necessary to ensure prior planning for the attendant personnel to act quickly to preserve their lives and the lives of the wildlife in their care in the event of an emergency.
- Add subsection (a)(6)(E): “Authorization to Access Property” establishes that the property owner agrees to allow Department access to the premises for inspection. This provision is necessary so that the applicant/permittee and property owner both have agreed to allow access to the department, so that the department may inspect the wildlife possessed under the auspices of the permit and may assess compliance with all laws and regulations.
- Add subsection (a)(6)(F): “Compliance with Local Laws” establishes the requirement for an applicant to provide written proof that their proposed facility does not violate any local laws such as zoning. This provision is necessary for the department to ensure all requirements are met prior to issuing a permit.
- Add subsection (a)(7): “Issuance of Permit” establishes that the department shall issue a permit that is valid for 3 years if an applicant meets all requirements listed and passes a facility inspection. The Commission has determined, based on the department’s experience, that 3 years is a reasonable and appropriate term for the permit to be valid; it strikes a balance between ensuring that facilities are meeting permitting standards and not making the renewal or inspection process too onerous for the permit holder or the department. The permit will further specify which taxonomic group or species of rehabilitation animal an applicant is authorized to temporarily possess. This authorization is necessary to protect native wildlife, animal welfare, human health and safety, or agriculture interests, by ensuring that rehabilitators’ experience, training, and infrastructure match the species they are permitted to possess.

- Add subsection (a)(8): “Renewal of Permit” establishes the renewal process for the permittee or their designee and the process for permits that have expired. This provision is necessary to clarify all renewal application requirements.
- Add subsection (a)(9): through subsection (a)(9)(C) “Facility Change” establishes the application requirements when the permittee with an existing permit applies to move the current facility or open a secondary location. These provisions are necessary to clarify all permit amendment requirements.
- Add subsection (a)(10): “Permit Fees” establishes the authority for the department to require a fee with the application package. This provision is necessary to clarify any costs associated with the application process.
- Add subsection (a)(10)(A): “New Permit Fees” establishes the authority for the department to require a nonrefundable application fee and an inspection fee for new permits. The inspection fee is refundable if the application is denied, and an inspection is not performed. This provision is necessary to clarify any costs associated with applying for a new permit.
- Add subsection (a)(10)(B): “Permit Amendment Fees” establishes the authority for the department to require a nonrefundable application fee and an inspection fee for permit amendment requests. The inspection fee is refundable if the permit amendment request is denied, and an inspection is not performed. This provision is necessary to clarify any costs associated with amending a permit.
- Add subsection (a)(10)(C): “Permit Renewal Fee” establishes the authority for the department to require a nonrefundable renewal fee. There is not an inspection fee for a permit renewal. This provision is necessary to clarify any costs associated with applying for a new permit.
- Add subsection (b): “Specialty Rehabilitation Authorization” establishes that the department may authorize a permittee to temporarily possess specialty rehabilitation animals if such persons meet certain requirements. This is necessary so that the applicant can demonstrate the specialized knowledge needed to rehabilitate specialty animals and their capacity to protect native wildlife, animal welfare, human health or safety, and agriculture interests (See Attachment 9, Figure 5).
- Add subsection (b)(1): “Examination” establishes that applicants for specialty rehabilitation must pass the California state wildlife rehabilitation examination. This is necessary to demonstrate the applicant’s ability to provide the required specialty rehabilitation care.
- Add subsection (b)(2): “Application Packet” establishes the required information necessary for an applicant to apply for a specialty rehabilitation authorization for their permit. The applicant must provide information including required experience, proposed specialty rehabilitation animals, declaration of pre-release enclosures, qualified handlers, veterinarian of record agreement, emergency action plan, authorization to access property, and proof of compliance with local zoning laws. The information is

necessary for the department to determine if the applicant meets all requirements for specialty rehabilitation authorization.

- Add subsection (b)(3): “Final Approval” establishes the process for the department to amend an existing permit with a specialty rehabilitation authorization if an application meets all application requirements. This provision is necessary to specify the specialty rehabilitation authorization process.
- Add subsection (c) “Sub-Permit” establishes the process for an applicant to apply for a sub-permit under a valid wildlife rehabilitation permit. This provision is necessary to ensure that all requirements are met.
- Add subsection (c)(1): establishes the information required in a sub-permit application packet including: sub-permit application form, sub-permittee and satellite facility information, required experience, proposed rehabilitation animals, declaration of enclosures, and facility operation plan. This provision is necessary for the department to determine if the applicant meets all the requirements of a sub-permit.
- Add subsection (c)(2) “Approval of Sub-Permit” establishes the provision for the department to amend an existing permit if a sub-permit applicant meets all application and inspection requirements. This provision is necessary to specify the sub-permit application process.
- Add subsection (d): “Denial of Permit, Sub-permit, or Specialty Rehabilitation Authorization” establishes the standards and criteria for department denial of a wildlife rehabilitation permit, sub-permit, or specialty rehabilitation authorization. These provisions are necessary to specify reasons for which the department will deny an application.
- Add subsection (e): “Transition Period” establishes a provision that provides currently permitted wildlife rehabilitators a six-month period to comply with new requirements. This provision is necessary to allow individuals time to meet the new regulation requirements or to request a variance. In the department’s estimation, 90% or more of current permit holders meet or exceed the requirements of these proposed regulations.

## **Part 2. Add Section 679.4 and Chapter 2 of the DFW 679 Manual (New form, 01/2025)**

### **Section 679.4 Facility and Enclosure Standards for Rehabilitation Animals.**

- Add subsection (a): “Provisions Related to the Operation of a Wildlife Rehabilitation Facility” establishes the requirements of an individual to operate a wildlife rehabilitation facility and/or satellite facility with conditions necessary to protect native wildlife, animal welfare, human health, and human safety in California.
- Add subsection (a)(1): “Responsibility for Costs Incurred” establishes that all wildlife rehabilitation costs incurred under the permit are the responsibility of the permit holder. This requirement is necessary to establish financial responsibility for permitted wildlife rehabilitation activities and to inform the public of the requirements under these regulations.

- Add subsection (a)(2): “Liability” establishes that all claims, losses, or associated risk and liability associated with the treatment, confinement or transportation of wildlife under the permit are the responsibility of the permit holder. This provision is necessary to clarify the financial and legal obligations associated with the temporary possession of any wild animal for the purpose of rehabilitation, and to indemnify the department and Commission from any losses.
- Add subsection (a)(3): “Continuing Education” establishes that a permittee, their designee, and sub-permittees must complete 8 hours of wildlife rehabilitation training each year. This provision is necessary for wildlife rehabilitators to stay current with best practices, accepted techniques, and the latest advancements in wildlife rehabilitation and are relevant to maintain their facility operations and protect animal welfare, native wildlife, human health, and human safety.
- Add subsection (a)(4): “Display of Permit and Emergency Action Plan” establishes the requirement for an individual to visibly display relevant permits. The provision also requires the written facility emergency action plan. These provisions are necessary to assure the public that wildlife rehabilitation facilities are legitimate, authorized facilities and, in case of an emergency, to protect the welfare of each rehabilitation animal, as well as the health and safety of all personnel and the public.
- Add subsection (a)(5): “Required Records” establishes the requirements for an individual to retain written or electronic records. This provision is necessary to ensure proper recordkeeping under the state permit and to comply with the US Fish and Wildlife Service Migratory Bird permit 5-year record retention requirements.
- Add subsection (a)(5)(A): “Annual Report” establishes the requirement to draft and submit an annual report to the department. This provision is necessary so the department can track the activities of rehabilitators, to understand the operations of both individual facilities and the rehabilitation program, detect trends in rehabilitated species and outcomes, monitor rehabilitator training, and maintain awareness of rehabilitated raptors under the care of licensed falconers.
- Add subsection (a)(5)(B): “Availability of Records” establishes the requirement to furnish required records to the department within 3 days. This is necessary so the department can obtain information from permit holders and their personnel in a timely fashion, for the purposes of monitoring, enforcement, compliance with these regulations, and for general administration of the wildlife rehabilitation program.
- Add subsection (a)(6): “Operational Changes” establishes the requirements for an individual to notify the department of any changes under the permit. This provision is necessary to ensure that the department is aware of any changes to a permitted facility that may impact animal care and welfare and to maintain updated contact information.

- Add subsection (a)(7): “Compliance with Other Restrictions” establishes that all wildlife rehabilitation activities performed under a valid state permit must not violate any other federal, state, or local law. This provision is necessary to clarify to the public and a permittee that a wildlife rehabilitation permit does not allow someone to take or possess any wild animal if doing so is a violation of the Fish and Game Code or any other law.
- Add subsection (a)(8): This provision establishes the requirements to notify the department of receiving a large carnivore, or federally or state listed species. This provision is necessary to ensure that the department is notified in a timely fashion whenever a specially protected species, species listed pursuant to the federal or California Endangered Species Act, or any large carnivore, is received, because handling, transporting, and rehabilitating these animals requires specialized equipment and/or training, or because of their unique designations under the Fish and Game Code.
- Add subsection (b): “Enclosure Requirements” establishes the requirements to obtain, construct, and maintain enclosures for wildlife rehabilitation. Additionally, requirements for housing conspecific and non-conspecific animals are specified. These provisions are necessary to ensure that the minimum requirements to maintain animal welfare are maintained through compliance with the requirements listed in the DFW 679 Manual, including limiting the possibility of escapees, avoiding the proliferating of populations under rehabilitation, preventing flooding which could cause injury and/or disease, allowing contact between animals which may co-occur when beneficial and disallowing it when detrimental, and maintaining adequate environmental conditions for animal housing (See Attachment 9, Figure 7).
- Add subsection (c): “Variances to Enclosure Requirements” establishes the process of requesting a variance approval for any enclosure that differs in construction design or construction materials of the requirements listed in the DFW 679 Manual. This provision is necessary to specify standards in which a variance may be requested and what documentation is necessary.
- Add subsection (c)(1): establishes the conditions for department approval of an enclosure variance request and that specific terms and conditions may be imposed. This provision is necessary to clarify that all conditions must be met to protect the safety and well-being of each rehabilitation animal that may be housed in an enclosure that may differ from the minimum enclosure requirements, and to further clarify that enclosures must follow all regulations that are outside the scope of the variance (See Attachment 9, Figure 1).
- Add subsection (c)(2): establishes the conditions for department denial of an enclosure variance request and the requirement to modify, replace, or remove such an enclosure subject to a variance denial. This provision is necessary so that substandard housing is not used if the department determines that the variance request will not maintain the health of the wild animal or human safety.



- Add subsection (c)(3): establishes that an individual shall maintain documentation of an approved variance request and provide upon request to department staff. This provision is necessary to document approved variance requests during an inspection, so that inspectors can be apprised when deviations from standard requirements are in effect.
- Add subsection (d): establishes that a violation of Chapter 2 of the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual shall be considered a violation of Section 679.4. This provision is necessary to ensure that law enforcement officers can easily cite violations of regulations in the manual.

### **Chapter 2 of the DFW 679 Manual (New form, 01/2025)**

- Add Chapter 2 (a): “Enclosure Requirements” establishes the requirements to maintain enclosures with the conditions specified for each taxonomic group or species (See Attachment 9, Figure 5).
- Add Chapter 2 (a)(1) establishes that a wildlife rehabilitator shall know the basic life history of the wild animal they temporarily possess for the purpose of rehabilitation and release to the wild. This provision is necessary to ensure there is sufficient knowledge to maintain and improve the welfare of each animal.
- Add Chapter 2 (a)(2): establishes that each enclosure shall have visual and physical separation between rehabilitation animals, other animals, and people. This provision is necessary to reduce rehabilitation animal stress and minimize the risk of habituation or mal imprinting of each animal (See Attachment 9, Figure 4, Figure 5; See Attachment 10, Figure 3).
- Add Chapter 2 (a)(3): establishes the requirement to use specific animal enclosure types based on the stage of rehabilitation of the animal. This provision is necessary to ensure that neonate animals, limited mobility animals, and pre-release conditioning animals are housed in enclosures that are appropriate to their age class and stage of rehabilitation (See Attachment 9, Figure 5; Attachment 10, Figure 7).
- Add Chapter 2 (a)(4): establishes that a variance must be requested for the use of any enclosures that do not meet the requirements. This provision is necessary to facilitate department review of any variance request and to ensure that a variance will maintain and improve the welfare of any rehabilitation animal potentially affected by that variance.
- Add Chapter 2 (a)(5): establishes that an approved variance will have terms and conditions required by the department. This provision is necessary to allow the department to approve, modify, or deny any request for a variance to ensure such a variance will maintain and improve the welfare of each rehabilitation animal potentially affected by that variance.
- Add Chapter 2 (a)(6): establishes that any existing variances will be reviewed by the department at the time of permit renewal. This provision is necessary to ensure that a variance continues to maintain and improve the welfare of each rehabilitation animal potentially affected by that variance.

- Add Chapter 2 (b): “Rehabilitation Animal Enclosure Types. Table 4” establishes the requirements to maintain rehabilitation animal enclosures based on stage of rehabilitation. These provisions are necessary to protect native wildlife and animal welfare and specify the requirements at each stage of rehabilitation.
- Add Chapter 2 (c): “Amphibian and Reptile Requirements” establishes the minimum pre-release conditioning enclosure requirements for an amphibian and reptile must allow for each rehabilitation animal to display the natural life history of their species. This provision is necessary to protect animal welfare because the minimum enclosure size requirements are specific and unique to each individual amphibian and reptile. Enclosure sizes must allow for the full expression of the natural life history behaviors each rehabilitation animal needs to survive in the wild.
- Add Chapter 2 (d): “Pre-release Conditioning Enclosure Requirements; Amphibian and Reptiles. Table 5” establishes the specific enclosure requirements for a pre-release amphibian and reptile. These provisions are necessary to protect the welfare of native amphibians and reptiles and ensure that rehabilitation animals cannot escape. Enclosures must provide for the full expression of the natural life history behaviors each rehabilitation animal needs to survive in the wild.
- Add Chapter 2 (e)(1): establishes the minimum housing requirements for mammals. This provision is necessary to protect the welfare of each mammal and ensure that the enclosure requirements are specific and unique to each species. Adhering to the standards will ensure that enclosures can provide for the full expression of the natural life history behaviors each rehabilitation animal needs to survive in the wild and ensure that rehabilitation mammals cannot escape (See Attachment 9, Figure 7, Attachment 10, Figure 10).
- Add Chapter 2 (f): “Pre-release Conditioning Enclosure Requirement; Mammals. Table 6” establishes the pre-release conditioning enclosure and enrichment requirements for mammal species. These provisions are necessary to protect native wildlife and the welfare of mammal species, to ensure that rehabilitation mammals cannot escape, and to ensure that enclosures can provide for the full expression of the natural life history behaviors each rehabilitation mammal needs to survive in the wild (See Attachment 10, Figure 1 and Figure 10).
- Add Chapter 2 (g): “Minimum Enclosure Size Requirements for Neonate and Pre-release Conditioning Enclosures; Mammals. Table 7” establishes the minimum enclosure size requirements for mammal species. These provisions are necessary to protect native wildlife and the welfare of rehabilitation animals. Adhering to the standards will ensure that enclosures can provide for the full expression of the natural life history behaviors each rehabilitation animal needs to survive in the wild (See Attachment 10, Figure 7).
- Add Chapter 2 (h): “Bird Requirements” outlines some of the necessary knowledge a rehabilitator must possess to humanely and properly rehabilitate birds, including special considerations for waterbirds, and establishes the requirement to follow the minimum

pre-release conditioning enclosure sizes for birds. These provisions are necessary to allow rehabilitators to understand the enclosure needs for each bird temporarily possessed for rehabilitation so that it may display the physical and behavioral abilities it will need to survive in the wild (See Attachment 10, Figure 9, Figure 11).

- Add Chapter 2 (h)(1): establishes that a wildlife rehabilitator must know the distinction between neonate, juvenile, and adult bird species requirements. This provision is necessary to ensure that a wildlife rehabilitator can identify the type of specialized care at each stage of rehabilitation (See Attachment 10, Figure 9).
- Add Chapter 2 (h)(2): establishes that a wildlife rehabilitator shall know if a neonate bird is of a precocial or altricial species. This provision is necessary since the two types of neonates require specialized care unique to each type at that stage of rehabilitation.
- Add Chapter 2 (h)(3): establishes the conditions under which a wildlife rehabilitator shall classify a fledgling bird as a “juvenile”. This provision is necessary to protect animal welfare and ensure that a rehabilitation animal continues to receive the appropriate, specialized care required for that stage of rehabilitation.
- Chapter (h)(4): establishes that a wildlife rehabilitator shall adhere to all waterbird requirements. This provision is necessary to ensure that each waterbird can fully express the natural life history behaviors they need to survive in the wild (See Attachment 10, Figure 11B).
- Chapter (5): establishes that a wildlife rehabilitator shall adhere to specified requirements regarding bird enclosures. This provision is necessary to ensure that birds being temporarily possessed for rehabilitation have the proper enclosures and forms of enrichment to express their natural behaviors, to provide for animal welfare, and to prevent animal escapes (See Attachment 9, Figure 7; Attachment 10, Figure 1, Figure 8B, Figure 9, Figure 11).
- Add Chapter 2 (i): “Pre-release Conditioning Enclosure Requirements; Birds (excluding waterbirds). Table 8” establishes the specific enclosure requirements for pre-release conditioning bird species except for waterbirds. These provisions are necessary to ensure that enclosures allow for each rehabilitation bird to express the natural life history behaviors specific and unique to their species, to provide for animal welfare, and to prevent animal escapes (See Attachment 9, Figure 3; See Attachment 10, Figure 11A).
- Add Chapter 2 (j): “Minimum Enclosure Size Requirements for Neonate and Pre-release Conditioning Enclosures; Birds (notwithstanding waterbirds). Table 9” establishes the minimum enclosure size requirements for pre-release conditioning bird species except for waterbirds. These provisions are necessary to protect native wildlife and the welfare of rehabilitation animals. Adhering to the standards will ensure that enclosures can provide for the full expression of the natural life history behaviors each rehabilitation animal needs to survive in the wild (See Attachment 10, Figure 8B, Figure 9, Figure 11A).

- Add Chapter 2 (k): “Pre-release Conditioning Enclosure Requirements; Waterbirds. Table 10” establishes the specific requirements for each waterbird species enclosure. These provisions are necessary to protect native wildlife and the welfare of rehabilitation animals and to prevent animal escapes. Adhering to the standards will ensure that enclosures can provide for the full expression of the natural life history behaviors each rehabilitation animal needs to survive in the wild (See Attachment 9, Figure 3, See Attachment 10, Figure 11B).
- Add Chapter 2 (l): “Minimum Enclosure Size Requirements for Neonate and Pre-release Conditioning Enclosures; Waterbirds. Table 1” establishes the minimum enclosure size requirements for waterbird species. These provisions are necessary to protect native wildlife and the welfare of rehabilitation animals. Adhering to the standards will ensure that enclosures can provide for the full expression of the natural life history behaviors each rehabilitation animal needs to survive in the wild (See Attachment 10, Figure 11B).
- Add Chapter 2 (m): “Minimum Size Requirements for Pre-release Conditioning Pools; Waterbirds. Table 12” establishes the minimum pool size requirements for waterbirds. These provisions are necessary to clarify that the pool diameter and depth are included in the minimum enclosure size requirement for each waterbird and to ensure that pool sizes are within proper parameters to be useful and safe. Waterbirds need pools to express the natural life history behaviors of their species (See Attachment 10, Figure 11B).
- Add Chapter 2 (n): “Specialty Rehabilitation Animal Requirements” establishes the list of specialty rehabilitation animals that may be rehabilitated under special authorization from the department and the requirement to maintain a double-door entry system always secured, with a method to view each specialty rehabilitation animal. Individuals caring for specialty species need to have additional training and experience specific to these animals to ensure the safety of the animal and individuals caring for it. The provision regarding a method to view the animal(s) is necessary to prevent animal escape, to allow handlers to view animal before entering for safety reasons and to reduce the risk of habituation or mal imprinting of a specialty rehabilitation animal (See Attachment 9, Figure 5, Figure 7; See Attachment 10, Figure 6).
- Add Chapter 2 (o): “Specialty Rehabilitation Animal Enclosure Requirements for Pre-release Conditioning. Table 13” establishes the specific enclosure size requirements for each type of specialty rehabilitation animal. These provisions are necessary to protect native wildlife and the welfare of rehabilitation animals and to prevent animal escapes. Adhering to the standards will ensure that enclosures can provide for the full expression of the natural life history behaviors each rehabilitation animal needs to survive in the wild (See Attachment 9, Figure 3, Figure 5).
- Add Chapter 2 (p): “Minimum Enclosure Size Requirements; Specialty Rehabilitation Animals. Table 14” establishes the minimum enclosure size requirements for specialty rehabilitation animals. These provisions are necessary to protect native wildlife and the welfare of rehabilitation animals. Adhering to the standards will ensure that enclosures

can provide for the full expression of the natural life history behaviors each rehabilitation animal needs to survive in the wild (See Attachment 9, Figure 5).

### **Part 3. Add Section 679.5 Humane Care Standards and Chapter 3 of the DFW 679 Manual (NEW, 01/2025)**

#### **Section 679.5 Humane Animal Care Standards.**

- Add subsection (a): “Care of Rehabilitation Animals” establishes various provisions required for the care of a wild animal temporarily possessed by a permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized persons, and qualified handlers for the purposes of rehabilitation.
- Add subsection (a)(1): This provision establishes that the appropriate care and treatment be provided based on the needs of the individual animal. This provision is necessary for the health and wellbeing of animals during rehabilitation.
- Add subsection (a)(2): “Food” establishes the requirements to meet species, age class, and injury appropriate diets for each rehabilitation animal. This provision is necessary to clarify feeding conditions and nutritional requirements for all rehabilitation animals to prevent animal malnutrition and sickness.
- Add subsection (a)(3): “Water” establishes the requirement to meet the species, age class, and injury appropriate access to fresh water for each rehabilitation animal. This provision is necessary to clarify water needs for rehabilitation animals, and sanitary receptacle conditions, to prevent animal dehydration and sickness.
- Add subsection (a)(4): “Handling” establishes the requirements for how to effectively manage a rehabilitation animal. This provision is necessary to clarify conditions on proper animal handling to prevent harm or imprinting of a rehabilitation animal and to protect human safety (See Attachment 10, Figure 12).
- Add subsection (a)(5): “Biosafety Plan” establishes the requirements necessary for pest and parasite control and to prevent the transmission of communicable diseases and parasites. This provision is necessary to ensure that facilities have a plan for the control of disease to protect humans, domestic animals, and wildlife from sickness or death (See Attachment 9, Figure 6, Attachment 10, Figure 12).
- Add subsection (a)(6): “Egg Incubation” establishes requirements for the incubation of eggs of native bird species of known origin during wildlife rehabilitation. This provision does not preclude the need to obtain other valid state or federal permits. This provision is necessary to prevent the incubation of eggs if a permittee lacks sufficient experience or authorization to possess, and to prevent the spread of communicable avian diseases.
- Add subsection (a)(7): “Public Display” establishes the requirements for how a rehabilitation animal may be depicted in public facing media formats. This provision is necessary to prevent the public from anthropomorphizing wildlife, which may lead to habituation or imprinting of rehabilitation animals and human safety issues. This provision further clarifies the prohibition of social media posts of any rehabilitation

animal that is part of a legal or enforcement action, to prevent the public from adversely affecting ongoing enforcement cases.

- Add subsection (a)(8): “Notification Requirement for Diseases of Concern” establishes the requirement for notification of exposure to a disease of concern to appropriate public agency. This provision is necessary for the control of communicable diseases known to harm wildlife, domestic animals, or people and to protect native wildlife, animal welfare, human health, and safety. Further, this provision ensures that the proper authorities are aware of disease events to act if warranted (See Attachment 9, Figure 5, Figure 8).
- Add subsection (a)(8)(A): “Reporting to the Department” establishes the process to report to the department any rehabilitation animal suspected to have a communicable disease of concern. This provision is necessary for the control of communicable diseases known to harm wildlife, domestic animals, or people and to protect native wildlife, animal welfare, human health, and safety. Further, this provision ensures that the department is aware of disease events and can act if warranted (See Attachment 9, Figure 5).
- Add subsection (a)(8)(B): “Rabies” establishes the requirement and process for proper agency reporting of any rehabilitation animal suspected or known to have rabies. This provision is necessary to specify the actions required for rabies prevention and control and to protect native wildlife, animal welfare, human health, and safety. Further, this provision ensures that the proper authorities are aware of disease events to act if warranted.
- Add subsection (a)(9): “Notification Requirement for Violations Related to Animals” establishes the requirement to report to the department any rehabilitation animal suspected to have been intentionally harmed or unlawfully taken by any person. This provision is necessary to protect the welfare of each rehabilitator and native wildlife.
- Add subsection (a)(10): “Import and Export of Rehabilitation Animals” establishes the process for legal import or export of a rehabilitation animal for rehabilitation or release to the wild. This provision does not prevent a permittee from accepting an injured, sick, or orphaned wild animal that is improperly imported by the public. This provision is necessary to prevent the spread of communicable diseases, protect animal welfare, native wildlife, and agricultural interests, and to maintain interagency relationships.
- Add subsection (b): “Treatment of Wildlife in Possession” establishes the requirements for the treatment of a wild animal temporarily possessed for the purposes of rehabilitation.

- Add subsection (b)(1): “Medical Care” establishes the requirements for any intervention that is not medically necessary or likely to improve the condition of a rehabilitation animal. This provision is necessary to prevent undue or prolonged medical intervention that will not improve the outcome of the animal. In one case for an example, major spinal and brain surgery on a large carnivore resulted in undue extended physical pain and suffering that should have been humanely euthanized upon intake. Further, this language is closely aligned with the California Veterinary Medical Practice Act.
- Add subsection (b)(2): “Standing Order” establishes the requirements for routine medical procedures and care of rehabilitation animals at a wildlife rehabilitation facility without direct supervision of a California licensed veterinarian. This provision is necessary to provide guidance on routine medical treatments and medications that may be administered by a permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, or qualified handler in the absence of a licensed veterinarian. Further, this language is closely aligned with the California Veterinary Medical Practice Act.
- Add subsection (b)(3): “Medications” establishes requirements specific to the administration, storage, tracking, and disposal of medications and controlled drugs for rehabilitation animals. This provision is necessary to specify the responsibilities for adhering to applicable laws regulating medications and controlled drugs used in the care and treatment of wild animals. Further, this language is closely aligned with the California Veterinary Medical Practice Act.
- Add subsection (b)(4): “Raptor Rehabilitation” establishes the requirements and process to transfer a rehabilitation raptor to a California general or expert falconer licensed and approved by the department for pre-release conditioning. To be successfully rehabilitated and released into the wild, raptors require specialized exercises for flight and hunting. A falconer can provide this training and exercise for raptors. This provision is necessary to clarify the process by which a falconer can assist with rehabilitation of raptors.
- Add subsection (b)(4)(A): establishes the information required by the department to authorize the temporary transfer of a rehabilitation raptor to a licensed general or expert falconer. This provision is necessary to clarify the process by which a falconer can assist with rehabilitation of raptors. To be successfully rehabilitated and released into the wild, raptors require specialized exercises for flight and hunting. A falconer can provide this training and exercise for raptors. This provision outlines the information needed for the department to authorize a falconer to legally assist with raptor rehabilitation activities.
- Add subsection (b)(4)(A)1. through (b)(4)(A)2.: establishes the process, and information required by the department, to transfer a rehabilitation raptor to a licensed falconer for the purpose of pre-release conditioning. These provisions are necessary to ensure that a licensed falconer who is temporarily possessing a rehabilitation raptor is following the care and treatment required by the wildlife rehabilitator for the purpose of releasing the rehabilitation raptor to the wild. These provisions are necessary to protect animal

welfare and native raptors and for the department to track which raptors are being temporarily transferred to falconers.

- Add subsection (b)(5) “Surrogate Animal” establishes guidelines for the use of a conspecific wild animal temporarily possessed under a permit as a surrogate animal to a neonate or juvenile rehabilitation animal. This provision is necessary to support safe natural socialization between conspecifics and proper imprinting, and for a rehabilitation animal to express the natural life history behaviors of that species needed to survive in the wild.
- Add subsection (b)(6): “Patient Record” establishes the requirements for maintaining a record of each rehabilitation animal.
- Add subsection (b)(6)(A): “Intake History” establishes the information that a wildlife rehabilitator must document upon intake of a wild animal. This provision is necessary to document the provenance of each animal that is admitted under a permit from the public, and to help wildlife rehabilitators determine the best course of treatment for each wild animal.
- Add subsection (b)(6)(B): “Animal Information” establishes the necessary information for each wild animal at a rehabilitation facility which includes basic intake information, initial physical examination findings, and the rehabilitation care and treatment plan. This provision is necessary to create a patient record which is part of the required record provision and should be produced during an inspection or upon request by the department.
- Add subsection (b)(6)(C): “Patient Outcome” establishes the category of final disposition of each animal that is possessed under a wildlife rehabilitation permit and is provided in the annual report. This provision is necessary to collect the required annual documentation of the wild animals possessed for rehabilitation and supports the departments statewide wildlife disease monitoring efforts.
- Add subsection (a)(7): “Long-Term Possession” establishes the information required to be reported to the department to request a long-term possession extension for a rehabilitation animal beyond 180 days. In most cases it is unnecessary to rehabilitate wildlife for longer than 6 months. The department aligns with federal and national standards that it is typically in the best interest of a wild animal to be temporarily possessed for the purpose of rehabilitation for no more than 180 days. The Commission has determined, based on the department’s experience, that a rehabilitation animal is at increased risk of food conditioning, habituation, mal-imprinting, or unnecessary behavioral or physical stress the longer it is confined.
- Add subsections (a)(7)(A) through (a)(7)(B): establishes the process for department “Approval of a Request” or “Denial of a Request” for long-term possession of a rehabilitation animal. These provisions are necessary to specify the outcome options for such an animal based on what the department determines is in the best interest of the animal.



- Add subsection (c): “Animals not Released to the Wild” establishes the process and outcomes (final disposition) for a rehabilitation animal that is thought to not be a suitable candidate for release to the wild.
- Add subsection (c)(1): “Euthanasia” establishes the criteria for the safe, humane induction of death (euthanasia) of any wild animal temporarily possessed for the purposes of rehabilitation (See Attachment 9, Figure 5, Figure 9).
- Add subsection (c)(1)(A): establishes the minimum training hours required for any person allowed to euthanize a rehabilitation animal. This provision is necessary to ensure that euthanasia is performed in a manner that does not cause undue pain and suffering to any animal.
- Add subsections (c)(1)(A)1. through (c)(1)(A)3.: establishes the minimum number of training hours required for specific methods of euthanasia. These provisions are necessary to ensure that all methods of euthanasia are done properly and do not cause undue pain and suffering to any rehabilitation animal. Further, these provisions are necessary to ensure that euthanasia methods requiring personnel to oversee or administer controlled drugs are performed safely and legally.
- Add subsection (c)(1)(B): establishes the requirement and process to dispose of a carcass of a rehabilitation animal that has been chemically euthanized. This provision is necessary to prevent scavenging or excavation of an animal carcass contaminated with euthanasia chemicals. The ingestion of these chemicals poses a health hazard to people, domestic animals, and wildlife.
- Add subsection (c)(2): “Permanent Placement” establishes how a requestor may begin seeking approval from the department for a rehabilitation animal thought to not be a suitable candidate for release to the wild.
- Add subsection (c)(2)(A): “Request for Placement” establishes the information required for the department to certify that a rehabilitation animal is not suitable for return to the wild and may be considered for captive placement instead of euthanasia. This provision is necessary to ensure that the rehabilitation animal is in fact suitable for captive placement and is unable to be released to the wild.
- Add subsections (c)(2)(B) through (c)(2)(C): establishes the process for how the department shall review and approve or deny a request by a wildlife rehabilitator for consideration of permanent placement of a rehabilitation animal. These provisions are necessary to outline the criteria by which the department will review such a request and to ensure that a determination by the department will be made in a timely manner that is in the best interest of the animal.
- Add subsections (c)(2)(C)1. through (c)(2)(C)2.: establishes the process and criteria to approve or deny a request by the department for permanent placement of a non-releasable rehabilitation animal. These provisions are necessary to protect the welfare of the rehabilitation animal and ensure the most appropriate, safe, and humane outcome for the animal. The Commission has determined based on the department’s experience

that wild-born animals do not do well in captivity, and euthanasia is often the most humane outcome if they cannot be returned to the wild.

- Add subsection (d): “Use of Rehabilitation Animals for Scientific or Educational Purposes” establishes the process and requirements for how a rehabilitation animal, their carcass, or parts thereof may be used for scientific, educational, and/or propagation purposes. This provision is necessary to ensure that rehabilitation animals are temporarily possessed only for the purpose of rehabilitation as authorized under the permit.
- Add subsection (e): establishes that a violation of Chapter 3 of the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual shall be considered a violation of Section 679.5. This provision is necessary to ensure that law enforcement officers can easily cite violations of regulations in the manual.

### **Chapter 3 of the DFW 679 Manual (NEW, 01/2025)**

- Add Chapter 3 (a): “Care and Treatment Requirements” establishes the protocol and procedures that must be adhered to protect the welfare of each wild animal that may be temporarily possessed for any period by a wildlife rehabilitator. These provisions are necessary to ensure that the highest standards of care are maintained at each stage of rehabilitation.
- Add Chapter 3 (a)(1): establishes that a wildlife rehabilitator must possess sufficient knowledge and expertise to identify a rehabilitation animal with reasonable certainty and be able to realistically care for the animal. This provision is necessary for the safety and well-being of the rehabilitation animal and to ensure the requirements and highly specialized care specific and unique to each species are met (See Attachment 10, Figure 12).
- Add Chapter 3 (a)(2): establishes that a rehabilitation animal must be moved to another wildlife rehabilitation facility if the welfare of the animal cannot be maintained or improved for any reason. This provision is necessary to protect animal welfare, native wildlife, and human safety.
- Add Chapter 3 (a)(3): establishes the requirement to triage a wildlife based on the animal condition at intake. This provision is necessary to protect the safety and well-being of each rehabilitated animal because proper triage ensures that rehabilitated animals with critical needs are provided with priority care and treatment. Triage shall be based on the triage plan established by the wildlife rehabilitator (See Attachment 9, Figure 5).
- Add Chapter 3 (a)(4): establishes the requirement that an individual treatment plan must be specific and unique to each rehabilitation animal. This provision is necessary to ensure that the best available knowledge, understanding, and expertise is employed in providing care and treatment to a wild animal, and that each animal receives proper care that is tailored to its situation.

- Add Chapter 3 (a)(5): establishes the requirement to adopt and adhere to standard procedures for basic veterinary medical treatment and species-specific treatment plans as provided by a licensed veterinarian. This provision is necessary to establish treatment guidelines that may be conducted in the absence of a licensed veterinarian to reduce the risk of unnecessary pain or suffering, habituation, or mal imprinting of any rehabilitation animal. Most typical rehabilitation procedures do not require the active participation of a licensed veterinarian.
- Add Chapter 3 (a)(6): establishes the requirement for a rehabilitation animal to be seen by a licensed veterinarian for specific treatments that cannot be performed by a wildlife rehabilitator. This provision is necessary because only a licensed veterinarian has the expertise and, in some cases, the legal authority, to perform these procedures. Limiting these procedures to veterinarians will prevent unnecessary pain or suffering of a rehabilitation animal and ensure medical care is conducted properly.
- Add Chapter 3 (a)(7) establishes the requirement to understand the nutritional requirements that are specific and unique to each rehabilitation animal. This provision to ensure that wildlife rehabilitators have the knowledge to provide a species-appropriate diet, prevent nutritional deficiencies, and ensure that each rehabilitation can express the natural life history behaviors needed to survive in the wild.
- Add Chapter 3 (a)(8) establishes the requirement that a wildlife rehabilitator allows a rehabilitation animal to feed independently as soon as the animal is able. This provision is necessary because juvenile animals are at risk of habituation or mal imprinting if they are not able to express their natural feeding behaviors and are therefore less likely to survive in the wild.
- Add Chapter 3 (b) “Cleaning Requirements” establishes the protocol and procedures that must be established to ensure the highest standards of hygiene and husbandry are maintained within a wildlife rehabilitation facility. These provisions are necessary to protect native wildlife, human health, and safety by reducing the risk of transmitting communicable diseases and/or parasites.
- Add Chapter 3 (b)(1) establishes the requirement to remove visible organic waste material prior to using any disinfectant, and to use disinfectants consistent with the provided directions. This provision is necessary to ensure enclosures and other areas where rehabilitation animals are in contact with are properly disinfected to prevent the spread of disease and/or parasites and to protect human safety (See Attachment 10, Figure 2).
- Add Chapter 3 (b)(2) establishes the requirement to disinfect the enclosure of any rehabilitation animal with a known or suspected zoonotic disease once the animal has been removed from the enclosure, including following any specific procedures determined by local or state public agencies. This provision is necessary to ensure enclosures and other areas where rehabilitation animals are in contact with are properly disinfected to prevent the spread of disease.

- Add Chapter 3 (b)(3) establishes the requirement that a wildlife rehabilitator shall separate raccoon and skunk enclosures from other animals. This provision is necessary to prevent transmitting raccoon or skunk roundworm to other animals or people (See Attachment, Figure 4).
- Add Chapter 3 (b)(4) establishes the requirement for raccoon enclosures and skunk enclosures to be used to only house raccoons or skunks with a clear and conspicuous label posted on the outside. This provision is required to prevent transmitting raccoon or skunk roundworm to other animals or people (See Attachment, Figure 4).
- Add Chapter 3 (c) Table 15 “Common Detergents and Disinfectants to Limit the Transmission of Communicable Wildlife Diseases” establishes the categories of cleaning agents commonly available to properly disinfect enclosures and other areas where rehabilitation animals are housed. These provisions are necessary to ensure that disinfectants are used appropriately to protect animal welfare, human health and safety, and to prevent the spread of communicable disease and parasites.
- Add Chapter 3 (d) “Communicable Wildlife Diseases” establishes the proper handling and reporting of a wild animal suspected or known to have a disease of concern. This provision is necessary to protect animal welfare, human health, and safety and to prevent the spread of communicable disease and parasites (See Attachment 10, Figure 12).
- Add Chapter 3 (d)(1) establishes the requirement to oversee each rehabilitation animal using proper personal protective equipment. This provision is necessary to protect animal welfare, native wildlife, and human health and safety, by reducing the risks of disease and/or parasite transmission to animals or people (See Attachment 10, Figure 12).
- Add Chapter 3 (d)(2) establishes the requirement to report a rehabilitation animal suspected or known to have a disease of concern. A disease of concern is a communicable disease of potentially significant consequence to native wildlife, domestic animals, and people. This provision is necessary to aid the investigation, monitoring, and response to potential disease outbreaks and mortality events by the department and other public health agencies.
- Add Chapter 3 (e) “Wildlife Diseases of Concern in California and the Agency to Report Confirmed or Suspected Infected Wildlife. Table 16” establishes the list of communicable wildlife diseases, their primary affected taxa, etiological agent, and clinical signs or symptoms, of interest to the department. The Commission has determined this list based on the department’s experience with wildlife diseases. These provisions are necessary so that a wildlife rehabilitator knows which zoonotic diseases to report, and the reporting agency. Further, these provisions are necessary to aid the investigation, monitoring, and response to potential disease outbreaks by the proper agency as needed.

- Add Chapter 3 (f) “Non-Releasable Animal Requirements” establishes the criteria to determine when a rehabilitation animal may be deemed non-releasable and suitable for captive placement.
- Add Chapter 3 (f)(1) establishes the criterion to classify a rehabilitation animal as non-releasable. This provision is necessary so that rehabilitators can identify when an animal should be considered for permanent placement or euthanasia. This provision is necessary for the wildlife rehabilitator to evaluate the rehabilitation animal and make an appropriate determination on if the animal can be released to the wild (See Attachment 9, Figure 9).
- Add Chapter 3 (f)(2) establishes the requirement that a non-releasable rehabilitation animal must be overseen pursuant to subsection 679.5(c), which specifies the potential dispositions of animals not released to the wild. This provision is necessary to outline acceptable rehabilitation animal outcomes when an animal cannot be released, to protect the safety and well-being of each animal.
- Add Chapter 3 (g) “Euthanasia Requirements” establishes the requirements and conditions that shall be met for the humane euthanasia of a rehabilitation animal (See Attachment 9, Figure 5 and Figure 9).
- Add Chapter 3 (g)(1) establishes the personnel training requirement for each method or category of euthanasia for a rehabilitation animal. This provision is necessary to ensure that euthanasia is performed humanely and by trained personnel.
- Add Chapter 3 (g)(2) establishes the requirement for recordkeeping specific to personnel euthanasia training. This provision is necessary to ensure that training records are properly maintained, so the department can verify adequate euthanasia qualifications for rehabilitators.
- Add Chapter 3 (g)(3) establishes what topics must be included in euthanasia training. This provision is necessary to ensure that euthanasia training covers appropriate and necessary instruction.
- Add Chapter 3 (g)(4) establishes the requirement to euthanize a rehabilitation animal using only the methods of euthanasia deemed to be humane and acceptable for that taxonomic group or species of rehabilitation animal. This provision is necessary to protect the safety and well-being of each rehabilitation animal, as well as personnel, and to ensure that humane and effective methods of euthanasia are administered under a wildlife rehabilitation permit.
- Add Chapter 3 (g)(5) provides examples of methods of euthanasia that the Commission has determined, based on the department’s experience, are not humane and/or ineffective. These methods may cause unacceptable environmental harm or are otherwise not legal methods of take pursuant to the California Fish and Game Code or other regulations or statutes. This provision is necessary because in some other states these methods may be allowed, so the provision clarifies to rehabilitators that they are

prohibited in California. The use of these euthanasia methods may cause undue pain and suffering to animals.

- Add Chapter 3 (g)(6) establishes the procedure for notifying the proper agency of any eagle or threatened or endangered species requiring humane euthanasia, pursuant to 50 CFR 21.31. This provision is necessary to protect animal welfare and to ensure that rehabilitators are aware of, and follow, federal law by reporting the situation and obtaining approval for euthanasia prior to the “take” of a protected species.
- Add Chapter 3 (g)(7) establishes the requirement for the disposal of any rehabilitation animal carcass to occur in compliance with relevant federal, state, and local laws. This provision is necessary as the requirements for safe and legal carcass disposal are specific and unique to each jurisdiction or municipality. Additionally, the carcass of a rehabilitation animal euthanized by a controlled drug may be hazardous to any animal or person that scavenges the carcass.
- Add Chapter 3(h) Table 17 “Acceptable Euthanasia Methods for Rehabilitation Animals” establishes the methods of euthanasia that the Commission has determined, based on the department’s experience, are humane, effective, and legal methods of take. These provisions are necessary to protect the safety and well-being of each rehabilitation animal, and personnel administering any such methods, and that the euthanasia methods used do not cause undue pain and suffering to the animal.

#### **Part 4. Add Section 679.6, Section 679.7, Section 679.8, and 679.9**

##### **Section 679.6 Release of Rehabilitation Animals into the Wild.**

- Add subsection (a) “Evaluation for Release” establishes the criteria for establishing whether a rehabilitation animal can be released to the wild. This provision is necessary to protect the welfare of each rehabilitation animal by ensuring it displays the behavioral and physical traits needed to survive in the wild, that habituated animals are not released into the wild, and that diseases of concern are not spread by former rehabilitation animals.
- Add subsection (b) “Requirements for Release” provides that releasable animals must be released and establishes the factors that must be considered when releasing a rehabilitation animal in suitable habitat. This provision is necessary to ensure that rehabilitation animals that can be released are in fact released, animals are being returned to the wild in locations where they naturally occur, and that adverse factors that may harm an animal or hamper release are avoided.
- Add subsection (b)(1) establishes the necessary guidelines for obtaining permission to release a rehabilitation animal on any public or privately owned property. This provision is necessary so that property owners do not have animals released on their property without their knowledge and consent.

- Add subsection (b)(2) establishes the requirement to mark, collar, or tag a large carnivore prior to release, at a location specified by the department. This provision is necessary to ensure that animals are released at locations where they are less likely to cause human-wildlife conflict, which have sufficient suitable habitat, which are within the current range of the species, and in areas that align with department goals for that species. Further, it is necessary so that the department can track the animal after its release.
- Add subsection (b)(2)(A) establishes the department's responsibility to provide proper training, materials, and other resources to wildlife rehabilitation facilities to properly mark, tag, or collar a rehabilitation animal. This provision is necessary to ensure that personnel who mark, tag, or collar a rehabilitation animal are professionally trained and use department-approved items.
- Add subsection (b)(2)(B) establishes the requirement to notify the department of a forthcoming public dissemination of sensitive information regarding the intake and/or release of any large carnivore rehabilitation animal. This provision is necessary to allow department review of sensitive information that may harm animal welfare or endanger public safety and give the department the ability to work with the wildlife rehabilitation facility to lessen the potential detrimental effects of any such release of information. Furthermore, this provision is necessary to protect large carnivore rehabilitation animals and people from potential human-wildlife conflict and potential poaching or harassment of a large carnivore upon release. Additionally, restricting public disseminations to at least 10 working days after a large carnivore release will allow time for the animal to potentially move from the immediate area of release, limiting the ability of poachers or others to harass or harm the animal.
- Add subsection (b)(3) establishes the criteria for releasing a rehabilitation amphibian or reptile to suitable habitat in the wild. This provision is necessary to ensure that amphibians and reptiles are returned to the wild in locations where they naturally occur, to protect biodiversity, and prevent the transmission of diseases affecting sensitive amphibian and reptile populations.
- Add subsection (c) "Animals not Native to California" this provision establishes the list of invasive or exotic animals that are prohibited to be temporarily possessed for rehabilitation purposes. This provision is necessary so that non-native species which may harm the environment are not rehabilitated and released, to prevent the spread of diseases, protect ecological and agricultural interests, and support department invasive species eradication efforts for the purpose of conserving native wildlife and biodiversity.

**Section 679.7 Inspection of Wildlife Rehabilitation Facilities.**

- Add subsection (a) "Inspections by the Department" establishes the process for the department to perform wildlife rehabilitation facility inspections including rehabilitation animals, enclosures, and required records.

- Add subsection (a)(1) “Inspections During Application Process” establishes the requirements for when an inspection is required during an application, renewal, or amendment process. This provision is necessary to ensure that the information provided in a permit application or permit amendment application is accurate, that the conditions of an existing permit are met, and that all requirements for a variance application are met, to protect the welfare of each animal, human health, and human safety.
- Add subsections (a)(1)(A) establishes that the department has created a form to use during a department inspection of a facility, enclosures, rehabilitation animals, and required records. This provision is necessary to clarify that the department will use a standardized method to document information, for recordkeeping, and enforcement purposes.
- Add subsections (a)(1)(A)1 through (a)(1)(A)8 establishes the information that the department will document during an inspection. These provisions are necessary for the department to document basic information about the inspection and its inspection findings. Further, these provisions are necessary to outline how the department records the inspection outcome determined by the department, such as to pass or fail an inspection, and in the case of a failed inspection, to document corrective measures needed to meet all requirements of the regulations, and next steps taken by the department (See Attachment 9, Figure 1).
- Add subsections (a)(1)(B) establishes that the department may conduct an inspection at any reasonable time during the day under the auspice of a permit application or renewal process. This provision is necessary to outline the department’s authority to conduct inspections for any reason to protect animal welfare, native wildlife, animal welfare, human health and safety.
- Add subsection (a)(1)(C) establishes department’s process for notification to a person who has failed an inspection, communication of required changes, and how to request a re-inspection. This provision is necessary for rehabilitators who have failed an inspection to understand how they will be notified, and how and in what time frame they must come into compliance and request a re-inspection.
- Add subsection (a)(1)(C)(1) “Request for Extension” establishes the process by which an individual may request an extension to meet required facility changes after a failed inspection. This provision is necessary to allow a permittee a reasonable extension of time to complete the facility changes required by the department if it will not harm native wildlife, animal welfare, human health or safety, or agricultural interests.
- Add subsection (a)(1)(C)(2) “Animal Possession” establishes that the department may allow an individual to continue possessing wildlife after a failed inspection so long as possession does not cause harm. This provision is necessary to maintain continuity of care, minimize undue stress to the animal, and to alleviate pressure on other rehabilitation facilities from intaking additional patients.



- Add subsection (a)(1)(D) establishes the department authority to revoke and/or reinstate a permit, sub-permit, or specialty rehabilitation authorization. This provision is necessary to outline the department’s authority to revoke or reinstate a permit, sub-permit, or specialty rehabilitation authorization, as appropriate, to protect animal welfare, native wildlife, animal welfare, human health and safety.
- Add subsections (a)(1)(D)1 through (a)(1)(D)2 establishes the criteria by which the department determines that a person has refused an inspection, and as a result of such refusal to allow an inspection, the process by which the department may revoke and/or reinstate a permit, sub-permit, or specialty rehabilitation authorization. These provisions are necessary to outline what the Commission has determined, based on the department’s experience, constitutes a good faith effort by the department and a permittee to allow an inspection. Further, these provisions are necessary to protect animal welfare, native wildlife, and to allow the continuance of wildlife rehabilitation activities under a permit if the department finds that to be in the best interest of the animals.
- Add subsection (a)(1)(E) “Other Inspections” establishes that the department may conduct an inspection at any reasonable time during the day for any reason, other than under the auspices of a permit application or renewal process, to ensure compliance with the regulations. This provision is necessary to clarify the department’s authority to conduct an inspection to protect native wildlife, animal welfare, human health or safety, or agricultural interests for any reason.
- Add subsection (b) “Inspections by Permittee or Their Designee” establishes the requirement that permittees or their designees must conduct periodic inspections of each sub-permittee authorized under their permit.
- Add subsection (b)(1) establishes the requirement for a permittee to inspect any satellite facilities operated by sub-permittees, and rehabilitation animals temporarily possessed by an authorized person, operating under their permit. This provision is necessary to clarify that such inspections may occur during any reasonable time or day to protect animal welfare, and human health and safety.
- Add subsection (b)(1)(A) establishes that the department has created a form for a permittee or their designee to conduct an inspection of a sub-permittee or authorized person. This provision is necessary to clarify that a permittee or their designee will use a standardized method to document information, for recordkeeping, and enforcement of regulations by the department. This provision is necessary to ensure that all requirements are met to protect animal welfare.
- Add subsections (b)(1)(A)1 through (b)(1)(A)9 establish the information that a permittee or their designee must document during an inspection. These provisions are necessary to ensure that the department can maintain appropriate documentation of inspections and inspection findings to ensure that all requirements are met and to provide corrective measures and/or additional requirements to protect animal welfare.

- Add subsection (b)(2) establishes the process for re-inspection of a sub-permittee or authorized person. This provision is necessary to ensure that a sub-permittee or authorized person is allowed to correct inspection deficiencies to maintain animal welfare, native wildlife, human health, or human safety. This provision is necessary to outline what the Commission has determined, based on the department's experience, constitutes a good faith effort by a permittee and their sub-permittee or authorized person to allow an inspection.
- Add subsection (b)(3) establishes the process by which a sub-permittee or authorized person is inferred to have refused to allow an inspection, and the consequences for such a refusal. This provision ensures that a permittee has the option to remove a sub-permittee or authorized person who refuses an inspection from their permit. This provision is necessary to protect the safety and well-being of rehabilitation animals.
- Add subsection (c) reserves the authority of the department to conduct enforcement actions, including those beyond inspections, it determines are necessary to ensure the welfare of wild animals and the safety of people, for any reason. This provision is necessary to ensure all requirements are met to protect animal welfare, native wildlife while being temporarily possessed for the purpose of rehabilitation, and human health and safety and that the department may effect enforcement actions when needed, potentially under separate authorities and not necessarily related to inspections contemplated under this section.

**Section 679.8 Seizure of Animals; Transfer, Euthanasia, or Release of Seized Animals.**

- Add subsection (a): "Seizure of Live Animals Possessed Pursuant to a Valid Permit or Sub-Permit" establishes the authority for the department to confiscate an animal due to a violation of a law or permit condition. This provision is necessary so the department can immediately remove animals if the department determines that seizure is necessary to protect the welfare of those animals.
- Add subsections (a)(1) through (a)(2) establishes the criteria under which the department may forgo seizing animals, and potentially impose an alternative penalty, even if the conditions for seizing animals are met. These provisions are necessary to protect animal welfare if the department finds that immediate or prolonged disruption of rehabilitation efforts, and removal or transport of rehabilitation animals causes more harm than allowing a wildlife rehabilitator to correct violations while continuing to possess such animals. These provisions will allow the department to avoid overly harsh penalties in the case of minor, technical, or easily correctable violations.
- Add subsection 679.8(b) "Seizure of Live Animals Possessed by a Person with an Invalid Permit or Sub-Permit" establishes that rehabilitation animals will be seized from individuals who no longer have a valid permit. This provision is necessary because wildlife cannot be temporarily possessed without a valid permit. An individual needs to maintain a valid permit or sub-permit to continue performing wildlife rehabilitation activities.

- Add subsections (b)(1) through (b)(2) establish that the department will take an action other than animal seizure, such as allowing the continued temporarily possess a rehabilitation animal, if the department finds that a permittee is still in the 45-day “grace period” to apply for permit renewal or their renewal application is still being processed by the department. These provisions are necessary to prevent animals from unnecessarily being relocated to another facility.
- Add subsection (c): “Animals Seized Pursuant to Paragraphs (a) or (b) or Sub-section 679.5(a)(7)(B)” establishes the criteria under which department will determine how to seize a rehabilitation animal. This provision is necessary to specify the factors the department must consider when determining the method of seizure.
- Add subsections (c)(1) through (c)(4) establishes the four methods by which the department can seize an animal. These provisions are necessary because the animal welfare and humane care requirements needed to protect the safety and well-being of each rehabilitation animal may vary widely even within the same age class, species, or stage of rehabilitation. These provisions allow the department to make a case-by-case determination based on the unique needs of each rehabilitation animal to protect the best interests of that animal.
- Add subsection (d): “Costs Incurred Pursuant to Paragraphs (a) Through (c)” establishes that permittees in violation of law will incur all costs associated with the care of the seized animals. This provision is necessary so the department, other persons, or facilities involved in the seizure and treatment of animals may recoup the associated costs, which is both equitable and allows the department’s private partners to continue assisting with such seizures.

**Section 679.9 Revocation of Permit, Sub-Permit, or Variance Request; Proof of Service; Request for Reconsideration; Appeal of Revocation; Effect on Section 679.8.**

- Add subsection (a) “Revocation of a Permit by the Department” establishes the conditions under which the Department may revoke a wildlife rehabilitation permit. This provision is necessary to protect animal welfare, the safety and well-being of rehabilitation animals, and human health and safety. It is necessary to ensure that facilities cannot continue to operate under their permit if they are not following the regulations and terms and conditions of their permit, or have otherwise broken laws regarding accepted community standards, which could call into question their ability to be responsible with safeguarding the welfare of animals.
- Add subsection (a)(1) establishes the standard for the department to take an alternative action to permit revocation, such as a written warning. The Commission has determined, based on the department’s experience, that this process allows the department and the permittee options to correct the violations and continue rehabilitation efforts if deemed appropriate by the department. This provision will allow the department to avoid overly harsh penalties in the case of minor, technical, or easily correctable violations.

- Add subsection (a)(2) establishes additional criteria under which the department may take alternative action. The Commission has determined, based on the department's experience, that this process allows the department and the permittee options to correct the violations and continue rehabilitation efforts if deemed appropriate by the department. This provision will allow the department to avoid overly harsh penalties in the case of minor, technical, or easily correctable violations.
- Add subsection (b) "Revocation of a Sub-Permit by the Department" establishes the conditions under which the department may revoke a sub-permit.
- Add subsection (b)(1) establishes the conditions under which the department may revoke a wildlife rehabilitation sub-permit. This provision is necessary to protect animal welfare, the safety and well-being of rehabilitation animals, and human health and safety. It is necessary to ensure that facilities cannot continue to operate under their sub-permit if they are not following the regulations and terms and conditions of their sub-permit, or have otherwise broken laws regarding accepted community standards, which could call into question their ability to be responsible with safeguarding the welfare of animals.
- Add subsections (b)(1)(A) through (b)(1)(B) establishes the specific conditions under which the department may take alternative action to sub-permit revocation. The Commission has determined, based on the department's experience, that this process allows the department and the sub-permittee options to correct the violations and continue rehabilitation efforts if deemed appropriate by the department. This provision will allow the department to avoid overly harsh penalties in the case of minor, technical, or easily correctable violations.
- Add subsection (b)(2)(A) through (b)(2)(B) establishes that the department will revoke permits that are no longer valid, unless the sub-permittee has been allowed by the department to provide continuity of care of rehabilitation animals; or to continue temporarily possess rehabilitation animals under an invalid permit during the renewal process. The Commission has determined, based on the department's experience, that this process allows the department and the sub-permittee options to continue rehabilitation efforts if deemed appropriate by the department and ensure continuity of care for each animal.
- Add subsection (c) "Revocation of a Sub-Permit by the Permittee" establishes the conditions under which a permittee must revoke a sub-permit and the process to notify the department. This is necessary to allow the permittee to safely remove a sub-permittee from their permit so that invalid persons are not listed on permits. The department must be able to track individuals that are (and are not) valid wildlife rehabilitators.
- Add subsection (c)(1) through (c)(3) establishes the information required by the department to process the sub-permit revocation. These provisions are necessary for a permittee and the department to properly document the reasons for a sub-permit revocation.

- Add subsection (d) “Proof of Service and Method of Service” establishes the requirement and process for proof of service. This is necessary to ensure that the permittee has been properly advised of the action that has been taken.
- Add subsection (e) “Request for Reconsideration” establishes the process to submit a request for department reconsideration of a denial. This is necessary to afford the applicant an opportunity to present any additional information which may cause the Department to change the denial.
- Add subsection (e)(1) establishes the criteria for department reconsideration of a denial and the required information. This is necessary so that the Department can fully and fairly review the request to reconsider the denial.
- Add subsection (e)(2) establishes the requirement for submission of a statement of truth. This is necessary so that, barring a finding otherwise, the attestation of the applicant is true.
- Add subsection (e)(3) establishes the process for submission of a request for reconsideration via electronic mail. This provision is necessary to ensure that a request is provided in a reasonable timeframe.
- Add subsection (e)(4) establishes the requirement for the department to complete the review of a denial reconsideration within 60 working days. The Commission has determined, based on the department’s experience, that this is a reasonable timeframe for review and approval or denial of such a request. The provision also establishes the options the department has for responding to the request.
- Add subsection (e)(5) “Denial Hearing” establishes the process by which a person may request a hearing before the commission to show cause why their permit request should not be denied. This is necessary to provide all remedies that are available.
- Add subsection (f) “Revocation Hearing” establishes the process to grieve a permit revocation before the commission. This is necessary to afford the applicant an administrative remedy to appeal the department’s revocation decision.
- Add subsection (f)(1) establishes the process for an applicant to request a hearing to grieve a revocation of a permit by the department before the commission. This provision is necessary to clarify the process to request a revocation hearing.
- Add subsection (g) “Effect on the Seizure, Transfer, Euthanasia, or Release of Wildlife” establishes that grieving a denial or revocation process does not affect the seizure, transfer, euthanasia, or release of any rehabilitation animal by the department. This provision clarifies that these other provisions prevail.

## **Forms**

The proposed forms listed below will be provided by the Department for persons or entities who wish to apply and provide wild animal care in a rehabilitation facility as set forth in sections 679.1 through 679.9 and the DFW 679 Manual. Each form contains the same information and requirements as expressed in their respective subsections of these regulations. None of the forms have additional requirements not described in regulation. As the rehabilitation program and the permittees gain experience with the regulations, amendments may be necessary and would be subject to further review under the Administrative Procedures Act (APA). Upon completion of the APA process, any change to the subsections of regulations concerning the content of these forms would necessitate an update of the forms by the Department.

### **DFW 479. 679 Wildlife Rehabilitation Regulations Manual (NEW, 01/2025)**

The DFW 679 Manual is a new, easily accessible document that is free to the public which provides both general program information and resources, as well as regulatory actions incorporated by reference in these regulations. Chapter 1 of the manual does not constitute regulatory text and provides general program information and considerations prior to applying for a wildlife rehabilitation permit. Chapter 2 and Chapter 3 of the manual constitute regulatory action incorporated by reference as part of these regulations to establish rehabilitation animal enclosure requirements and rehabilitation animal humane care and treatment requirements.

### **DFW 480A. Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit Application (NEW, 01/2025)**

Establishes the Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit application pursuant to Section 679.3. Final approval procedures for a permit are set forth for an applicant who has received initial approval from the department and passed the wildlife rehabilitation examination or applying for permit renewal. The content in the form is identical to the provisions of 679.3 and clearly informs the applicant of the required information of an application packet.

### **DFW 480B. Wildlife Rehabilitation Sub-Permit Application (NEW, 01/2025)**

This form standardizes information required for submission by a permittee to add a satellite facility operated by a sub-permittee under the Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit pursuant to Section 679.3(d). The sub-permittee application captures the rehabilitation activities that will be provided at a satellite facility. The content in the form is identical to the provisions of 679.3 and clearly informs the public of the requirements of an application packet.

### **DFW 480C. Specialty Rehabilitation Authorization Form (NEW, 01/2025)**

This form standardizes information required for submission by a permittee to receive authorization for specialty rehabilitation under the Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit pursuant to Section 679.3(b). The content in the form is identical to the provisions of 679.3 and clearly informs the public of the requirements of an application packet.

**DFW 480D. Permittee Notice of Revocation (NEW, 01/2025)**

Notice of Revocation of a Sub-Permit by the Permittee as set forth in subsection 679.9(c). The permittee may revoke a sub-permit for the reasons specified and notify the department within 5 calendar days of revoking a sub-permittee. The content in the form is identical to the provisions of 679.9 and clearly informs the public of the requirements of an application packet.

**DFW 481. Veterinarian of Record Agreement (NEW, 01/2025)**

This form standardizes the process for providing the required information specific to the “Veterinarian of Record” pursuant to Section 679.3(a)(6)(B) of the new regulations. Applicants must have a licensed veterinarian in good standing pursuant to the California Veterinary Medical Practice Act who oversees veterinary care of the rehabilitation animals. The content in the form is identical to the provisions of 679.3 and clearly informs the public of the requirements of an application packet.

**DFW 482. Wildlife Rehabilitation List of Authorized Persons (NEW, 01/2025)**

This form standardizes the process for providing the required information specific to the “List of Authorized Persons” pursuant to section 679.3(a)(6)(C) of the regulations. Permittees and sub-permittees must provide to the department a list of all individuals identified by the applicant as an authorized person, qualified handler, or designee as defined pursuant to Section 679.1. The content in the form is identical to the provisions of 679.3 and clearly informs the public of the requirements of an application packet.

**DFW 483. Facility Emergency Action Plan (NEW, 01/2025)**

This form standardizes the process for providing a written “Emergency Action Plan” that describes those designated actions required during an emergency pursuant to subsection 679.3(a)(6)(D) of the new regulations. The content in the form is identical to the provisions of 679.3 and clearly informs the public of the requirements of an application packet.

**DFW 484. Authorization to Access Property (NEW, 01/2025)**

This form standardizes the process for the applicant to provide the information required pursuant to section 679.3(a)(6)(E) of the regulations. An applicant and the owner of the property where the proposed facility will be located must provide to the Department authorization to access property so the department may conduct inspections of any facility, equipment, or wildlife temporarily possessed.

**DFW 485A. Wildlife Rehabilitation Facility Inspection Form (NEW, 01/2025)**

This form standardizes the process for primary facility information to be collected by the Department during an inspection pursuant to subsections 679.3(7) and 679.7(a) of the new regulations. The form collects the facility information required by regulation. The content in the form is identical to the provisions of 679.7 and clearly informs the public of the requirements of an application packet.

### **DFW 485B. Satellite Facility Inspection Form (NEW, 01/2025)**

This form standardizes the process for satellite facility information to be collected by the permittee during an inspection pursuant to subsections 679.3(c) and 679.7(b) of the new regulations. The form collects the facility information required by regulation. The content in the form is identical to the provisions of 679.7 and clearly informs the public of the requirements of an application packet.

### **DFW 485C. Wildlife Rehabilitation - Variance Request (NEW, 01/2025)**

Establishes the process of requesting a variance of any required enclosure construction design, size, or materials of the specific caging requirements listed in Chapter 2 of the DFW 679 Manual pursuant to section 679.4(c) of the regulations. The content in the form is identical to the provisions of 679.4(c) and clearly informs the public of the requirements of an application packet (See Attachment 10, Figure 5).

### **DFW 486. Wildlife Rehabilitation Annual Report (NEW, 01/2025)**

Wildlife Rehabilitation Annual Report standardizes the wildlife rehabilitation information to be submitted annually documenting the primary facility and associated satellite facilities, and the rehabilitation activities for the prior calendar year. This form provides the required information pursuant to section 679.4(a)(5)(B) of the new regulations.

### **DFW 487. Certification of Animal Condition (Non-Releasability) (NEW, 01/2025)**

Standardizes information required for certification of animal condition (non-releasability), and request for permanent captive placement pursuant to 679.5(c)(2). The content in the form is identical to the provisions of 679.5(c)(2) and clearly informs the public of the requirements of such a request.

#### **(b) Goals and Benefits of the Regulation**

It is the policy of this state to regulate the temporary possession and rehabilitation of native wildlife for release to the wild under the jurisdiction and influence of the state for the benefit of all the citizens of the state and to protect, conserve, and manage the state's most vulnerable wildlife resources. Ethical, skilled wildlife rehabilitators are true partners in conservation with the Department. The objectives of this policy include, but are not limited to, adoption of scientifically based wildlife rehabilitation practices and processes, the maintenance and support of wildlife rehabilitation facilities in California, sustainable management of wildlife resources to ensure their continued existence, in harmony with current standards, and increasing respect for and recognition of the service provided by wildlife rehabilitators. The benefits of the proposed regulations are consistent with the most current requirements and standards of wildlife rehabilitation, wildlife conservation goals, health and welfare of California residents, and promotion of ethical wildlife rehabilitation facilities.



## (c) Authority and Reference Sections from Fish and Game Code for Regulation

### 679.1 Definitions

Authority cited: Sections 200, 1050, 2015, 2081, 2120, 2121, 2835, 3005.5, 3800 and 4150, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 716.3, 1018, 2118, 2190, 3511, 4800 and 4801.5, Fish and Game Code; Section 597, Penal Code; and Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 14, 16, 17, 21.29, 21.30, 21.31, 22, and 23.

### 679.2 Transportation and Confinement of Live Wild Animals

Authority cited: Sections 200, 1050, 2015, 2081, 2120, 2121, 2150.4, 2835, 3005.5, 3800, 4150, 4180, and 5050, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 1008, 2000, 3511, 4155, 4800 and 4801.5, Fish and Game Code; Section 8670.61.5, Government Code; Section 597, Penal Code; and Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 14, 16, 17, 21.29, 21.30, 21.31, 22, and 23.

### 679.3 Permits for Wildlife Rehabilitation

Authority cited: Sections 200, 1050, 2015, 2081, 2121, 2122, 2150.4, 2150.2, 2192, 2835, 3005.5, 3800 and 4150, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 1008, 2000, 2118, 3511, 4800 and 4801.5, Fish and Game Code; Section 597, Penal Code; and Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 14, 16, 17, 21.29, 21.30, 21.31, 22, and 23.

### 679.4 Facility and Housing Standards for Rehabilitation Animals

Authority cited: Sections 200, 1050, 2015, 2081, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2127, 2150.4, 2192, 2835, 3005.5, 3800 and 4150, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 1008, 2000, 4800 and 4801.5, Fish and Game Code; Section 597, Penal Code; and Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 14, 16, 17, 21.29, 21.30, 21.31, 22, and 23.

### 679.5 Humane Care Standards

Authority cited: Sections 200, 1050, 2015, 2081, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2150.4, 2835, 3005.5, 3800 and 4150, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 1008, 1018, 2000, 3005, 2118, 2186, 2190 and 4801.5, Fish and Game Code; Section 597, Penal Code; and Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 14, 16, 17, 21.29, 21.30, 21.31, 22, and 23.

### 679.6 Release of Animals into the Wild

Authority cited: Sections 200, 1050, 2015, 2081, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2150.4, 2835, 3800 and 4150, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 1008, and 2118, Fish and Game Code; Section 597, Penal Code; and Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 14, 16, 17, 21.29, 21.30, 21.31, 22, and 23.

### 679.7 Inspection of Wildlife Rehabilitation Facilities

Authority cited: Sections 200, 1050, 2015, 2081, 2121, 2122, 2150.4, 2192, 2835, 3005.5, 3800 and 4150, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 2000, 3005 and 12159, Fish and Game Code; Section 597, Penal Code; and Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 14, 16, 17, 21.29, 21.30, 21.31, 22, and 23.

### 679.8 Seizure of Animals by the Department

Authority cited: Sections 200, 1050, 2021, 2015, 2081, 2122, 2835, 3005.5, 3800 and 4150, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 2000, 2118, 3005 and 12159 Fish and Game Code; Section 597, Penal Code; and Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 14, 16, 17, 21.29, 21.30, 21.31, 22, and 23.

### 679.9 Denial and Revocation of Permits; Effect on Section 679.8

Authority cited: Sections 200, 1050, 2021, 2015, 2081, 2150.4, 2835, 3005.5, 3800 and 4150, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 2000 and 12159, Fish and Game Code; Section 597, Penal Code; and Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 14, 16, 17, 21.29, 21.30, 21.31, 22, and 23.

### 703. Miscellaneous Applications, Tags, Seals, Licenses, Permits, and Fees.

Authority cited: Sections 713, 1002, 1002.5, 1050, 1055, 2118, 2120, 2122, 2150, 2150.2, 2157 and 5060, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 395, 396, 398, 713, 1002, 1002.5, 1050, 2116, 2116.5, 2117, 2118, 2120, 2125, 2150, 2150.2, 2150.4, 2151, 2157, 2190, 2193, 2271, 3005.5, 3007, 3503, 3503.5, 3511, 3513, 3950, 5060, 5061, 10500, 12000 and 12002, Fish and Game Code; and Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 21.29 and 21.30.

(d) Specific Technology or Equipment Required by Regulatory Change. None

(e) Identification of Reports or Documents Supporting Regulation Change

- Attachment 1. Miller, E.A., editor. 2000. Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation, 3rd edition. National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association, St. Cloud, MN. 77 pages.
- Attachment 2. 679 Wildlife Rehabilitation Rulemaking Survey Results, November 2022. California Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- Attachment 3. 679 Wildlife Rehabilitation Rulemaking Survey Results, May 2023. California Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- Attachment 4. 679 Wildlife Rehabilitation Rulemaking Survey Results, July 2023. California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

- Attachment 5. 679 Wildlife Rehabilitation Rulemaking Survey Results, January 2024. California Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- Attachment 6. Other States Regulations for the Possession of Wildlife and Wildlife Rehabilitation. Compiled by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, January 2023.
- Attachment 7. 2022 Wildlife Rehabilitation Program by the Numbers Infographic. California Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- Attachment 8. CDFW Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Program summary data and graphs. California Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- Attachment 9. Compilation of Photographic Evidence of Violations or Deficiencies complying with current regulations. California Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2024.
- Attachment 10. Compilation of Photographic Evidence of Wildlife Rehabilitation Permitholders Meeting or Exceeding current regulations. California Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2024.

(f) Public Discussions of Proposed Regulations Prior to Notice Publication

- California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators Annual Meeting, Santa Ana, CA, November 5-6, 2022.
- California Fish and Game Commission, Wildlife Resources Committee. West Sacramento, CA, January 12, 2023.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Wildlife Rehabilitation Program Annual Meeting, Virtual, March 16, 2023.
- California Fish and Game Commission, Wildlife Resources Committee. Monterey, CA, May 17, 2023.
- California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators 679 Regulations Virtual Town Hall, May 23, 2023.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Review of the DFW 679 Manual, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Round 1), May 2023.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, DFW 679 Manual, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Round 2), June 2023.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, DFW 679 Manual, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Round 3), July 2023.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, DFW 679 Manual, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Round 4), August 2023.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Wildlife Rehabilitation Ethics Roundtable Discussion, June – August, 2023.

- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Home-Based Wildlife Rehabilitation Roundtable Discussion, July - September, 2023
- California Fish and Game Commission, Wildlife Resources Committee. San Jose, CA, September 19, 2023.
- California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators Annual Meeting, Monterey, CA, November 4-5, 2023.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, DFW 679 Manual, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Team Meetings, November 20, 2023.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife 679 Regulations Virtual Town Hall, December 5, 2023.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, DFW 679 Manual, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Waterbird meeting), December 6, 2023.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, DFW 679 Manual, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Avifauna meeting), December 7, 2023.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, DFW 679 Manual, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Mammals meeting), December 7, 2023.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, DFW 679 Manual, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Raptor meeting), December 7, 2023.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, DFW 679 Manual, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Waterbird meeting), December 13, 2023.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, DFW 679 Manual, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Avifauna meeting), December 14, 2023.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, DFW 679 Manual, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Mammals meeting), December 14, 2023.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, DFW 679 Manual, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Raptor meeting), December 14, 2023.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, DFW 679 Manual, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Waterbird meeting), January 3, 2024.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, DFW 679 Manual, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Avifauna meeting), January 4, 2024.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, DFW 679 Manual, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Mammals meeting), January 4, 2024.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, DFW 679 Manual, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Raptor meeting), January 4, 2024.
- California Fish and Game Commission, Wildlife Resources Committee. Sacramento, CA, January 19, 2024.

- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators 679 Rulemaking Meeting, January 25, 2024.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Meeting with California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators, February 1, 2024.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Meeting with California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators, February 8, 2024.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 679 Wildlife Rehabilitation Forms, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Round 1) Feb. 22, 2024.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators 679 Rulemaking Meeting, February 22, 2024.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 679 Wildlife Rehabilitation Forms, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Round 2) Friday, March 1, 2024.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 679 Wildlife Rehabilitation Forms, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Round 3) Thursday, March 7, 2024.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators 679 Rulemaking Meeting, March 7, 2024.
- California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators 679 Regulations Virtual Town Hall, March 8, 2024.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 679 Wildlife Rehabilitation Forms, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Round 4) Friday, March 15, 2024.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 679 Wildlife Rehabilitation Forms, Wildlife Rehabilitator Mini Review Teams (Round 5) Thursday, March 21, 2024.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators 679 Rulemaking Meeting, March 28, 2024.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Meeting with Bidwell Wildlife Rehabilitation Board, April 9, 2024.

#### IV. Description of Reasonable Alternatives to Regulatory Action

##### (a) Alternatives to Regulation Change

No alternatives were identified. The intent of the regulation change is to correct current deficiencies within the existing regulation.

##### (b) No Change Alternative

No change alternative would result in the continued use of wildlife rehabilitation standards and requirements that fail to meet current scientifically based standard for the temporary possession and rehabilitation of wild animals, not being updated and kept current to regulation.

(c) Description of Reasonable Alternatives that Would Lessen Adverse Impact on Small Business

Subsection 679.3(e) provides a transition period clause to allow a permittee issued a permit prior to January 1, 2024, to operate under their permit conditions and existing MOU, notwithstanding any addendum to a MOU authorizing the rehabilitation of any large carnivore, until December 31, 2024. Thereafter, all permittees shall comply with all requirements pursuant to subsections 679.1 through 679.9. Further, subsection 679.4(c) establishes variance requirements for a permittee to request for a deviation in construction design or construction materials of the specific caging requirements listed in the DFW 679 Manual. This provision shall allow the Department to approve such variances to these requirements on a case-by-case basis if the Department finds that the overall security and welfare of the animal(s) involved will otherwise be maintained.

V. Mitigation Measures Required by Regulatory Action

- The proposed regulatory action will have no negative impact on the environment; therefore, no mitigation measures are needed.

VI. Impact of Regulatory Action

- The potential for significant statewide adverse economic impacts that might result from the proposed regulatory action has been assessed, and the following initial determinations relative to the required statutory categories have been made:

(a) Significant Statewide Adverse Economic Impact Directly Affecting Businesses, Including the Ability of California Businesses to Compete with Businesses in Other States

- The proposed action will not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states. The proposed action will remedy the incomplete and inadequate specific provisions described in the current regulation.

(b) Impact on the Creation or Elimination of Jobs Within the State, the Creation of New Businesses or the Elimination of Existing Businesses, or the Expansion of Businesses in California; Benefits of the Regulation to the Health and Welfare of California Residents, Worker Safety, and the State's Environment

- The Commission does not anticipate any impacts on creation or elimination of jobs, the creation of new businesses, the elimination of existing businesses or the expansion of businesses in California because the proposed amendments will increase support and guidance to permitted wildlife rehabilitation facilities and provide consistency of standards and requirements for compliance. The Commission anticipates benefits to the health and welfare of California residents and worker safety by requiring site-specific conditions necessary to protect native wildlife, agriculture interests, animal welfare, human health and safety such as enhanced biosecurity protocols, improved caging requirements, and standardized reporting protocol for animals known or suspected to have a communicable disease.

- The new regulations will benefit the environment by expanding the Department's authority to consider potential impacts on native wildlife when issuing permits and increase protections to native wildlife temporarily possessed for the purposes of rehabilitation and release to the wilds of the State. Existing Section 679 fails to explicitly state that the Department shall issue or renew a permit only if the wildlife rehabilitation facility meets all required standards and site-specific conditions necessary to protect native wildlife, agriculture interests, animal welfare, and/or human health and safety. The new regulations require the most current wildlife rehabilitation standards and scientifically based requirements, and fully consider potential impacts to the environment and other resource users prior to issuing a permit.

(c) Cost Impacts on a Representative Private Person or Business

- The Commission is not aware of any unreasonable cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action. Fish and Game Code Section 1050(e) provides that the Department "may establish fees and may adjust statutorily imposed fees by regulation for the filings, permits, determinations, or other department actions described in Section 711.4, 1002, or 1609. "Fees established by the department shall be in an amount sufficient to recover all reasonable administrative and implementation costs of the department relating to the program with regard to which the fee is paid." The most recent year fee amounts per Fish and Game Code Section 713 will be updated on the forms that are proposed for amendments in this rulemaking. For example, in 2021, the non-refundable application fee was \$41.00 with a refundable inspection fee of \$114.54. For 2022, the non-refundable application fee was adjusted for inflation to \$58.50 in accordance with Fish and Game Code Section 713 with a refundable inspection fee of \$162.25. For 2023, the non-refundable application fee was adjusted for inflation to \$65.41 with a refundable inspection fee of \$181.28. For 2024, the non-refundable application fee was adjusted to \$69.01, which shall include a 3% non-refundable ALDS fee (Section 700.4(e)), and refundable inspection fee of \$191.32.

(d) Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State

- None. No change in costs or savings for state agencies is expected as a direct result of the proposed amendments to Section 679. The Department has estimated that the initial rulemaking process, transition period, improved oversight, and support to permittees throughout the state by the Department's Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Program will continue to engage staff time, particularly program staff in the Department's Wildlife Health Laboratory. The Department oversees 80 wildlife rehabilitation facilities and approximately 550 satellite facilities each year. The program and staff time costs will remain unchanged and are within currently existing budgets and resources.

(e) Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies

- None.

(f) Programs Mandated on Local Agencies or School Districts

- None.

(g) Costs Imposed on Any Local Agency or School District that is Required to be Reimbursed Under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4, Government Code

- None.

(h) Effect on Housing Costs

- None.

VII. Economic Impact Assessment

(a) Effects of the Regulation on the Creation or Elimination of Jobs Within the State

- No effect on the creation or elimination of jobs within the state by repealing Section 679 and adding new sections 679.1, 679.2, 679.3, 679.4, 679.5, 679.6, 679.7, 679.8, and 679.9 is anticipated because no impact on the demand for goods or services is projected as a direct result of the proposed changes.

(b) Effects of the Regulation on the Creation of New Businesses or the Elimination of Existing Businesses Within the State

- The Commission does not anticipate any impact on the creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses in California because the proposed changes to the regulations for wildlife rehabilitation should have no impact on the demand for goods or services as a direct result of the proposed changes.

(c) Effects of the Regulation on the Expansion of Businesses Currently Doing Business Within the State

- The effects of the regulations should have no impact on the expansion of businesses currently doing business within the state because the proposed amendment to the regulations for wildlife rehabilitation should have no impact on the demand for goods or services as a direct result of the proposed changes.

(d) Benefits of the Regulation to the Health and Welfare of California Residents

- The Commission anticipates benefits to the health and welfare of California residents by requiring that wildlife rehabilitation facilities use the most current standards and scientifically based requirements to temporarily possess and rehabilitate native wildlife for the purpose of their return to the wild. The proposed changes allow the Department to require the site-specific conditions necessary to protect native wildlife, agriculture interests, animal welfare, human health and safety.



(e) Benefits of the Regulation to Worker Safety

- The Commission anticipates benefits to worker safety by ensuring that wildlife rehabilitation facilities use the most current standards and scientifically based requirements to temporarily possess and rehabilitate native wildlife for the purpose of their return to the wild. The proposed changes have direct bearing on working conditions by requiring site-specific conditions necessary to protect native wildlife, agriculture interests, animal welfare, human health and safety such as enhanced biosecurity protocols, improved caging requirements, and standardized reporting protocol for animals known or suspected to have a communicable disease.

(f) Benefits of the Regulation to the State's Environment

- The proposed action is anticipated to benefit the environment by protecting native wild animals temporarily possessed for the purposes of rehabilitation and return to the wilds of the State.

(g) Other Benefits of the Regulation

- Consistency with Current Wildlife Rehabilitation Standards: California's wildlife rehabilitation regulations need to align with the most current standards and scientifically based requirements to 1) protect native wildlife, agriculture interests, animal welfare, human health and safety; 2) meet Department goals for conservation and management of native wildlife species; and 3) increase public awareness of the ethical standards maintained by wildlife rehabilitators in California.
- The repeal of Section 679 and addition of sections 679.1, 679.2, 679.3, 679.4, 679.5, 679.6, 679.7, 679.8, and 679.9 will enable the Department to align the wildlife rehabilitation permit application and renewal process to better meet the needs of today's current and future wildlife rehabilitators.

