

Hook, Line and Sinker

The heron was standing on the dock only a few feet from where a man was fishing in the lake. It's not unusual for Great Blue Herons to hang out near people when they're fishing but usually, if you get just a little too close, they take off with a loud squawk and fly a short distance before landing further along the shore.

This heron didn't have obvious injuries, but it hardly moved for a couple of hours, so the fisherman grew concerned, called Wolf Hollow, and one of our volunteers went out to investigate. She got closer and closer to the heron, expecting that at any second it would take off, but it didn't react until she could almost touch it, at which point it did a very un-heron-like thing and jumped into the water. Herons' long-legs are very effective for wading but not for swimming, so the bird was floundering in the water and trying to scabble back up onto the dock. With the help of the fisherman she was able to scoop the heron out of the water with a net and up onto the dock, where they discovered that it had fishing line wrapped around its neck and shoulders. They were able to remove the line and couldn't find any wounds or injuries, but the heron seemed really weak, so they sent it to Wolf Hollow.

When we examined the heron we found that it was indeed thin and weak, one wing was sore and it had a fishing hook embedded in its mouth under its tongue. The hook wasn't too deeply embedded and there was no sign of serious infection, so we were able to remove the hook and clean the wound. At first the heron didn't want to eat on its own but then realized what the fish in the tub were and started to swallow them down. Over the next few days it gradually grew stronger, gained weight and was moved into an outdoor enclosure. After 2 weeks of care the heron was able to fly strongly and was ready to be returned to Orcas for release. When the door was opened, it immediately launched itself from the carrier, flew out across the lake and up into the trees.

This heron was lucky. It wasn't too badly entangled in the line, there was little damage to feathers and no wounds from line cutting into its body. The hook was clearly visible in its mouth so we were able to reach in

and remove it. Over the years we have treated a range of other birds that were caught in fishing line or hooks – but most were not so lucky.



Heron

One patient was a Loon that was seen in the middle of a lake repeatedly trying to dive, but unable to get under water because its legs and wings were tangled in line, which was caught on a buoy. Our volunteer borrowed a boat and was able to rescue the bird and remove the line, but it was so stressed and exhausted that it didn't survive. We've cared for mallards with deep lacerations where line had wrapped around their legs and cut in as they struggled to get free. We've also received gulls that were thin and weak

but we couldn't work out what was wrong until we took X-Rays that showed hooks and sinkers deep inside their bodies, and serious damage to their digestive systems. These poor birds had to be euthanized.

We have even treated an adult Bald Eagle that was noticed by boaters because it was floundering in the water far from shore. When they got closer they discovered that it had a large hook embedded in one foot, attached to heavy-duty line that was wrapped around a buoy. They assume that the eagle had been attracted by the big metallic lure and had been hooked when it swooped down to grab it. Somehow they were able to cut the line, get the eagle onto their boat, wrap it in a sail cover and bring it back to shore. We were able to remove the hook and treat the cold, wet, exhausted bird. It recovered and was released a couple of weeks later, but if the boaters hadn't spotted its struggles, it would have died.

In our area, fishing hooks and line may not be as common a cause of injury to wildlife as being hit by a car or caught by a cat, but over the years we've seen a significant number of birds that have been injured or killed in this way.

The good news is that this is a human impact we can all help to reduce. If you enjoy fishing, please think about the herons, ducks and loons and don't leave hooks or line behind. If you don't fish, but enjoy walking along the sea shore or around a lake, please keep a look out for line or hooks, pick them up and dispose of them safely.



