

WILD TIMES

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Variety in Life

One of the most interesting things about working at Wolf Hollow is that we never know what kind of animal will be brought in for care next. It could be a wren or an eagle, a bat or a beaver.

In summer we receive lots of injured or orphaned youngsters and can almost guarantee that we'll get some nestling robins and baby cottontails. But what else will we see? At one point in early summer we had over 20 different species in care. In addition to raccoon kits and deer fawns, finches and sparrows, we also had a few more unusual animals such as:

- A baby Long-tailed Weasel that was found lying on the floor of a large hardware store in Mt Vernon
- A Great Blue Heron chick that fell from its nest high in a tree. It was a bundle of grey down, with a huge feet and beak and lots of attitude, (Check out the video on our web site!)
- Seven tiny California Quail chicks that were seen in a backyard for several hours, with no parents in sight
- An adult Sora (type of rail) that was caught by a cat
- A tiny fledgling Red-breasted Nuthatch that narrowly escaped being eaten by a cat
- A California Myotis bat that was found floating in a pond

While it is more fun working with a variety of creatures, it doesn't make caring for them easier, because each species has special dietary and housing requirements. If we were caring for 50 grey squirrels (as some rehab centers do) we could make one large batch of squirrel formula and quickly teach interns and volunteers how to feed baby squirrels. But if we have 9 baby cottontails, 6 raccoon kits, 4 deer fawns, 3 squirrels, 2 River Otter kits, a weasel, and a Harbor Seal pup, that means making seven different types of formula, each with its own precise ratio of protein to fat, and teaching people a range of different feeding techniques. Deer fawns suck down their formula from a bottle equipped with a lamb nipple while cottontails are fed with a syringe and tiny nipple and are notoriously finicky eaters. The heron chick eagerly swallowed large quantities of small, whole fish that were offered with large forceps (a finger-saving device!), but the little quail chicks had to be patiently coaxed to pick up finely ground game bird food all on their own.

Housing all these different creatures also requires variety. The quail chicks spent the first week in an incubator until they were strong enough to move into a large tub, where they huddled under a heat lamp next to their feather duster "Mom". The young nuthatch climbed on branches in a small indoor fledgling cage before moving out to fly around and explore one of our songbird aviaries. The River Otter kits quickly outgrew their pet carrier "den" and proceeded to create havoc in an indoor enclosure. It is amazing how much bedding they can soak with one small basin of water! Now they are happily roaming an outdoor enclosure with en suite pool and slide.

By now, many of the smaller animals have already grown up and been released and the larger ones have progressed to eating on their own and have moved into outdoor enclosures. Summer is in full swing. Now we have almost 30 different species in care including Harbor Seal pups, nestling swallows, Mallard ducklings, a Virginia Rail chick, Barn owlets, a Cedar Waxwing, a Goldfinch, a nestling Black-headed Grosbeak, a young Northern Flicker with a very loud voice and a Vaux Swift youngster that chatters constantly. I wonder what will turn up next?



Sora



Young Nuthatch

(Visit the "Currently In Care" section of our web site www.wolfhollowwildlife.org to find out what animals we are caring for at the moment.)

Seal Pups and Wolf Hollow

It is Harbor Seal pupping season in our local area, so people are calling Wolf Hollow to report seal pups they see alone on the shore. They expect that our staff or volunteers will come out to check on a stranded pup in the same way we would an injured hawk or an orphaned raccoon kit. However, it is not that simple.

Harbor Seals, being marine mammals, come under the authority of a different government body, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and are covered by different regulations. Wolf Hollow staff and volunteers are not authorized to go out and check on a pup on the shore, or bring it to the center for care.

This can lead to people being disappointed or angry with us for “refusing to do anything to help” a seal pup, so we could use your help spreading the word to neighbors and friends, so they understand what is going on.

In San Juan County the main group that is authorized to respond to calls about stranded marine mammals, including seal pups, is the San Juan County Marine Mammal Stranding Network. If someone calls Wolf Hollow, our role is to record the details and pass this information on to the Stranding Network coordinators. There are also Stranding Networks covering adjacent coastal counties such as Skagit and Whatcom.

Only if a seal pup is brought to Wolf Hollow by the proper authorities can we rehabilitate it and, when it is strong and old enough to survive on its own, release it back into the wild.

If you are in San Juan County and see a seal pup alone on the shore, which appears to be injured or weak, please don't touch it, move it, or try to get it into the water. Call the Marine Mammal Hotline at 1-800-562-8832 and leave a message. This hotline is monitored by the Stranding Network Coordinators who will return your call.



Harbor Seal pup

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Our Mission

To promote the well-being of wildlife and their habitats through rehabilitation of injured and orphaned wildlife, public education, and non-invasive research.

Wolf Hollow Wildlife Rehabilitation Center is licensed for wildlife rehabilitation under the auspices of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Animal Transport Volunteers Needed!

Would you like to help transport injured or orphaned wild creatures within your local area, so they can be sent over to Wolf Hollow for care? Although our center is on San Juan Island we serve all of San Juan and Skagit Counties and northern Whidbey Island, so we rely on a network of trusty volunteers to collect animals and get them to us.

Don't worry – we won't ask you to wrestle Grizzly Bears or capture eagles in your first week! Mostly we need people who could take a box containing a little bird or mammal from a member of the public to the airport or ferry terminal. Once you have gained experience and come to a training class or two you could advance to assessing and rescuing a range of injured or orphaned wild creatures. We welcome volunteers from anywhere within our area of service, but especially need help in Mount Vernon/Burlington, Orcas Island and N Whidbey Island.