## **Informative Digest/Policy Statement Overview**

Unless otherwise specified, all references in this document are regarding Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR). The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) is recommending that the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) repeal and replace the current regulations in Section 679, Possession of Wildlife and Wildlife Rehabilitation. This will resolve issues with the current permit issuance requirements and processes of the Department which do not meet the needs of today's rehabilitation applicants. The proposed additions to regulations are as follows:

### **Project Background**

CDFW currently maintains approximately 80 permitted wildlife rehabilitators in the state. Permits are issued for a three-year period pursuant to Section 679 of Title 14. This Project will update the current wildlife rehabilitation permitting regulation and strengthen the requirements and standards for temporarily possessing native wild animals for the purpose of rehabilitation and their release to the wild. Specifically, the proposed regulation changes would:

- Add Section 679.1 "Definitions" to define terms in the regulatory text.
  - The terms and phrases used within the proposed regulations are defined so that they provide the public with meanings that are unique to rehabilitation.
  - Establishes the DFW 679 Manual, incorporated by reference in the regulation, that further describes specific care requirements for each species.
- Add Section 679.2 "Transportation and Confinement of Live Wild Animals" establishes requirements for the temporary confinement of wildlife for the purpose of transporting to a permitted wildlife rehabilitator.
  - Specifies the requirements for a person not in possession of wildlife rehabilitation permit, to temporarily confine any sick, injured, or orphaned wild animal. This section clarifies to the public the requirements to expedite the transfer of a wild animal to a permitted wildlife rehabilitator.
- Add Section 679.3 "Permits for Wildlife Rehabilitation" to establish and clarify the requirements for becoming a permitted wildlife rehabilitator.
  - The Department may issue, or amend, a permit for a period of 3 years with the specific conditions to protect both animals and human health that have been determined to be needed. The subsections further specify the permit application process and content.
- Add Section 679.4 "Facility and Enclosure Standards for Rehabilitation Animals" establishes the requirements for the operation of any wildlife rehabilitation facility.
  - Minimum requirements for housing and enclosures of rehabilitation animals.
  - The requirements and conditions necessary to protect native wildlife, animal welfare, human health, and human safety.

- Add Section 679.5 “Humane Animal Care Standards” establishes the requirements for the humane care and treatment of rehabilitation animals.
  - The appropriate care, food, water, environment and treatment being provided is based on the needs of the individual animal.
- Add Section 679.6 “Release of Animals into the Wild” to establish and clarify the requirements for the release of native wildlife returned to the wild, and guidelines for animals not native to California.
  - Establishes the conditions that must be met during an evaluation to determine when a rehabilitation animal can be released to the wild ensuring it displays the behavioral and physical traits needed to survive in the wild.
- Add Section 679.7 “Inspection of Wildlife Rehabilitation Facilities” to establish the requirements for the inspection of wildlife rehabilitation facilities by the department.
  - Applicants for, or persons operating a permitted wildlife rehabilitation facility, must allow inspections by the Department to ensure compliance with these regulations as a condition of the permit.
  - The Department will make reasonable attempts at scheduling convenient inspections with the applicant/permittee present. The Department expects that all requirements and conditions necessary to protect animal welfare, native wildlife, human health, and human safety will be met.
- Add Sections 679.8 “Seizure of Animals; Transfer, Euthanasia, or Release of Seized Animals” establishes the actions the department may take due to a violation of a law or permit condition.
  - When an unauthorized person or a permittee is in violation the Department will immediately remove animals if the Department determines that seizure is necessary to protect the welfare of those animals.
  - The costs associated with the seizure and treatment of the animals, including a civil action to recoup the costs, are the responsibility of the violator.
- 679.9 “Revocation of Permit, establishes the authority by which the Department may revoke the permit of the permittee, or any of its authorized persons, if there is a violation of law or of the conditions of the permit.
  - The Department will act so that the violator cannot adversely impact the welfare of wildlife possessed by the permittee; native wildlife; agricultural interests of this state; or human health or safety.

The Project is anticipated to improve administration and oversight of the approval and operation of wildlife rehabilitation facilities for native birds, mammal, amphibian, and reptile species.

### **Benefit of the Regulations**

This regulatory action will establish wildlife rehabilitation standards and conditions that provide for the welfare and conservation of native wildlife temporarily possessed for the purposes of rehabilitation. The wildlife rehabilitation expertise and knowledge possessed by today's wildlife rehabilitators has increased significantly based on decades of scientifically based literature and case studies. The current Section 679 is inadequate for the purpose of standardizing requirements, which align with current standards, for prospective and current wildlife rehabilitators in California. Further, perceived expectation of the public for wildlife rehabilitation facilities to respond to animal welfare concerns about injured, orphaned, diseased or displaced native wildlife has increased concurrent with the increased number of human-wildlife interactions and wildlife incidents reported to the Department. The regulation changes proposed herein will support increased public awareness, recognition, and appreciation of the service provided by permitted wildlife rehabilitators, as well as ensure for the welfare of native wildlife populations throughout the State.

### **Consistency and Compatibility with Existing Regulations**

Section 20 of Article IV of the State Constitution specifies that the Legislature may delegate to the Fish and Game Commission such powers relating to the protection and propagation of fish and game as the Legislature sees fit. The Commission has reviewed its own regulations and finds that the proposed regulatory action is neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing state regulations. The Commission has searched the California Code of Regulations and finds no other state agency regulations pertaining to the permitting of wildlife rehabilitation facilities.

# MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR WILDLIFE REHABILITATION

Third Edition, 2000

Edited by Erica A. Miller, DVM



International Wildlife  
Rehabilitation Council



National  
WILDLIFE REHABILITATORS  
Association

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Preferred citation:

**Miller, E.A., editor. 2000. *Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation, 3rd edition.*  
National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association, St. Cloud, MN. 77 pages.**

First Edition published 1989  
Second Edition published 1993  
Third Edition published 2000

ISBN 1-931439-00-1

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The wildlife rehabilitators listed below have designed the various sections of this document. Their task was to compose a document and then reach a consensus with colleagues and the Boards of Directors of the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association and International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council. This was no small task, and we thank them for their many efforts. Special thanks to the chairs of the Standards Committees, Erica Miller (NWRA) and Robyn Graboski (IWRC), as well as Marnie Allbritten, Lisa Borgia, Sue Coulson, Lessie Davis, Bea Orendorff, Louise Shimmel, and Elaine Thrune, whose editing helped make the document clear and understandable. Typesetting and layout was done by John Frink and Erica Miller.

The concept of standards for wildlife rehabilitation and much of the original work was accomplished in the early 1980s by: Pat Adams, Curt Clumpner, Betsy Crozer, Mary Forness, Lynne Frink, Pixie and Robert Goodrich, Michelle Green, IWRC Board of Directors 1982 & 1983, Susan Kelly, John Mulder, Carol Odel, Vaughan Pratt, Basil Tangredi, Kris Thorne-Bolduc, Jan White, and Linda Wolf.

The third edition of *Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation* has resulted from the suggestions and contributions of many wildlife rehabilitators via letters, phone calls, e-mail messages, and conversations at national and regional conferences. Significant contributions were made by the following individuals: Wendy Aeschliman, Lori Arent, Ann Bradshaw, Susan Barnard, Allan & Shirley Casey, Curt Clumpner, Michael Cox, Lessie Davis, Marge Gibson, Robyn Graboski, Deirdre Goodfriend, Frank Gould, Sandy Heyn, Patrice Klein, Amanda Lollar, Daniel Ludwig, Bea Orendorff, Clyde Peeling, Mike Pratt, Louise Shimmel, Barbara Suto, Florina Tseng and Regina Whitman.

A special note of gratitude goes to Marlys Bulander of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Migratory Bird Permit Office for reviewing this document.

The National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association would like to acknowledge the generous support of the Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust, a KeyBank Trust. The Trust's grant provided support funding for publication of the third edition of *Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation*.

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# CODE OF ETHICS

## A Wildlife Rehabilitator's Code of Ethics

1. A wildlife rehabilitator should strive to achieve high standards of animal care through knowledge and an understanding of the field. Continuing efforts must be made to keep informed of current rehabilitation information, methods, and regulations.
2. A wildlife rehabilitator should be responsible, conscientious, and dedicated, and should continuously work toward improving the quality of care given to wild animals undergoing rehabilitation.
3. A wildlife rehabilitator must abide by local, state, provincial and federal laws concerning wildlife, wildlife rehabilitation, and associated activities.
4. A wildlife rehabilitator should establish safe work habits and conditions, abiding by current health and safety practices at all times.
5. A wildlife rehabilitator should acknowledge limitations and enlist the assistance of a veterinarian or other trained professional when appropriate.
6. A wildlife rehabilitator should respect other rehabilitators and persons in related fields, sharing skills and knowledge in the spirit of cooperation for the welfare of the animals.
7. A wildlife rehabilitator should place optimum animal care above personal gain.
8. A wildlife rehabilitator should strive to provide professional and humane care in all phases of wildlife rehabilitation, respecting the wildness and maintaining the dignity of each animal in life and in death. Releasable animals should be maintained in a wild condition and released as soon as appropriate. Non-releasable animals which are inappropriate for education, foster-parenting, or captive breeding have a right to euthanasia.
9. A wildlife rehabilitator should encourage community support and involvement through volunteer training and public education. The common goal should be to promote a responsible concern for living beings and the welfare of the environment.
10. A wildlife rehabilitator should work on the basis of sound ecological principles, incorporating appropriate conservation ethics and an attitude of stewardship.
11. A wildlife rehabilitator should conduct all business and activities in a professional manner, with honesty, integrity, compassion, and commitment, realizing that an individual's conduct reflects on the entire field of wildlife rehabilitation.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENTS

Fellow Wildlife Rehabilitators,

We are pleased to offer to you this revised and updated *Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation*. This is a cooperative effort that represents the most current knowledge, expertise and techniques in our field. It is a reflection of what we have learned collectively, and have successfully applied during the last three decades. These *Minimum Standards* are based on accepted norms in biology, medicine, behavior, natural history, and, of course, wildlife rehabilitation. The information pertains to all who rehabilitate wildlife, regardless of numbers and types of wildlife cared for, budget size, number of paid or volunteer staff, and size and location of activity.

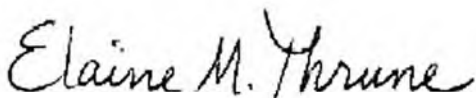
This book is a foundation upon which each wildlife rehabilitator can build an appropriate and effective practice. The goal is to give each animal the best chance of post-release survival in its natural place in the wild. Wildlife rehabilitators should combine information from *Minimum Standards*, current publications, wildlife veterinarians, experienced mentors, and personal experience, along with common sense and good judgment to make the best decisions for each individual animal. All rehabilitators are encouraged to improve upon these standards as they strive to provide the best possible care.

Although this edition is our current foundation, we recognize that as we learn more about housing sizes and materials, nutrition, species behavior, and other aspects of wildlife rehabilitation and medicine, we will certainly improve our methods. Future editions will incorporate the advancements we make.

This document has been designed BY wildlife rehabilitators FOR wildlife rehabilitators. We understand that some wildlife agencies have chosen to use all or parts of our *Minimum Standards* in their permitting or licensing processes. We encourage such use but stress that the information must be kept in context and used to improve the rehabilitative care of wildlife. Our intent is not to exclude, but to include and encourage rehabilitators as they strive to improve.

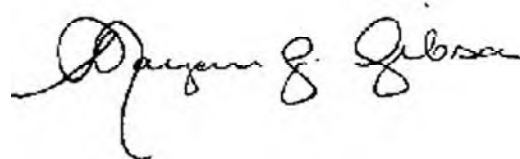
Our Wildlife Rehabilitator's Code of Ethics is a part of these *Minimum Standards* and is based on the principles of honesty, integrity, responsibility, and treating others as we would have them treat us. The Code of Ethics provides basic rules of conduct for each of us to incorporate into our practice. The resulting self-respect, peer respect, and community respect and credibility will increase our effectiveness in animal care, networking, fund-raising, volunteer management, educational efforts, and all aspects of wildlife rehabilitation. Ethical and professional conduct by each wildlife rehabilitator will also contribute significantly to the credibility of our field as a whole, which, in turn, will benefit all of us.

We are proud of this collaborative effort! We encourage all wildlife rehabilitators to actively use this document to help improve the care, treatment, and successful release of wildlife.



Elaine M. Thrune, President

National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association



International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The *Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation (Minimum Standards)* is a document created by and for wildlife rehabilitators. This document is intended to help increase the number of rehabilitated wildlife that are successfully returned to wild populations by providing: a) standards and guidelines for care; b) a mechanism for self-evaluation; and c) recommendations and information regarding wildlife care. All rehabilitators are encouraged to explore and understand the principles underlying these standards, and to apply them in the everyday care of wild animals.

This document is not intended to be an enforcement program. Each state or province may or may not have its own requirements for rehabilitation activities and facilities. Permit requirements vary and are not necessarily related to this document. Some state and provincial agencies, however, use this document when establishing permit programs. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service uses the information contained in this document as part of the Standard Conditions attached to rehabilitation permits for migratory birds and endangered species.

The *Minimum Standards* is not a static textbook, but a living document that changes constantly as the field of wildlife rehabilitation grows and improves, and as the needs of individual animals demand. The procedures and cage sizes described herein have been developed by experienced wildlife rehabilitators, and are considered to be **MINIMUM** standards - i.e., more detailed procedures or larger cages are certainly acceptable and encouraged! Because wildlife patients undergoing rehabilitation are individuals, each with different injuries and unique behaviors, recommended cage sizes and techniques may not apply to every case. The wildlife rehabilitator is encouraged to alter techniques for housing, pre-release conditioning and other aspects of the rehabilitation process, so long as basic natural history, comfort, and hygiene needs are met. Cage dimensions can be modified to accommodate special needs of the facility, animal or new advancements in the field.

These *Minimum Standards* do **NOT** apply to animals kept beyond the normal scope of wildlife rehabilitation. Animals that are kept for educational, display, or captive breeding purposes have different housing requirements based on the needs of the individual. Those specific needs are not addressed in this document.

# Chapter 1 - MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR REHABILITATION PROCESS

*Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation* is a joint effort of the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association (NWRA) and the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council (IWRC). The objectives of this document are to establish professional standards for wildlife rehabilitation, to encourage the development of improved wildlife rehabilitation programs, and to improve care for all wild animals in rehabilitation.

Complying with *Minimum Standards* requires self-examination by the rehabilitator. Improvements in care and treatment protocols can be made and better facilities can be planned for using the information set forth in this publication. These minimum standards have been formulated by committee members, with extensive input from IWRC and NWRA members, and approved by the board of directors of both of these wildlife rehabilitation organizations.

This document has been designed to accommodate both the individual rehabilitator and the rehabilitation organization.

## 1.1 Background

The need for minimum standards for wildlife rehabilitation only became apparent in the past 15 years or so. Wildlife rehabilitation on the other hand, in one form or another, has existed for many years; it has ranged from the good-hearted individuals who first applied improvised methods for returning injured or orphaned wildlife to their native habitat, to the dedicated individuals and institutions that today continue this tradition with the increased knowledge, resources and support that results from decades of collective experience. Organized wildlife care programs originated as an outgrowth of nature and science centers and humane societies in response to public concern for injured wildlife. Some of these programs are now over thirty years old.

The field of wildlife rehabilitation experienced rapid growth beginning in the early 1970s as people became more environmentally aware of the limits of our natural resources. Oil spills triggered large scale attempts to save thousands of oiled water birds and helped raise the consciousness of industry, government and the public about the multiple hazards faced by wildlife. Programs were organized to address the impacts of human populations on native wildlife. Most of these efforts were accomplished with few funds, volunteer assistance, pre-existing facilities, and without government support.

In the early 1980s, financial support for these endeavors came mainly from private sources and, in a small part, from government sources. The numbers of paid staff positions began to increase as newly established organizations developed fund-raising abilities and benefitted from the support of the public. During the 1980s and 1990s, there was an increase in the development of entirely new wildlife care facilities to replace the makeshift facilities used in the 1970s.

Concurrent with these growth trends in the field, the Boards of Directors of the NWRA and the IWRC saw a need to establish basic minimum standards for both the individual rehabilitator and rehabilitation centers. This was partly due to the difference in willingness among participants to continually upgrade their programs, a step deemed necessary in a field with rapidly changing information and techniques.

## **1.2 Minimum Care Requirements**

This chapter of the *Minimum Standards* walks the wildlife rehabilitator through a series of steps specifically designed to increase the chance of a successful release. The information in this first chapter will orient the rehabilitator to basic protocols and familiarize her/him to the information in the following chapters.

The goal of this chapter is to provide a blueprint for successful rehabilitation and guide the rehabilitator through the care and clinical protocols. An example of an information form is found in Appendix A. Using forms ensures that vital information is gathered for each patient. Written records are important in measuring how rehabilitation affects wildlife; therefore, a section describing statistical standards is provided. Many rehabilitation permits require a cooperating veterinarian as a condition for legitimate operation of a wildlife care facility (of any size), and a veterinary policy is provided to clarify how this relationship is intended to work. A facilities review checklist at the end of this chapter is a useful self-evaluation tool.

Minimum standards for wildlife rehabilitation apply not only to the facilities used for rehabilitation, but to all aspects of the work involved. The outline in Table 1 is meant to serve both as guidance for the rehabilitator, and as an explanation of the rehabilitation process for the non-rehabilitator.

Various steps of the process will change from one patient to another, depending on the species, the condition of the individual animal, and other conditions specific to that case. In all cases, additional steps may certainly be added; however, the rehabilitator should try to include these basic steps for each patient. The order of the steps taken and the specifics involved in each step (for example, the type and quantity of fluids) will depend on each animal, its condition, and the materials and experience available to the rehabilitator. The initial treatment will vary the most, depending again on the nature of the injury, the individual animal, the overall condition of the animal, and the materials and experience available to the rehabilitator.

**Table 1: Chronologic Outline of the Rehabilitation Process - Minimum Care  
Procedures For Wildlife Rehabilitation**

- 1) Admission of the animal
  - a) Gather history from the person presenting the animal
  - b) Record all information (see Form 2, Appendix A)
  - c) Provide relevant educational material to the presenter
- 2) Stabilization of the animal
  - a) Evaluate the animal quickly when transferring to a holding pen/cage/etc.
  - b) Examine for critical conditions and administer emergency care as needed
  - c) Provide warmth (unless hyperthermic)
  - d) Provide quiet rest space
  - e) Prepare materials needed for exam
- 3) Initial Examination
  - a) Weight
  - b) Temperature (as able)
  - c) Visual exam
  - d) Palpate limbs
  - e) Examine orifices
  - f) Assess nutritional status and condition
- 4) Initial Treatment
  - a) Provide fluids
  - b) Clean and treat any wounds
  - c) Stabilize fractures
  - d) Administer medications (antibiotics, steroids, etc.)
  - e) Provide appropriate, palatable nutrition for species and status
  - f) Conduct or schedule any ancillary diagnostics (radiographs, bloodwork, fecals, etc.) and any additional treatments (surgeries, follow-up wrap changes, etc.)
- 5) Intensive Rehabilitation
  - a) Monitor weight
  - b) Provide ongoing, appropriate nutrition
  - c) Treat medical problems as needed
  - d) Provide comfortable, appropriate housing and habitat, minimize interaction with human activity
- 6) Intermediate Rehabilitation (restricted activity)
  - a) Monitor weight
  - b) Provide ongoing, appropriate nutrition
  - c) Treat medical problems as needed (should be minimal)
  - d) Provide comfortable, appropriate housing and habitat with mental stimulation, minimize interaction with human activity
  - e) Provide manual physical therapy as needed



- 7) Pre-Release Conditioning (unlimited activity)
  - a) Provide larger, outdoor housing
  - b) Monitor weight and general condition
  - c) Provide ongoing, appropriate nutrition, introducing a more natural diet
  - d) Treat any primary or secondary medical problems as needed (should be minimal)
  - e) Exercise daily, as appropriate for that species
- 8) Release Evaluation (some exceptions for each category)
  - a) Ability to self-feed (perhaps catch live prey)
  - b) Normal mobility and function, reasonable level of physical fitness and stamina necessary for foraging, breeding, or territory defense behavior if predicted
  - c) No evidence of disease
  - d) Normal weight for that species/sex/season
  - e) Normal blood values (where appropriate/feasible and known)
  - f) Suitable release sites available (see Section 7.2)
  - g) Normal behavior (the animal exhibits reasonable responses to human activity, exhibits normal socialization with both same and other species)
- 9) Release
  - a) Provide proper/safe transportation
  - b) Choose appropriate season/time of year (migration, breeding season, etc.)
  - c) Choose appropriate time of day
  - d) Provide food if appropriate
  - e) Monitor post-release if possible

## 1.3 Recording & Reporting Requirements

Records are a vital part of any rehabilitation program, and are particularly important when an individual or an organization is trying to learn from previous work in an effort to improve the care given to wildlife. Record keeping has been placed in two categories: required information and recommended information. Records should be kept on all animals. Formats may vary. Records can be consolidated for healthy litters or clutches of animals raised for release. Daily forms for animals by pen, enclosure, or cage are required to verify that food, medications, and care are being provided.

Statistics should conform to specifications listed in Section 1.4. Annual statistics and, in some cases, individual case information are required to be reported to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and many state and provincial agencies.

All birds (dead or alive) that indicate suspected poisoning or other criminal activity must be reported to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Law Enforcement Office immediately upon acquisition. All threatened or endangered species (dead or alive) and all bald or golden eagles must be reported to the permit-issuing office within 48 hours.

### Required Information

- Species
- Date admitted
- When and where found
- Name/address/phone number of finder
- Presenting injury/problem
- Initial weight
- Case or acquisition number
- Record of notifying U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Permit office in cases of endangered or threatened species, or bald or golden eagles
- Record of notifying U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Law Enforcement in cases of birds being shot, poisoned or victims of other illegal activity
- Final disposition (i.e., released, transferred, placed, died, euthanized), including date, and location of release where applicable
- Recipient information if transferred or placed (name, address, permit number and purpose of transfer), including the transfer or placement of carcasses for educational purposes
- Type and amount of euthanasia drug if a controlled substance was used
- Federal band number, where applicable
- Completed daily care forms
- Any additional information required by state or provincial permitting agency

## **Recommended Information**

- Any additional history that might be provided by the presenter (regarding cause of injury, severity or time of injury/problem, any care given by the presenter, etc.)
- Physical examination data
- Daily treatment information and efficacy
- Data regarding surgery, clinical pathology, necropsy, histopathology (where applicable)
- Release weight
- In suspected poisoning cases, any additional information describing the site where the animal was found, weather, other species present, etc.

See Appendix A for a sample form used to collect information from the person presenting the animal, and a sample examination form for collection of the other data. The sample forms were designed for use with birds, but could be easily adapted for use with other wildlife.

## 1.4 Statistical Standards

### Definitions

The code letters used by wildlife rehabilitators and rehabilitation centers can vary, but should be strictly defined for comparison purposes. Referenced categories should correspond to the following:

R (RELEASED): Any healthy, recovered animal that is returned to its natural, wild habitat

T (TRANSFERRED):

1) Any animal transported to another facility or wildlife rehabilitator for further rehabilitation efforts. (Note: if the animal is known to have been released by the receiving facility, it is still recorded as a 'T' by the original facility and as an 'R' by the receiving facility).

2) Any animal determined to be unreleasable while undergoing wildlife rehabilitation efforts that is placed in a non-rehabilitation situation.

NOTE: Agency permission (federal and state or provincial) is usually required prior to transfer of live animals, and the recipient must possess the proper permits.

For individual center's information, this can be further subdivided into (optional):

TR (TRANSFERRED FOR REHABILITATION)

TD (TRANSFERRED FOR DISPLAY)

TE (TRANSFERRED FOR EDUCATION)

P (PENDING): Any animal still undergoing rehabilitation efforts. These animals are only added to summary statistics after final resolution.

D (DIED): Used for any animal either received dead or which dies during the rehabilitation process. Can be subdivided into (optional):

DOA (DEAD ON ARRIVAL): Any animal that dies before any lifesaving measures or treatments can be implemented in the care facility. This assumes needed measures are undertaken immediately upon receiving the animal. Placing the animal in a quiet, dark environment is using a form of treatment.

DIC (DIED IN CARE): Any animal that dies subsequent to any handling, exam, treatment, or implementation of lifesaving measures in the care facility.

E (EUTHANIZED): Any animal that is suffering or non-releasable that is euthanized. Can be subdivided into (optional):

EOA (EUTHANIZED ON ARRIVAL): Any animal euthanized after an initial exam without further treatment measures being done.

E (EUTHANIZED): Any animal euthanized after treatment measures have been implemented.

## Data Analysis for Release Rate for Releasable Animals

$$\% \text{ Released} = \frac{\# \text{ Released}}{(\text{Total} \# \text{ Received} - \text{DOA})}$$

Note: released animals do NOT include transferred, placed or pending animals.

Rehabilitators are encouraged to divide their statistics further into the categories of avian, mammalian, and herpetile species, both for their own information, and to help with comparisons with data from other individuals and centers. This will help with statistical comparisons between those that deal strictly with avian species, those that deal with both avian and mammalian species, those that may deal strictly with herpetiles, etc.

### 1.5 Veterinary Policy

In most states and under most circumstances, the legal prescription of medical care for wild-life patients is the responsibility of a veterinarian. The veterinarian may delegate a portion of this responsibility to a rehabilitator by means of a mutually agreeable, written protocol wherein these responsibilities are clearly defined. Such an arrangement allows the veterinarian to prescribe a specific treatment protocol for a specific type of injury without having to see each individual patient (e.g., the veterinarian may prescribe a certain antibiotic to be given at a specific dosage, frequency and duration for all cat attack victims). This type of arrangement also requires that an appropriate veterinarian-rehabilitator-wildlife patient relationship exists and has the following components:

1. The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for any medical judgments regarding the health of wildlife patients and the need for medical treatments.
2. The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of wildlife medicine to permit a general or preliminary diagnosis. Furthermore, the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the general conditions and care of the wildlife patients through medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the wildlife patients are kept, or timely transport of wildlife patients to the facility of the attending veterinarian.
3. If the veterinarian intends to keep and treat any animal for more than 24 hours, the veterinarian must have the appropriate wildlife rehabilitation permit(s) or be listed as a sub-permittee to the wildlife rehabilitator. Wildlife housed at a veterinary hospital must be housed in an area that is quiet and removed from domestic animals and human traffic.
4. The veterinarian is readily available for follow-up in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy. Such follow-up should be specific in any written agreement between the rehabilitator and the veterinarian.
5. Any agreement must abide by the laws and regulations governing the practice of veterinary medicine where and if they apply to wildlife rehabilitation.

## **1.6 Wildlife Rehabilitation Facilities Review**

Rehabilitation facilities and individual rehabilitators often benefit from doing a regular self-evaluation or self-review. A form used to assist in this type of self-evaluation is found in Appendix A (Form 1). The purpose of this form is to provide wildlife care-givers suggestions to save time (for example, keeping reference materials at the phone), to ensure wildlife receives appropriate housing and medical treatment (exam area, caging, veterinary and diagnostic), and to protect both wildlife and humans from disease and contamination (food preparation, disinfecting, housekeeping). Not all items contained in the form will apply to everyone - an individual rehabilitator probably does not require a grievance committee or Worker's Compensation Insurance - but this form does provide an easy reference to be sure important considerations are not overlooked when changes, such as facility growth, occur.

## Chapter 2 - DISEASE CONTROL

### 2.1 Rationale for Disease Control

The safety and health of the humans caring for wildlife is a critical facet of successful rehabilitation. Many diseases are transmitted from animals to humans, and also from animal to animal. This chapter instructs rehabilitators on effective ways to prevent the spread of disease from wildlife to caretakers, domestic animals, and other wildlife patients. Proper disease control is a serious concern for rehabilitators and permit granting agencies. Adherence to the suggested protocols is highly recommended by the NWRA and the IWRC.

Facility cleanliness is an integral part of disease prevention and containment. Proper cleaning agents combined with a sensible cleaning schedule will reduce the spread of disease within a facility. Cleaning protocols vary considerably based on the species and condition of animals in care, facility type, and cage construction. Choice of cleaning agent must be made with these variables in mind. Included in this chapter are cleaning agent descriptions and a table of agent properties that will help in making appropriate selections. The timing of cleaning efforts is another important feature of effective disease prevention. Suggestions for proper and regular maintenance in this chapter will help rehabilitators prevent disease within their facility.

### 2.2 Prevention of Disease Transmission

Since transmissible diseases are so diverse in their origin and action, it is most useful to approach their control according to their mode of transmission. The general modes of transmission are:

1. Diseases passing directly from one vertebrate host to another via direct contact (bite, etc.)
2. Indirect transmission involving one or more intermediate hosts (vectors) such as arthropods or prey species
3. Indirect transmission involving aerosol particles or fomites (inanimate objects such as clothing, utensils, food dishes, cage bedding, etc.)

Disease organisms enter the body by one or more of six routes:

1. Inhalation
2. Ingestion
3. Inoculation (animal bite, injection, insect bite, or direct contact via a preexisting opening in the skin)
4. Genital tract via coitus or contaminated instruments
5. Transplacental (from the mother - mammals only)
6. Across the umbilicus or yolk (from the mother)

For each of these modes of transmission there must be an effective strategy to interrupt the transmission cycle. The wildlife rehabilitator's primary defense against diseases communicable from animal to humans is a high standard of personal hygiene. The primary control of diseases communicable from animal to animal is containment, with the first line of defense being the individual cage or pen.

## **2.3 Standards to Prevent Disease Transmission within the Facility**

### **2.3.1 Control of Diseases Transmissible from Animals to Humans**

- Clothing should be clean and changed as often as necessary. It is suggested that the facility provide lab coats or other tops to volunteers and launder them on-site.
- Shoes and boots should be kept clean of fecal matter, dirt, and cage litter.
- Disposable gloves and surgical masks must be available for use during such procedures as necropsies or cleaning contaminated animal quarters. Necropsy procedures must adhere strictly to sanitary practices including the use of surgical masks and disposable gloves, appropriate outer garments, and the use of disinfectants.
- Lavatory facilities should be accessible with hand-washing sinks and suitable washing agents.
- Eating, drinking and smoking should be restricted to designated areas free of animal waste materials.
- The supervisory staff must be given basic information on zoonoses. Personal hygiene rules should be established and the supervisory staff should set an example.
- All personnel and volunteers should be advised to seek the consent of their physicians before working in the facility. They should acquire any necessary vaccinations (especially tetanus). If working with mammals, they should inquire about the possibility of pre-exposure rabies vaccinations. Female workers who become pregnant should be advised to renew medical consent. Rehabilitators handling potential Rabies Vector Species (RVS - most adult mammals) should have pre-exposure rabies vaccinations. See Section 2.3.3.
- There must be separate refrigeration facilities for food (animal food kept separate from human food) and for carcasses and postmortem specimens.

### **2.3.2 Control of Diseases Transmissible from Animal to Animal**

- Cages should be designed for efficient cleaning. When possible, seamless, nonporous materials (such as stainless steel, fiberglass or plastics) should be employed for cage construction and food containers.
- Animal enclosures should be kept sanitary by having an adequate and routine cleaning regimen in which responsibilities are clearly defined and assigned to personnel. While daily removal of feces and urine from mammal cages is necessary to prevent odor, parasite re-infestation, and insect overpopulation, avian, reptile, and amphibian cages usually require less frequent cleaning. Many adult birds, especially songbirds, as well as other injured wildlife, are very easily stressed during the rehabilitation process, thus daily disturbances should be minimized. Infant mammal and bird caging requires much more frequent cleaning; bedding or nest cup linings should be changed each time the animals are fed. The floors of many indoor avian cages may be lined with layers of newspaper, paper towels, or other substrates, which can be removed one layer at a time for easy disposal of urates, feces, etc. Large flight aviaries may also be cleaned on a less frequent basis, provided there is a regular schedule for cleaning. Caging for aquatic herpetiles may be kept clean primarily through the use of proper water filtration systems.



- Indoor facilities are required to have efficient ventilation and air movement with minimal recycled or reused air.
- In all circumstances, protocols for regular cleaning should be in place, and all cages should be properly disinfected between patients (when an animal or group of animals is removed, the cage should be disinfected before new animals are placed in the cage). Because of ~~the high incidence of~~ *Baylisascaris procyonis* (the intestinal roundworm of raccoons), the fatal transmission of this parasite to other species, and the high resistance of this parasite to disinfectants, caging used for raccoons should be designated as such, and should not be used to house other species. Before a newly-acquired animal is introduced into a cage or enclosure that has previously been used by another animal, the cage must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected and the bedding material changed.
- Animals confirmed or suspected of having contagious diseases must be kept isolated from all noninfected susceptible animals. Newly acquired animals should be housed separately from in-house animals upon arrival. Animals that are presented together (littermates or nestmates) may be housed together during this period. They should not be added to a group pen until it has been established that they are in good health.
- A routine examination for parasites should be performed on new arrivals, with re-examination at intervals during protracted rehabilitation.
- Bowls, feeding utensils, medical equipment, linens used for handling animals and for animal bedding, and gloves worn while handling wildlife should also be cleaned/replaced daily and disinfected between use on different animals.
- Water bowls should be cleaned and/or changed as needed to keep them clear of algae, leaves, feces, and other debris.
- Animal diets must be prepared and foodstuffs should be stored under sanitary conditions that ensure freedom from vermin and microbial contamination.

### **2.3.3 Public Health Responsibilities**

- All organic refuse must be collected into airtight bags or containers and stored in a safe location until it is removed from the premises. The supervisory staff is responsible to local public health officials on matters regarding waste and postmortem material disposal.
- Domestic animals should not be allowed at the rehabilitation facility. If this is unavoidable, domestic animals should be fully vaccinated and should have no direct contact with, nor direct exposure to, wildlife.
- Personnel must take care to properly wash and change clothes before coming in contact with domestic animals.
- A program for rodent and insect control is recommended for wildlife care facilities; however, if pesticides are used, care should be taken to avoid contaminating both human and animal food and housing areas with pesticides.
- The rescuer or individual presenting an animal to a rehabilitator should be questioned regarding the possibility of any contact with the animal, such as bites or scratches. If injured, the individual should immediately be referred to his/her own physician for medical attention. The rehabilitator should also notify the public health department of any such

injuries, if required by state law. If the bite or injury is from an RVS, the animal should be euthanized and tested for rabies.

- All rehabilitators handling mammals (especially adults) should have pre-exposure rabies vaccinations and be knowledgeable in the handling of these species. Any bites from an RVS should be reported to the public health department. Animals suspected of rabies and that are to be tested should be refrigerated immediately following death or euthanasia; these carcasses should NOT be frozen or the test results will often be invalid.

### **2.3.4 Release Considerations**

Rehabilitated adult animals should be released within the animal's normal home range, or within 10 miles from point of capture, when possible and reasonable. This practice minimizes the unnatural spread of parasites, diseases, and genetic material among wild populations, and maximizes the animal's chance of survival. Exact release location and time should be chosen at the discretion of the rehabilitator, based on the appropriateness of the habitat and the condition of the animal. When circumstances allow, rehabilitated adult birds should be released in a suitable habitat as close as possible to the point of their capture except during migration. If migration has occurred while the bird has been in captivity, the bird should be released in the area of the migratory destination. Studies have shown that rehabilitated reptiles and amphibians should be released within 1/2 mile of the point of capture to maximize their chance of survival.

If information regarding the location of capture is not available, the release of the animal should be within the standards set by the state/provincial wildlife agency and should meet all habitat requirements of the animal. Intimate knowledge of the species' natural history and behavioral patterns is essential in choosing the correct habitat. Studies that examine outcomes of released animals indicate that incorrect habitat selection increases mortality.

Juvenile animals, especially those that were brought into rehabilitation as infants, do not have to be released at the site of capture to ensure survival; however, efforts should still be made to release these animals within 10 miles of the capture site, if possible. When return is not possible (retrieval area is contaminated, contains definite hazards for the animal or the individual doing the release, etc.), these animals should be released in a suitable habitat.

Some considerations when assessing what a suitable habitat constitutes for a particular species include: adequate space not occupied by territorial conspecifics; suitable shelter; proper terrain and vegetation; good food and water supply; minimal number of predators; and suitable distance from human development.

### **2.3.5 Disposal of Carcasses and Animal Waste Products**

Each animal that dies or is euthanized while under the care of a wildlife rehabilitator should always be examined carefully to confirm that the animal really is dead (lack of pulse or heart beat). Carcasses should then be disposed of properly and in accordance with local laws and parameters set forth in individual wildlife rehabilitation permits (e.g., the rehabilitator may be required to transfer the carcasses of endangered species to a specified location). Unless otherwise directed, all bald and golden eagle carcasses and loose feathers must be sent to the National Eagle and Wildlife Property Repository (Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Building 128, Commerce City, Colorado 80022, PH: 303-287-2110, EM: dennis\_wiist@fws.gov).

If the rehabilitator plans to necropsy the carcass or transfer it to a diagnostic facility for the purpose of necropsy, the carcass should be wet with cold water, unless the animal is a suspected victim of pesticide poisoning (water might remove pesticides contaminating the outside of the animal). The addition of a small amount of detergent to the water will help to penetrate the fur or feathers, speeding up the process of cooling the body. If the necropsy is not performed immediately, the wet carcass should be placed in a plastic bag, sealed, labeled, and refrigerated in an ice chest or refrigerator not used for food storage. A necropsy performed shortly after death allows collection of more accurate information. This accuracy fades as more time passes due to postmortem changes which can alter or mask signs. Gloves and surgical mask must be worn while conducting necropsies. Necropsies should be performed in a well-ventilated location, separate from live animal and food preparation areas.

*NOTE: Endangered or threatened species and bald or golden eagles must not be necropsied without first obtaining permission from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

Carcasses that are not necropsied may be transferred to local natural history museums, universities or other institutions for study and/or addition to their collections. The wildlife rehabilitator should contact these institutions and arrange for proper handling of the carcasses so that the institutions can gain the most benefit from them (e.g., carcasses may need to be frozen, placed in formalin, etc.). Specific data may also need to be recorded by the rehabilitator such as date and location animal was found, live body weight, etc. In many cases, the information provided by the rehabilitator can be as valuable as the specimen itself.

If the wildlife rehabilitator desires to keep specific parts or portions of avian carcasses (e.g., skeletons or skins for educational purposes, etc.), special permits must first be obtained from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Many state wildlife agencies also require special permits to possess wildlife parts. Special permits are not required for the rehabilitator to possess a limited number of feathers (excluding eagle feathers) for imping purposes.

All other carcasses and all animal waste products should be disposed of in accordance with acceptable practices as required by local ordinances as well as applicable state/provincial and federal regulations. Carcasses and organic wastes suspected of disease contamination should be either buried or incinerated. Where legal, burial of carcasses should be at a depth that will discourage scavenger species from unearthing them, and lime should be spread on top of the carcasses to assist in disease control. Incinerators are generally cost prohibitive to most rehabilitators and rehabilitation facilities, and special permits are required to operate incinerators in most areas. Many local animal control shelters or laboratories have incinerators and the rehabilitator may be able to arrange for these facilities to incinerate carcasses on a regular basis. Carcasses may be frozen for a limited period of time (in nonfood freezers) for storage prior to incineration or donation to pre-approved facilities (public institutions or individuals authorized to possess the specimens for educational purposes).

## 2.4 Disinfection

Disease control and prevention are the obvious “why’s” of facility cleanliness. The following information pertains to the “how’s” of creating and maintaining a clean facility.

### 2.4.1 Definition of Common Terms

#### Antiseptic:

A substance capable of preventing infection by inhibiting the growth of infectious agents (implies use on living tissue).

#### Bacterial spores:

The resting or vegetative stage of certain bacteria (especially *Bacillus* and *Clostridium*) characteristically very resistant to environmental changes.

#### Cytotoxic:

Having the characteristic of killing cells.

#### Diluent:

Substance used to make a concentrated solution more dilute. Sterile water and saline are common diluents for wound treatment, and tap water is a common diluent for general disinfection.

#### Disinfectant:

A substance that destroys microbial organisms or inhibits their activity.

#### Disinfection:

Destruction of vegetative forms of microorganisms (implies use on inanimate objects).

#### Sterilization:

The destruction of all microorganisms in or about an object (term is only used with inanimate objects). [Note: “cold sterilization” refers to the specific method of using a disinfectant solution to soak objects, rather than applying heat, pressure, or gas as used in other methods of sterilization].

#### Volatiles:

Agents that evaporate rapidly and pass readily in the form of a vapor. Toxic components within these vapors can be dangerous.

### 2.4.2 Types of Cleaning Agents

There are various disinfecting agents that should be used after regular cleaning to properly sanitize. Suggested uses are listed under each category of cleaning agent, and some products work better against specific disease entities. The rehabilitator, however, should be aware that none of these products is designed for any specific target or single use. In addition, none of these products is specifically effective against nematode eggs or larvae (intestinal worms). Most parasites are best removed from the environment by simple mechanical means (i.e., removal of feces and physical scrubbing of cages and cage contents), while other parasites, such as *Baylisascaris*, may be very difficult to completely remove from the environment. Many disinfectants emit potentially harmful volatiles; therefore, when disinfectants are used in cages, the cages should be allowed to dry thoroughly before placing animals into the cages. Some of the more common agents and methods are discussed here; additional information can be found in the references in Appendix B.

### Detergents:

Detergents are cleaning compounds and include both soaps (anionic - alkali salts; negatively charged) and synthetic detergents (cationic - colloidal in solution; used as antiseptics, wetting agents, and emulsifiers; positively charged). While soaps are non-antibacterial, the physical scrubbing action of cleaning removes many of the microorganisms. Detergents alone do have minor disinfectant action against vegetative bacteria; however, they are not effective against fungi or viruses. Additionally, they lose their effectiveness in the presence of blood or tissue debris.

Examples: Dish detergents and laundry detergents.

Uses: Initial washing of cages, food bowls, etc., to remove organic matter.

### Alcohols:

Solutions of 50-70% isopropyl alcohol or 70% ethyl alcohol are commonly used alone or combined with other disinfectants. Isopropyl has a wider range of antibacterial action and is less corrosive than ethyl alcohol. Alcohols act by denaturing soluble proteins, interrupting metabolism, depressing surface tension and lysing (breaking open) cells. Because it is cytotoxic, alcohol should not be used on open wounds. Alcohols inactivate phenols, so the two should not be combined. Alcohols are not effective for cold sterilization, and may damage rubber, plastic and other synthetic materials.

Example: Rubbing alcohol.

Uses: surgical preparation, antiseptic, instruments.

Use undiluted (i.e., 50-70%).

### Aldehydes:

The two most common disinfectants in this group are glutaraldehydes and formaldehyde. Glutaraldehydes are often combined with a synthetic detergent. These substances are irritating and cytotoxic, so their use is limited to disinfection, and instruments should be rinsed well before use. Exposure of 3 hours is required to kill bacterial spores. Formaldehyde is considered a carcinogen.

Examples: Wavicide™, Cidex™.

Uses: Glutaraldehydes may be used for cold pack sterilization, disinfection; formalin (40% formaldehyde in water) may be used to fumigate premises.

Recommended dilution ratio: Use glutaraldehydes undiluted (i.e., 2.0%) for disinfection; use formalin at 1-10% for fumigation.

### Chlorhexidine:

This bisbiguanide compound acts on bacterial cell membranes, precipitates intracellular contents, and inhibits ATP (adenosine triphosphate, an energy source for cells--in this case the energy source of the bacteria). The cell membrane damage causes leakage of potassium and pentoses, which kills the bacteria, but also harms host cells. Can dilute in water or saline. The brand name Virosan™ contains alcohol, making it effective against pseudomonads; however, once mixed with water this solution is only effective for 3-4 days.

Example: Nolvasan™(2%), Virosan™.

Uses: Surgical preparation, wound treatment, disinfection.

Recommended dilution ratio: 1ml chlorhexidine + 39ml diluent (0.5%) for wounds, and 1ml chlorhexidine + 19ml diluent (1.0%) for disinfection.

### Chlorine:

Chlorine-based products are oxidizers, releasing free radicals that destroy cells. These compounds indiscriminately attack microorganisms, organic matter and living tissue. Chlorine decomposes in the presence of light and has toxic fumes that can lead to chemical pneumonia and skin and eye burns. Good ventilation, eye protection and gloves are recommended when using Chlorines.

Examples: Clorox Bleach™, Purex™ (should be 5.25% sodium hypochlorite).

Uses: Disinfection of nonmetallic objects and surfaces.

Recommended dilution ratio: 1:32 (1/2 cup of 5.25% bleach per gallon diluent).

### Stabilized Chlorine Dioxides

Stabilized chlorine dioxide is an inorganic compound of oxygen and chlorine and is a powerful oxidizing agent. Chlorine dioxides stimulate an oxidation process that safely breaks and eliminates sulfur bonds responsible for organic odor. Can be safely used around birds. It will clean and provide disinfectant protection and is not harmful. For hard surfaces, the solution is sprayed on and then wiped off after a 5 minute exposure. Rinsing is not necessary. Oxyfresh Dent-a-gene™ is a full strength stabilized chlorine dioxide disinfectant that is a two-part product. The two parts are mixed (at this stage it does have toxic fumes) but once stabilized it is safe for use. A mixed solution can be used for 7 days if sealed tightly and kept out of the light.

Examples: Bio-Rite™, DioxiCare™, Oxyfresh Dent-a-gene™, Oxyfresh Cleansing Gele™

Uses: Washing/soaking solution for syringes, food dishes, feeders and water containers; general disinfection of premises.

Recommended dilution ratio: Varies with product, follow label directions.

### Cresols:

Cresols are wood tar distillates that have solvent and antibacterial properties. Commercial cresols available as disinfectants usually consist of pine oils combined with soap. These substances are often difficult to remove from surfaces and may leave a slick coating to floors or other surfaces.

Examples: HexoI™, Pine-Sol™.

Uses: Disinfection of premises.

Recommended dilution ratio: None listed in literature.

### Iodophores:

These compounds consist of iodine complexed with surfactants or polymers. The most common compound is povidone iodine (iodine + polyvinylpyrrolidone), available as a solution and as a scrub. The detergent used in the scrub form is cytotoxic and should not be used on open wounds. The polyvinylpyrrolidone has a high affinity for cell membranes, delivering the iodine more directly to the target cells (e.g., bacteria), but it is the free iodine that contains the disinfectant action; therefore, dilutions of povidone iodine actually disinfect or kill infectious agents better than more concentrated solutions. Iodine kills bacterial spores if contact time is greater than 15 minutes.

Example: Betadine™ Solution and Betadine™ Scrub(10%).

Uses: Surgical preparation, wound treatment, hand cleansers, foot baths, disinfection.

Recommended dilution ratio: 1ml povidone-iodine + 99ml diluent (0.1%) for surgical preparation and 1ml povidone-iodine + 9ml diluent (1.0%) for wound treatment.

### Phenols:

Phenols are cytotoxic by disrupting cell walls and precipitating cellular proteins. Some phenols have been shown to cause neurotoxicity and teratogenicity (birth defects) after long dermal exposure, so animals should be removed from the quarters during cleaning; the use of goggles and gloves is recommended. Phenols are extremely toxic to cats and may be toxic to reptiles.

Examples: Avinol-3™, Lyso™, One Stroke Environ™.

Uses: General disinfection, foot baths.

Recommended dilution ratio: 1/2 ounce One Stroke per gallon diluent.

### Quaternary Ammonium Compounds (QAC):

QAC's are a form of cationic detergent, but they are not compatible with other soaps or detergents, and even the residues of these substances and/or organic matter will inactivate QAC's. Activity is increased, however, by the addition of ethanol. These compounds act by direct denaturation of bacterial enzyme systems and neutralization of acidic elements in the bacterial cell walls.

Examples: Roccal D™, Parvosol™, Quintacide™.

Uses: Some wound treatment, general disinfection.

Recommended dilution ratio: 1 part QAC to 2,500 parts diluent for wounds; 1 part QAC to 200 parts diluent for disinfection.

### General Comment on Potential Environmental Toxins:

Many disinfectants and their fumes, especially at full-strength, may cause skin, eye and lung irritation, and may be toxic if ingested. Care should be taken to wear gloves while using these products, and to work in a well-ventilated area. Most chemical compounds, including disinfectants, some cleansers and even some drugs, must be accompanied by a material safety data sheet (MSDS) explaining the potential health hazards and how to prevent or treat exposure. These information sheets are usually packaged with the products, or can be obtained from the manufacturer. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), as well as most insurance companies, require that a complete file of appropriate MSDS's be kept on scene and readily available/accessible to all employees and volunteers.

In addition to human safety, care must be taken to prevent chemical exposure to wildlife. Animals should be kept away from all volatile chemicals at all times. This includes phenols, ammonia, bleach, and most common household cleansers. If these cleansers must be used, the animals must be removed from the room they are being used in until it has thoroughly aired. If any of these chemicals are used to disinfect cages, they must be thoroughly rinsed and air-dried to prevent toxin accumulation. Cigarette smokers should not smoke near animals, particularly amphibians. Note that many pesticides will cause severe illness or even death in many birds, reptiles and nearly all amphibians.

**Table 2: Properties of Disinfectants**

<u>Property or Spectrum of Action</u>	<u>Phenol</u>	<u>QAC</u>	<u>Cresol</u>	<u>Alcohol</u>	<u>Iodo-phore</u>	<u>Chlor-ine</u>	<u>Alde-hyde</u>	<u>Chlor-hexi-dine</u>	<u>Chlor-ine dioxide</u>
GM <sup>+</sup> bacteria	high	high	high	high	high	high	high	high	high
GM <sup>-</sup> bacteria	high	high	high	high	high	high	high	mod*	high
Bacterial spore	none	none	none	none	mod	none	mod	none	mod
Chlamydia	none	high	none	none	?	low	?	none	?
Fungi & yeasts	low	mod	mod	mod	high	high	high	mod	high
Viruses	mod	var	mod	mod	mod	high	high	mod	high
Protozoa	low	mod	?	mod	high	none	?	low	high
Effectiveness w/organic matter	mod	low	mod	none	mod	none	var	mod	low
Residual action	high	high	high	none	low	none	low	high	low
Effectiveness in hard water	var	low	var	NA	high	high	high	none	?
Most effective PH range	acid	alk	acid	NA	acid/alk	acid	acid	alk	?
Corrosiveness	high	none	mod	low	mod	high	none	none	low
Toxicity	high	low	mod	low	low	low	var	mod	low
Biodegradable	?	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no <sup>#</sup>	no	yes

**KEYS**

mod = moderate

var = variable with formulation

? = unknown or conflicting data published

NA = not applicable

alk = alkaline

\* Virosan™ brand is effective against pseudo-monads; other chlorhexidines are **not** effective against pseudomonads.

# Wavicide™ brand name product is biodegradable.

**Other disinfectant notes**

- Phenols and aldehydes perform better at warmer temperatures
- Iodophores are only stable as long as dark color is maintained and may stain.
- QAC destroys chlamydia but is usually expensive.
- Alcohols evaporate rapidly and may require reapplication.
- Chlorines break down in light and solutions must be fresh. Chlorines are usually inexpensive.



## Chapter 3 - BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR HOUSING WILD ANIMALS IN REHABILITATION

### 3.1 Overview

Wildlife rehabilitators should be able to provide enclosures or cages of appropriate size made from appropriate materials that contain appropriate furnishings for all ages of all species that they commonly treat. The cage sizes recommended in this document are minimal, and the suggested materials work well for many rehabilitators. Alternative techniques for housing and pre-release conditioning are encouraged, but must meet basic natural history, comfort, and hygiene requirements. Assigning cage size strictly by species is not always realistic; variations in an individual's size due to race or age, and variations in an individual's behavior due to age and season, will affect appropriate cage size. Dimensions can be modified to accommodate special needs of the facility or the individual animal and new advancements in the field.

Minimum standards for enclosures are based on common sense. All enclosures should be structurally sound, constructed of materials appropriate for species housed, maintained in good repair, and designed to protect the animal from injury, abuse, or harassment while containing the animal and restricting the entrance of other animals. Enclosures should provide sufficient shelter from overheating, excessive rain, snow, or cold temperatures. Each animal should be able to turn about freely, and lie or sit comfortably, unless medically restrained. The construction material should be of sufficient strength, and be of a nonporous, waterproof finish (when reasonable) to facilitate cleaning and disinfection.

The facility should have reliable and adequate potable water and electricity. Food and bedding should be stored in an appropriate manner that protects it from spoilage, infestation and contamination. Waste should be properly disposed of in accordance with all regulations, in a manner that minimizes vermin infestation, odors, and disease hazards. The facility should provide fresh air in a manner that avoids drafts, odors, and water condensation, and provides auxiliary ventilation when ambient temperature exceeds 85°F. Lighting should be adequate to allow for inspection and cleaning, while not stressing animals. Full spectrum lights may be necessary. The facility should be sufficiently drained to protect against sewage back up in traps and to rapidly eliminate water accumulation.

An effort should be made by the rehabilitator to obtain as much information as possible on each species admitted through reference and natural history literature and contact with other rehabilitators familiar with the species. Through an understanding of each species' behavior and natural history, proper choices can be made to provide suitable cage habitats.

All rehabilitators should be prepared to provide **temporary** housing for any species they are likely to encounter—including those species rarely encountered, and/or for which they are not currently licensed to treat. These animals should be transferred within 24 hours to another rehabilitator or facility that is both properly licensed and equipped for their care.

Many indoor and outdoor cages can be constructed for multispecies use. These cages can be quickly modified to accommodate different species through substituting different perches or other furnishings. Thus, a separate cage is not needed for each species the rehabilitator intends to treat, but cages should be able to be adequately disinfected and adapted to meet the minimum standards required for the species.

Many young animals (e.g., fledgling crows or infant raccoons) should be group-housed with conspecifics to avoid imprinting on and/or socialization to humans. When foster parents are available, young birds (when possible) should be transferred to facilities having those foster parents. Efforts should also be made to network with other rehabilitators to place individual (single) young animals with others of its own species.

When birds are developed sufficiently to perch or mammals to ambulate, cages meeting adult requirements are necessary. These adolescents may be more “behaviorally comfortable” being group-housed with conspecifics. Group-housing is not always feasible or the best option for adults. The natural history and seasonal behavior of the species are factors to consider before housing adult animals together.

Housing design must provide for the safety of both humans and animals. In addition to the above, some important considerations include:

- Avoid areas where animals can become tangled or trapped
- Avoid sharp edges or points (inside and outside cages)
- Allow for “running” distance for both human and animal, including hiding boxes
- Ensure proper footing by using flooring with good drainage
- Avoid ledges that can be used as unintended perches
- Secure all cages with appropriate locks
- Use food trapdoors if possible to minimize interaction

### **3.2 Cage Size Criteria Based on Medical Status**

Appropriate cage space is conditional to the species, the behavior of the individual, the nature of the injury, and the specifics of treatment and recovery. Recommended cage dimensions are based on approximations of space requirements during three recovery periods, each defined by the activity level required of the patient(s). These levels are restricted activity/mobility, limited activity/mobility, and unlimited activity/mobility.

The following paragraphs describe the three activity levels and the caging best suited to them. Housing/caging should allow recovering animals the prescribed amount of self-imposed activity or supervised/forced activity during rehabilitation. Prescribed activity can be linked with cage size based on species and stage of recovery. Indoor caging is replaced by outdoor caging as the animal progresses through the rehabilitation process. Animals requiring large expanses of water (for example, grebes, loons, pelagic birds, and many marine mammals) present some challenges to wildlife rehabilitators and this set of activity descriptions; these descriptions may not apply directly to such species.

### **3.2.1 Restricted Activity/Mobility**

Restricted activity/mobility means to hold an animal within a space small enough to restrict almost all movement, but to provide enough room for the animal to maintain a normal alert/upright posture and to stretch its body, limbs and tail, but not enough to leap, fly, or run. The enclosure should be small enough to facilitate easy capture, thereby minimizing capture stress and the possibility of injury during repeated periods of capture and treatment. Young mammals and birds confined to their nest prior to weaning and fledging are included in this category.

Conditions requiring restricted activity include rehydration, hypothermia, bandaged wing, or leg injury to mammals. Any animal with severely debilitating conditions such as shock, toxicity, neurological impairment, or other conditions that require close supervision and management should be considered as restricted activity patients.

Restricted activity areas are provided by incubators, veterinary cages, kennel carriers, and other small enclosures. Perches close to the cage floor (relative to the size of the bird) and/or walk-ups to perches should be provided depending on equilibrium and/or injury. Hiding areas such as boxes or towels must be provided for those species with more reclusive behavior such as raccoons, wrens, and rat snakes. Limited access to tubs or small pools might be provided to semiaquatic or pelagic species when the injury permits. Restricted activity is maintained primarily indoors in northern temperate areas.

### **3.2.2 Limited Activity/Mobility**

Physical therapy and/or acclimatization comprise the next phase of the rehabilitation process once the anatomical and/or physiological problem has been corrected. Movement is now encouraged as part of the healing process. This physical therapy may be voluntary and/or forced by care-givers.

Limited activity/mobility is when restriction of the animal's movement is no longer necessary due to ongoing treatment, but periodic capture and medical treatment may still be necessary. These enclosures are also used for fledged birds and weaned mammals. Outdoor caging should provide the opportunity for short flights or walks/runs. Perches and walk-ups to perches (birds) or hiding areas and nest boxes (all animals) are appropriate furnishings. Semiaquatic and pelagic species should have access to tubs or pools of water for exercise. Creance flying may be appropriate physical therapy during this phase.

### **3.2.3 Unlimited Activity/Mobility**

Unlimited activity/mobility uses large and complex outdoor caging. These enclosures provide physical and psychological conditioning or reconditioning through extended flights for birds and walks, runs and/or climbs for mammals. This housing should allow animals to improve their strength, develop stamina and coordination, restore muscle tone, and acclimate to ambient weather conditions. Physical therapy should be primarily voluntary although some may be forced by care-givers. Unlimited activity caging should be used to condition fledged birds and weaned mammals for release. At least two perches should be provided for birds. Hiding areas and nest boxes should be provided for all animals. Large pools of water should be provided for aquatic species. Creance flying may be appropriate physical therapy during

this phase as well. Please see notes on raptor housing for more specific details on how creance conditioning relates to cage size.

### **3.3 Natural History/Behavior**

The natural history and behavior of any species must be considered in the enclosure design process. Not only does the enclosure provide for security and animal safety, it provides habitat in which the animal can learn or relearn behaviors specific to that species. Caging should provide animals undergoing rehabilitation the opportunities necessary for complete recovery from injuries and/or for learning and practicing vital behaviors such as foraging or hunting.

Cage design and furniture should address and encourage species-specific patterns of foraging, play, rest or sleep, hiding or predator avoidance, and social responses to conspecifics or cage mates. For example, many species such as crows and raccoons respond well to toys, hides, pools, climbs, and other species-appropriate enhancements. Other species, such as mourning doves and opossums seem to benefit less from such curiosity enhancements; however, even these species have been observed using these items over time. Suggestions for appropriate habitat furnishing can be found in the specific housing sections which follow, and in the reference material in Appendix C.

Animals should be fed palatable, nutritionally balanced food in a form and presentation appropriate to their natural behavior and their medical condition. Diets are highly specialized and specific dietary needs may vary from one individual to another; for this reason, a veterinarian or veterinary nutritionist should be consulted before formulating any new diets or adding vitamins or other supplements to existing diets. Some species may show strong preference to a specific food item, so efforts should be made to provide a varied diet and regularly monitor food intake and changes in body weight.

### **3.4 General Indoor Caging/Housing**

Minimizing stress experienced by animals in rehabilitation is a key factor in the design of indoor enclosures. All indoor caging should be located in an area that provides quiet and minimal visual stimuli. Specific suggestions to minimize stressors are to cover cage doors, provide visual barriers, position cage fronts away from human activity, remove radios, and place the enclosures far from high traffic areas. When possible, natural daylight should be provided. Full-spectrum (UVB, UVA, visible light, and infrared) lighting should be used when natural lighting is not feasible. Some products are advertised as “full-spectrum” while only providing the full visible spectrum. The need for full-spectrum light can vary by species; for example, snakes do not require UVB light. Any artificial light source should be timed to mimic current seasonal daylight cycles.

### **3.5 General Outdoor Caging/Housing**

Animals undergoing rehabilitation are generally housed in outdoor enclosures prior to release. Large, outdoor caging provides opportunities for exercise, behavioral rehabilitation, and acclimatization to weather conditions, while smaller outdoor caging may be used for short periods prior to this release conditioning.

The philosophy dictating cage size presupposes normal recovery times for the patient. None of the restricted or limited activity sizes is recommended for extended or permanent care. Housing for animals kept permanently (e.g., for educational, exhibit or captive-breeding purposes) is not addressed in this document, but can be found elsewhere (*see Appendix C*).

Special consideration must be made in the design of outdoor enclosures to provide adequate shelter, safety, and proper habitat for animals in rehabilitation. Enclosures should be made secure against local predators, including adequate perimeter control; for example, a cement floor and foundation or ½-inch galvanized hardware cloth buried under the cage floor and extending two feet up the walls may be considered adequate protective design. Enclosures and their contents should duplicate natural conditions wherever practical. Cage design should provide for ease of cleaning, proper ventilation, adequate light, and temperature control. Proper substrates and furnishings appropriate for each species should also be provided in each cage. Fresh water for drinking and/or bathing must be available in each enclosure.

Each outdoor enclosure should possess an area that provides necessary protection from the elements, yet still enables the animal to be conditioned for survival in the wild. All cages should have a roofed portion or contain a nest box or other means of protection from inclement weather. Feeding areas (and the food within) should be protected, as well. Protection from the wind and weather should also be provided on the north side of enclosures. In northern climates, roofs and doors should be constructed to withstand the weight and depth of snowfall.

Outdoor enclosures ideally protect the animal without habituating it to human activity. To avoid habituation to humans or even taming, cages should be surrounded by a fence or somehow placed out of view of the general public. As in the design of indoor enclosures, minimal human contact, both visual and auditory, is preferable. Domestic animals and other potential predators should be prevented from contacting animals in rehabilitation, as predator avoidance is an important factor in survival of rehabilitated animals. Consideration of these variables when designing outdoor enclosures is vital for proper rehabilitation of wildlife.

Outdoor caging alone may not be adequate for full conditioning of certain species and/or certain injuries; for example, the flight conditioning requirement for successful release of a peregrine falcon recovering from a shoulder fracture may exceed that provided by any caging. The large cages or deep pools necessary for proper conditioning of some species are not available to all wildlife rehabilitators. In many instances, cooperation with other rehabilitators or wildlife professionals may ultimately be the most successful strategy an individual rehabilitator can choose. Working with licensed falconers to provide pre-release training or transferring patients to other rehabilitators with more appropriate caging are suitable substitutes for the conditioning cages (unlimited activity) recommended below. The successful release and continued survival of rehabilitated animals is the goal of rehabilitators; networking to share information, skills and equipment is vital to the success of rehabilitation.

## Chapter 4 - AVIAN HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

### 4.1 Overview

#### 4.1.1 General Avian Housing Considerations

Enclosure dimensions are based on materials as well as species requirements. Exterior plywood is available in economical and easy-to-use 4-foot by 8-foot sheets and some caging dimensions have been calculated using numbers that are based on this material size. Maximum volume is achieved with cubic cages, and this fact is considered when determining cage dimensions. Enclosure design varies widely depending on materials used, climatic conditions, species housed, and many other considerations. While considerable thought and experience was employed to structure the cage sizes listed in Tables 3-5, it is beyond the scope of this document to list all possibilities in terms of material, design, or size.

Cage sizes specify minimums and are calculated for the species at different stages of rehabilitation. Intelligent substitution of height and ground area requirements is encouraged; for example, while pheasants and egrets are the same size, one requires ground space while the other needs height. Substitutions resulting in larger sized or differently shaped cages are encouraged.

Multiple occupancy by **compatible** species is not only acceptable but beneficial, particularly in conditioning (unlimited activity/mobility) caging for fledgling birds. Individuals of certain other species (e.g., herons, titmice, woodpeckers, etc.) may be extremely aggressive and may require individual housing.

#### 4.1.2 Construction Materials

Many different types of construction materials for avian enclosures are used in rehabilitation. Selection of appropriate material is important for the proper construction of adequate enclosures. In general, aviaries should have a double-door entry system (not always necessary for birds less apt to fly in confined areas, such as waterfowl and seabirds). Solid walls for aviaries can be constructed of wood, fiberglass, or an equivalent. Hardware cloth, chicken wire, and chain-link fencing are not recommended if the birds can come into direct contact with them; these products may be used if appropriate netting or screening is used on the interior surface. If vertical wood lath, fiberglass screening, or netting prevent direct contact, wire can add extra security, and may be used as the external material for most cages.

#### 4.1.3 Flooring Considerations

Flooring for aviaries varies with types of birds. Substrates, such as sand or pea gravel, should be changed as often as necessary, and biannually at a minimum. Natural flooring is acceptable in very large enclosures. This natural flooring must be turned over and disinfected on a regular basis, depending on the number and size of birds housed in the enclosure. Flooring substrates for small cages include towels, paper towels, raised netting over newspaper, newspaper alone, or dried pine needles. [Note: dried pine needles are not appropriate for ground-foraging birds such as doves, as crop rupture has been noted when these birds ingest the pine needles.] The selection of substrate is dependent on the species being housed.

#### **4.1.4 General Avian Furnishings**

Many types of cage furnishings are appropriate for birds undergoing rehabilitation. Bath pans or pools should be provided for all birds whose medical condition does not prohibit them from getting wet (e.g., bath pans are usually contraindicated for birds with wing wraps or foot bandages or for birds with neurologic deficits). When perching is required (see Tables 3-5), each cage should have a minimum of two perches for birds capable of perching. Waterfowl and seabirds will have different “perch” requirements. Perches and all surface substrates (including those on floors and perches) should be customized to the appropriate size and material for the species using them. Appropriate size and substrate will vary with the natural history of the species (e.g., limb-perchers vs. ledge perchers) and should be designed with the goal of minimizing foot damage. Outdoor caging should contain some sort of nest box for cavity nesters or sheltered area for other birds. Nest boxes and shelters provide a natural space that reduces stress and enhances security.

### **4.2 Housing for Songbirds**

#### **4.2.1 General Songbird Housing Considerations**

The songbird (passerine or perching) group of birds includes a large number of individual species with wide ranges in size, behavior, habitat, foraging techniques, food items, and subsequent rehabilitation requirements. These requirements must be understood and addressed to ensure successful rehabilitation and eventual release of healthy, well-adapted individuals that are prepared for survival in the wild.

Understanding the natural history of any species in rehabilitation is necessary when considering caging arrangements. Songbirds have many natural predators such as hawks, owls, other birds, snakes and small mammals, as well as domestic animals associated with man (cats and dogs). Care should be taken to reduce exposure of these birds to potential predators, thereby reducing stress and/or potential injury. While some species may be housed together within this group, especially when young, some species such as jays and crows are predators of other species. Songbirds which are seed-eaters or omnivores have characteristic heavy beaks with the capacity to harm birds with much smaller insectivorous beaks. Certain other species, such as tufted titmice and vireos, can be aggressive towards other birds, including their own species.

The requirements for pre-release conditioning (unlimited activity) caging vary greatly among songbird species. White-breasted nuthatches, bushtits and titmice generally fly straight from their nests, requiring very little pre-fledge training. Larger birds, such as robins, mockingbirds and jays, leave the nest early, and spend a lot of time on the ground while developing flight feathers. During this time, the fledglings follow the adults and learn appropriate survival behaviors. Larger songbirds require exercise and practice to fly well so a larger aviary is recommended to house these species.

#### **4.2.2 Construction Materials**

External wire on outdoor caging for songbirds should be ½" x ½" galvanized hardware cloth. The use of chicken wire or chain-link is not recommended, as the large openings allow predator entry or accidental escape of cage inhabitants if the interior lining becomes torn or

loosened. Interior walls should be lined with screening or a very fine-meshed netting, such as shade-cloth. Mesh size is important, as large mesh may allow songbirds to catch toenails or even toes in the netting. Fiberglass screening is acceptable for most songbirds, but will not withstand the pecking behavior of titmice, jays, woodpeckers, and some other species. Wire screening has been used successfully without causing damage to feathers.

Selection of surface material depends on the natural history of the species being housed. No wood surfaces should be exposed in cages for Piciformes, as they will destroy these surfaces. Interior surfaces may be lined with metal or plastic siding, and may prevent the birds from climbing (thereby preventing feather damage). PVC pipe, reinforced with rebar inside, makes effective, indestructible cage framing and perches for larger woodpeckers.

Floors of both indoor and outdoor cages should be composed of or covered with appropriate substances to prevent slipping (splay leg) and/or bumblefoot. Suitable substrates to improve footing include, but are not limited to, newspaper, towels, paper toweling, foamy plastic shelf liner, sand, Astroturf™, and parasite-free dried pine needles. [Note: dried pine needles are not appropriate for ground-foraging birds such as doves, as crop rupture has been noted when these birds ingest the pine needles.]

#### **4.2.3 Furnishings**

Understanding the natural history of the species being rehabilitated, and then adapting the aviary accordingly for that species, can give the bird(s) a great advantage when released. Woodpeckers do well when raised with hollow logs for a nest; bushtits, on the other hand, are raised very well when they have a hanging sock for a nest and food is provided for them to find on tree branches and leaves throughout their aviary. Cavity dwellers/nesters should be provided with some sort of hide box or cavity-type container. Aviaries that are furnished with natural plantings help reduce stress and provide the birds with natural shading, perching, hiding, and foraging opportunities.



**Table 3: Minimum Housing Guidelines for Songbirds & Misc. Avian Orders**

*Note: This table is not intended to be used independently; it should be used only in conjunction with the information in Chapter 4, Sections 4.1 and 4.2*

<u>Order</u>	<u>Length of Bird</u>	<u>Restricted Activity</u> (WxLxH)	<u>Limited Activity</u> (WxLxH)	<u>Unlimited Activity</u> (WxLxH)	<u>Max#</u>	<u>Codes</u>
<b>Columbiformes</b> (Pigeons, Doves)	>9"	12"x12"x12"	12"x12"x12"	16'x8'x8'	8 12	P, Pi, Q
<b>Cuculiformes</b> (Cuckoos)	<12" >12"	18"x18"x18" 24"x24"x24"	24"x24"x24" 36"x36"x36"	8'x8'x8' 16'x8'x8'	4-6 4-6	P, Q P, Q
<b>Caprimulgiformes</b> (Nighthawks, Goatsuckers)	~9"	12"x12"x12"	12"x24"x12"	8'x16'x8'	6	C, P
<b>Apodiformes</b> Apodidae (Swifts)	<9"	12"x12"x12"	12"x12"x12"	8'x16'x8'	15-20	B, Ch
Trochilidae (Hummingbirds)	<5"	7"x11"x5"	12"x17"x7"	2'x4'x6'	4	P, Z
<b>Coraciiformes</b> (Kingfishers)	<9"	12"x12"x12"	18"x18"x18"	8'x16'x8'	4	C, F, Pi, S
<b>Piciformes</b> (Woodpeckers)	<9" >9"	12"x12"x12" 18"x18"x18"	18"x18"x18" 24"x24"x24"	4'x8'x8' 8'x16'x8'	2-4 2-4	C, D, H, W C, D, H, W
<b>Passeriformes</b> (Perching & Songbirds, Swallows)	<5" >5"	7"x11"x5" 12"x12"x12"	12"x17"x7" 18"x18"x18"	2'x4'x4' 4'x8'x8'	4 4-6	H, P, Z H, P, Z, W
Corvidae (Crows, Ravens & Magpies)	<17" >17"	14"x18"x18" 16"x22"x22"	24"x18"x24" 24"x24"x24"	8'x16'x8' 10'x30'x15'	6 6	P P
<b>Galliformes</b> (Quail, Pheasants)	<20" >20"	2'x2'x2' 3'x3'x3'	3'x3'x3' 4'x4'x8'	4'x4'x8' 8'x12'x8'	4 4	H H

(WxLxH) = Listed in order: Width x Length x Height

~ = approximately

< = less than

> = greater than

" = inches

' = feet

Max# = Maximum recommended number of conspecifics housed in "Unlimited Activity" enclosure; actual number will vary with season, age and temperament of the individual birds.

### **Codes for Special Housing Requirements Used in Table 3, Songbirds & Misc.**

- B Special vertical surfaces needed for swifts. Temporary confinement and recovery housing must be lined on all sides with a snag-free fabric or other material with enough texture for the birds to cling vertically. Two or more walls of the conditioning housing must be constructed of or covered with a roughly-textured material such as cork, rough-textured siding or fiberglass window screening.
- C Birds such as woodpeckers and nuthatches require angled and/or vertical logs for climbing, and hollow logs for hiding/nesting. These logs also help to maintain beak and foot health, and allow the birds foraging experience as they hunt for ants, grubs, etc. Birds such as kingfishers and nighthawks require large, horizontally level, elevated logs for perching.
- Ch A waist-high “artificial chimney” should be located in the center of the outdoor housing as a feeding station or roost; suggestions for construction may be found in Kyle, P. and G. Kyle, 1995.
- D Birds with this designation require old logs, etc., as drumming materials.
- F Special substrate needed. These species are susceptible to foot problems. Depending on the species, padded flooring, towels, linens/sheeting, carpets, natural kitty litter (no additives), or sand may be used.
- H Hides; provide natural vegetative material or human-devised areas for cover. (All birds will benefit from an area of cover.)
- P Requires two or more perches of varied diameter; materials may be natural branches, hemp or sisal rope from ¼" to ¾" diameter, dowel rods covered with self-adhering wrap (such as Vetrap™ 3M, St. Paul, MN), or other suitable substances (such as rubber drawer-liners). Varied substrates, diameters and locations allow the bird choices and minimize captivity-related foot problems.
- Pi Piling or shelves required for perching; these should be covered with Astroturf™ or other suitable material to provide good footing and prevent bumblefoot lesions.
- Q Quiet and extreme privacy required (very prone to stress).
- S Bathing area required; “kiddie pool” size.
- W Large pan with soil, leaves, grass and/or wood chips containing live worms, grubs, mealworms and/or insects to allow the birds to forage on their own. May not be required for all species in the orders listed - check natural history requirements.
- Z Although larger conditioning cage sizes may be preferred, great care must be taken to seal off small openings or cracks that can act as traps.

## 4.3 Housing for Waterbirds

### 4.3.1 General Waterbird Housing Considerations

Waterbirds, as the name implies, are those birds that spend much of their time in, on or around the water. These birds all require some sort of pool in their outdoor (unlimited activity) caging. The size of the pool varies greatly from species to species and with the individual injury. The natural feeding, drinking, and bathing behavior of each species should be considered in the design of the pool, including depth of the water for swimming, bathing, and drinking. For example, sandhill cranes dip and scoop to drink water, so this species requires a water bowl with a minimum diameter of 12" and a minimum depth of 5".

The cage sizes recommended in this manual are minimums. Every bird would benefit from as large a flight area as possible and the rehabilitator is encouraged to construct larger cages whenever reasonable. The recommendations throughout the *Minimum Standards* have been tried by experienced rehabilitators and shown to be the minimums acceptable for safe and effective rehabilitation of the species indicated. Remember that large cages intended for animals with greater space requirements can be designed to be subdivided or furnished for other species when needed.

### 4.3.2 Construction Materials

Construction materials for aquatic birds are similar to those required for most other avian species. All materials should be easy to clean and disinfect. Use materials that are impervious to water or that can be sealed to become impervious. Materials utilized for walls should provide visual barriers, minimize chances of injury, provide adequate ventilation, and protect against predators and domestic animals. Pool materials include galvanized metals, plastics, fiberglass, cement and natural ponds. Any sharp or abrasive areas should be covered to prevent injury and substrates should be appropriate to prevent injuries to feet, e.g., matting, on flat surfaces such as cement, wood or fiberglass.

Most waterbirds spend the majority of their time in or near large bodies of water and are conditioned to seeing open sky overhead; thus, the majority of the roof on an outdoor cage should be open, allowing for a clear view of the sky. Netting works well for this application, and will prevent injury from collisions if the birds fly upwards. This type of construction is psychologically beneficial to the birds, and it encourages them to exercise.

Many of these birds are colonial foragers and nesters. Group housing for species that are colonial waterbirds may reduce stress while in captivity. A precise knowledge of the species' natural history will help in determining if the birds in rehabilitation are too territorial for group housing, or what the optimum number of individuals might be for any given enclosure dimensions.

### 4.3.3 Furnishings

Some factors in successful habitat construction are species-specific:

- Frigatebirds have some unique problems worth considering when housing them for rehabilitation. Their tail and primary feathers are long and fragile, requiring that they have tall

pens and perches that will keep their tails off the floor. In addition, although frigatebirds naturally feed and drink on the wing, if they land on the water, they are unable to take off and will drown. For this reason, pools should not be used in their cages, and long flight cages are needed for sufficient exercise.

- Gannets, loons and other diving species require deep pools and often will not even enter a shallow pool such as a kiddie pool. Rocks or short pilings for perches are required for gannets and some other divers, but should never be used for loons and grebes as these types of perches are too high and would cause keel damage if used. If waterproof, loons and grebes will remain in the water rather than perch; if not waterproof, netted floats or padded haul-out areas should be provided for these species.
- Cranes require tall cages to prevent head trauma as they tend to jump rapidly upwards. Some cranes bathe regularly, requiring pools up to 10" in depth. Because they are wading birds, the depth should be graduated.
- Terns and Oystercatchers will fly over and feed off of water, but they do not float or bathe in deep water. These species benefit from graduated pools, with the depth proportionate to their size (e.g., shallower for smaller terns).

**Table 4: Minimum Housing Guidelines for Waterbirds**

*Note: This table is not intended to be used independently; it should be used only in conjunction with the information in Chapter 4, Sections 4.1 and 4.3*

<b><u>Order</u></b>	<b><u>Restricted Activity</u></b> (WxLxH)	<b><u>Limited Activity</u></b> (WxLxH)	<b><u>Unlimited Activity</u></b> (WxLxH)	<b><u>Codes</u></b>
<b>Gaviiformes</b>				
Loons	15"x30"x30"	3' x 3' x 3'	Pool: 8' diam, 2' deep 2 birds maximum	N, PT, PP, SO
<b>Podicipediformes</b>				
Small grebes (Eared, Horned & Pied-billed)	12"x12"x12"	18" x 18" x 18"	Pool: 6' diam, 2' deep 4 birds maximum	N, H, PT, PP, SO
Large grebes (Western, Clark's & Red-necked)	18"x18"x18"	2' x 2' x 2'	Pool: 6' diam, 2' deep 4 birds maximum	N, PT, PP, SO
<b>Procellariiformes</b>				
Storm-petrels	12"x12"x12"	18" x 18"x 18"	Pool: 45" diam, 8" deep 5 birds maximum	N, PT, PP, SO, AG
Large petrels, Fulmar & Shearwaters	18"x18"x18"	3' x 3' x 2'	Pool: 6' diam, 12" deep 2 birds maximum	N, PT, PP, SO, AG
Albatrosses	3' x 3' x 3'	4' x 6' x 4'	Pool: 10' diam, 18" deep 2 birds maximum	N, PT, PP, SO, AG
<b>Pelecaniformes</b>				
Pelicans (Brown)	3' x 3' x 3'	4' x 8' x 4'	Aviary with Pool: Aviary: 12' x 30' x 10' Pool: 10' diam, 2' deep 6 birds maximum	PT, AP, SO
Pelicans (White)	4' x 4' x 4'	4' x 8' x 4'	Aviary with Pool: Aviary: 12' x 30' x 10' Pool: 10' diam, 2' deep 4 birds maximum	PT, AP, SO
Gannets, Boobies, Cormorants, Anhinga, Frigatebirds & Tropicbirds	3' x 6' x 3'	4' x 8' x 4'	Aviary with Pool: Aviary: 8' x 16' x 8' Pool: 8' diam, 2' deep 6 birds maximum	PT, AP, SO, ST

<b><u>Order</u></b>	<b><u>Restricted Activity</u></b> (WxLxH)	<b><u>Limited Activity</u></b> (WxLxH)	<b><u>Unlimited Activity</u></b> (WxLxH)	<b><u>Codes</u></b>
<b>Ciconiiformes</b> Bitterns, Herons & Egrets * < 20"	18" x 18" x 18"	2' x 2' x 2'	Aviary with wading pool: Aviary: 4' x 12' x 8' Pool: 2-3' diam, 6-10" deep 2 birds maximum	AW, AG
Bitterns, Herons, Egrets, Storks, Ibis & Spoonbill * > 20"	3' x 3' x 3'	4' x 8' x 4'	Aviary with wading pool: Aviary: 10' x 25' x 10' Pool: 2-3' diam, 6-10" deep 4 birds maximum	AW
<b>Anseriformes</b> Swans	4' x 4' x 4'	4' x 8' x 4'	Aviary with wading pool: Aviary: 12' x 20' x 8' Pool: 8' diam, 2' deep 3 birds maximum	PT, AP
Geese	3' x 3' x 3'	4' x 6' x 4'	Aviary with wading pool: Aviary: 10' x 18' x 8' Pool: 6' diam, 2' deep 6 birds maximum	PT, AP
** Marsh Ducks & Whistling Ducks (dabblers)	18" x 18" x 12"	2' x 2' x 2'	Aviary with wading pool: Aviary: 6' x 10' x 8' Pool: 45" diam, 8" deep 3 birds maximum (up to 5 teal)	ON, PT, AP
<sup>2</sup> Bay Ducks, <sup>3</sup> Sea Ducks & Mergansers (divers)	18" x 18" x 12"	2' x 2' x 2'	Pool: 6' diam, 2' deep 2 birds maximum (up to 4 buffleheads)	N, PT, PP, SO
<b>Gruiformes</b> Cranes	3' x 3' x 4'	4' x 8' x 8'	Aviary with Wading Pool Aviary: 10' x 25' x 10' Pool: 4' diam, 4-10" deep 4 birds maximum	AW
Rails * < 10"	12" x 12" x 12"	18" x 18" x 18"	Aviary with Wading Pool Aviary: 4' x 6' x 6' Pool: 3' diam, 3-5" deep 4 birds maximum	H, AW, FP

<u>Order</u>	<u>Restricted Activity</u> (WxLxH)	<u>Limited Activity</u> (WxLxH)	<u>Unlimited Activity</u> (WxLxH)	<u>Codes</u>
Rails, Gallinules & Coots * > 10"	18" x 18" x 18"	2' x 2' x 2'	Aviary with Wading Pool Aviary: 4' x 8' x 8' Pool: 45" diam, 8" deep 3 birds maximum	H, AW, FP
<b>Charadriiformes</b>				
Phalaropes	12"x12"x12"	18"x18"x18"	Aviary with SMALL land area (ledge) Pool: 45" diam, 6-8" deep 5 birds maximum	FP, PT, PP, SO
Sandpipers, Plovers & Shorebirds * < 10" (excluding Phalaropes)	12"x12"x12"	18" x18"x18"	Aviary with Wading Pool Aviary: 4' x 6' x 6' Pool: 3' diam, 1-3" deep 6 birds maximum	AW, FP
Sandpipers, Shorebirds & Avocets * > 10"	12"x18"x18"	2'x2'x18"	Aviary with Wading Pool Aviary: 4' x 8' x 8' Pool: 3' diam, 3-5" deep 6 birds maximum	AW, FP
Gulls & Terns * < 14"	12"x15"x18"	18" x18"x18"	Aviary with Pool Aviary: 6' x 12' x 8' Pool: 45" diam, 10" deep 6 birds maximum	PT, AP, SO
Gulls, Terns, Skimmers, Oystercatchers, Jaegers & Skuas * > 14"	18"x18"x18"	2'x2'x2'	Aviary with Pool Aviary: 8' x 16' x 8' Pool: 45" diam, 12" deep 4 birds maximum	NO, PT, AP, SO
Auks (Alcids) * < 12"	12"x12"x12"	18"x18"x18"	Pool: 6' diam, 2' deep 4 birds maximum	N, PT, PP, SO
Auks (Alcids) * > 12"	12"x18"x18"	2'x2'x2'	Pool: 6' diam, 2' deep 4 birds maximum	N, PT, PP, SO

(WxLxH) = Listed in order: Width x Length x Height  
diam = diameter

\* This measurement represents the length of bird from tip of beak to tip of tail with neck fully extended

\*\* These include: black, gadwall, mallard, pintail, wigeon, wood, shoveler, teal

☞ These include: scoters, eiders, harlequin, oldsquaw

☞ These include: canvasback, redhead, ring-necked, scaups, goldeneyes, bufflehead, ruddy

## **Codes for Special Housing Requirements Used in Table 4, Waterbirds**

- AG Note that these birds can be extremely aggressive, even with conspecifics. Use caution and observe the birds' interactions when introduced, before housing together unattended.
- AP These birds require pre-release conditioning (unlimited activity) aviaries that contain pools to swim in and standing/perching surfaces.
- AW These birds require pre-release conditioning (unlimited activity) aviaries that contain shallow wading pools and a variety of perches, especially up high.
- FP These birds have very sensitive feet. Provide as much wading area (in addition to "swimming" pool) as possible in Limited and Unlimited Activity housing to help prevent husbandry injuries.
- H Hides; provide natural vegetative material or human-devised areas for cover.
- N Should be housed on tightly stretched, suspended netting as a substrate whenever bird is not in water.
- ON When an individual of these species is housed inside and is emaciated (pronounced keel) or not standing, it should be housed on net bottom caging to protect feathers and keel until standing normally and of normal weight. Otherwise, when standing normally and keel is not extremely pronounced, housing substrate is solid and covered with toweling or matting.
- PP These species, during pre-release conditioning, require only pool space. Prior to release, individuals must be able to stay in pool full time, without a haul-out area for a minimum of 48 hours without compromise to their waterproofing.
- PT During recovery, bird should be allowed pool time as long and as often as medical condition allows (minimum kiddie pool size). This may include cold or warm water pools as appropriate for individuals.
- SO Surface overflow of pool required to maintain water quality (this can be achieved by constantly running a hose or by overflowing pool, filtering and recirculating water).
- ST As soon as they are standing, these stiff-tail-feathered birds should have a stump or stump-like perch to avoid breakage and soiling.