Eagle foot with hook

News in Brief

- 7/4 Kinsey Coffing from Bremerton WA arrived as our 5th intern of 2018
- 7/4 Our papier mâché animals were equipped with drums, trumpets and guitars for our Fourth of July Parade float
- 7/14 Lots of families tried out our bird games and activities at Anacortes Kids R Best Fest
- 7/19 4th presentation in the 2018 *Wild San Juan* series: "Marine Mammals"
- 8/11 We took our education booth to the Orcas Library Fair
- 8/15-18 Many people came by our San Juan County Fair booth to help celebrate our 35th anniversary
- 8/22 Katie Phillips travelled all the way from Georgia to be our final intern of the year
- 8/23 5th *Wild San Juan* presentation: "A Critter's Eye View of Your House"
- 9/4 Chanda Stone joined us as our new Executive Director
- 9/8 Over 200 people visited our education booth at the Skagit River Salmon Festival
- 9/12 "Knock on Wood" presentation about local woodpeckers, as part of San Juan Library's *The Wild Side* series
- 9/15 We took displays, games and birding activities to Fidalgo Bay Day
- 9/20 Final *Wild San Juan* presentation of 2018: "Rat Poison and Raptors"



Thanks to funds provided by the Moss Foundation, our Facilities Manager, Mark Billington, and volunteer Jerry McElyea, have now completed the process of taking down the old enclosure and building her a new and improved home. Check out our web site www.wolfhollowwildlife.org to see Madrona's new enclosure.

Welcome Chanda

It is my honor and privilege to be the new Executive Director of Wolf Hollow. My mission is to carry on the great work that my predecessor Amy Saxe-Eyler, and the wonderful staff, board and volunteers have been doing for many years.

Just a bit of my background. I was born and raised in Southern California, and attended California State University of San Bernardino to be closer to the trees, mountains, and wildlife of the area. After earning my undergraduate degree, I took a year off to become a naturalist at an outdoor Science Camp, where I loved teaching and hiking every day.

I moved to Portland, Oregon to attend graduate school at Portland State University, where I also met my husband. We've been married 22 years now and have two great kids. After completing my courses, I worked for the next 14 years as an arborist, xeriscape specialist, wetland restoration coordinator and volunteer specialist. One of my most long-lasting projects was the creation of TEAM Tualatin, a summer program for teens to restore natural habitats and wildlife corridors.

In 2012 my husband's job took us to Saudi Arabia, where we lived for five years. We returned in October 2017, moving permanently to our new home on San Juan Island. We are all thrilled to call San Juan Island our home and to be part of such a wonderful community. We have travelled the world and chosen this place to be our forever home.

I truly look forward to working with all of you.



Madrona's New Enclosure

Madrona, a Red-tailed Hawk, is one of our un-releasable education birds. She has been with us for 20 years, and has made appearances at numerous presentations and children's activities in our local area. Volunteers built her a nice enclosure shortly after she arrived, but over the years it gradually succumbed to the rigors of our damp climate and was starting to fall apart.

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284 Boyce Rd. / PO Box 391
Friday Harbor, WA 98250
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Wild San Juan Presentation Series

From swallows nesting under the eaves to seals caught in fishing nets, to deer eating the roses – the Wild San Juan presentation series covered it all. The goal of these presentations, which also ran in 2017, was to invite local people and visitors to consider some of the issues that can arise between wildlife and people in our area and think of ways to reduce these problems. Our thanks to the Whale Museum for inviting us to partner with them on this series and for providing a great venue for the talks and discussions.

Wolf Hollow Awarded Prescott Grant

We're thrilled to announce that Wolf Hollow was recently awarded nearly \$42,000 through NOAA's John H Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance program to help cover costs of marine mammal rehabilitation for 2018 and a portion of the 2019 season.

We're so grateful for this generous support to continue our critical program to treat these vulnerable pups, which have been impacted by human activities.



