

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



Contents

Message from the President	3
Committee Achievements	4
Membership Overview	5
Financial Statement	6
Board of Directors	7
Mission and Guiding Principles	8



Message from the President

3

On behalf of the Washington Wildlife Rehabilitation Association's (WWRA) Board of Directors, we are pleased to share the WWRA 2022 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.

This past year our rehabilitation community faced new challenges when HPAI (Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza: Bird Flu) found its way to our state. Sharing resources and information from our state and federal regulators, as well as creating a place to share and discuss this crisis among our membership was important.

Grant funding from Partners for Wildlife allowed us to offer scholarships to join our organization, as well as attend our annual conference. We were also able to reach out to those in the rehabilitation community in Alaska and Idaho with the same offer of scholarships. As these "neighboring" states do not have state associations, connecting with those in these other states allows for them to access resources, education opportunities, and connect with others in their field.

This generous grant funding also allowed us to offer funds to new rehabilitation facilities for start-up funds and money was available for internship stipends. We received many applications and were able to fund nearly all applicants. We look forward to offering this again to the membership in the coming year. This was a 2-year grant cycle, and we know our members will be excited to have this funding available again to help them in their rehabilitation efforts.

This 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. Our board volunteered 690 hours of their time last year working in their committees and fulfilling board responsibilities. 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 appreciate your support of our mission,
Suzanne West, WWRA Board President

Committee Achievements

BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- The Board welcomed Raina Domek and Kate Bouchard to the board.
- The Committee continued the Board assessment process with consultant Arthur Padilla. Arthur planned to interview some members to see what they were expecting from the organization and made recommendation on engaging our members.
- The Committee led the nominating process for the 2023 Board of Directors election.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- WWRA hosted its sixth annual conference in October 2022 following a two-day hybrid model (virtual and/or in-person attendance) in Tacoma, WA.
- We offered 22 sessions with speakers of all different backgrounds (veterinarians, veterinary technicians, rehabilitators, permitting agents, and more). Topics included: biosecurity, species specific rehabilitation, critical care, animal cruelty, veterinary approach to wildlife, physical therapy, release, renesting, animal welfare, and more.
- The conference reached an audience of 101 individuals (41 virtual, 60 in-person), including speakers. Attendees joined us from seven states (Alaska, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Minnesota). WWRA awarded 5 scholarships for conference attendance, using grant funds from Partners For Wildlife (P4W).
- Attendees could earn a total of 25.5 continuing education hours, including 5.5 RACE-approved hours for veterinarians and veterinary technicians. All sessions are recorded and available on the WWRA website for viewing until the 2023 conference.
- WWRA hosted an after-hours social event to provide a networking and relationship building opportunity to our members and the rehabilitation community.

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.
- Member outreach was developed by hosting *Wild Wednesdays*. These virtual gatherings focused on topics like HPAI, fundraising for non-profits, and allowed members to connect outside of our annual conference in an informal setting.

Membership Overview

WWRA had 93 memberships representing 129 members in 2022. 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. We have even added members from other states looking for continuing education opportunities and professional connections.

- Organizational memberships
 - 14 organizations with 47 associated individuals
- Family memberships
 - 6 family membership, representing 9 individuals
- Lifetime membership
 - 4 lifetime memberships
- Individual memberships
 - 69 individuals

- WDFW Regions represented
 - All Regions 1 – 6, as well as members in Alaska, Idaho, Arizona, Wisconsin, and Montana

WILDLIFE CARE COMMITTEE

- The committee continued to produce a variety of educational PDFs for the website and rehabilitation community:
 - It is the goal that wildlife centers and other interested parties will download and use these PDFs for education outside of the WWRA website.
 - The PDFs were printed out as posters and made available for in person pick up or for future ordering at the 2022 WWRA Annual Conference.
- The committee will continue to move forward with editing the last of the educational PDFs for the website.
- The committee will continue to work on a basic wildlife stabilization and triage training for the veterinary community.
- The committee is getting involved in the veterinary community for wildlife trainings and is hoping to be present/speak at the 2023 annual state conference.

FINANCE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- The Finance and Development committee amended their charter for 2022 and it was approved by the Board. We continue to use our Profit and Loss Report and Balance Sheet created by the consulting accountant.
- The Finance and development committee is very happy to report we had 100% giving from our Board of Directors in 2022. The promise to either donate direct funds or acquire donated items for our annual conference is a sign of the boards unrelenting support for WWRA.

2022 Statement of Financial Position

Total Revenue	13,020.78
Total Expenses	10,315.62
Total Income	2,705.16
Beginning Balance	20,546.40
Ending Balance	35,102.48

2022 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 8 Board members in 2022.

President

Membership Services Committee Co-chair

- Suzanne West, Sarvey Wildlife Care Center

Co – Vice President

Board Development Committee Co-chair

- Corrie Hines, Twin Harbors Wildlife Center

Co – Vice President/Secretary

Wildlife Care Committee Chair

- Alysha Evans, Whatcom Humane Wildlife Rehabilitation Center

Treasurer

Finance and Development Committee Co-chair

- Emily Meredith, PAWS Wildlife Center

Education Committee Chair

- Raina Domek, PAWS Wildlife Center

Membership Committee Co-chair

- Mathew “Tigger” Birch, Featherhaven

Directors

- Sara Penhallegon, Center Valley Animal Rescue
- Kate Bouchard, Sarvey Wildlife Care Center

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.