## **4.4 Housing for Raptors**

### **4.4.1 General Raptor Housing Considerations**

Sizing for raptor housing is based on a combination of the size and flight styles of the bird. While the cage information states a minimum rectangular size (Table 5), it has been found that an L-shaped enclosure will often be better to evaluate flight and angling abilities. As with other caging, the rehabilitator is encouraged to expand and enhance these minimum requirements, and create caging most suitable to their location, facility, caseload, and experience, keeping in mind the natural behavioral and physical needs of the birds.

The needs of raptors present several challenges to achieve successful release. Generally, these birds are large predators that hunt on the wing. Appropriate conditioning is crucial not only for foraging, but for territory defense and other behaviors. Thus, it is strongly recommended that the cage dimensions listed be followed or increased. Certain species, such as the bird-catching peregrine falcon, may require additional care. Hacking for nestlings, falconry exercise for better evaluation after injury, hunt training and conditioning may be necessary for some species. Creance flying may be used for evaluation and conditioning. Hunt training or live prey testing should be arranged when hunting ability is questionable, except for those birds hacked out or fostered into nests. Creance flying should not take the place of hunt training. Guidelines found in "Reconditioning Raptors: A Training Manual For The Creance Technique" (Arent, L., University of Minnesota Raptor Center, 2000) are recommended.

Rehabilitators using a flight cage, creance flying, or evaluating a patient's progress throughout its exercise program, should apprentice under an experienced rehabilitator or falconer. A minimum of six months is recommended for apprenticeship; also recommended is attendance at a skills seminar on the proper use of each technique and methods for evaluating flight parameters. The wildlife rehabilitator should be aware that not all falconers will be able to provide useful instruction in the use of creance flying, as it is used very differently in rehabilitation than in falconry. Even if creance flying is being used, it is strongly recommended that conditioning cages of the referenced size either be used on-site or be found through networking with other rehabilitators or rehabilitation facilities. Raptors in stages immediately prior to release often need more exercise than can be provided on a creance. Movements up to perches, down to feed or water, or across to another perch also provide important exercise.

### **4.4.2 Construction Materials**

Outdoor raptor facilities are most commonly constructed of wooden slats and/or solid sheets of wood. Chain link has been used successfully as roofing material, and can be used as an outer wall (outside of vertical barring) as a predator double wall. Other wire should only be used as a double wall outside of vertical slats; no wire should be used on walls where the bird might be able to cling or climb.

High stress raptors such as kites and accipiters should be housed in facilities adequate to the climate and that eliminate or minimize visual and auditory stress. Solid-sided walls and/or vertical slats with no more than one-inch gaps may be advisable. When secluded cages are not available, or when additional visual occlusion is necessary, translucent material (e.g., bed linens/sheets) may be hung on the outside of the slatted cage. These materials allow some

light to enter the enclosure, and slits or holes in the material allow for better ventilation than solid-sided cages.

#### **4.4.3 Furnishings**

Raptors require furnishings that are exceptionally sturdy and easily cleaned. All perching substrates must be chosen carefully based on the natural history and size of the species as well as the climate of the area (e.g., hemp or sisal rope rots very quickly in humid environments). Natural limbs (with bark), bow, block, and ring perches are appropriate for certain species of raptors. At least two perches should be placed in each cage, preferably at different heights and different angles. More than one surface substrate should be offered on the perches in each cage. Perches can be wood doweling or plastic piping (or the equivalent) covered by ¼-inch-pile AstroTurf™, hemp, cocomat, or indoor/outdoor carpeting. Perches should have some degree of “give” for landings. Platforms, such as those used for peregrines, can be covered with ½-inch-pile AstroTurf™, cocomat, or indoor/outdoor carpeting.

As for all animals in rehabilitation, adequate drinking water must be provided. Provide drinking/bathing water in unlimited activity flight enclosures or even in all cages if appropriate for the bird's medical condition (e.g., a bird with foot wraps or a wing-wrap should not have a bathing/water pan in any cage). Birds without access to drinking water should receive additional water injected into their food. Drinking water, when available, should be easily accessible to minimize disturbance. Pools must be a minimum of 2-6 inches deep and wider than the length of the raptor.

**Table 5: Minimum Housing Guidelines for Raptors**

*Note: This table is not intended to be used independently; it should be used only in conjunction with the information in Chapter 4, Sections 4.1 and 4.4*

<b><u>Species*</u></b>	<b><u>Restricted Activity</u></b> (WxLxH)	<b><u>Limited Activity</u></b> (WxLxH)	<b><u>Unlimited Activity</u></b> (WxLxH)
BOOW, BUOW, EASO, ELOW, FEPO, FLOW, NOPO, NSWO, PRSO, WESO, WHSO	12" x 17" x 16"	3' x 6' x 8'	8' x 8' x 8'
AMKE, APFA, EUKE, GRHA, HBKI, MERL, MIKI, **NOHO, NHOW, ROHA, SNKI, SSHA, STHA, WTKI	16" x 23" x 19"	6' x 6' x 8'	8' x 16' x 8'
BNOW, BWHA, COHA, HWWA, LEOW, RSHA, SEOW	16" x 27" x 22"	6' x 8' x 8'	10' x 30' x 12'
BDOW, CBCA, CRCA, GHOW, HRLH, HRSH, NOGO, NOHA, RLHA, RTHA, SPOW, STKI, SWHA, WTHA, ZTHA	16" x 27" x 22"	6' x 8' x 8'	10' x 50' x 12'
BAEA, BLVU, FEHA, GGOW, GOEA, GYFA, OSPR, PEFA, PRFA, **SEEA, SNOW, TUVU **WTEA	3' x 3' x 3'	8' x 10' x 8'	20' x 100' x 16'

(WxLxH) = Listed in order: Width x Length x Height

\*Most species are listed using the four letter AOU code (American Ornithologists' Union) defined on page 39

\*\*Indicates that the codes used for these species are not official AOU codes

## Codes for Table 5, Raptors

### **Accipiters**

COHA - Cooper's Hawk  
NOGO - Northern Goshawk  
SSHA - Sharp-shinned hawk

### **Medium Buteos**

BWHA - Broad-winged Hawk  
GRHA - Gray Hawk  
ROHA - Roadside Hawk  
STHA - Short-tailed Hawk

### **Large Buteos**

CBHA - Common Black Hawk  
FEHA - Ferruginous Hawk  
HRLH - Harlan's Hawk  
HRSH - Harris' Hawk  
HWHA - Hawaiian Hawk  
RSHA - Red-shouldered Hawk  
RTHA - Red-tailed Hawk  
RLHA - Rough-legged Hawk  
SWHA - Swainson's Hawk  
WTHA - White-tailed Hawk  
ZTHA - Zone-tailed Hawk

### **Eagles**

BAEA - Bald Eagle  
GOEA - Golden Eagle  
\*\*WTEA - White-tailed Eagle  
\*\*SSEA - Steller's Sea Eagle

### **Small Falcons**

AMKE - American Kestrel  
EUKA - Eurasian Kestrel  
\*\*NOHO - Northern Hobby  
MERL - Merlin

### **Medium Falcons**

APFA - Aplomado Falcon  
PEFA - Peregrine Falcon  
PRFA - Prairie Falcon

### **Large Falcons**

CRCA - Crested Caracara  
GYFA - Gyrfalcon

### **Harriers**

NOHA - Northern Harrier

### **Kites**

HBKI - Hook-billed Kite  
MIKI - Mississippi Kite  
SNKI - Snail Kite  
STKI - Swallow-tailed Kite  
WTKI - White-tailed/Black-shouldered Kite

### **Osprey**

OSPR - Osprey

### **Vultures**

BLVU - Black Vulture  
TUVU - Turkey Vulture

### **Small Owls**

BOOW - Boreal Owl  
BUOW - Burrowing Owl  
EASO - Eastern Screech Owl  
ELOW - Elf Owl  
FEPO - Ferruginous Pygmy Owl  
FLOW - Flammulated Owl  
NOPO - Northern Pygmy Owl  
NSWO - Northern Saw-whet Owl  
PRSO - Puerto Rican Screech Owl  
WESO - Western Screech Owl  
WHSO - Whiskered Screech Owl

### **Medium Owls**

BNOW - Barn Owl  
LEOW - Long-eared Owl  
NHOW - Northern Hawk Owl  
SEOW - Short-eared Owl

### **Large Owls**

BDOW - Barred Owl  
GGOW - Great Gray Owl  
GHOW - Great Horned owl  
SNOW - Snowy Owl  
SPOW - Spotted Owl

## Chapter 5 - MAMMAL HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

### 5.1 Overview

General guides for mammal housing are difficult to define due to the variation in size, temperament, and life history in mammals. Obviously, a “one-size- or style-fits-all” approach fails when you are housing mammals from bats to bears. Some principles do apply to all mammal housing, however. For example, double door or similar construction is effective in preventing escapes. Wooden cage framing material should be placed on the outside of the enclosure with suitable wall material such as wire, wood, or netting on the inside surface. Visual barriers between cages and between humans and cages provide stress relief to all animal patients. Pre-release cages should be isolated and placed in an area similar to release habitat, if possible.

Most small mammals under four weeks of age can be housed in incubators or aquaria. Screen lids with a heavy object placed on top prevent escapes. Heating pads or hot water bottles, suitably insulated, should be used to provide heat. A source of humidity and cloth or other suitable materials for nesting areas should be provided. A rolled sock or toy stuffed animal of appropriate size, with all movable parts removed, can provide security for infants, especially single animals. Juveniles of the same species can usually be housed together if they are no more than one week apart in age, with appropriate increases in housing size.

### 5.2 Special Considerations for Selected Mammals

Since most small mammal young can be housed in the same general manner described above, this section addresses the special housing needs for juvenile and adult mammals (except where noted otherwise). Please refer to Table 6 for specifics regarding cage size.

The order in which the groups of mammals appear below and in Table 6 is based on the standard scientific “evolutionary order” as presented in *A Field Guide to the Mammals of America North of Mexico* (see Appendix B, Burt/Grossenheider).

#### Marsupialia (Opossums):

Hammocks made of one-inch square wire mesh or from burlap sacks, attached to wall or roof (and removable for cleaning); tree limbs and logs at various heights to promote climbing. Plastic barrels for hiding or other things to hide in (logs, boxes, etc.). Large (ferret-sized) exercise wheels may be used to keep young opossums active.

#### Chiroptera (Bats):

For bats under rehabilitation, many different considerations are important to proper enclosure construction. Security is of top concern regardless of cage size. For example, most bats can easily escape through a 1/2" x 1" crack. Two different types of caging are necessary to accommodate the differences in the roosting behavior of crevice-dwelling and foliage-roosting bats. Crevice-dwelling bats (free-tailed bats, pallid bats, big browns, Myotis bats, evening bats, big-eared bats and pipistrelles) roost in rock crevices, hollow trees, under bridges, beneath bark and in caves and buildings. Foliage-roosting bats (red bats, Seminole bats, yellow bats and hoary bats) roost in the open in trees and other vegetation.

Appropriate temperatures for adult bats receiving rehabilitation and infant bats being hand-raised are very important considerations. These temperatures are generally between 90°F - 100°F. A heating pad, set to low, can be attached to one side of the cage to create a temperature gradient. Do not place heating pads on the floor of the container. A bird brooder or a 25-watt red light bulb may be used instead of a heating pad. Place the brooder or light at the top of the cage on the outside. Incubators are inappropriate for bats, as a temperature gradient is needed rather than a constant temperature. Humidity should be provided by use of a humidifier or by keeping a small, damp sponge inside the cage. Padding should be placed on the floor of the cage to protect injured adults and/or infant bats. Soft fabric allows the bat(s) to climb and hide. Terrycloth is inappropriate due to risk of entanglement.

*Caging for crevice-dwelling bats (restricted/limited activity):*

All walls and floor of an aquarium or plastic cage should be lined with a soft, snag-resistant fabric such as t-shirt or flannel material. Environmental enrichment can include items made from fabric such as roosting pouches, or ramps and bridges made from plastic mesh craft sheets.

*Caging for foliage-roosting bats (restricted/limited activity):*

Foliage-roosting bats should be housed in a frame cage. The cage should be covered with soft, lightweight 1/6" plastic mesh to avoid toe and foot injuries. Environmental enrichment should be provided by securely attaching small branches with silk leaves against the ceiling of the cage.

*Unlimited activity/mobility flight cages:*

Outdoor flight cages should be double enclosed or have a double entry system similar to aviaries. An 8'x8'x10' screened tent with an extra door flap works well for outdoor housing if the area is secure from predators. If a double enclosure is used, the inside cage should be constructed of a frame covered with soft, lightweight 1/6" plastic mesh, netting or nylon screening. One side can be covered with 1/4" plastic mesh to allow insects to enter the enclosure. The outside of the enclosure should be covered with sturdy 1/4"-1/2" metal screening (hardware cloth or hail wire) to protect from predators.

Roosting pouches or boxes should be placed inside flight cages along the ceiling for crevice-dwelling bats. Small branches with silk leaves should be secured along the ceiling for foliage-roosting bats. Hanging plants also work well for shelter and resting areas. A tarp should be placed over a section of the cage to shade the roosting area and to provide shelter against inclement weather.

Water dishes should be small and can be made from baby food jar lids that are placed on the cage floor or film canisters that are cut to one inch high and hung on cage walls (Velcro™ works well to attach these canisters). Small cups can be hung from the sides of the cage for foliage roosting bats; however, marbles or small stones should be placed inside the cup to prevent the bat from falling in and drowning. Food dishes should be placed against cage walls and should be shallow enough to allow bats that self-feed to easily climb in and out, but deep enough to prevent mealworms from escaping. For certain species, such as western pallid bats, food and water should be provided on the ground. Internal light sources used to attract insects should have covered bulbs (plastic, not metal) to prevent bats from having contact with hot light fixtures.

Environmental enrichment should be included in all caging to provide mental stimulation. Items that are placed into cages to provide diversity should be free of sharp surfaces, easily cleaned and appropriate for the species.

#### *Transport cages for bats:*

Transport carriers should be ventilated, well padded and covered so they protect and provide a sense of security for the bat inside. They should also be constructed so that they can be secured inside a vehicle with a seat belt. For example, a screen window can be sewn or glued into a cloth compact-disk carrier (with the plastic insert removed). A seat belt can then be slipped through the handle to secure the carrier during transport.

#### Ursids (Bears):

Den should be made of solid wood, concrete blocks or bricks, 8'x8'x6'. This will house one adult or two juveniles. Flooring substrate should be natural (dirt and grass) in order to avoid damage to the foot pads. Heavy logs and a large indestructible tub for bathing are also necessary.

#### Procyonids (Raccoons):

Special cage furnishings for this group include hammocks made of one-inch square wire mesh or from burlap sacks, attached to walls or the roof that are removable for cleaning, and plastic barrels or other things in which to hide (e.g., logs). Additionally, tree limbs and logs at various heights to promote climbing should be in enclosures. A wading pool or container applicable to the animal's size should be provided to allow bathing and food handling. Outdoor enclosures should allow 30 square feet per animal when raccoons are group housed. An enclosure which is 12'x18' (216 square feet) could house seven raccoons, and an enclosure which is 40'x20' (800 square feet) could house 26 raccoons. Cages used for raccoons should not be used for other species due to possible parasitic infection.

#### Mustelids (Badgers, Weasels, Skunks, etc.):

This group contains ambitious diggers. The bottom of the cage must be secured so that the animal cannot dig out. A metal garbage can turned on its side and lined with tree trimmings or shavings can be used as a den. A large wooden box with at least a three-foot depth of pesticide-free soil should be provided for digging.

#### Felids (Cats):

Large branches and logs (some hollow) should be provided for climbing, along with high platforms for resting above the cage floor. Other furnishings are plastic barrels or other things to hide in (logs, boxes, etc.).

#### Marine Mammals:

Shall be housed in accordance with Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Standards. (see Appendix B)

#### Rodentia (Mice, Rats, Squirrels, etc.):

Generalizations are difficult to make for such a large and diverse group, so refer to the natural history of the species undergoing rehabilitation for a better understanding of appropriate habitat requirements. Placing a heavy object on top of the lid of indoor caging prevents escapes. Paper towel rolls can be used as hiding places. Many small rodents require sand for burrowing and some species may utilize dirt for burying food, dust baths, or other

behavioral activities. Burrowing can be a very important behavior in this group. Plant material and soil are important habitat requirements for many small mammals.

Outdoor caging should be made of material such as hardware cloth to prevent escape. Dirt or sand floors should have hardware cloth or plywood buried along the interior sides of the cage, approximately 12" below the surface to prevent escape. Roofing may be constructed of hardware cloth stapled to wood slats using heavy staples. Branches for gnawing should be included for juveniles five weeks of age and older. Gnawing curbs tooth growth and is essential; bark on any branches or logs must be edible. Tree squirrels and other climbers require vertical height more than horizontal space. Branches, nestboxes, and/or platforms should be provided for climbing enhancements.

#### Semi-aquatic Mammals (Muskrats, River Otters, Nutria, Beavers):

This group has obvious special needs. Animals must have water containers that are large enough to swim in and are at least two feet deep. Examples include bathtubs, metal troughs, metal or concrete pools (plastic kiddie pools are not deep enough and will be destroyed by the animal). Deep, heavy rubber pans work well for water containers in inside housing. Containers of soil at least one foot deep should be provided for digging, with plastic barrels or other things to hide in (logs, boxes, etc.) that are attached to the wall of the cage.

#### Lagomorpha (Rabbits, Hares, Pikas):

Special construction materials are needed for this group. Avoid using wood in cage construction as these animals will chew through the wood. Avoid using chain link, wire mesh, or hardware cloth as the sole materials in construction of cage walls; these animals do not have good depth perception and will not "see" the fencing. "Sight barriers" at the height of the adult animal's ears (12"-24") made of shade cloth or mesh screening may be used to line the exterior. Do not place cloth or screening on the interior as animals will chew this material. Indoor housing must also be covered to provide visual barriers as a means of reducing stress. If raised, above-ground enclosures are used, the bottom should be constructed of 1/4-inch mesh for drainage, and covered with hay to prevent foot trauma. No protruding objects should be present along the interior surface of cage walls as these animals will usually run the perimeter of their enclosure.

All enclosures should contain a freestanding shelter, facing away from the entrance. Branches or logs with edible bark for gnawing to curb tooth growth should be readily available. Rabbits will need soft earth or mounds of hay to burrow into. Natural desert shrubs or bales of hay can be used to provide shade and shelter for jackrabbits as they do not burrow. Jackrabbits grow rapidly in size and strength, requiring large caging by six weeks of age, although they do not wean until 8-12 weeks of age.

#### Artiodactyla (Hoofed Animals):

Outdoor enclosures are most appropriate when constructed of wood; however, if chain link is used for the walls, drapes must be hung over the inside of the chain link to avoid injury to the animal and to keep it from climbing out (i.e., blankets or tarps tied securely). Circular enclosures work well as animals will be encouraged to run along walls rather than run into a corner and injure themselves. General practice is to take deer and pronghorn directly from injured adult caging to release in an effort to prevent cage trauma. Bighorn sheep jump high while pronghorn will jump long distances but not as high.



**Table 6: Minimum Housing Guidelines for Selected Mammals**

*Note: This table is not intended to be used independently; it should be used only in conjunction with the information in Chapter 5, Sections 5.1 and 5.2*

<u>Order/ Family</u>	<u>Infant Care</u> (WxLxH)	<u>Nursing/ Pre-weaned</u> (WxLxH)	<u>Juvenile or Adult Outside</u> (WxLxH)	<u>Initial Injured Adult Inside</u> (WxLxH)
<b>Marsupialia</b>				
Opossum	(L) 10GAL.	(L) 3x3x3	(1) 4x4x8	(1) 2x2x2
<b>Insectivora</b>				
Shrews & Moles	10 GAL / 1 adult or 1 litter			
<b>Chiroptera (Bats)</b>				
Little Browns & Pipistrelles	18"x12"x12"	18"x12"x12"		18"x12"x12"
Evening, Red, Myotis			6x8x8 8x12x8	
Big Browns, Free-tails, Hoary, Pallid & Yellow			10x20x8	
<b>Carnivora</b>				
Bears				
Black Bear	(L) 20GAL.	(L) 3x6x3	(L) 20x36x16*	(1) 8x12x8
Raccoons, Coatis & Ringtails				
	(L) 10-20GAL.	(3) 3x3x3	(4) 6x8x6*	(1) 2x3x3
Mustelids				
Marten	(L) 10GAL.	(1) 3x3x3	(1) 4x8x6	(1) 2x2x2
Fisher	(L) 10GAL.	(1) 3x3x3	(1) 6x8x6	(1) 4x3x3
Weasel	(1) 10GAL.	(1) 10GAL.	(1) 3x3x3	(1) 3x3x3
River Otter	(L) 20GAL.	(L) 6x12x6	(1) 6x12x6*	(1) 6x12x6*
Sea Otter	(L) 20GAL.	(L) 6x12x6	(1) 6x10x6	(1) 6x8x6
Wolverine	(1) 10GAL.	(1) 3x3x3	(1) 8x12x6	(1) 4x3x3
Badger	(L) 20GAL.	(L) 3x3x3	(1) 8x8x6*	(1) 3x3x3
Skunk	(L) 20GAL.	(L) 2x4x3	(1) 6x8x6	(1) 3x3x3
Canids				
Coyote	(L) 30GAL.	(1) 3x3x3	(1) 8x8x6	(1) 3x3x3
Wolf	(L) 30GAL.	(1) 3x3x3	(1) 8x8x6	(1) 4x3x3
Fox	(L) 30GAL.	(L) 3x3x3	(1) 4x4x8	(1) 3x3x3
Felids				
Mountain Lion	(L) 10GAL.	(L) 3x6x3	(L) 6x24x8*	(1) 4x3x3
Bobcat	(L) 10GAL.	(2) 3x3x3	(1) 8x8x6*	(1) 3x3x3
<b>Rodentia</b>				
Aplodontia	(L) 10GAL.	(1) 3x3x3	(1) 8x8x6	(2) 2x2x2

<u>Order/ Family</u>	<u>Infant Care</u> (WxLxH)	<u>Nursing/ Pre-weaned</u> (WxLxH)	<u>Juvenile or Adult Outside</u> (WxLxH)	<u>Initial Injured Adult Inside</u> (WxLxH)
<b>Rodentia (cont'd.)</b>				
Squirrels				
Woodchuck & Marmots	(L) 20GAL.	(L) 2x4x3	(1) 6x8x6	(1) 3x3x3
Prairie Dogs	(L) 20GAL.	(L) 2x4x3	(1) 6x8x6	(1) 3x3x3
Ground Squirrel & Rock Squirrel	(L) 10GAL.	(L) 4x6x2	(1) 4x6x6	(1) 2x2x2
Mojave Ground Sq.	(L) 15GAL.	(L) 15GAL.	(L) 2x2x2	(1) 2x2x2
Golden-mantled Sq. & Chipmunk	(L) 10GAL.	(L) 10GAL.	(L) 2x2x2	(1) 2x2x2
Tree Squirrel	(L) 10-20GAL.	(L) 20GAL.	(L) 4x4x8	(1) 4x6x4
Pocket Gophers	(L) 15GAL.	(L) 15GAL.	(L) 15GAL.	(1) 15GAL.
Kangaroo Rats & Mice & Pocket Mice	(L) 15GAL.	(1) 15GAL.	(L) 4x6x2	(1) 4x6x2
Beaver	(L) 10GAL.	(1) 3x3x3	(L) 8x12x6	(1) 4x3x3
Mice, Rats, Voles				
Mice	10 GAL / 1 adult or 1 litter			
Wood Rat	(L) 15GAL.	(L) 15GAL.	(1) 4x6x2	(1) 4x6x2
Muskrat	(L) 15GAL.	(L) 20GAL.	(2) 4x6x2*	(1) 4x6x2
Porcupine	(L) 15GAL.	(L) 3x3x3	(1) 6x8x6	(1) 3x3x3
Nutria	(L) 20GAL.	(L) 2x4x3	(1) 6x8x6	(1) 3x3x3
<b>Lagomorpha</b>				
Jackrabbit (2-6wks)	(1) 10GAL.	18"x18"x12"	(1) 20x20x8	(1) 18"x36"x12"
(6-12wks)		10'x10'x4'		
Cottontail Rabbit	(1) 10GAL.	(1) 10GAL.	(1) 6x6x4	(1) 12"x18"x12"
<b>Artiodactyla</b>				
Wild Pig	(L) 2x2x2	(L) 10x15x8	(L) 10x15x8	(1) 6x8x8
Elk	(1-2) 6x6x2	(4) 12x20x6	(6) 30x50x6 (+)	(1) 8x8x8
Deer	(1-2) 4x4x2	(4) 10x15x6	(6) 30x50x6 (+)	(1) 8x8x8
Pronghorn	(1-2) 4x4x2	(4) 10x15x6	(+)	(1) 8x8x8
Bighorn Sheep	(1-2) 4x4x2	(4) 10x15x6	(6) 30x50x6 (+)	(1) 8x8x8
<b>Xenarthra</b>				
Armadillo	(L) 15GAL.	(L) 3x3x3	(1) 6x8x4	(1) 3x3x3

(WxLxH) = Listed in order: Width x Length x Height, in feet (unless otherwise indicated)

\* = See specific species requirements

(+) = See specific species requirements for hooved stock

GAL. = Gallons (e.g., aquarium or hard plastic pet kennels)

(#) = Number of animals

(L) = Litter - Note: occasional large litters (8-10 animals) may require larger housing

## Chapter 6 - REPTILE HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

### 6.1 General Reptile Housing Considerations

These guidelines have been developed by zookeepers and breeders as minimums to keep an animal healthy and reasonably content in captive surroundings and are suitable for animals undergoing rehabilitation.

The cage sizes listed in Table 7 are minimum sizes that are acceptable for most circumstances. Some animals may have special keeping requirements that these recommendations will not cover adequately. Learning the habits of a particular species and applying that knowledge to the housing, both in terms of size and substrate, is essential for proper care. For example, a snake species that ambushes prey would require less space than one that pursues prey. In addition, a four-foot iguana can be suitably housed in a six-foot high cage, not the 8-12 feet suggested in the table. The minimum standard is to provide adequate space for the animal to move and hunt (if necessary), and to provide an appropriate area to hide and/or bask, depending on the needs of that species.

Fresh water needs to be regularly available. Water dishes should be kept clean and disinfected. Some animals require misting to drink - they will not drink from standing water.

The animals should be kept in environmental conditions (heat and humidity) similar to the ones in which they are found. If air conditioning is used to keep temperatures down during hot summers, cages may require misting or other measures to raise the humidity to a level similar to that found outdoors. If forced-air heat is used in the winter, similar measures will be necessary to provide adequate humidity. Checking humidity once per day prevents possible problems. The natural history of each species will help to determine their preferences for microhabitat, thereby influencing housing practices.

### 6.2 Construction Materials

Aquaria/terraria work well for housing most reptile species, depending on the size of the animal. Security of the caging, in order to prevent injury to the animal or to other animals in the facility, is a minimal requirement. The cage must be free of rough surfaces on the interior walls and roof, and must be furnished appropriately for the species.

#### 6.2.1 Substrates

Selection of an appropriate substrate is extremely important to the long-term health of any reptile. Some reptiles must be able to burrow successfully in their substrate.

Aspen - recommended. The shredded type is absorbent and nonabrasive. It also lacks the volatiles that make so many tree-chip products unsuitable.

Astroturf™ - acceptable for snakes. Several pieces, cut to fit the enclosure should be kept at all times. Since it is not absorbent, it should be changed when soiled. Lizards and turtles may catch and tear their claws in the fabric.

Carefresh™ - while not aesthetic, it is absorbent, allows tunneling, and does not swell up with the addition of liquids, making it reasonably safe to ingest. Terrestrial snakes do well on it.

Cedar - **not** recommended. It contains volatile oils that will kill many invertebrates and cause respiratory problems (if not worse) with most reptiles.

Clay - often used for “kitty litter”, it should **never** be used as a substrate. It is extremely dehydrating and can cause respiratory problems, skin problems, and prevent snakes from shedding properly.

Corncob - **not** recommended. It is easily ingested and may cause intestinal impaction.

Gravel - **small gravel should not** be used. It is easily ingested by reptiles and may cause serious impactions. Large gravel is safer, but should be smooth, such as the quartz types. It can be washed, disinfected with bleach, rinsed well, sun-dried and reused.

Kitty Litter - see Clay

Mulch - may be used to hold moisture if the bark is not made from cedar. Fir is relatively low in volatiles. Check the bark before buying - if it smells ‘piney’ it contains potentially harmful volatiles.

Newspaper - recommended. Safe, hygienic, easy to clean, absorbent.

Paper Toweling - recommended. Safe, hygienic, easy to clean, absorbent.

Peat - **not recommended**, as it is dusty, dries easily and may irritate reptile mucosa; can also cause respiratory ailments.

Pine - **chips not generally recommended**, due to volatile chemicals present in the wood. Bark mulch may be used if required to hold moisture and it is not ‘piney’ smelling.

Sand - should be **limited** to those animals that habitually live in sand dunes or as a floor for aquarium dwellers such as soft-shelled turtles. Generally, sand is abrasive, and may be ingested, causing impactions.

Soil - should be sterilized before use.

Sphagnum Moss - can be used for specific applications with certain fossorial or burrowing animals. The material should be turned several times per week, unless it is placed over a gravel bed, to spread moisture that gathers underneath the moss. Replace completely every three months.

## **6.3 Furnishing**

If an animal must be kept for a lengthy period, cage accessories may contribute to the animal's mental health. The most useful additions to most cages are a branch for climbing and a basking rock. Some snakes, such as the green snakes, are primarily arboreal and require a branch to feel secure.

All reptiles must be allowed to hide and bask as needed. Placing a suitably sized hide box at either end of their cage is usually adequate to support their need for a sense of safety. For snakes, the hide must be large enough for the snake to coil up inside. A basking spot may be provided by placing a flat rock under the basking light - the rock will absorb heat during the day and allow the snake a preferred area to digest or warm itself. Supplemental under-tank heating is a good idea if the animal is from the southern United States or a similar hot area.

**Table 7: Minimum Housing Guidelines for Reptiles**

*Note: This table is not intended to be used independently; it should be used only in conjunction with the information in Chapter 6, Sections 6.1 through 6.3*

<b><u>Type</u></b>	<b><u>Length</u></b>	<b><u>Width</u></b>	<b><u>Height</u></b>
<b>Snakes</b>			
Burrowing	3/4 animal's length	1/3 animal's length	1/2 animal's length, add 6" to 12" for substrate
Terrestrial and Semi-Aquatic	3/4 animal's length	1/3 animal's length	1/2 animal's length, not less than 12"
Arboreal types	3/4 animal's length	1/3 animal's length	animal's length, not less than 12"
<b>Lizards</b>			
Burrowing	3 x animal's length	1/3 animal's length	1/2 animal's length add 6" to 12" for substrate
Terrestrial	3 x animal's length	2 x animal's length	animal's length with cover, or high enough to prevent escape
Semi-Aquatic	3 x animal's length	2 x animal's length	animal's length with cover, or high enough to prevent escape, plus 12" - 24" for water depth
Arboreal types	3 x animal's length	2 x animal's length	2 - 3 x animal's length with cover
<b>Crocodilians</b>	5 x animal's length	2 x animal's length	high enough to prevent escape
<b>Turtles</b>			
Terrestrial	5 x animal's length	5 x animal's length	high enough to prevent escape
Aquatic and Semi-Aquatic	5 x animal's length	3 x animal's length	high enough to prevent escape, plus water to a depth 3 x animal's width

## Chapter 7 - FINAL DISPOSITION

### 7.1 Overview

Once an animal comes into rehabilitation, it is faced with one of four fates; death from its injuries, permanent confinement as an education or placed animal due to factors preventing release, successful rehabilitation and release, or euthanasia. This chapter addresses the last two outcomes - release and euthanasia. Both are complex tasks for the rehabilitator. Successful release of a rehabilitated animal is predicated on an understanding of biological and non-biological factors. These include medical and physical readiness of the animal, life stage, release strategy, and release habitat.

Euthanasia is the hardest task a rehabilitator has to perform. Animals should not be considered for release that have vision impaired in both eyes, have amputated wings or legs, are imprinted, have a high likelihood of infecting wild animals with disease, or are rabies vector species from an area in which rabies is endemic (unless dictated otherwise by a local RVS rehabilitation program). Other reasons exist that animals should not be released, as well. These animals may find freedom through euthanasia.

### 7.2 Minimum Standards for Release of Wildlife Following Rehabilitation

Establishing and following set guidelines for release condition will aid in initial decisions for treatment, husbandry care protocols, and evaluation of readiness for release. For all wild animals undergoing rehabilitation, the following criteria must be met prior to release.

A brief physical exam should be performed to ensure that the patient is healthy and ready for release. In general, candidates for release must:

- Exhibit full recovery from the original injury or from injuries incurred while in care.
- Be no longer in need of medical care.
- Exhibit no signs of active disease.
- Have normal laboratory values, if tested (PCV, TS, BUN, etc.).
- Possess pelage or plumage that is adequate for that species to survive.
- Possess adequate vision to find/catch food and maneuver in a normal manner.
- Exhibit locomotive skills necessary for that species to survive.
- Demonstrate the fight or flight behavioral response.
- Demonstrate proper foraging behavior (self-feeding if raised in captivity).
- Demonstrate proper species behavior (not improperly imprinted).
- Be of correct age for independent survival.
- Be of correct weight for that sex, species, age and season.
- Exhibit waterproof pelage/plumage sufficient for that species.

In addition to the above parameters for the condition of the animal, many other considerations must be made. Suitable habitat with an adequate food supply, appropriate weather, season, and time of day are necessary for a successful release. Releases must occur within the parameters of local, state, and federal regulations or laws. The proximity of busy roadways, the presence of natural or introduced predators (e.g., domestic cats), human developments, existing populations of that species, and long term food sources should always be factored into determining the suitability of a release site.

## **7.3 Acceptable Euthanasia Methods**

### **Definition**

Euthanasia is defined as the induction of death with minimal pain, stress or anxiety. Wildlife rehabilitators who direct the operation of a facility must make these decisions, as well as supervise the euthanasia procedures. They must also exhibit understanding and compassion for those who have been involved with the terminal case.

### **Criteria**

While no ideal euthanasia agent exists, the procedure of choice should approach as closely as possible the following criteria:

- Produces rapid loss of consciousness and death
- Exhibits consistent and predictable action
- Is easily and safely administered by properly trained personnel
- Causes minimal psychological stress to the animal
- Causes minimal emotional effects to observers and participants
- Is not subject to abuse by humans
- Interrupts consciousness and reflexes simultaneously
- Is not a sanitation or environmental problem
- Results in no tissue changes that would affect a postmortem diagnosis
- Is economical and readily available

The method of euthanasia is only as humane as the knowledge and skill of the operator performing it. The safety of the operator shall be given as much consideration as humaneness of the method.

### **7.3.1 Acceptable Euthanasia Methods**

Below is a brief description of some methods of euthanasia recommended for use in wildlife. None of these methods should be used without proper training and, in the case of some of the regulated substances, without proper licensing. The *1993 Report of the AVMA Panel on Euthanasia* provides additional information on methods of euthanasia for wildlife. Please note: The IWRC and the NWRA do not condone all of the methods in the *2000 Report of the AVMA Panel on Euthanasia* as being appropriate for use in wildlife. Each wildlife rehabilitator is urged to seek and learn to use those methods which s/he feels are humane and within their legal and practical limits.



## **Physical Methods:**

### Cervical luxation/dislocation:

Causes death by severing the spinal cord and destroying ascending sensory (pain) pathways, resulting in depression of central nervous system (CNS), respiratory and cardiac functions. Grasping the body of the animal and the base of the skull, the neck of the animal is hyper-extended. The neck is rotated in a down-and-away motion relative to the body position using the thumb and forefingers, separating the first cervical vertebra from the base of the skull and severing the spinal cord.

Advantages: Clean; safe to perform; moderately rapid; special equipment not required.

Disadvantages: Must be performed by skilled personnel. May be aesthetically objectionable to staff/volunteers/public. Should only be performed on small birds and mammals; animal may remain conscious for a brief period following dislocation (may convulse prior to death).

### Decapitation:

Causes death by severing the spinal cord and destroying ascending sensory (pain) pathways, resulting in depression of CNS, respiratory and cardiac functions.

Advantages: Moderately rapid; effective in reptiles, though movement may continue following decapitation; therefore, the brain of reptiles must also be pithed or otherwise destroyed to ensure that there is no residual brain activity.

Disadvantages: Must be performed by skilled personnel. May be aesthetically objectionable to staff/volunteers/public. Should only be performed on small animals; animal may remain conscious for a brief period following decapitation (may convulse prior to death).

### Exsanguination:

Laceration of a major vessel (usually the jugular vein) results in rapid blood loss and decrease in blood pressure.

Advantages: Moderately rapid death; better if done on sedated, stunned or anesthetized animals.

Disadvantages: May cause anxiety and pain in a conscious animal; requires skill and training; may be aesthetically unappealing.

### Gunshot

Causes immediate unconsciousness by direct and rapid destruction of brain tissue when positioned properly.

Advantages: Rapid; can be used on most species.

Disadvantages: Must be performed by skilled personnel. Requires special equipment and may require firearm permit. May be aesthetically objectionable to staff/volunteers/public.

Potential for human injury. Cannot be used for animals suspect of rabies unless a portion of the brain is left intact for lab testing, and care should be taken if using in rabies vector species to avoid accidental exposure to rabies-infected brain tissues via aerosolized particles.

### Penetrating captive bolt:

Causes immediate unconsciousness by direct and rapid destruction of brain tissue when positioned properly. Bolt is positioned properly against the skull and fired. This is one of the few options for euthanizing large ruminants or carnivores; has also been used on small ruminants.

Advantages: Rapid.

Disadvantages: Must be performed by skilled personnel. Requires special equipment and may require permit. May be aesthetically objectionable to staff/volunteers/public. Must be done at close range (nearly direct contact to the animal's skull) and the animal must be properly restrained or sedated to insure accuracy.

### **Adjunct Physical Methods (should not be used as sole method):**

#### Pithing:

Causes direct destruction of brain and spinal cord as a needle or probe is inserted into the base of the skull.

Advantages: Rapid; one of the few methods effective in many reptiles.

Disadvantages: Must be done on an unconscious animal; requires skill and training; may be aesthetically unappealing.

#### Stunning (blunt force trauma):

Striking of the skull, resulting in unconsciousness of the animal.

Advantages: Rapid unconsciousness.

Disadvantages: Not a sole method of euthanasia - usually followed by exsanguination; requires skill to be done properly; may be aesthetically unappealing; should not be used if the brain must be examined (as with suspect rabies cases).

### **Inhalation Agents:**

Care should be taken when using chambers to contain animals for euthanasia because overcrowding or mixing of species can cause severe apprehension and psychological stress prior to death.

#### Halothane, isoflurane, enflurane, sevoflurane and methoxyflurane:

Cause direct depression of CNS; should be done in a chamber in a well-ventilated area to reduce human exposure.

Advantages: Useful when venipuncture is difficult as with small animals such as birds, bats, rodents, and small carnivores; some of these agents are nonflammable and nonexplosive under ordinary conditions; generally aesthetic; causes very little change that interferes with necropsy results.

Disadvantages: Some agents can be injurious to personnel and must be used in well-ventilated areas or with gas-scavenging devices; very young, old and/or respiratory impaired animals may be resistant to the effects and struggle for a period of time; diving birds and mammals may require a considerable length of time to reach respiratory arrest.

#### Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>):

Useful for small animals in chambers. The animal is placed into the chamber prior to the addition of the carbon dioxide; once the animal is in the chamber, CO<sub>2</sub> is added to the chamber, sinks to the bottom and displaces the ambient air. Death is caused by direct depression of CNS, respiratory and cardiac functions. Concentrated CO<sub>2</sub> gas is noxious and irritating, and can cause a conscious animal to become distressed if placed into a chamber already filled with CO<sub>2</sub>. Dilute CO<sub>2</sub> (mixed with oxygen) is not recommended either, as this mixture has been shown to actually prolong the time of death as the ambient air is displaced at a much

slower rate. If dry ice is used as a source of carbon dioxide, it should not come in contact with the animal.

Advantages: It is easily available in compressed cylinders or as “dry ice”; it is inexpensive and safe.

Disadvantages: Because it is heavier than air, incomplete filling of the chamber can permit a climbing animal to avoid a lethal dose. This method should not be used for animals with severely depressed respiratory rates (e.g., animals in hibernation). May not be effective with bats and newborn animals, as they have a very high tolerance for carbon dioxide. Beaver and other diving mammals and birds may hold their breath for extended periods of time therefore requiring longer time for the carbon dioxide to take effect.

#### Carbon monoxide:

Useful for small animals in chambers. Causes death by irreversibly binding with hemoglobin in the red blood cells.

Advantages: It is easily available in compressed cylinders; is rapid.

Disadvantages: Very hazardous to human health; this odorless, tasteless gas may be lethal in humans at as little as 0.4% concentration.

#### Ether and Chloroform:

Cause direct depression of CNS. Usually administered in a closed chamber within a well-ventilated room.

Advantages: Moderately rapid; inexpensive; most effective when used on small animals.

Disadvantages: Ether is explosive and can be irritating to the animal; chloroform is a known liver toxin and carcinogen; potential human health hazard if used in poorly ventilated area.

### **Adjunct Inhalant Agents (should not be used as sole method):**

#### Nitrous oxide:

Nitrous oxide alone is inadequate, but when used as a carrier gas, it speeds up the uptake of other volatile gases (halothane, isoflurane, enflurane, and methoxyflurane).

### **Non-inhalant pharmacologic agents:**

#### Barbiturates:

(Pentobarbital) Intravenous or intra-cardiac injection results in direct depression of CNS, respiratory and cardiac functions. Intra-abdominal injection may be acceptable in mammals when a vein is not accessible. Intramuscular injection will result in extensive tissue necrosis and pain.

Advantages: Rapid and smooth induction of unconsciousness; usually aesthetically acceptable to staff/volunteers/public.

Disadvantages: Intravenous administration is necessary for best results; requires Drug Enforcement Administration registration, record-keeping, and special storage conditions.

These drugs are subject to abuse by humans. They do not cause analgesia, and low doses may actually produce a hyperesthetic effect (i.e., the animal may actually become more sensitive to stimuli).

Preanesthetics:

(Ketamine, Xylazine and others) can be given by intramuscular injection to both mammals and birds to facilitate euthanasia by another method. These drugs should not be used as sole euthanasia agents.

**Methods considered inhumane and/or unacceptable for euthanasia of wildlife**

Many techniques have been used to provide death to wild animals, but many of these are also considered inhumane (therefore not true euthanasia) or extremely dangerous, and are not condoned under these *Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation*. Methods which are not approved for use in wildlife are:

Acetone

Air embolism

Cyanide

Drowning

Electrocution

Freezing

Kill traps

Neuromuscular blocking agents used alone (succinylcholine, potassium chloride, magnesium sulfate); may be acceptable if used in combination with a sedative

Nitrogen or argon gas

Nitrous oxide used alone

Strychnine

Thoracic compression

**7.3.2 Disposal of Carcasses and Animal Waste Products**

Proper methods for disposal of animal carcasses and waste products should be followed as described in section 2.3.5.

# **Appendix A - Form 1: Facility Review**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The information and questions contained in this form are a means for rehabilitation facilities and individual rehabilitators to do a self-evaluation or self-review. The purpose is to provide wildlife care-givers suggestions to save time (for example, keeping reference materials at the phone), to ensure wildlife receives appropriate housing and medical treatment (exam area, caging, veterinary and diagnostic), and to protect both wildlife and humans from disease and contamination (food preparation, disinfecting, housekeeping). Not all items contained in the form will apply to everyone - an individual rehabilitator probably does not require a grievance committee or Worker's Compensation Insurance - but this form does provide an easy reference to be sure important considerations are not overlooked when changes, such as facility growth, do occur.

## **Facility Review**

### **I. RECEIVING AREA**

#### **A. Public Information**

1. Are there written policies or procedures for staff and volunteers dealing with wildlife problems?
2. Does the organization have information available to the public on the services it provides for wildlife?

#### **B. Procedures: Does the organization have operational policies available to staff members and volunteers (e.g., operations manual, rules derived from Board decisions, or training materials)?**

#### **C. Records**

1. Is there a medical record for each animal that has a medical problem?
2. Do animals without medical problems have records (e.g., orphans)?
3. Are the records legible?
4. Are records adequately completed (i.e., can the progress of the animal be followed by reviewing the record)?
5. Is there a system to identify each animal to its record?

#### **D. Facilities**

1. Is the reception area neat and presentable?
2. Is it organized so that resident patients are not subject to stress during the intake of new animals?

- E. Telephone Services: For those providing help, assistance ,and directions to the public, are protocols established to provide assistance in the following areas:
1. Humanely preventing or reducing wildlife problems, conflict situations, and injury?
  2. Determining if animals in fact need to be rescued?
  3. Providing strategies and techniques to give opportunities for mother animals to retrieve temporarily displaced young or to re-nest?
  4. Suggesting safe capture, restraint and transport techniques to minimize risk of injury to animals and to humans?

## II. INTAKE/EXAM AREA

- A. Is the area clean?
- B. Is the area set up so that animals can be examined safely?
- C. Are first-aid supplies available?
- D. Are there scales available to weigh animals as part of intake and assessment?
- E. Are animals awaiting exam/treatment provided a warm, quiet and dark place?
- F. Are facilities arranged and/or constructed to minimize stress on the animals?
- G. Are the sound and activity levels minimized to reduce stress on the animal?
- H. Are capture and handling equipment easily accessible and in good working order?  
Are they used safely?
- I. Are capture, handling, and restraint procedures safe for animals and humans?
- J. Are the people handling wildlife trained in safe handling techniques?

## III. FACILITIES FOR INTENSIVE NURSING CARE

- Available at a veterinary facility       Available on-site

- A. Are the following available for use when necessary?  
 Incubators       Heat sources (lamps, pads)
- B. Is the area clean?
- C. Is it a low-use area?

## IV. SURGERY

- Available at veterinary clinic/hospital       Available on-site

- A. Is the area aseptic?
- B. Is there resuscitative equipment available?
- C. Is there a pre-surgical prep area?
- D. Is the surgical equipment in good working order?
- E. Is an anesthetic maintained?

## V. RADIOLOGY SERVICES

- Available at veterinary clinic/hospital       Available on-site

## VI. INITIAL CARE FACILITIES

- A. Do the cages meet caging standards for the species handled?
- B. Are they constructed so that they can be cleaned and disinfected (e.g., stainless steel, fiberglass, sealed wood, coated port-a-pets)?
- C. Are the cages cleaned regularly (as appropriate for the species and cage type)?
- D. Is the area adequately ventilated in an appropriate manner?
- E. Is there adequate lighting (full-spectrum light at the appropriate hours)?
- F. Are isolation facilities available (on-site, at a veterinary clinic, elsewhere)?
- G. Is the area away from the main flow of human activity?
- H. Is there access to the area by domestic pets?

## VII. PRIMARY EXERCISE CAGING

- A. Do they meet caging standards for the species being handled?
- B. Are they cleanable?
- C. Is there a regular cleaning schedule?
- D. Are they safe to the handlers and animals being held (e.g., no loose or sharp wires or nails, double doors, etc.)?
- E. Are they secure (e.g., locking, sturdy, safe from predators)?

## VIII. PHARMACY

- A. Is the area clean and organized?
- B. Are needed medications on hand? Are other medications available by prescription or through sponsoring organizations?
- C. Are controlled drugs (schedules II, III, IV) kept in locked, secure location?
- D. Is there a log for controlled drugs?
- E. Are antibiotics, parasiticides, vaccines, etc., available either in the pharmacy or on a prescription basis?
- F. Are emergency medications available?

## IX. DISINFECTING

- A. Is there a standard procedure and schedule for cleaning and disinfecting cages, feeding utensils, syringes, food storage containers, and food, water, and bathing bowls?
- B. Are cleaning and disinfecting supplies available and stored properly?
  - 1. Is human protective gear (gloves, masks, goggles) available?

- 2. Are instructions on the proper use of disinfectants displayed?
- C. Is there a designated area for storage, cleaning and disinfecting of dirty items?
- D. Is there a designated area for storage of clean and disinfected items?

#### X. PATHOLOGY SERVICES

- Available on-site     Available through veterinarian     Commercial account

Can the following services be provided to wildlife when necessary?

- A. Hematology (PCV, Diff., Hb, WBC, Clot Time, ESR, Serum Chemistries)?
- B. Parasitology?
- C. Microbiology?
- D. Necropsy Services?

If done in shelter:

- 1. Are separate instruments used for tissue gathering and necropsy?
- 2. Are dead animals disposed of in accordance with applicable ordinances or regulations?

#### XI. FOOD PREPARATION & STORAGE

- A. Is the area clean, orderly?
- B. Are adequate foodstuffs and supplies available?
- C. Are foodstuffs (chicks, rats, fish) stored separately from dead (rehabilitation) animals?
- D. Are perishable foodstuffs dated (open formula)?

#### XII. HOUSEKEEPING & MAINTENANCE

- A. Is there a reasonable schedule for:
  - 1. Daily cleaning?
  - 2. Weekly cleaning?
  - 3. Seasonal cleaning?
- B. Is there a continuing program for repair and upkeep of the facility?

#### XIII. LIBRARY

- A. Is there a continuing program for acquisition of pertinent publications on wildlife rehabilitation?
- B. Are manuals/books available on providing humane solutions to human/wildlife conflicts?
- C. Are publications available which describe each species and its natural history?



#### XIV. SAFETY

- A. Is there a fire alarm?
- B. Is there a fire extinguisher(s)?
- C. Are eating, drinking, smoking, etc., restricted to designated areas?
- D. Is there a first-aid kit available for staff/volunteers?
- E. Are material data safety sheets (MSDSs) readily available/easily accessible for those chemicals used at the facility (disinfectants, cleansers, certain drugs, etc.)?

#### XV. ORGANIZATIONAL STANDARDS

- A. Does the individual or organization comply with local ordinances and have current state/provincial/federal permits for the work being done?
- B. Is there a grievance policy for staff/volunteers?
- C. Is there a training policy for staff/volunteers?
- D. Are there continuing training opportunities for staff (paid and volunteer) who have completed basic skills training (staff training sessions, IWRC and NWRA programs, etc.)?
- E. Is there a liability insurance policy for volunteers to protect the facility and/or organization?
- F. Is there a workers compensation policy for employees?
- G. What after-hours services are available for emergency cases (on-call person, emergency veterinary clinic services, etc.)?
- H. Are there written policies to instruct the volunteers regarding rules of the organization as they relate to animal care, reporting procedures, rules on conduct?

#### XVI. CONTINUING EDUCATION

- A. Is pertinent information collected on wildlife rehabilitation?
- B. Does the permittee's organization collect such information and share it with other members?
- C. Does the permittee and/or others in the organization attend continuing education classes or conferences on wildlife rehabilitation?

## Appendix A - Form 2: Sample Patient Admission Form

DATE: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ SPECIES: \_\_\_\_\_ CASE #: \_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Age/Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Incoming band #: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Tag #: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Transported by: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours Donated: \_\_\_\_\_

**TO BE FILLED OUT BY PERSON PRESENTING BIRD:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

When bird was first seen: \_\_\_\_\_ Date/Time  
When bird was captured: \_\_\_\_\_ Date/Time

Where bird was found: city \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

Specific location where bird was found (in yard, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle any information pertaining to the bird:                      easy to catch                      **hard to catch**

**fell from nest**                      cat attack                      **in road**                      near window                      **can't stand**

**nest destroyed**                      dog attack                      **hit by car**                      hit window                      **limping**

**found on ground**                      bird attack                      **bleeding**                      can't fly                      **panting**

**cold**                      wet                      **staggering**                      shot                      **in a trap**

**abused**                      oiled                      **exposed to chemicals (lawn or other)**

**Additional remarks:** \_\_\_\_\_

Did you feed the bird? \_\_\_\_\_ **If yes, what & how?** \_\_\_\_\_

What else did you do to help it? \_\_\_\_\_

Your *tax deductible* donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ supports the care of the birds.

↓↓↓↓ **FOR OFFICE USE ONLY** ↓↓↓↓

**Cause of Injury:** abuse by humans    botulism    cat attack    dog attack    finch conjunctivitis  
electrocution/burns    entrapment    fell from nest    gunshot    hit by car    impact    nest destroyed  
no appt injury    oiled    orphaned    toxicity – lead    toxicity – other    toxicity – pesticide    undetermined

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of Injury:**    Primary:    angel wing    contaminant    general debilitation    neurologic  
no appt injury    orthopedic    soft tissue    Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary:    angel wing    contaminant    general debilitation    neurologic  
no appt injury    orthopedic    soft tissue    Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Disposition:** Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Init: \_\_\_\_\_  
EOA    Euth    Died    Placed    Transf    Released  
Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
Band #: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**Tests:** PCV    Fecal    Rads    Ophtho    Surgery  
Post    Toxicology    Asper    Micro    CBC    Chem  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_

US F&WS Notification (illegal activity, E/Th species, B/G eagle) Date notified \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_

## Appendix A - Form 3: Sample Patient Examination Form

### PHYSICAL EXAM

DATE: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ SPECIES: \_\_\_\_\_ CASE #: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

TIME: \_\_\_\_\_ INITIALS: \_\_\_\_\_ WEIGHT: \_\_\_\_\_ TAG #: \_\_\_\_\_

BODY CONDITN: emaciated underweight normal overweight AGE/SEX: \_\_\_\_\_

HYDRATION: good fair poor TEMP: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTITUDE: BAR Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

NARES: Clear Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

BEAK/MOUTH: WNL Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

RESPIRATION: WNL Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

CROP: full empty Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

GI TRACT/ABDM: WNL Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

DROPPINGS: WNL none Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

EYES: WNL Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

EARS: WNL Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

FEATHERS: WNL Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

ECTO-PARASITES: none Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

SKIN: WNL Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

FEET: WNL Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

NERVOUS SYSTEM: WNL Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

MUSCULOSKELETAL: WNL Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

INJURIES/PROBLEMS (wounds, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** BAR = Bright, Alert, Responsive

WNL = Within Normal Limits

<b>On Entry:</b> Dexamethasone _____ D2.5LRS (SQ/IV/IO) _____ Antibiotics _____ PO _____ Fecal Exam Results _____	<b>Other:</b>	PCV: _____ %
		BC: _____ %
		TS: _____ g/dL
		<b>Initial Location</b>

## Appendix B - References

### Introduction & Chapter 1: Current Minimum Standards

Pierce, G. and L. Wolf (eds.) 1993. *NWRA Quick Reference*. National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association, Minnesota.

Standard Conditions, Special Purpose-Rehabilitation, 50 CFR 21.27, United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

### Chapter 2: Disease Control

Davis, L. 1998. Do You Know How to Disinfect? *The NWRA Quarterly Journal*, 16(3):10-12.

Clipsham, R. 1990. Environmental Preventive Medicine: Food and Water Management for Reinfection Control. *1990 Proceedings Association of Avian Veterinarians*, 87-105.

Gaunt, A.S. and L.W. Oring (eds). 1999. *Guidelines to the Use of Wild Birds in Research*. The Ornithological Council, Washington, D.C. <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET>

Haufler, J. 1985. Habitat Selection of Release Sites of Rehabilitated or Orphaned Wildlife. *Wildlife Rehabilitation*, 3:139-143.

Lemarje, R.J. and G. Hosgood. 1995. Antiseptics and Disinfectants in Small Animal Practice. *Compendium on Continuing Education*, 17(11):1339-1351.

Stokhaug, C. 1988. Selecting Release Sites for Raccoons (*Procyon lotor*). *Wildlife Rehabilitation*, 7:151-156.

Standard Conditions, Special Purpose-Rehabilitation, 50 CFR 21.27, United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

### Chapter 3: General Housing Requirements for Wildlife

Heyn, S. 2000. Behavioral Enrichment for Mammals. *Wildlife Rehabilitation*, 17:105-112.

### Chapter 4: Avian Caging Requirements

Arent, L. 2000. *Reconditioning Raptors: A Training Manual for the Creance Technique*. The Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota.

Arent, L. and M. Martell. 1996. *Care and Management of Captive Raptors*. The Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota.

Chaplin, S.B. 1990. Guidelines for Exercise in Rehabilitated Raptors. *Wildlife Journal*, 12(2): 17-20.

Forness, M. 1997. Flight Therapy. *The NWRA Quarterly Journal*, 15(3):7-8.

Gibson, M.J. 1996. The ABC's of Housing Raptors. *Journal of Wildlife Rehabilitation*, 19(3): 23-31.

Gibson, M.J. 1999. Yours to Protect. *Journal of Wildlife Rehabilitation*, 22(1):18-26.

Heinemann, J. 1995. Housing Guidelines for Songbirds. *Wildlife Rehabilitation*, 13:45-66.

Kyle, P. and G. Kyle, 1995. Hand Rearing Chimney Swifts (*Chaetura pelagica*): A 12-Year Retrospective. *Wildlife Rehabilitation*, 13:95-121.

McKeever, K. 1987. *Care and Rehabilitation of Injured Owls, 4<sup>th</sup> edition*. The Owl Rehabilitation Research Foundation.

#### Chapter 5: Mammal Caging Requirements

Barnard, S. 1995. *Bats in Captivity*. Wild Ones Animal Books, Springfield, CA.

Burt, W.H. and R.P. Grossenheider. 1976. *A Field Guide to the Mammals of America North of Mexico, 3rd edition*. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, MA.

9 CFR Ch. 1 (1-1-95 Edition), Part 3, Subpart E, "Specifications for the Humane Handling, Care, Treatment, and Transportation of Marine Mammals", USDA-APHIS.

Forness, M. 1984. Raising White-tailed Fawns "Wild". *Journal of Wildlife Rehabilitation*, 7 (4):5+.

Lollar, A., B. Schmidt-French, and P. Winters. 1998. *Captive Care and Medical Reference for Rehabilitation of Insectivorous Bats*. Bat Conservation International.

#### Chapter 7: Final Disposition

Report of the AVMA Panel on Euthanasia. 1993. *Journal of the American Veterinary Association*, 202(2):229-249.

## Appendix C - Suggested Reading

### Avian Caging

Arent, L. 2000. *Reconditioning Raptors: A Training Manual for the Creance Technique*. The Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota.

Arent, L. and M. Martell. 1996. *Care and Management of Captive Raptors*. The Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota.

Chaplin, S.B. 1990. Guidelines for Exercise in Rehabilitated Raptors. *Wildlife Journal*, 12(2):17-20.

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McKeever, K. 1987. *Care and Rehabilitation of Injured Owls*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. The Owl Rehabilitation Research Foundation.

Orendorff, B. 1997. Hand-rearing Songbirds. *Wildlife Rehabilitation*, 15:3-40.

Pittel, H. 1994. Care of Adult Songbirds. *Wildlife Rehabilitation*, 12:83-94.

*Professional Standards for the Use of Live Animals in Environmental Education*. 1994. Iowa Association of Naturalists.

Rule, M. 1996. Nutritional Considerations for Captive Songbirds. *Wildlife Rehabilitation*, 14:75-94.

Smisko, G. 1996. Portable and Permanent Passerine Housing. *Wild Today, Wild Tomorrow, Proceedings of the 1996 Conference*, 27-31.

### Definitions/Terminology

Patton, S. 1998. *Wild Words: A Glossary for the Wildlife Rehabilitator*, 2nd ed.

Pierce, G. and L. Wolf (eds.) 1993. *NWRA Quick Reference*. National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association, Minnesota.

### Disease Control

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Carter, G.R. 1982. *Essentials of Veterinary Bacteriology and Mycology*. Michigan State University Press.

Clipsham, R. 1990. Environmental Preventive Medicine: Food and Water Management for Reinfection Control. *1990 Proceedings Association of Avian Veterinarians*, 87-105.

Davis, L. 1998. Do You Know How to Disinfect? *The NWRA Quarterly Journal*, 16( 3):10-12.

Gaunt, A.S. and L.W. Oring (eds). 1999. *Guidelines to the Use of Wild Birds in Research*. The Ornithological Council, Washington, D.C. <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET>

Lawrence, C.A. 1960. Antimicrobial Activity, *In Vitro*, of Chlorhexadine, *Journal of American Pharmaceutical Association*, 49(11).

Lemarje, R.J. and G. Hosgood. 1995. Antiseptics and Disinfectants in Small Animal Practice. *Compendium on Continuing Education*, 17(11):1339-1351.

Over 8,000 Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS), explaining product toxicity, antidotes and disposal are listed at <http://siri.uvm.edu/msds/>.

#### Final Disposition

Report of the AVMA Panel on Euthanasia. 1993. *Journal of the American Veterinary Association*, 202(2):229-249.

Martell, M. 1994. Analyzing Habitat for Release of Rehabilitated Animals. *Wildlife Rehabilitation*, 12:191-197.

#### General Housing Requirements for Wildlife

*Education and Training in the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals: A Guide for Developing Institutional Programs*. 1991. Committee on Educational Programs in Laboratory Animal Science, Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources Commission on Life Sciences.

*Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*. 1996. Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources Commission on Life Sciences National Research Council. National Academy Press, Washington, D.C.

Heyn, S. 2000. Behavioral Enrichment for Mammals. *Wildlife Rehabilitation*, 17:105-112.

#### Mammal Caging

Barnard, S. 1995. *Bats in Captivity*. Wild Ones Animal Books, Springfield, CA.

9 CFR Ch. 1 (1-1-95 Edition), Part 3, Subpart E, "Specifications for the Humane Handling, Care, Treatment, and Transportation of Marine Mammals", USDA-APHIS.

Forness, M. 1984. Raising White-tailed Fawns "Wild". *Journal of Wildlife Rehabilitation*, 7(4):5+.

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Taylor, P. 1995. *Opossum Care Training Manual*. Huntington Beach, CA.

#### Reptiles

Barnard, S. 1996. *Reptile Keeper's Handbook*. Krieger Publishing.

*Care in Captivity: Husbandry Techniques for Amphibians and Reptiles*. 1989. Chicago Herpetological Society. 2001 N. Clark St., Chicago, IL 60614.

Mader, D.R. (ed.) 1996. *Reptile Medicine and Surgery*. W.B. Saunders, Philadelphia, PA.

Mattison, C. 1982. *The Care of Reptiles and Amphibians in Captivity*. Poole: Blandford Press.

Rossi, J.V., and Rossi, R. 1992. *Snakes of the United States and Canada*. Krieger. (2 Vols.)

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## Appendix D - Unit Conversion Table

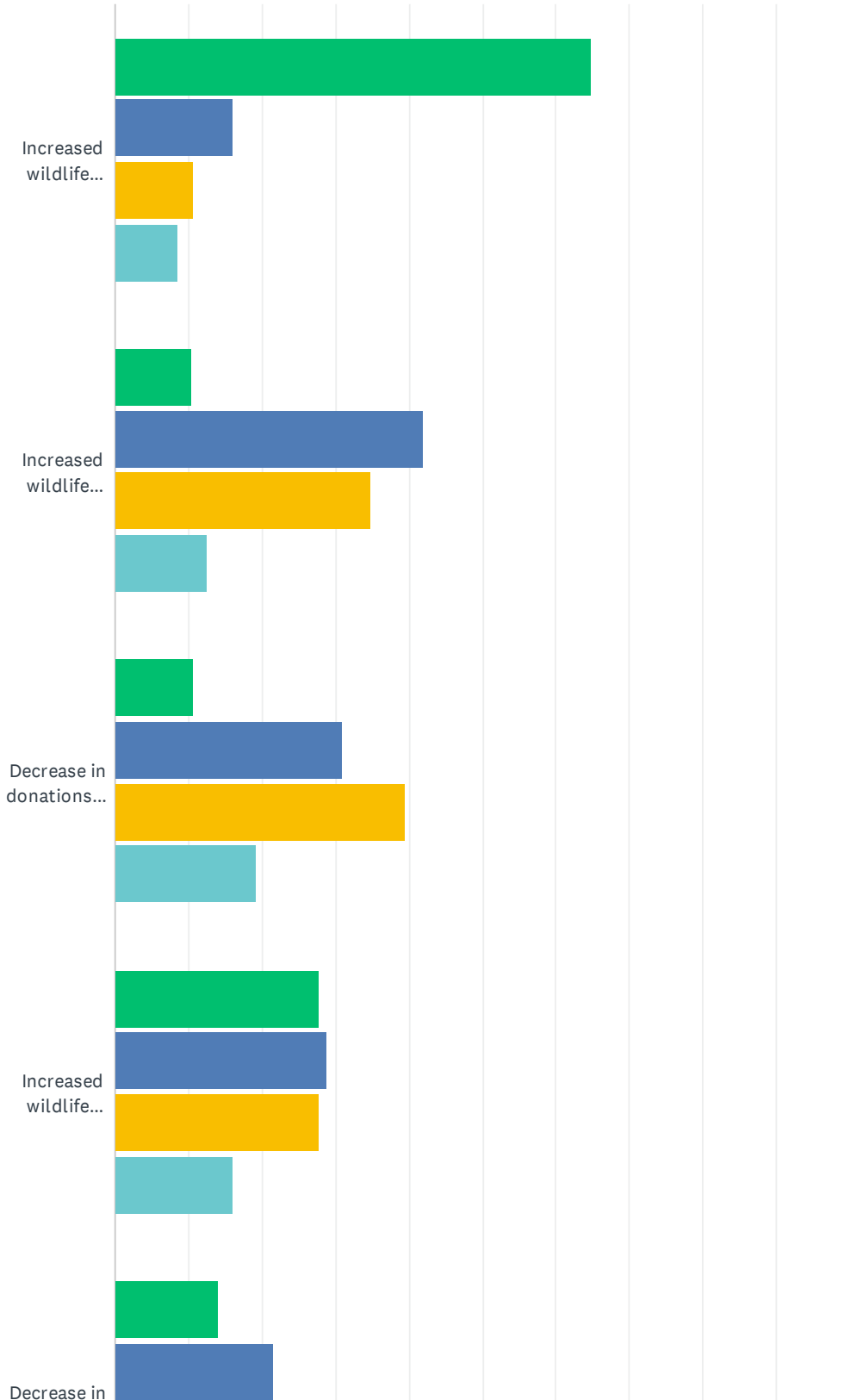
<u>To change</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Multiply by</u>
centimeters	inches	.3937
centimeters	feet	.03281
feet	meters	.3048
gallons (U.S.)	liters	3.7853
grams	ounces	.0353
grams	pounds	.002205
inches	millimeters	25.4000
inches	centimeters	2.5400
kilograms	pounds	2.2046
liters	gallons (U.S.)	.2642
liters	pints	2.1134
liters	quarts	1.0567
meters	feet	3.2808
meters	yards	1.0936
milliliters	tablespoons	.0667
millimeters	inches	.0394
ounces	grams	28.3495
ounces	milliliters	30
ounces	pounds	.0625
pints	liters	.4732
pounds	kilograms	.4536
pounds	ounces	16
quarts	liters	.9463
square feet	square meters	.0929
square meters	square feet	10.7639
square meters	square yards	1.1960
square yards	square meters	.8361
tablespoon	milliliters	15
yards	meters	.9144

<u>To change</u>	<u>To</u>	
Celsius	Fahrenheit	multiply by 1.8 and add 32
Fahrenheit	Celsius	subtract 32 and multiply by 0.55

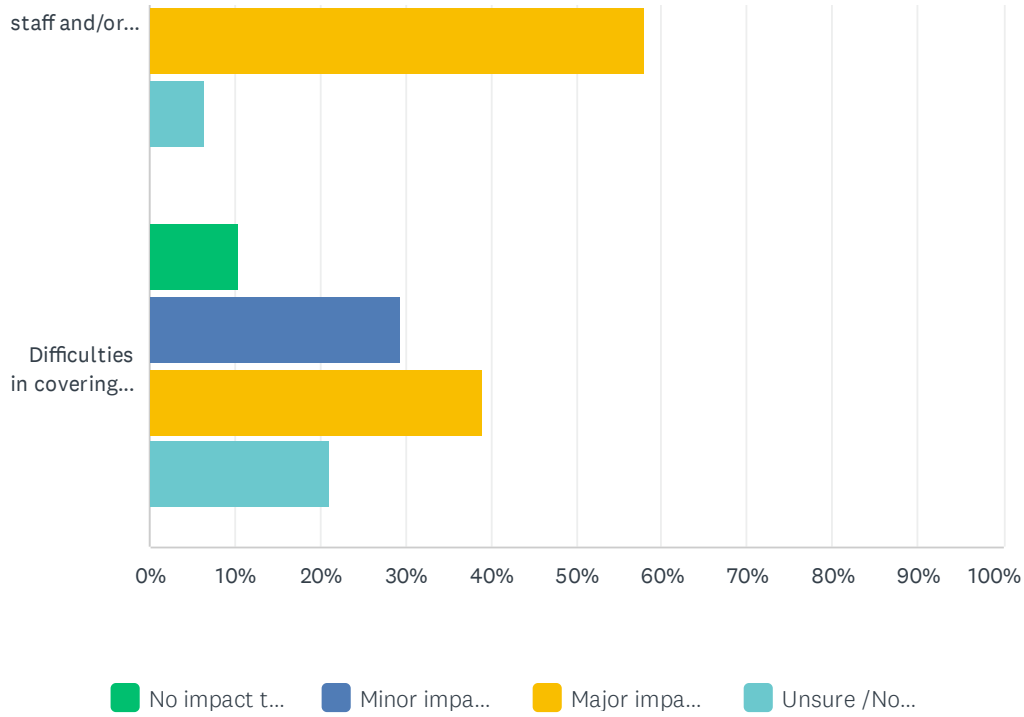


# Q1 How has your facility has been impacted by different challenges in the past 5 years?

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



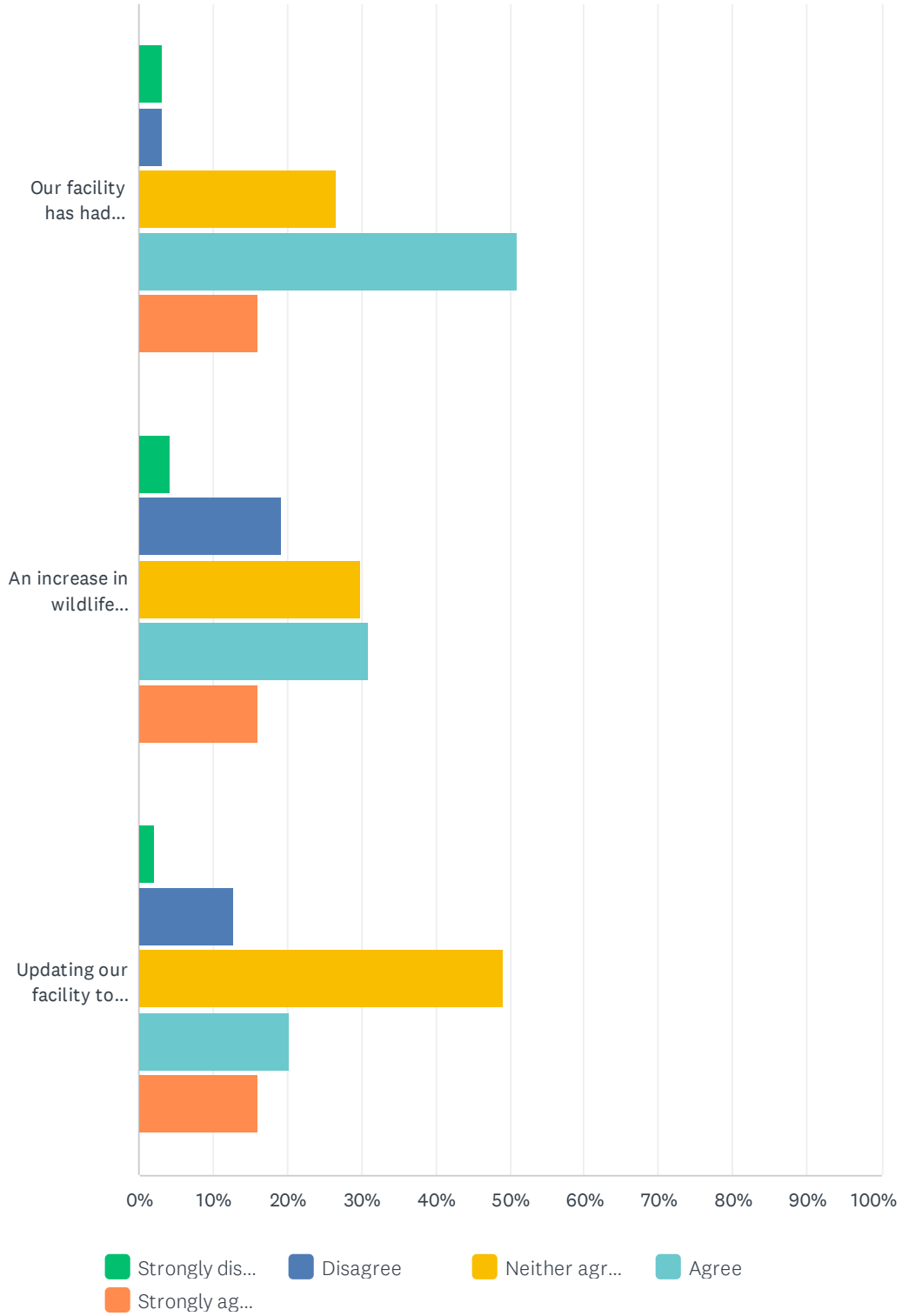
## California Wildlife Rehabilitation Survey



	NO IMPACT TO FACILITY	MINOR IMPACT TO FACILITY	MAJOR IMPACT TO FACILITY	UNSURE /NO OPINION	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Increased wildlife intakes due to oil spills	64.89% 61	15.96% 15	10.64% 10	8.51% 8	94	1.63
Increased wildlife intakes due to wildfire or drought	10.53% 10	42.11% 40	34.74% 33	12.63% 12	95	2.49
Decrease in donations and/or funding due to COVID-19	10.64% 10	30.85% 29	39.36% 37	19.15% 18	94	2.67
Increased wildlife intakes due to diseases of concern (e.g., Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, Rabbit Hemorrhagic Virus)	27.66% 26	28.72% 27	27.66% 26	15.96% 15	94	2.32
Decrease in staff and/or volunteers due to COVID-19	13.98% 13	21.51% 20	58.06% 54	6.45% 6	93	2.57
Difficulties in covering current operating expenses due to increasing costs, requirements, or intakes	10.53% 10	29.47% 28	38.95% 37	21.05% 20	95	2.71

## Q2 Please rate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements.

Answered: 94 Skipped: 1

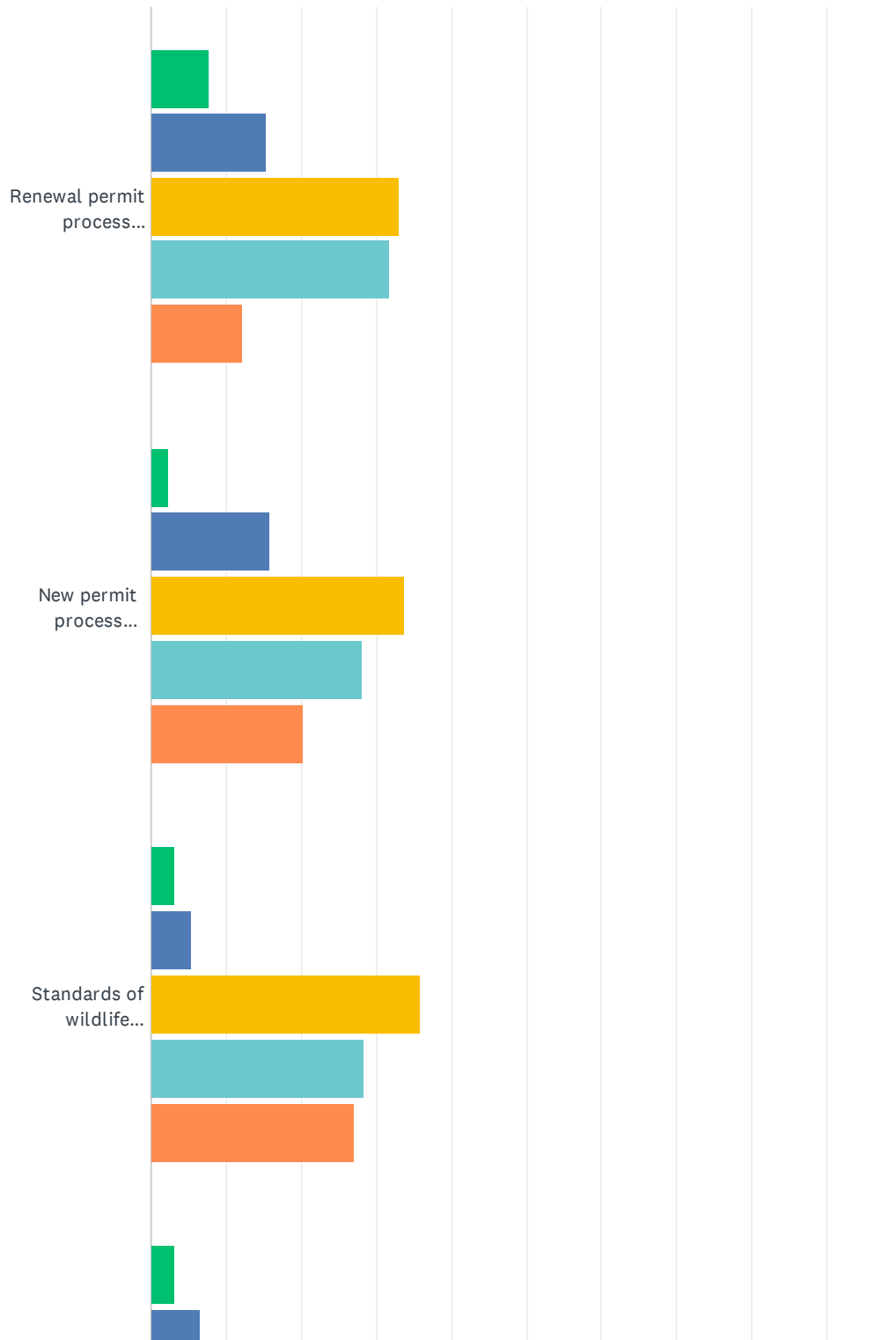


## California Wildlife Rehabilitation Survey

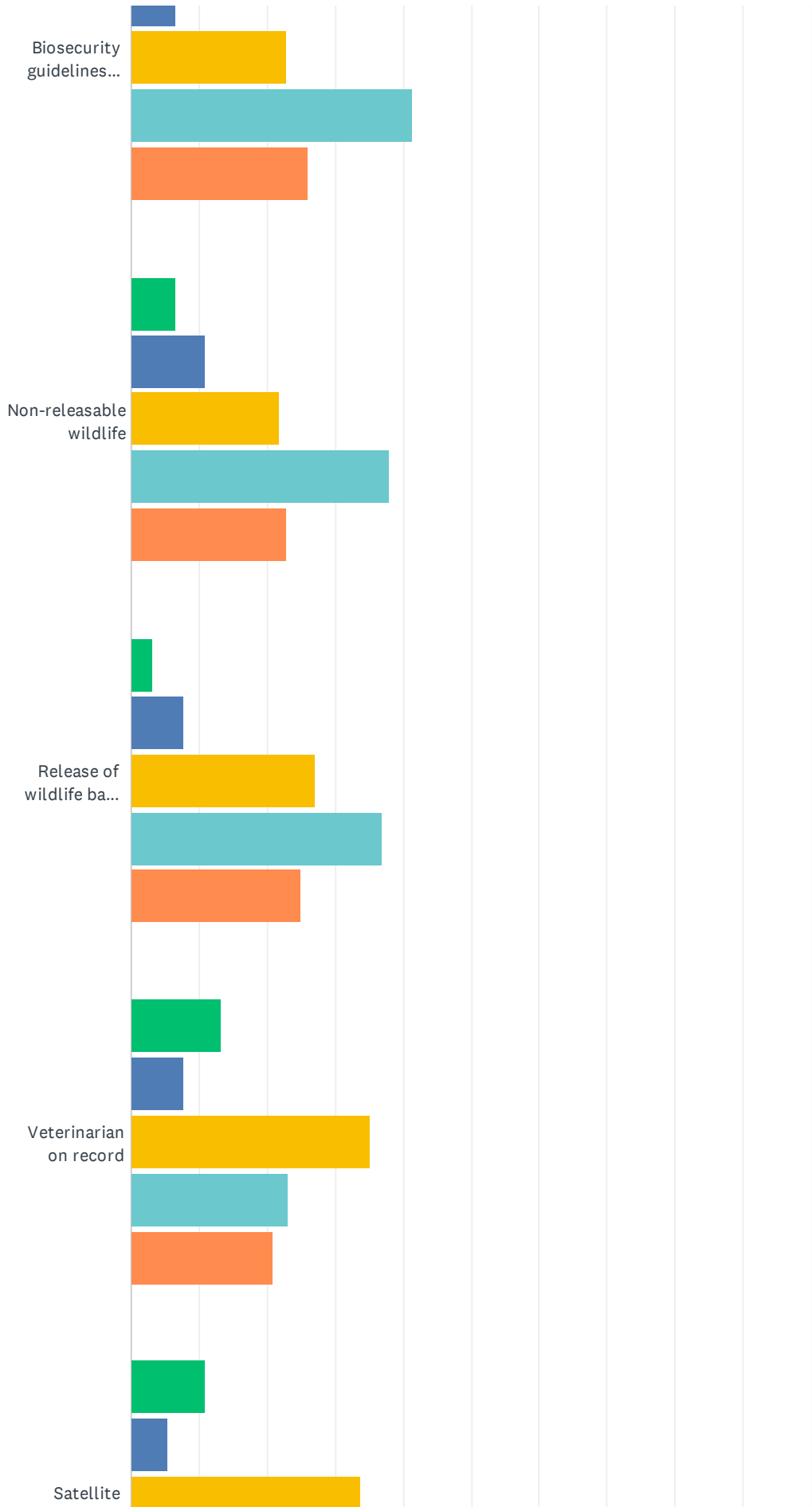
	<b>STRONGLY DISAGREE</b>	<b>DISAGREE</b>	<b>NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE</b>	<b>AGREE</b>	<b>STRONGLY AGREE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>WEIGHTED AVERAGE</b>
Our facility has had difficulty in purchasing food, supplies, and equipment due to rising inflation and chain supply issues	3.19% 3	3.19% 3	26.60% 25	51.06% 48	15.96% 15	94	3.73
An increase in wildlife intakes have reduced our facility's finances	4.26% 4	19.15% 18	29.79% 28	30.85% 29	15.96% 15	94	3.35
Updating our facility to meet new regulations for wildlife rehabilitation would cost too much money	2.13% 2	12.77% 12	48.94% 46	20.21% 19	15.96% 15	94	3.35

Q3 CDFW is in the process of updating the guidelines for wildlife rehabilitation outlined in California Code of Regulations, Title 14 section 679. In your opinion, what topics are most important to update and/or clarify for us to better support rehabbers?