Harbor Seal

Statistics thru October 2018

Number of Animals

Birds	308	57.6%
Mammals	226	42.2
Amphibians or Reptiles	1	0.2
Total	535	

Causes

Orphaned or separated	140	26.2
Unknown	94	17.6
Cat attack	65	12.1
Car	60	11.2
Nest Destroyed	60	11.2
Dog attack	30	5.6
Window	22	4.1
Fell from Nest	15	2.8
Disease	7	1.3
Other	42	7.9
<small>(fishing gear, mower, human interference, trap, fence, poison, etc.)</small>		

Results

Released	249	46.5%
Euthanized	153	28.6
DOA	83	15.5
Died in Care	34	6.4
Transferred	2	0.4
In treatment (end of Oct)	14	2.6
Total	535	

Volunteers Needed

Have you ever considered volunteering for Wolf Hollow?

Volunteers are an essential part of our organization in so many ways and right now we most urgently need help with:

Animal Transport – We rely on a network of volunteers on other islands in San Juan County, in Skagit County and on northern Whidbey



Island to collect animals from members of the public and take them to another volunteer or to the airport or ferry landing for transport to Wolf Hollow.

Ferry Transporters – Do you regularly travel in a vehicle from Anacortes, Orcas, Lopez or Shaw to Friday Harbor, and would be willing to bring a carrier or box with an animal in it? We will provide you with a card you can put on your dashboard when you are in the ferry line, so our Animal Transport Volunteers know you are willing to help.

Events – Could you put up posters, sell tickets, bake cookies or help our staff and board members with the dozens of other details involved in organizing and running a fundraising event?

Other – There are many other ways you could volunteer, too. If you have other skills or talents you think would be helpful to our work, we'd be delighted to discuss possibilities with you.

Give us a call at 360-378-5000
or send an email to volunteers@wolfhollowwildlife.org



Young Cooper's hawk

Hawks and Hummingbirds, Otters and Owls...

...are just a few of the animals featured in our Adoption Packages, which make great Holiday gifts for the animal lovers in your family.

Visit WolfHollowWildlife.org/adoption-program to choose their favorite creature.

Wolf Hollow Staff
Chanda Stone – Executive Director
Penny Harner – Wildlife Rehabilitator
Vicki Taylor – Wildlife Rehabilitator



Our Mission

Shona Aitken – Education Coordinator
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 Board of Directors
Marc Brown, President Cindy Hansen, Secretary
Susan Oseth, Vice President Chris Minney

We (almost) Have a Digital Radiograph System

We have been raising funds for over a year to purchase a new digital radiograph system to replace the elderly X-ray machine that has been in use for many years. A digital system would enable us to take clearer radiographs, easily share them with specialist veterinarians, reduce costs and eliminate the use of hazardous chemicals. We have secured 93% of the funding, and need only \$3,000 more to purchase the system. We are almost there — Can you help us reach our goal?

Annual Rosario Festival of Trees

Wolf Hollow will be taking part in Rosario Resort's Festival of Trees again this year. Visit the Moran Mansion on Orcas Island throughout the month of December to take a look at the beautiful trees, decorated by local non-profit organizations, then vote for your favorite tree by purchasing tickets from the front desk. All proceeds go directly to the organizations and your tickets will be entered to win some great prizes.



Barn owls

Wolf Hollow Wildlife Rehabilitation Center

284 Boyce Rd / PO Box 391

Friday Harbor, WA 98250

35 Years

Address Service Requested



Otter nap time



Wish List

- Sunflower hearts
- Copier paper (high recycled content)
- Frozen meats (beef, lamb, chicken, venison)
- Frozen seafood (salmon, shrimp, crab, etc.)
- Nuts in shells (almonds, walnuts, pecans)
- Energizer rechargeable batteries (AA, AAA, C)
- Dry kitten food (high quality)
- Garbage bags (13 and 33 gal)
- Kitchen scrub brushes and sponges with scrubbies
- Packing tape
- New garden hoses
- Bathroom tissue (unbleached)
- New hose nozzles
- Rubber gloves (heavy duty, for cage cleaning)
- Laundry detergent (septic friendly, unperfumed)
- Hand soap (**not** antibacterial)
- Paper towels
- Dish soap (low perfume, biodegradable)



Young opossum