

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## Contents

Message from the President	3
Committee Achievements	4
Membership Overview	6
Financial Statement	6
Board of Directors	7
Mission and Guiding Principles	8



## Message from the President

On behalf of the Washington Wildlife Rehabilitation Association's (WWRA) Board of Directors, we are pleased to share the WWRA 2021 Annual Report.

WWRA was officially formed in 2003, as a member-directed organization created to support the science and profession of wildlife rehabilitation and its practitioners. Board members represent the membership and work with one another on committees to develop professional resources, create networking opportunities, and connect with others working with wildlife throughout the state.

After the challenges faced during the worldwide pandemic of 2020, we were determined to continue to support our membership and the wildlife in our community. Plans were developed to host an in-person conference for 2021. We established protocols to host this in a safe manner thanks to the benefits of vaccinations for Covid-19 that were readily available. The participants were eager to come to share knowledge, resources, and connect with one another. Workshop sessions were recorded and shared with those unable to attend in person.

At the end of 2021, we said good-bye to board members that were rolling off due to term limits. They will stay involved in other ways and we appreciate the time they spent in service to the organization. In the fall, we held our annual election. Two new board members will be joining us in the coming year, and we look forward to working with them. Wildlife rehabilitation is an important asset to the wildlife and citizens of Washington state. We are happy to facilitate an association that can help promote this opportunity and support the professionals that care for wildlife patients each day. We look forward to new projects in the coming year.

We appreciate your support of our mission,

Suzanne West, WWRA Board President

## Committee Achievements

### BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- The Board welcomed Sara Penhallegon to her first term and Emily Meredith to her second term as Board members in January 2021.
- The Committee initiated a Board assessment process with consultant Arthur Padilla. Arthur created a Board Assessment Survey for Board members and attended the 2021 WWRA conference to start a discussion with WWRA members.
- The Committee led the nominating process for the 2022 Board of Directors election.

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- WWRA hosted its fifth annual conference in November 2021 in a two-day in-person format. The speakers were wildlife veterinarians, veterinary technicians, rehabilitators, and education/training professionals, including two from outside of Washington state who presented virtually.
- The conference offered 13 talks and one two-part workshop. Topics were wide-ranging and included: standards and trends in wildlife rehabilitation, natural history and ecology, starting up a wildlife rehabilitation center, fundraising, intake exams, physiological impacts of wildfires on wildlife, wood duck rehab, rehabilitation of subadult cougar, release criteria, and how to both manage humans and be a human in the constantly urgent context of wildlife rehabilitation.
- Proof of COVID-19 vaccination and face masks were required for in-person attendance both days at the conference.
- The conference was attended by 43 people, including the speakers. Additionally, 10 people registered who were unable to attend the conference in person. All presentations were recorded and posted on the WWRA website for 30 days following the conference. Each attendee was able to earn up to 13.25 hours of continuing education credit for attending the conference in person and/or watching presentation recordings.

## FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- The Finance and Development committee acquired QuickBooks online in 2020.
- They worked with a consulting accountant to create new Profit and Loss Report and Balance Sheets.
- All budget sheets have been incorporated into the new format.

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

- The committee produced a spring and fall edition of an electronic newsletter.
- Committee members reached out to new members, as well as distributed regular correspondence with the membership on behalf of other committees regarding educational opportunities, upcoming elections, and surveys to gauge interest in participation or feedback on committee planning.

## WILDLIFE CARE COMMITTEE

- The Committee produced a variety of educational PDFs for the website and rehabilitation community.
  - a. It is the goal that wildlife centers and other interested parties will download and use these PDFs for education and awareness outside of the WWRA website.
- The committee will continue to move forward with creating more educational PDFs for the website.
- The committee will continue to work on a basic wildlife stabilization and triage training for the veterinary community.

## Membership Overview

WWRA had 65 memberships representing 96 members in 2021. All six Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) regions are represented by the membership base. Home-based rehabilitators and rehabilitators from large centers form a vital part of WWRA's ongoing membership.

- Organizational memberships
  - 13 organizations with 44 associated individuals
- Family memberships
  - 2 family membership, representing 2 individuals
- Lifetime membership
  - 4 lifetime memberships
- Individual memberships
  - 46 individuals
- WDFW Regions represented
  - All Regions 1 – 6

## 2021 Statement of Financial Position

Beginning Balance \$ 11,466.24

Ending Balance \$ 16,456.82

## 2021 Board of Directors

WWRA Board members are fully committed to and engaged with the organization. Board members attended monthly board meetings (by conference call) and the annual conference. Board members volunteer their time as committee chairs and members for all aspects of the organization. WWRA had a total of 9 Board members in 2021.

### **President**

#### **Membership Services Committee Co-chair**

- Suzanne West, Sarvey Wildlife Care Center

### **Vice President**

#### **Board Development Committee Co-chair**

- Corrie Hines, Twin Harbors Wildlife Center

### **Vice President**

#### **Board Development Committee Co-Chair**

- Stephanie Estrella, Raindancer Wild Bird Rescue

### **Treasurer**

#### **Finance and Development Committee Co-chair**

- Emily Meredith, PAWS Wildlife Center

### **Secretary**

- Fawn Harris, Northwest Indian College

### **Education Committee Chair**

- Lauren Caruso

### **Membership Committee Co-chair**

- Mathew “Tigger” Birch, Featherhaven

### **Wildlife Care Committee Chair**

- Alysha Evans, Whatcom Humane Wildlife Rehabilitation Center

### **Directors**

- Sara Penhallegon, Center Valley Animal Rescue

**Mission Statement:** *WWRA acts as a collective voice dedicated to advancing professional wildlife rehabilitation in Washington state through education and community building.*

**Guiding Principles:** The Washington Wildlife Rehabilitation Association supports the science and profession of wildlife rehabilitation and its practitioners through:

- Fostering continued improvement of wildlife rehabilitation.
- Disseminating knowledge through meetings, reports, publications, symposia, and other means.
- Promoting educational programs, teaching natural history, and explaining the kinship among all living things.
- Promoting cooperation between professional and governmental agencies, wildlife rehabilitators, and the public at large.
- Providing support to its members through networking and mentoring.