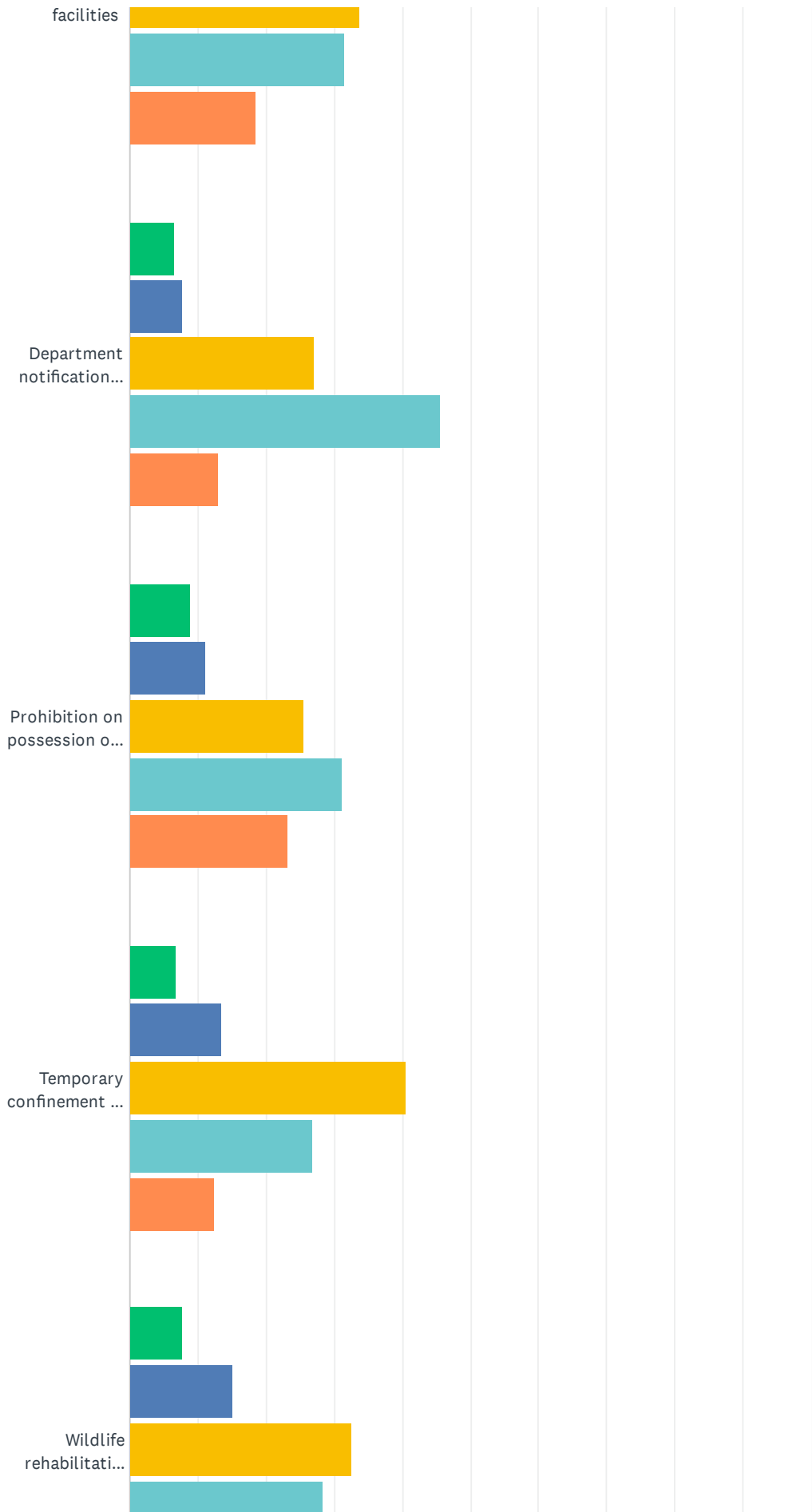
Answered: 93 Skipped: 2



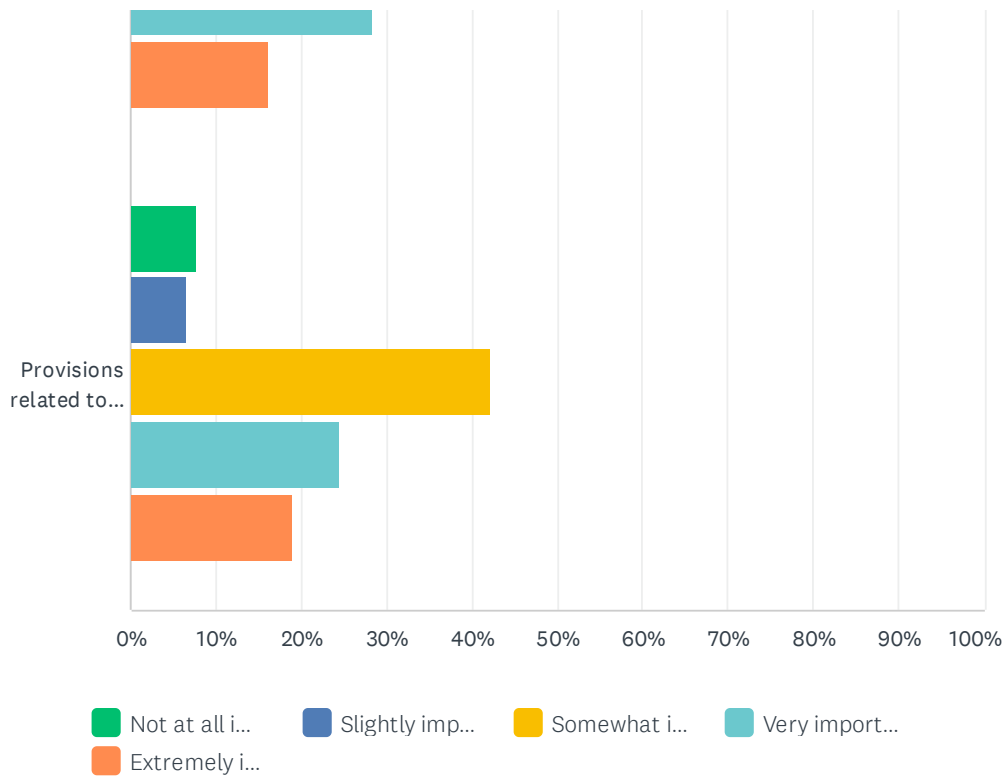
# California Wildlife Rehabilitation Survey



# California Wildlife Rehabilitation Survey



# California Wildlife Rehabilitation Survey





California Wildlife Rehabilitation Survey

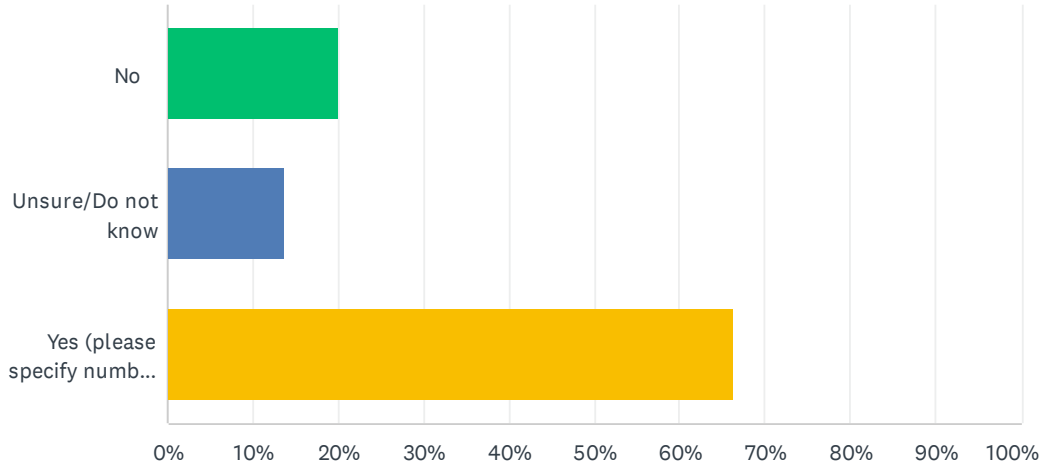
	NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT	SLIGHTLY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	VERY IMPORTANT	EXTREMELY IMPORTANT	TOTAL
Renewal permit process (Approval of wildlife rehabilitation facility)	7.69% 7	15.38% 14	32.97% 30	31.87% 29	12.09% 11	91
New permit process (Approval of wildlife rehabilitation facility)	2.25% 2	15.73% 14	33.71% 30	28.09% 25	20.22% 18	89
Standards of wildlife rehabilitation (i.e., currently references 2000 Minimum Standards)	3.26% 3	5.43% 5	35.87% 33	28.26% 26	27.17% 25	92
Biosecurity guidelines (i.e., disease prevention)	3.26% 3	6.52% 6	22.83% 21	41.30% 38	26.09% 24	92
Non-releasable wildlife	6.52% 6	10.87% 10	21.74% 20	38.04% 35	22.83% 21	92
Release of wildlife back to the wild	3.26% 3	7.61% 7	27.17% 25	36.96% 34	25.00% 23	92
Veterinarian on record	13.19% 12	7.69% 7	35.16% 32	23.08% 21	20.88% 19	91
Satellite facilities	10.87% 10	5.43% 5	33.70% 31	31.52% 29	18.48% 17	92
Department notification requirements (e.g., written records, diseased wildlife, annual reports)	6.52% 6	7.61% 7	27.17% 25	45.65% 42	13.04% 12	92
Prohibition on possession of certain native wildlife (e.g., big game mammals, fully protected species)	8.89% 8	11.11% 10	25.56% 23	31.11% 28	23.33% 21	90
Temporary confinement of wildlife	6.74% 6	13.48% 12	40.45% 36	26.97% 24	12.36% 11	89
Wildlife rehabilitation facility definition	7.61% 7	15.22% 14	32.61% 30	28.26% 26	16.30% 15	92
Provisions related to facility operations (e.g., emergency preparedness)	7.78% 7	6.67% 6	42.22% 38	24.44% 22	18.89% 17	90

**Q4 Are there other updates or changes to California Code of Regulations, Title 14 section 679 that you would like to recommend?**

Answered: 29 Skipped: 66

Q5 CDFW defines a satellite facility as “a location where rehabilitation is performed other than at the address listed” on the Department permit and memorandum of understanding. Does your facility use satellite facilities?

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No	20.00%	19
Unsure/Do not know	13.68%	13
Yes (please specify number of satellite facilities)	66.32%	63
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>95</b>

**Q6 In your opinion, what are the minimum number of hours experience/training needed to become a skilled wildlife rehabilitator in California?**

Answered: 86 Skipped: 9

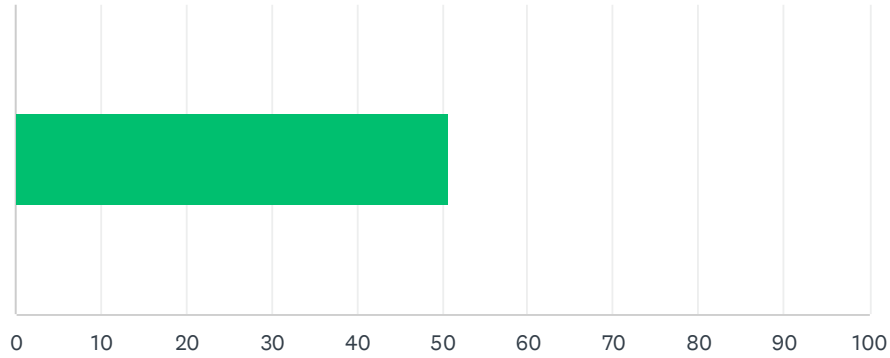
**Q7 In your opinion, what are the minimum number of hours experience/training needed to become a skilled wildlife rehabilitator for each of the “specialty rehab” species listed below?**

Answered: 78 Skipped: 17

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Black bear cubs	91.03%	71
Deer fawns	92.31%	72
Raptors	98.72%	77

## Q8 How familiar are you with CDFW assisted placement of confiscated animals, restricted species, and/or non-releasable wildlife?

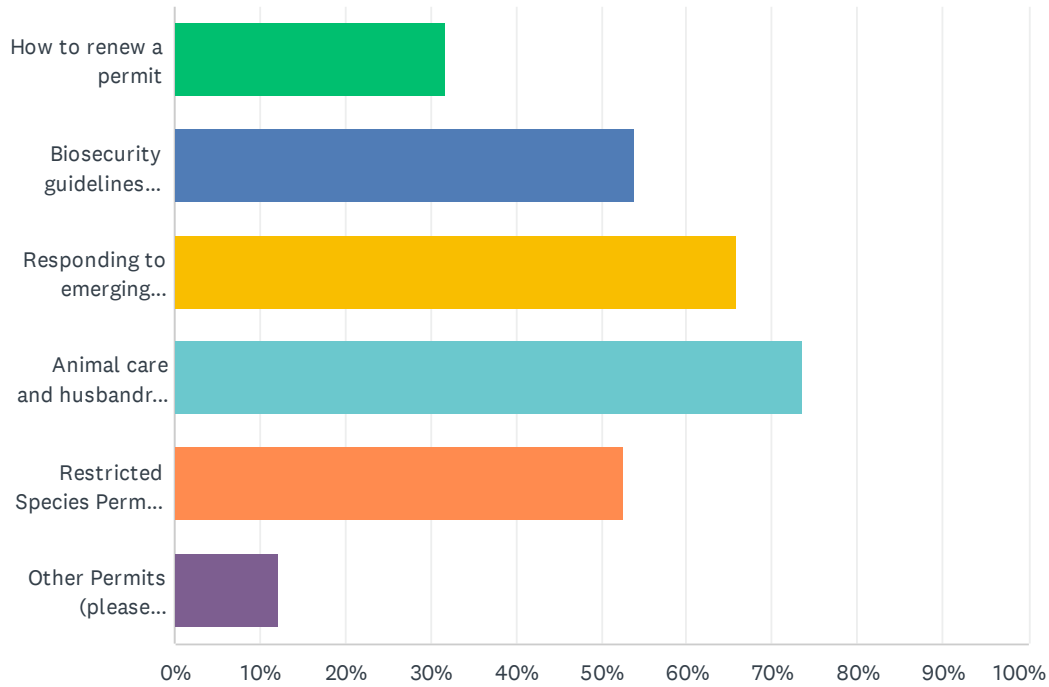
Answered: 91 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
	51	4,621	91
Total Respondents: 91			

## Q9 What Department guidance and/or resources would you find most useful?

Answered: 91 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
How to renew a permit	31.87%	29
Biosecurity guidelines (preventing zoonotic disease)	53.85%	49
Responding to emerging diseases	65.93%	60
Animal care and husbandry (best practices)	73.63%	67
Restricted Species Permits (education animals)	52.75%	48
Other Permits (please specify)	12.09%	11
Total Respondents: 91		

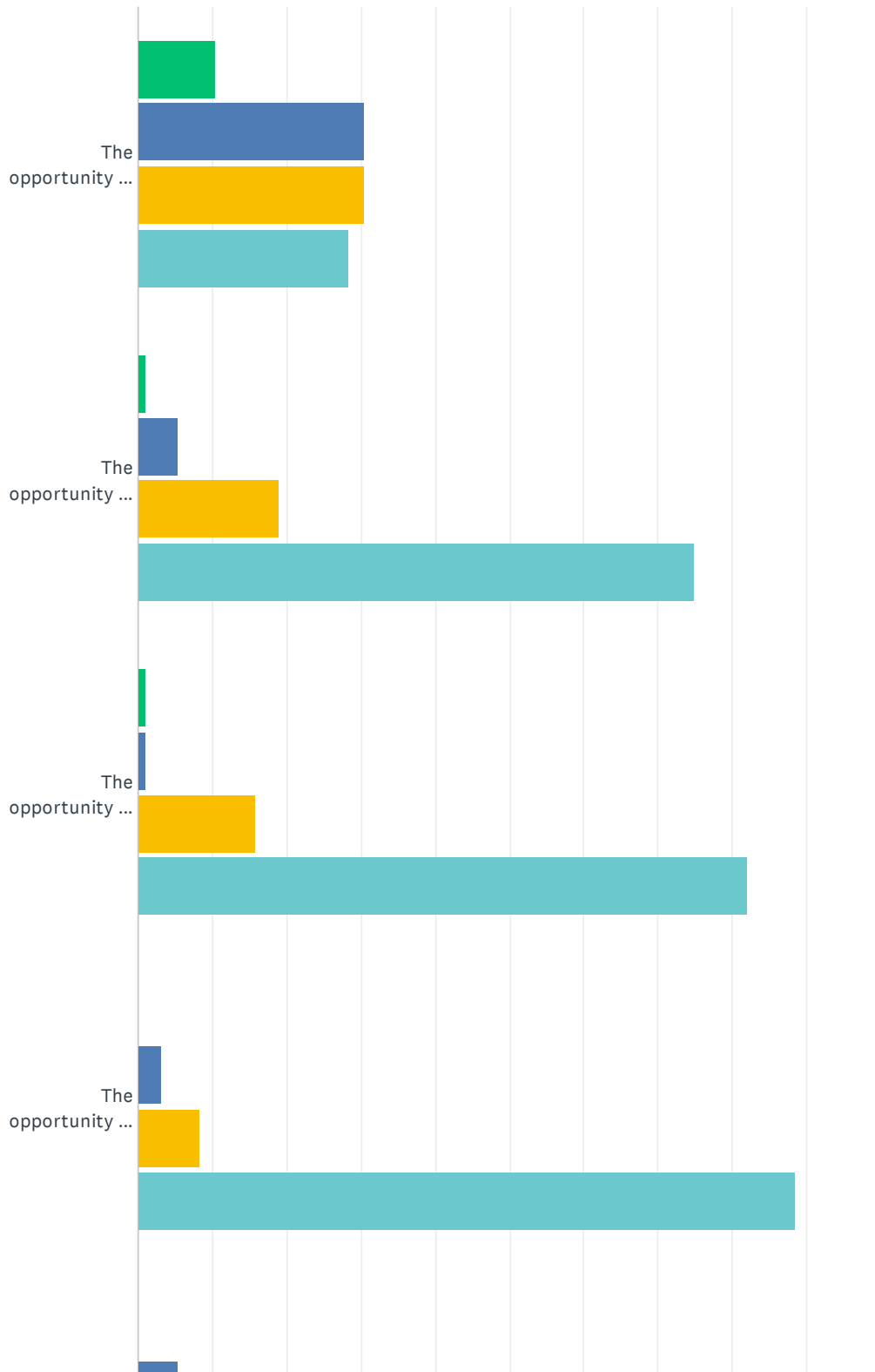
**Q10** Lastly, we are interested in learning more about your experiences with wildlife rehabilitation. How many years have you been working or volunteering with a rehabilitation facility?

Answered: 93 Skipped: 2

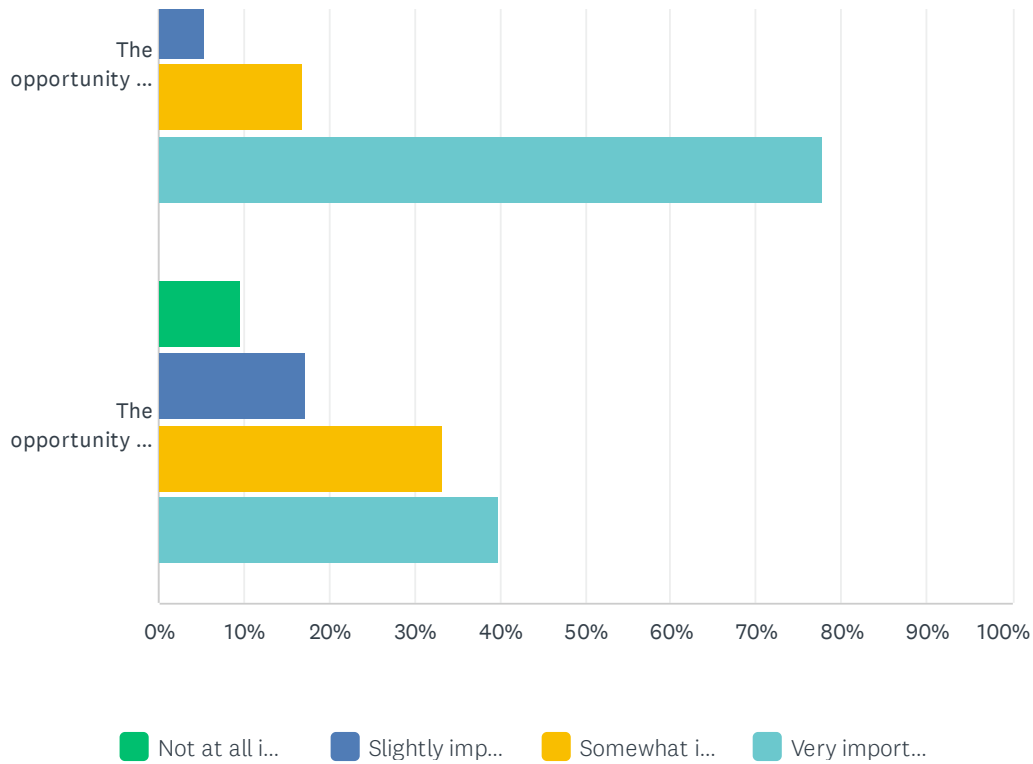


Q11 Please take a moment to think about the reasons why you choose to conduct wildlife rehabilitation. How would you rate the importance of the following opportunities to your decision to conduct wildlife rehabilitation?

Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



## California Wildlife Rehabilitation Survey



	NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT	SLIGHTLY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	VERY IMPORTANT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
The opportunity to spend time with others who share my interests	10.53% 10	30.53% 29	30.53% 29	28.42% 27	95	2.77
The opportunity to learn about wildlife (or specific species)	1.05% 1	5.26% 5	18.95% 18	74.74% 71	95	3.67
The opportunity to gain "hands-on" experiences	1.05% 1	1.05% 1	15.79% 15	82.11% 78	95	3.79
The opportunity to care for wildlife	0.00% 0	3.16% 3	8.42% 8	88.42% 84	95	3.85
The opportunity to contribute to wildlife conservation efforts	0.00% 0	5.26% 5	16.84% 16	77.89% 74	95	3.73
The opportunity to volunteer in my local community	9.68% 9	17.20% 16	33.33% 31	39.78% 37	93	3.03

**Q12 Thank you. Please use the space below if you have any additional thoughts or comments you would like to share.**

Answered: 29 Skipped: 66

Q1 Please review the proposed text of CCR §679.1 which covers the definitions used for 679.1-679.9. If you have comments or feedback on this section, please use this comment box.

Answered: 25 Skipped: 43

Q2 Please review the proposed text of CCR §679.2 which covers the transportation and confinement of live wildlife for wildlife rehabilitation. If you have comments or feedback on this section, please use this comment box.

Answered: 54 Skipped: 14

**Q3 Please review the proposed text of CCR §679.3a which covers the issuance of wildlife rehabilitation permits. If you have comments or feedback on this section, please use this comment box.**

Answered: 30 Skipped: 38

Q4 Please review the proposed text of CCR §679.3b which covers specialty rehabilitation authorization. If you have comments or feedback on this section, please use this comment box.

Answered: 44 Skipped: 24

Q5 Please review the proposed text of CCR §679.3c, CCR §679.3d, and CCR §679.3e which cover wildlife rehabilitation sub-permits, long-term possession of animals, and the transition period clause. If you have comments or feedback on this section, please use this comment box.

Answered: 46 Skipped: 22



**Q6 Please review the proposed text of CCR §679.4 which covers the provisions related to the operation of a wildlife rehabilitation facility. If you have comments or feedback on this section, please use this comment box.**

Answered: 32 Skipped: 36

**Q7 Please review the proposed text of CCR §679.5a which covers the care of wildlife in possession. If you have comments or feedback on this section, please use this comment box.**

Answered: 33 Skipped: 35

**Q8 Please review the proposed text of CCR §679.5b and CCR §679.5c which covers the treatment of wildlife in possession. If you have comments or feedback on this section, please use this comment box.**

Answered: 18 Skipped: 50

**Q9** Please review the proposed text of CCR §679.5d and CCR §679.5e which cover animals not returned to the wild. If you have comments or feedback on this section, please use this comment box.

Answered: 22 Skipped: 46

**Q10** Please review the proposed text of CCR §679.6 which covers the release of animals to the wild. If you have comments or feedback on this section, please use this comment box.

Answered: 13 Skipped: 55

**Q11** Please review the proposed text of CCR §679.7 which covers the inspection of rehabilitation facilities. If you have comments or feedback on this section, please use this comment box.

Answered: 17 Skipped: 51

# Feedback on Proposed Changes to Wildlife Rehabilitation Regulations-July Survey

Monday, April 15, 2024

**72**

Total Responses

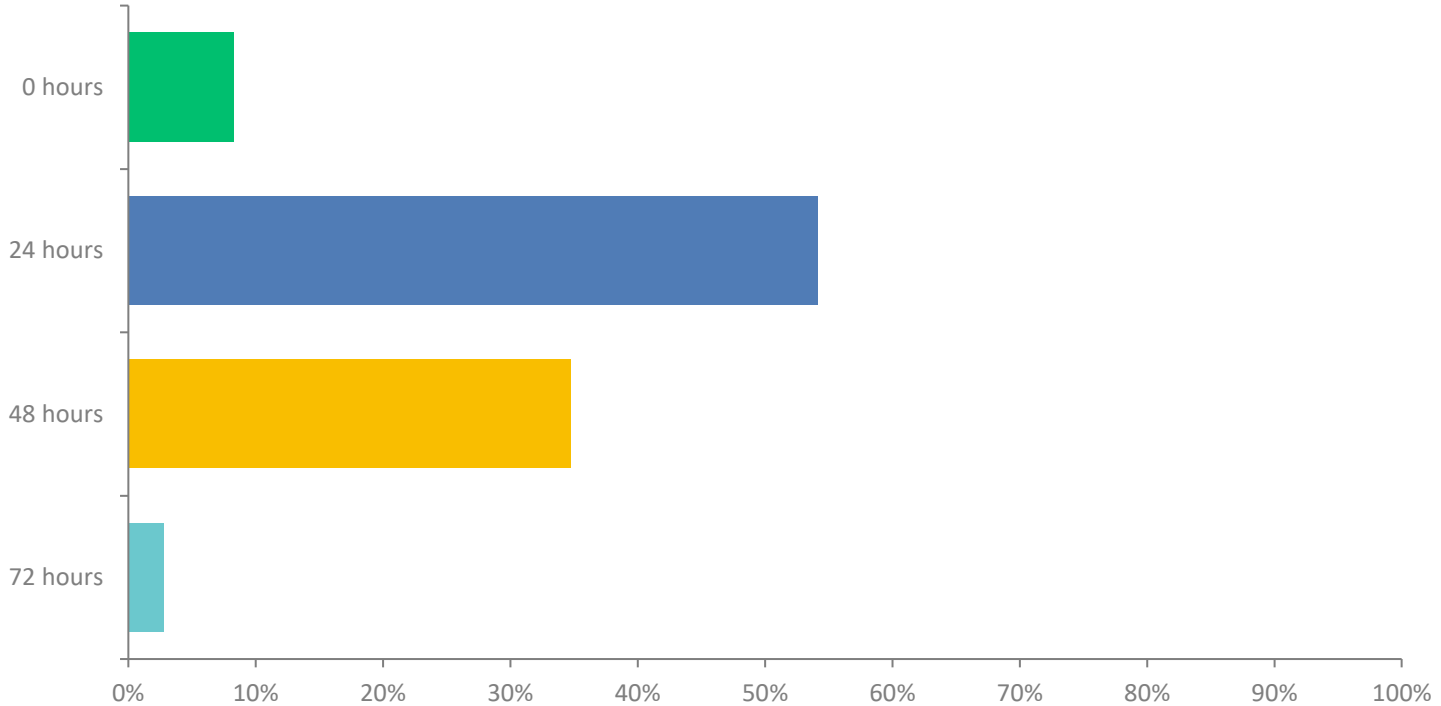
Date Created: Thursday, July 06, 2023

Complete Responses: 72



# Injured, sick, or orphaned wildlife - for the purposes of transporting for rehabilitation (good Samaritan) - before bringing it to a permitted wildlife rehabilitator?

Answered: 72 Skipped: 0



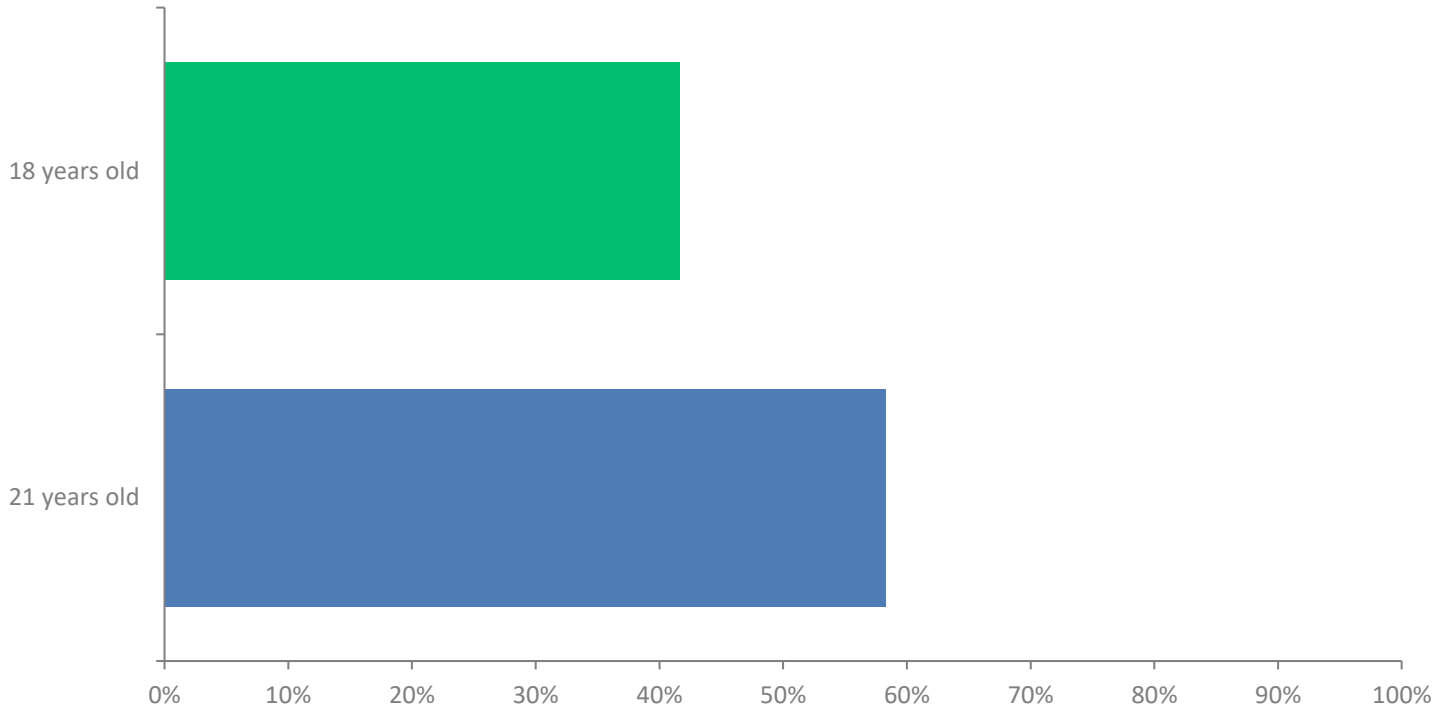
# Injured, sick, or orphaned wildlife - for the purposes of transporting for rehabilitation (good Samaritan) - before bringing it to a permitted wildlife rehabilitator?

Answered: 72 Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
0 hours	8.33%	6
24 hours	54.17%	39
48 hours	34.72%	25
72 hours	2.78%	2
TOTAL		72

# Q2: What should the minimum age be for an individual to apply for a CDFW Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit?

Answered: 72 Skipped: 0



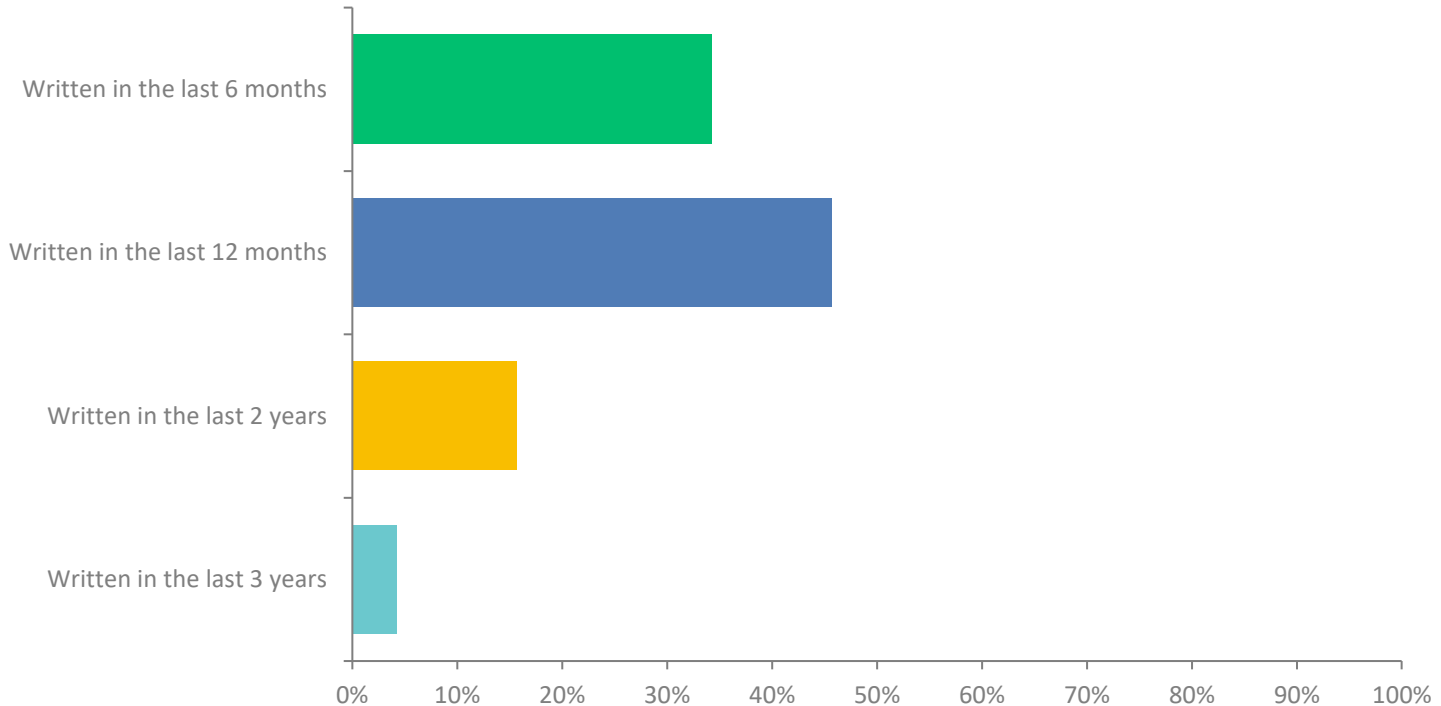
## Q2: What should the minimum age be for an individual to apply for a CDFW Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit?

Answered: 72 Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
18 years old	41.67%	30
21 years old	58.33%	42
TOTAL		72

# Must provide 2 letters stating there is a need for a new facility in that area. Within how many months or years - from the date of the application - should these letters be written?

Answered: 70 Skipped: 2



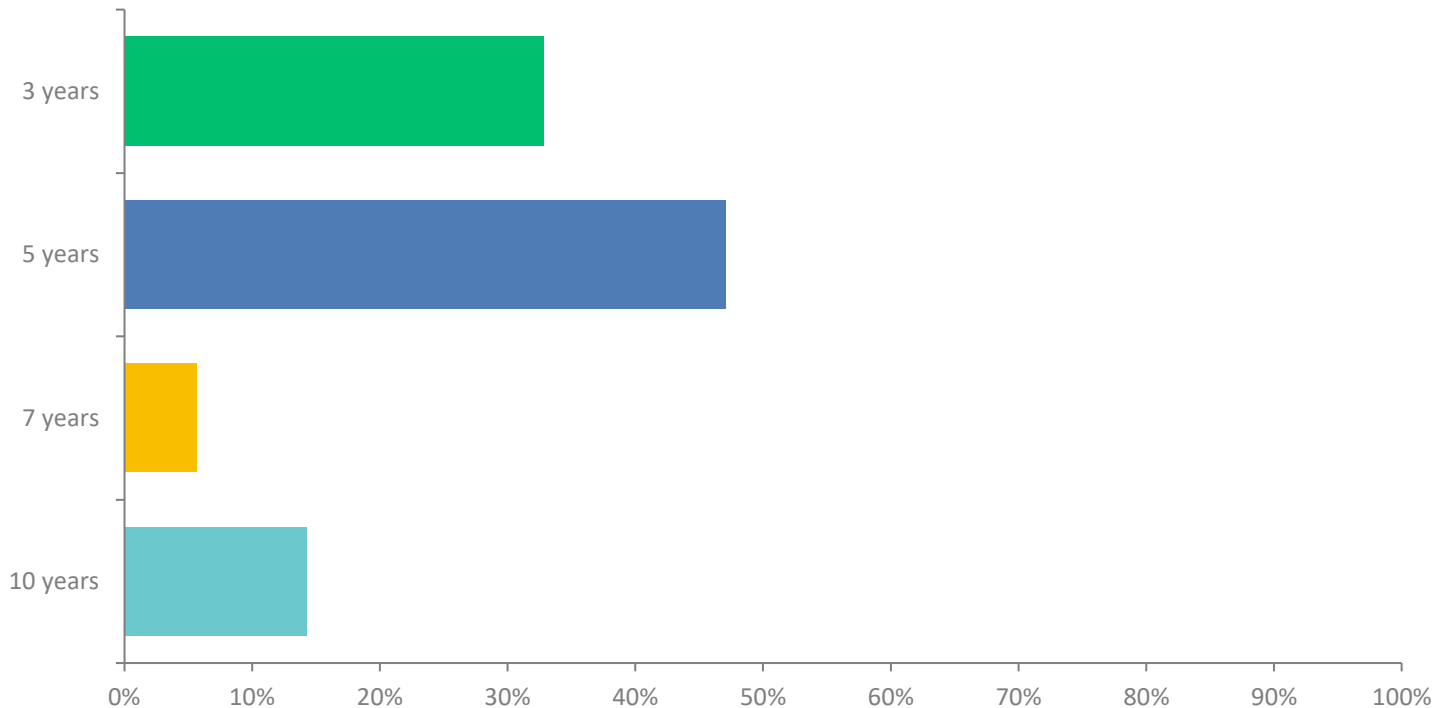
# Must provide 2 letters stating there is a need for a new facility in that area. Within how many months or years - from the date of the application - should these letters be written?

Answered: 70 Skipped: 2

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Written in the last 6 months	34.29%	24
Written in the last 12 months	45.71%	32
Written in the last 2 years	15.71%	11
Written in the last 3 years	4.29%	3
TOTAL		70

**Q4: An individual applying for a CDI W Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit must have 1,000 hours of experience with wildlife rehabilitation. Within how many years should this experience be gained?**

Answered: 70 Skipped: 2



**Q4. An individual applying for a CDI w/ Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit must have 1,000 hours of experience with wildlife rehabilitation. Within how many years should this experience be gained?**

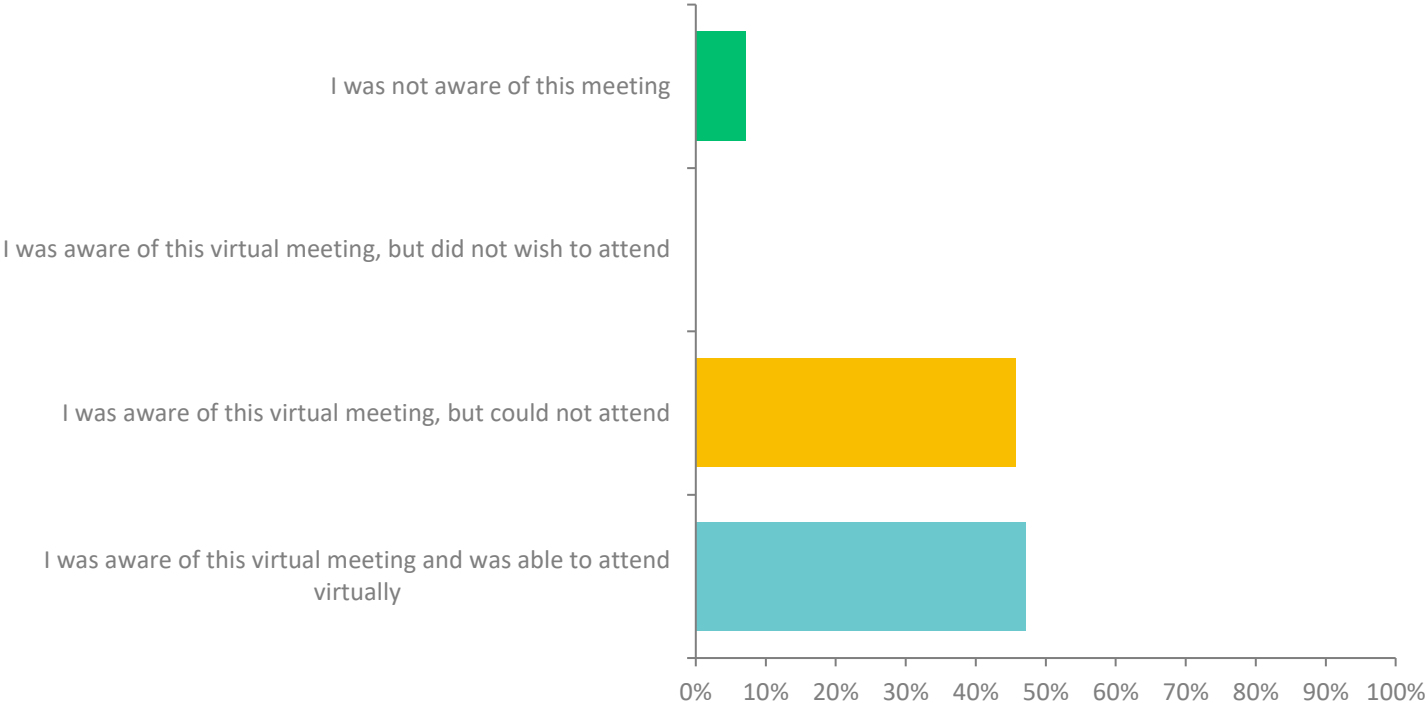
Answered: 70 Skipped: 2

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
3 years	32.86%	23
5 years	47.14%	33
7 years	5.71%	4
10 years	14.29%	10
TOTAL		70



# Q5: Please select which best describes your experience with the most recent CCWR Townhall Meeting about the 679 updates?

Answered: 70 Skipped: 2



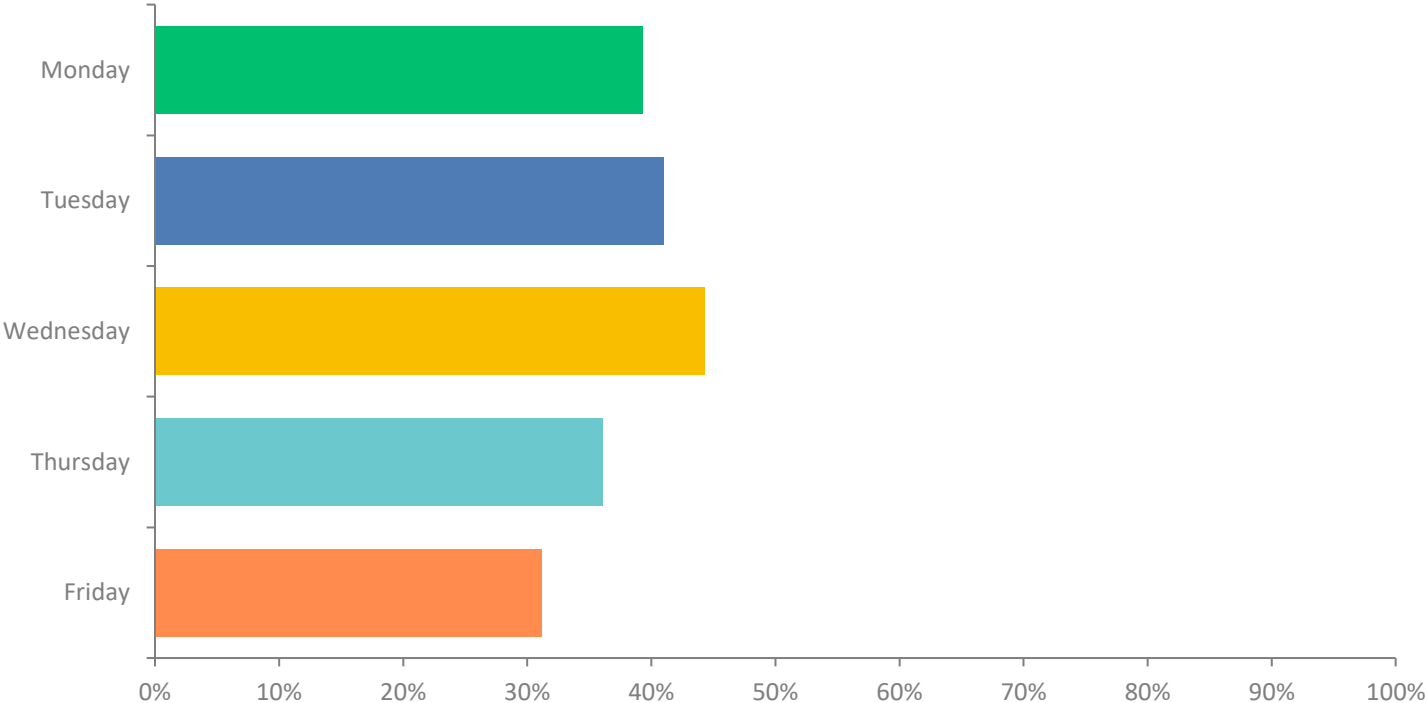
## Q5: Please select which best describes your experience with the most recent CCWR Townhall Meeting about the 679 updates?

Answered: 70 Skipped: 2

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I was not aware of this meeting	7.14%	5
I was aware of this virtual meeting, but did not wish to attend	0%	0
I was aware of this virtual meeting, but could not attend	45.71%	32
I was aware of this virtual meeting and was able to attend virtually	47.14%	33
TOTAL		70

# Q6: Which day of the week would you prefer CDFW to host future virtual webinars ('Townhall') on the 679 updates?

Answered: 61 Skipped: 11



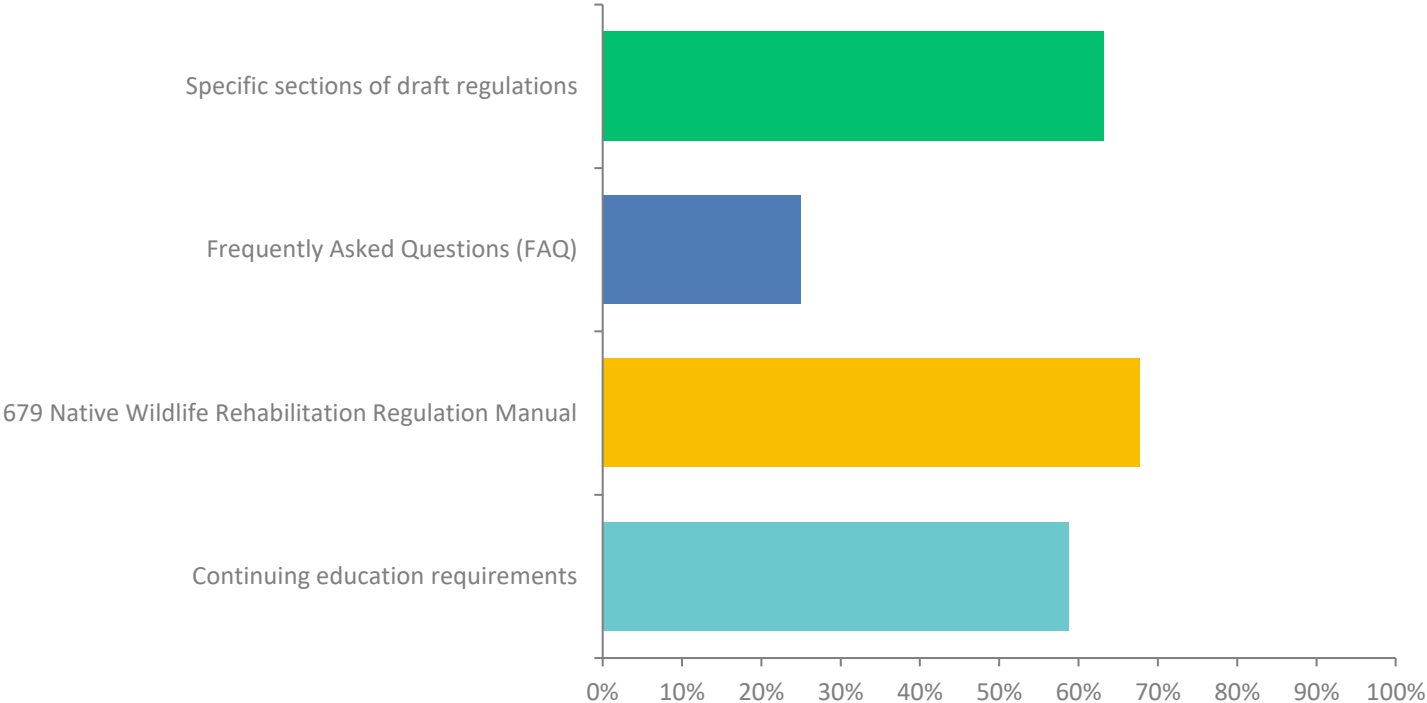
## Q6: Which day of the week would you prefer CDFW to host future virtual webinars ('Townhall') on the 679 updates?

Answered: 61 Skipped: 11

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Monday	39.34%	24
Tuesday	40.98%	25
Wednesday	44.26%	27
Thursday	36.07%	22
Friday	31.15%	19
TOTAL		117

# Q7: What topic(s) would you like CDFW to discuss at the next 679 Townhall Meeting scheduled the week of July 24th (time TBD)?

Answered: 68 Skipped: 4



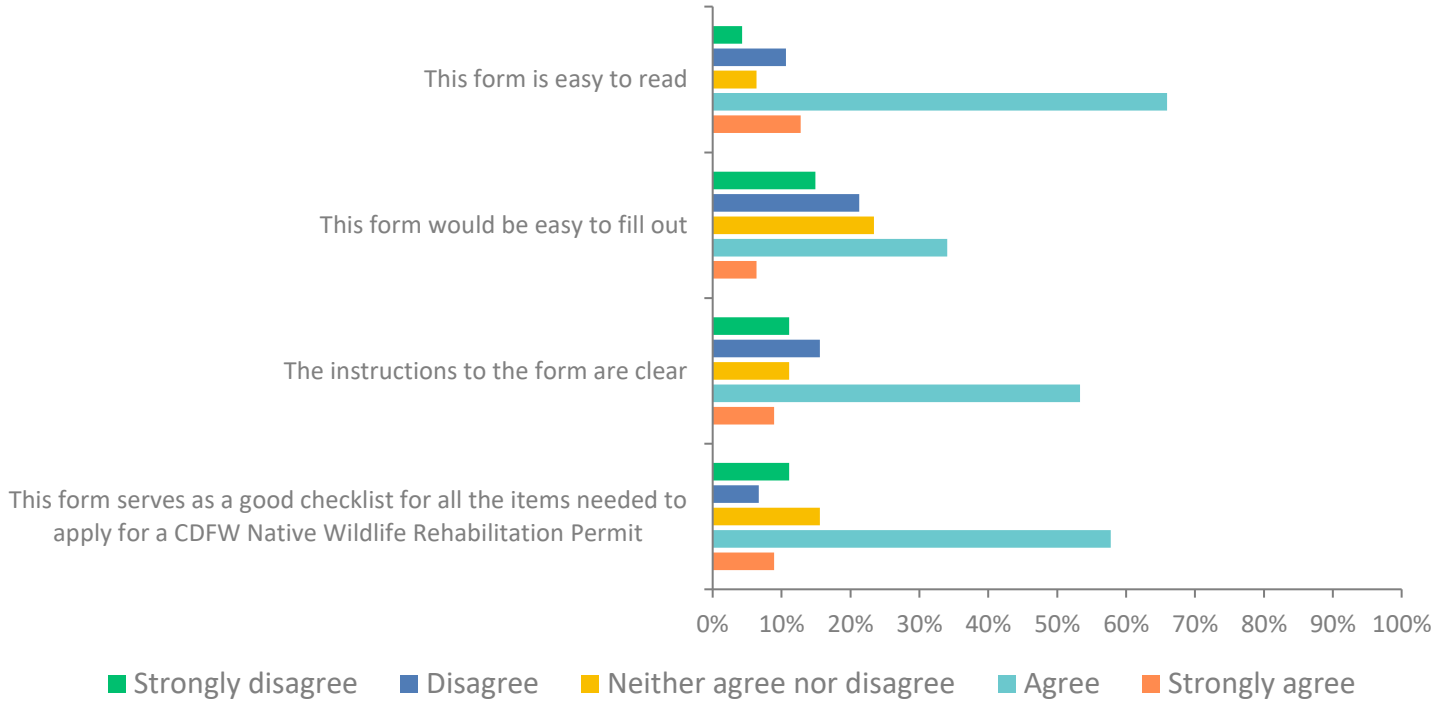
## Q7: What topic(s) would you like CDFW to discuss at the next 679 Townhall Meeting scheduled the week of July 24th (time TBD)?

Answered: 68 Skipped: 4

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Specific sections of draft regulations	63.24%	43
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)	25.00%	17
679 Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Regulation Manual	67.65%	46
Continuing education requirements	58.82%	40
TOTAL		146

**Q6. Looking at the draft form for individuals applying for new and renewal permits applicants (REF. § 679.3(a)), please indicate your agreement with the following statements.**

Answered: 47 Skipped: 25



**Q6. Looking at the draft form for individuals applying for new and renewal permits applicants (REF. § 679.3(a)), please indicate your agreement with the following statements.**

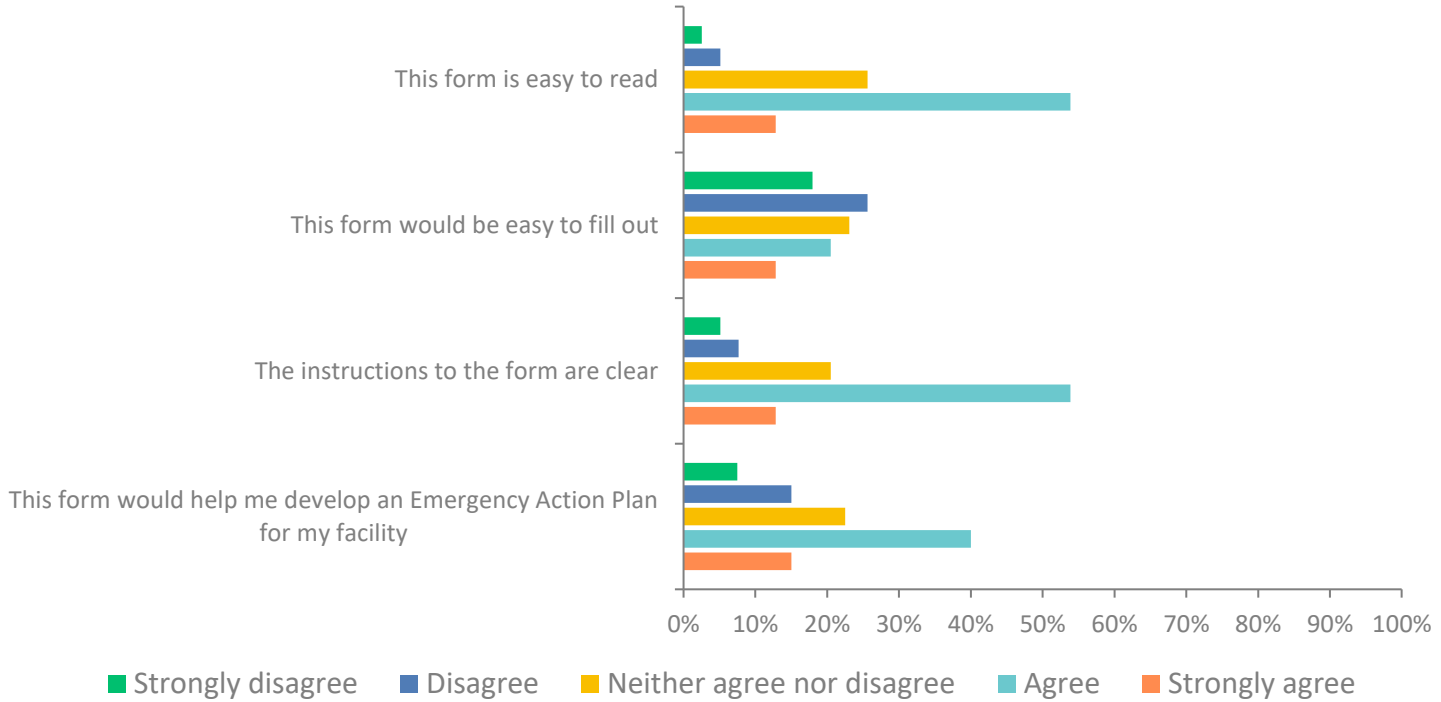
Answered: 47 Skipped: 25

	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
This form is easy to read	4.26% 2	10.64% 5	6.38% 3	65.96% 31	12.77% 6	47	1
This form would be easy to fill out	14.89% 7	21.28% 10	23.40% 11	34.04% 16	6.38% 3	47	1
The instructions to the form are clear	11.11% 5	15.56% 7	11.11% 5	53.33% 24	8.89% 4	45	1
This form	11.11%	6.67%	15.56%	53.33%	8.89%	45	1



# Q10: Looking at the draft form for creating an emergency action plan (REF. § 679.3(a)), please indicate your agreement with the following statements.

Answered: 40 Skipped: 32



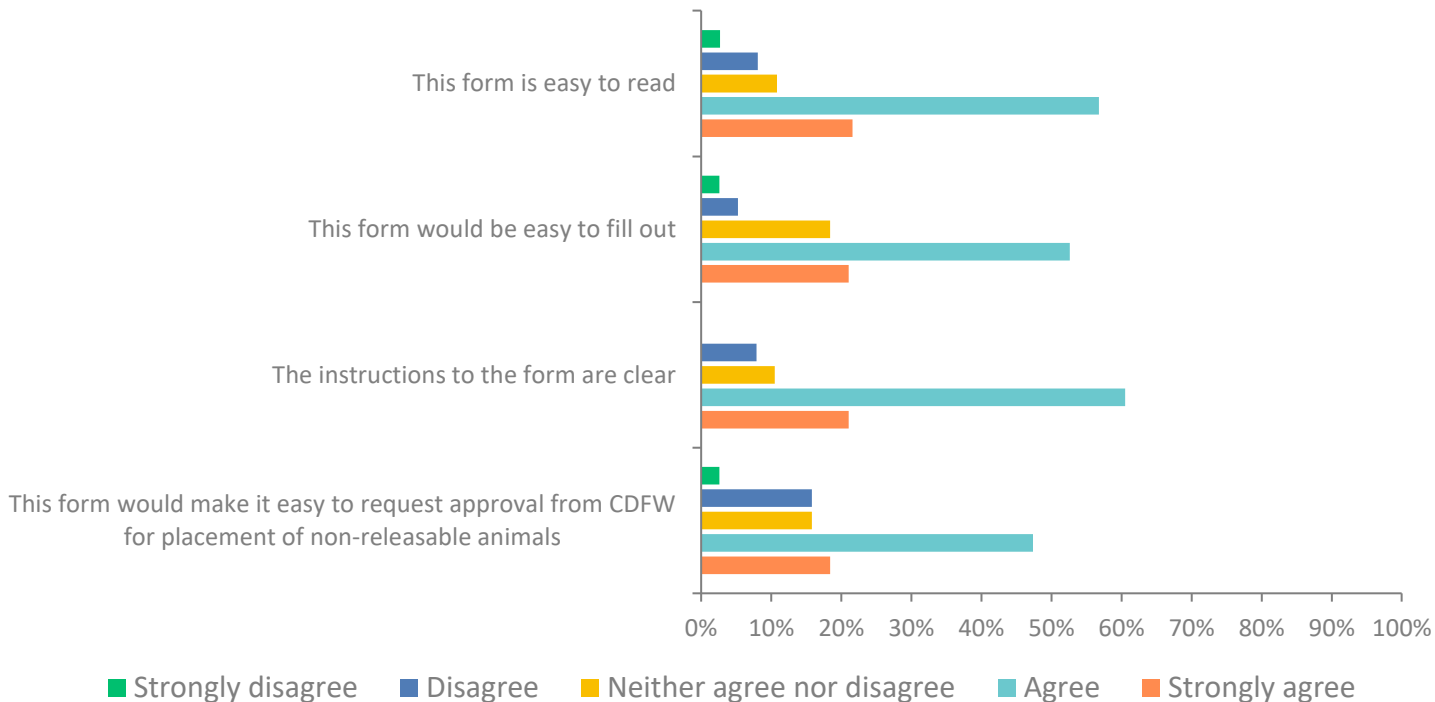
**Q10: Looking at the draft form for creating an emergency action plan (REF. § 679.3(a)), please indicate your agreement with the following statements.**

Answered: 40 Skipped: 32

	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
This form is easy to read	2.56% 1	5.13% 2	25.64% 10	53.85% 21	12.82% 5	39	1
This form would be easy to fill out	17.95% 7	25.64% 10	23.08% 9	20.51% 8	12.82% 5	39	1
The instructions to the form are clear	5.13% 2	7.69% 3	20.51% 8	53.85% 21	12.82% 5	39	1
This form	7.50%	15.00%	22.50%	40.00%	15.00%	40	1

**Q12: Looking at the draft for certifying if a rehabilitation animal is non-releasable and a potential candidate for captive placement (REF. § 679.5(d)), please indicate your agreement with the following statements.**

Answered: 38 Skipped: 34



**Q12: Looking at the draft for certifying if a rehabilitation animal is non-releasable and a potential candidate for captive placement (REF. § 679.5(d)), please indicate your agreement with the following statements.**

Answered: 38 Skipped: 34

	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
This form is easy to read	2.70% 1	8.11% 3	10.81% 4	56.76% 21	21.62% 8	37	1
This form would be easy to fill out	2.63% 1	5.26% 2	18.42% 7	52.63% 20	21.05% 8	38	1
The instructions to the form are clear	0% 0	7.89% 3	10.53% 4	60.53% 23	21.05% 8	38	1
This form	2.63%	15.79%	15.79%	47.37%	18.42%	38	1

# 679 Wildlife Rehabilitation Rule Making Survey Results, January 2024

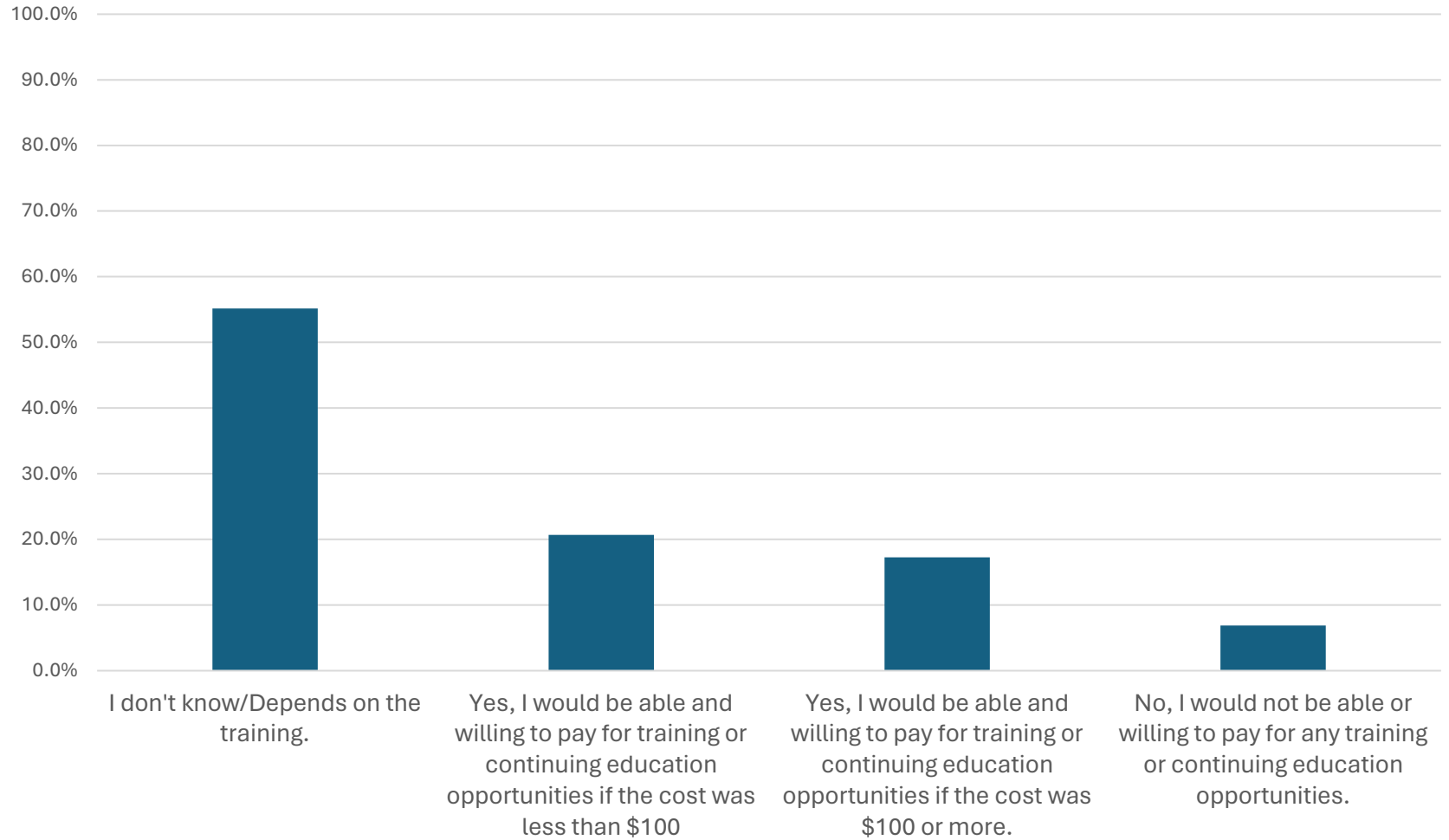
**More Preferred**



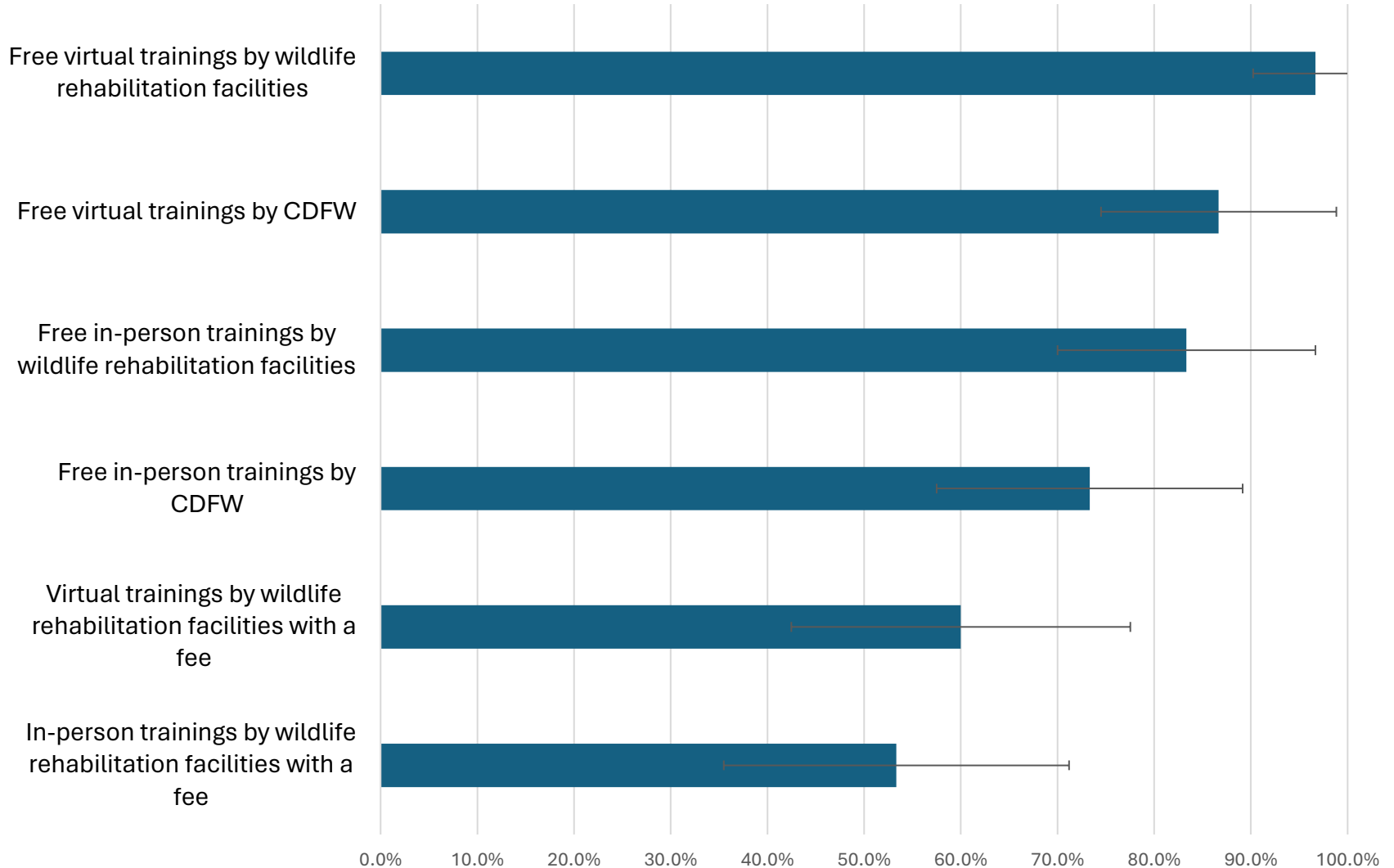
**Less Preferred**

<b>Format</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>95% Confidence Interval</b>
Manual Review Teams (by taxa and/or sections)	3.03	0.73
Mini Review Periods (focused sections)	3.28	0.72
Virtual townhall meetings	3.86	0.83
Mini Review Periods (general)	4.31	0.57
Mini Working Groups	4.66	0.66
Online surveys	4.90	0.84
Frequently Asked Questions documents	5.93	0.87
Roundtable/Discussion Groups	6.03	0.68

## For opportunities that are not offered by CDFW, would you be able or willing to pay for the training or workshop?

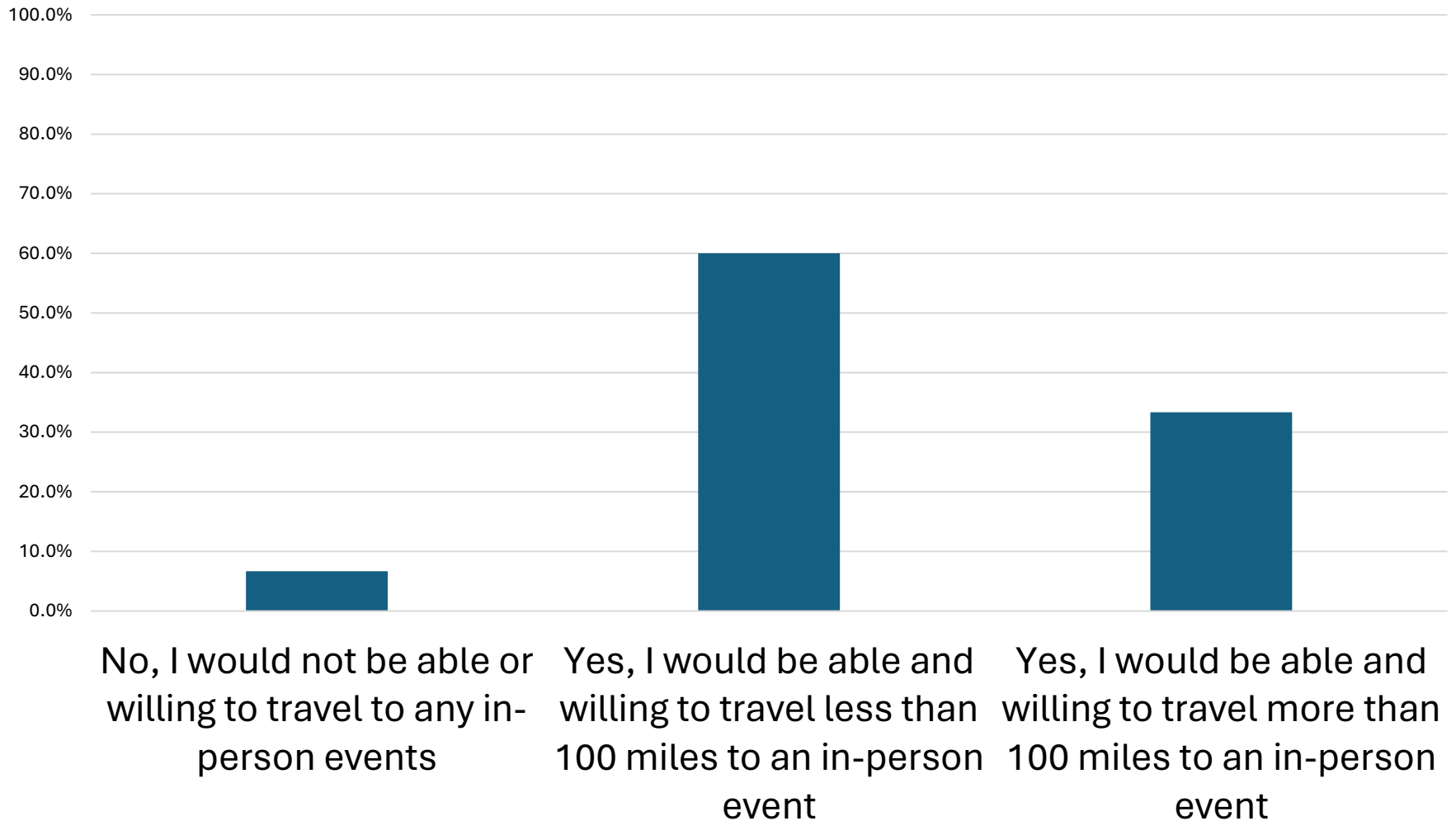


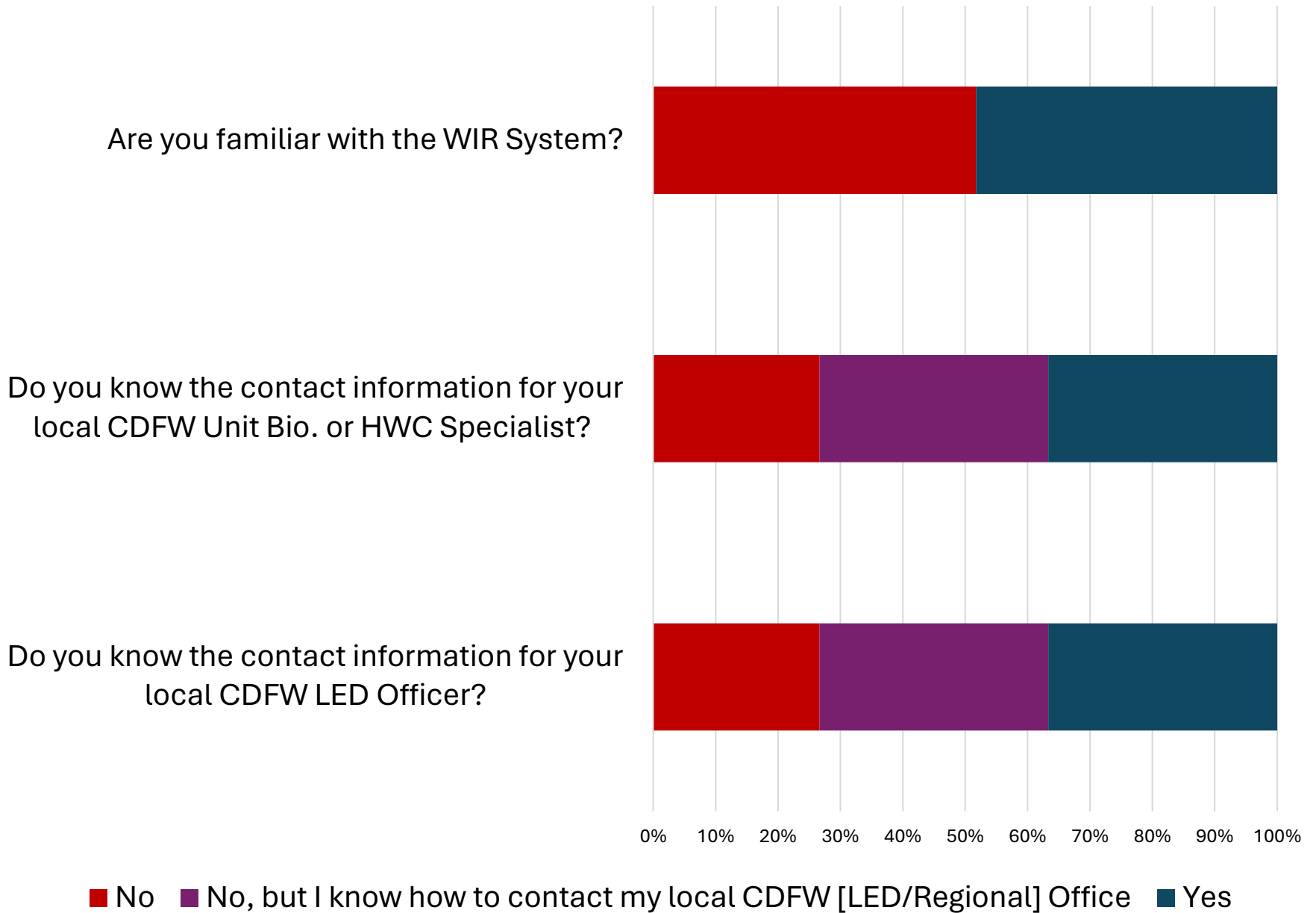
# For continuing education and training, what are your preferred formats?





# Whether offered by CDFW or a different organization, would you be able or willing to travel to attend an in-person event?