Interested? Please email volunteers@wolfhollowwildlife.org or give us a call at 360-378-5000.



Black-headed Grosbeak

News in Brief

- 2/8 & 2/9 Education booth at the Edison Bird Festival
- 3/23 First baby animal of 2014 - a tiny cottontail caught by a dog
- 4/3 We welcomed Cara Gates, from Sheridan, WY, as our Seasonal Rehabber for the summer
- 4/12 Education Booth at the Orcas Bird Festival
- 4/24 First baby bird—a nestling robin brought in by a cat
- 5/7 Our first rehab intern of 2014, Debbie Thompson from Seattle, WA, arrived
- 5/14 October Greenfield came all the way from Canton, SD, to join us as our second intern
- 5/24 We held our 19th Annual Bite of Orcas on the Village Green, Eastsound
- 5/28 Third intern, Lindsey Fenton of Kokomo IN, joined the team
- 6/7 & 6/8 Education Booth at the Anacortes Waterfront Festival
- 6/11 Our fourth intern of the year, Brooke Haynes, from Stockton, CA, arrived
- 6/20 We welcomed Tate Thomson from McCleary, WA, as our summer Education Intern
- 6/24 First Harbor Seal pup arrived
- 7/2 Intern Emily Simmons from Spokane Valley, WA, joined us
- 7/12 Hands-on activities at the Anacortes Kids R Best Fest
- 7/16 Sarah Barham from Portland, Oregon, started her internship with us



Young Great Blue Heron

Coming Soon

- 8/13-8/16 Come and visit us at our education booth in the Green Village at San Juan County Fair
- 9/6 Look for our Education booth at the Skagit Salmon Festival



River Otter

Statistics thru June 2014

Number of Animals		
Birds	145	58.9%
Mammals	100	40.7
Amphibians/Reptiles	1	0.4
Total	246	
Causes		
Orphaned/Separated	94	38.2
Cat Attack	31	12.6
Nest Destroyed	23	9.4
Dog Attack	17	6.9
Hit by Car	16	6.5
Window/Building	4	1.6
Unknown	40	16.3
Other	21	8.5
(fence, poison, shot, power lines, etc.)		
Results		
Released	81	32.9
Died	29	11.8
DOA	26	10.6
Euthanized	73	29.7
In Treatment	37	15.0
	246	

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Save the Date

All Hallow's Eve Charity Costume Ball
 Benefitting Wolf Hollow WRC

Friday, October 31st, 2014
 7pm-10pm at The Brickworks

Cocktails, Hors d'oeuvres, Music, Auction, Dessert Dash

Contact jduke@wolfhollowwildlife.org for info
 Formal invitations to follow

Do you enjoy reading *Wild Times*?

We are pleased to send our newsletter to anyone who is interested in what we do and supports our work by donating, volunteering or generally spreading the word about wildlife. But we don't want to waste valuable resources by mailing newsletters that go straight into the recycling bin. You can help! If we have heard from you within the last year or so, we are delighted to have you on our mailing list and hope you continue to enjoy your newsletters.

If we haven't heard from you in a while, but you want to continue receiving *Wild Times*, just let us know. Send an email to wolfhollow@wolfhollowwildlife.org, send a small donation, or give us a call at 360-378-5000.

If we don't hear from you, we won't know if you are still interested in receiving the newsletter or not, so your name may be removed from our mailing list.

Hollow Happenings

Would you like to receive short email updates about what is happening at Wolf Hollow? We send these out each month, so if you would like to keep up-to-date with what animals are in care, events that are coming up or who is working at Wolf Hollow this summer, send us an email and we will be glad to add you to our *Hollow Happenings* email list. You can also sign up for *Hollow Happenings* by visiting our web site www.wolfhollowwildlife.org. The content in these updates will be a bit different from that in *Wild Times*, so you can choose to receive both or either one.

Wolf Hollow Wildlife Rehabilitation Center

284 Boyce Rd / PO Box 391
Friday Harbor, WA 98250
(360) 378-5000

Address Service Requested

*Over 30 Years
Caring for Wildlife*



Fledgling Goldfinch



Wish List

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dry dog and kitten foods (high quality) | <input type="checkbox"/> Paper Towels and Bathroom Tissue (unbleached) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shovels, spades, rakes | <input type="checkbox"/> Frozen fish, especially salmon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pine / Fir Shavings (for animal bedding) (not cedar) | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Chips (for paths) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laundry and Dish Soaps (low-perfume, septic friendly) | <input type="checkbox"/> Copier Paper (high recycled content, white & colored) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Berries (blue, black and rasps, fresh or frozen) | <input type="checkbox"/> Liquid Hand Soap (not antibacterial) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Epson Printer Ink Cartridges (77 and 78) | <input type="checkbox"/> Rubber gloves (heavy duty, for cage cleaning) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aquariums (10 gal) | <input type="checkbox"/> Blank Writable DVDs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nuts in Shells (walnuts and pecans, for squirrels) | <input type="checkbox"/> Suet Feeder/holders |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drills/screw guns – battery operated | <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic Dog Bowls (medium sized) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apples, pears (for young deer, woodpeckers etc) | <input type="checkbox"/> Hose nozzles, quick disconnects and hangers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rechargeable Batteries (AAA, AA, C) | <input type="checkbox"/> Load of Pea Gravel (for aviary floors) |

New Volunteer Coordinator

We welcome Marc Brown as our new Volunteer Coordinator. Visit the "Meet our Staff" page on our website to learn more about Marc, who is taking on the essential task of keeping in touch with our wonderful volunteers and bringing new volunteers on board.