State	Agency Name	Specialty Rehabilitation Requirements	Exam Required	General Eligibility Requirements	Wildlife Rehabilitation Agency Manual	NWRA/IWRC Wildlife Rehabilitation Standards (1) required by agency; or (2) Incorporated by reference?
<a href="#">Alabama</a>	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Yes	Yes	19+ years; tetanus shot within last 10 years.	No	4th Ed. 2012 Minimum Standards
<a href="#">Arizona</a>	Game and Fish Department	No	Yes	18+ years; 2 years' experience with 832 hours min (avg 8 hours /wk)	No	No
<a href="#">Arkansas</a>	Game and Fish Commission	Yes	No	2 years' experience	No	No
<a href="#">California</a>	Department of Fish and Wildlife	Yes	No	18+ years; 400 hours experience	--	3 <sup>rd</sup> Ed. 2000 Minimum Standards
<a href="#">Colorado</a>	Parks and Wildlife	No	No	Sponsorship under a permittee with 3+ years' experience; Learning Plan prior to becoming Full Wildlife Rehabber.	<i>TBD</i>	No
<a href="#">Connecticut</a>	Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	Yes	Yes	18+ years; wildlife rehabilitation seminar or training; 3 years' experience	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Delaware</a>	Division of Fish and Wildlife	No	No	100 hours within last year	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Florida</a>	Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	No	Yes	1000 hours, 1+ years' experience	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Georgia</a>	Wildlife Resources Division	No	Yes	Not specified	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Hawaii</a>	Department of Land and Natural Resources	No	No	18+ years	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Idaho</a>	Fish and Game	No	No	None	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Illinois</a>	Department of Natural Resources	Yes	No	Not specified	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Indiana</a>	Department of Natural Resources	No	Yes	8 hours training	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Iowa</a>	Department of Natural Resources	No	No	5 years' experience OR licensed veterinarian; local state conservation officer recommendation	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>

State	Agency Name	Specialty Rehabilitation Requirements	Exam Required	General Eligibility Requirements	Wildlife Rehabilitation Agency Manual	NWRA/IWRC Wildlife Rehabilitation Standards (1) required by agency; or (2) Incorporated by reference?
<a href="#">Kansas</a>	Department of Wildlife and Parks	No	No	18+ years; 100 hours experience	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Kentucky</a>	Department of Fish and Wildlife	No	No	18+ years; complete "Basic Rehabilitation" (IWRC) OR be a licensed veterinarian. Captive Wildlife Permitees or those possessing non-native wildlife not eligible for a permit.	No	3 <sup>rd</sup> Ed. 2000 Minimum Standards
<a href="#">Louisiana</a>	Department of Wildlife and Fisheries	No	Yes	18+ years; liability release; financial responsibility statement; wildlife rehabilitation course	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Maine</a>	Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	No	Yes	100 hours	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Maryland</a>	Department of Natural Resources	No	No	18+ years; sponsored as an apprentice by a licensed wildlife rehabilitator	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Massachusetts</a>	Division of Fisheries and Wildlife	No	Yes	Not specified	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Michigan</a>	Department of Natural Resources	Yes	No	30 hours experience; complete IWRC Basic Wildlife Rehabilitation course; sponsored as apprentice by a licensed wildlife rehabilitator	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Minnesota</a>	Department of Natural Resources	Yes	Yes	18+ years; training requirements vary by class of permit & type of wildlife	Yes	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Mississippi</a>	Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks	No	No	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Missouri</a>	Department of Conservation	Yes	No	Licensed veterinarian OR "substantive" wildlife rehabilitation training.	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Montana</a>	Fish, Wildlife, and Parks	Yes	No		<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>

State	Agency Name	Specialty Rehabilitation Requirements	Exam Required	General Eligibility Requirements	Wildlife Rehabilitation Agency Manual	NWRA/IWRC Wildlife Rehabilitation Standards (1) required by agency; or (2) incorporated by reference?
<a href="#">Nebraska</a>	Game and Parks Commission	Yes; Skunks, Threatened/ endangered species prohibited	No	Wildlife Rescue Team (non-governmental organization) has developed requirements with the state agency	Yes	No
<a href="#">Nevada</a>	Department of Wildlife	Yes	No		<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">New Hampshire</a>	Department of Fish and Game	Yes	No	Class I (Apprentice Permit); Class II: 200 hrs certified by a Class II sponsor, or be a licensed veterinarian	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">New Jersey</a>	Division of Fish and Wildlife	Yes	No	1+ year apprenticeship under a permitted rehabilitator; 200 hours' experience	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">New Mexico</a>	Department of Game and Fish	No	Yes		<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">New York</a>	Department of Environmental Conservation	Yes	Yes	16+ years; agency interview; Class II license requires 2 years' experience as Class I General Rehabilitator	Yes	Referenced "most current" version on agency website (broken link)
<a href="#">North Carolina</a>	Wildlife Resources Commission	Yes	No		<i>TBD</i>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Ed. 2000 Minimum Standards
<a href="#">Ohio</a>	Division of Wildlife	Yes	No	18+ years; wildlife rehabilitation course for Category I permit (non-rabies vector mammals); 3+ years Category I experience for Category II permit (all species except rabies-vectors, deer, coyote, bobcat, mute swans, endangered species).	Yes	No
<a href="#">Oklahoma</a>	Department of Wildlife Conservation	Yes	Yes	None listed	No	No
<a href="#">Oregon</a>	Department of Fish and Wildlife	Yes	Yes	18+ years old.	<i>TBD</i>	No

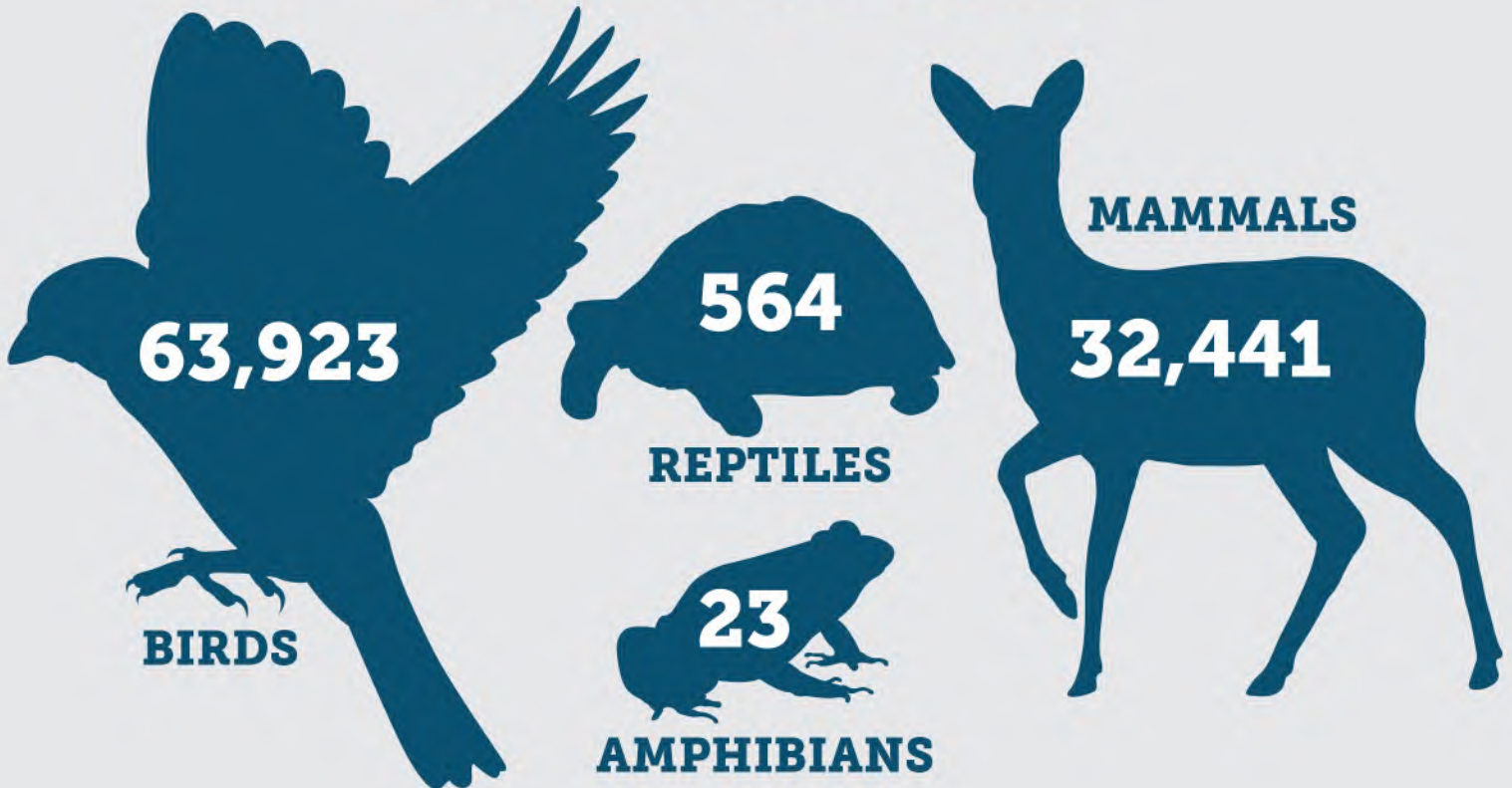
State	Agency Name	Specialty Rehabilitation Requirements	Exam Required	General Eligibility Requirements	Wildlife Rehabilitation Agency Manual	NWRA/IWRC Wildlife Rehabilitation Standards (1) required by agency; or (2) incorporated by reference?
<a href="#">Pennsylvania</a>	Game Commission	Yes	Yes	Varies by permit type: Capture and transportation, wildlife rehabilitation, educational use of rehabilitation wildlife; & type of wildlife: Mammals, non-raptor avifauna, raptors.	No	No
<a href="#">Rhode Island</a>	Department of Environmental Management	Yes	Yes	18+ years; IWRC Basic Wildlife Rehabilitation Course; Tetanus vaccine within last 10 yrs.	Yes	4th Ed. 2012 Minimum Standards
<a href="#">South Carolina</a>	Department of Natural Resources	Yes			No	No
<a href="#">South Dakota</a>	Department of Game, Fish & Parks	No	Yes	21+ years;	No	4th Ed. 2012 Minimum Standards
<a href="#">Tennessee</a>	Wildlife Resources Agency	Yes (skunks prohibited)	Yes	200 hours experience, OR 1 year as Veterinary Technician, OR be a Licensed Veterinarian; OR possess valid wildlife rehab permit from another state. Captive Wildlife Permittee or person possessing non-native wildlife NOT eligible	No	References "Minimum facility guidelines of the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association"
<a href="#">Texas</a>	Department of Parks and Wildlife	No	Yes	18+ years; IWRC, NWRA, or other approved training.	No	4th Ed. 2012 Minimum Standards
<a href="#">Utah</a>	Division of Wildlife Resources	Yes (coyote & raccoons require Dept of Agriculture authorization)	Yes	2 years' experience with 832 hours min (avg of 8 hrs./week) for the taxa for which applicant is applying	No	No
<a href="#">Vermont</a>	Fish and Wildlife Department	Yes	No	2 years' experience as an apprentice under a wildlife rehabilitator; Game Warden interview; liability insurance.	Yes	4th Ed. 2012 Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation
<a href="#">Virginia</a>	Department of Wildlife Resources	Yes	No	Varies by Category: Category I requires an applicant be sponsored by Category II or Category III permittee	Yes	4th Ed. 2012 Minimum Standards

State	Agency Name	Specialty Rehabilitation Requirements	Exam Required	General Eligibility Requirements	Wildlife Rehabilitation Agency Manual	NWRA/IWRC Wildlife Rehabilitation Standards (1) required by agency; or (2) Incorporated by reference?
<a href="#">Washington</a>	Department of Fish and Wildlife	Yes	Yes	18+ years; 1000 hours experience	Yes (2019, now archived)	References "most current minimum standards for wildlife rehabilitation" (NWRA)
<a href="#">Wisconsin</a>	Department of Natural Resources	Yes	Yes	18+ years; signed sponsorship agreement (basic license); 2+ years' experience under sponsorship (advanced license)	No	References "Minimum Standards of the National Wildlife Rehabilitation Association..."
<a href="#">Wyoming</a>	Game and Fish Department	No	No	18+ years; basic wildlife rehabilitation course; provisional permit applicant requires 2+ years' experience under sponsorship of a wildlife rehabilitator	No	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ed. 1993 Minimum Standards (...and which does not include any later amendments or editions)"

NOTE: Alaska, North Dakota, and West Virginia do not have state regulations to permit wildlife rehabilitation activities in their State. Additional information required.

# CDFW PERMITTED WILDLIFE REHABILITATORS 2022 ANIMAL INTAKES BY THE NUMBERS

**97,756 TOTAL**



**81** PRIMARY FACILITIES  
**540** SATELLITE FACILITIES



**46** GRANTS IN 2022  
**\$534,397** AWARDED





State	Agency Name	Specialty Rehabilitation Requirements	Exam Required	General Eligibility Requirements	Wildlife Rehabilitation Agency Manual	NWRA/IWRC Wildlife Rehabilitation Standards (1) required by agency; or (2) Incorporated by reference?
<a href="#">Alabama</a>	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Yes	Yes	19+ years; tetanus shot within last 10 years.	No	4th Ed. 2012 Minimum Standards
<a href="#">Arizona</a>	Game and Fish Department	No	Yes	18+ years; 2 years' experience with 832 hours min (avg 8 hours /wk)	No	No
<a href="#">Arkansas</a>	Game and Fish Commission	Yes	No	2 years' experience	No	No
<a href="#">California</a>	Department of Fish and Wildlife	Yes	No	18+ years; 400 hours experience	--	3 <sup>rd</sup> Ed. 2000 Minimum Standards
<a href="#">Colorado</a>	Parks and Wildlife	No	No	Sponsorship under a permittee with 3+ years' experience; Learning Plan prior to becoming Full Wildlife Rehabber.	<i>TBD</i>	No
<a href="#">Connecticut</a>	Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	Yes	Yes	18+ years; wildlife rehabilitation seminar or training; 3 years' experience	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Delaware</a>	Division of Fish and Wildlife	No	No	100 hours within last year	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Florida</a>	Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	No	Yes	1000 hours, 1+ years' experience	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Georgia</a>	Wildlife Resources Division	No	Yes	Not specified	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Hawaii</a>	Department of Land and Natural Resources	No	No	18+ years	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Idaho</a>	Fish and Game	No	No	None	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Illinois</a>	Department of Natural Resources	Yes	No	Not specified	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Indiana</a>	Department of Natural Resources	No	Yes	8 hours training	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Iowa</a>	Department of Natural Resources	No	No	5 years' experience OR licensed veterinarian; local state conservation officer recommendation	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>

State	Agency Name	Specialty Rehabilitation Requirements	Exam Required	General Eligibility Requirements	Wildlife Rehabilitation Agency Manual	NWRA/IWRC Wildlife Rehabilitation Standards (1) required by agency; or (2) Incorporated by reference?
<a href="#">Kansas</a>	Department of Wildlife and Parks	No	No	18+ years; 100 hours experience	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Kentucky</a>	Department of Fish and Wildlife	No	No	18+ years; complete "Basic Rehabilitation" (IWRC) OR be a licensed veterinarian. Captive Wildlife Permitees or those possessing non-native wildlife not eligible for a permit.	No	3 <sup>rd</sup> Ed. 2000 Minimum Standards
<a href="#">Louisiana</a>	Department of Wildlife and Fisheries	No	Yes	18+ years; liability release; financial responsibility statement; wildlife rehabilitation course	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Maine</a>	Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	No	Yes	100 hours	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Maryland</a>	Department of Natural Resources	No	No	18+ years; sponsored as an apprentice by a licensed wildlife rehabilitator	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Massachusetts</a>	Division of Fisheries and Wildlife	No	Yes	Not specified	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Michigan</a>	Department of Natural Resources	Yes	No	30 hours experience; complete IWRC Basic Wildlife Rehabilitation course; sponsored as apprentice by a licensed wildlife rehabilitator	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Minnesota</a>	Department of Natural Resources	Yes	Yes	18+ years; training requirements vary by class of permit & type of wildlife	Yes	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Mississippi</a>	Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks	No	No	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Missouri</a>	Department of Conservation	Yes	No	Licensed veterinarian OR "substantive" wildlife rehabilitation training.	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">Montana</a>	Fish, Wildlife, and Parks	Yes	No		<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>

State	Agency Name	Specialty Rehabilitation Requirements	Exam Required	General Eligibility Requirements	Wildlife Rehabilitation Agency Manual	NWRA/IWRC Wildlife Rehabilitation Standards (1) required by agency; or (2) incorporated by reference?
<a href="#">Nebraska</a>	Game and Parks Commission	Yes; Skunks, Threatened/ endangered species prohibited	No	Wildlife Rescue Team (non-governmental organization) has developed requirements with the state agency	Yes	No
<a href="#">Nevada</a>	Department of Wildlife	Yes	No		<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">New Hampshire</a>	Department of Fish and Game	Yes	No	Class I (Apprentice Permit); Class II: 200 hrs certified by a Class II sponsor, or be a licensed veterinarian	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">New Jersey</a>	Division of Fish and Wildlife	Yes	No	1+ year apprenticeship under a permitted rehabilitator; 200 hours' experience	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">New Mexico</a>	Department of Game and Fish	No	Yes		<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<a href="#">New York</a>	Department of Environmental Conservation	Yes	Yes	16+ years; agency interview; Class II license requires 2 years' experience as Class I General Rehabilitator	Yes	Referenced "most current" version on agency website (broken link)
<a href="#">North Carolina</a>	Wildlife Resources Commission	Yes	No		<i>TBD</i>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Ed. 2000 Minimum Standards
<a href="#">Ohio</a>	Division of Wildlife	Yes	No	18+ years; wildlife rehabilitation course for Category I permit (non-rabies vector mammals); 3+ years Category I experience for Category II permit (all species except rabies-vectors, deer, coyote, bobcat, mute swans, endangered species).	Yes	No
<a href="#">Oklahoma</a>	Department of Wildlife Conservation	Yes	Yes	None listed	No	No
<a href="#">Oregon</a>	Department of Fish and Wildlife	Yes	Yes	18+ years old.	<i>TBD</i>	No

State	Agency Name	Specialty Rehabilitation Requirements	Exam Required	General Eligibility Requirements	Wildlife Rehabilitation Agency Manual	NWRA/IWRC Wildlife Rehabilitation Standards (1) required by agency; or (2) incorporated by reference?
<a href="#">Pennsylvania</a>	Game Commission	Yes	Yes	Varies by permit type: Capture and transportation, wildlife rehabilitation, educational use of rehabilitation wildlife; & type of wildlife: Mammals, non-raptor avifauna, raptors.	No	No
<a href="#">Rhode Island</a>	Department of Environmental Management	Yes	Yes	18+ years; IWRC Basic Wildlife Rehabilitation Course; Tetanus vaccine within last 10 yrs.	Yes	4th Ed. 2012 Minimum Standards
<a href="#">South Carolina</a>	Department of Natural Resources	Yes			No	No
<a href="#">South Dakota</a>	Department of Game, Fish & Parks	No	Yes	21+ years;	No	4th Ed. 2012 Minimum Standards
<a href="#">Tennessee</a>	Wildlife Resources Agency	Yes (skunks prohibited)	Yes	200 hours experience, OR 1 year as Veterinary Technician, OR be a Licensed Veterinarian; OR possess valid wildlife rehab permit from another state. Captive Wildlife Permittee or person possessing non-native wildlife NOT eligible	No	References "Minimum facility guidelines of the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association"
<a href="#">Texas</a>	Department of Parks and Wildlife	No	Yes	18+ years; IWRC, NWRA, or other approved training.	No	4th Ed. 2012 Minimum Standards
<a href="#">Utah</a>	Division of Wildlife Resources	Yes (coyote & raccoons require Dept of Agriculture authorization)	Yes	2 years' experience with 832 hours min (avg of 8 hrs./week) for the taxa for which applicant is applying	No	No
<a href="#">Vermont</a>	Fish and Wildlife Department	Yes	No	2 years' experience as an apprentice under a wildlife rehabilitator; Game Warden interview; liability insurance.	Yes	4th Ed. 2012 Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation
<a href="#">Virginia</a>	Department of Wildlife Resources	Yes	No	Varies by Category: Category I requires an applicant be sponsored by Category II or Category III permittee	Yes	4th Ed. 2012 Minimum Standards

State	Agency Name	Specialty Rehabilitation Requirements	Exam Required	General Eligibility Requirements	Wildlife Rehabilitation Agency Manual	NWRA/IWRC Wildlife Rehabilitation Standards (1) required by agency; or (2) Incorporated by reference?
<a href="#">Washington</a>	Department of Fish and Wildlife	Yes	Yes	18+ years; 1000 hours experience	Yes (2019, now archived)	References "most current minimum standards for wildlife rehabilitation" (NWRA)
<a href="#">Wisconsin</a>	Department of Natural Resources	Yes	Yes	18+ years; signed sponsorship agreement (basic license); 2+ years' experience under sponsorship (advanced license)	No	References "Minimum Standards of the National Wildlife Rehabilitation Association..."
<a href="#">Wyoming</a>	Game and Fish Department	No	No	18+ years; basic wildlife rehabilitation course; provisional permit applicant requires 2+ years' experience under sponsorship of a wildlife rehabilitator	No	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ed. 1993 Minimum Standards (...and which does not include any later amendments or editions)"

NOTE: Alaska, North Dakota, and West Virginia do not have state regulations to permit wildlife rehabilitation activities in their State. Additional information required.



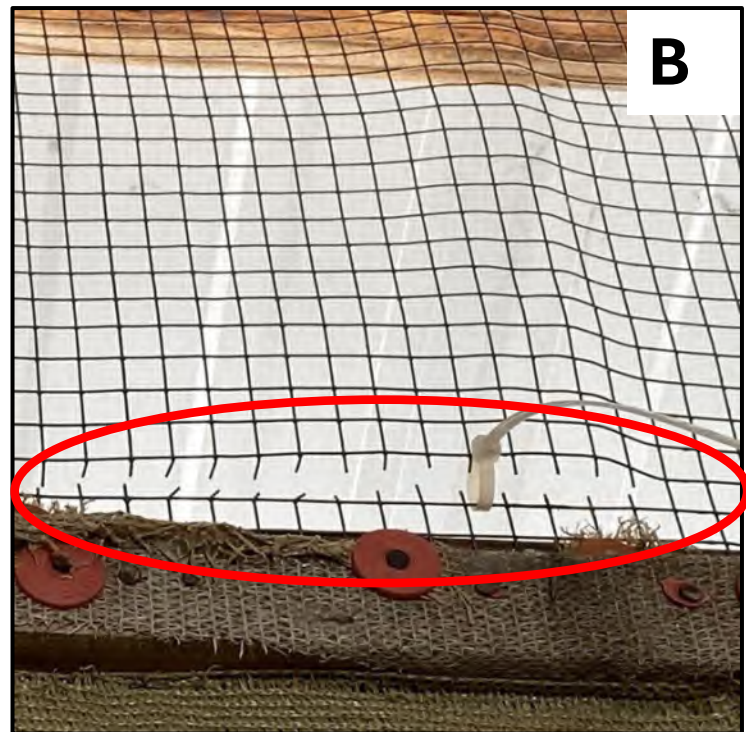
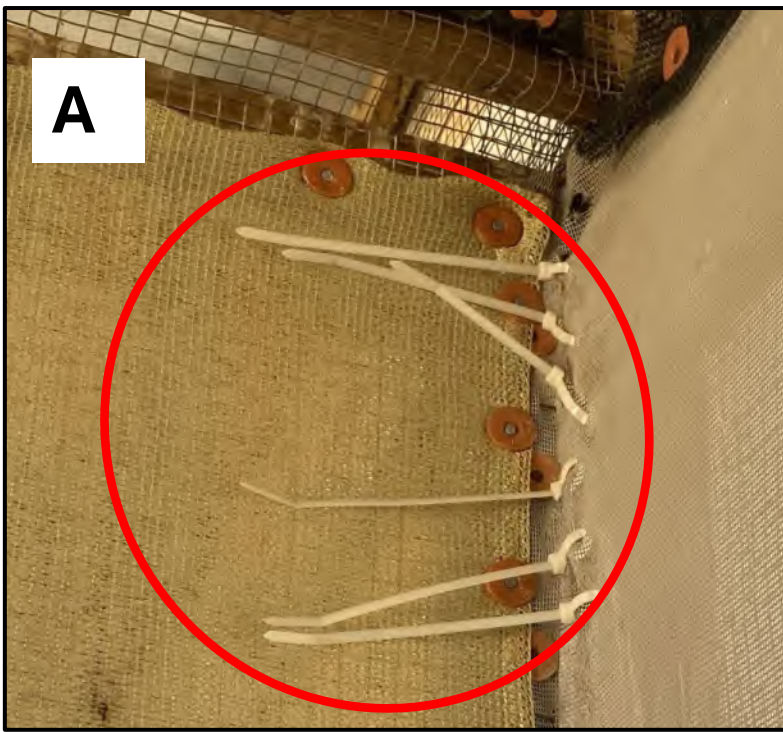
# CCR 679 Wildlife Rehabilitation

- Attachment 9

Compilation of Photographic Evidence  
of Violations or Deficiencies.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife 2024





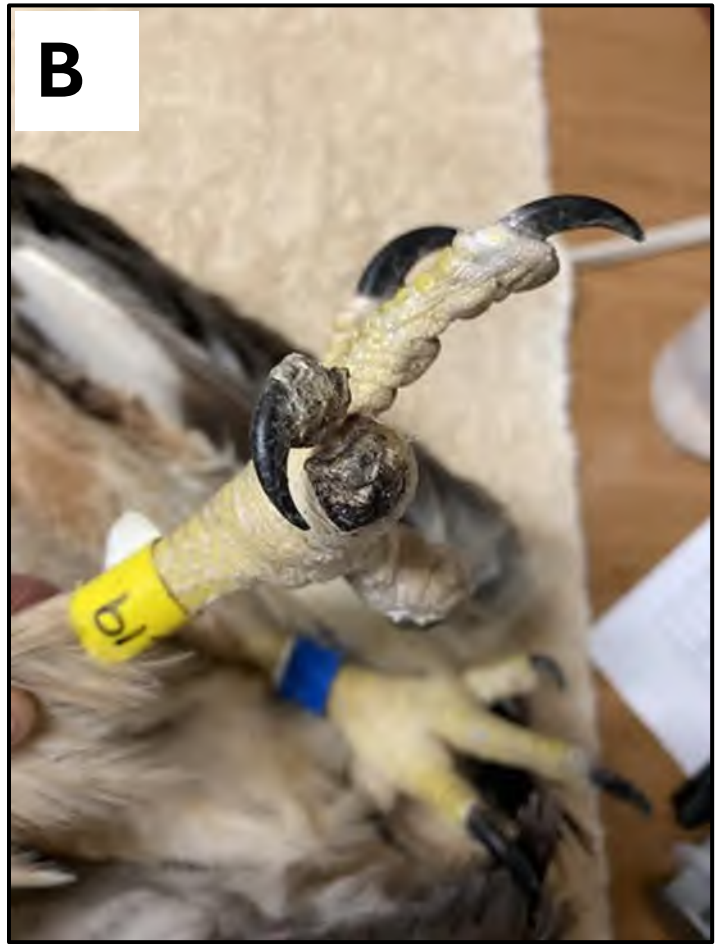
**Figure 1.** Sharp objects (indicated with red circles) on the interior of bird aviaries: zip ties (A), hardware cloth (B), and roof nails (C).





**Figure 2.** Outdoor small mammal enclosure that shows accumulated fecal matter under the cage (insert closeup of waste). This was an unoccupied enclosure that had been empty for several weeks.





**Figure 3.** Poor husbandry (improper perches) impacting raptor feet: bumble foot lesions (A), missing digits and necrotic digit (B), and healthy foot for comparison (C).

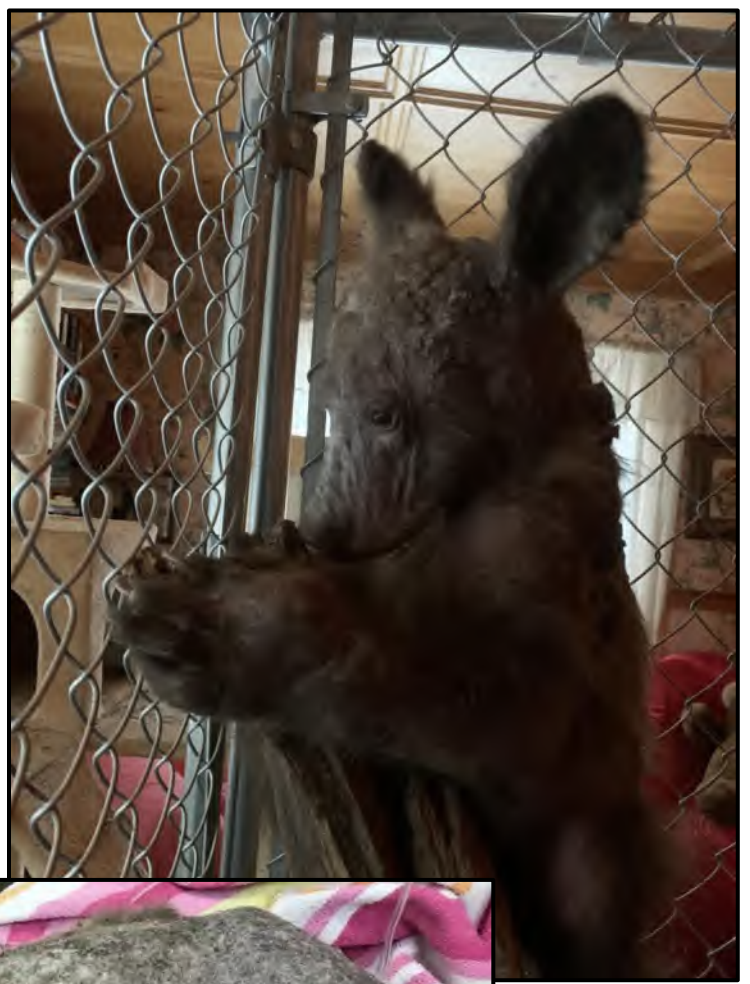






**Figure 4.** Raccoons housed inside a kitchen without any visual barrier which could cause habituation and mal-imprinting, cage is inappropriate size for pre-release conditioning, and biosecurity issues for human safety regarding raccoon roundworm.





**Figure 5.** Black bear cub inside a sub-permittee (satellite facility) house, images show severe skin disease not being treated properly, animals were never reported to the Department.





**Figure 6.** Avian pox on Corvid feet – example of improper triage and biosecurity practices.



**A****B**

**Figure 7.** Aviary enclosures that does not prevent animal ingress or egress: Gaps (red circles) on side (A) and top (B) enclosure materials.





**Figure 8.** Mixing of domestic animals with wildlife. This image shows domestic waterfowl with wild waterfowl.



**A****B****C**

**Figure 9.** Ground squirrel improperly treated while being temporarily possessed causing maligned teeth: x-ray showing right side chronic infection and overgrown teeth (A)chronic pain (B), and improperly worn teeth (C).





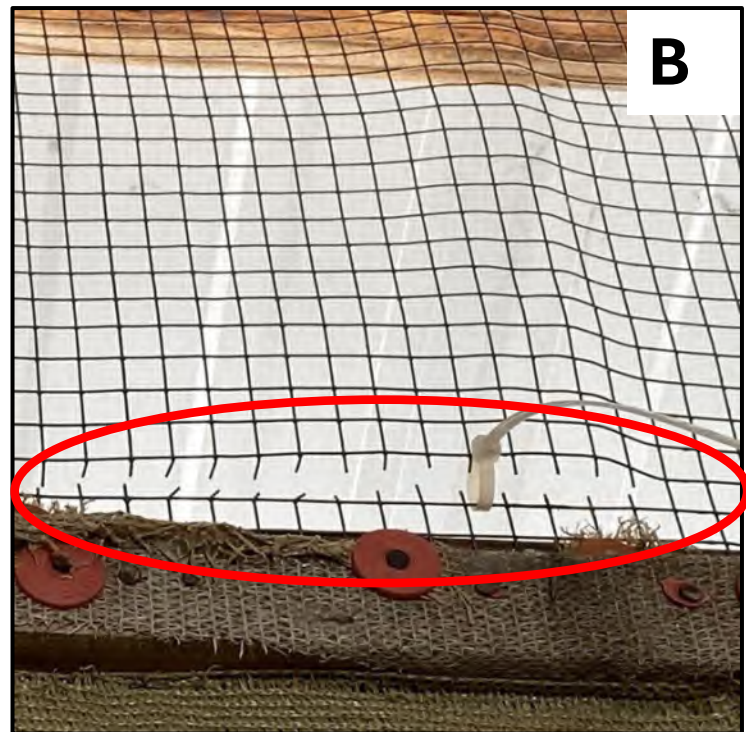
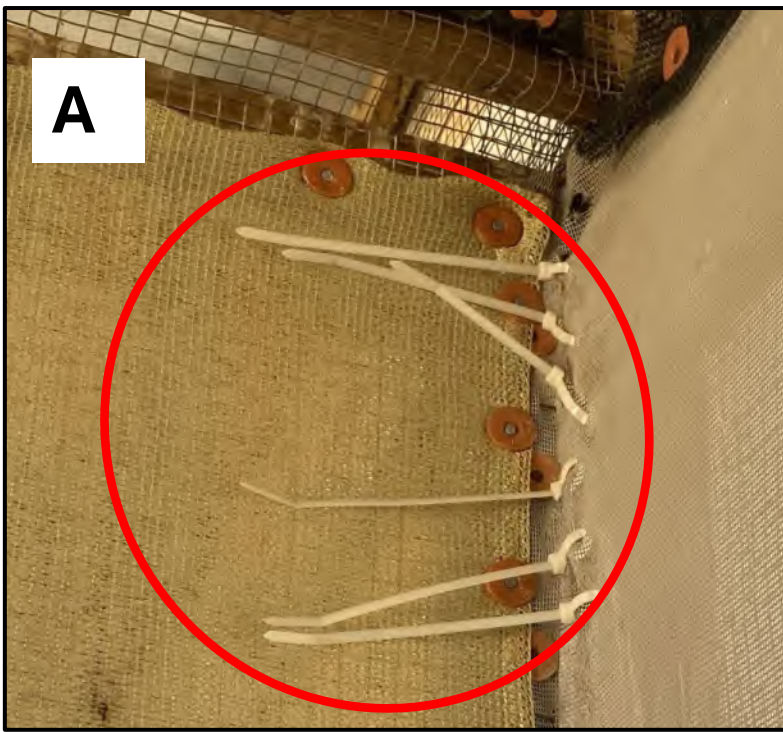
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California Department of Fish and Wildlife 2024





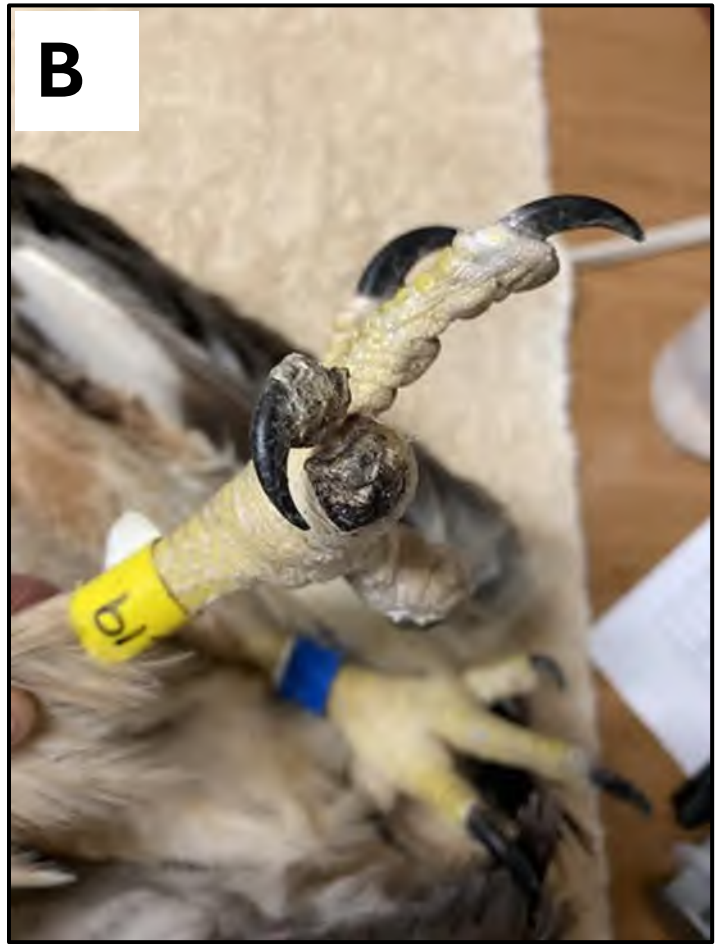
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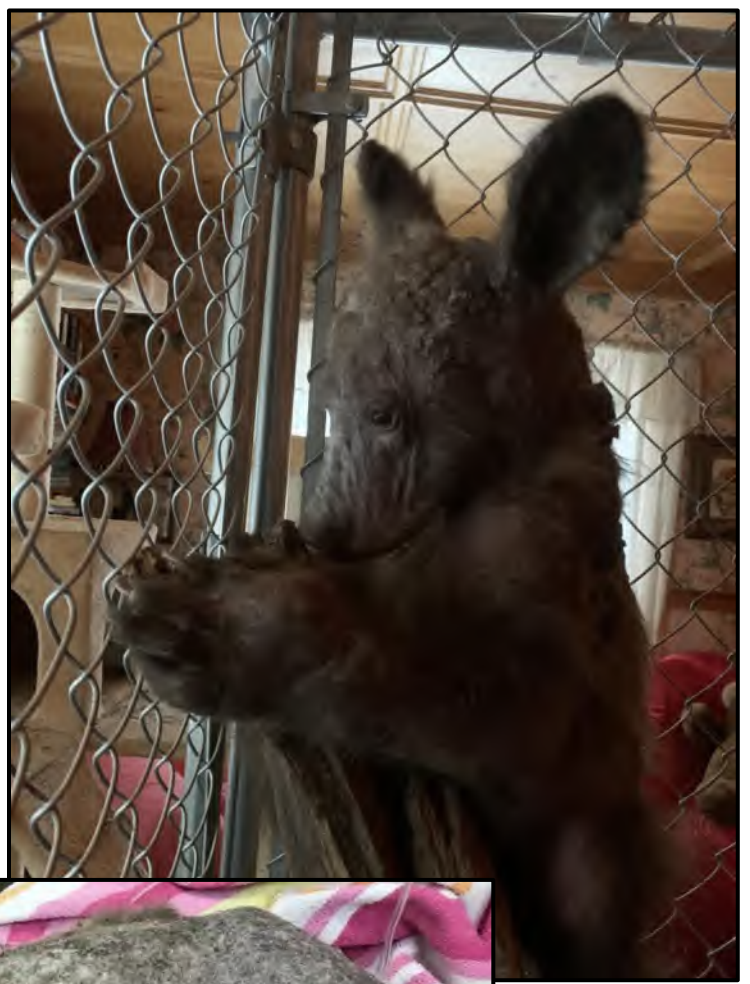






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# CCR 679 Wildlife Rehabilitation

## Attachment 10

Compilation of Photographic Evidence  
Meeting or Exceeding Current  
Regulations.

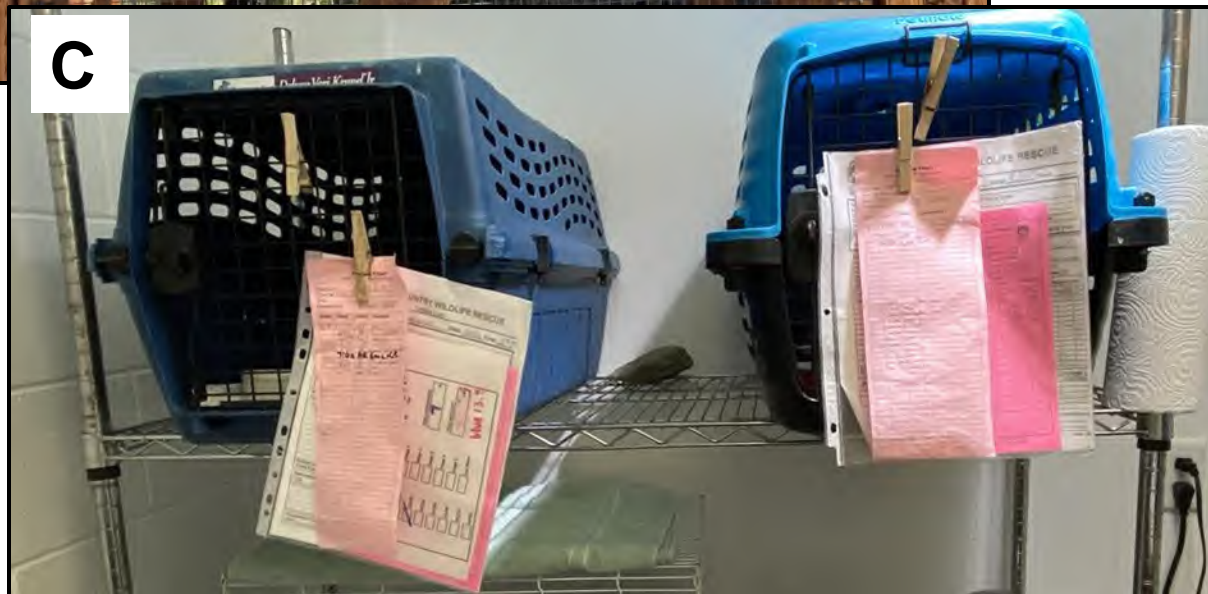
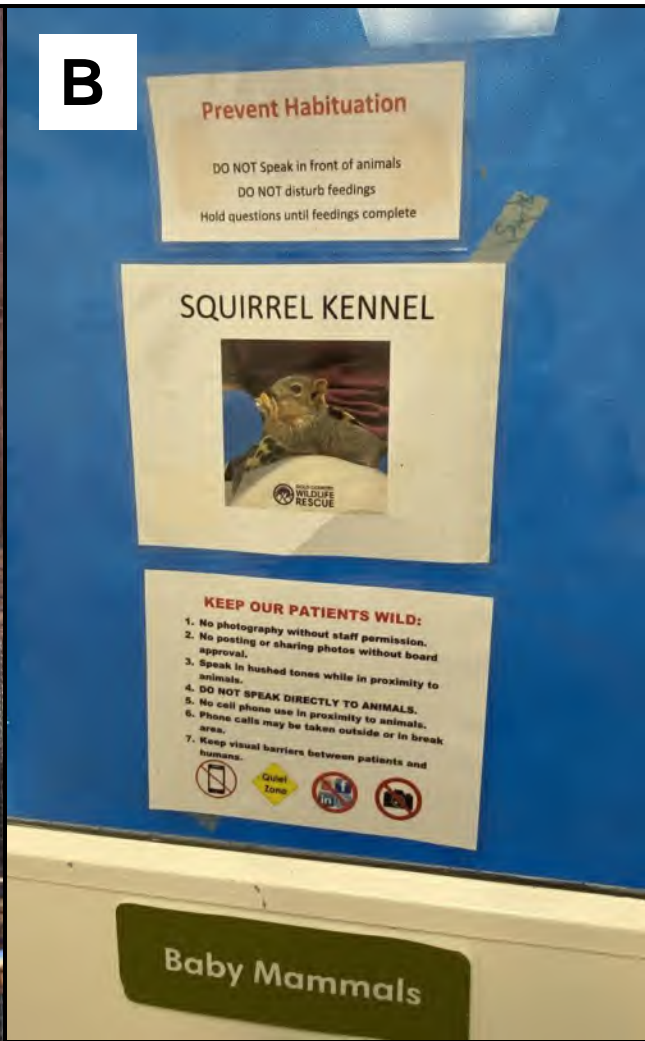
California Department of Fish and Wildlife 2024





**Figure 1.** Demonstrates enrichment for raccoons (A: Gold County Wildlife Rescue), raptor (B: Tri County Wildlife Care) and black bear cubs (C: Sonoma County Wildlife Rescue).





**Figure 2.** Images show properly labeled enclosures at Gold Country Wildlife Rescue: skunk (A), neonate squirrels (B), and triage patients (C).





**Figure 3.** Images showing shade cloth as a visual barrier to prevent an animal from becoming habituated to people: deer fawns (A: Kindred Spirit Fawn Rescue) and coyotes (B: Sonoma County Wildlife Rescue).





**A**



**Figure 4.** Images showing an enclosure double door entry: hummingbird (A: Orangewood Wildlife) and skunk (B: Gold Country Wildlife Recue ).

**B**







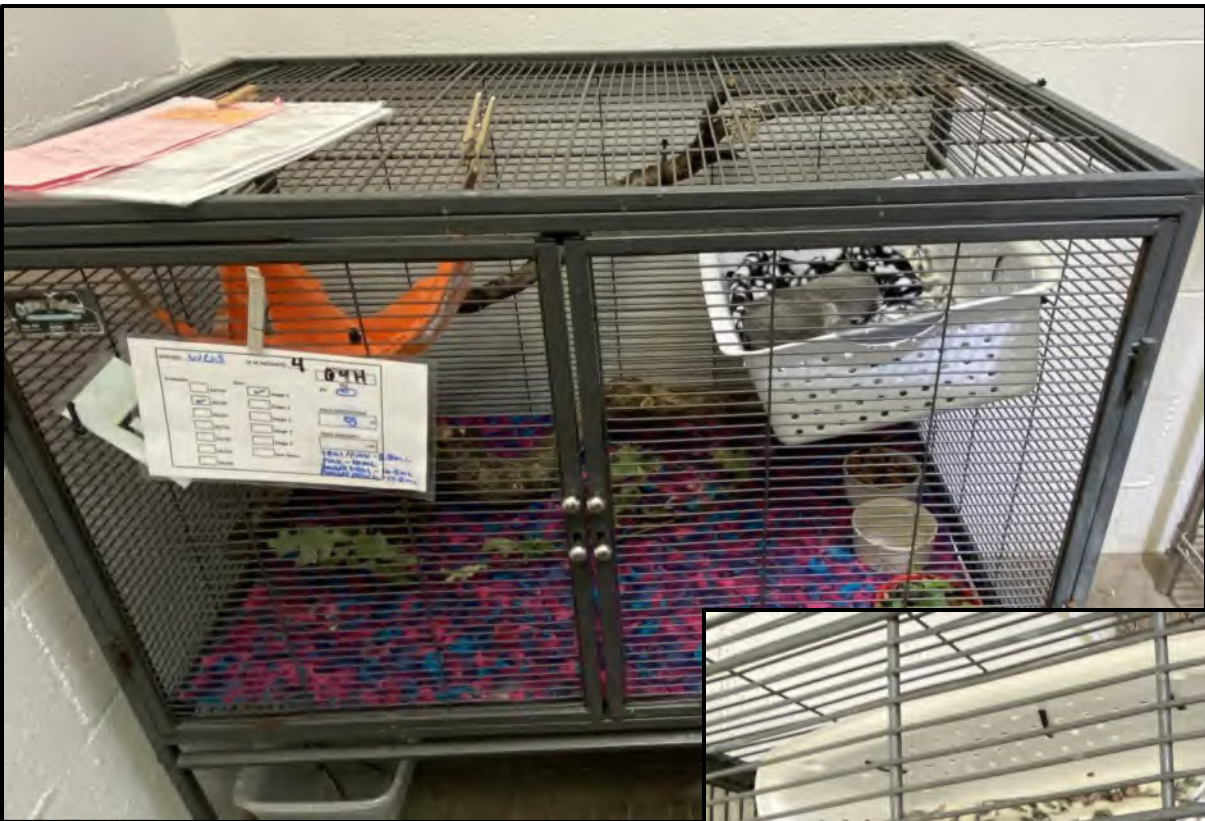
**Figure 5.** Appropriate enclosure materials – hardware cloth (A), shade cloth (B)





**Figure 6.** Security measures: Outdoor small mammal (A: Gold Country Wildlife Rescue); black bear access includes double lock, window for viewing, signage (B: Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care); large carnivore hospital enclosure locked viewing window and signage (C: Project Wildlife Ramona)





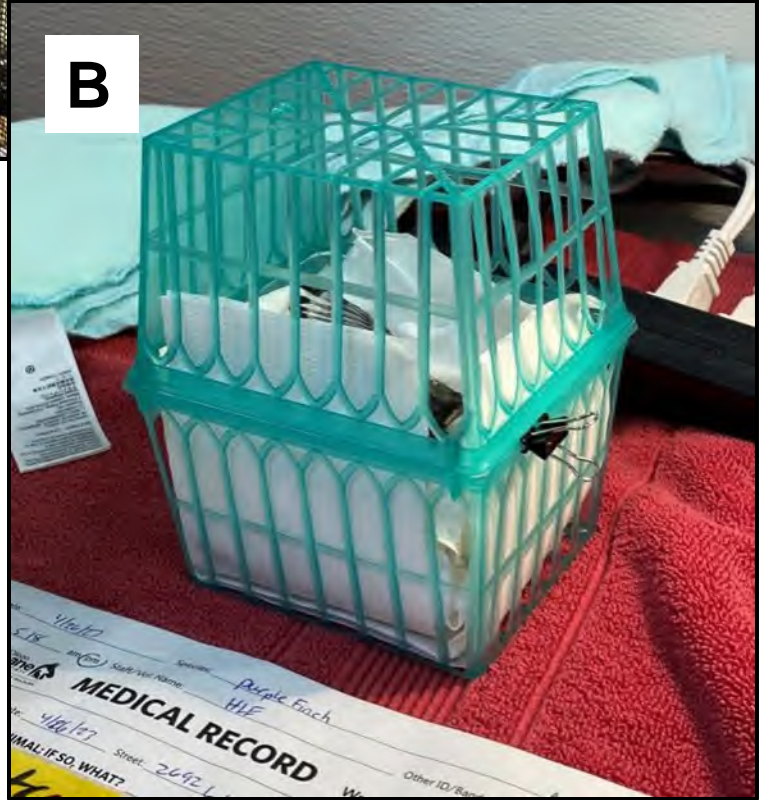
**Figure 7.** Gold Country Wildlife Rescue neonate squirrel enclosure, demonstrates proper caging, artificial nests, proper bedding, and enrichment. Inset photo is enlarged to show artificial nest.



**A****B**

**Figure 8.** Clearly posted protocols in food prep (A) and enclosure set up area (B) for staff and volunteers at Gold Country Wildlife Rescue.



**A****B**

**Figure 9.** Avian enclosure options: fledgling with perches and free feeding (A: Gold Country Wildlife Rescue) and nestling on heating pad in artificial nest that limits animal's ability to escape (B: Project Wildlife San Diego).





**Figure 10.** Fox enclosure enrichment: elevated platform, artificial grass/mat, and hide/shelter at Fresno Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation.





**A**

**Figure 11.** Outdoor flight aviaries allows for access to natural light patterns: raptors with arched roof and hide boxes (A: Coachella Valley Bird Center) and waterbirds with pool and proper substrates to protect sensitive feet (B: International Bird Rescue).



Attachment 10: 679 ISOR

**B**



**Figure 12.** Proper PPE while handling wildlife: juvenile albinistic raccoon (A: Sierra Wildlife Rescue); oiled loon (B: International Bird Rescue); injured great horned owl (C: Project Wildlife San Diego).

Attachment 10: 679 ISOR



## Proposed Regulatory Language

Section 679.1, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, is hereby added as follows:

**§ 679.1 Definitions.**

For the purposes of Sections 679.1 through 679.9, the following definitions apply:

- (a) Animal Welfare, or Welfare of the Animal. The state of an animal that is met, while being temporarily possessed by a person, by providing for its physical and behavioral needs in a manner that considers the natural life history of that species, including an animal's needs for water, food, shelter, and medical treatment and euthanasia if necessary.
- (b) Authorized Person. A person, at least 18 years of age, with minimum of 40 hours of animal care, husbandry, and handling experience approved by the permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee at their sole discretion, to temporarily confine a rehabilitation animal, under the supervision and direction the permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee, at a location other than the wildlife rehabilitation facility or satellite facility.
- (c) Conspecific. Individual animals of the same species.
- (d) Designee. A person, such as a facility director or manager, who is at least 21 years of age, with a minimum of 500 hours of animal care, husbandry, and handling experience, approved by the permittee to conduct activities under the permit on behalf of the permittee.
- (e) Eagle and Falcon Specialty Rehabilitation. Wildlife rehabilitation of any age class of any bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) or golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) of the Order Accipitriformes, or peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) or prairie falcon (*Falco mexicanus*) of the Order Falconiformes, as authorized under specialty rehabilitation permit conditions issued by the department.
- (f) Enrichment. An item designed to stimulate and encourage a range of innate behaviors of a rehabilitation animal, specific to that species and the condition and welfare of the animal.
- (g) Euthanasia. The humane induction of death with minimal pain or stress to the animal.
- (h) Habituated. The condition of a wild animal that is repeatedly exposed to anthropogenic stimuli and, as a result, no longer has a natural negative behavioral or physical response to humans; such a condition may be reversible.
- (i) Large Carnivore Specialty Rehabilitation. Wildlife rehabilitation of an age class specified by the department of an American black bear (*Ursus americanus*) or mountain lion (*Puma concolor*) as authorized under specialty rehabilitation permit conditions issued by the department.
- (j) Mal-imprinted. The process by which a neonate or juvenile wild animal behaviorally imprints on a human or animal of another species that permanently prevents that animal from expressing the natural life history behaviors of its species.
- (k) Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual (New 01/2025) (form DFW 479) hereafter called "DFW 679 Manual". A listing of enclosure requirements and humane care standards for wildlife rehabilitation facilities, satellite facilities, and related wildlife rehabilitation activities; available on the department website at <https://wildlife.ca.gov/wildliferehab>. Chapters 2 and 3 of DFW 679 Manual are incorporated by reference herein.
- (l) Neonate. A newborn or newly hatched animal that is often unable to self-feed, thermoregulate, or ambulate on its own, and usually requiring parental care to survive.

- (m) Non-releasable Animal. A wild animal not suitable for release to the wild due to it being habituated, mal-imprinted, or having a physical or behavioral impairment that precludes the animal's ability to survive in the wild in a manner consistent with its natural life history behaviors.
- (n) Orphan. A neonate or juvenile animal still dependent on parental care for survival, that is found under conditions in which parental care is no longer available, such as permanent separation from or death of the parent.
- (o) Permit. Privilege provided to a person authorized by the department to temporarily possess rehabilitation animals pursuant to sub-section 679.3(a).
- (p) Qualified Handler. For the purposes of specialty rehabilitation, a person with the required experience is listed in sub-section 679.3(b)(2)(A)5.
- (q) Rehabilitation Animal. A live wild amphibian, reptile, bird, or mammal of a species native to California, excluding any marine mammal or sea turtle, that is temporarily possessed for the purpose of rehabilitation and release to the wild pursuant to these regulations, and the following wild animals not native to California: Virginia opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), Eastern gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*), Eastern fox squirrel (*Sciurus niger*), wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*), rock pigeon (*Columba livia*), Eurasian collared dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*), European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), and European house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*).
- (r) Required Record. Any document submitted to the department, created, or issued pursuant to these regulations, including but not limited to, any permit, sub-permit, other relevant permits, memorandum of understanding, patient record, or report.
- (s) Satellite Facility. A facility operated by a sub-permittee authorized pursuant to Section 679.3, to intake and temporarily possess wildlife for the purpose of rehabilitation at a location other than a wildlife rehabilitation facility operated by the permittee or their designee.
- (t) Specialty Rehabilitation Authorization. Privilege provided to a permittee or sub-permittee by the department to temporarily possess one or more of the following specialty rehabilitation animals pursuant to sub-section 679.3(b): large carnivore, ungulate, venomous snake, or any species of eagle (Order Accipitriformes) or falcon (Order Falconiformes).
- (u) Sub-permit. Privilege provided to a person authorized by both the department and a permittee, or their designee, pursuant to sub-section 679.3(c) to operate a satellite facility and intake and temporarily possess rehabilitation animals without the direct supervision of the permittee or their designee at a satellite facility.
- (v) Ungulate Specialty Rehabilitation. Wildlife rehabilitation of an age class specified by the department of deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*), elk (*Cervus canadensis*), or wild sheep (*Ovis canadensis*) native to California of the Order Artiodactyla as authorized under specialty rehabilitation permit condition issued by the department.
- (w) Venomous Snake Specialty Rehabilitation. Wildlife rehabilitation of any age class of any species of snake native to California of the Order Squamata that produces venom as authorized under specialty rehabilitation permit conditions issued by the department.
- (x) Veterinarian of Record. A veterinarian, currently licensed by the State of California, who agrees in writing to provide and direct veterinary treatment for rehabilitation animals pursuant to Section 679.3.
- (y) Wildlife Rehabilitation. The temporary possession, treatment, and care of a rehabilitation animal, for the purpose of restoring it to a condition of good health for its release to suitable habitat in the wild.



(z) Wildlife Rehabilitation Facility. A facility operated by a permittee or their designee, at a location approved by the department pursuant to Section 679.3 and listed on the permit, whereby wild animals are temporarily possessed for the purposes of wildlife rehabilitation.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 1050, 2015, 2081, 2120, 2121, 2835, 3005.5, 3800 and 4150, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 716.3, 1018, 2118, 2190, 3511, 4800 and 4801.5, Fish and Game Code; Section 597, Penal Code; and Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 14, 16, 17, 21.29, 21.30, 21.31, 22, and 23.

Proposed Regulatory Language

Section 679.2, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, is hereby added as follows:

**§ 679.2 Transportation and Confinement of Live Wildlife.**

(a) Temporary Confinement of Wild Animals. A person who is not authorized by the department under a permit or sub-permit issued pursuant to Section 679.3; has not previously had a permit or sub-permit revoked or denied by the department; has not violated any provision of Section 597 of the Penal Code; or has not been convicted of a crime of moral turpitude, may temporarily confine for no more than 24 hours, or in the case of a California licensed veterinarian no more than 48 hours, an injured, diseased, or orphaned wild animal, except for big game mammals listed in Section 350 or exotic game mammals listed in Section 325, for the purposes of transferring such an animal to a permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee, or the department.

(1) A person shall provide the following information to a permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee, or the department in writing via email at [Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov) or telephone at (916) 358-2790, within 24 hours of confining any such animal: name and telephone number; taxonomic group or species of animal; description of its condition; date and location the animal was found; and location where the animal is currently confined. At the direction of a permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee, or the department, any such person shall perform one of the following actions: immediately release the animal at the location where it was found; temporarily confine the animal until the department, a permittee, or their designee can take possession of the animal; if able transport the animal to a permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee; or if able transport the animal to the department or a location the department deems necessary to protect native wildlife, animal welfare, human health or safety, and agriculture interests.

(2) A California licensed veterinarian shall comply with subsection 679.5(b)(2) prior to transporting a wild animal, and any animal care records specific to that animal, to a permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee, or the department.

(3) A person shall not knowingly temporarily confine or transfer for the purpose of rehabilitation any wild animal listed pursuant to subsection 671.6(c) of these regulations or any animal identified by the department as an invasive species pursuant to Food and Agricultural Code Section 5260.5, that include but are not limited to nutria, American bullfrog, African clawed frog, common coqui, red-eared slider, watersnake (*Nerodia* species), pin-tailed whydah, and mute swan.

(4) A person may transport for the purposes of rehabilitation any injured, diseased, or orphaned wild mammal that is lawfully trapped, notwithstanding Subsection 465.5(g)(1) or having been convicted of a crime of moral turpitude; or any injured, diseased, or orphaned migratory bird pursuant to federal regulation 50 CFR 21.31(a).

(b) Prohibition on Possession of Big Game Mammals, Exotic Game Mammals or Fully Protected, Threatened or Endangered Species Except Under Department Permit. Section 679.2(a) notwithstanding, no person shall possess any big game mammal listed in Section 350 or exotic game mammal listed in Section 375, or any fully protected, endangered, or threatened species listed in Section 670.5, without specific written authorization from the department.

(c) Disabled Wildlife in an Oil/Toxic Spill Area. No person shall enter a department designated oil/toxic spill area to temporarily confine or transport wildlife disabled by an oil spill or other spilled toxic substance, except for a person in possession of a permit, or their designee, sub-permittee, or authorized person, issued pursuant to Section 679.3 who has incident-specific authorization from the department for the specific designated oil/toxic spill area.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 1050, 2015, 2081, 2120, 2121, 2150.4, 2835, 3005.5, 3800, 4150, 4180, and 5050, Fish and Game Code. Reference: Sections 1008, 2000, 3511, 4155, 4800 and 4801.5, Fish and Game Code; Section 8670.61.5, Government Code; Section 597, Penal Code; and Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 14, 16, 17, 21.29, 21.30, 21.31, 22, and 23.

## Proposed Regulatory Language

Section 679.3, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, is hereby added as follows:

**§ 679.3 Permits for Wildlife Rehabilitation.**

(a) Permit. The department may issue a person a wildlife rehabilitation permit valid for 3 years from the date of issuance and may amend existing permits with the conditions it determines are necessary to protect native wildlife, animal welfare, human health or safety, and agriculture interests.

(1) Limited Scope. A permit issued pursuant to this section does not supersede any law, or the need for any other applicable permit, license, or other entitlement. Permits issued under this section are non-transferrable between any person.

(2) Qualifications. Any person who is a resident of the state of California pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 70, can qualify for and be issued a permit if an applicant possesses the qualifications specified in subsections 679.3(a) through (c) and is at least 21 years of age.

(3) Conferring. The department may confer with any person to verify information on the application, at any stage of the application process, and where applicable may require written proof of that information pursuant to Fish and Game Code subsection 1054(b). An applicant shall provide such information to the department in writing via email at [Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov) within 30 calendar days of the department's request, or the department shall deny the application.

(4) Initial Request. A person seeking a wildlife rehabilitation permit shall first submit an initial request in writing to the department via email to [Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov) that includes the following information:

(A) Copies of two letters stating there is a need for a new wildlife rehabilitation facility to increase local or regional capacity to possess rehabilitation animals, written within 12 months from the date of initial written request for a permit, on letterhead stationery listing the printed name, title, handwritten signature, or electronic signature in accordance with California Civil Code §1633.5(b), date of signature, and affiliation of the signatory.

1. One letter shall be submitted by a permittee possessing a valid permit or sub-permit.

2. The second letter shall be submitted by any of the following persons: a permittee possessing a valid wildlife rehabilitation permit; department staff, Regional Manager, or their designee; a veterinarian licensed in the State of California; or a duly authorized representative of a federal, tribal, state, or a local agency with jurisdiction over wildlife or animal care located in the same county or adjacent county to an applicant.

(B) List of taxonomic groups or species of animal proposed to be temporarily possessed for the purposes of rehabilitation using the following categories: amphibian, reptile, bird, mammal.

(C) Required Experience. Description of at least 1,000 hours experience of animal care, husbandry, and handling experience under the supervision of a permitted wildlife rehabilitator, their sub-permittee, or designee in California, completed within 5 years from the date of the initial approval request, or experience that the department determines to be equivalent as described herein.

(D) The department shall provide approval or denial of the initial request pursuant to the requirements listed herein, in writing via email within 30 calendar days. No person shall temporarily possess a rehabilitation animal until the department has issued a permit pursuant to subsection 679.3(a).

(5) Wildlife Rehabilitation Examination. Upon initial approval from the department, an applicant shall take the free California state wildlife rehabilitation examination via a password-protected html link provided in writing by the department. Alternatively, an applicant may request to the department via email at [Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov) or telephone at (916) 358-2790, to take the examination in person at the nearest department office.

(A) For a new permit, an applicant and any proposed designee shall be required to take the wildlife rehabilitation examination. For an existing permit, a proposed sub-permittee and any proposed designee, shall be required to take the wildlife rehabilitation examination.

(B) An applicant shall correctly answer at least 80 percent of the questions to pass the examination.

1. An applicant who completes the examination will be provided with written documentation by the department with the results of the examination. A passing score shall be valid for 1 year from the date of completion of the examination.

2. An applicant who fails the examination may submit a request to the department in writing via email at [Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov) to retake the examination no sooner than 30 calendar days from the date of the failed examination. An applicant may take the examination up to three times; if an applicant fails to pass the examination by the third attempt, or within 1 year from date of initial approval, the department shall rescind initial approval of the permit request. An applicant may restart the initial approval process no sooner than 1 year from the date of the last failed examination.

(C) Unauthorized Communication, Publication, and Sharing; Penalties.

1. An applicant who either: while taking the examination, communicates with any other person other than a department employee administering the examination; or publishes or shares, or assists in the publication or sharing, of the specific contents of an examination question or answer in any way, shall fail the examination and may not apply to obtain a permit for a period of 5 years from the date the applicant took the examination.

2. The department shall revoke any rehabilitation permit issued to a permittee who, while taking the examination as an applicant, violates the foregoing subsection. The permittee may apply to obtain a new permit no less than 5 years from the date of the revocation but shall retake and successfully pass the examination before a new permit is issued. This action shall be subject to reconsideration as described in subsection 679.9(e).

3. Any person who publishes or shares, or assists in the publication or sharing, of the specific contents of an examination question or answer, shall be liable, in addition to any other applicable civil or criminal damage or penalty, for all costs incurred by the department in creating a new examination or examination question if the department, in its sole discretion, determines that creating a new examination or examination question is necessary because of the publication or sharing.

(6) Final Approval. An applicant who has received initial approval from the department and passed the wildlife rehabilitation examination as described in subsection 679.3(a)(5), may submit an application packet with the required fees to the department via the U.S. Postal Service or other postal carrier to the department's License and Revenue Branch, P.O. Box 944209, Sacramento, CA 94244 that shall contain the following required documentation.

(A) Wildlife rehabilitation permit application, in a form provided by the department, that shall include the following information:

1. Applicant and Facility Information. Full name, date of birth, physical address, mailing address if different, telephone number, email address, ALDS Get Outdoors ID (GO ID) or a required form of identification listed pursuant to subsection 700.4(c) for the department to create an ALDS customer profile for the applicant; facility name if applicable, facility physical address, facility mailing address if different, facility telephone number, facility email address, and facility website if applicable.
2. Required Experience. Description of at least 1,000 hours of animal care, husbandry, and handling experience under the supervision of a permitted wildlife rehabilitator in California, or their sub-permittee or designee, completed within 5 years from the date of the initial approval request; or experience that the department determines to be equivalent in California, including start dates and end dates. An applicant shall provide the name, affiliation, telephone number, email, and mailing address of relevant references that the department may contact to verify such experience.
  - a. The department may consider one credit hour of education in veterinary medicine, biological sciences, wildlife rehabilitation, or similar courses as a substitute for one hour of experience, up to 300 hours of the required experience based on: the number of hours of education and topic of the curriculum; completion of a certificate, degree, or similar qualification; if the education was obtained at an accredited institution or program recognized by the U.S. Department of Education; and submission of relevant original transcript(s) if applicable.
3. Designee Information (if applicable). Full name, date of birth, physical address, mailing address if different, telephone number, email address.
  - a. Required Experience. Description of at least 500 hours of animal care, husbandry, and handling experience under the supervision of a permitted wildlife rehabilitator in California, or their sub-permittee or designee, completed within 5 years from the date of the initial approval request; or experience that the department determines to be equivalent in California, including start dates and end dates. An applicant shall provide the name, affiliation, telephone number, email, and mailing address of relevant references that the department may contact to verify such experience of the designee.
  - b. The department may consider one credit hour of education in veterinary medicine, biological sciences, wildlife rehabilitation, or similar courses as a substitute for one hour of experience, up to 100 hours of the required experience based on: the number of hours of education and topic of the curriculum; completion of a certificate, degree, or similar qualification; if the education was obtained at an accredited institution or program recognized by the U.S. Department of Education; and submission of relevant original transcript(s) if applicable.
4. Public Contact Information. Telephone number, email address, physical address, and website, if applicable, of the proposed facility that the department will provide as a resource to the public on the department's website at <http://wildlife.ca.gov/wildliferehab>.
5. Rehabilitation Animals. Maximum number of rehabilitation animals that are proposed to be temporarily possessed at the proposed facility in the following categories: amphibian, reptile, bird, mammal.
6. Declaration of Enclosures. Description of each type of pre-release enclosure that shall meet the requirements listed in Chapter 2 and Chapter 3 of the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual that shall include the following information for each type of enclosure: length, width, and height in feet and inches; enclosure materials;

and photographs, diagrams, blueprints, or other written plans. Applications for variances, per subsection 679.4(c), must be included for any proposed or existing deviations.

7. Facility Operation Plan. Description of all standard operating procedures that shall include the following information:

- a. Data storage method to maintain required records pursuant to subsection 679.5(c).
- b. Protocol for euthanasia that shall include euthanasia methods for each taxonomic group or species of proposed rehabilitation animal, list of qualified personnel pursuant to subsection 679.5(e)(1), how controlled substances will be stored, if applicable, and methods of animal carcass disposal.
- c. Protocol for staff and volunteer training that shall include the number of hours and frequency of training.
- d. Protocol for intake and triage rehabilitation of animals pursuant to subsection 679.5(b)(1).
- e. Protocol for the humane care of rehabilitation animals pursuant to subsection 679.5(a)(1) through (4).
- f. Biosafety plan to prevent and control parasites, communicable diseases, vectors and pathogens pursuant to subsection 679.5(a)(5).
- g. Contingency plan to allow for a person, identified by a permittee or their designee, and meeting all requirements of these regulations as a designee defined in subsection 679.1(a)(4), to provide continuity of care of rehabilitation animals for up to the expiration date of the valid permit term if the permittee or designee is no longer able to temporarily possess rehabilitation animals for any reason.

8. Acknowledgement and Signature. Certify that the declaration is true and correct, and that the wildlife described is legally possessed by the undersigned.

(B) Veterinarian of Record Agreement. Written agreement signed by an applicant and a California licensed veterinarian who agrees to be the veterinarian of record under a permit, in a form provided by the department, that shall include the following information:

1. Applicant Information. Applicant name, date of birth, GO ID (if applicable), mailing address, telephone number, email address, facility name (if applicable), county, and physical address.
2. Veterinarian Information. Full name, license number, license expiration date, telephone number, email address, physical address, and employer name, if applicable.
3. Acknowledgement of permittee responsibilities, that shall include:
  - a. Maintaining current veterinarian information, including regular hours of availability to treat rehabilitation animals possessed by the permittee.
  - b. Providing required records for any rehabilitation animal such that a licensed veterinarian can make an informed assessment of the condition of an animal and treatment plan or euthanasia of the animal.
  - c. Relying on the licensed veterinarian to best address the administration of medication and treatment prescribed for the rehabilitation animal.



- d. Adhering to the standing orders of a veterinarian for medication use and treatment prescribed for the rehabilitation animal.
    - e. Recognizing that the purpose of providing care or treatment of a rehabilitation animal is to restore them to a condition of good health for their release to the wild.
  - 4. Acknowledgement of veterinarian responsibilities, that shall include:
    - a. Providing veterinary consultation for a rehabilitation animal such as standing orders to perform routine procedures for animal care, treatment procedures, or similar protocol.
    - b. Provisioning, storing, and documenting all controlled drugs, if applicable, pursuant to all federal and state laws.
    - c. Considering the ethics regarding the life history and welfare of a rehabilitation animal when providing treatment of that animal.
    - d. Relying on the permittee or their designee to best address the humane care needs of a rehabilitation animal.
    - e. Recognizing that the purpose of providing care or treatment of a rehabilitation animal is to restore them to a condition of good health for their release to the wild.
  - 5. List of species of rehabilitation animal that the veterinarian is specially trained if applicable; species of rehabilitation animal that the veterinarian is not able to handle or provide services for any reason; and the veterinarian services that may be provided by the veterinarian at their sole discretion: Physical examinations; dispensing, administering, prescribing medication; screening and preventative care; diagnostic services; surgical procedures; euthanasia; necropsy; carcass disposal.
  - 6. A permittee, their designee, or veterinarian of record may terminate this agreement at any time and for any reason; a permittee or their designee shall notify the department of any such change pursuant to subsection 679.4(a)(6)(B).
  - 7. Acknowledgement and Signature. Certify that the declaration is true and correct, and that the wildlife described is legally possessed by the undersigned.
- (C) List of Persons. A list of each authorized person, as defined pursuant to Section 679.1 of these regulations, in a form provided by the department that shall include the following information:
- 1. Applicant information. Full name, date of birth, GO ID (if applicable), mailing address, telephone number, email address, facility name (if applicable), facility website (if applicable), physical address, and mailing address if different.
  - 2. Authorized person information. Full name, telephone number, email address, physical address, mailing address if different, brief description of relevant experience, and list of species or taxonomic group of rehabilitation animal authorized to handle. An authorized person shall be listed under only one valid permit at any time.
  - 3. Acknowledgement and Signature. Certify that the declaration is true and correct, and that the wildlife described is legally possessed by the undersigned.
- (D) Facility Emergency Action Plan. A written plan describing emergency protocol in the event of an evacuation from a proposed facility, in a form provided by the department, that shall include a date of incorporation of the plan and the following information:



1. Applicant name, date of birth, GO ID (if applicable), mailing address, telephone number, email address, facility name (if applicable), county, and physical address.
  2. List of animal capture equipment, such as nets, personal protective equipment, or chemical immobilization equipment, if applicable;
  3. List of animal transport equipment that shall include the quantity, size dimensions, and brief description of each cage, which can include the animal intended to occupy each cage (species, size, type) and the maximum number of animals per cage;
  4. List of emergency animal supplies designated for each species of taxonomic group of rehabilitation animal that shall include: a 3 calendar day supply of animal feed, or list of required food supplies and nearest location of such food, food and water receptacles, portable water containers, specialty feeding supplies, artificial heating source, artificial cooling source, bedding, cleaning and disinfectant supplies, and basic veterinary medical supplies;
  5. Facility safety and emergency alert items on the premises, first aid kits; smoke and carbon monoxide detectors; fire extinguishers; emergency exit signage, if applicable; "animals on premise" signage; eye wash stations, if applicable; utility shut-off valves such as gas, water, and electricity valves; and breaker boxes; fire alarms; visual alarms; radio communications; telephone tree; audible alarms; mobile alert app;
  6. List of local emergency telephone numbers that shall include first responders, animal services, public health agencies, hospital, and other points of contact if applicable; and department regional office;
  7. Evacuation leads for assembly area, first aid, responder liaison, and animal evacuation;
  8. Evacuation protocol instructions for animal release criteria, animal transport criteria, assembly area with primary and secondary locations, staging area with primary and secondary locations, and primary and secondary evacuation routes.
  9. Acknowledgement and Signature. Certify that the declaration is true and correct, and that the wildlife described is legally possessed by the undersigned.
- (E) Authorization to Access Property. Written authorization for the department to access a property where a wildlife rehabilitation facility, satellite facility, or rehabilitation animal is temporarily possessed, in a form provided by the department, signed by the property owner or their authorized representative stating that the department shall have access to conduct inspections pursuant to subsections 679.7(a)(1) and (2).
1. Applicant Information. Applicant name, date of birth, GO ID (if applicable), mailing address, telephone number, email address, facility name (if applicable), county, and physical address.
  2. Property Owner Information. Full name, title, telephone number, email address, physical address, mailing address if different.
  3. Property owner acknowledgement and signature. Certify that the declaration is true and correct, and that the department has permission from the undersigned to enter a property to conduct an inspection pursuant to subsections 679.7(a)(1) and (2).
  4. Applicant acknowledgement and signature. Certify that the declaration is true and correct, and that the department has permission from the undersigned to enter a property to conduct an inspection pursuant to subsections 679.7(a)(1) and (2).

(F) Compliance with Local Laws. An applicant for a new permit or a request for permit renewal shall provide written documentation, such as a letter from a local agency with jurisdiction over zoning, that demonstrates that the proposed facility is in compliance with all local laws.

(7) Issuance of Permit. The department shall issue a permit if an applicant meets all requirements listed pursuant to these regulations and Chapter 2 and Chapter 3 of the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual and passes a facility inspection pursuant to Section 679.7. The department shall determine which taxonomic group or species of rehabilitation animal an applicant is authorized to temporarily possess based on conditions the department determines are necessary to protect native wildlife, animal welfare, human health and safety, or agriculture interests.

(8) Renewal of Permit. A permittee or their designee may submit an application packet to renew a permit with the required fee, postmarked no later than 60 calendar days before the valid permit expires, via the U.S. Postal Service or overnight carrier to the department's License and Revenue Branch, P.O. Box 944209, Sacramento, CA 94244, that shall include the following information: information listed in subsection 679.3(a)(6)(A) through (F); list of sub-permittees that shall include their full name, telephone number, email address, physical address and mailing address of the satellite facility; and payment to the department of a nonrefundable fee adjusted annually pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 713.

(A) Up to 45 calendar days after the valid permit expires, a permittee or their designee may apply to renew the permit by paying a nonrefundable late fee, pursuant to Section 703(c)(2) of these regulations, with any application for renewal. The department shall deny any application for renewal postmarked later than 45 calendar days after the existing permit expired. Except as provided in paragraphs (B) and (C) below, the department shall seize, pursuant to Section 679.8, any rehabilitation animal possessed by a permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee later than 45 calendar days after the permit expired.

(B) Except as provided in this paragraph, a permittee shall not intake any new rehabilitation animals after a permit expires. If an animal is brought to a wildlife rehabilitator whose permit is expired, the animal may be temporarily possessed per subsection 679.2(a). The department may provide a written 60 calendar day permit extension to a permittee to temporarily possess and/or intake rehabilitation animals if the permittee submitted an application for renewal postmarked no later than 45 calendar days after the permit expired, and the department finds that the conditions necessary to protect native wildlife, animal welfare, human health or safety, and agriculture interests shall be met during the application renewal process. A permit extension shall expire either 60 calendar days after it is granted, the permit is renewed, or the permit application is denied whichever occurs first. The department may grant an additional permit extension if it needs more than 60 calendar days to review the renewal application, and it finds that the conditions necessary to protect native wildlife, animal welfare, human health or safety, and agriculture interests shall continue to be met.

(C) If a permit expires while the Department is reviewing the application for renewal, the department may provide written approval to a permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee to continue to intake and temporarily possess rehabilitation animals under an expired permit if the department finds that the conditions necessary to protect native wildlife, animal welfare, human health or safety, and agriculture interests shall be met during the application renewal process.

(9) Facility Change. A permittee, their designee or sub-permittee shall notify the department in writing via email at [RehabWildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:RehabWildlife@wildlife.ca.gov) at least 60 calendar days prior to any change in physical address of a wildlife rehabilitation facility or satellite facility, or construction of a new facility or satellite facility.

(A) A permittee, their designees or sub-permittee who requests to amend a valid permit or sub-permit may submit an application packet to the department via the U.S. Postal Service or overnight carrier to the department's License and Revenue Branch, P.O. Box 944209, Sacramento, CA 94244 that shall contain the following required documentation using forms provided by the department listed in subsections 679.3(a)(6)(A)1,3 through 7; 679.3(a)(6)(D) and (E).

(B) An applicant shall submit the appropriate completed application and fees for a permit amendment request.

(C) The department shall approve or deny a permit amendment request following completion of a department inspection pursuant to Section 679.7.

(10) Permit Fees. The department shall charge a fee for a new permit, or a request for permit renewal, or a permit amendment as specified in subsection 703(c)(2) of these regulations.

(A) New Permit Fees. An applicant for a new permit shall submit a completed application for a Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit with the nonrefundable application fee and a refundable inspection fee. The inspection fee shall be refunded if the department denies the new permit application and no inspection is performed by the department or its designee.

(B) Permit Amendment Fees. An applicant for a permit amendment for specialty rehabilitation authorization or new facility change shall submit a completed application for a Specialty Rehabilitation Authorization with the nonrefundable application fee and a refundable inspection fee. The inspection fee shall be refunded if the department denies a permit amendment request and no inspection is performed by the department or its designee.

(C) Permit Renewal Fee. An applicant for a permit renewal shall submit a completed application for a Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit with the nonrefundable application fee. The department shall not charge an inspection fee for a permit renewal.

(b) Specialty Rehabilitation Authorization. The department may amend a permit to authorize a permittee, their sub-permittee or designee to temporarily possess specialty rehabilitation animals, as defined pursuant to Section 679.1, for the purpose of rehabilitation if such persons meet the following requirements.

(1) Examination. An applicant may take the free California state wildlife rehabilitation examination provided by the department pursuant to subsection 679.3(a)(5)(A), specialty rehabilitation section, shall correctly answer at least 80 percent of the questions to pass the examination.

(2) Application Packet. An applicant shall submit to the department a specialty rehabilitation application packet, in forms provided by the department, via the U.S. Postal Service or overnight carrier to the License and Revenue Branch at P.O. Box 944209, Sacramento, CA 94244, that shall include the following information:

(A) Application form.

1. Applicant and Facility Information. Description of applicant and facility as described in subsection 679.3(a)(6)(A)1 above.

2. Required Experience. Description of the minimum hours of animal care and husbandry experience with animals in the same taxonomic group or closely related taxa of the same Order as the proposed specialty rehabilitation animals, completed within 5 years from the date of request for specialty rehabilitation authorization: 400 hours of large carnivore experience; 250 hours of ungulate experience; 250 hours of experience with any species of eagle or falcon; and 100 hours of venomous reptile experience; or experience that the department determines to be equivalent in California, including start dates and end dates. An applicant shall provide the name, affiliation, telephone number, email, and mailing address of relevant references that the department may contact to verify such experience. Alternatively, the department may consider one credit hour of education in veterinary medicine, biological sciences, wildlife rehabilitation, or similar courses as a substitute for one hour of experience, up to 40 hours of the required experience based on: the number of hours of education and topic of the curriculum; completion of a certificate, degree, or similar qualification; the applicant obtaining the education at an accredited institution or program recognized by the U.S. Department of Education; and submission of relevant original transcript(s) if applicable.
  3. Specialty Rehabilitation Animals. A list of proposed specialty rehabilitation animals, and the maximum number of animals by species able to be temporarily possessed at one time in the following categories: large carnivore, ungulate, bald or golden eagle or peregrine or prairie falcon, venomous snake.
  4. Declaration of Enclosures. Description of each type of animal enclosures that shall meet the requirements listed in Chapter 2 and Chapter 3 of the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual as described in subsection 679.3(a)(6)(A)6 above.
  5. Qualified Handlers. A list of the following minimum number of qualified handlers as defined pursuant to subsection 679.1(a)(16), one of which may be the applicant, for each taxonomic group or species of proposed specialty rehabilitation animal: large carnivore, ungulate, bald or golden eagle or peregrine or prairie falcon, venomous snake. An applicant shall demonstrate that a qualified handler, that is not the applicant, has completed the following minimum hours animal care and handling experience with animals in the same taxonomic group, or closely related taxa of the same Order, as the proposed specialty rehabilitation animal: 300 hours of carnivore experience; 100 hours of ungulate experience; 100 hours of raptor experience; and 80 hours of venomous snake experience.
  6. Acknowledgement and Signature. Certify that the declaration is true and correct, and that the wildlife described is legally possessed by the undersigned.
- (B) Veterinarian of Record Agreement. Written agreement signed by an applicant and a California licensed veterinarian who agrees to be the veterinarian of record under the specialty rehabilitation authorization for an existing permit, in a form provided by the department, as described in subsection 679.3(a)(6)(B) above.
- (C) Facility Emergency Action Plan. A written plan describing emergency protocol in the event of an evacuation from a proposed facility, in a form provided by the department, as described in subsection 679.3(a)(6)(D) above.
- (D) Authorization to Access Property. Written authorization, in a form provided by the department, as described in subsection 679.3(a)(6)(E) above.

(E) Proof of valid permit or license, or other written documentation demonstrating that an applicant will not be violating any local laws, from a local agency with jurisdiction over zoning that allows an applicant to temporarily possess all proposed specialty rehabilitation animals at the facility.

(3) Final Approval. The department shall amend a permit to authorize a permittee or their designee to conduct specialty rehabilitation of the animals listed in subsection 679.3(b) if an applicant meets all standards pursuant to these regulations. A permittee or their designee may temporarily possess such specialty rehabilitation animals only at the wildlife rehabilitation facility or satellite facility location approved by the department.

(c) Sub-Permit. The department may amend a permit to allow a permittee to add a sub-permittee under that permit. A new permittee may request approval from the department to add a sub-permittee no sooner than 12 months from the date the permit was issued by the department.

(1) Application Packet. A permittee seeking to add a sub-permittee shall submit to the department, via email at [Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov), the information listed in subsections 679.3(a)(5) and 679.3(a)(6)(B) through (F) and the requirements listed below in a form provided by the department:

(A) Sub-Permit Application Form.

1. Permittee Information. Full name, mailing address if different, telephone number, email address, ALDS GO ID; facility name, facility physical address, facility telephone number, facility email address, facility website if applicable.
2. Sub-Permittee Information. Full name, date of birth, mailing address if different, telephone number, email address, ALDS GO ID if applicable; satellite facility name, satellite facility physical address, satellite facility mailing address if different, and satellite facility telephone number.
3. Required Experience. Demonstrated completion of at least 500 hours of animal care, husbandry, and handling experience, completed within 5 years from the date of the initial request, under the supervision of a permitted wildlife rehabilitator in California; or experience that the department deems equivalent. An applicant shall provide the name, affiliation, telephone number, email, and mailing address of relevant references that the department may contact to verify such experience. The department may consider one credit hour of education as a substitute for one hour of experience, up to 150 hours of the required experience based on the criteria listed in subsection 697.3(a)(6)(A)2a.
4. Public Contact Information. Satellite facility telephone number, email address, physical address, and website, if applicable, and type of wildlife accepted at the proposed facility that the department will provide as a resource to the public on the department website at <http://wildlife.ca.gov/wildliferehab>.
5. Proposed Rehabilitation Animals. Maximum number of proposed rehabilitation animals that can be temporarily possessed at any time in the following categories: (i) amphibian, (ii) reptile, (iii) bird, (iv) mammal.
6. Declaration of Enclosures. Description of each type of animal enclosure that shall meet the requirements listed in Chapter 2 and Chapter 3 of the department's Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual and which includes the following information: length, width, and height in feet and inches; enclosure materials; and photographs, diagrams, blueprints, or other written plans.



7. Facility Operation Plan. Description of all standard operating procedures that shall include all required information listed pursuant to subsection 679.3(a)(6)(A)7 in writing in a form provided by the department.
  8. Acknowledgement and Signature. Certify that the declaration is true and correct, and that the wildlife described is legally possessed by the undersigned.
- (2) Approval of Sub-Permit. The department shall amend a permit to add a sub-permit under a permit if a permittee and sub-permittee meet all requirements pursuant to these regulations.
- (A) A permittee or their designee, or the department or their designee, shall conduct an initial inspection of the proposed satellite facility prior to department approval or denial of such a request pursuant to subsection 679.7(b)(1)(A). A sub-permittee shall not temporarily possess any rehabilitation animal until the department has provided final approval of a sub-permit.
  - (B) A sub-permittee shall operate no more than one satellite facility, located no more than 100 air miles from the physical location of the facility operated by the permittee or their designee, and shall not be listed as a sub-permittee or designee under any other permit.
- (d) Denial of Permit, Sub-permit, or Specialty Rehabilitation Authorization. Unless the department finds an action other than a denial, such as a written warning issued by the department to the permittee or their designee, would likely cause such persons to cure an existing violation or not violate in the future, the department shall deny approval of a permit, sub-permit, or specialty rehabilitation authorization if an applicant, their designee, sub-permittee, or qualified handler:
- (1) fails to comply with any provision of these regulations, Fish and Game Code Section 1054, or Penal Code Section 597; or
  - (2) has violated any law existing in any other state or in any local governing entity, or any federal statute, regulation, or rule, that is related to wild animals, including, but not limited to, 16 USC 1531 (Endangered Species Act), 26 USC 3372 (Lacey Act), or 50 CFR 21 (Migratory Bird Treaty Act); or
  - (3) has been convicted of a crime of moral turpitude.
- (e) Transition Period. A permittee issued a permit prior to January 1, 2025, pursuant to Section 679, shall be authorized by the department to operate under those requirements until June 30, 2025. Thereafter, a permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, and qualified handler shall comply with the requirements listed pursuant to subsections 671.1 and 679.1 through 679.9 of these regulations, notwithstanding a variance approved by the department pursuant to subsection 679.4(c).

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 1050, 2015, 2081, 2121, 2122, 2150.4, 2150.2, 2192, 2835, 3005.5, 3800 and 4150, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 1008, 2000, 2118, 3511, 4800 and 4801.5, Fish and Game Code; Section 597, Penal Code; and Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 14, 16, 17, 21.29, 21.30, 21.31, 22, and 23.

## Proposed Regulatory Language

Section 679.4, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, is hereby added as follows:

**§ 679.4. Facility and Enclosure Standards for Rehabilitation Animals****(a) Provisions Related to the Operation of a Wildlife Rehabilitation Facility and Satellite Facility.**

- (1) Responsibility for Costs Incurred. A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee shall be responsible for any and all costs incurred in connection with the temporary confinement, temporary possession, treatment, or transportation of any rehabilitation animal while the rehabilitation animal is temporarily confined or temporarily possessed by a such a person.
- (2) Liability. A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee shall indemnify, defend, and save harmless the State, its officers, agents, and employees from any claims and losses occurring or resulting to any person or property in connection with the capture or treatment, confinement, or transportation of any rehabilitation animal while in the possession of such a person.
- (3) Continuing Education. A permittee, their designee, sub-permittee, authorized persons, and qualified handlers shall complete at least 8 hours of continuing education each year.
- (4) Display or Possession of Permit and Emergency Action Plan. A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee shall display the permit, or a copy of the permit issued by the department, and any other required permits in a location at the facility that is visible to staff, volunteers, and the public. An authorized person and qualified handler shall retain a copy of the permit in their possession in a location where it can be readily provided to the department or a designee of the department. A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee shall retain a copy of the facility emergency action plan required pursuant to sub-section 679.3(a)(6)(D) and notify all personnel of its location and content.
- (5) Required Records. A permittee, their designee, sub-permittee, authorized person, and qualified handler shall maintain all required records, whether written or electronic, for at least 5 years unless otherwise specified by the department or otherwise stated by these regulations. All records shall be written in English, and a permittee, their designee, sub-permittee, authorized person, and qualified handler may keep duplicate records written in other languages.
  - (A) Annual Report. A permittee or their designee shall submit an annual report to the department via email at [RehabWildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:RehabWildlife@wildlife.ca.gov), no later than January 31, for the prior calendar year even if no rehabilitation animals were temporarily possessed, in a form provided by the department, that shall include the following information:
    1. Permittee information: Full name, ALDS GO ID, telephone number, email address, physical address, mailing address if different, facility name, and facility physical address;
    2. Summary of patient outcome: List of patient outcomes, by taxonomic group, categorized as Released (R), Transferred to other facility (T), Euthanized (E), Died in Care (D), Dead on Arrival (DOA), Reunited with Parent (RU), Remains in Care (RIC);
    3. Wild animal intakes. List of intakes by species or common name, patient outcome, and total number of animals received by species;
    4. Rehabilitation raptor transfers to licensed falconers. List of any rehabilitation raptor temporarily transferred to a licensed falconer pursuant to sub-section 679.5(b)(5).
    5. Continuing education. Brief description of training and continuing education hours completed by all persons required under the permit;

6. Non-releasable wildlife. List of non-releasable animals possessed pursuant to Section 671.1, or these regulations, or other authorization by the department.
7. Acknowledgement and signature. Certify that the declaration is true and correct, and that the wildlife described is legally possessed by the undersigned.
  - (B) Availability of Records. Except as provided in sub-section 679.7(a), a permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, and qualified handler shall make all required records available to the department within 3 calendar days of such a request from the department.
- (6) Operational Changes. A permittee or their designee shall notify the department in writing via email at [RehabWildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:RehabWildlife@wildlife.ca.gov) of any of the following changes under a permit:
  - (A) written notification to the department no later than 10 calendar days after any change of the name, mailing address, telephone number, or email address of a wildlife rehabilitation facility or satellite facility.
  - (B) written notification to the department at least 15 calendar days prior to any foreseeable removal or change in designee, sub-permittee, qualified handler, or veterinarian of record. It shall be the sole responsibility of the permittee or their designee to ensure that a valid and accurate Veterinarian of Record is listed on a permit at all times.
- (7) Compliance With Other Restrictions. These regulations, or any permit issued pursuant thereto, do not authorize the take or possession of any wild animal in violation of the Fish and Game Code, regulations adopted pursuant thereto, or any other law.
- (8) A permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, or qualified handler shall notify the department in writing via email at [Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov) or by telephone at (916) 358-2790 within 24-hours of receiving from the public a black bear (*Ursus americanus*), mountain lion (*Puma concolor*), gray wolf (*Canis lupus*), wolverine (*Gulo gulo*), ringtail (*Bassariscus astutus*), Sierra Nevada red fox (*Vulpes vulpes nicator*), Sacramento Valley fox (*Vulpes vulpes patwin*), island fox (*Urocyon littoralis*), San Joaquin kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*), golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), and California condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*).
- (b) Enclosure Requirements. A permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, and qualified handler shall maintain enclosures in compliance with the requirements listed in the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual; and such persons shall comply with the following:
  - (1) All enclosures shall be fully enclosed with walls and a roof or ceiling, unless otherwise specified by the department, to protect native wildlife, animal welfare, human health and safety, and agricultural interests. Enclosures shall be secured at all times to prevent ingress or egress by any wild or domestic animal and be free of any object or substance that could foreseeably cause injury or harm to any rehabilitation animal.
  - (2) Conspecific or non-conspecific rehabilitation animals that naturally co-occur may be held in the same enclosure provided that the welfare of each animal is maintained, and all requirements are met pursuant to these regulations.
  - (3) No person shall allow any rehabilitation animal to propagate.
  - (4) All enclosures shall have sufficient drainage to prevent standing water from accumulating, except for pools or drinking water required pursuant to the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual.



- (5) All enclosures shall maintain the range of ambient air temperature, and adequate ventilation, that is necessary to ensure the welfare of each rehabilitation animal.
- (6) Visual and physical separation shall be maintained between a rehabilitation animal and personal domestic animals, non-conspecific rehabilitation animals, and restricted species except where otherwise permitted in these regulations.
- (7) Written protocols to prevent and respond to escape of the following specialty rehabilitation animals shall be clearly posted on the enclosure: large carnivores, ungulates, and venomous snakes.
- (8) All enclosures shall be labeled in writing with an enclosure identifier, such as name or number, and such persons shall maintain a list that identifies the location and type of enclosure (neonate, limited mobility, pre-release conditioning), as a required record.
- (c) Variances to Enclosure Requirements. A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee shall submit to the department in writing via email at [Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov) a request for variance of any enclosure construction required in these regulations or the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual.
- (1) A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee shall provide, in a form provided by the department, the following information:
- (A) Applicant information. Full name, ALDS GO ID, telephone number, email address, physical address, and mailing address if different;
- (B) Location of requested variance. Provide location of variance as the wildlife rehabilitation facility, satellite facility, or other location (authorized person).
- (C) Category of variance. Provide category of variance as minimum size, maximum number of animals, construction design or materials, or location change.
- (D) Type of variance. Provide type of variance as new construction, existing construction, or modification of existing construction, and a brief description of the request.
- (E) Reasons for request. List reason for the variance request as the requirement will result in undue hardship due to physical limitations, excessive cost, and/or other restrictions.
- (F) Acknowledgement and signature. Certify that the declaration is true and correct, and that the wildlife described is legally possessed by the undersigned.
- (2) The department shall approve an enclosure variance request if it finds that the overall security and welfare of a rehabilitation animal shall be maintained. The department may add terms or conditions to the variance if the department determines that such terms or conditions are necessary to protect native wildlife, animal welfare, human health and safety, or agricultural interests. Enclosures subject to an approved variance may deviate from otherwise applicable regulations only so far as is specified in the variance; all other regulations outside the bounds of the variance must be observed.
- (3) The department shall deny an enclosure variance request if it finds that the overall security and welfare of a rehabilitation animal will not be maintained. At the direction of the department, a permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee shall either modify the enclosure that is the subject of the variance request, or remove and replace it, and pass an inspection pursuant to Section 679.7, or transfer all rehabilitation animals to another facility.

(4) Notification of variance approval or denial, and any terms and conditions imposed by the department, shall be provided in writing to the requester. A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee shall provide documentation of an approved variance to enclosure requirements to any inspector. An approved variance is a required record and shall be retained for as long as the enclosure is possessed; all variances granted to a permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee are incorporated into their permit.

(d) Violations. A violation of any provision of Chapter 2 of the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual shall be considered a violation of this section.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 1050, 2015, 2081, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2127, 2150.4, 2192, 2835, 3005.5, 3800 and 4150, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 1008, 2000, 4800 and 4801.5, Fish and Game Code; Section 597, Penal Code; and Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 14, 16, 17, 21.29, 21.30, 21.31, 22, and 23.

Proposed Regulatory Language

Section 679.5, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, is hereby added as follows:

**§ 679.5. Humane Care Standards**

(a) Care of Rehabilitation Animals. A permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, and qualified handler, and any employee or volunteer supervised by such persons, shall comply with the following provisions:

- (1) All care shall be based on the age class and condition of the rehabilitation animal in a manner that is consistent with that species.
- (2) Food. Each rehabilitation animal shall be provided food in sufficient quantity and nutritive value to improve or maintain the health and welfare of the rehabilitation animal. Food shall be provided in a manner consistent with the species and its stage of rehabilitation. Food receptacles shall be kept clean and sanitary to prevent mold, contamination, and deterioration of food.
- (3) Water. Each rehabilitation animal shall be provided fresh drinking water that is available as often as necessary to improve or maintain the health and welfare of the animal, based on the stage of rehabilitation of that animal. Water receptacles shall be kept clean and sanitary to prevent mold and contamination.
- (4) Handling. A rehabilitation animal shall be handled only by a person using personal protective equipment in compliance with the requirements in the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual, and in a manner to minimize stress or physical harm to the animal. Every reasonable effort shall be made to prevent the habituation or mal-imprinting of a rehabilitation animal. A permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person or qualified handler shall not allow a member of the public to handle a rehabilitation animal.
- (5) Biosafety Plan. A plan to prevent and control parasites, communicable diseases, vectors, and pathogens shall be maintained that includes the following required information: a cleaning and disinfecting schedule for each area of the facility, enclosures, food and water receptacles, and enrichment items, use of proper personal protective equipment, and use of proper preexposure and postexposure prophylaxis. Organic waste material shall be removed from enclosures as often as necessary to improve or maintain the health and welfare of the animal and to avoid habituation or mal-imprinting.
- (6) Egg Incubation. A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee may incubate native avian eggs for the purposes of rehabilitation, except for eggs of unknown species or origin. This section shall not preclude the need to obtain other valid permits, such as a federal migratory bird or scientific collecting permit.
- (7) Public Display. A rehabilitation animal shall only be depicted in a public facing photograph or video under conditions that are consistent with the natural life history and behaviors of that species or showing the animal receiving appropriate medical treatment and only publicly referenced by intake number, common species or scientific name. A rehabilitation animal temporarily possessed as a result of a law enforcement action or suspected violation of any law shall not be publicly referenced for any purpose.

(8) Notification Requirement for Diseases of Concern. Except as provided below, such persons shall notify the appropriate public agency, in writing or by telephone, within 5 calendar days of suspecting any rehabilitation animal of having a disease of concern listed in the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual, and shall include the following information: common or scientific name, sex if known, age class, suspected disease of concern, date and location found, and any known human or domestic animal exposure.

(A) Reporting to the Department. Such persons shall notify the department in writing via email at [Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov), within 24 hours of suspecting any rehabilitation animal or carcass of having a disease of concern for which the department is the appropriate public agency to notify. The department shall provide instructions in writing via email to the reporting party, within 7 calendar days of receiving such a notification. The department shall instruct a reporting party to euthanize or transfer the rehabilitation animal, or dispose of or transfer the carcass, to the department or other location based on the necessity to protect native wildlife, human health and safety, or agricultural interests; such a rehabilitation animal or carcass shall be retained by the reporting party until instructed by the department, or up to 15 calendar days after providing such notification.

(B) Rabies. Such persons shall confine in isolation for 30 calendar days, or euthanize pursuant to sub-section 2606(c) of Title 17, any rehabilitation animal showing clinical signs or symptoms consistent with rabies or that has been in physical contact with a known rabid animal. Any rehabilitation animal that has bitten a human and shows clinical signs or symptoms consistent with rabies or has been in physical contact with a known rabid animal, shall be euthanized and tested for rabies with the local public health department.

(9) Notification Requirement for Violations Related to Animals. Such a person shall report to the department by telephone at (888) 334-2258, or via text to 847411 (tip411) by texting "CALTIP", within 48 hours of becoming aware of a rehabilitation animal suspected to have been intentionally harmed in violation of Penal Code Section 597, or a violation of Fish and Game Code. A reporting party may report a suspected violation of any law to a local law enforcement agency, in addition to reporting to the department.

(10) Import and Export of Rehabilitation Animals. No permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, qualified handler, or any other person shall export to another state, or import from another state, a rehabilitation animal, without prior written notification to the department and written approval from the applicable state agency of the exporting/importing state. A permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, or qualified handler may accept a wild animal that was imported by a person and is in need of rehabilitation. This section does not supersede other required state or federal permits.

(b) Treatment of Wildlife in Possession. A permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, and qualified handler shall comply with the following requirements for the treatment of rehabilitation animals:

(1) Medical Care. A person shall not perform any procedure on a rehabilitation animal that is likely to fail to improve or maintain the welfare of the animal; permanently impair the ability of the animal to survive on its own in the wild; or permanently physically alter the animal and is not medically necessary, such as spaying or neutering, without written prior approval from the department.

- (2) Standing Order. A permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, or qualified handler, and any employee or volunteer supervised by such a person, shall adhere to the written standing protocol, provided by a California licensed veterinarian acting within the scope of their professional licensure, for routine medical care to treat a taxonomic group or species of rehabilitation animal based on the animal condition, age class, and life history of a specific rehabilitation animal.
- (3) Medications. A permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, or qualified handler, and any employee or volunteer supervised by such a person, shall administer, store, track, and dispose of all medications, including controlled drugs, in accordance with state and federal laws. Controlled drugs shall be kept in a safe and locked place that is only accessible to such person or staff or volunteer supervised by such person.
- (4) Raptor Rehabilitation. A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee may temporarily transfer a rehabilitation raptor to a California general or master falconer licensed pursuant to sub-section 670(e)(6)(C) and approved by the department as a sub-permittee pursuant to sub-section 679.3(b) and (c), for the purpose of rehabilitation under the requirements listed pursuant to these regulations. A rehabilitation raptor shall not be listed under a falconry license and shall remain solely under a permit issued pursuant to Section 679.3. A California general or master falconer shall release to the wild a rehabilitation raptor pursuant to subsection 670(h)(3) or return a rehabilitation raptor to the permittee or their designee no longer than 180 calendar days from the date of initial intake by the permittee or their designee.
- (A) A permittee or their designee shall provide a licensed general or master falconer with written authorization, as a required record, for the temporary transfer of a rehabilitation raptor that shall include the following information:
1. Transfer Information. Date of temporary transfer; permittee full name, telephone number, email address, physical address, and mailing address, if different; licensee full name, telephone number, email address, physical address, and mailing address, if different; physical address where the rehabilitation raptor will be temporarily transferred.
  2. Animal Information. Common or species name; age class; sex, if known; date of initial intake; animal intake number or permanent identifier, if applicable; medical condition(s) of the animal, if applicable; and estimated total length of rehabilitation, for the purposes of release to the wild, not to exceed 180 calendar days from the date of initial intake, notwithstanding approval by the department for long-term possession pursuant to sub-section 679.5(a)(6).
- (5) Surrogate Animal. A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee may use a wild animal possessed by a permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee to provide parental care to a conspecific neonate or juvenile rehabilitation animal for the purpose of the animal's release to the wild. A surrogate animal shall be used for a conspecific neonate or juvenile rehabilitation animal for a period not to exceed 90 calendar days in a calendar year. An animal shall not be used as a surrogate animal in a manner that harms the welfare of that animal.
- (6) Patient Record. A permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, or qualified handler shall maintain a record of each rehabilitation animal that shall include, but not be limited to, the following information:

- (A) Intake History. Intake documentation that shall include the following information: date and time of intake; full name and telephone number of the person who transferred the animal if known; date and location where animal was found, if known; and dates of transfer, if applicable.
- (B) Animal Information. Animal information documentation shall include the common species name or scientific name; age class and sex, if known; animal identification number; temporary bands, tags, or marks, or permanent identifier, if applicable; physical examination findings, medical condition, and treatment plan; type and dates of treatment; full name or initials of persons providing such treatment; and dates of transfer, if applicable.
- (C) Patient Outcome. The outcome of each rehabilitation animal shall be documented in writing and listed as: (R) release to the wild, (T) transferred to another facility, (P) pending and remains in care, (E) euthanized, (D) died in care, (DOA) dead on arrival, or (RU) reunited with parent.
- (7) Long-Term Possession. Except as provided below, such a person shall not possess a rehabilitation animal for longer than 180 calendar days from the date of initial intake. Such a person may submit a request to the department in writing via email at [Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov) for approval to possess a rehabilitation animal for longer than 180 calendar days to improve and maintain the welfare of the animal. The department shall require such a person to provide the patient record, a written plan for care of the animal, and the estimated date of release to the wild.
- (A) Approval of a Request. The department shall approve a request to temporarily possess a rehabilitation animal for longer than 180 calendar days if the department determines that such approval is necessary to improve or maintain the welfare of the animal. The approval shall authorize temporary possession of the animal until the estimated date of release to the wild, unless the department determines that such duration should be shortened or extended to protect native wildlife, animal welfare, human health and safety, or agriculture interests. The department shall notify the requestor, in writing via email, of the approval or denial to temporarily possess a rehabilitation animal for longer than 180 calendar days within 15 calendar days of receipt of the request.
- (B) Denial of a Request. The department shall deny a request to temporarily possess a rehabilitation animal for longer than 180 calendar days if the department determines that such approval will harm the welfare of the animal. That animal shall be seized in place, transferred, humanely euthanized, or released to the wild pursuant to Section 679.8(c).
- (c) Animals not Released to the Wild. A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee shall either euthanize or request to the department place at a permitted facility a rehabilitation animal that cannot be returned to the wild pursuant to Section 679.6.
- (1) Euthanasia. A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee shall euthanize a rehabilitation animal using the euthanasia methods listed in the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual.
- (A) A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee shall require a person performing euthanasia of any rehabilitation animal to receive the following minimum hours of euthanasia training:
1. 2-hours training on euthanasia methods that do not require the use of a controlled drug, provided by a permittee, their designee, or sub-permittee, or an individual approved by such persons; or



2. 4-hours training on euthanasia methods that require the use of a controlled drug excluding sodium pentobarbital, provided by a licensed veterinarian, registered veterinary technician, or an individual certified by the California Animal Welfare Association or similar organization; or

3. 8-hours training on euthanasia methods that require administering of sodium pentobarbital without the presence of a licensed veterinarian, provided by a licensed veterinarian, registered veterinary technician, or an individual certified by the California Animal Welfare Association.

(B) A permittee, their designee, and sub-permittees shall dispose of the carcass of a rehabilitation animal that has been chemically euthanized using one of the following methods: incineration at a qualified facility; rendering at a qualified facility; burying to a minimum depth of 6 feet; transfer to an entity with a permit or authorization to possess; or transfer to the National Eagle Repository at the direction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

(2) Permanent Placement. A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee may request to the department, in writing via email at [Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov), approval for placement of a rehabilitation animal that is considered by the requestor to be unsuitable for release to the wild.

(A) Request for Placement. A requestor shall submit to the department the following information, in a form provided by the department:

1. Requesting Party. Full name, GO ID number, physical address, mailing address if different, telephone number, email address, and facility name if applicable.

2. Animal Identification. Intake date; animal intake number; common species or scientific name; age/age class; sex; weight; and microchip, tag, or other identifier if applicable.

3. Animal Examination. Date of last examination that shall be performed no later than 30 calendar days from the date of request; full name, telephone number, email address, title, veterinarian or registered veterinary technician license number if applicable, and signature of person performing examination.

4. Animal Condition. List and provide a brief description of conditions that may prevent the animal from surviving in the wild: permanent visual impairment; amputated limb, foot, or wing; permanent damage to skin, scale, scute, fur, or feathers; permanent inability to display the physical ability needed to survive in the wild and brief description; permanent inability to display the natural life history behaviors of its species and brief description; permanent spinal injury, paralysis, or paresis.

5. Animal Welfare. List of requirements needed to maintain the welfare of the animal: temporary or long-term medication, temporary or long-term medical treatment, enclosure modification, special diet, modified feeding, must be housed with other animals, must be housed alone.

6. Suggested Placement Option. A requestor may provide one or more suggested placement options for consideration by the department at its sole discretion.

(B) Department Consideration of Request. The department shall review a written request for placement of a rehabilitation animal and respond to the requestor in writing via the email address provided by the requestor within 15 calendar days of receiving all required information from a permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee. The request shall demonstrate that the conditions required to protect the welfare of the animal, native wildlife, human health, and human safety are met. The department shall require an additional examination by a California licensed



veterinarian, or other person identified by the department, if the department determines that an examination is necessary to fully assess the condition of the animal.

(C) Department Approval or Denial of Request.

1. The department shall approve placement of a rehabilitation animal if the department determines that the requirements of sub-section (c)(2)(A) have been met and the department has identified a suitable facility for placement.
2. The department shall deny placement of a rehabilitation animal if the department determines that the requirements of sub-section (c)(2)(A) have not been met and the department determines that release to the wild, transfer to another facility, or euthanasia of the rehabilitation animal is most appropriate.

(d) Use of Rehabilitation Animals for Scientific or Educational Purposes. A permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, qualified handler, and any employee or volunteer supervised by such persons, shall not transfer, take, or possess the carcass or parts thereof of any rehabilitation animal for scientific, educational, and/or propagation purposes except as authorized by the department pursuant to Section 251.4 (mountain lion carcass or parts thereof), Section 650, or other sections of the Fish and Game Code or regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

(e) Violations. A violation of any provision of Chapter 3 of the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual shall be considered a violation of this section.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 1050, 2015, 2081, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2150.4, 2835, 3005.5, 3800 and 4150, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 1008, 1018, 2000, 3005, 2118, 2186, 2190 and 4801.5, Fish and Game Code; Section 597, Penal Code; and Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 14, 16, 17, 21.29, 21.30, 21.31, 22, and 23.

## Proposed Regulatory Language

Section 679.6, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, is hereby added as follows:

**§ 679.6. Release of Rehabilitation Animals to the Wild**

- (a) Evaluation for Release. A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee shall evaluate a rehabilitation animal to determine if it can be released to the wild, in accordance with Section 671.6, using the following non-releasability criteria: the animal has a condition that will likely prevent the animal from surviving in the wild; the animal cannot display the natural life history behavior of its species needed to survive in the wild; the animal is observed to be habituated or mal-imprinted; or the animal is known or suspected to have a disease of concern listed in the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual. Except for a non-releasable rehabilitation animal that has been euthanized, a permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee shall request consideration for placement of the animal by the department pursuant to Section 679.5(c)(2).
- (b) Requirements for Release. A permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, or qualified handler shall release a rehabilitation animal that meets all the requirements of subsection (a) above to suitable habitat in the wild nearest to its place of origin, if known, and shall consider the following conditions when releasing the rehabilitation animal: acclimation to the weather and seasonal timing of release, natural life history requirements to survive such as social, territorial, and migratory needs.
- (1) A permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, or qualified handler shall obtain verbal or written permission from the owner of a state-owned or private property, or a duly authorized representative of the owner, to release a rehabilitation animal by such persons, or a person approved by such person, on the property prior to such a release.
- (2) A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee, or the department, shall collar or tag a large carnivore rehabilitation animal prior to its release to the wild at a location provided by the department in writing. Such a person may obtain such a location by contacting the department in writing via email at [Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov).
- (A) The department shall provide to such persons a mark, collar, or tag as described above; the process to mark, collar, or tag the rehabilitation animal; the intended use and management of collected data; and a list of personnel trained to mark, collar, or tag any rehabilitation animal.
- (B) A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee shall request to the department in writing via email at [Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov) for the department to review any public statement, photograph, or video of the intake or release of any large carnivore rehabilitation animal at least 10 calendar days prior to the release of such public information. A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee shall not disclose the description of the mark, collar, or tag of any large carnivore rehabilitation animal; or the physical location, or a landmark that may be reasonably used to infer the physical location, of the site of origination or release of any large carnivore rehabilitation animal.
- (3) A permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, or qualified handler shall release a rehabilitation animal of any species of amphibian or reptile to suitable habitat in the wild at the location where it was found, if known, or at a location provided by the department in writing if the location where found is not known, to reduce the risk of disease to healthy populations. Such a person may obtain such a location by contacting the department in writing via email at [Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov).

(c) Animals not Native to California. A permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, or qualified handler shall not temporarily possess for the purposes of rehabilitation, or release to the wild, any of the following invasive species or exotic game mammals: wild pig (*Sus scrofa*), nutria (*Myocastor coypus*), American bullfrog (*Lithobates catesbeianus*), African clawed frog (*Xenopus laevis*), common coqui (*Eleutherodactylus coqui*), red-eared slider (*Trachemys scripta elegans*), watersnake (*Nerodia* species), barred owl (*Strix varia*), pin-tailed whydah (*Vidua macroura*), or mute swan (*Cygnus olor*); or any red fox suspected to be not native to California, unless determined by the department or its designee to be a Sierra Nevada red fox (*Vulpes vulpes necator*) or Sacramento Valley red fox (*Vulpes vulpes patwin*) native to California.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 1050, 2015, 2081, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2150.4, 2835, 3800 and 4150, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 1008, and 2118, Fish and Game Code; Section 597, Penal Code; and Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 14, 16, 17, 21.29, 21.30, 21.31, 22, and 23.

Proposed Regulatory Language

Section 679.7, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, is hereby added as follows:

**§ 679.7. Inspection of Wildlife Rehabilitation Facilities**

(a) Inspections by the Department.

(1) Inspections During Application Processes. The department shall conduct an inspection of any wildlife rehabilitation facility, satellite facility, enclosure, equipment, and required record belonging to or in the possession of, and any rehabilitation animal and part of a rehabilitation animal confined or possessed by any applicant pursuant to subsection 679.3(a); a permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee who requests a permit amendment pursuant to sub-section 679.3(a)(9); an applicant, permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee who request a variance pursuant to sub-section 679.4(c).

(A) The department shall document in writing, in a form provided by the department, the following information during an inspection:

1. Reason for Inspection. New permit, permit renewal, sub-permit, re-inspection, specialty rehabilitation authorization, and/or variance.
2. Personal Information. Full name, permittee name if different, ALDS GO ID, federal permit if applicable, physical address, mailing address if different, telephone number, and email address.
3. Facility Information. Facility name and physical address; property use type (owner, tenant, other); number of staff, volunteers, sub-permittees, authorized persons, and qualified handlers; taxonomic group of rehabilitation animals, specialty rehabilitation animals if applicable.
4. Inspection Requirements. Facility, humane care, and treatment requirements pursuant to sections 679.3, 679.4, and 679.5, and Chapter 2 and Chapter 3 of the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual.
5. Enclosures Inspection. Enclosure requirements and pre-release enclosure minimum size requirements pursuant to Section 679.4 and Chapter 2 of the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual.
6. Inspection Notes. Items that fail to meet requirements; items that exceed requirements; other items observed during inspection.
7. Inspection Determination. Pass, fail (recommend reinspection), fail (recommend permit denial), fail (recommend permit revocation).
8. Acknowledgement and signature. Certify that the declaration is true and correct, and that the wildlife described is legally possessed by the undersigned.

(B) The department shall conduct an inspection during a reasonable time of the day and any day of the week when a permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee, or an applicant, are present and such a person shall allow the department access to inspect any area of a facility, enclosure, equipment, required records, and rehabilitation animal and parts thereof during the inspection.

(C) Except as provided in sub-sections 679.3(a)(9) and (c)(3) and 679.9, the department may provide a permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee that has failed an inspection in writing via email, or the U.S. Postal Service, or overnight carrier, a list of the changes required to attain compliance within 45 calendar days of the notification date and the process to determine the date and time of a re-inspection of any required changes.

1. Request for Extension. A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee may request to the department, in writing via email at [RehabWildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:RehabWildlife@wildlife.ca.gov), up to an additional 30 calendar days to implement the required changes no later than 5 calendar days before the 45-day deadline described in sub-section 679.7(a)(3)(A). The department shall approve such a request in writing via email, within 5 calendar days of receiving the request from a permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee, if the department determines that the requester can reasonably implement the required changes within the requested extension of time, and that such an approval will not harm native wildlife, animal welfare, human health or safety, or agricultural interests.
2. Animal Possession. The department may allow a permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee that has failed an inspection to continue temporarily possessing rehabilitation animals of a species or taxonomic group approved by the department, if the department determines that such an approval shall not harm native wildlife, animal welfare, human health or safety, or agricultural interests.

(D) The department shall revoke a permit or sub-permit or specialty rehabilitation authorization if the permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, or qualified handler refuses to allow an inspection by the department.

1. A refusal to allow an inspection shall be inferred if: after three reasonable attempts by the department to schedule an inspection, such a person is unavailable for inspection; or, such a person refuses to allow the department to fully inspect any area of a facility, enclosure, equipment, required record, or any rehabilitation animal or part of a rehabilitation animal.
2. The department shall reinstate a permit or sub-permit if the permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, or qualified handler allows the department to conduct an inspection and no violations of these regulations are observed during that inspection.

(2) Other Inspections. The department may conduct a scheduled inspection of any wildlife rehabilitation facility, satellite facility, enclosure, equipment, required record, or any rehabilitation animal or part of a rehabilitation animal confined by or in the possession of, a permittee or their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, or qualified handler for any other purpose during a reasonable time of the day and any day of the week when such person is present. A permittee or their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, or qualified handler shall allow the department access to inspect any area of a facility, enclosure, equipment, required record, and rehabilitation animal during the inspection.

(b) Inspections by a Permittee or Their Designee.

(1) Except as provided in sub-section 679.7(b)(2), a permittee or their designee shall conduct an inspection of any satellite facility, enclosure, equipment, and required record belonging to or in the possession of, and any rehabilitation animal temporarily confined or possessed by, a sub-permittee or authorized person, at least once during the valid permit period and no sooner than 6 months after the last inspection. A permittee or their designee shall conduct an inspection during a reasonable time of the day, any day of the week, when a sub-permittee or authorized person is present.

(A) A permittee or their designee shall document in writing in a form provided by the department, the following information during an inspection and submit the form to the department in writing via email at [Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov) within 30 calendar days of conducting an inspection:

1. Reason for Inspection. Sub-permit, re-inspection, specialty rehabilitation authorization (except for large carnivores), authorized person, and/or variance.
2. Permittee information. Full name, ALDS GO ID, federal permit if applicable.
3. Sub-permittee Information. Full name, federal permit if applicable, physical address, mailing address if different, telephone number, and email address.
4. Facility Information. Satellite facility name and physical address; property use type (owner, tenant, other); number of staff, volunteers, authorized persons, and qualified handlers; taxonomic group of rehabilitation animals, specialty rehabilitation animals if applicable.
5. Inspection Requirements. Facility, humane care, and treatment requirements pursuant to sections 679.3, 679.4, and 679.5, and Chapter 2 and Chapter 3 of the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual.
6. Enclosures Inspection. Enclosure requirements and pre-release enclosure minimum size requirements pursuant to Section 679.4 and Chapter 2 of the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual.
7. Inspection Notes. Items that fail to meet requirements; items that exceed requirements; other items observed during inspection.
8. Inspection Determination. Pass (meets requirements), fail (recommend reinspection), fail (recommend denial), fail (recommend revocation).
9. Acknowledgement and signature. Certify that the declaration is true and correct, and that the wildlife described is legally possessed by the undersigned.

- (2) A permittee or their designee shall re-inspect any satellite facility, enclosure, equipment, required record, and any rehabilitation animal temporarily possessed by a sub-permittee and/or an authorized person if the permittee or their designee, or the department, determines that a re-inspection is necessary to protect animal welfare, native wildlife, human health or safety.
- (3) A permittee or their designee shall revoke the sub-permit of a sub-permittee, or the authorization of an authorized person, who refuses to allow an inspection by the permittee or their designee. A refusal to allow an inspection may be inferred if, after three reasonable attempts by the permittee or their designee to schedule an inspection, the sub-permittee or authorized person is unavailable for an inspection.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit or constrain the department's authority to conduct inspections, searches, seizures, or other enforcement actions, at any time and for any reason, with respect to rehabilitation animals, wildlife rehabilitators, or rehabilitation facilities.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 1050, 2015, 2081, 2121, 2122, 2150.4, 2192, 2835, 3005.5, 3800 and 4150, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 2000, 3005 and 12159, Fish and Game Code; Section 597, Penal Code; and Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 14, 16, 17, 21.29, 21.30, 21.31, 22, and 23.



Proposed Regulatory Language

Section 679.8, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, is hereby added as follows:

**§ 679.8. Seizure of Animals; Transfer, Euthanasia, or Release of Seized Animals.**

(a) Seizure of Live Animals Possessed Pursuant to a Valid Permit or Sub-Permit. The department shall seize any rehabilitation animal temporarily possessed by a permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, or qualified handler if such a person has violated any provision of the Fish and Game Code, these regulations, or Penal Code section 597; violated the terms or conditions of a permit or sub-permit; or is no longer able to temporarily possess rehabilitation animals for any reason, unless the department finds:

- (1) an action other than a seizure, such as a written warning issued to such persons is expected to cause such a person to cure an existing violation or not violate in the future; or
- (2) the violation did not adversely impact, and is not likely to adversely impact, animal welfare; native wildlife; human health and safety; or agricultural interests of this state.

(b) Seizure of Live Animals Possessed by a Person with an Invalid Permit or Sub-Permit. The department shall seize any rehabilitation animal possessed by a person whose permit or sub-permit has been denied pursuant to Section 679.3 or revoked pursuant to Section 679.9, or whose permit or sub-permit has expired, except for a person whose permit expired and either:

- (1) 45 or fewer calendar days have passed since the permit expired; or
- (2) more than 45 calendar days have passed since the permit expired, but the Department has issued an approval pursuant to sub-section 679.3(a)(8)(B) or (C) to continue possessing rehabilitation animals.

(c) Animals Seized Pursuant to Paragraphs (a) or (b) or Subsection 679.5(a)(7)(B). The department shall, at its sole discretion and taking into account animal welfare, native wildlife, agricultural interests of the state, and human health or safety, determine that an animal that is seized pursuant to paragraph (a) or (b) or Section 679.5(a)(7)(B) be:

- (1) seized in place;
- (2) transferred to a person authorized to possess such rehabilitation animal or a facility operated by the department;
- (3) humanely euthanized; or
- (4) released to the wild.

(d) Costs Incurred Pursuant to Paragraphs (a) Through (c). Costs incurred by either the department or another party for actions taken pursuant to paragraphs (a) through (c), including costs incurred for the care and possession of animals taken pursuant to paragraphs (a) through (c), shall be paid by the person from whom the live animal was seized. The department or other party may initiate a civil action for cost recovery.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 200, 1050, 2021, 2015, 2081, 2122, 2835, 3005.5, 3800 and 4150, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 2000, 2118, 3005 and 12159, Fish and Game Code; Section 597, Penal Code; and Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 14, 16, 17, 21.29, 21.30, 21.31, 22, and 23.



Proposed Regulatory Language

Section 679.9, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, is hereby added as follows:

**§ 679.9 Revocation of Permit, Sub-Permit, or Variance Request; Proof of Service; Request for Reconsideration; Appeal of Revocation; Effect on Section 679.8.**

(a) Revocation of a Permit by the Department. The department shall revoke a permit if a permittee, their sub-permittee, designee, authorized person, or qualified handler has violated any provision of the Fish and Game Code or regulations adopted pursuant thereto, Penal Code section 597, or the terms and conditions of the permit or a sub-permit, or has been convicted of a crime of moral turpitude, unless the department finds:

- (1) An action other than a revocation, such as a written warning with a description of the changes required to meet the standards in these regulations, would likely cause a permittee or their designee to cure an existing violation or not violate in the future; and
- (2) A violation has either not severely adversely impacted or is not likely to severely adversely impact the welfare of wildlife possessed by the permittee; native wildlife; agricultural interests of this state; or human health or safety.

(b) Revocation of a Sub-Permit by the Department. The department shall revoke a sub-permit if either:

(1) The permittee, sub-permittee, or their designee, or their authorized person(s), has violated any provision of the Fish and Game Code or regulations adopted pursuant thereto, Penal Code section 597, or the terms and conditions of the permit or a sub-permit, or has been convicted of a crime of moral turpitude, unless the department finds:

- (A) An action other than a revocation, such as a written warning issued to the permittee, sub-permittee, or their designee would likely cause the permittee, sub-permittee, or their designee to cure an existing violation or not violate in the future; and
- (B) A violation has either not severely adversely impacted or is not likely to severely adversely impact animal welfare; native wildlife; agricultural interests of this state; and human health and human safety.

(2) The permit is no longer valid, except for the following:

- (A) A sub-permittee listed under a contingency plan approved by the department as a person allowed to provide continuity of care of rehabilitation animals for up to the expiration date of the valid permit term pursuant to sub-section 679.3(a)(6)(A)7g; or
- (B) A sub-permittee authorized by the department to operate under an invalid permit pursuant to sub-section 679.8(b)(1) and (2).

(c) Revocation of a Sub-Permit by the Permittee. A permittee or their designee shall revoke a sub-permit if a sub-permittee has relocated; retired; is no longer able to work/volunteer; failed an inspection; or refused three or more inspections; or is no longer in good standing under the permit. The permittee or their designee shall notify the department within 5 calendar days of revoking a sub-permittee for any reason, in writing via email at [Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov), and provide the following information in a form provided by the department:

- (1) Permittee Information. Full name, GO ID, telephone number, email address, physical address, mailing address if different, facility name.
- (2) Sub-permittee Information. Full name, telephone number, email address, physical address, mailing address if different, satellite facility name if applicable.

- (3) Reason for Revocation. Sub-permittee has relocated; is no longer able to work/volunteer; has retired; has failed inspection with brief description of non-compliant items; has refused inspection with a brief description and date of each attempt to schedule an inspection; is not in good standing under permit with brief description of reason for not being in good standing.
- (d) Proof of Service and Method of Service. A notification of a denial issued pursuant to section 679.3 or this section, or department revocation issued pursuant to this section, or a notification of a denial of a variance request pursuant to sub-section 679.7(b), shall include a proof of service indicating the date the department sent the notification. The department shall send such a notification by United States Postal Service, overnight carrier, or electronic mail.
- (e) Request for Reconsideration. Any applicant whose application for a permit or sub-permit is denied pursuant to section 679.3, whose application for a specialty rehabilitation authorization is denied pursuant to section 679.3, or whose variance request is denied pursuant to sub-section 679.4(c) may submit a written request for reconsideration to the department.
- (1) A request for reconsideration shall set forth the reasons why the Department should reconsider the denial and may include any relevant documents.
- (2) A request for reconsideration shall contain a statement signed and dated by the applicant or permittee under penalty of perjury that states in effect, "I declare under penalty of perjury that the information contained in this request for reconsideration is true and correct."
- (3) An applicant shall send a request for reconsideration via electronic mail no later than 30 calendar days after the date on the proof of service described in paragraph (e), to the following email address: [Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov). The department shall not accept a request for reconsideration that is submitted after the 30 calendar day deadline or is not signed under penalty of perjury.
- (4) The department shall consider any information submitted with the request for reconsideration, and within 60 calendar days may, in its sole discretion, sustain, reverse, or amend its permitting decision. The basis for this action may include, but is not limited to, a mistake of fact or law, or because the permittee or applicant has taken corrective actions to meet all requirements and standards pursuant to department direction. If the permitting decision is reversed or amended, the department must determine that a reversal or amendment of its permitting decision will not likely severely adversely impact animal welfare; native wildlife; agricultural interests of this state; and human health and human safety.
- (5) Denial Hearing. Any person whose denial is sustained by the department may request a hearing before the commission to show cause why their permit request should not be denied. The request for a hearing shall be sent by electronic mail no later than 30 calendar days after the date on the proof of service described in paragraph (d) to the following email address: [fgc@fgc.ca.gov](mailto:fgc@fgc.ca.gov). The commission shall not accept a request for a hearing that is submitted after the 30 calendar day deadline.
- (f) Revocation Hearing. Any permittee or sub-permittee whose permit or sub-permit has been revoked by the department may request a hearing before the commission to show cause why their permit or sub-permit should not be revoked.
- (1) The request for a hearing shall be sent by electronic mail no later than 30 calendar days after the date on the proof of service described in paragraph (d) to the following email address: [fgc@fgc.ca.gov](mailto:fgc@fgc.ca.gov). The commission shall not accept a request for a hearing that is submitted after the 30 calendar day deadline.

(g) Effect on the Seizure, Transfer, Euthanasia, or Release of Wildlife. Nothing in this section, sub-section 679.3(a)(9), or sub-section 679.3(c)(4) shall affect the seizure, transfer, euthanasia, or release of wildlife pursuant to Section 679.8.

Authority cited: Sections 200, 1050, 2021, 2015, 2081, 2150.4, 2835, 3005.5, 3800 and 4150, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 2000 and 12159, Fish and Game Code; Section 597, Penal Code; and Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 14, 16, 17, 21.29, 21.30, 21.31, 22, and 23.

## Proposed Regulatory Language

Section 703, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, is hereby amended as follows:

**§ 703. Miscellaneous Applications, Tags, Seals, Licenses, Permits, and Fees.**

*[No changes to subsections (a) through (b)]*

(c) Applications, Forms and Fees for multi-year permits valid from date of issuance.

*[No changes to subsection (c)(1)]*

(2) Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Permits

(A) Application and Inspection Fees. All fees, except for late fees, are subject to Section 713 of the Fish and Game Code and may be adjusted to include other fees required by license agents, pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 1055.

(B) Fees.

	<u>Permit Type</u>	<u>Application Fee</u>	<u>Inspection Fee</u>	<u>Late Fee</u>
<u>1.</u>	<u>Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit, Primary Facility – New Application. Fees are for new permit applicants.</u>	<u>\$69.01 (non-refundable)</u>	<u>\$191.32 (refundable)</u>	<u>No Fee</u>
<u>2.</u>	<u>Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit, Primary Facility – Renewal Application.</u>	<u>\$69.01 (non-refundable)</u>	<u>No Fee</u>	<u>\$25.00 (non-refundable)</u>
<u>3.</u>	<u>Wildlife Rehabilitation Sub-Permit – New Application.</u>	<u>No Fee</u>	<u>No Fee</u>	<u>No Fee</u>
<u>4.</u>	<u>Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit, Specialty Rehabilitation Authorization – Permit Amendment.</u>	<u>\$69.01 (non-refundable)</u>	<u>\$191.32 (refundable)</u>	<u>No Fee</u>
<u>5.</u>	<u>Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit, Facility Change – Permit Amendment.</u>	<u>\$69.01 (non-refundable)</u>	<u>\$191.32 (refundable)</u>	<u>No Fee</u>

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 713, 1002, 1002.5, 1050, 1055, 2118, 2120, 2122, 2150, 2150.2, 2157 and 5060, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 395, 396, 398, 713, 1002, 1002.5, 1050, 2116, 2116.5, 2117, 2118, 2120, 2125, 2150, 2150.2, 2150.4, 2151, 2157, 2190, 2193, 2271, 3005.5, 3007, 3503, 3503.5, 3511, 3513, 3950, 5060, 5061, 10500, 12000 and 12002, Fish and Game Code; and Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 21.29 and 21.30.



# Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual

1ST EDITION



California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
January 2025

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## Chapter 1. California Native Wildlife Rehabilitation

**Program Vision:** *To support high ethical standards and continued advancements of wildlife rehabilitation in California; to increase appreciation and recognition of wildlife rehabilitation professionals; and to promote awareness of the intrinsic value of native wildlife and human-wildlife coexistence.*

### (a) Introduction

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (department) oversees the permitting of wildlife rehabilitators in the State through its Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Program (hereafter program). The purpose of wildlife rehabilitation is to restore a native wild animal to a condition of good health for its release to suitable habitat in the wild, or to relieve its suffering through humane euthanasia as appropriate. A wildlife rehabilitator serves an important role by providing the highest standards of animal care and rehabilitation of sick, injured, and orphaned native wildlife; as well as wildlife conservation education and outreach to diverse local communities. The department recognizes the value of this service to the public and strives to support a collaborative network of permitted wildlife rehabilitators statewide.

For wildlife rehabilitation to reach its full potential in California, the department strives to ensure a deeper understanding and appreciation of the expertise and ethical standards maintained by wildlife rehabilitators, their staff, and volunteers, and compliance with all laws and permit conditions. Current and prospective wildlife rehabilitators, as well as any person interested in learning more about wildlife rehabilitation, can stay informed of current best practices, methods, and techniques by joining an organization dedicated to serving wildlife rehabilitators. Examples of such professional organizations include the California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators (<https://ccwr.org/>), the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association (<https://www.nrawildlife.org/>), and the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council (<https://theiwrc.org/>).

The purpose of the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual (manual) is to provide essential information about wildlife rehabilitation activities in California, including program requirements, and excerpts from the California Fish and Game Code. The manual does not provide complete coverage of all federal, state, or local laws. Changes to any law may occur at any time and it is the responsibility of each person to obey all laws while participating in wildlife rehabilitation activities.

### (b) Getting Started

A person interested in becoming a wildlife rehabilitator in California may start by contacting a currently permitted wildlife rehabilitator to gain critical knowledge, training, and expertise. Relevant experience may also be gained at an accredited zoo, animal sanctuary, restricted species facility, or veterinary hospital. Considerations for connecting with an experienced permitted wildlife rehabilitator should include that rehabilitator having accessible written protocols and procedures; an ability to provide regular communication and constructive feedback; and knowledge of common native wildlife species in California and their life histories. Educational training, such as a degree, certification, or licensing in a relevant field (e.g., registered veterinary technician) may also count towards the 1,000 hours of experience requirement.

A person interested in becoming a wildlife rehabilitator in California should consider establishing a working relationship with a California licensed veterinarian who may be willing to serve as a Veterinarian of Record under a permit pursuant to sub-section 679.3(a)(6)(B) early in this process. Ideally, such a veterinarian will have experience with wildlife or other animals of similar taxa to the proposed rehabilitation animal species. A person may need to contact several different veterinarians prior to finding one that will be a match.

A person interested in becoming a wildlife rehabilitator to rehabilitate native birds in California must provide proof that they, either as a primary permittee, principal officer, or designated sub-permittee, possess or are in the process of obtaining a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Migratory Bird Rehabilitation Permit and any other applicable permits. The possession of a live or dead, or parts thereof, wild animal may occur only in compliance with all federal laws and regulations (Appendix B), in addition to state and local laws. Below is a list of some, but not all, federal and state permits associated with such lawful possession of any wildlife (Table 1).



(c) List of Some, but not all, Federal and State Permits Required for Possessing Live or Dead Wildlife. Table 1.

Category	Permit Purpose	Permit Name	Agency	Legal Authority	Valid Term	Agency Website
<b>Wild Bird Rehabilitation</b>	Migratory bird and eagle rehabilitation	Migratory Bird Rehabilitation	USFWS	50 CFR 21.31	5 years	<a href="https://fwsepermits.servicenow.com/fws">https://fwsepermits.servicenow.com/fws</a>
	Renesting	Miscellaneous	USFWS	50 CFR 21.27	3 years	<a href="https://fwsepermits.servicenow.com/fws">https://fwsepermits.servicenow.com/fws</a>
<b>Educational Animals</b>	CA non-releasable native wildlife and birds	Restricted Species	CDFW	Title 14 CCR 671	1 year	<a href="https://wildlife.ca.gov/Licensing/Restricted-Species">https://wildlife.ca.gov/Licensing/Restricted-Species</a>
	Non-releasable migratory bird	Special Purpose Education	USFWS	50 CFR 21.27	3 years	<a href="https://fwsepermits.servicenow.com/fws">https://fwsepermits.servicenow.com/fws</a>
	Non-releasable wildlife	Class C Exhibitor	USDA	Animal Welfare Act	Varies	<a href="https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalwelfare">https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalwelfare</a>
<b>Salvage and Taxidermy</b>	Possession of dead wildlife or parts for educational purposes	Scientific Collecting Permit	CDFW	Title 14 CCR 650		<a href="#">Scientific Collecting Permits</a>
	Migratory bird parts for educational purposes	Special Purpose Salvage	USFWS	50 CFR 21.27		<a href="https://fwsepermits.servicenow.com/fws">https://fwsepermits.servicenow.com/fws</a>
<b>Research</b>	Possession of live animal or parts for scientific purposes	Scientific Collection	CDFW	Title 14 CCR 650		<a href="https://wildlife.ca.gov/Licensing/Scientific-Collecting">https://wildlife.ca.gov/Licensing/Scientific-Collecting</a>
	Migratory bird banding	Federal Bird Banding	USGS	50 CFR-10, 13, 21		<a href="https://fwsepermits.servicenow.com/fws">https://fwsepermits.servicenow.com/fws</a>
	Migratory bird data collection	Scientific Collection	USFWS	50 CFR-21.23		<a href="https://fwsepermits.servicenow.com/fws">https://fwsepermits.servicenow.com/fws</a>
<b>Falcons</b>	Falconry	Falconry License	CDFW	Title 14 CCR 395	Annual	<a href="https://wildlife.ca.gov/Licensing/Falconry">https://wildlife.ca.gov/Licensing/Falconry</a>
	Falconry	Falconry License	USFWS	50 CFR 21.82		<a href="https://epermits.fws.gov/falcp">https://epermits.fws.gov/falcp</a>
<b>Eagles</b>	Native American, Eagle Parts (religious)	Eagle Parts for Native American Religious Purposes	USFWS	50 CFR-22-22	Lifetime	<a href="https://fwsepermits.servicenow.com/fws">https://fwsepermits.servicenow.com/fws</a>
	Native American, Eagle Aviary	Native American Eagle Aviary	USFWS	50 CFR-22-60	3 years	<a href="https://www.fws.gov/service/3-200-78-native-american-tribal-eagle-aviary">https://www.fws.gov/service/3-200-78-native-american-tribal-eagle-aviary</a>
	Educational & Taxidermy Eagles	Eagle Exhibition	USFWS	50 CFR-22-50	3 years	<a href="https://fwsepermits.servicenow.com/fws">https://fwsepermits.servicenow.com/fws</a>
<b>Reptiles</b>	Desert Tortoise Adoption	Desert Tortoise Application	CDFW	Title 14 CCR 674	Lifetime	<a href="https://wildlife.ca.gov/Licensing/Desert-Tortoise-Adoption">https://wildlife.ca.gov/Licensing/Desert-Tortoise-Adoption</a>

For more information, resources, technical assistance through the application process, or questions, contact the department's program staff via email at [Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov).

#### (d) Training and Resources

To prepare for taking and passing the free online California state wildlife rehabilitation examination, a person should have understanding and knowledge of basic wildlife rehabilitation concepts, standard practices, diseases of concern, and the life history of native wildlife most common to California. Several valuable resources exist for reference and review, including books and guides on wildlife rehabilitation standards, ethical codes of conduct, and species-specific

rehabilitation techniques, as well as field guides, natural history books, and various organizations (Appendix C. C). This broader knowledge is critical, as wildlife rehabilitators may often receive calls, questions, or even the animal itself, for a species outside their area of expertise.

The California state wildlife rehabilitation examination administered online by the department has 50 definitions, multiple-choice, and true-false questions; and 120 minutes maximum allotted time to complete. The department provides sample questions from the actual examination with an answer key (Appendix DAD) to help applicants prepare for the examination. A person seeking permission from the department to rehabilitate any species of specialty rehabilitation animal (i.e., black bear, mountain lion, ungulate, venomous snake, eagle, falcon) must also take and pass the free California state specialty rehabilitation examination administered online by the department. The California state specialty rehabilitation examination has 30 definitions, multiple-choice, and true-false questions; and 90 minutes maximum to complete.

Staying current with best practices, accepted techniques, and the latest advancements in wildlife rehabilitation, as well as emergency planning and professional development, is critical for all wildlife rehabilitators. In California, wildlife rehabilitators, their sub-permittees, designees, qualified handlers, and authorized persons must complete at least 8 hours of continuing education each year. Continuing education may be met through various learning platforms and topics such as formal training (e.g., class, course, certification), specialized training (e.g., venomous snake handling), and experiential learning. A wildlife rehabilitator must determine the type of continued education that is most beneficial to maintain facility operations and improve the welfare of each rehabilitation animal that they hold in trust for the purposes of release to the wild.

The department has developed and maintains a robust list of opportunities for continuing education through its Continuing Education Framework (PDF) document available on the department website at <https://wildlife.ca.gov/WildlifeRehab>.

To further support permitted wildlife rehabilitation activities, the department awards grants to eligible applicants through its California Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Grants Program as funded through a voluntary tax contribution fund. More information is available at <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Grants/Wildlife-Rehab-Grants>.

### **(e) Facility Operations**

As with other state permits or licenses issued by the State, wildlife rehabilitators are responsible for the costs incurred under their permit. During the planning phase and beyond, a wildlife rehabilitator should strive to understand and consider the full scope of costs and requirements to properly support facility operations, seasonal changes in animal intakes, and ongoing compliance with all federal, state, and local laws.

- Communications – E.g., Webpage, social media, phone, email, outreach/educational resources.
- Emergency plans – E.g., Natural disasters; evacuations; any event requiring the transfer of animals.
- Facility operations – E.g., Property, facility, and enclosure construction and maintenance; insurance.
- Finances – E.g., Establish nonprofit status 501(c)(3), fundraising, donations, grants, community partnerships.
- Protocols – E.g., Animal intake; animal care/treatment; euthanasia.

Wildlife rehabilitators, whether operating a home-based or ‘brick-and-mortar’ facility, are often supported by dedicated staff or volunteer personnel. To protect native wildlife and the welfare of each rehabilitation animal, wildlife rehabilitators should establish a screening and onboarding personnel process, that may include, but not be limited to:

- Application form, references;
- Interview (in person/virtual);
- Mandatory “onsite” training;
- Documentation -- Acknowledgement form, liability waiver, “temporary loan” agreement (e.g., transport crate);
- Site inspection, if applicable.

**(f) Wildlife Rehabilitation List of Persons, Except for General Volunteer, Defined Pursuant to 679.1. Table 2.**

A permittee, their designee, or sub-permittee, should assign volunteer and staff personnel a level of responsibility and access to rehabilitation animals based on the any training or related requirements established by the permittee, their designee, or sub-permittee, and the experience required pursuant to these regulations (Table 2).

Descriptor	Minimum Age	Definition	Required Experience (Hours)	679 Wildlife Rehabilitation Examination
Permittee	21 years	A person with the minimum hours of required experience authorized by the department to temporarily possess rehabilitation animals under a department permit.	1,000 hours*	Yes (new permittee only)
Designee	21 years	A person with the minimum hours of required experience who is approved by the permittee to conduct activities under the permit (e.g., facility director) on behalf of the permittee.	500 hours*	Yes (new designees only)
Sub-permittee	21 years	A person with the minimum hours of required experience authorized by the department to temporarily possess rehabilitation animals without the supervision of the permittee at a separate location (satellite facility).	500 hours*	Yes (new sub-permittees only)
Authorized Person	18 years	A person with the minimum hours of required experience approved by a permittee, sub-permittee, or designee at their sole discretion, under direct supervision of such persons (e.g., weekly telehealth), who may temporarily confine rehabilitation animals for up to 30 consecutive days (i.e., homecare foster) prior to transfer back to a wildlife rehabilitation facility or satellite facility for physical examination by a permittee, their sub-permittee or designee, or a licensed veterinarian.	40 hours*	Optional (sole discretion of permittee, their designee or sub-permittee)
Qualified Handler	18 years	<u>For the purposes of specialty rehabilitation only</u> – A person with the minimum hours of required experience with that specialty rehabilitation animal or animals of a closely related taxonomic group.	Large carnivore – 300*; Ungulate - 100*; Specialty raptor - 100*; Venomous snake - 80*	Yes (new qualified handlers only)
General Volunteer	N/A	A person of an age and training as determined by the permittee, sub-permittee, or designee who may provide general animal care and facility support (e.g., washing dishes, animal diet) under direct supervision of such persons.	At the sole discretion of the permittee, their designee or sub-permittee	Optional (sole discretion of permittee, their designee or sub-permittee)
Veterinarian of Record	N/A	A veterinarian, currently licensed by the State of California, who agrees in writing to provide and direct veterinary treatment for rehabilitation animals pursuant to Section 679.3.	N/A	Optional (sole discretion of permittee, their designee or sub-permittee)

\*Continuing education requirement (8.0 hours per year)

**(g) Common Wildlife Diseases, and Their Primary Vector, Pathogen and Clinical Signs or Symptoms. Table 3.**

Any person in close contact with rehabilitation animals are at increased risk of exposure to many of the common communicable wildlife diseases (Table 3).

The transmission of most communicable wildlife diseases can be prevented by eliminating exposure by using proper personal protective equipment (e.g., N-95 masks, disposable gloves, protective eyewear); pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis (e.g., SARS-COV-2, rabies vaccinations); and timely diagnosis and treatment after exposure. General knowledge of these diseases, their primary vector or host, pathogen, and clinical signs or symptoms that may be observed in an infected animal or person is critical.

Medical alert cards for wildlife professionals are available for free from the U.S. Geological Survey website at <https://www.usgs.gov/media/files/medical-wallet-card-wildlife-professionals>.

Disease	Primary Vector	Pathogen	Clinical Signs or Symptoms
<b>Epizootic Hemorrhagic Diseases</b>	Deer	Virus	No signs to acute death
<b>Staphylococcus, streptococcus infection</b>	All	Bacteria	Dermal lesions, sepsis
<b>Leptospirosis (<i>Leptospira spp.</i>)</b>	Mammals	Bacteria	Kidney damage, liver damage, death
<b>Cryptosporidiosis (<i>Cryptosporidium spp.</i>)</b>	All	Protozoa	Diarrhea, lethargy, weight loss
<b>Salmonellosis (<i>Salmonella spp.</i>)</b>	All	Bacteria	Dermal lesions, lethargy, death
<b>Tularemia (<i>Francisella tularensis</i>)</b>	Rabbit, hare, rodents	Bacteria	Lethargy, ulcers, diarrhea, death
<b>Psittacosis (<i>Chlamydomphila psittaci</i>)</b>	Birds	Bacteria	Lethargy, ocular or nasal discharge, respiratory disease
<b>West Nile Virus</b>	Birds	Virus	Lethargy, neurologic disease, death
<b>Brucellosis (<i>Brucella spp.</i>)</b>	Mammals	Bacteria	No sign to spontaneous abortion
<b>Tuberculosis (<i>Mycobacterium bovis</i>)</b>	Mammals	Bacteria	Respiratory disease, arthritis, death
<b>Hantavirus</b>	Rodents	Virus	Respiratory disease, death
<b>Toxoplasmosis (<i>Toxoplasma gondii</i>)</b>	Mammals, birds	Protozoa	Diarrhea, seizures, death
<b>Roundworm (<i>Baylisascaris spp.</i>)</b>	Raccoons, skunks	Parasite	Blindness, neurologic disease, death
<b>Canine Parvo Virus</b>	Mammals	Virus	Bloody diarrhea, vomiting, fever, death
<b>Canine Distemper</b>	Canids, raccoons, skunks, felids	Virus	Lethargy, loss of appetite, vomiting, eye discharge, diarrhea, seizures
<b>Sarcoptic Mange</b>	Mammals	Parasite	Progressive hair loss, scaling/thickening of skin, secondary infection
<b>Tick-Borne Diseases (e.g., ehrlichiosis, Lyme Disease, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.)</b>	Mammals, Birds	Parasite	Lethargy, muscle and joint pain, joint swelling
<b>Avian Pox</b>	Mosquitos	Virus	Wart-like lesions

**(h) Human Health and Safety**

For members of the public, people should maintain a safe distance from all wild animals. Human contact can cause harm, injury, or in some cases, death to the animal or person.

A person should contact their nearest wildlife rehabilitation facility, local animal services agency, or department regional office, or visit the department website for more information *prior* to attempting to touch, handle, restrain, or temporarily confine any wild animal at <https://wildlife.ca.gov>.

**IMPORTANT: Hereafter, Chapter 2 and Chapter 3 of this manual are incorporated by reference in Section 679.1, Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR). It constitutes regulatory text and is mandatory. However, notes (i.e., only those statements beginning with the word “Note”) that are within square brackets [ ] do not constitute regulatory text and are intended to provide guidance only.**

## Chapter 2. Facility and Enclosure Requirements (See CCR Title 14, Section 679.4(d))

### (a) Enclosure Requirements

- (1) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, authorized persons, and qualified handlers shall know the basic ecology, natural behavior, and life history of the species or taxa of each rehabilitation animal they temporarily possess. Behavioral and environmental enrichment shall be provided to each animal that is suitable for the developmental stage, condition, and rehabilitation stage of that animal. [Note: This requirement is intended to ensure there is sufficient knowledge to maintain and improve the welfare of each animal.]
- (2) Each enclosure shall have visual and physical separation maintained between each rehabilitation animal and any domestic animal, restricted species, non-conspecific rehabilitation animal, other wild animals, and any person. [Note: This requirement is intended to minimize the risk of habituation or mal-imprinting of any animal.]
- (3) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, authorized persons, and qualified handlers shall use the animal enclosure type, as listed in sub-section (b) Table 4 below, that is specific to the stage of rehabilitation of each rehabilitation animal: neonate enclosure, limited mobility enclosure, pre-release conditioning enclosure.
- (4) A permittee, their designee, or sub-permittee shall request a variance from the department for consideration by the department to use any enclosure that may not meet requirement for minimum enclosure size, or differ in construction materials, or any other requirements listed in Tables 4 through 14 pursuant to Section 679.4(c). [Note: There is no cost to request a variance. The department does not charge a fee for variances.]
- (5) A variance may be approved for a temporary enclosure or permanent structure, as specified on the approved variance form with the terms and conditions set by the department.
- (6) The department shall review any existing variances, and the terms and conditions set by the department, at the time of permit renewal by the permittee or their designee. [Note: This requirement is intended to ensure that the variance continues to maintain and improve the welfare of each rehabilitation animal potentially affected by that variance, e.g., modified pre-release conditioning enclosure.]

**(b) Rehabilitation Animal Enclosure Types. Table 4.**

Enclosure Type	Requirements
<b>(1) Neonate Enclosure</b>	<p>(A) Newborn and newly hatched rehabilitation animals shall be housed in a manner that limits mobility and allows for the physical and behavioral development of the animal that is appropriate to that species.</p> <p>(B) Each enclosure shall provide the minimum and maximum temperature (via, e.g., heat lamp) and humidity gradient (via, e.g., humidifier) required for neonate animals of that species.</p> <p>(C) Each enclosure shall allow for medical treatment and recovery of each animal, and observation of each animal prior to pre-release conditioning.</p> <p>(D) Individual neonate animals shall be placed with conspecific rehabilitation animals of the same age class, as based on the best judgment of the permittee, their designee, or sub-permittee, up to the maximum number of animals naturally found in a litter or brood size of that species. [Note: This requirement is intended to maintain and improve welfare of each animal.]</p>
<b>(2) Limited Mobility Enclosure</b>	<p>(A) Juvenile and adult rehabilitation animals that have not yet reached the pre-release conditioning stage of rehabilitation shall be housed in a manner that limits mobility, allows for the physical and behavioral development of the animal that is appropriate to that species. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent injury to any animal]</p> <p>(B) Each enclosure shall allow for the medical treatment and recovery of each rehabilitation animal, and observation of each animal prior to pre-release conditioning.</p> <p>(C) Each enclosure may be used for fledgling birds having outgrown a neonate enclosure, but not yet able to be safely housed in a pre-release conditioning enclosure. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent injury to young birds by juvenile or adult conspecifics.]</p>
<b>(3) Pre-Release Conditioning Enclosure</b>	<p>(A) Juvenile and adult rehabilitation animals that have reached the pre-release conditioning stage of rehabilitation shall be housed in a manner that allows full mobility of each animal. [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to display the natural behaviors required of that species to survive in the wild such as flying, swimming, predator avoidance, hunting, and foraging.</p> <p>(B) Unless otherwise specified in these regulations, the requirements for pre-release conditioning enclosures do not differ between adult and juvenile rehabilitation animals at this stage of rehabilitation.</p>

**(c) Amphibian and Reptile Requirements**

- (1) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittee, authorized person, and qualified handler shall provide the minimum enclosure size for pre-release conditioning of any amphibian or reptile, based on animal welfare and the natural life history of that species, provided that all sub-section (d) Table 5 requirements are met. [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each animal to display the physical abilities it needs to survive in the wild. The enclosure sizes needed to maintain and improve the welfare of each animal will vary widely based on the unique natural life history of each species.]

**(d) Pre-release Conditioning Enclosure Requirements; Amphibian and Reptiles. Table 5**

Taxonomic Group	Animal Type	Requirements
<b>(1) Amphibians</b>	(A) Frogs, treefrogs, toads, newts, salamanders	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Each enclosure shall be constructed of the following material:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Plastic; or</li> <li>b. Acrylic; or</li> <li>c. Fiberglass; or</li> <li>d. similar non-porous smooth surface material.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Each enclosure shall have at least 6 airholes of no more than 0.25-inch diameters, or similar means of ventilation, and a lid secured by a lock or latching mechanism. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by climbing or digging.]</li> <li>3. Floors shall be covered with one of the following materials at least 2 inches deep:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Soil; or</li> <li>b. sphagnum moss; or</li> <li>c. similar substrate.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1 shallow pan filled with chlorine-free water of a depth sufficient for each animal to fully ingress and egress at will; and</li> <li>b. at least one rock for each animal to lay on at will; and</li> <li>c. a full-spectrum light or access to natural sunlight at least 8-hours each 24-hour period. [Note: This requirement is intended to mimic the natural diurnal process for each animal.]</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<b>(2) Reptiles</b>	(A) Snakes, turtles, tortoises, lizards	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Each enclosure shall be constructed of the following material:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. plastic, or</li> <li>b. acrylic, or</li> <li>c. fiberglass, or</li> <li>d. similar non-porous smooth surface material.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Each enclosure shall have a minimum of 3 airholes no more than 0.25-inch diameter or similar means of ventilation, and a lid secured by a lock or latching mechanism. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by climbing or digging.]</li> <li>3. Floors shall be covered with one of the following materials at least 2 inches deep:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Soil; or</li> <li>2. Non-abrasive sand; or</li> <li>3. coconut fiber; or</li> <li>4. similar substrate.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. a shallow pan filled with chlorine-free water of a depth sufficient for each animal to fully ingress and egress at will; and</li> <li>b. at least one basking rock; and</li> <li>c. a full-spectrum light or access to natural sunlight at least 8-hours each 24-hour period. [Note: This requirement is intended to mimic the natural diurnal process for each animal.]</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

**(e) Mammal Requirements**

(1) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittee, authorized person, and qualified handler shall adhere to the mammal pre-release conditioning enclosure



requirements specified in (f) Table 6 and the minimum enclosure size requirements for neonate and pre-release conditioning mammal enclosures specified in (g) Table 7

**(f) Pre-release Conditioning Enclosure Requirement; Mammals. Table 6.**

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
(1) Carnivora	(A) Badger	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls, floor, and roof shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 9-gauge chain link; or</li> <li>b. 1-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Wall and roof material shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 8 feet apart:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch X 4-inch wood fence post; or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal fence post.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Walls shall be buried at least 3 feet deep and 5 feet inward at a 90-degree angle. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging.]</li> <li>4. Floors shall be covered with a minimum of 1 foot of soil or similar natural substrate.</li> <li>5. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1 hide box or sheltered retreat with the minimum dimensions of 2.5 feet X 2 feet x 2 feet (L x W x H). [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to be fully hidden and ingress and egress at will.]</li> <li>b. At least one area of the floor a minimum of 4-feet x 4-feet shall have at least 6 cubic feet of soil or similar natural substrate. [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each animal claw and dig at will.]</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
	(B) Bobcat	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls and floor shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 11-gauge chain link; or</li> <li>b. 1 inch by 2-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>c. Concrete.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Roof shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 11-gauge chain link; or</li> <li>b. 1-inch by 2-inch welded steel wire.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Wall and roof materials shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 8 feet apart:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch X 4-inch wood fence post, or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal fence post.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Walls constructed of chain link or welded steel wire shall be buried at least 1 foot deep and 1 foot inward at a 90-degree angle [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent escape by digging.]</li> <li>5. Floors shall be constructed of one of the following:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Soil or other similar natural substrate; or</li> <li>b. Concrete covered with soil or other natural substrate at a minimum depth of 6 inches.</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 3 wooden beams or tree limbs at least 6 feet long and 4 inches wide securely attached either horizontally or at an angle between 30-degrees and 60-degrees to the enclosure walls [Note: This is intended to allow an animal to climb and scratch]; and</li> <li>b. 1 elevated platform that is at a minimum height of 4 feet and a minimum area of 6 square feet.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
	(C) Coyote	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls and roof shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 11-gauge chain link; or</li> <li>b. 1-inch X 2-inch welded steel wire.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Wall and roof materials shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 8 feet apart:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch X 4-inch wood fence post, or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal fence post.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Walls shall be buried at least 2 feet deep and 2 feet inward at a 90-degree angle [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging].</li> <li>4. Floors shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Soil or similar natural substrate; or</li> <li>b. 11- gauge chain link covered with soil, or similar natural substrate at a minimum depth of 6 inches; or</li> <li>c. Concrete covered with soil, or similar natural substrate at a minimum depth of 6 inches.</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1 hide box or sheltered retreat that is 4 feet X 3 feet X 3 feet (L x W x H) [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to be fully hidden and ingress and egress at will.]; and either</li> <li>b. 2 wood beams or tree limbs at least 6 feet long and 4 inches wide securely attached horizontally or at an angle between 30-degrees and 60-degrees; or</li> <li>c. 1 elevated platform that is at a minimum height of 3 feet and a minimum of 6 square feet.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
	(D) Fox	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls and roof shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>b. Concrete (walls only).</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Roof shall be constructed of 1-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire.</li> <li>3. Wall and roof materials shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 8 feet apart:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch x 4-inch wood fence posts, or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal fence posts.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Walls constructed of 1-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire shall be buried a minimum of 2 feet deep and 2 feet inward at a 90-degree angle [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging].</li> <li>5. Floors shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Soil or similar natural substrate; or</li> <li>b. Concrete covered with soil or similar natural substrate of a minimum depth of 6 inches.</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 2 tree limbs with a minimum diameter of 2 inches; and</li> <li>b. 1 hide box or sheltered retreat with the minimum dimensions of 2 feet x 1.5 feet x 1.5 feet [Note: This requirement is intended an animal to be fully hidden and ingress and egress at will]; and</li> <li>c. 1 wood ramp at minimum of 6 feet long and 4 inches wide placed horizontally or at an angle between 30-degrees and 60-degrees; or</li> <li>d. 1 wood platform a minimum of 2 feet high and a minimum area of 4 square feet.</li> </ol> </li> <li>7. Kit fox species shall have at least one area of the floor a minimum of 4-feet x 4-feet shall have at least 6 cubic feet of soil or similar natural substrate. [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to be able to express its natural behavior, such as to dig and burrow at will.]</li> </ol>

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
	(E) Fisher, Marten	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 11-gauge chain link; or</li> <li>b. 1-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>c. Concrete.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Roof shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 11-gauge chain link; or</li> <li>b. 1-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Wall and roof materials shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 8 feet apart:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch x 4-inch wood fence posts, or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal fence posts.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Walls constructed of chain link or welded steel wire shall be buried at least 1.5 feet deep and 1.5 feet inward at a 90-degree angle [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging].</li> <li>4. Floors shall be constructed of one of the following materials:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Soil;</li> <li>b. Mulch; or</li> <li>c. Concrete covered with soil or similar natural substrate at a minimum depth of 6 inches.</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 3 tree limbs at least 4 feet in length with a minimum diameter of 12 inches placed horizontally, vertically, or at an angle between 30-degrees and 60-degrees; and</li> <li>b. 1 hide box or sheltered retreat that has the minimum dimensions of 1.5-feet x 1.5-feet x 1.5-feet. [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to be fully hidden and ingress and egress at will.]</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
	(F) Raccoon	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Walls and roof shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 0.5-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire, or</li> <li>b. 11-gauge chain link.</li> </ol> </li> <li>b. Wall and roof materials shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 8 feet apart:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch x 4-inch wooden fence post; or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal fence post.</li> </ol> </li> <li>c. Walls constructed of 0.5-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire, or 11-gauge chain link shall be buried at a minimum of 1 foot deep and 1 foot inward at a 90-degree angle [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging.]</li> <li>d. Floor shall be constructed of either; and covered with soil, or similar natural substrate with a minimum depth of 6 inches:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Concrete; or</li> <li>b. 0.5-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire.</li> </ol> </li> <li>e. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 3 tree limbs with a minimum diameter of 2 inches placed either horizontally or at an angle of 30 degrees to 60 degrees; and</li> <li>b. 1 pool or water feature constructed of plastic, aluminum, rubber, or metal that is a minimum of 2 feet in diameter and can hold a minimum of 6 inches of water; and</li> <li>c. 1 hide box or sheltered retreat with minimum dimensions of 2 feet x 1.5 feet x 1.5 feet. [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to be fully hidden and ingress and egress at will.]</li> </ol> </li> <li>f. Other species shall not be housed in enclosures designated for raccoons. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent transmitting raccoon roundworm to other animals.]</li> </ol>

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
	(G) Ringtail	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>b. 11-gauge chain link; or</li> <li>c. Concrete.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Roof shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>b. 11-gauge chain link.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Walls and roof material shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 8 feet apart:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch x 4-inch wooden fence post; or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal fence post.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Walls constructed of 1-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire, or 11-gauge chain link shall be buried a minimum of 1 foot deep and 1 foot inward at a 90-degree angle [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging.]</li> <li>5. Floors shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Concrete covered with soil, or other similar natural substrate with a minimum depth of 6 inches; or</li> <li>b. Soil or similar natural substrate.</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 3 tree limbs with a minimum diameter of 2 inches and placed horizontally or at an angle between 30-degrees and 60-degrees; and</li> <li>b. 1 elevated platform that is a minimum height of 4 feet tall with a minimum area of 2 square feet; and</li> <li>c. 1 hide box or sheltered retreat that is a minimum of 1.5-feet x 1 foot x 1 foot (L x W x H) [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to be fully hidden and ingress and egress at will.]</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
	(H) River Otter	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls and roof shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1 inch x 1-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>b. 11-gauge chain link; or</li> <li>c. Concrete.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Roof shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>b. 11-gauge chain link.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Walls and roof material shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 8 feet apart:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch x 4-inch wood fence post; or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal fence post.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Walls constructed of 1-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire, or 11-gauge chain link shall be buried at least 1 foot down and 1 foot inward at a 90-degree angle [Note: this requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging].</li> <li>5. Floor shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Soil, or similar natural substrate; or</li> <li>b. Concrete covered with soil, or similar natural substrate with a minimum depth of 6 inches or heavy-duty rubber drainage mats.</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. A pool at least 5 feet x 2.5 feet constructed of metal, plastic, or concrete, filled with fresh water, and a ramp or similar sloped entry. [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each animal to ingress or egress the pool at will.]</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Juveniles, and adult conspecifics housed with juveniles, shall have a pool filled with fresh water at least 6 inches deep in the shallow end, and no more than 2 feet deep at the deep end.</li> <li>c. Adults shall have a pool filled with fresh water at least 3 feet deep.</li> </ul>
	(I) Skunk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls and roof shall be constructed of 1-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire.</li> <li>2. Walls and roof material shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 8 feet apart: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch x 4-inch wood fence posts; or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal fence post.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Walls constructed of 1-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire shall be buried at least 1 foot down and 1 foot inward at a 90-degree angle. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging.]</li> <li>4. Floors shall be constructed of either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1-inch by 1-inch welded steel wire covered with soil, or similar natural material at least 1 foot deep; or</li> <li>b. Concrete covered with soil, or similar natural material at least 1 foot deep.</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 2 tree limbs with a minimum of 3 feet long with a minimum diameter of 4 inches placed horizontally on the floor; and</li> <li>b. 1 hide box or sheltered retreat with minimum dimensions of 2 feet x 1.5 feet x 1.5 feet (L x W x H) [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to be fully hidden and ingress and egress at will.]</li> </ul> </li> <li>6. Other species shall not be housed in enclosures designated solely for skunks. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent transmitting skunk roundworm to other animals.]</li> </ul>
	(J) Weasel, Ermine, Mink	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls and roof shall be constructed of 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch welded steel wire.</li> <li>2. Walls and roof material shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 8 feet apart: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch x 4-inch wood fence posts; or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal fence post.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Walls constructed of 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch welded steel wire shall be buried at least 1 foot deep and 1 foot inward at a 90-degree angle [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent escape by digging].</li> <li>4. Floors shall be constructed of either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>b. Concrete covered with soil, or similar natural substrate at least 1 foot deep.</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 2 tree limbs a minimum of 4 feet long with a minimum diameter of 3 inches placed horizontally on the ground or at an angle between 30-degrees and 60-degrees; and</li> <li>b. 1 hide box or sheltered retreat with minimum dimensions of 1.5 feet x 1 foot x 1 foot [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to be fully hidden and ingress and egress at will].</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
	(K) Wolverine	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 11-gauge chain link; or</li> <li>b. 1-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>c. Concrete.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Roof shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 11-gauge chain link; or</li> <li>b. 1-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Wall and roof materials shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 8 feet apart:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch x 4-inch wood fence posts, or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal fence posts.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Walls constructed of chain link or welded steel wire shall be buried at least 1.5 feet deep and 1.5 feet inward at a 90-degree angle [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging].</li> <li>5. Floors shall be constructed of either, and covered with soil or similar natural substrate at a minimum depth of 1 foot:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 11-gauge chain link; or</li> <li>b. 1-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>c. Concrete.</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 2 tree limbs at least 4 feet in length with a diameter at least 3 inches placed horizontally, vertically, or at an angle between 30 degrees to 60 degrees; and</li> <li>b. 1 hide box or sheltered retreat that has the minimum dimensions of 3 feet x 2 feet x 2 feet. [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to be fully hidden and ingress and egress at will.]; and</li> <li>c. At least one area of the floor a minimum of 4-feet x 4-feet shall have at least 6 cubic feet of soil or similar natural substrate. [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each animal claw and dig at will.]</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<b>(2) Chiroptera</b>	(A) All Bats	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Enclosures shall have a double-door entry system that is closed and secured at all times. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by flying.]</li> <li>2. Walls and roof shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Wood; or</li> <li>b. Plastic; or</li> <li>c. Aluminum tubing.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Wall and roof material shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 8 feet apart:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch x 4-inch wood fence posts; or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal fence post.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Interior walls shall be covered with 1/6 inches x 1/6 inches or smaller polypropylene mesh. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent injury to each animal.]</li> <li>5. Ceilings shall be covered with shade cloth, tarp, or similar material covering at least 1/3 up to 1/2 of the ceiling area. [Note: This requirement is intended to provide shelter for each animal.]</li> <li>6. Floors shall be constructed of the following material:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Concrete covered with carpet, mat, or other soft material; or</li> <li>b. Soil; or</li> <li>c. Non-abrasive sand. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent injury to each animal.]</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
		<p>7. Enclosure shall have the following enrichment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 2 hide boxes (6 inches x 6 inches x 6 inches) placed a minimum of 5 feet high; or</li> <li>b. 2 cloth pouches (6 inches x 6 inches x 6 inches), or similar sheltered retreat placed a minimum of 5 feet high; and</li> <li>c. 2 branches a minimum of 3 feet long of a minimum diameter of 0.5 inches with artificial or natural leaves secured from the ceiling. [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal of a crevasse-dwelling or foliage roosting species to be fully hidden and to climb, hang, or roost at will.]</li> </ul>
<b>(3)</b> <b>Didelphimorphia</b>	(A) Opossum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls and roof shall be constructed of either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 0.5-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>b. Concrete.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Roof shall be constructed of 0.5-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire.</li> <li>3. Walls and roof material consisting of 0.5-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 8 feet apart: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch x 4-inch wood fence post; or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal fence post.</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Walls constructed of 0.5-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire shall be buried at least 1 foot deep and 1 foot inward at a 90-degree angle [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging.]</li> <li>5. Floors shall be constructed of either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Soil, or similar natural substrate.</li> <li>b. 0.5-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire covered with soil or similar natural substrate at a minimum depth of 1 foot; or</li> <li>c. Concrete covered with soil or similar natural substrate at a minimum depth of 1 foot.</li> </ul> </li> <li>6. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 3 tree limbs or tree branches with a minimum length of 4 feet and a minimum diameter of 2 inches placed horizontally or at an angle between 30-degrees and 60-degrees; and</li> <li>b. 1 elevated platform at a minimum height of 3 feet and a minimum of 3 square feet; and</li> <li>c. 1 hide box or shelter with minimum dimension of 2 feet x 1.5 feet x 1 foot [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to be fully hidden and ingress and egress at will].</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>(4)</b> <b>Eulipotyphla</b> <b>(formerly</b> <b>Insectivora)</b>	(A) Mole, Shrew	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Enclosures shall be constructed of either; and must contain airholes or similar means of ventilation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Plastic; or</li> <li>b. Acrylic; or</li> <li>c. Fiberglass, or similar non-porous smooth surface material. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging.]</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Floors shall be covered with soil or similar natural substrate at a minimum depth of 1 foot.</li> </ol>



Order	Animal Type	Requirements
<b>(5) Lagomorpha</b>	(A) Hare, Rabbit	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls shall be constructed of 0.5-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire and covered with shade cloth, mesh netting, or similar material.</li> <li>2. Roof shall be made of either: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Wood; or</li> <li>b. Fiberglass; or</li> <li>c. Tarp; or</li> <li>d. Shade cloth; or</li> <li>e. Other similar non-transparent material [Note: This requirement is intended to provide visual barrier to aerial predators.]</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Walls and roof material shall be affixed shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 8 feet apart: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch x 4-inch wood fence posts; or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal fence post.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Walls constructed of 0.5-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire shall be buried a minimum of 1 foot deep and 1 foot inward at a 90-degree angle. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging.]</li> <li>5. The floor shall be constructed of 0.5-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire covered with soil or similar natural substrate at a minimum depth of 6 inches.</li> <li>6. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Straw bales, vegetation, or similar soft material lining at least 2 of the four walls; and</li> <li>b. 1 of item of wood, bone, antler, or similar tooth-resistant materials [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent overgrown teeth and injury to each animal.]</li> <li>c. 1 hide box or sheltered retreat with the minimum dimension of 1.5-feet x 1.5 feet x 1.5 feet.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<b>(6) Rodentia</b>	(A) Chipmunk, Ground Squirrel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls and floor shall be constructed of either: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 16-gauge chain link covered with 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch welded steel wire [Note: This requirement is intended to provide a visual barrier for each animal.]; or</li> <li>b. 0.5-inch x 3-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>c. Concrete.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Roof shall be constructed of either: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 16-gauge chain link; or</li> <li>b. 0.5-inch x 3-inch welded steel wire.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Walls and roof constructed of 16-gauge chain link, or 0.5-inch x 3-inch welded steel wire shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 8 feet apart: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch x 4-inch wood fence posts; or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal fence posts.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Walls constructed of 16-gauge chain link, or 0.5-inch x 3-inch welded steel wire shall be buried 1.5 feet deep and 1.5 inward at a 90-degree angle [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging].</li> <li>5. Floors shall be constructed of one of the following materials [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging.]: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 16-gauge chain link covered with soil, or similar natural substrate at a minimum depth of 1.5 feet; or</li> <li>b. 0.5-inch x 3-inch welded steel wire covered with soil, or similar natural substrate at a minimum depth of 1.5 feet; or</li> <li>c. Concrete covered with soil, or similar natural substrate at a minimum depth of 1.5 feet</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Each enclosure shall have at least 1 wood stump or tree limb of a minimum diameter of 2 inches</li> <li>7. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1 hide box or sheltered retreat with the minimum dimensions of 1 foot x 1 foot x 1 foot [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to be fully hidden and ingress and egress at will]; and</li> <li>a. At least 2 tooth-resistant items such as fibrous vegetation, wood, bone, or antler. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent overgrown teeth and injury to each animal.]</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
	(B) Flying Squirrel, Tree Squirrel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls and roof shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 16-gauge chain link covered with 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch welded steel wire on the interior wall; or</li> <li>b. 0.5-inch x 3-inches welded steel wire; or</li> <li>c. Concrete.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Roof shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 16-gauge chain link covered with 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>b. 0.5-inch x 3-inch welded steel wire.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Each enclosure shall have at least 3 tree limbs or tree branches of 3 inches minimum diameter; 1 elevated platform placed at a minimum height of 4 feet, and at least 1 hide box or sheltered retreat placed at a minimum height of 4 feet. [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to be fully hidden and ingress and egress at will.]</li> <li>4. Walls shall be constructed of 16-gauge chain link covered with hardware cloth on the interior side, or at least ½ inches x 3 inches welded steel wire.</li> <li>5. Floors shall be constructed of concrete, or 16-gauge chain link covered with hardware cloth or welded steel wire, covered with soil or similar natural substrate. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging.]</li> <li>6. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1 hide box or sheltered retreat; and</li> <li>b. At least 2 tooth-resistant items such as fibrous vegetation, wood, bone, or antler. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent overgrown teeth and injury to each animal.]</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
	(C) Marmot	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls and floor shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 9-gauge chain link; or</li> <li>b. 1-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>c. Concrete.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Roof shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 9-gauge chain link; or</li> <li>b. 1-inch x 1-inch welded steel wire.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Walls and roof, not constructed of concrete, shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 8 feet apart:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch x 4-inch wood; or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal post.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Walls constructed of 9-gauge chain link or 1 inch x 1-inch welded steel wire shall be buried at least 3 feet down and 5 feet inward at a 90-degree angle. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging.]</li> <li>5. Floor material shall be covered with soil or similar natural substrate at least 12 inches deep.</li> <li>6. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:</li> </ol>

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. At least one area of the floor a minimum of 4-feet x 4-feet shall have at least 6 cubic feet of soil or similar natural substrate. [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each animal claw and dig at will.]; and</li> <li>b. 1 hide box or sheltered retreat with minimum dimensions of 2.5 feet x 2 feet x 2 feet [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to be fully hidden and ingress and egress at will]; and</li> <li>c. 1 log or rock that is a minimum of 18 inches tall and 18 inches in diameter [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to perch at will]; and</li> <li>d. At least 2 tooth-resistant items such as fibrous vegetation, wood, bone, or antler. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent overgrown teeth and injury to each animal.]</li> </ul>
	(D) Muskrat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls and roof shall be constructed of 11-gauge chain link.</li> <li>2. Walls and roof material shall be affixed shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 6 feet apart: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch x 4-inch wood fence post; or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal fence post.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Walls shall be buried at least 1 foot deep and 1 foot inward at a 90-degree angle [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging.]</li> <li>4. Floors shall be constructed of concrete, soil, or non-abrasive sand and covered with rubber drainage mats.</li> <li>5. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1 hide box or sheltered retreat with the minimum dimension of 1.5 feet x 1.5 feet x 1 foot [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to be fully hidden and ingress and egress at will]; and</li> <li>b. Pool at least 2-feet in diameter, constructed of metal, plastic, or concrete and filled with fresh water at least 2 feet deep; and</li> <li>c. At least 2 tooth-resistant items such as fibrous vegetation, wood, bone, or antler. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent overgrown teeth and injury to each animal.]</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	(E) Native Mouse, Native Rat, Vole, Pocket Gopher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls shall be constructed of either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Plastic; or</li> <li>c. Acrylic; or</li> <li>d. 3/8 inches x 3/8 inches metal wire mesh [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging.]</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Floors shall be covered with straw, paper bedding, soil, or other natural substrate at a minimum depth of 1 inch.</li> <li>3. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. 1 hide box or sheltered retreat; and</li> <li>c. At least 2 tooth-resistant items such as fibrous vegetation, wood, bone, or antler. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent overgrown teeth and injury to each animal.]</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
	(F) North American Beaver	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 11-gauge chain link; or</li> <li>b. Concrete.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Roofs shall be constructed of 11-gauge chain link.</li> <li>3. Walls and roof 11-gauge chain link shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 8 feet apart:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch x 4-inch wood fence post; or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal fence post.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Walls constructed of 11-gauge chain link shall be buried at least 1.5 feet deep and 1.5 feet inward at a 90-degree angle [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging].</li> <li>5. Floors shall be constructed of concrete and covered with soil or other similar material, or heavy-duty rubber drainage mats.</li> <li>6. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1 hide box or sheltered retreat with the following minimum dimensions 4-feet x 2-feet x 2 feet [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to be fully hidden and ingress and egress at will]; and</li> <li>b. Tree limbs and trunks of the following native variety readily available at all times: willow, cottonwood, aspen, or poplar. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent overgrown teeth and injury to each animal.]</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
	(F) North American Beaver	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Each enclosure shall have a pool at least 3 feet in diameter constructed of metal or concrete with the following requirements:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Juvenile animals, and adult conspecifics housed with juveniles, shall have a sloped pool entrance with water at least 6 inches deep in the shallow end and no more than 2 feet deep in the deep end [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to ingress and egress at will from the pool.]; and</li> <li>b. Adult animals not housed with juvenile conspecifics shall have a ramped or sloped entry pool filled with water at least 3 feet deep in the shallow end. [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to ingress and egress at will from the pool.]</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
	(G) North American Porcupine	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 11-gauge chain link covered with 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch welded steel wire [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent injury to each animal and provide a visual barrier.]; or</li> <li>b. Concrete.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Roof shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e. 11-gauge chain link</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Walls and roof constructed of 11-gauge chain link shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 8 feet apart:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch x 4-inch wood fence post; or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal fence post.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Walls constructed of 11-gauge chain link shall be buried at least 1 foot deep and 1 foot inward at a 90-degree angle, using concrete foundation. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging.]</li> <li>5. Floors shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Soil or similar natural substrate; or</li> <li>b. Concrete covered with soil or similar natural substrate at a minimum depth of 6 inches.</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 2 tree limbs a minimum of 6 feet long with a minimum diameter of 4 inches either placed horizontally or at an angle between 30-degrees and 60-degrees securely attached to the wall; and</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
		b. 1 elevated platform a minimum of 2 feet high and minimum 16 square feet; and c. 1 hide box or sheltered retreat at least 4-feet x 2 feet x 2 feet; and d. At least 2 tooth-resistant items such as fibrous vegetation, wood, bone, or antler. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent overgrown teeth and injury to each animal.]

**(g) Minimum Enclosure Size Requirements for Neonate and Pre-release Conditioning Enclosures and Maximum Number of Animals Per Enclosure; Mammals. Table 7.**

(Length x Width x Height, in feet, unless otherwise indicated)

Order	Animal Type	Neonate	Neonate Max #	Juvenile Pre-Release	Juvenile Max #	Adult Pre-Release	Adult Max #
<b>(1) Carnivora</b>	(A) Badger	2 feet x 1 feet x 1.5 feet	3	16 feet x 10 feet x 6 feet	3	16 feet x 10 feet x 6 feet	1
	(B) Bobcat	2.5 feet x 2 feet x 3 feet	4	24 feet x 16 feet x 8 feet	4	24 feet x 16 feet x 8 feet	1
	(C) Coyote	2.5 feet x 2 feet x 3 feet	6	24 feet x 16 feet x 8 feet	6	24 feet x 16 feet x 8 feet	1
	(D) Fox	2.5 feet x 2 feet x 3 feet	6	16 feet x 10 feet x 6 feet	6	16 feet x 10 feet x 6 feet	1
	(E) Marten	1.5 feet x 1 feet x 1 feet	4	8 feet x 6 feet x 8 feet	4	8 feet x 6 feet x 6 feet	1
	(F) Pacific Fisher	2 feet x 1 feet x 1.5 feet	3	16 feet x 10 feet x 6 feet	3	16 feet x 10 feet x 6 feet	1
	(F) Raccoon	2 feet x 1 feet x 1.5 feet	4	12 feet x 10 feet x 6 feet	4	10 feet x 8 feet x 6 feet	1
	(G) Ringtail	2 feet x 1 feet x 1.5 feet	4	16 feet x 10 feet x 8 feet	4	16 feet x 10 feet x 8 feet	1
	(H) River otter	2 feet x 1 feet x 1.5 feet	3	40 feet x 25 feet x 6 feet	3	40 feet x 25 feet x 6 feet	1
	(I) Skunks	2 feet x 1 feet x 1.5 feet	6	12 feet x 10 feet x 6 feet	6	10 feet x 8 feet x 6 feet	1
	(J) Weasel, Ermine, Mink	1.5 feet x 1 feet x 1 feet	6	8 feet x 6 feet x 6 feet	6	8 feet x 6 feet x 6 feet	1
	(K) Wolverine	2 feet x 1 feet x 1.5 feet	3	36 feet x 20 feet x 8 feet	3	36 feet x 20 feet x 8 feet	1
<b>(2) Chiroptera</b>	(A) Bat	4 inches x 4 inches x 6 inches	6	12 feet x 8 feet x 7 feet	20	12 feet x 8 feet x 7 feet	20
<b>(3) Didelphimorphia</b>	(A) Opossum	1.5 feet x 1 feet x 1 feet	10	8 feet x 4 feet x 8 feet	10	8 feet x 4 feet x 8 feet	1
<b>(4) Eulipotyphla (formerly Insectivora)</b>	(A) Mole, Shrew	1.5 feet x 1 feet x 1 feet	6	2 feet x 2 feet x 2 feet	6	2 feet x 2 feet x 2 feet	1
<b>(5) Lagomorpha</b>	(A) Hare	2 feet x 1 feet x 1 feet	4	20 feet x 20 feet x 6 feet	6	20 feet x 20 feet x 6 feet	1
	(B) Rabbit	1.5 feet x 1 feet x 1 feet	6	8 feet x 4 feet x 6 feet	6	8 feet x 4 feet x 6 feet	1
<b>(6) Rodentia</b>	(A) Chipmunk, Ground squirrel	1.5 feet x 1 feet x 1 feet	6	6 feet x 4 feet x 6 feet	6	6 feet x 4 feet x 6 feet	1
	(B) Flying squirrel	1.5 feet x 1 feet x 1 feet	4	8 feet x 4 feet x 8 feet	4	8 feet x 4 feet x 8 feet	1
	(B) Tree squirrel	2 feet x 1 feet x 1.5 feet	6	4 feet x 4 feet x 8 feet	5	4 feet x 4 feet x 8 feet	1
	(C) Marmot	2 feet x 1 feet x 1.5 feet	6	8 feet x 6 feet x 6 feet	6	8 feet x 6 feet x 6 feet	1
	(D) Muskrat	2 feet x 1 feet x 1 feet	6	6 feet x 4 feet x 6 feet	6	6 feet x 4 feet x 6 feet	1

Order	Animal Type	Neonate	Neonate Max #	Juvenile Pre-Release	Juvenile Max #	Adult Pre-Release	Adult Max #
	(E) Native mouse, rat, vole	1.5 feet x 1 feet x 1 feet	8	4 feet x 2 feet x 2 feet	8	4 feet x 2 feet x 2 feet	1
	(E) Pocket gopher	2 feet x 1 feet x 1 feet	6	4 feet x 3 feet x 6 feet	6	4 feet x 3 feet x 6 feet	1
	(F) North American beaver	2 feet x 1 feet x 1.5 feet	3	40 feet x 25 feet x 6 feet	3	40 feet x 25 feet x 6 feet	1
	(G) North American porcupine	2 feet x 1 feet x 1 feet	1	8 feet x 6 feet x 8 feet	1	8 feet x 6 feet x 6 feet	1

**(h) Bird Requirements**

(1) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, authorized persons, and qualified handlers shall know the distinction between neonate, juvenile, and adult bird species requirements. [Note: This requirement is intended to identify the type of specialized care at each stage of rehabilitation.]

(2) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, authorized persons, and qualified handlers shall classify a fledgling bird as a “juvenile” once it reaches the stage of development whereby it can self-feed and requires no parental care. [Note: This requirement is necessary because a neonate bird that has left the nest on its own, called a fledgling, continues to require parental care for a short period of time often in the form of food provisioning.]

(3) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, authorized persons, and qualified handlers shall adhere to the conditions required to maintain and improve the welfare of any species of waterbird that requires a body of water to feed, hunt, or take flight. [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal of a waterbird species, such as seabirds, wading birds, and waterfowl, to be able to express their natural life history.]

(4) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, and authorized persons shall adhere to the requirements regarding bird enclosures in Tables 8 through 12.

**(i) Pre-release Conditioning Enclosure Requirements; Birds (Excluding Waterbirds). Table 2.**

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
<b>(1) All Birds, excluding waterbirds</b>	(A) All Birds, excluding waterbirds	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Enclosures shall have a double door system to prevent escape and shall be secured at all times unless otherwise specified in these regulations, to prevent ingress or egress by any animal.</li> <li>2. Walls shall be constructed of one of the following:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 9-gauge chain link covered with nylon netting on the interior wall; or</li> <li>b. 0.5-inches by 0.5-inches welded steel wire covered with nylon netting on the interior wall.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Wall material shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 6 feet apart:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 2-inch X 4-inch wood fence post, or</li> <li>b. 2-inch metal fence post.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Walls shall be buried at least 1 foot deep and 1 foot inward at a 90-degree angle. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal ingress by digging.]</li> <li>5. Roof shall be constructed of one of the following:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Wood covering at least ¼ up to 1/2 of the ceiling area; or</li> <li>b. Plastic covering at least ¼ up to 1/2 of the ceiling area; or</li> <li>c. Metal covering at least ¼ up to 1/2 of the ceiling area; and</li> <li>d. Mesh fiberglass netting or similar soft net material covering the remaining ceiling area.</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. Floors shall be constructed of one of the following materials:</li> </ol>

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Pea gravel; or</li> <li>b. non-abrasive sand; or</li> <li>c. Concrete covered with pea gravel or non-abrasive sand at a minimum depth of 3-inches.</li> </ul> <p>7. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. At least 3 static perches constructed of wood or rope with a minimum diameter of 2 inches placed at a minimum height of 5 feet; and</li> <li>b. At least 2 dynamic perches, such as a tree limb, with a minimum diameter of 2 inches placed at a minimum height of 5 feet; and</li> <li>c. 1 shallow pan filled with water, soil, or bathing dust at least 1 inch deep. [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to ingress and egress at will to preen and clean its feathers.]</li> </ul>
<b>(2) Accipitriformes</b>	(A) Turkey Vultures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls shall be covered with soft netting on the interior wall [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent injury to each animal] and constructed of the following material: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Wood; or</li> <li>b. Galvanized metal; or</li> <li>c. Plastic pipe; or</li> <li>d. 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>e. 9-gauge chain link.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Each enclosure shall have a minimum of 3 flat perches at least 1 foot x 3 feet placed at different heights in the enclosure with a minimum height of 6 feet.</li> </ul>
	(B) All Hawks, Northern Harrier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls shall be covered with soft netting on the interior wall [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent injury to each animal] and constructed of the following material: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Wood; or</li> <li>b. Galvanized metal; or</li> <li>c. Plastic pipe; or</li> <li>d. 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>e. 9-gauge chain link.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Each enclosure shall have a minimum of 3 perches of at least 1 inch in diameter and placed at different heights in the enclosure with a minimum height of 4 feet.</li> </ul>
	(C) Osprey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls shall be covered with soft netting on the interior wall [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent injury to each animal] and constructed of the following material: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Wood; or</li> <li>b. Galvanized metal; or</li> <li>a. Plastic pipe; or</li> <li>b. 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>c. 9-gauge chain link.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Roof shall be constructed of one solid material and one semi-solid material from below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Wood; or</li> <li>b. Fiberglass; or</li> <li>c. Similar solid material; and</li> <li>d. 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>e. 11-gauge chain link.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Walls and roof constructed materials from "2" shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced</li> </ul>



Order	Animal Type	Requirements
		<p>no more than 8 feet apart:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch x 4-inch wood fence post; or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter metal fence post.</li> </ul> <p>4. Walls shall be buried at least 1 foot down and 1 foot outward at a 90-degree angle. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent predators or pests from entering the enclosure by digging].</p> <p>5. Floors shall be constructed of either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Natural substrate; or</li> <li>b. Concrete covered with at least 3 inches of soil, sand, pea gravel, or similar natural substrate.</li> </ul> <p>6. Each enclosure shall have one pool at least 4 feet x 4 feet filled with fresh water at least 2 feet deep.</p> <p>7. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. At least 3 perches or tree limbs of various diameters of at least 1.5 inches in diameter placed at different heights.</li> <li>b. A shallow pan constructed of plastic or metal, of at least 4 feet x 4 feet filled with water, soil, or bathing dust and minimum of 6 inches deep and no more than 12 inches deep, or a 4 foot x 4 foot area of soil or bathing dust. [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to preen and clean its feathers.]</li> </ul>
(2) Apodiformes	(A) Hummingbirds	<p>1. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. At least 3 feeding stations placed at varying heights a minimum of 2 feet high. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent injury to each animal.]</li> </ul>
	(B) Swifts	<p>1. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1 vertical hide box of at least 1 foot by 1 foot and 4 feet long, comprised of wood, plastic, or brick, such as a chimney, open-ended on both sides, and placed at a minimum height of 6 feet; and</li> <li>b. At least 2 walls covered with plywood or similar material. [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each animal to cling to the walls at will.]</li> </ul>
(3) Caprimulgiformes	(A) Nighthawks, Nightjars, Poorwills	<p>1. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d. At least 3 wood logs, tree branches, or perch at least 6 inches in diameter placed on the floor; and</li> <li>e. At least 4 live native shrubs or similar vegetation.</li> </ul> <p>2. Floors shall be covered with soil, leaf litter, or similar natural substrate at least 4 inches deep.</p>
(4) Cuculiformes	(A) Roadrunners	<p>1. Each enclosure shall have at least 2 of the following enrichment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. At least 1 wood log or wood stump placed on the floor; and</li> <li>b. At least 1 stationary perch placed at least 2 feet high; and</li> <li>c. 2 shrubs, bushes, or similar vegetation. [Note: This requirement is intended to provide a visual barrier for each animal to fully hide behind at will.]</li> </ul>
(5) Falconiformes	(A) American Kestrel, Merlin, Kite	<p>1. Walls shall be covered with soft netting on the interior wall [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent injury to each animal] and constructed of the following material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Wood; or</li> <li>b. Galvanized metal; or</li> <li>c. 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>d. 9-gauge chain link.</li> </ul> <p>2. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. A minimum of 3 perches placed at different heights; and</li> <li>b. At least 1 hide box or sheltered retreat with minimum dimensions of 6 inches x 6 inches x 6 inches (L x W x H) constructed of wood, plastic, or similar material, placed a minimum of 4 feet high [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each animal to be fully hidden and ingress and egress at will].</li> </ul>

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
<b>(6) Passeriformes</b>	(A) Corvids [Note: This includes, crows, ravens, jays, magpies.]	1. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1 static perch of at least 0.5-inch diameter; and</li> <li>b. At least 2 wood logs or stumps of various diameter a minimum of 6 inches diameter; and</li> <li>c. At least 1 dynamic perch, such as a wood branch, a minimum length of 2 feet and at least 0.5-inch diameter secured from the ceiling; and</li> <li>d. 1 open plastic pool or similar “dig box” at least 4 feet by 2 feet filled with mulch or bark mixed with 2-inch minimum diameter rocks.</li> </ul>
	(B) Shrikes	1. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. At least 2 perches of various diameters placed at a minimum height of 4 feet; and</li> <li>b. At least 2 wood branches with thorns or similar spiked surface. [Note: This requirement is intended to allow for each animal to impale or cache their food.]</li> </ul>
	(C) Swallows	1. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. At least 2 static wood perches of various diameters placed at a minimum height of 4 feet at the end of each enclosure; and</li> <li>b. 1 dynamic perch comprised of nylon rope or similar material, at least 10 feet in length. placed at a minimum height of 6 feet at the sheltered end of the enclosure [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each animal to roost at will.]</li> </ul>
	(D) Bushtits	1. Each enclosure shall have at least one tree limb or trunk with multiple branches of varying diameter to allow each animal to perch.
	(E) Quail	1. Each enclosure shall have at least one piece of shrub or vegetation. [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to be fully hidden and ingress and egress at will]
<b>(7) Piciformes</b>	(A) Woodpeckers	1. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. At least 6 wood logs a minimum of 6 inches in diameter placed vertically at a minimum height of 5 feet; and</li> <li>b. at least 1 sheltered retreat. [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each animal to be fully hidden and ingress and egress at will.]</li> </ul>
<b>(8) Strigiformes</b>	(A) All Owls	1. Walls shall be covered with soft netting on the interior wall [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent injury to each animal] and constructed of the following material: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Wood; or</li> <li>b. Galvanized metal; or</li> <li>c. 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>d. 9-gauge chain link.</li> </ul> 2. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. At least 2 perches with a minimum dimension of 1 inch placed at minimum height of 4 feet.</li> <li>b. At least 2 hides or sheltered retreats with a minimum dimension of 1 foot x 1 foot x 1 foot (increase size as needed for larger birds) and placed at a minimum height of 5 feet.</li> </ul>
	(B) Burrowing owls	1. Each enclosure shall have at least 2 hide boxes or sheltered retreats constructed of wood, plastic, or similar material, at least 3 feet long, placed on the ground [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each animal to be fully hidden and ingress and egress at will].

**(j) Minimum Enclosure Size Requirements for Neonate and Pre-release Conditioning Enclosures and Maximum Number of Animals Per Enclosure; Birds (Notwithstanding Waterbirds). Table 9.**

(Length x Width x Height)

Order	Animal Type	Neonate <sup>1</sup>	Max # <sup>1</sup>	Juvenile <sup>2</sup>	Max # <sup>2</sup>	Adult <sup>3</sup>	Max # <sup>3</sup>
<b>(1) Accipitriformes</b>	(A) Turkey Vultures	3 feet x 3 feet x 3 feet	1	100 feet x 16 feet x 16 feet	6	100 feet x 20 feet x 16 feet	6
	(B) Northern Harrier	2 feet x 1.5 feet x 2 feet	1	50 feet x 12 feet x 12 feet	4	50 feet x 12 feet x 12 feet	1
	(C) Swainson's Hawk, Ferruginous Hawk	3 feet x 3 feet x 3 feet	1	50 feet x 12 feet x 12 feet	6	50 feet x 12 feet x 12 feet	6
	(D) Sharp-shinned Hawk	2 feet x 1.5 feet x 1.5 feet	1	16 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	1	16 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	1
	(E) Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk	2 feet x 1.5 feet x 2 feet	1	30 feet x 12 feet x 12 feet	4	30 feet x 12 feet x 12 feet	4
	(F) Harris', Rough-legged, Red-tailed Hawk	2 feet x 1.5 feet x 2 feet	1	50 feet x 12 feet x 12 feet	3	50 feet x 12 feet x 12 feet	3
	(G) Osprey	3 feet x 3 feet x 3 feet	3	100 feet x 16 feet x 16 feet	4	100 feet x 16 feet x 16 feet	4
<b>(2) Apodiformes</b>	(A) Swifts	4 inches W x 2 in H	8	16 feet x 16 feet x 8 feet	12	16 feet x 16 feet x 8 feet	12
	(B) Hummingbirds	3 inches W x 2 inches H	2	4 feet x 2 feet x 6 feet	6	4 feet x 4 feet x 8 feet	4
<b>(3) Caprimulgiformes</b>	(A) Nighthawks, Nightjars, Poorwills	6 inches x 8 inches x 8 inches	4	12 feet x 16 feet x 8 feet	4	12 feet x 16 feet x 8 feet	4
<b>(4) Columbiformes</b>	(A) Dove, Pigeon	6 inches W x 3 inches H	3	16 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	10	16 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	10
<b>(5) Cuculiformes</b>	(A) Roadrunners	1.5 feet x 1.5 feet x 1.5 feet	3	16 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	8	16 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	6
<b>(6) Falconiformes</b>	(A) Merlin	2 feet x 1.5 feet x 1.5 feet	1	16 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	4	50 feet x 10 feet x 12 feet	3
	(B) Kites	2 feet x 1.5 feet x 1.5 feet	4	30 feet x 10 feet x 12 feet	6	30 feet x 10 feet x 12 feet	6
	(C) American Kestrel	2 feet x 1.5 feet x 1.5 feet		16 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	4	16 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	2
<b>(7) Passeriformes</b>	(A) Species less than 6 inches (unless otherwise listed)	4 inches W x 2 inches H	6	8 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	6	8 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	6
	(B) Species greater than 6 inches (unless otherwise listed)	6 inches W x 3 inches H	4	16 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	4	16 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	4
	(C) Swallows	4 inches W x 2 inches H	5	16 feet x 16 feet x 8 feet	12	16 feet x 12 feet x 8 feet	12
	(D) Bushtits	4 inches W x 2 inches H	6	4 feet x 4 feet x 8 feet	10	4 feet x 4 feet x 8 feet	10
	(E) Quail	1.5 feet x 1.5 feet x 1.5 feet	12	8 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	12	8 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	4
	(F) Sage Grouse	1.5 feet x 1.5 feet x 1.5 feet	8	12 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	8	12 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	4
	(G) Jays, Magpies	6 inches W x 3 inches H	4	16 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	8	16 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	6
	(H) Crows, Ravens	10 inches W x 5 inches H	4	20 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	6	20 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	6
<b>(8) Piciformes</b>	(A) Woodpecker species less than 12 inches	6 inches W x 4 inches H	4	8 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	4	8 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	4
	(B) Woodpecker species greater than 12 inches	8 inches W x 6 inches H	4	16 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	4	16 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	4
<b>(9) Strigiformes</b>	(A) Burrowing owl, Flammulated owl, Northern pygmy owl, Northern saw-whet, Western screech owl	1.5 feet x 1 feet x 1.5 feet	1	16 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	5	16 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	5
	(B) Barn owl, Long eared owl, Short eared owl	2 feet x 1.5 feet x 2 feet	1	30 feet x 10 feet x 12 feet	8	30 feet x 10 feet x 12 feet	8
	(C) Great horned, Spotted owl	2 feet x 1.5 feet x 2 feet	1	50 feet x 10 feet x 12 feet	6	50 feet x 10 feet x 12 feet	6

**(k) Pre-release Conditioning Enclosure Requirements; Waterbirds. Table 10.**

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
<b>(1) All Waterbirds</b>	(A) All Waterbirds, unless otherwise indicated	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls shall be constructed of one of the following materials [Note: This requirement is to provide visual barrier to each animal and prevent feather damage or injury]:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Pressure-treated or composite wood; or</li> <li>b. Metal; or</li> <li>c. Plastic pipe such as conduit pipe or polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe; or</li> <li>d. 0.5-inch by 0.5-inch welded steel wire; or</li> <li>e. 11-gauge chain link with interior wall covered with soft netting or shade cloth.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Roof shall be covered by netting or similar non-opaque (transparent) material [Note: This requirement is intended to provide each animal exposure to natural light].</li> <li>3. Wall and roof material shall be affixed to posts consisting of one of the following materials and spaced no more than 8 feet apart:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch X 4-inch wood fence post; or</li> <li>b. 2-inch metal fence post.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Walls shall be buried at least 1 foot deep and 1 foot inward at a 90-degree angle [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal ingress by digging].</li> <li>5. Floor shall be covered with one of the following materials, notwithstanding an enclosure comprised of a pool-only:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Soil; or</li> <li>b. Non-abrasive sand; or</li> <li>c. River rock or similar smooth flat rocks; or</li> <li>d. Anti-fatigue or similar matting.</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. Pool shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Galvanized metal; or</li> <li>b. Fiberglass; or</li> <li>c. Concrete; or</li> <li>d. A polyethylene stock tank.</li> </ol> </li> <li>7. Water quality of each pool shall be maintained by either [Note: This requirement is necessary to ensure each animal has access to water quality sufficient to maintain health, ensure plumage integrity prior to release, and perform natural history activities]:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Filtration and recirculation system combined with surface overflow and siphoning of sunken debris; or</li> <li>b. Running fresh water into the pool combined with surface overflow and siphoning of sunken debris; or</li> <li>c. Completely changing the water when soiled, notwithstanding the special needs of obligate pool birds.</li> </ol> </li> <li>8. Each enclosure shall have at least 2 flat surface perches a minimum of 1 foot x 1 foot, commonly called a “net-bottom insert”, placed outside of the pool and elevated off the floor constructed of knotless netting with a mesh size of 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch stretched across plastic pipe with a 0.75-inch minimum diameter [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each waterbird to perch, at will. This allows for increased air flow, reduces the risk of plumage damage or contamination, and prevents injury to each animal].</li> </ol>
<b>(2) Anseriformes</b>	(A) Dabbling duck	1. Each enclosure shall have at least 2 hides such as artificial or live emergent aquatic vegetation or shrubs [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each animal to be fully hidden from view at will].
	(B) Native geese, native swan	1. Each enclosure shall have at least 2 hides such as artificial or live emergent aquatic vegetation or shrubs [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each animal to be fully hidden from view at will].

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
	(C) Diving duck, Stiff-tailed duck, Merganser	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Each enclosure shall be comprised of a pool-only with no land area [Note: This requirement is necessary to protect the welfare of this subset of obligate waterbirds that have rehabilitation needs that differ from other waterbirds.]</li> <li>2. Pool roof and wall support shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1-inch polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe; or</li> <li>b. 1-inch galvanized metal pipe.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Pool roof shall be covered of either [Note: this requirement is intended to create a structure that completely surrounds the pool and prevents animal ingress or egress from the pool at will]:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Shade cloth; or</li> <li>b. Soft, knotless netting.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<b>(3)</b> <b>Charadriiformes</b>	(A) Alcid	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Each enclosure shall be comprised of a pool-only with no land area [Note: This requirement is necessary to protect the welfare of this subset of obligate waterbirds that have rehabilitation needs that differ from other waterbirds.]</li> <li>2. Pool roof and wall support shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1-inch polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe; or</li> <li>b. 1-inch galvanized metal pipe.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Pool roof shall be covered of either [Note: this requirement is intended to create a structure that completely surrounds the pool and prevents animal ingress or egress from the pool at will]:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Shade cloth; or</li> <li>b. Soft, knotless netting.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
	(B) Gull, Tern, Jaeger, Skuas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Each enclosure shall have a minimum of 4 flat perching platforms at least 1-foot by 2-foot placed at various heights a minimum of 1-feet above the ground [Note: This requirement is to encourage flight exercise and ensure each waterbird has appropriate perching surfaces to prevent injury to sensitive feet].</li> </ol>
	(C) Red phalarope, Red-necked phalarope	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Each enclosure shall be comprised of a pool-only with no land area [Note: This requirement is necessary to protect the welfare of this subset of obligate waterbirds that have rehabilitation needs that differ from other waterbirds.]</li> <li>2. Pool roof and wall support shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1-inch polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe; or</li> <li>b. 1-inch galvanized metal pipe.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Pool roof shall be covered of either [Note: this requirement is intended to create a structure that completely surrounds the pool and prevents animal ingress or egress from the pool at will]:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Shade cloth; or</li> <li>b. Soft, knotless netting.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Each pool enclosure shall have at least 2 floating flat surfaces a minimum of 1 foot x 1 foot constructed of plastic or similar smooth surface material [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each waterbird to ingress and egress from the water surface to rest at will for the purpose of feeding or resting.].</li> </ol>
	(D) Sandpiper, Plover, Skimmer, Oystercatcher, Wilson's phalarope	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Each enclosure shall have at least one shallow wading pool filled with clean water [Note: This requirement allows rehabilitation animals to maintain clean, waterproof plumage and avoid bathing in their food dishes].</li> </ol>

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
<b>(4) Coraciiformes</b>	(A) Kingfisher	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Floors shall be covered with large flat rocks with a minimum dimension of 1 foot by 1 foot.</li> <li>2. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. At least 2 logs a minimum of 3 feet long and a minimum diameter of 4 inches placed vertically at various heights a minimum of 4 feet above the ground; and</li> <li>b. At least 2 flat perches, such as shelves, at least 2-feet by 6 inches placed at a minimum height of 4 feet above the ground; and</li> <li>c. At least one shallow wading pool filled with water [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each animal to bathe and maintain waterproof plumage].</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<b>(5) Gaviformes</b>	(A) Loon	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Each enclosure shall be comprised of a pool-only with no land area [Note: This requirement is necessary to protect the welfare of this subset of obligate waterbirds that have rehabilitation needs that differ from other waterbirds].</li> <li>2. Pool roof and wall support shall be constructed of either: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1-inch polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe; or</li> <li>b. 1-inch metal galvanized pipe.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Pool roof shall be covered of either [Note: this requirement is intended to create a structure that completely surrounds the pool and prevents animal ingress or egress from the pool at will]: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Shade cloth; or</li> <li>b. Soft, knotless netting.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<b>(6) Gruiformes</b>	(A) Coot	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Each enclosure shall have a pool [Note: This requirement ensures these species have access to clean water for bathing, swimming, and exercise]; and</li> <li>b. A minimum of 2 flat perching platforms 1-foot by 2-feet placed at various heights placed a minimum of 4 feet above the ground [Note: This requirement is to encourage flight exercise and ensures these species have access to clean water for bathing and exercise and appropriate perching surfaces to prevent injury to sensitive feet]; and</li> <li>c. At least 2 hides of emergent vegetation or shrubs [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each animal to be fully hidden at will].</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
	(B) Crane	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls shall be constructed of one of the following materials [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent injury as a result of any animal getting stuck in fencing with larger gaps]: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1-inch x 0.5-inch coated wire mesh; or</li> <li>b. 1-inch x 0.5-inch hardware cloth.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Walls shall have a minimum of the lower 6 feet constructed of either [Note: This requirement serves to prevent animal injury due to a tendency to run into non-opaque walls when startled or performing natural jumping behaviors]: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Wood; or</li> <li>b. Fiberglass (or similar opaque material).</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Each enclosure shall have at least one shallow wading pool with clean water for bathing. [Note: This requirement allows rehabilitation animals to maintain clean, waterproof plumage.]</li> </ol>
	(C) Rails	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Each enclosure shall have at least one shallow wading pool with clean water for bathing. [Note: This requirement allows rehabilitation animals to perform natural history behaviors and maintain clean, waterproof plumage.]</li> </ol>
<b>(7) Pelecaniformes</b>	(A) Bittern Egret Heron Ibis Stork	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. At least one shallow wading pool [Note: This requirement ensures these species have access to clean water for bathing and exercise.]; and</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
	(B) Pelicans	<p>b. At least 3 wood perches at least 2-inches in diameters placed at various heights with a minimum height of 4 feet height [Note: This requirement ensures varied perching surfaces to prevent injury to sensitive feet plus encourages flight.]</p> <p>1. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:</p> <p>a. A minimum 2 perches with a minimum diameter of 2 inches covered with textured material and a minimum of 6 feet high (e.g., artificial grass) [Note: This requirement encourages athletic flight for these very large birds]; and</p> <p>b. A minimum of 2 ground-level stump or stump-like perches with a minimum diameter of 6 inches and a minimum of 18 inches tall enough to avoid feather breakage and soiling [Note: This requirement allows pelicans to perch off the ground when eating or resting at ground level]; and</p> <p>2. Pool edges shall be covered with textured material such as rubber tire tread, anti-fatigue matting, or artificial grass [Note: This requirement is to prevent foot injuries from developing in care].</p>
<b>(8)</b> <b>Podicipediformes</b>	(A) Grebes	<p>1. Each enclosure shall be comprised of a pool-only with no land area [Note: This requirement is necessary to protect the welfare of this subset of obligate waterbirds that have rehabilitation needs that differ from other waterbirds].</p> <p>2. Pool roof and wall support shall be constructed of either:</p> <p>a. 1-inch polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe; or</p> <p>b. 1-inch metal galvanized pipe.</p> <p>3. Pool roof shall be covered of either [Note: this requirement is intended to create a structure that completely surrounds the pool and prevents animal ingress or egress from the pool at will]:</p> <p>a. Shade cloth; or</p> <p>b. Soft, knotless netting.</p> <p>4. Pied-billed grebe enclosure shall have the following enrichment:</p> <p>a. At least 2 hides or sheltered retreats of emergent aquatic vegetation [Note: this requirement is necessary because the species requires additional visual barriers to reduce stress].</p>
<b>(9)</b> <b>Procellariiformes</b>	(A) Albatross	<p>1. Each enclosure shall be comprised of a pool-only with no land area [Note: This requirement is necessary to protect the welfare of this subset of obligate waterbirds that have rehabilitation needs that differ from other waterbirds.]</p> <p>2. Pool roof and wall support shall be constructed of either:</p> <p>a. 1-inch polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe; or</p> <p>b. 1-inch metal galvanized pipe.</p> <p>3. Pool roof shall be covered of either [Note: this requirement is intended to create a structure that completely surrounds the pool and prevents animal ingress or egress from the pool at will]:</p> <p>a. Shade cloth; or</p> <p>b. Soft, knotless netting.</p>
	(B) Fulmar, Petrel, Shearwaters	<p>1. Each enclosure shall be comprised of a pool-only with no land area [Note: This requirement is necessary to protect the welfare of this subset of obligate waterbirds that have rehabilitation needs that differ from other waterbirds.]</p> <p>2. Pool roof and wall support shall be constructed of either:</p> <p>a. 1-inch polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe; or</p> <p>b. 1-inch metal galvanized pipe.</p> <p>3. Pool roof shall be covered of either [Note: this requirement is intended to create a structure that completely surrounds the pool and prevents animal ingress or egress from the pool at will]:</p> <p>a. Shade cloth; or</p> <p>b. Soft, knotless netting.</p>



Order	Animal Type	Requirements
(10) Suliformes	(A) Boobies Cormorants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each enclosure shall have at least one pool for swimming and bathing. [Note: This requirement ensures birds have access to clean water for bathing and exercise.]</li> <li>Pool edges shall be covered with anti-fatigue mats, rubber tire tread, or similar textured material. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent each animal from developing foot injuries.]</li> <li>Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A minimum of 2 perches with a minimum diameter of 1-inch and covered with anti-fatigue mats, or similar rubber mat material, or artificial grass; and</li> <li>Perches shall be elevated at varying heights with a minimum height of 4 feet; and</li> <li>A minimum of 2 ground-level stump or stump-like perches with a minimum of 6 inches in diameter and at least 1 foot tall placed on the floor [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each animal to perch off the ground when eating or resting at ground level].</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

**(I) Minimum Size Requirements for Neonate and Pre-release Conditioning Enclosures and Maximum Number of Animals Per Enclosure; Waterbirds.**

**Table 11.**

(Length x Width x Height).

Adapted from: *Tables 10.3a and c Minimum Housing Size Guidelines for Waterbirds*, pages 158-163. Miller, E. A., and J. Schlieps, editors. 2021. *Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation*. National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association: Bloomington, MN.

Order	Animal Type	Neonate <sup>1</sup>	Max # <sup>1</sup>	Juvenile <sup>2</sup>	Max # <sup>2</sup>	Adult <sup>3</sup>	Max # <sup>3</sup>
(1) Anseriformes	(A) Dabbling duck	20 inches x 10 inches x 10 inches	8	10 feet x 6 feet x 8 feet	6	10 feet x 6 feet x 8 feet	6
	(B) Diving duck, Merganser, Stiff-tailed duck	10 inches x 10 inches x 10 inches	4	Pool Only	4	Pool Only	4
	(C) Native geese	19 inches x 14 inches x 14 inches	4	18 feet x 10 feet x 8 feet	6	18 feet x 10 feet x 8 feet	6
	(D) Native swan	19 inches x 14 inches x 14 inches	2	20 feet x 12 feet x 8 feet	3	20 feet x 12 feet x 8 feet	3
(2) Charadriiformes	(A) Alcids	10 inches x 10 inches x 10 inches	3	Pool Only	4	Pool Only	4
	(B) Gull, Tern (species less than 14 inches)	1 foot x 15 inches x 1.5 feet	6	4 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	6	4 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	6
	(C) Gull (species greater than 14 inches), Jaeger, Skua	18 inches x 18 inches x 18 inches	2	16 feet x 8 feet x 10 feet	4	16 feet x 8 feet x 10 feet	4
	(D) Red Phalarope, Red-necked Phalarope	1 foot x 1 foot x 1 foot	4	4 feet x 6 feet x 6 feet	6	Pool Only	5
	(E) Plover, Sandpiper, shorebird species less than 10 inches (unless otherwise listed)	1 foot x 1 foot x 1 foot	4	6 feet x 4 feet x 6 feet	6	6 feet x 4 feet x 6 feet	6
	(F) Shorebird species greater than 10 inches (unless otherwise listed)	1 foot x 1 foot x 1.5 feet	4	6 feet x 4 feet x 6 feet	6	8 feet x 4 feet x 8 feet	6
	(G) Tern, oystercatcher, skimmer, Wilson's Phalaropes (species greater than 14 inches)	2 feet x 1 foot x 1.5 feet	3	16 feet x 10 feet x 8 feet	6	16 feet x 10 feet x 8 feet	6
(3) Coraciiformes	(A) Kingfishers	3 inches x 3 inches	1	16 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	8	16 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	4
(4) Gaviiformes	(A) Loons	4 feet x 29 inches x 22 in	2	Pool Only	4	Pool Only	2

Order	Animal Type	Neonate <sup>1</sup>	Max # <sup>1</sup>	Juvenile <sup>2</sup>	Max # <sup>2</sup>	Adult <sup>3</sup>	Max # <sup>3</sup>
<b>(5) Gruiformes</b>	(A) Coots	10 inches x 10 inches x 10 inches	6	6 feet x 10 feet x 8 feet	4	6 feet x 10 feet x 8 feet	4
	(B) Cranes	2 feet x 2 feet x 2 feet	1	10 feet x 25 feet x 10 feet	4	10 feet x 25 feet x 10 feet	4
	(C) Rail species less than 10 inches	1 foot x 1 foot x 1 foot	2	4 feet x 6 feet x 3 feet	4	4 feet x 6 feet x 6 feet	3
	(D) Rail species greater than 10 inches	1 foot x 1.5 feet x 1.5 feet	2	4 feet x 8 feet x 4 feet	2	4 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	4
<b>(6) Pelecaniformes</b>	(A) Bittern, Egret, Heron, Ibis, Stork, (species less than 20 inches)	1 foot x 1 foot x 1 foot	4	4 feet x 12 feet x 8 feet	4	4 feet x 12 feet x 8 feet	4
	(B) Bittern, Egret, Heron, Ibis, Stork, (species Greater than 20 inches)	2 feet x 1 foot x 1 foot	3	10 feet x 25 feet x 10 feet	4	10 feet x 25 feet x 10 feet	2
	(C) Frigatebird	2 feet x 1 foot x 1 foot	3	12 feet x 30 feet x 12 feet	1	12 feet x 30 feet x 12 feet	1
	(D) Pelican, Brown	1.5 feet x 1.5 feet x 1.5 feet	3	12 feet x 30 feet x 10 feet	4	12 feet x 30 feet x 10 feet	6
	(E) Pelican, White	1.5 feet x 1.5 feet x 1.5 feet	3	12 feet x 30 feet x 10 feet	6	12 feet x 30 feet x 10 feet	4
<b>(7) Podicipediformes</b>	(A) Grebes	10 inches x 10 inches x 10 inches	6	Pool Only	4	Pool Only	4
<b>(8) Procellariiformes</b>	(A) Albatross	40 inches x 27 inches x 30 inches	1	15 feet x 30 feet x 12 feet	3	Pool Only	2
	(B) Fulmars, Storm Petrels	17 inches x 11 inches x 11 inches	1	Pool Only	4	Pool Only	5
	(C) Petrel species, Shearwaters (unless otherwise indicated)	17 inches x 11 inches x 11 inches	1	Pool Only	4	Pool Only	5
<b>(9) Suliformes</b>	(A) Boobies, Cormorants	1.5 feet x 1.5 feet x 1.5 feet	1	10 feet x 20 feet x 8 feet	1	20 feet x 10 feet x 8 feet	1

**(m) Minimum Size Requirements for Pre-release Conditioning Pools; Waterbirds. Table 12.**

(Pool diameter x depth included as part of total minimum enclosure size).

Order	Animal Type	Juvenile <sup>2</sup> Pool	Adult <sup>3</sup> Pool
<b>(1) Anseriformes</b>	(A) Dabbling Ducks	4 feet x 1.5 feet	4 feet x 1.5 feet
	(B) Diving Ducks	6 feet x 2 feet	6 feet x 2 feet
	(C) Native geese	6 feet x 3 feet	6 feet x 3 feet
	(D) Native swan	8 feet x 3 feet	8 feet x 3 feet
<b>(2) Charadriiformes</b>	(A) Alcids	4 feet x 2 feet	4 feet x 2 feet
	(B) Gulls, Jaegers, Oystercatchers, Skimmers, Skuas, Terns (species less than 14 inches)	4 feet x 1 foot	4 feet x 1 foot
	(C) Gulls, Jaegers, Oystercatchers, Skimmers, Skuas, Terns (species greater than 14 inches)	4 feet x 1 foot	4 feet x 1 foot
	(D) Red Phalarope, Red-necked Phalarope	3 feet x 1 inch	4 feet x 6 inches
	(E) Plover, Sandpiper, Shorebirds (species less than 10 inches)	3 feet x 1 inch	3 feet x 1 inch
	(F) Plover, Sandpiper, Shorebirds (species greater than 10 inches)	3 feet x 2 inches	3 feet x 2 inches
<b>(3) Coraciiformes</b>	(A) Kingfishers	4 feet x 6 inches	4 feet x 6 inches
<b>(4) Gaviiformes</b>	(A) Loons	8 feet x 3 feet	8 feet x 3 feet
<b>(5) Gruiformes</b>	(A) Cranes	4 feet x 4 inches	4 feet x 4 inches
	(B) Rails (species less than 10 inches)	3 feet x 3 inches	3 feet x 3 inches
	(C) Rails (species greater than 10 inches)	4 feet x 8 inches	4 feet x 8 inches
	(D) Coots	4 feet x 1.5 feet	4 feet x 1.5 feet

Order	Animal Type	Juvenile <sup>2</sup> Pool	Adult <sup>3</sup> Pool
<b>(6) Pelecaniformes</b>	(A) Bittern, Egret, Heron, Ibis, Stork (species less than 20 inches)	2 feet x 6 inches	2 feet x 6 inches
	(B) Bittern, Egret, Heron, Ibis, Stork (species greater than 20 inches)	2 feet x 6 inches	2 feet x 6 inches
	(C) Frigatebird	No Pool	No Pool
	(A) Pelican, Brown	10 feet x 2 feet	10 feet x 2 feet
	(B) Pelican, White	10 feet x 2 feet	10 feet x 2 feet
<b>(7) Podicipediformes</b>	(A) Grebes	6 feet x 3 feet	6 feet x 3 feet
<b>(8) Procellariiformes</b>	(A) Albatross	10 feet x 3 feet	10 feet x 1.5 feet
	(B) Fulmars, Storm Petrels	6 feet x 2 feet	4 feet x 1 foot
	(C) Petrel species, Shearwaters (unless otherwise indicated)	6 feet x 3 feet	6 feet x 3 feet
<b>(9) Suliformes</b>	(A) Boobies, Cormorants	8 feet x 2 feet	8 feet x 2 feet

### (n) Specialty Rehabilitation Animal Requirements

(1) A permittee, their designee, or sub-permittee if applicable, may rehabilitate a species or taxa classified as a “specialty rehabilitation animal” only under specific authorization from the department pursuant to these regulations: large carnivore (black bear, mountain lion), ungulate (deer, elk, bighorn, pronghorn), venomous snakes, bald eagle, golden eagle, prairie falcon, peregrine falcon.

(2) Each specialty rehabilitation animal enclosure shall have a double-door entry system that is secured at all times. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape, or ingress of the enclosure by any other animal or non-authorized person.]

(3) A specialty rehabilitation animal enclosure shall have a method to view the animals from outside the enclosure without opening the door, such as a viewing window, remote camera, or live video feed. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent habituation or mal-imprinting of a specialty rehabilitation animal.]

### (o) Specialty Rehabilitation Animal Enclosure Requirements for Pre-release Conditioning. Table 13.

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
<b>(1) Accipitriformes</b>	<b>(A) Bald Eagle, Golden Eagle</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls shall be constructed of one or a combination of the following materials: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Wood; or</li> <li>b. Plastic; or</li> <li>c. 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch welded steel wire covered with soft netting or hardware cloth on the interior wall [Note: This requirement is intended to provide visual barrier to prevent animal injury].</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Roof shall be constructed in the following manner: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Wood, fiberglass, or similar solid materials covering at least 1/3 up to 1/2 the total ceiling area; and</li> <li>b. 11-gauge chain link or 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch welded steel wire shall cover the remaining portion of the ceiling.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Wall and roof material shall be affixed to one of the following materials: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch x 4-inch wood fence posts, or</li> <li>b. 2-inch galvanized metal fence posts.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Walls constructed of 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch welded steel wire shall be buried at least 1 foot down and 1 foot outward at a 90-degree angle. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent predator ingress at will.]</li> <li>5. Floor shall be constructed of either: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Soil; or</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Non-abrasive sand; or</li> <li>c. Pea gravel; or</li> <li>d. Concrete covered with soil, non-abrasive sand, or pea gravel at least 3 inches deep.</li> </ul> <p>6. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. At least 2 perches or tree limbs of various diameters of at least 1.5 inches in diameter placed at different heights (minimum of 4 feet high); and</li> <li>b. 1 shallow pan constructed of plastic or metal, of at least 4 feet x 4 feet filled with water, soil, or bathing dust and minimum of 6 inches deep; or</li> <li>c. At least 16 square feet of floor space covered with at least 6 inches of soil or bathing dust. [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to preen and clean its feathers.]</li> </ul>
<b>(2)</b> <b>Artiodactyla</b>	<b>(A) Deer,</b> <b>Bighorn, Elk,</b> <b>Pronghorn</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls shall be constructed of one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Solid wood or metal panels; or</li> <li>b. 11-gauge chain link covered internally with woven wire mesh or shade cloth; or</li> <li>c. Bottom half constructed of solid wood or metal panels and top half constructed of 11-gauge chain link covered internally with woven wire mesh or shade cloth; and</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Top of walls shall have an external 3-foot kick back at an angle between 30-degrees and 60-degrees [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent predatory animals from entering the enclosure] and constructed of either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. galvanized steel panels; or</li> <li>b. polyvinyl chloride panels; or</li> <li>c. fiberglass panels; or</li> <li>d. barbed wire; and/or</li> <li>e. electric fencing.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Walls materials shall be affixed to fence posts that shall be constructed of one of the following and spaced at least 6 feet apart and no more than 12 feet apart: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 4-inch X 4-inch wood fence post; or</li> <li>b. 2-inch diameter galvanized steel.</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Floor shall be constructed of one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. soil or similar natural substrate; or</li> <li>b. concrete covered with mulch, soil, or other natural substrate at least 6 inches deep.</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. If natural shelter is unavailable within the enclosure, then a shelter of at least 100 square feet shall be constructed of wood or metal panels with a minimum of 2 walls and a roof [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each animal to fully ingress and egress at will].</li> </ul>
<b>(3) Carnivora</b>	<b>(A) American</b> <b>Black Bear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls shall be constructed in the following manner: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Vertical galvanized steel posts a minimum of 2 inches in diameter spaced no more than 8 feet apart;</li> <li>b. Horizontal galvanized bottom perimeter steel post a minimum of 2 inches in diameter no more than 3 inches above the ground;</li> <li>c. 9-gauge wire shall be affixed to the vertical and horizontal steel posts and will extend below grade buried at least 18 inches downward, and 18 inches inward at a 90-degree angle [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging].</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Each enclosure shall be secured in one of the following manners [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by climbing.], either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. A fully enclosed roof constructed of 9-gauge wire with horizontal beams of galvanized steel posts at least 2 inches in diameter, spaced no more than 8 feet apart, and attached to walls; or</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Walls constructed with an internal 3-foot kick back at an angle between 30-degrees and 60-degrees constructed of galvanized steel panels, or polyvinyl chloride panels, or fiberglass panels. The 3-foot kick back shall barbed wire or electric fencing affixed to the panels.</li> <li>3. Floor shall be constructed in one of the following manners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Outside enclosures shall have soil, pea gravel, or similar natural substrate; and</li> <li>b. Inside enclosure shall be constructed of concrete.</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Each enclosure shall have one den, at least 6 feet x 6 feet x 6 feet, with a lockable ground-level guillotine door [Note: This requirement is intended to allow for the safe capture, confinement, and transfer of each animal in a crate to and from the enclosure.] that shall be constructed of either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Concrete; or</li> <li>b. Cinder blocks.</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. At least 3 tree limbs at least 6 feet long and 12 inches in diameter securely attached horizontally or vertically.</li> <li>b. A pool constructed of metal, concrete, or high-density polyethylene plastic that is at least 3 feet x 3 feet and filled with clean water at least 1 foot deep.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<b>(B) Mountain Lions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls shall be constructed in the following manner: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Vertical galvanized steel posts a minimum of 2 inches in diameter spaced no more than 8 feet apart;</li> <li>b. Horizontal galvanized bottom perimeter steel post a minimum of 2 inches in diameter no more than 3 inches above the ground;</li> <li>c. 9-gauge wire shall be affixed to the vertical and horizontal steel posts and will extend below grade buried at least 18 inches downward, and 18 inches inward at a 90-degree angle [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent animal escape by digging].</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Roof shall be fully enclosed and constructed of 9-gauge wire, with 2-inch galvanized steel cross beams spaced no more than 10 feet apart and attached to walls.</li> <li>3. Floor shall be constructed in one of the following manners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Outside enclosures shall have soil, pea gravel, or other natural substrate; and</li> <li>b. Inside enclosures shall be constructed of concrete.</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Each enclosure shall have one den, at least 6 feet x 6 feet x 6 feet, with a lockable ground-level guillotine door [Note: This requirement is intended to provide transport crate access to safely capture, confine, and transfer each animal to and from the enclosure.] that shall be constructed of either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Concrete; or</li> <li>b. Cinder blocks.</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. At least 3 wood beams or tree limbs at least 6 feet long and 5 inches wide securely attached horizontally or at an angle between 30-degrees and 60-degrees [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each animal to climb and scratch]; and</li> <li>b. 1 elevated platform at least 4 feet by 8 feet, and at least 2 feet above the ground and no more than 5 feet above the ground. At least two sides of the elevated platform shall have a visual barrier constructed of vegetation, wood, or similar material; and</li> <li>c. Vegetation at least 3 feet high, such as bushes or shrubs, covering a minimum area of 6 feet x 6 feet of the enclosure [Note: This requirement is intended to allow each animal to be fully hidden at will and to express its natural behaviors such as to cache food.]</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Order	Animal Type	Requirements
<b>(4)</b> <b>Falconiformes</b>	<b>(B) Peregrine Falcon, Prairie Falcon</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls shall be constructed of one or a combination of the following materials:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d. Wood; or</li> <li>e. Plastic; or</li> <li>f. 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch welded steel wire covered with soft netting or hardware cloth on the interior wall [Note: This requirement is intended to provide visual barrier to prevent animal injury.].</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Roof shall be constructed in the following manner:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. Wood, fiberglass, or similar solid materials covering at least 1/3 up to ½ the total ceiling area; and</li> <li>d. 11-gauge chain link or 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch welded steel wire shall cover the remaining portion of the ceiling.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Wall and roof material shall be affixed to one of the following materials:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. 4-inch x 4-inch wood fence posts, or</li> <li>d. 2-inch galvanized metal fence posts.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Walls constructed of 0.5-inch x 0.5-inch welded steel wire shall be buried at least 1 foot down and 1 foot outward at a 90-degree angle. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent predator ingress at will.]</li> <li>5. Floor shall be constructed of either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e. Soil; or</li> <li>f. Non-abrasive sand; or</li> <li>g. Pea gravel; or</li> <li>h. Concrete covered with soil, non-abrasive sand, or pea gravel at least 3 inches deep.</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. Each enclosure shall have the following enrichment:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. At least 2 perches or tree limbs of various diameters of at least 0.5 inches in diameter placed at different heights (minimum of 4 feet high); and</li> <li>b. 1 shallow pan constructed of plastic or metal, of at least 4 feet x 4 feet filled with water, soil, or bathing dust and minimum of 6 inches deep; or</li> <li>c. At least 16 square feet of floor space covered with at least 6 inches of soil or bathing dust. [Note: This requirement is intended for each animal to preen and clean its feathers.]</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<b>(5) Squamata</b>	<b>(A) Venomous Snake</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Walls, floor, and roof shall be constructed of plastic, glass, or similar smooth surface material with a secure locking lid, and at least 6 airholes with a minimum diameter of 0.25 inches or similar means of ventilation.</li> <li>2. Each enclosure shall have the following items:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. at least 1 hide or shelter box;</li> <li>b. a full-spectrum ultraviolet light or access to sunlight between 8 hours and 10 hours in a 24-hour day [Note: This requirement is intended to mimic the natural diurnal process for each animal.]; and</li> <li>c. a heat and humidity source such as a heat lamp and humidity chamber.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Floor shall be covered with soil, non-abrasive sand, or other natural substrate at least 3 inches deep.</li> <li>4. Each enclosure shall contain a label that is clearly and conspicuously posted on the outside, stating “Venomous animals” and the common and scientific name and number of snakes contained inside.</li> <li>5. Each enclosure shall be kept inside a lockable building clearly posted with the following information: poison control telephone number and location of nearest hospital with antivenom. A first aid kit shall be made readily available within the building.</li> <li>6. Capture equipment (e.g. wide-jaw humane snake tongs, snake hooks, snake tube, nylon snake bags) and personal protective equipment shall be used to handle a venomous snake for any purpose and be made readily available and accessible at all times.</li> <li>7. A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee shall notify the department in writing by email at <a href="mailto:Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov">Rehabwildlife@wildlife.ca.gov</a> within 24 hours of a venomous snake bite resulting in human death or escape of a venomous snake from its enclosure.</li> </ol>

**(p) Neonate and Limited Mobility Minimum Enclosure Size Requirements and Maximum Number of Animals Per Enclosure; Specialty Rehabilitation Animals. Table 3.**

(Length x Width x Height, in feet, unless otherwise indicated).

Order	Animal Type	Neonate <sup>1</sup>	Max # <sup>1</sup>	Juvenile <sup>2</sup>	Max # <sup>2</sup>	Adult <sup>2</sup>	Max # <sup>2</sup>
<b>(1) Accipitriformes</b>	(a) Bald Eagle, Golden Eagle	3 feet x 3 feet x 3 feet	3	Based on animal condition	1	100 feet x 16 feet x 16 feet	3
<b>(2) Artiodactyla</b>	(a) Deer, Pronghorn, Bighorn Sheep	4 feet x 4 feet x 4 feet	2	8 feet x 8 feet x 8 feet	2	Not Allowed	N/A
	(b) Elk	6 feet x 6 feet x 4 feet	2	10 feet x 10 feet x 8 feet	2	Not Allowed	N/A
<b>(3) Carnivora</b>	(a) Mountain Lion	2 feet x 2 feet x 2.5 feet	3	8 feet x 6 feet x 4 feet	3	Not Allowed	N/A
	(b) Black Bear	2 feet x 2 feet x 2.5 feet	3	8 feet x 6 feet x 4 feet	3	Not Allowed	N/A
<b>(4) Falconiformes</b>	(a) Peregrine Falcon, Prairie Falcon	3 feet x 3 feet x 3 feet	4	Based on animal condition	1	100 feet x 16 feet x 16 feet	1
<b>(5) Squamata</b>	(a) Venomous Snake	1.5 times the length of the animal	1	1.5 times the length of the animal	1	1.5 times the length of the animal	1

**(q) Pre-Release Enclosure Minimum Enclosure Size Requirements and Maximum Number of Animals Per Enclosure; Specialty Rehabilitation Animals. Table 15.**

(Length x Width x Height, in feet, unless otherwise indicated).

Order	Animal Type	Juvenile <sup>3</sup>	Max # <sup>3</sup>	Adult <sup>3</sup>	Max # <sup>3</sup>
<b>(1) Accipitriformes</b>	(a) Bald Eagle, Golden Eagle	100 feet x 16 feet x 16 feet	3	100 feet x 16 feet x 16 feet	3
<b>(2) Artiodactyla</b>	(a) Deer, Pronghorn, Bighorn Sheep	80 feet x 50 feet x 8 feet	6	Not Allowed	0
	(b) Elk	80 feet x 50 feet x 8 feet	6	Not Allowed	0
<b>(3) Carnivora</b>	(a) Mountain Lion	750 square feet per animal (10 feet minimum height)	5	Not Allowed	0
	(b) Black Bear	750 square feet per animal (10 feet minimum height)	5	Not Allowed	0
<b>(4) Falconiformes</b>	(a) Peregrine Falcon, Prairie Falcon	100 feet x 16 feet x 16 feet	1	100 feet x 16 feet x 16 feet	1
<b>(5) Squamata</b>	(a) Venomous Snake	1.5 times the length of the animal	1	1.5 times the length of the animal	1



## Chapter 3. Humane Care Requirements (See CCR Title 14, Section 679.5(e))

### (a) Care and Treatment Requirements

(1) A permittee, their designee, and sub-permittees shall only intake rehabilitation animals of a species that they are able to identify with reasonable certainty and temporarily possess in a manner that protects the welfare of that animal, human health, and human safety.

(2) A permittee, their designee, and sub-permittees shall transfer a rehabilitation animal to another wildlife rehabilitation facility if for any reason the welfare of the animal cannot be maintained or improved, such as inadequate enclosure, lack of species-specific expertise, inability to provide appropriate veterinary medical care, or unique conspecific requirements.

(3) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, authorized persons, and qualified handlers shall triage rehabilitation animals upon intake and respond with proper treatment. [Note: The best initial course of action for many animals is to temporarily confine in a warm, quiet, and dark enclosure isolated from other animals; stabilize with fluid therapy; examine for signs of trauma; and monitor for signs of disease. Euthanasia may be the most appropriate and humane triage response to prevent unnecessary pain and suffering.]

(4) A permittee, their designee, and sub-permittees shall develop an individual treatment plan for each rehabilitation animal that includes a preliminary assessment of any proposed treatment, and the impact of the recovery process on the welfare of the animal, as based on the best available scientific literature, case studies, or derived from similar species or situational scenarios. [Note: A wildlife rehabilitator may seek veterinary consultation from any licensed veterinarian, or guidance from another wildlife rehabilitator, as needed.]

(5) A permittee, their designee, and sub-permittees shall adopt written standard procedures for basic veterinary medical treatment and treatment plans for specific species or taxa of rehabilitation animal provided by a licensed veterinarian (i.e., standing orders) pursuant to subsection 679.5(b). [Note: This requirement is intended to reduce a rehabilitation animal's risk of habituation or mal-imprinting, prolonged handling, and unnecessary physical or behavioral stress.]

(6) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, authorized persons, and qualified handlers shall be able to reasonably determine when a rehabilitation animal is required to be seen by a veterinarian for veterinary medical care services including, but not limited to: surgery; diagnosis of medical condition; and prescribing of drugs, medicine, and appliances. [Note: This requirement is intended to protect animal welfare and prevent the unnecessary pain or needless suffering of each animal.]

(7) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, authorized persons, and qualified handlers shall know the nutritional requirements of each rehabilitation animal based on the life history, species, age class, and physical condition of the animal. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent common nutritional deficiencies known to affect the endocrine, gastrointestinal, nervous, skeletal, and vascular system, such as metabolic bone disease, by providing a proper diet. Rehabilitation animals with pre-existing nutritional disorders may or may not be recoverable, depending on the severity of the deficiency.]

(8) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, authorized persons, and qualified handlers shall allow a rehabilitation animal to feed independently as soon as the animal is able to express the behavioral and physical traits required for feeding that are appropriate to its species, age class, and condition. [Note: This requirement is necessary as neonate and juvenile animals are at risk of habituation or mal-imprinting during any stage of rehabilitation; a habituated or mal-imprinted animal is unable to express the natural life history behaviors of its species and is less likely to survive in the wild.]

### (b) Cleaning Requirements

(1) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, authorized persons, and qualified handlers shall remove visible organic waste material prior to using disinfectant or cleaning products (including, but not limited to, those substances listed in subsection c, Table 15), and closely adhere to the safety data sheet if applicable and instructions for proper dilution, use, storage, and disposal of any disinfectant or cleaning products.

(2) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, authorized persons, and qualified handlers shall disinfect the enclosure of any rehabilitation animal suspected of or known to have a communicable disease, including compliance with any requirements of a local or state public health agency with jurisdiction once that animal has been removed from the enclosure.

(3) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, and authorized persons shall maintain physical separation of raccoon and skunk enclosures from domestic animals, restricted species, and other rehabilitation animals. [Note: This requirement is intended to prevent transmitting raccoon or skunk roundworm (*Baylisascaris procyonis*, *B. columnaris*) to other wild animals, domestic animals, or humans.]

(4) Raccoon enclosures shall only be used to temporarily house raccoons and contain a label that is clearly and conspicuously posted on the outside, stating "Raccoons Only"; skunk enclosures shall only be used to temporarily house skunks and contain a label that is clearly and conspicuously posted on the outside, stating "Skunks Only. These enclosures shall not be used for any other species at any time. [Note: This requirement is intended to ensure that proper cleaning requirements are met for each enclosure. Raccoons and skunks are the primary hosts of roundworm (*B. procyonis*, *B. columnaris*) and typically have no clinical signs. Roundworm eggs are transmitted via feces and can lay dormant for years prior to infecting a host. Roundworm eggs can be killed by flame-sterilizing enclosures between each use. Common detergents and disinfectants are not effective.]

**(c) Common Cleaning Agents to Limit the Transmission of Communicable Wildlife Diseases. Table 16.**

Category	Uses
<b>(1) Alcohols</b>	Antiseptic, cleaning instruments (e.g., ethanol, isopropyl alcohol).
<b>(2) Aldehydes</b>	Cold sterilization, disinfectant (e.g., formaldehyde, Wavicide-01, Cidex®).
<b>(3) Biguanides</b>	Wound care, antiseptic, disinfectant (e.g., chlorhexidine-based products).
<b>(4) Detergents</b>	General cleaning (e.g., laundry/dish soap).
<b>(5) Herbal-based Solutions</b>	General cleaning, disinfectant (e.g., Concrobium® Broad Spectrum Disinfectant II).
<b>(6) Hypochlorites</b>	Disinfectant for nonmetallic surfaces (e.g., chlorine bleach).
<b>(7) Iodophores</b>	Surgical preparation, disinfectant, wound care (e.g., Betadine™ solution).
<b>(8) Oxidizing Agents</b>	Disinfectant for nonmetal surfaces (e.g., peroxide-based compounds).
<b>(9) Phenols</b>	General disinfectant, foot baths (e.g., Hil-Phene®).
<b>(10) Quaternary Ammonium Compounds</b>	General cleaning, disinfectant (e.g., KennelSol®).
<b>(11) Stabilized Chlorine Dioxides</b>	General cleaning, disinfectant (e.g., Oxine® Bio-Cide).

**(d) Communicable Wildlife Diseases**

(1) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, authorized persons, and qualified handlers shall handle a rehabilitation animal using personal protective equipment (such as disposable gloves, face mask) that is appropriate to the life history, species, stage of rehabilitation, and specific risks associated with that animal such as claws, talons, teeth, or beak. [Note: This requirement is intended to protect animal welfare, native wildlife, human health, and human safety by reducing the risk of disease transmission and spread of etiological agents.]

(2) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, authorized persons, and qualified handlers shall report any rehabilitation animal suspected or known to have a disease of concern, as determined by the Fish and Game Commission to be a communicable disease of potentially significant consequence to an affected population of native wildlife, domestic animal, or humans in California, to the proper reporting agency, as indicated in Table 16, pursuant to subsection 679.5(a)(7). [Note: This requirement is intended to aid the investigation and monitoring of potential disease outbreaks and mortality events by the department's Wildlife Health Laboratory pursuant to California Fish and Game Section 1008.]

**(e) Wildlife Diseases of Concern in California and the Agency to Report Confirmed or Suspected Infected Wildlife.**  
**Table 174.**

Disease of Concern	Taxa Affected	Etiologic Agent	Clinical Signs or Symptoms	Reporting Agency
<b>(1) Chronic Wasting Disease</b>	Deer, elk	Prion	Progressive weight loss, loss of awareness, loss of natural fear	Department of Fish and Wildlife
<b>(2) Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Virus</b>	Avifauna, mammals	Virus	Lethargy, tremors, head tilt, death	Department of Fish and Wildlife
<b>(3) Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus</b>	Rabbits, hares	Virus	Lethargy, bleeding from nostril, neurologic symptoms, death	Department of Fish and Wildlife
<b>(4) Rabies Virus</b>	Mammals*	Virus	Loss of fear response, aggression, drooling, lethargy, paralysis, death *California primary vector species: Bat, skunk, fox.	Local Health Department
<b>(5) SARS-COV-2</b>	Mammals	Virus	Cough, fatigue, body pain, diarrhea, loss of taste/smell, death	Department of Public Health
<b>(6) Snake Fungal Disease</b>	Snakes	Fungus	Poor body condition, scabs, skin ulcers, discolored scales, cloudy eyes	Department of Fish and Wildlife
<b>(7) White Nose Syndrome</b>	Bats	Fungus	White powdery fungus on muzzle, ears, wings, limbs; emaciation; death.	Department of Fish and Wildlife

**(f) Non-Releasable Animal Requirements**

(1) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, or a licensed veterinarian shall deem a rehabilitation animal as non-releasable in accordance with section 679.6(a). [Note: Conditions that would likely prevent an animal from surviving in the wild, may include, but not be limited to: permanent visual impairment; amputated limb, foot, or wing; permanent damage to skin, scale, scute, fur, or feathers; permanent inability to display the natural life history behaviors of its species; permanent spinal injury, paralysis, or paresis.]

(2) A non-releasable rehabilitation animal shall be handled pursuant to subsection 679.5(c) of these regulations. [Note: In rare cases, the department may approve permanent placement of a non-releasable rehabilitation animal at a permitted facility if the department deems the animal to be a suitable candidate for placement and all conditions required to protect the welfare of the animal, native wildlife, human health, and human safety are met. Euthanasia is generally the most compassionate outcome for a wild animal rather than a life in captivity.]

**(g) Euthanasia Requirements**

(1) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, other properly trained personnel shall meet the euthanasia training minimum hour requirements listed in subsection 679.5(c)(1)(A) 1 through 3.

(2) A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee shall maintain written documentation of all euthanasia training completed by any personnel as a required record.

(3) Euthanasia training curriculum shall include, but not be limited to, an overview of the history and reasons for euthanasia; humane animal restraint techniques; euthanasia methods and procedures; induction times and verification of death; personnel stress management and safety training; and record keeping and regulation compliance.

(4) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, other properly trained personnel, and licensed veterinarian shall euthanize a rehabilitation animal using only the methods of euthanasia listed in Table 17.

(5) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, authorized persons, and qualified handlers shall not use any method of euthanasia not listed in Table 17, including the following unacceptable methods of euthanasia: Thoracic compression, freezing, suffocation, carbon monoxide, ether, and any method of take prohibited pursuant to the California Fish and Game Code or any other ordinance, regulation, or statute. [Note: This requirement is intended to prohibit the use of any euthanasia method that does not protect animal welfare and determined to be inhumane.]

(6) A permittee, their designee, sub-permittees, other properly trained personnel, and licensed veterinarians shall obtain permission from the USFWS and the department prior to euthanizing a Bald or Golden Eagle or threatened or endangered species, unless humane considerations warrant prompt euthanasia prior to such notification.

(7) A permittee, their designee, and sub-permittees shall select the method of carcass disposal of a rehabilitation animal that is euthanized, or dies of natural causes, based on the condition of the animal carcass, cause of mortality, and species pursuant to all federal, state, and local jurisdiction requirements.

**(h) Acceptable euthanasia methods for rehabilitation animals. Table 18.**

EUTHANASIA TYPE	EUTHANASIA METHODS	ANIMAL TYPE
<b>(1) Inhalant Methods</b>	(A) Anesthetic gas [isoflurane, methoxyflurane, sevoflurane]	Small animals (< 15 lbs.)
	(B) Anesthetic gas [halothane, isoflurane]	Bats
	(C) CO <sup>2</sup> [carbon dioxide]	Bird, reptile, small mammal (< 0.5 lbs.) excluding bats.
	(D) MS-222 [tricaine methanesulfate]	Amphibians
<b>(2) Injectable Methods</b>	(A) Barbiturate [pentobarbital sodium]	Amphibian, bird, mammal, reptile.
	(B) Potassium chloride [prior anesthesia required]	Amphibian, bird, mammal, reptile.
	(C) Acepromazine, butorphanol tartrate, xylazine [combination]	Bats
	(D) Pentobarbital sodium [prior anesthesia required]	Bats
	(E) Alfaxalone	Reptiles
<b>(3) Physical Methods</b>	(A) Cervical luxation/dislocation [prior anesthesia preferred]	Small animals only (< 0.5 lbs.)
	(B) Decapitation [emergency use only]	Small animals only (< 1.0 lbs.)
	(C) Firearm [emergency use only]	Amphibian, bird, mammal, reptile
	(D) Exsanguination [prior anesthesia required]	Amphibian, bird, mammal, reptile.
	(E) Pithing [prior anesthesia required]	Amphibian, reptile.

## Appendices

**Appendix A. California Fish and Game Code Excerpts****§1050. General License Provisions**

(a) All licenses, permits, tags reservations, and other entitlements authorized by this code shall be prepared and issued by the department.

**§2000. Taking And Possessing In General**

It is unlawful to take any bird, mammal, fish, reptile, or amphibian except as provided in this code or regulations made pursuant thereto. Possession of a bird, mammal, fish, or reptile or parts thereof in or on the fields, forests, or waters of this state, or while returning therefrom with fishing or hunting equipment is prima facie evidence the possessor took the bird, mammal, fish or reptile or parts thereof.

**§2120. Regulations Governing Wild Animals**

(a) The commission, in cooperation with the Department of Food and Agriculture, shall adopt regulations governing both (1) the entry, importation, possession, transportation, keeping, confinement, or release of any and all wild animals that will be or that have been imported into this state pursuant to this chapter, and (2) the possession of all other wild animals. The regulations shall be designed to prevent damage to the native wildlife or agricultural interests of this state resulting from the existence at large of these wild animals, and to provide for the welfare of wild animals and the safety of the public.

**§2121. Escape or Release of Wild Animals**

No person having possession or control over any wild animal under this chapter shall intentionally free, or knowingly permit the escape, or release of such an animal, except in accordance with the regulations of the commission.

**§2122. Regulations for Guidance of Enforcement Officers**

The commission shall promulgate regulations in cooperation with the State Department of Food and Agriculture for the guidance of enforcing officers. Such regulations shall include a list of the wild animals for which permits that may be issued under this chapter will be refused, and the disposition of such wild animals illegally imported into this state.

**§2127. Eligible Local Entities**

(a) The department may reimburse eligible local entities, pursuant to a memorandum of understanding entered into pursuant to this section, for costs incurred by the eligible local entities in the administration and enforcement of any provision concerning the possession of, handling of, care for, or holding facilities provided for, a wild animal designated pursuant to Section 2118.

(b) The department may enter into memorandums of understanding with eligible local entities for the administration and enforcement of any provision concerning the possession of, handling of, care for, or holding facilities provided for, a wild animal designated pursuant to Section 2118.

(c) The commission shall adopt regulations that establish specific criteria an eligible local entity shall meet in order to qualify as an eligible local entity.

(d) For the purposes of this division, "eligible local entity" means a county, local animal control officer, local humane society official, educational institution, or trained private individual that enters into a memorandum of understanding with the department pursuant to this section.

**§2150.2. Establishment of Fees**

The department shall establish fees for permits, permit applications, and facility inspections in amounts sufficient to cover the costs of administering, implementing, and enforcing this chapter.

**§2150.4. Inspection of Wild Animal Facilities**

(a) The department or an eligible local entity shall inspect the wild animal facilities, as determined by the director's advisory committee, of each person holding a permit issued pursuant to Section 2150 authorizing the possession of a wild animal.

(b) In addition to the inspections specified in subdivision (a), the department or an eligible local entity, pursuant to the regulations of the commission, may inspect the facilities and care provided for the wild animal of any person holding a permit issued pursuant to Section 2150 for the purpose of determining whether the animal is being cared for in accordance with all applicable statutes and regulations. The department shall collect an inspection fee, in an amount determined by the department pursuant to Section 2150.2.

(c) No later than January 1, 2009, the department, in cooperation with the committee created pursuant to Section 2150.3, shall develop, implement, and enter into memorandums of understanding with eligible local entities if the department elects not to inspect every wild animal facility pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (b). Eligible local entities shall meet the criteria established in regulations adopted pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 2157.

**§2192. Regulation and Enforcement**

Notwithstanding Part 2.5 (commencing with Section 18900) of Division 13 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 11356 of the Government Code, or any other provision of law, regulations of the commission relating to the construction, fixtures, and other minimum caging standards adopted by the commission for the confinement of live wild animals pursuant to this chapter are not building standards subject to the approval of the State Building Standards Commission.

**§3005.5. Methods of Taking**

It is unlawful to capture any game mammal, game bird, nongame bird, nongame mammal, or furbearer, or to possess or confine any live game mammal, game bird, nongame bird, nongame mammal, or furbearer taken from the wild, except as provided by this code or regulations made pursuant thereto. Any bird or mammal possessed or confined in violation of this section shall be seized by the department. The commission may promulgate regulations permitting the temporary confinement of game mammals, game birds, nongame birds, nongame mammals, or furbearers for the purpose of treating the animals, if injured or diseased.

**§3800. Nongame Birds**

(a) All birds occurring naturally in California that are not resident game birds, migratory game birds, or fully protected birds are nongame birds. It is unlawful to take any nongame bird except as provided in this code or in accordance with regulations of the commission or, when relating to mining operations, a mitigation plan approved by the department.

**§4150. Nongame Mammals**

All mammals occurring naturally in California which are not game mammals, fully protected mammals, or fur-bearing mammals, are nongame mammals. Nongame mammals or parts thereof may not be taken or possessed except as provided in this code or in accordance with regulations adopted by the commission.



## Appendix B. Federal Law and Regulation Excerpts

YEAR ENACTED	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	WEBSITE
1900	The Lacey Act	Regulates interstate and international commerce in wildlife and controls the transportation of wildlife across state lines. This statute applies to rehabilitators by preventing the rehabilitator from accepting animals from other states, transporting animals into or out of the state, or releasing a rehabilitated animal in another state. [Amended 1981, 2008.]	<a href="https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=granuleid%3AUSC-prelim-title18-section42&amp;num=0&amp;edition=prelim">https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=granuleid%3AUSC-prelim-title18-section42&amp;num=0&amp;edition=prelim</a>
1900	The Lacey Act Provision	Establishes that the importation or shipment of injurious mammals, birds, fish (including mollusks and crustacea), amphibia, and reptiles, or the offspring or eggs of any of the foregoing animals considered injurious by the Secretary of the Interior are prohibited.	<a href="https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=granuleid%3AUSC-prelim-title18-section42&amp;num=0&amp;edition=prelim">https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=granuleid%3AUSC-prelim-title18-section42&amp;num=0&amp;edition=prelim</a>
1918	Migratory Bird Treaty Act	Establishes that the take (including killing, capturing, selling, trading, and transport) of protected migratory bird species; including its nest, eggs, or feathers; without prior authorization by the Department of Interior U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is prohibited.	<a href="https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/USCODE-2020-title16/pdf/USCODE-2020-title16-chap7-subchapII-sec703.pdf">https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/USCODE-2020-title16/pdf/USCODE-2020-title16-chap7-subchapII-sec703.pdf</a>
1940	Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act	Establishes the requirement that any person who handles these species for wildlife rehabilitation, education, or research purposes must obtain a special purpose permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This includes their parts: feathers, nests, or eggs.	<a href="https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/USCODE-2010-title16/pdf/USCODE-2010-title16-chap5A-subchapII.pdf">https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/USCODE-2010-title16/pdf/USCODE-2010-title16-chap5A-subchapII.pdf</a>
1972	Marine Mammal Protection Act	Establishes a moratorium on taking and importing marine mammals, including parts and products. Rehabilitation of any marine mammal is only permitted by the National Marine Fisheries Service under NOAA.	<a href="https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/USCODE-2017-title16/pdf/USCODE-2017-title16-chap31-subchapI-sec1361.pdf">https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/USCODE-2017-title16/pdf/USCODE-2017-title16-chap31-subchapI-sec1361.pdf</a>
1973	Endangered Species Act	Establishes protection for fish, wildlife, and plant species that are threatened or endangered with extinction.	<a href="https://www.fws.gov/law/endangered-species-act">https://www.fws.gov/law/endangered-species-act</a>
2019	Standard Conditions for Care and Maintenance of Captive Sea Turtles	Establishes jurisdiction between National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service several codes of federal regulations. Facilities that care for sick or injured sea turtles must comply with the Standard Conditions for Care and Maintenance of Captive Sea Turtles.	<a href="https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/seaturtle-standard-conditions-for-care-2019.pdf">https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/seaturtle-standard-conditions-for-care-2019.pdf</a>

## Appendix C. Wildlife Rehabilitation Resources

Staying current with best practices, accepted techniques, and the latest advancements in wildlife rehabilitation is critical for all wildlife rehabilitators. Several valuable resources exist for reference and review, including books and guides on wildlife rehabilitation standards, ethical codes of conduct, and species-specific rehabilitation techniques, as well as field guides, natural history books, and various organizations. This broader knowledge is critical, as wildlife rehabilitators may often receive calls, questions, or even the animal itself, for a species outside their area of expertise. [NOTE: Additionally, the department has developed and maintains a robust list of opportunities for continuing education through its Continuing Education Framework (PDF) document available on the department website at <https://wildlife.ca.gov/WildlifeRehab>.]

### Professional Associations

California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators: <https://ccwr.org/>  
 National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association: <https://www.nwrawildlife.org/>  
 International Wildlife Rehabilitators Council (IWRC):  
 IWRC Certified Wildlife Rehabilitator Program, <https://cwrexam.org>  
 American Veterinary Medical Association: <https://www.avma.org/>

### Agency Resources

CDFW, Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Program: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/wildliferehab>  
 CDFW, Wildlife Health Laboratory: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/WHL>  
 California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA): <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/>  
 CDFA, California Animal Response Emergency System: [https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/AHFSS/Animal\\_Health/eprs/cares/](https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/AHFSS/Animal_Health/eprs/cares/)  
 California Department of Consumer Affairs (CDCA), Veterinary Medical Board License Search: <https://www.breeze.ca.gov/datamart/mainMenu.do>  
 CDCA, California Veterinary Medical Board: <https://www.vmb.ca.gov/>  
 USFWS, 2022. Migratory Bird Permitting Handbook: <https://www.fws.gov/policy-library/hbindex>  
 USDA National Agricultural Library, Animal Welfare Act: <https://www.nal.usda.gov/animal-health-and-welfare/animal-welfare-act>  
 USDA National Agricultural Library, Disaster Planning with Animals: <https://www.nal.usda.gov/animal-health-and-welfare/disaster-planning-animals>  
 International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animals Regulations: <https://www.iata.org/en/publications/store/live-animals-regulations/>  
 National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians: <http://nasphv.org/>

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**Appendix DA. CDFW Wildlife Rehabilitation Examination (Example)****Definitions**

1. \_\_\_\_\_. Preventative measures taken to reduce the risk of transmission of communicable diseases from one human, animal, or place to others.
2. \_\_\_\_\_. An item or activity designed to stimulate and encourage a range of innate behaviors of an animal, specific to that species.
3. \_\_\_\_\_. A process that occurs when an animal, not normally domesticated, is repeatedly exposed to anthropogenic stimuli and no longer has a natural behavioral response to that stimuli.
4. \_\_\_\_\_. A specialized form of learning by an animal that occurs during a brief period in early development that provides it with a self-identity and social bonds that are rarely reversible.
5. \_\_\_\_\_. A facility authorized pursuant to Section 679.3, operated by a sub-permittee, that may temporarily possess rehabilitation animals at a location other than the location listed on the permit.

**True/False**

6. Wildlife rehabilitators are authorized to trap and remove “nuisance” wildlife to reduce conflict.
7. Wildlife rehabilitators may decline to intake any animal or species they so choose.
8. CDFW personnel may inspect a rehabilitator's facility and records at any reasonable time.
9. A wildlife rehabilitator may exhibit rehabilitation animals under their Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit.
10. It is permissible to use orphaned baby birds for educational program prior to releasing to the wild.

**Multiple Choice**

11. Which information is NOT required in the CDFW Wildlife Rehabilitation Annual Report?
  - a. Summary of patient outcome (e.g., how many were released, euthanized)
  - b. Name and mailing address of people who submitted animals
  - c. Species of animals received
  - d. Number and type of non-releasable animals held under a restricted species permit
12. Which of the following descriptions describes neonate altricial birds?
  - a. Virtually naked, helpless, and blind
  - b. Covered with a thick down layer
  - c. Active and relatively self-sufficient
  - d. Unable to vocalize
13. Most nestling songbirds fledge at:
  - a. 10-14 days
  - b. 7-10 days
  - c. 28-30 days
  - d. 18-21 days
14. Which characteristic will NOT help you identify a very young bird?
  - a. Foot type/shape
  - b. Length of tail feathers
  - c. Mouth color
  - d. Beak shape
15. Which of the following mammals is NOT a rodent?
  - a. California ground squirrel
  - b. Beaver
  - c. Mexican free-tailed bat
  - d. Nutria
  - e. Marmot

**ANSWER KEY**

1. Biosafety practice
2. Enrichment
3. Habituation
4. Imprinting
5. Satellite facility
6. False
7. True
8. True
9. False
10. False
11. b
12. a
13. d
14. b
15. c



A person may apply for a Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit pursuant to California Code of Regulations Title 14 Section 679.3.

**New Permit** – Complete Sections 1-7     **Permit Renewal** – Complete Sections 1, 3-7

**1. APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Applicant Name (Last, First)		Date of Birth	GO ID # (if applicable)	
Mailing Address (if different from physical address)	City		State	ZIP
Preferred Telephone	Secondary Telephone	Email Address		
Facility Name			County	
Facility Address (physical)	City		State	ZIP
Facility Telephone	Facility Email Address	Facility Website		

**2. APPLICANT REQUIRED EXPERIENCE**

Demonstrate completion of at least 1,000 hours of relevant experience completed no more than 5 years from the date of the application. Relevant education may be accepted as a substitute for up to 300 hours of the required experience.

**VOLUNTEER/WORK EXPERIENCE**

(1) Facility Name		Facility Address		
Contact Name and Title		Telephone	Email	
Start Date	End Date	Time Base (F/T, P/T)	Total Hours	
Describe Experience				

(2) Facility Name		Facility Address		
Contact Name and Title		Telephone	Email	
Start Date	End Date	Time Base (F/T, P/T)	Total Hours	
Describe Experience				

(3) Facility Name		Facility Address		
Contact Name and Title		Telephone	Email	
Start Date	End Date	Time Base (F/T, P/T)	Total Hours	
Describe Experience				

**EDUCATION / TRAINING**

1 Degree:	Completion Date:	1 Certificate/License:	Completion Date:
Accredited Institution:		Program / Course Name:	
2 Degree:	Completion Date:	2 Certificate/License:	Completion Date:
Accredited Institution:		Program / Course Name:	
3 Degree:	Completion Date:	3 Certificate/License:	Completion Date:
Accredited Institution:		Program / Course Name:	



3A. DESIGNEE INFORMATION (if applicable)			
Designee Name (Last, First)	Date of Birth	Email Address	Primary Telephone
Mailing Address	City	State	Zip Code
Physical Address (if different from above)	City	State	Zip Code

**3B. DESIGNEE REQUIRED EXPERIENCE**  
 Demonstrate completion of at least 500 hours of relevant experience completed no more than 5 years from the date of the application. Relevant education may be accepted as a substitute for up to 300 hours of the required experience.

VOLUNTEER/WORK EXPERIENCE			
(1) Facility Name		Facility Address	
Contact Name and Title		Telephone	Email
Start Date	End Date	Time Base (F/T, P/T)	Total Hours
Describe Experience			
(2) Facility Name		Facility Address	
Contact Name and Title		Telephone	Email
Start Date	End Date	Time Base (F/T, P/T)	Total Hours
Describe Experience			
(3) Facility Name		Facility Address	
Contact Name and Title		Telephone	Email
Start Date	End Date	Time Base (F/T, P/T)	Total Hours
Describe Experience			

EDUCATION / TRAINING			
1 Degree:	Completion Date:	1 Certificate/License:	Completion Date:
Accredited Institution:		Program / Course Name:	
2 Degree:	Completion Date:	2 Certificate/License:	Completion Date:
Accredited Institution:		Program / Course Name:	

4. PUBLIC CONTACT INFORMATION
Desired public contact information to be posted on the CDFW Wildlife Rehabilitation Program webpage (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Facility Name <input type="checkbox"/> County/City <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone <input type="checkbox"/> Website <input type="checkbox"/> Type of Wildlife Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Share

5. PROPOSED REHABILITATION ANIMALS					
Indicate the proposed species to rehabilitate and the maximum number that may be temporarily possessed at any one time.					
AMPHIBIANS	MAX #	REPTILES	MAX #		
Frogs, Treefrogs		Lizards			
Newts, Salamanders		Non-Venomous Snake			
Toads		Tortoises			
		Turtles			
CHIROPTERA	MAX #	INSECTIVORA	MAX #	LAGOMORPHA	MAX #
Bats		Mole		Hare	
DIDELPHIMORPHIA	MAX #	Shrew		Rabbit	
Opossum					



RODENTIA	MAX #	RODENTIA	MAX #	RODENTIA	MAX #
Chipmunk		Muskrat		North American Porcupine	
Ground Squirrel		Native Mouse, Rat, Vole		Pocket Gopher	
Flying Squirrel		North American Beaver		Tree Squirrel	
Marmot					
CARNIVORA	MAX #	CARNIVORA	MAX #	CARNIVORA	MAX #
Badger		Foxes		Skunk	
Bobcat		Ringtail		Weasel, Mink, Ermine	
Coyote		River Otter		Wolverine	
Fisher, Marten		Raccoon			

**AVIFAUNA**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) migratory bird rehabilitation permit is required *prior* to rehabilitating any wild bird.

No USFWS Permit     USFWS Permit [In Progress] Application Date: \_\_\_\_\_  USFWS Permit #: \_\_\_\_\_

APODIFORMES	MAX #	ACCIPITRIFORMES	MAX #
Swifts		Turkey Vultures	
Hummingbirds		Northern Harrier	
CAPRIMULGIFORMES	MAX #	Swainson's Hawk, Ferruginous Hawk	
Nighthawk, Nightjar, Poorwill		Sharp-shinned Hawk	
CUCULIFORMES	MAX #	Red-shouldered Hawk, Cooper's Hawk	
Roadrunners		Harris' Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk	
FALCONIFORMES	MAX #	Osprey	
American Kestrel		COLUMBIFORMES	MAX #
Kite		Doves, Pigeons	
Merlin		PASSERIFORMES	MAX #
PICIFORMES	MAX #	Species less than 6 inches (unless otherwise listed)	
Woodpecker (species less than 12 inches)		Species greater than 6 inches (unless otherwise listed)	
Woodpecker (species greater than 12 inches)		Swallows	
STRIGIFORMES	MAX #	Bushtits	
Burrowing owl		Quail	
Barn owl, Long-eared owl, Short eared owl		Sage Grouse	
Great horned, Spotted owl		Jays, Crackles, Magpies	
Flammulated owl, Northern pygmy owl, Northern saw-whet, Western screech owl		Crows, Ravens	
ANSERIFORMES	MAX #	CHARADRIIFORMES	MAX #
Dabbling Duck		Alcid	
Diving Duck, Merganser, Stiff-tailed Duck		Gull, Tern (species less than 14 inches)	
Native Geese		Gull (species greater than 14 inches), Jaeger, Skua	
Native Swan		Phalaropes	
CICONIIFORMES	MAX #	Shorebirds (species greater than 10 inches)	
Bittern, Heron, Egret, Stork, Ibis (species less than 20 inches)		Oystercatcher, Skimmer, Tern (species greater than 14 inches), Wilson's Phalarope	
Bittern, Heron, Egret, Stork, Ibis (species greater than 20 inches)		Plover, Sandpiper, Shorebirds (less than 10 inches) (unless otherwise listed)	
CORACIIFORMES	MAX #	GRUIFORMES	MAX #
Kingfishers		Cranes	
GAVIIFORMES	MAX #	Rail (species less than 10 inches)	
Loons		Rail (species greater than 10 inches)	
PELECANIFORMES	MAX #	Coots	
Brown Pelican		PROCELLARIIFORMES	MAX #
White Pelican		Albatross	
Frigatebird		Fulmars, Storm Petrels	
Other species		Shearwaters, Other Petrel species	





<b>SULIFORMES</b>	<b>MAX #</b>	<b>PODICIOEDIFORMES</b>	<b>MAX #</b>
Boobies, Cormorants		Grebes	

**6. DECLARATION OF ENCLOSURES**

Provide photographs, diagrams, or other plans, **for each type** of the following enclosures: neonate, pre-release conditioning. Attach documentation as needed.

Variance Request – New Permit    Variance Request – Permit Renewal    Existing Variance– Permit Renewal

<b>AMPHIBIANS</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>REPTILES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>CARNIVORA</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>CHIROPTERA</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>DIDELPHIMORPHIA</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>EULIPOTYPHIA</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>LAGOMORPHA</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>RODENTIA</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>RACCOONS</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>SKUNKS</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>APODIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					



<b>ACCIPITRIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>CAPRIMULGIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>CUCULIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>COLUMBIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>FALCONIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>PASSERIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>PICIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>STRIGIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>ANSERIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>CHARADRIIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>CICONIIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>CORACIIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>GAVIIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					



<b>GRUIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>PELECANIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>PROCELLARIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>PODICIOEDIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>SULIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					

**7. FACILITY OPERATION PLAN**

Briefly describe or attach the following standard procedures for the proposed facility pursuant to these regulations.

- Data Storage Method:
- Animal Intake and Triage Protocol:
- Euthanasia Protocol:
- Animal Care Protocol:
- Animal Husbandry Protocol:
- Biosafety Protocol:
- Training Protocol:
- Contingency Plan: List of person(s) requested by the applicant for Department approval to provide temporary possession and continuity of care for rehabilitation animals if the applicant or their designee are unable to provide care for any reason.

Full Name (Last, First)1	Date of Birth	Email Address	Primary Telephone	
Mailing Address	City		State	Zip Code
Physical Address (if different from above)	City		State	Zip Code
Full Name (Last, First)2	Date of Birth	Email Address	Primary Telephone	
Mailing Address	City		State	Zip Code
Physical Address (if different from above)	City		State	Zip Code





**SUB-PERMIT APPLICATION**

A permittee shall request approval from the Department to add a sub-permittee pursuant to requirements outlined in California Code of Regulations Title 14, Section 679.3.

1. PERMITTEE INFORMATION			
Applicant Name (Last, First)		Date of Birth	GO ID # (if applicable)
Mailing Address (if different from physical address)	City		State ZIP
Preferred Telephone	Secondary Telephone	Email Address	
Facility Name			County
Facility Address (physical)	City		State ZIP

1A. SUB-PERMITTEE INFORMATION			
Sub-Permittee Name (Last, First)		Date of Birth	GO ID #
Satellite Mailing Address	City		State Zip Code
Satellite Physical Address (if different from above)	City		State Zip Code
Satellite Facility Name (if applicable)	Preferred Telephone	Secondary Telephone	Email

**2. REQUIRED EXPERIENCE**

Sub-permittee must be at least 21 years of age and demonstrate completion of at least 500 hours of work or volunteer experience under the supervision of a wildlife rehabilitation permittee in California completed no more than 5 years from the date of the application. Relevant education may be accepted as a substitute for up to 150 hours of the required experience.

**EXPERIENCE**

(1) Facility Name		Facility Address	
Contact Name and Title		Telephone	Email
Start Date	End Date	Time Base (F/T, P/T)	Total Hours
Describe Experience			
(2) Facility Name		Facility Address	
Contact Name and Title		Telephone	Email
Start Date	End Date	Time Base (F/T, P/T)	Total Hours
Describe Experience			
(3) Facility Name		Facility Address	
Contact Name and Title		Telephone	Email
Start Date	End Date	Time Base (F/T, P/T)	Total Hours
Describe Experience			

**EDUCATION / TRAINING**

1 Degree:	Completion Date:	1 Certificate/License:	Completion Date:
Accredited Institution:		Program / Course Name:	
2 Degree:	Completion Date:	2 Certificate/License:	Completion Date:
Accredited Institution:		Program / Course Name:	



3A. DESIGNEE INFORMATION (if applicable)			
Designee Name (Last, First)	Date of Birth	Email Address	Primary Telephone
Mailing Address	City		State Zip Code
Physical Address (if different from above)	City		State Zip Code

**3B. DESIGNEE REQUIRED EXPERIENCE**  
 Demonstrate completion of at least 500 hours of relevant experience completed no more than 5 years from the date of the application. Relevant education may be accepted as a substitute for up to 300 hours of the required experience.

VOLUNTEER/WORK EXPERIENCE			
(1) Facility Name		Facility Address	
Contact Name and Title		Telephone	Email
Start Date	End Date	Time Base (F/T, P/T)	Total Hours
Describe Experience			
(2) Facility Name		Facility Address	
Contact Name and Title		Telephone	Email
Start Date	End Date	Time Base (F/T, P/T)	Total Hours
Describe Experience			
(3) Facility Name		Facility Address	
Contact Name and Title		Telephone	Email
Start Date	End Date	Time Base (F/T, P/T)	Total Hours
Describe Experience			

EDUCATION / TRAINING			
1 Degree:	Completion Date:	1 Certificate/License:	Completion Date:
Accredited Institution:		Program / Course Name:	
2 Degree:	Completion Date:	2 Certificate/License:	Completion Date:
Accredited Institution:		Program / Course Name:	

4. PUBLIC CONTACT INFORMATION
Desired public contact information to be posted on the CDFW Wildlife Rehabilitation Program webpage (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Satellite Facility Name <input type="checkbox"/> County/City <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone <input type="checkbox"/> Website <input type="checkbox"/> Type of Wildlife Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Share

5. PROPOSED REHABILITATION ANIMALS					
Indicate the proposed species to rehabilitate and the maximum number that may be temporarily possessed at any one time.					
AMPHIBIANS	MAX #	REPTILES	MAX #		
Frogs, Treefrogs		Lizards			
Newts, Salamanders		Non-Venomous Snake			
Toads		Tortoises			
		Turtles			
CHIROPTERA	MAX #	INSECTIVORA	MAX #	LAGOMORPHA	MAX #
Bats		Mole		Hare	
DIDELPHIMORPHIA	MAX #	Shrew		Rabbit	
Opossum					



**SUB-PERMIT APPLICATION**

RODENTIA	MAX #	RODENTIA	MAX #	RODENTIA	MAX #
Chipmunk		Muskrat		North American Porcupine	
Ground Squirrel		Native Mouse, Rat, Vole		Pocket Gopher	
Flying Squirrel		North American Beaver		Tree Squirrel	
Marmot					
CARNIVORA	MAX #	CARNIVORA	MAX #	CARNIVORA	MAX #
Badger		Foxes		Skunk	
Bobcat		Ringtail		Weasel, Mink, Ermine	
Coyote		River Otter		Wolverine	
Fisher, Marten		Raccoon			

**AVIFAUNA**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) migratory bird rehabilitation permit is required *prior* to rehabilitating any wild bird.

No USFWS Permit     USFWS Permit [In Progress] Application Date: \_\_\_\_\_  USFWS Permit #: \_\_\_\_\_

APODIFORMES	MAX #	ACCIPITRIFORMES	MAX #
Swifts		Turkey Vultures	
Hummingbirds		Northern Harrier	
CAPRIMULGIFORMES	MAX #	Swainson's Hawk, Ferruginous Hawk	
Nighthawk, Nightjar, Poorwill		Sharp-shinned Hawk	
CUCULIFORMES	MAX #	Red-shouldered Hawk, Cooper's Hawk	
Roadrunners		Harris' Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk	
FALCONIFORMES	MAX #	Osprey	
American Kestrel		COLUMBIFORMES	MAX #
Kite		Doves, Pigeons	
Merlin		PASSERIFORMES	MAX #
PICIFORMES	MAX #	Species less than 6 inches (unless otherwise listed)	
Woodpecker (species less than 12 inches)		Species greater than 6 inches (unless otherwise listed)	
Woodpecker (species greater than 12 inches)		Swallows	
STRIGIFORMES	MAX #	Bushtits	
Burrowing owl		Quail	
Barn owl, Long-eared owl, Short eared owl		Sage Grouse	
Great horned, Spotted owl		Jays, Crackles, Magpies	
Flammulated owl, Northern pygmy owl, Northern saw-whet, Western screech owl		Crows, Ravens	
ANSERIFORMES	MAX #	CHARADRIIFORMES	MAX #
Dabbling Duck		Alcid	
Diving Duck, Merganser, Stiff-tailed Duck		Gull, Tern (species less than 14 inches)	
Native Geese		Gull (species greater than 14 inches), Jaeger, Skua	
Native Swan		Phalaropes	
CICONIIFORMES	MAX #	Shorebirds (species greater than 10 inches)	
Bittern, Heron, Egret, Stork, Ibis (species less than 20 inches)		Oystercatcher, Skimmer, Tern (species greater than 14 inches), Wilson's Phalarope	
Bittern, Heron, Egret, Stork, Ibis (species greater than 20 inches)		Plover, Sandpiper, Shorebirds (less than 10 inches) (unless otherwise listed)	
CORACIIFORMES	MAX #	GRUIFORMES	MAX #
Kingfishers		Cranes	
GAVIIFORMES	MAX #	Rail (species less than 10 inches)	
Loons		Rail (species greater than 10 inches)	
PELECANIFORMES	MAX #	Coots	
Brown Pelican		PROCELLARIIFORMES	MAX #
White Pelican		Albatross	
Frigatebird		Fulmars, Storm Petrels	
Other species		Shearwaters, Other Petrel species	





<b>SULIFORMES</b>	<b>MAX #</b>	<b>PODCIOEDIFORMES</b>	<b>MAX #</b>
Boobies, Cormorants		Grebes	

**6. DECLARATION OF ENCLOSURES**

Provide photographs, diagrams, or other plans, **for each type** of the following enclosures: neonate, pre-release conditioning. Attach documentation as needed.

Variance Request – New Permit    Variance Request – Permit Renewal    Existing Variance– Permit Renewal

<b>AMPHIBIANS</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>REPTILES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>CARNIVORA</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>CHIROPTERA</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>DIDELPHIMORPHIA</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>EULIPOTYPHIA</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>LAGOMORPHA</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>RODENTIA</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>RACCOONS</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>SKUNKS</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>APODIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					



**SUB-PERMIT APPLICATION**

<b>ACCIPITRIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>CAPRIMULGIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>CUCULIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>COLUMBIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>FALCONIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>PASSERIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>PICIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>STRIGIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>ANSERIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>CHARADRIIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>CICONIIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>CORACIIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>GAVIIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					



<b>GRUIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>PELECANIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>PROCELLARIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>PODICIOEDIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					
<b>SULIFORMES</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Size (L x W x H)					
Quantity					
Material					

**7. FACILITY OPERATION PLAN**

Briefly describe or attach the following standard procedures for the proposed facility pursuant to these regulations.

Data Storage Method:

Animal Intake and Triage Protocol:

Euthanasia Protocol:

Animal Care Protocol:

Animal Husbandry Protocol:

Biosafety Protocol:

Training Protocol:

Contingency Plan: List of person(s) requested by the applicant for Department approval to provide temporary possession and continuity of care for rehabilitation animals if the sub-permittee or their designee are unable to provide care for any reason.

Full Name (Last, First)1	Date of Birth	Email Address	Primary Telephone	
Mailing Address	City	State	Zip Code	
Physical Address (if different from above)	City	State	Zip Code	
Full Name (Last, First)2	Date of Birth	Email Address	Primary Telephone	
Mailing Address	City	State	Zip Code	





A person can apply for a specialty rehabilitation authorization pursuant to California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 14 Section 679.3.

1. APPLICANT AND FACILITY INFORMATION			
Name (Last, First)		Date of Birth	GO ID # (if applicable)
Mailing Address (if different from physical address)		City	State ZIP
Primary Telephone	Secondary Telephone	Email Address	
Facility Name			County
Facility Address (physical)		City	State ZIP
Facility Telephone	Facility Email	Facility Website	
2. REQUIRED EXPERIENCE			
Completion of the minimum hours of experience within a 5-year period from the date of the initial application request.			
EXPERIENCE			
(1) Employer Name		Employer Address	
Contact Name and Title	Telephone	Email Address	
Start Date	End Date	Time Base (F/T, P/T)	Total Hours
Specialty Rehabilitation Species Handled			
(2) Employer Name		Employer Address	
Contact Name and Title	Telephone	Email Address	
Start Date	End Date	Time Base (F/T, P/T)	Total Hours
Specialty Rehabilitation Species Handled			
(3) Employer Name		Employer Address	
Contact Name and Title	Telephone	Email Address	
Start Date	End Date	Time Base (F/T, P/T)	Total Hours
Specialty Rehabilitation Species Handled			
EDUCATION / TRAINING			
1 Degree: Completion Date:		1 Certificate / License: Completion Date:	
Academic Institution:		Program / Course Name:	
2 Degree: Completion Date:		2 Certificate / License: Completion Date:	
Academic Institution:		Program / Course Name:	
3 Degree: Completion Date:		3 Certificate / License: Completion Date:	
Academic Institution:		Program / Course Name:	
3. SPECIALTY REHABILITATION ANIMALS			
Indicate the species of specialty authorization animals and proposed maximum number that may be temporarily possessed at any time.			
<b>LARGE CARNIVORE</b>	<b>UNGULATE</b>	<b>EAGLE, FALCON</b>	<b>VENOMOUS SNAKE</b>
American Black Bear	Deer	Bald Eagle	<i>Crotalus</i> species
Mountain Lion	Elk	Golden Eagle	
	Pronghorn	Peregrine Falcon	
	Bighorn	Prairie Falcon	



**4. DECLARATION OF ENCLOSURES**

Provide photographs, diagrams, or other plans, for each type of pre-release conditioning enclosure that meets all minimum requirements listed in Chapter 2 of the 679 Wildlife Rehabilitation Regulation Manual. Attach documentation as needed.

New Variance Request – New Permit    New Variance Request – Renewal    Existing Variance– Renewal

<b>LARGE CARNIVORE</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Dimensions					
Quantity					
Material					
Substrate					
<b>UNGULATE</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Dimensions					
Quantity					
Material					
Substrate					
<b>VENOMOUS SNAKE</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Dimensions					
Quantity					
Material					
Substrate					
<b>EAGLE, FALCON</b>	ENCLOSURE 1	ENCLOSURE 2	ENCLOSURE 3	ENCLOSURE 4	ENCLOSURE 5
Dimensions					
Quantity					
Material					
Substrate					

**5. Qualified Handlers**

List of qualified handlers, one of which may be the applicant, for *each* type of specialty rehabilitation animal. Large carnivores and ungulates require 3 qualified handlers; eagles, falcons, venomous snakes require 2 qualified handlers.

1. Name (Last, First)		Date of Birth	Telephone Number	Email Address	
Mailing Address		City		State	ZIP
HOURS OF RELEVANT EXPERIENCE / TRAINING					
2. Name (Last, First)		Date of Birth	Telephone Number	Email Address	
Mailing Address		City		State	ZIP
HOURS OF RELEVANT EXPERIENCE / TRAINING					
3. Name (Last, First)		Date of Birth	Telephone Number	Email Address	
Mailing Address		City		State	ZIP
HOURS OF RELEVANT EXPERIENCE / TRAINING					
4. Name (Last, First)		Date of Birth	Telephone Number	Email Address	
Mailing Address		City		State	ZIP
HOURS OF RELEVANT EXPERIENCE / TRAINING					
5. Name (Last, First)		Date of Birth	Telephone Number	Email Address	
Mailing Address		City		State	ZIP
HOURS OF RELEVANT EXPERIENCE / TRAINING					



### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND SIGNATURE

"I understand that any information provided to the Department in this application and any additional information provided to the Department related to this application will be subject to the Public Records Act and may be publicly available.

I affirm and attest under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this application and any additional information that may be provided to the Department related to this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that wildlife remains the property of the State and is subject to control by the State."

With accordance to [California Civil Code §1633.5\(b\)](#), I acknowledge that by providing my electronic signature for this form, I agree that my electronic signature is legal binding equivalent to a handwritten signature. I hereby confirm that my electronic signature represents my execution or authentication of this form, and my intent to be bound by it.

The Department reserves the right to verify the undersigned claims. Should this verification reveal intentional falsehood by the claimant, the undersigned may be legally obligated to compensate the State for costs associated with verification, and may be subject to criminal, civil, and/or denial or revocation of all rehabilitation-related privileges.

☒ Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Print Name Date

☒ <sup>1</sup>Qualified Handler: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Print Name Date

☒ <sup>2</sup>Qualified Handler: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Print Name Date

☒ <sup>3</sup>Qualified Handler: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Print Name Date

☒ <sup>4</sup>Qualified Handler: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Print Name Date

☒ <sup>5</sup>Qualified Handler: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Print Name Date





A permittee or their designee shall revoke the authorization of a sub-permittee pursuant to CCR Title 14 subsection 679.9(c).  
 A permittee or their designee shall notify the department within 5 calendar days of a sub-permit revocation.

<b>1. PERMITTEE INFORMATION</b>			
Permittee Name (Last, First)		GO ID # (if applicable)	
Mailing Address (if different from physical address)	City	State	ZIP
Preferred Telephone	Secondary Telephone	Email Address	
Facility Name			
Facility Address (physical)	City	State	ZIP
<b>1A. SUB-PERMITTEE INFORMATION</b>			
Name (Last, First)		GO ID # (if applicable)	
Mailing Address	City	State	Zip Code
Physical Address (if different from above)	City	State	Zip Code
Telephone	Email Address	Satellite Facility Name (if applicable)	
<b>2. REASON(S) FOR REVOCATION (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Person relocated. <input type="checkbox"/> Person retired. <input type="checkbox"/> Person no longer able to work/volunteer.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Person refused 3 or more inspections. (Provide dates and brief description of attempts to schedule inspection)			
<hr/> <hr/>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Person failed inspection. (Brief description of non-compliant items)			
<hr/> <hr/>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Person not in good standing under permit. (Brief description of why no longer in good standing)			
<hr/> <hr/>			

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND SIGNATURE**

“I hereby request that the above listed sub-permittee or authorized person be removed from my wildlife rehabilitation permit. I request that the department update any required records, including the Automated License Database System, related to this individual. I have notified the sub-permittee or authorized person of this action.

I certify that all rehabilitation animals temporarily possessed by the sub-permittee or authorized person have been returned to the primary facility or another location, as designated by the Department, or returned to the wild in good condition. I understand that wildlife remains the property of the State of California and is subject to control by the State. I affirm and attest under penalty of perjury that the information provided herein and any additional information that may be provided to the Department is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.”

With accordance to [California Civil Code §1633.5\(b\)](#), I acknowledge that by providing my electronic signature for this form, I agree that my electronic signature is legal binding equivalent to a handwriting signature. I hereby confirm that my electronic signature represents my execution or authentication of this form, and my intent to be bound by it.

✎ Permittee / Designee: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature
Print Name
Date



The Veterinarian of Record Agreement must be signed by a licensed veterinarian in good standing pursuant to the California Veterinary Medical Practice Act and California Code of Regulation Title 14 subsection 679.3(b)(6)2.

- Applicant** – Complete Sections 1 and 3     **Licensed Veterinarian** – Complete Sections 2, 4-5

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION				
Full Name (First)		(Last)	(M.I.)	GO ID# (if applicable)
Title	Primary Telephone		Primary Email	
Facility Name		Facility Telephone		
Facility Mailing Address (if different from physical address)		City	State	ZIP
Facility Physical Address		City	State	ZIP
2. VETERINARIAN INFORMATION				
Full Name (First)		(Last)	(M.I.)	Veterinary License Number (Expiration Date)
Name of Employer		Employer Address		
Primary Telephone		Email Address		
3. APPLICANT RESPONSIBILITIES				INITIAL
Maintain current schedule of availability for a licensed veterinarian to provide treatment of rehabilitation animals.				
Provide all required records if applicable for a rehabilitation animal so that a veterinarian can make an informed assessment of the condition of the animal to determine the treatment plan and outcome of the animal.				
Adhere to the standing orders of a licensed veterinarian for medication use and treatment prescribed for the rehabilitation animal.				
Rely on the licensed veterinarian to best address the administration of medication and veterinary treatment prescribed for the rehabilitation animal.				
Recognize that the purpose of providing care or treatment of a rehabilitation animal is to restore that animal to a condition of good health for its release to the wild.				
4. VETERINARIAN RESPONSIBILITIES				INITIAL
Provide veterinary consultation for a rehabilitation animal such as standing orders to perform routine procedures for animal care, treatment procedures, or similar protocol				
Provision, storage, and documentation of controlled and non-controlled substances pursuant to all federal and state laws.				
Ethical consideration of the welfare and natural history of a rehabilitation animal when providing any treatment.				
Rely on the permittee or their designee to best address the humane care and husbandry needs of a rehabilitation animal.				
Recognize that the purpose of providing care or treatment of a rehabilitation animal is to restore that animal to a condition of good health for its release to the wild.				
5. VETERINARIAN SERVICES THAT MAY BE PROVIDED (check all that apply):				
Physical examinations	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Diagnostic Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Dispensing Medication	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Surgical Procedures	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Administering Medication	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Euthanasia	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Prescribing Medication	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Necropsy	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Screening / Preventative Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Carcass Disposal	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Species <u>not</u> able to handle or provide services for (if applicable):				
Special training or experience with the following species (if applicable):				



**ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND SIGNATURE**

“I understand that any information provided to the Department in this application and any additional information provided to the Department related to this application will be subject to the Public Records Act and may be publicly available.

I affirm and attest under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this application and any additional information may be provided to the Department related to this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

I understand the veterinary client patient relationship and responsibilities associated with providing veterinary medical care for rehabilitation animals. I acknowledge that this agreement does not authorize the veterinarian of record to act as a wildlife rehabilitator. I certify that I shall comply with all codes, regulations, the California Veterinary Medical Practice Act, and the standards listed in the department’s 679 Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Manual. I acknowledge that any violation of these requirements can result in revocation of the permit. I understand that the permittee may select a new veterinarian of record for any reason and shall notify the department of any such change in writing within 10 business days.”

The Department reserves the right to verify the undersigned claims. Should this verification reveal intentional falsehood by the claimant, the undersigned may be legally obligated to compensate the State for costs associated with verification.

With accordance to [California Civil Code §1633.5\(b\)](#), I acknowledge that by providing my electronic signature for this form, I agree that my electronic signature is legal binding equivalent to a handwriting signature. I hereby confirm that my electronic signature represents my execution or authentication of this form, and my intent to be bound by it.

Licensed Veterinarian \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Print Name Date

Applicant \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Print Name Date



A permittee or their designee shall provide a current list of authorized persons approved to conduct certain activities under the permit (e.g., homecare foster volunteers) pursuant to CCR Title 14 Section 679.3. Provide all required information for each authorized person. Additional pages and/or supplemental documentation may be provided with the form.

<b>1. APPLICANT AND FACILITY INFORMATION</b>			
Applicant Name (Last, First)		Date of Birth	GO ID #
Primary Telephone	Secondary Telephone	Email Address	
Facility Name		Facility Website (if applicable)	
Physical Address	City	State	ZIP
Mailing Address (if different from physical address)	City	State	ZIP
<b>2. AUTHORIZED PERSONS</b>			
Full Name		Primary Telephone	Email Address
Mailing Address		Physical Address (if different)	
Relevant Experience – Minimum 40 hours (mark all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Education/Degree <input type="checkbox"/> License/Certification <input type="checkbox"/> Permittee Training <input type="checkbox"/> External Training <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____			
Species or taxonomic group of rehabilitation animal(s) authorized to handle:			
Full Name		Primary Telephone	Email Address
Mailing Address		Physical Address (if different)	
Relevant Experience – Minimum 40 hours (mark all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Education/Degree <input type="checkbox"/> License/Certification <input type="checkbox"/> Permittee Training <input type="checkbox"/> External Training <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____			
Species or taxonomic group of rehabilitation animal(s) authorized to handle:			
Full Name		Primary Telephone	Email Address
Mailing Address		Physical Address (if different)	
Relevant Experience – Minimum 40 hours (mark all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Education/Degree <input type="checkbox"/> License/Certification <input type="checkbox"/> Permittee Training <input type="checkbox"/> External Training <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____			
Species or taxonomic group of rehabilitation animal(s) authorized to handle:			
Full Name		Primary Telephone	Email Address
Mailing Address		Physical Address (if different)	
Relevant Experience – Minimum 40 hours (mark all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Education/Degree <input type="checkbox"/> License/Certification <input type="checkbox"/> Permittee Training <input type="checkbox"/> External Training <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____			
Species or taxonomic group of rehabilitation animal(s) authorized to handle:			



**2. AUTHORIZED PERSONS (Continued)**

Full Name	Primary Telephone	Email Address
-----------	-------------------	---------------

Mailing Address	Physical Address (if different)
-----------------	---------------------------------

Relevant Experience – Minimum 40 hours (mark all that apply):  
 Education/Degree  License/Certification  Permittee Training  External Training  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Species or taxonomic group of rehabilitation animal(s) authorized to handle:

Full Name	Primary Telephone	Email Address
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Mailing Address	Physical Address (if different)
-----------------	---------------------------------

Relevant Experience – Minimum 40 hours (mark all that apply):  
 Education/Degree  License/Certification  Permittee Training  External Training  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Species or taxonomic group of rehabilitation animal(s) authorized to handle:

Full Name	Primary Telephone	Email Address
-----------	-------------------	---------------

Mailing Address	Physical Address (if different)
-----------------	---------------------------------

Relevant Experience – Minimum 40 hours (mark all that apply):  
 Education/Degree  License/Certification  Permittee Training  External Training  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Species or taxonomic group of rehabilitation animal(s) authorized to handle:

Full Name	Primary Telephone	Email Address
-----------	-------------------	---------------

Mailing Address	Physical Address (if different)
-----------------	---------------------------------

Relevant Experience – Minimum 40 hours (mark all that apply):  
 Education/Degree  License/Certification  Permittee Training  External Training  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Species or taxonomic group of rehabilitation animal(s) authorized to handle:

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND SIGNATURE**

I understand that any information provided to the Department in this application and any additional information provided to the Department related to this application will be subject to the Public Records Act and may be publicly available.

I affirm and attest under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this application and any additional information may be provided to the Department related to this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

The Department reserves the right to verify the undersigned claims. Should this verification reveal intentional falsehood by the claimant, the undersigned may be legally obligated to compensate the State for costs associated with verification and may be subject to criminal, civil, and/or denial or revocation of all rehabilitation-related privileges. The Department requires the signature of the property owner and shall not accept any form signed by a designee or third party for permission to enter the property.

With accordance to [California Civil Code §1633.5\(b\)](#), I acknowledge that by providing my electronic signature for this form, I agree that my electronic signature is legal binding equivalent to a handwritten signature. I hereby confirm that my electronic signature represents my execution or authentication of this form, and my intent to be bound by it.

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Print Name Date



A permittee, their designee, or a sub-permittee shall maintain a written facility emergency action plan pursuant to Section 679.3(a). Retain all supporting documentation with this form as a required record.

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION							
Applicant Name (Last, First)		Date of Birth		GO ID # (if applicable)			
Mailing Address (if different from physical address)		City	State	ZIP			
Primary Telephone		Secondary Telephone		Email Address			
Facility Name (if applicable)			County				
Physical Address		City	State	ZIP			
2. ANIMAL CAPTURE EQUIPMENT (Check All That Apply)							
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nets (Birds)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Catch pole	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dart gun		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nets (Bats)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Leads / leashes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Darts		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nets (Mammals)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bite sticks	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pole syringe / Jab stick		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nets (Reptiles/Amphibians)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bite gloves	<input type="checkbox"/>	Immobilization drugs (if applicable)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Net gun	<input type="checkbox"/>	Animal control pole	<input type="checkbox"/>	Snake tongs		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Live trap	<input type="checkbox"/>	Animal grasper / Y pole	<input type="checkbox"/>	Animal shields		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Protective gloves	<input type="checkbox"/>	Protective eyewear	<input type="checkbox"/>	Protective footwear		
3. ANIMAL TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT							
ITEM [AS APPLICABLE]	BRIEF DESCRIPTION			QUANTITY			
Large animal carrier, metal							
Large animal carrier, plastic							
Large animal carrier, soft sided							
Medium animal carrier, metal							
Medium animal carrier, plastic							
Medium animal carrier, soft sided							
Small animal carrier, metal							
Small animal carrier, plastic							
Small animal carrier, soft sided							
Small animal carrier, cardboard							
Terrarium, mesh							
Reptile / snake bucket							
Aquariums, glass							
Aquariums, plastic							
Transport Carrier "Tie Downs"							
Animal bags							
Trailers							
4. ANIMAL EMERGENCY SUPPLIES							
ITEM	QUANTITY	ITEM	QUANTITY				
Animal food supply (minimum 3-days)		Heating source (e.g., heating pad)					
Food receptacles		Cooling source (e.g., fan)					
Water receptacles		Bedding					
Portable water container(s)		Cleaning supplies					
Specialty feeding supplies		Basic veterinary medical supplies					
5. FACILITY SAFETY [Check all that apply]							
<input type="checkbox"/>	First aid kits	<input type="checkbox"/>	Utility shut off/Breaker	<input type="checkbox"/>	'Animals on	<input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency Exit sign
<input type="checkbox"/>	Smoke/CO <sub>2</sub> detectors	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire extinguishers	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eye wash station(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Landline telephone
If item NOT checked, briefly describe why:							









DATE OF INSPECTION:			INSPECTED BY:						
<b>1. REASON FOR INSPECTION</b> [check all that apply]									
<input type="checkbox"/> Facility (New) <input type="checkbox"/> Facility (Renewal) <input type="checkbox"/> Facility (Satellite) <input type="checkbox"/> Re-Inspection <input type="checkbox"/> Variance <input type="checkbox"/> Speciality Rehabilitation Authorization <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Authorized Person <input type="checkbox"/> Other-Qualified Handler									
<b>2. PERSONAL INFORMATION</b>									
Full Name (Last, First)		Permittee Name (if different)		GO ID # (if applicable)	Federal Permit # (if applicable)				
Mailing Address		City	State	ZIP					
Physical Address (if different)			City		State	ZIP			
Primary Telephone		Secondary Telephone		Email Address					
<b>3. FACILITY INFORMATION</b>									
Facility Name		Facility Physical Address		<input type="checkbox"/> Property Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Tenant <input type="checkbox"/> Other					
Number of Staff	Number of Volunteers	Number of Sub-Permittees		Number of Authorized Persons	Number of Qualified Handlers				
<b>TAXONOMIC GROUP</b> [select all that apply] <input type="checkbox"/> Herptile <input type="checkbox"/> Mammal <input type="checkbox"/> Waterbird <input type="checkbox"/> Raptor <input type="checkbox"/> Passerine/Other Avifauna				<b>SPECIALTY REHABILITATION</b> [select all that apply] <input type="checkbox"/> Large Carnivore <input type="checkbox"/> Ungulate <input type="checkbox"/> Venomous Snake <input type="checkbox"/> Eagle, Osprey, Falcon					
<b>4. INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS</b> (E = Exceed Requirements, M = Meets Requirements, F = Fails to meet Requirements, N/A = Not Applicable)									
<b>FACILITY REQUIREMENTS (TITLE 14 CCR § 679.3 AND 679.4)</b>						<b>E</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Permit(s) clearly visible and on display at the facility									
Veterinarian of Record Agreement									
Facility Operation Plan									
Facility Emergency Action Plan - current and readily accessible									
Fire alarms, fire extinguishers, emergency exits (if applicable)									
Emergency evacuation procedures - clearly visible and on display									
Current List of Sub-Permittees									
Current List of Authorized Persons									
Current List of Qualified Handlers									
Personnel training protocol (if applicable)									
Public Reporting protocol									
Satellite facility inspection records									
Authorized persons inspection records									
Succession Plan for continued care of rehabilitation animals if no longer able to provide care									
<b>ENCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS (TITLE 14 CCR § 679.4 (b))</b>						<b>E</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Enclosures constructed and secured at all times to prevent ingress or egress by any animal.									
Enrichment suitable for the development stage and condition of each rehabilitation animal.									
Enclosures have sufficient drainage to prevent standing water from accumulating.									
Enclosure Labels: Common species name(s), number of animals, identification of each animal.									
Visual and physical separation between rehabilitation animals and non-conspecific rehabilitation animals.									
Visual/physical separation between rehabilitation animals and domestic animals and restricted species.									
Rehabilitation animals have minimal direct human contact and not displayed to the public.									
Pre-Release Enclosures Minimum Size - Waterbirds									
Pre-Release Enclosures Minimum Size - Raptors									
Pre-Release Enclosures Minimum Size – Passerines/Other Avifauna									
Pre-Release Enclosures Minimum Size - Mammals									
Pre-Release Enclosures Minimum Size - Herptiles									
Pre-Release Enclosures Minimum Size - Venomous Snake									





**Table 1.** Mammal Enclosure Inspection (including specialty rehabilitation).

	ENCLOSURE # _____	ENCLOSURE # _____	ENCLOSURE # _____	ENCLOSURE # _____
	SPECIES:	SPECIES:	SPECIES:	SPECIES:
679 Enclosure Dimensions*				
Dimensions				
Construction				
Double door with locks (if applicable)				
Secured doors				
Substrate				
Predator proof				
Visual barrier				
Hide boxes or sheltered retreat				
Sufficient drainage				
Pool (if applicable)				
Enrichment				
Additional notes:				

\*679 Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Regulation Manual – refer to tables for minimum enclosure and enrichment requirements.  
 Mammals – Table 5-6  
 Specialty Mammals – Table 12-13  
 Duplicate this page as needed



**Table 2.** Avian Enclosure Inspection (including specialty rehabilitation).

	ENCLOSURE # _____	ENCLOSURE # _____	ENCLOSURE # _____	ENCLOSURE # _____
	SPECIES:	SPECIES:	SPECIES:	SPECIES:
679 Enclosure Dimensions*				
Dimensions				
Construction				
Double door with locks (if applicable)				
Secured doors				
Substrate				
Predator proof				
Visual barrier				
Hide boxes, nest box, or sheltered retreat (if applicable)				
Sufficient Drainage				
Pools (if applicable)				
Enrichment				
Additional notes:				

\*679 Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Regulation Manual – refer to tables for minimum enclosure and enrichment requirements.  
 Bird (not waterbirds) – Tables 7 and 8  
 Waterbirds – Tables 9-11  
 Eagles & Falcons – Tables 12-13  
 Duplicate this page as needed



**Table 3.** Amphibian and Reptile Enclosure Inspection (including specialty rehabilitation).

	ENCLOSURE # _____	ENCLOSURE # _____	ENCLOSURE # _____	ENCLOSURE # _____
	SPECIES:	SPECIES:	SPECIES:	SPECIES:
679 Enclosure Dimensions*				
Dimensions				
Construction				
Securable door/enclosure				
Substrate				
Predator proof				
Hide box/sheltered retreat				
Temperature/humidity control				
UV light				
Water feature (if applicable)				
Labeled "Venomous" (if applicable)				
Enrichment				
Additional notes:				

\*679 Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Regulation Manual – refer to tables for minimum enclosure and enrichment requirements.  
 Amphibians and Reptiles – Table 4  
 Venomous Snakes – Table 12-13  
 Duplicate this page as needed



DATE OF INSPECTION:		INSPECTED BY:					
<b>1. REASON FOR INSPECTION</b> (check all that apply)							
<input type="checkbox"/> Inspection (New) <input type="checkbox"/> Re-Inspection <input type="checkbox"/> Speciality Rehabilitation (no large carnivores) <input type="checkbox"/> Authorized Person <input type="checkbox"/> Variance							
<b>2. PERMITTEE INFORMATION</b>							
Permittee Name (Last, First)		GO ID # (if applicable)		Federal Permit # (if applicable)			
<b>3. SUB-PERMITTEE INFORMATION</b>							
Sub-Permittee Name (Last, First)		Telephone Number		Federal Permit # (if applicable)			
Mailing Address (if different from physical address)		City		State	Zip Code		
Physical Address		City		State	Zip Code		
Email Address:		Facility Name (if applicable)					
<b>4. FACILITY INFORMATION</b>							
Facility Name		Facility Physical Address		<input type="checkbox"/> Property Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Tenant <input type="checkbox"/> Other			
Number of Staff		Number of Volunteers	Number of Sub-Permittees	Number of Authorized Persons	Number of Qualified Handlers		
<b>TAXONOMIC GROUP</b> [select all that apply] <input type="checkbox"/> Herptile <input type="checkbox"/> Mammal <input type="checkbox"/> Waterbird <input type="checkbox"/> Raptor <input type="checkbox"/> Passerine/Other Avifauna			<b>SPECIALTY REHABILITATION</b> [select all that apply] <input type="checkbox"/> Large Carnivore <input type="checkbox"/> Ungulate <input type="checkbox"/> Venomous Snake <input type="checkbox"/> Eagle, Osprey, Falcon				
<b>5. INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS</b> (E = Exceed Requirements, M = Meets Requirements, F = Fails to Meet Requirements, N/A = Not Applicable).							
<b>REQUIREMENT (FACILITY OPERATIONS)</b>				E	M	F	N/A
Permit is at the facility and easily accessible							
Proof of other valid permit(s), if applicable							
Required records (Section 679.5(c))							
Procedure for accepting calls from the public							
Procedure for accepting injured, sick, or orphaned wild animals from the public							
Procedure for keeping domestic animals on property separate from rehabilitation animals							
Training Protocols for staff/volunteers, including training records (i.e., dates, description of training)							
<b>REQUIREMENT (HEALTH AND SAFETY)</b>				E	M	F	N/A
Protocol for handling rabies vector species							
Protocol for communicable disease transmission, prevention, and control							
Protocol for Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) use							
Location of fire alarms, fire extinguishers, emergency exits (if applicable)							
Emergency evacuation procedures clearly visible and on display							
Food safety protocols to safely handle, prepare, and store animal food and human food							
Carcass storage and disposal protocols							
Facility and enclosure cleaning schedule protocol							
<b>REQUIREMENT (ANIMAL WELFARE)</b>				E	M	F	N/A
Procedures for the use & storage of controlled substances							
Euthanasia protocols including list of euthanasia certified staff							
Indoor and outdoor enclosure requirements (Section 679.4(b))*							



<b>6. ENCLOSURES INSPECTION</b>
Use Tables 1-3. Add additional documentation as needed.
<b>7. INSPECTION NOTES</b>
ITEMS THAT FAIL TO MEET REQUIREMENTS (OBSERVED DEFICIENCIES):
ITEMS THAT EXCEED REQUIREMENTS:
OTHER ITEMS OBSERVED DURING THE INSPECTION:
<b>8. INSPECTION DETERMINATION</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> PASS - Meets all requirements <input type="checkbox"/> FAIL - Does not meet all requirements (recommend re-inspection) <input type="checkbox"/> FAIL - Does not meet all requirements (recommend denial) <input type="checkbox"/> FAIL - Does not meet all requirements (recommend revocation)

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND SIGNATURE**

I understand that any information provided to the Department in this application and any additional information provided to the Department related to this application will be subject to the Public Records Act and may be publicly available.

I affirm and attest under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this application and any additional information may be provided to the Department related to this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

The Department reserves the right to verify the undersigned claims. Should this verification reveal intentional falsehood by the claimant, the undersigned may be legally obligated to compensate the State for costs associated with verification and may be subject to criminal, civil, and/or denial or revocation of all rehabilitation-related privileges. The Department requires the signature of the property owner and shall not accept any form signed by a designee or third party for permission to enter the property.

With accordance to [California Civil Code §1633.5\(b\)](#), I acknowledge that by providing my electronic signature for this form, I agree that my electronic signature is legal binding equivalent to a handwritten signature. I hereby confirm that my electronic signature represents my execution or authentication of this form, and my intent to be bound by it.

✍ Permitee: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Print Name Date

“I have inspected these facilities and affirm that the information provided herein is accurate regarding the requirements listed in Title 14 CCR 679. I hereby certify the following results of the inspection.

✍ Inspector: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Print Name Date





**Table 1.** Mammal Enclosure Inspection (including specialty rehabilitation).

	ENCLOSURE # _____	ENCLOSURE # _____	ENCLOSURE # _____	ENCLOSURE # _____
	SPECIES:	SPECIES:	SPECIES:	SPECIES:
679 Enclosure Dimensions*				
Dimensions				
Construction				
Double door with locks (if applicable)				
Secured doors				
Substrate				
Predator proof				
Visual barrier				
Hide boxes or sheltered retreat				
Sufficient drainage				
Pool (if applicable)				
Enrichment				
Additional notes:				

\*679 Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Regulation Manual – refer to tables for minimum enclosure and enrichment requirements.

Mammals – Table 5-6

Specialty Mammals – Table 12-13

Duplicate this page as needed



**Table 2.** Avian Enclosure Inspection (including specialty rehabilitation).

	ENCLOSURE # _____	ENCLOSURE # _____	ENCLOSURE # _____	ENCLOSURE # _____
	SPECIES:	SPECIES:	SPECIES:	SPECIES:
679 Enclosure Dimensions*				
Dimensions				
Construction				
Double door with locks (if applicable)				
Secured doors				
Substrate				
Predator proof				
Visual barrier				
Hide boxes, nest box, or sheltered retreat (if applicable)				
Sufficient Drainage				
Pools (if applicable)				
Enrichment				
Additional notes:				

\*679 Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Regulation Manual – refer to tables for minimum enclosure and enrichment requirements.

Bird (not waterbirds) – Tables 7 and 8

Waterbirds – Tables 9-11

Eagles & Falcons – Tables 12-13

Duplicate this page as needed



**Table 3.** Amphibian and Reptile Enclosure Inspection (including specialty rehabilitation).

	ENCLOSURE # _____	ENCLOSURE # _____	ENCLOSURE # _____	ENCLOSURE # _____
	SPECIES:	SPECIES:	SPECIES:	SPECIES:
679 Enclosure Dimensions*				
Dimensions				
Construction				
Securable door/enclosure				
Substrate				
Predator proof				
Hide box/sheltered retreat				
Temperature/humidity control				
UV light				
Water feature (if applicable)				
Labeled "Venomous" (if applicable)				
Enrichment				
Additional notes:				

\*679 Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Regulation Manual – refer to tables for minimum enclosure and enrichment requirements.  
 Amphibians and Reptiles – Table 4  
 Venomous Snakes – Table 12-13  
 Duplicate this page as needed



A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee may submit a request for variance of any required enclosure construction design, size, or materials to the Department of Fish and Wildlife pursuant to subsection 679.4(c) of Title 14, California Code of Regulations. The Department shall provide notification of a denial of a variance request pursuant to subsections 679.7(b) and 679.9(c).

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION						
Applicant Name (Last, First)		Facility Name (if applicable)		GO ID #	Primary Telephone	Email Address
Mailing Address (if different from physical address)			City	State	ZIP	
Physical Address			City	State	ZIP	
2. LOCATION OF REQUESTED VARIANCE						
<input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Rehabilitation Facility (Permittee) <input type="checkbox"/> Satellite Facility (Sub-Permittee)			<input type="checkbox"/> Other Location (Authorized Person): _____			
3. CATEGORY OF VARIANCE						
<input type="checkbox"/> Minimum Size <input type="checkbox"/> Max # Animals <input type="checkbox"/> Construction Design/Materials <input type="checkbox"/> Location Change (alternate site on/off property)						
4. TYPE OF VARIANCE						
<input type="checkbox"/> New Construction <input type="checkbox"/> Existing Construction <input type="checkbox"/> Modification of Existing Construction			Describe change or difference from the requirement(s) (attach additional documentation as needed):			
5. REASON(S) FOR REQUEST <small>[MARK ALL THAT APPLY]</small>						
<input type="checkbox"/> Requirement will result in an undue hardship because of physical limitations of the facility, site, or its utility services. <input type="checkbox"/> Requirement will result in an undue hardship because of excessive costs of additional or altered construction elements. <input type="checkbox"/> Requirement will result in an undue hardship because of other restrictions (e.g., HOA, ordinance, zoning, historically or culturally significant site): _____						

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND SIGNATURE**

"I declare under penalty of perjury that the information contained in this request for variance and any additional information that may be provided to the Department related to this request is true and accurate. I understand that any information provided to the Department herein will be subject to the Public Records Act and may be publicly available.

The Department reserves the right to verify the undersigned claims. Should this verification reveal intentional falsehood by the claimant, the undersigned may be legally obligated to compensate the State for costs associated with verification.

With accordance to [California Civil Code §1633.5\(b\)](#), I acknowledge that by providing my electronic signature for this form, I agree that my electronic signature is legal binding equivalent to a handwritten signature. I hereby confirm that my electronic signature represents my execution or authentication of this form, and my intent to be bound by it.

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature
Print Name
Date

VARIANCE DETERMINATION <small>[***Official Use Only***]</small>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Approve [No Inspection Required] <input type="checkbox"/> Approve [Inspection Required] <input type="checkbox"/> Deny – Fails to meet requirements to protect native wildlife, animal welfare, human health and safety, or agricultural interests	Required Conditions (attach supplemental documentation as needed):
<input type="checkbox"/> Authorized Staff: _____ <span style="margin-left: 100px;">Signature</span> <span style="margin-left: 150px;">Print Name</span> <span style="margin-left: 150px;">Title</span> <span style="margin-left: 150px;">Date</span>	







A permittee, their sub-permittee, or designee may request to the Department approval for permanent placement of a rehabilitation animal considered by such persons to be unsuitable for release to the wild pursuant to CCR Title 14 Section 679.6. A requestor shall notify the department via email at [RehabWildlife@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:RehabWildlife@wildlife.ca.gov) within 30 calendar days of the last examination and submit required information.

1. REQUESTING PARTY			
Name (Last, First)		GO ID #	
Mailing Address (if different from physical address):		City	State Zip
Physical Address:		City	State Zip
Telephone Number	Email Address	Facility Name (if applicable)	
2. ANIMAL INFORMATION			
Common Species or Scientific Name:		Animal Intake #:	Intake Date:
Age/Age Class:	Sex:	Weight:	Microchip/Tag/Other Identifier (if applicable):
3. ANIMAL EXAMINATION (*NO LATER THAN 30 CALENDAR DAYS FROM DATE OF REQUEST)			
Date of Last Exam*	Name (Last, First)	Title	
Physical Address of Exam		Telephone Number	Email address
Signature of Examiner		Veterinarian / Registered Veterinary Technician License No. (if applicable)	
4. ANIMAL CONDITION (Check all that apply)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Amputated limb, foot, or wing at or above humero-ulnar joint		<input type="checkbox"/> Permanent visual impairment	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permanent damage to skin, scales, scute, fur, feathers		<input type="checkbox"/> Permanent spinal injury, paralysis, or paresis	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permanent inability to display the physical ability needed to survive in the wild (e.g., forage, hunt, fly)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Permanent inability to display natural life history behaviors of its species (e.g., habituate, mal-imprint)			
Briefly describe:			
5. ANIMAL WELFARE REQUIREMENTS (Check all that apply)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Requires Medication (temporary)		<input type="checkbox"/> Requires Medication (long-term)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Requires Medical Treatment (temporary)		<input type="checkbox"/> Requires Medical Treatment (long-term)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Requires Enclosure Modifications		<input type="checkbox"/> Requires Special Diet / Modified Feeding	
<input type="checkbox"/> Must Be Housed with Other Animals		<input type="checkbox"/> Must Be Housed Alone	
6. SUGGESTED PLACEMENT OPTIONS (If applicable)			

**Acknowledgement and Signature**

"I understand that any information provided to the Department in this document and any additional information provided to the Department related to this report will be subject to the Public Records Act and may be publicly available. I affirm and attest under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this document and any additional information that may be provided to the Department related to this report is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge."

The Department reserves the right to verify the undersigned claims. Should this verification reveal intentional falsehood by the claimant, the undersigned may be legally obligated to compensate the State for costs associated with verification.

With accordance to [California Civil Code §1633.5\(b\)](#), I acknowledge that by providing my electronic signature for this form, I agree that my electronic signature is legal binding equivalent to a handwritten signature. I hereby confirm that my electronic signature represents my execution or authentication of this form, and my intent to be bound by it.

✍ Requesting Party: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

PERMANENT PLACEMENT DETERMINATION [***Official Use Only***]			
<input type="checkbox"/> Approve [No Other Examination Required]	<input type="checkbox"/> Approve [Other Examination Required]	Approved Facility:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Deny [Fails to protect animal welfare, native wildlife, human health, or human safety]		<input type="checkbox"/> Euthanize <input type="checkbox"/> Transfer <input type="checkbox"/> Release	
✍ Authorized Staff: _____ Signature _____ Print Name _____ Title _____ Date _____			

STATE OF CALIFORNIA — DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE  
**ECONOMIC AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**  
**(REGULATIONS AND ORDERS)**  
STD. 399 (Rev. 10/2019)

**ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT**

DEPARTMENT NAME <b>Fish and Game Commission</b>	CONTACT PERSON <b>David Thesell</b>	EMAIL ADDRESS <b>fgc@fgc.ca.gov</b>	TELEPHONE NUMBER <b>916 902-9291</b>
DESCRIPTIVE TITLE FROM NOTICE REGISTER OR FORM 400 <b>Add Sections 679.1 et seq. 679.9, Title 14, CCR, Re: Possession of Wildlife and Wildlife Rehabilitation</b>			NOTICE FILE NUMBER <b>Z</b>

**A. ESTIMATED PRIVATE SECTOR COST IMPACTS** *Include calculations and assumptions in the rulemaking record.*

1. Check the appropriate box(es) below to indicate whether this regulation:

- a. Impacts business and/or employees
- b. Impacts small businesses
- c. Impacts jobs or occupations
- d. Impacts California competitiveness
- e. Imposes reporting requirements
- f. Imposes prescriptive instead of performance
- g. Impacts individuals
- h. None of the above (Explain below):

**No new compliance costs necessarily incurred**

*If any box in Items 1 a through g is checked, complete this Economic Impact Statement.  
If box in Item 1.h. is checked, complete the Fiscal Impact Statement as appropriate.*

**Fish and Game Commission**

2. The \_\_\_\_\_ estimates that the economic impact of this regulation (which includes the fiscal impact) is:  
(Agency/Department)

- Below \$10 million
- Between \$10 and \$25 million
- Between \$25 and \$50 million
- Over \$50 million *[If the economic impact is over \$50 million, agencies are required to submit a [Standardized Regulatory Impact Assessment](#) as specified in Government Code Section 11346.3(c)]*

3. Enter the total number of businesses impacted: 80

Describe the types of businesses (Include nonprofits): Nonprofit wildlife rehabilitation facilities and supporting satellite facilities

Enter the number or percentage of total businesses impacted that are small businesses: 100%

4. Enter the number of businesses that will be created: 0 eliminated: 0

Explain: Regulatory amendments are to clarify and codify facility standards that are already widely practiced.

5. Indicate the geographic extent of impacts:  Statewide  
 Local or regional (List areas): \_\_\_\_\_

6. Enter the number of jobs created: 0 and eliminated: 0

Describe the types of jobs or occupations impacted: N/A; No change induced for labor demand or jobs to meet standards that are already widely practiced.

7. Will the regulation affect the ability of California businesses to compete with other states by making it more costly to produce goods or services here?  YES  NO

If YES, explain briefly: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**ECONOMIC AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
(REGULATIONS AND ORDERS)**

STD. 399 (Rev. 10/2019)

**ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT (CONTINUED)****B. ESTIMATED COSTS** *Include calculations and assumptions in the rulemaking record.*

1. What are the total statewide dollar costs that businesses and individuals may incur to comply with this regulation over its lifetime? \$ 14,000
- a. Initial costs for a small business: \$ 1,000 Annual ongoing costs: \$ 0 Years: 1
- b. Initial costs for a typical business: \$ 0 Annual ongoing costs: \$ 0 Years: 1
- c. Initial costs for an individual: \$ 500 Annual ongoing costs: \$ 0 Years: 1
- d. Describe other economic costs that may occur: No new costs for typical businesses as most already meet standards. Approx. 5% of primary rehabilitation & satellite facilities may spend from \$500-\$1,000 in initial costs (see Addendum).

2. If multiple industries are impacted, enter the share of total costs for each industry: N/A

3. If the regulation imposes reporting requirements, enter the annual costs a typical business may incur to comply with these requirements. *Include the dollar costs to do programming, record keeping, reporting, and other paperwork, whether or not the paperwork must be submitted.* \$ N/A

4. Will this regulation directly impact housing costs?  YES  NO

If YES, enter the annual dollar cost per housing unit: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of units: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Are there comparable Federal regulations?  YES  NO

Explain the need for State regulation given the existence or absence of Federal regulations: CA Fish and Game Commission has authority to regulate wildlife rehabilitation facilities within the state.

Enter any additional costs to businesses and/or individuals that may be due to State - Federal differences: \$ N/A

**C. ESTIMATED BENEFITS** *Estimation of the dollar value of benefits is not specifically required by rulemaking law, but encouraged.*

1. Briefly summarize the benefits of the regulation, which may include among others, the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety and the State's environment: Regs. propose site-specific conditions to protect native wildlife, agriculture interests, animal welfare, health & welfare of CA residents, and worker safety with enhanced biosecurity protocols, improved caging requirements, and protocols for animals suspected to have a communicable disease (see Addendum).

2. Are the benefits the result of:  specific statutory requirements, or  goals developed by the agency based on broad statutory authority?

Explain: CA Fish and Game Commission has authority to regulate wildlife rehabilitation facilities within the state.

3. What are the total statewide benefits from this regulation over its lifetime? \$ See Addendum

4. Briefly describe any expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State of California that would result from this regulation: N/A

**D. ALTERNATIVES TO THE REGULATION** *Include calculations and assumptions in the rulemaking record. Estimation of the dollar value of benefits is not specifically required by rulemaking law, but encouraged.*

1. List alternatives considered and describe them below. If no alternatives were considered, explain why not: No other alternatives were considered that would meet the program objectives.

**ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

2. Summarize the total statewide costs and benefits from this regulation and each alternative considered:

Regulation: Benefit: \$ best practices\* Cost: \$ 14,000  
Alternative 1: Benefit: \$ N/A Cost: \$ N/A  
Alternative 2: Benefit: \$ N/A Cost: \$ N/A

3. Briefly discuss any quantification issues that are relevant to a comparison of estimated costs and benefits for this regulation or alternatives: \*The proposed regulations are to clarify and codify wildlife rehab. best practices and facility standards that are already widely implemented to ensure continued benefits. Costs are for enclosure improvements.

4. Rulemaking law requires agencies to consider performance standards as an alternative, if a regulation mandates the use of specific technologies or equipment, or prescribes specific actions or procedures. Were performance standards considered to lower compliance costs?  YES  NO

Explain: In many instances, performance standards are specified without the requirement of particular means.

**E. MAJOR REGULATIONS** *Include calculations and assumptions in the rulemaking record.*

***California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) boards, offices and departments are required to submit the following (per Health and Safety Code section 57005). Otherwise, skip to E4.***

1. Will the estimated costs of this regulation to California business enterprises exceed \$10 million?  YES  NO

***If YES, complete E2. and E3  
If NO, skip to E4***

2. Briefly describe each alternative, or combination of alternatives, for which a cost-effectiveness analysis was performed:

Alternative 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternative 2: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Attach additional pages for other alternatives)*

3. For the regulation, and each alternative just described, enter the estimated total cost and overall cost-effectiveness ratio:

Regulation: Total Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cost-effectiveness ratio: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Alternative 1: Total Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cost-effectiveness ratio: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Alternative 2: Total Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cost-effectiveness ratio: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

4. Will the regulation subject to OAL review have an estimated economic impact to business enterprises and individuals located in or doing business in California exceeding \$50 million in any 12-month period between the date the major regulation is estimated to be filed with the Secretary of State through 12 months after the major regulation is estimated to be fully implemented?

YES  NO

*If YES, agencies are required to submit a Standardized Regulatory Impact Assessment (SRIA) as specified in Government Code Section 11346.3(c) and to include the SRIA in the Initial Statement of Reasons.*

5. Briefly describe the following:

The increase or decrease of investment in the State: No effect on the level of investment in the State is anticipated.

The incentive for innovation in products, materials or processes: No effect on the incentive for innovation in products, materials, or processes is anticipated.

The benefits of the regulations, including, but not limited to, benefits to the health, safety, and welfare of California residents, worker safety, and the state's environment and quality of life, among any other benefits identified by the agency: Benefits to the health and welfare of CA residents, worker safety, and the environment are anticipated.

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**A. FISCAL EFFECT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT** *Indicate appropriate boxes 1 through 6 and attach calculations and assumptions of fiscal impact for the current year and two subsequent Fiscal Years.*

1. Additional expenditures in the current State Fiscal Year which are reimbursable by the State. (Approximate)  
(Pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution and Sections 17500 et seq. of the Government Code).

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Funding provided in \_\_\_\_\_  
Budget Act of \_\_\_\_\_ or Chapter \_\_\_\_\_, Statutes of \_\_\_\_\_

- b. Funding will be requested in the Governor's Budget Act of \_\_\_\_\_  
Fiscal Year: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Additional expenditures in the current State Fiscal Year which are NOT reimbursable by the State. (Approximate)  
(Pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution and Sections 17500 et seq. of the Government Code).

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Check reason(s) this regulation is not reimbursable and provide the appropriate information:*

- a. Implements the Federal mandate contained in \_\_\_\_\_

- b. Implements the court mandate set forth by the \_\_\_\_\_ Court.

Case of: \_\_\_\_\_ vs. \_\_\_\_\_

- c. Implements a mandate of the people of this State expressed in their approval of Proposition No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Election: \_\_\_\_\_

- d. Issued only in response to a specific request from affected local entity(s).

Local entity(s) affected: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- e. Will be fully financed from the fees, revenue, etc. from: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized by Section: \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ Code;

- f. Provides for savings to each affected unit of local government which will, at a minimum, offset any additional costs to each;

- g. Creates, eliminates, or changes the penalty for a new crime or infraction contained in \_\_\_\_\_

3. Annual Savings. (approximate)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

4. No additional costs or savings. This regulation makes only technical, non-substantive or clarifying changes to current law regulations.

5. No fiscal impact exists. This regulation does not affect any local entity or program.

6. Other. Explain \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**B. FISCAL EFFECT ON STATE GOVERNMENT** *Indicate appropriate boxes 1 through 4 and attach calculations and assumptions of fiscal impact for the current year and two subsequent Fiscal Years.*

1. Additional expenditures in the current State Fiscal Year. (Approximate)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

*It is anticipated that State agencies will:*

a. Absorb these additional costs within their existing budgets and resources.

b. Increase the currently authorized budget level for the \_\_\_\_\_ Fiscal Year

2. Savings in the current State Fiscal Year. (Approximate)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

3. No fiscal impact exists. This regulation does not affect any State agency or program.

4. Other. Explain See addendum

**C. FISCAL EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDING OF STATE PROGRAMS** *Indicate appropriate boxes 1 through 4 and attach calculations and assumptions of fiscal impact for the current year and two subsequent Fiscal Years.*

1. Additional expenditures in the current State Fiscal Year. (Approximate)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

2. Savings in the current State Fiscal Year. (Approximate)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

3. No fiscal impact exists. This regulation does not affect any federally funded State agency or program.

4. Other. Explain \_\_\_\_\_

FISCAL OFFICER SIGNATURE



DATE

*The signature attests that the agency has completed the STD. 399 according to the instructions in SAM sections 6601-6616, and understands the impacts of the proposed rulemaking. State boards, offices, or departments not under an Agency Secretary must have the form signed by the highest ranking official in the organization.*

AGENCY SECRETARY



DATE

*Finance approval and signature is required when SAM sections 6601-6616 require completion of Fiscal Impact Statement in the STD. 399.*

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE PROGRAM BUDGET MANAGER



DATE

## STD 399 Addendum

### Repeal Section 679

### Add Sections 679.1, 679.2, 679.3, 679.4, 679.5, 679.6, 679.7, 679.8, 679.9, and Chapters 2 and 3 of the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations manual Title 14, California Cod of Regulations

## Re: Possession of Wildlife and Wildlife Rehabilitation

### Economic Impact Statement

#### Background

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) currently oversees 80 permitted wildlife rehabilitators who operate wildlife rehabilitation facilities throughout the state. These facilities employ or involve approximately 3,000 staff and volunteers. Additionally, there are approximately 550 satellite facilities overseen by sub-permittees operating under a wildlife rehabilitation permit, which is valid for three years.

Section 679 of Title 14, California Code of Regulations underwent a minor regulatory change in 2007. However, several necessary changes were not addressed during that rulemaking process. The proposed regulations aim to establish current requirements for the care and possession of injured, orphaned, and diseased wildlife, address known deficiencies regarding facility operations, enclosures, humane care, and treatment standards and protect the animal welfare, safety, and well-being of rehabilitation animals.

#### Section A. Estimated Private Sector Cost Impacts

##### *Question 1.*

**Answer b.** Minor impacts to small businesses. 80 Wildlife Rehabilitation Permitholders operate Wildlife Rehabilitation Facilities throughout the state (more than half operate as nonprofit entities); approximately 550 satellite facilities operated by sub-permittees.

Many wildlife rehabilitation facilities currently meet or exceed the proposed requirements of this rulemaking. Extensive outreach and feedback have been incorporated into the crafting of these provisions to avoid undue cost impacts to affected private sector entities. For those few facilities that have not met all the specified standards, variances are available to permit additional time to upgrade. It is estimated that approximately 5% of wildlife rehabilitation facilities, including satellite facilities and home-based wildlife rehabilitators, will require minor improvements to their enclosures to meet the new requirements. It is estimated that 4 wildlife rehabilitation facilities will have to perform minor to moderate improvements to their enclosures at a cost of \$1,000 or less. It is estimated that approximately 28 satellite facilities will have to perform minor modifications to their enclosures at a cost of \$500 or less. The total estimated cost (statewide) is estimated to be \$14,000 or less. A wildlife rehabilitator, including permitholders, their designees and sub-permittees may submit a variance request for department approval of alternative enclosure sizes, design, or construction materials that differ from the proposed requirements at no cost (\$0).

Additionally, attention has been given to ensure that training requirements can be met at no cost or optional additional costs to wildlife rehabilitation staff. Training options have been expanded to include such options as monthly facility safety meetings. The proposed annual reports and triage plans have already been prepared by wildlife rehabilitation staff, but submittal to the Department will now be required.

***Question 6. Number of jobs created and eliminated.***

The Commission does not anticipate that the proposed regulation would induce any impact on the creation or elimination of jobs because the proposed regulatory action is not anticipated to stimulate or diminish demand for services related to wildlife rehabilitation as no new tasks are induced by the proposed regulatory action.

**Section B. Estimated Costs**

***Question 1. What are the total statewide dollar costs that businesses and individuals may incur to comply with this regulation over its lifetime?***

Compliance with the proposed regulation is expected to incur minimal to no new costs. Most businesses already adhere to the new standards. An estimated 5% of rehabilitation and satellite facilities may incur initial costs between \$500 and \$1,000. The total statewide cost of this regulation over its lifetime is estimated to be \$14,000 for businesses and individuals.

**Section C. Estimated Benefits**

***Question 1. Briefly summarize the benefits of the regulation.***

Anticipated benefits of the regulation include consistency with current wildlife rehabilitation standards: with the codification that California's wildlife rehabilitation practices align with the most current standards and scientifically based requirements to 1) protect animal welfare, native wildlife, human health and safety; 2) meet Department goals for conservation and management of native wildlife species; and 3) increase public awareness of the ethical standards maintained by wildlife rehabilitators in California.

While most wildlife rehabilitation facilities currently meet the proposed requirements, codifying best practices ensures that these facilities will continue to maintain current standards and scientifically based requirements for temporarily possessing and rehabilitating native wildlife for release back into the wild. The proposed changes allow the Department to require site-specific best practices to protect, native wildlife, agricultural interests, the state's environment, animal welfare, health and welfare of California residents, and worker safety. Additionally, best practices will include enhanced biosecurity protocols, improved caging requirements, and standardized reporting protocols for animals known or suspected to have a communicable disease.

This action will increase the efficiency and ability for public to get wildlife to rehabilitators (currently record keeping for satellite facilities and regulation/MOU information is limited). Requiring an emergency action plan will prevent costly responses from having to have the state respond to facilities impacted by wildfires or storms.

***Question 3. What are the total statewide benefits from this regulation over its lifetime?***

The total statewide benefits of the proposed regulation are difficult to specify as the majority of regulated wildlife rehabilitation facilities are currently meeting the standards described in this

action, such that the benefits are already in full effect. The proposed regulations are to ensure that these standards are codified and may be updated as needed to the latest best practices so as to perpetuate the benefits over time.

**Question 4. Briefly describe any expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State of California that would result from this regulation.**

The Commission does not anticipate that the proposed regulation would induce any impacts on the expansion of businesses currently doing business within the state.

## **Fiscal Impact Statement**

### **Section A. Fiscal Effect on Local Government**

**Answer 5.** No Fiscal impact exists. This regulation does not affect any local entity or program.

### **Section B. Fiscal Impact on State Government**

**Answer 3.** No fiscal impact exists. This regulation does not affect any State agency or program. No change in costs or savings to state agencies is expected as a direct result of the proposed amendments to Section 679. The Department currently oversees 80 wildlife rehabilitation facilities and approximately 550 satellite facilities each year. The Department has estimated that the specification of standards for wildlife rehabilitation facilities, improved oversight, and support to permittees throughout the state by the Department's Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Program will not change costs for staff time or materials. The Department's Wildlife Health Laboratory program costs will remain unchanged and within currently existing budgets and resources.

**Answer 4.** Other. Explain: Per California Code, Fish and Game Code - FGC § 713, the fees charged by the department and printed on application forms will be updated to the most current year fee amounts. The change in fee amount is not a result of this rulemaking, but due to FGC Section 713, which directs the Department to adjust fees consistent with the implicit price deflator for state government each year. The fees have been continuously adjusted by the Department's License and Revenue Branch. This action will update the fee amount shown on the forms to the most current year's fee.

### **Section C. Fiscal Effect on Federal Funding of State Programs**

**Answer 3.** No fiscal impact exists. This regulation does not affect any federally funded State agency or program.





# POSSESSION OF WILDLIFE AND WILDLIFE REHABILITATION

*Title 14 California Code of Regulations §679*



**PRESENTATION TO THE CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME COMMISSION**

June 19, 2024 | Vicky Monroe

Wildlife Branch/Wildlife Health Laboratory



# Proposed Changes to Title 14

- Update requirements for the possession and care of injured and diseased wildlife, and to address issues in the rehabilitation of wildlife.
- The regulation change requires the repeal of the current Section 679 adopted in 1994 and amended in 2007.
- Proposed changes are necessary because the acceptable standards and requirements for wildlife rehabilitation and veterinary care have changed.



*Photo Credit: Wildlife Care of Silicon Valley*



# Background Information

- CDFW currently oversees 80 permitted wildlife rehabilitation facilities throughout the State.
- Facility operations for these permittees include: 3,000+ staff and volunteers, 500+ satellite facilities, and hundreds of home-care fosters.
- Annual intakes: 100,000+ wild animals; 66% birds, 33% mammals, 1% amphibians & reptiles.



*Photo Credit: Tri County Wildlife Rescue*

# Summary of Proposed Changes (Pt. 1)

- Repeal T14 CCR Section 679
- Add 679.1 Definitions
- Add 679.2 Transportation and Confinement
- Add 679.3 Permits for Wildlife Rehabilitation
- Add 679.4 Facility and Enclosure Standards for Rehabilitation Animals
- Add 679.5 Humane Animal Care Standards
- Add 679.6 Release of Rehabilitation Animals into the Wild



*Photo Credit: Department of Fish and Wildlife*





# Summary of Proposed Changes (Pt. 2)

- Add 679.7 Inspection of Wildlife Rehabilitation Facilities
- Add 679.8 Seizure of Animals; Transfer, Euthanasia, or Release of Seized Animals
- Add 679.9 Revocation of Permit, Sub-Permit, or Variance Request; Proof of Service; Request for Reconsideration; Appeal of Revocation
- Incorporate by reference Chapters 2 and 3 of the Native Wildlife Rehabilitation 679 Regulations Manual.



*Photo Credit: Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care*



# Requirements and Standards

- The proposed changes set forth with specificity the necessary experience of a wildlife rehabilitator, permitting process requirements, treatment and care requirements (intake to release), inspection standards, administrative determinations, and the appeals process.
- CDFW has created 14 proposed forms, as described in their respective subsections of these regulations, to aid persons who wish to apply for a permit and those who currently hold a permit.



*Photo Credit: Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care*

# Benefits of Proposed Changes

- These proposed changes ensure that California aligns with the most current scientifically-based wildlife rehabilitation practices; and the sustainable management of wildlife resources to ensure their continued existence.
- These proposed changes enable CDFW to better meet the needs of current and future wildlife rehabilitators.
- Ethical, skilled wildlife rehabilitators are partners in wildlife conservation and conservation education.



*Photo Credit: International Bird Rescue*





# Thank You! | Questions?

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*Photo Credit: Department of Fish and Wildlife*