



Wildlife Care of Southern California

Wild Animal Rehabilitation and Release Organization

P.O. Box 941476 Simi Valley Ca 93065

www.wildlifecareofsocal.org

Hotline 805-581-3911

Please Help Us Continue to Care for California Wildlife.

Urban Coyote from the vulnerable birth to the Resilient, Adaptable, Intelligent problem solving survivalist adult.

2023 has been a very busy year for us, Coyotes with mange, #77 most of those are LA County, with increasingly more sightings in Ventura County than in previous years.

- A resurgence of Bobcats with mange in Ventura and Los Angeles Counties.
- Baby raccoons, huge numbers of infant baby raccoons mostly retrieved from attics. We would like to remind everyone that raccoon mothers are extremely good parents and will retrieve and relocate their babies on their own, with some encouragement. The problem we see is people immediately contact Animal Control and at that point we cannot guide the homeowner in reuniting mom and babies, baby raccoons are in rehabilitation for 6 months. Rehabilitators should be the **FIRST** call made when wild animals are involved, especially the babies.

WE CANNOT DO THE WORK WE DO - WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT.

Rehabilitation is very expensive: permits, food, medications, caging the list goes on. Your donation of \$30.00 or more will entitle you to continue to receive our educational newsletter!

WCSC is a non - profit, all volunteer organization and all contributions are tax-deductible. # 77-0390358

THANK- YOU !

\$30.00 _____ \$50.00 _____ \$75.00 _____
 \$100.00 _____ \$200.00 _____ \$500.00 _____

Other Amount \$ _____

Consider supporting wildlife as a gift, in a trust or as automatic monthly donation for that wildlife fan in your life.

PLEASE MAIL TO: Wildlife Care of Southern California

P.O. Box 941476 Simi Valley, CA 93065

PayPal www.wildlifecareofsocal.org

Zelle 805-428-7105

Did You Know?

There are NO City, State, or Federal agencies that rescue, rehabilitate or fund the rehabilitation efforts of our injured and orphaned native wild animals.

We have to pay them in permit fees to help these animals.

***PLEASE Join us !
and donate what you can.***

Neonate Coyote pup. We are often asked how we raise these pups to remain wild?



Neonate Coyote pup. Raising Neonate coyote pups is a little more work and we are more vigilant than with self-feeding pups with 3-hour feedings around the clock. As far as keeping them wild, Coyotes are innately wild, and if precautions are taken when received they will remain wild. Taking into account all of their senses, raising eyes closed coyote pups we wear the same gloves and cape that has coyote scent on it from previous litters. When their eyes open at 2 weeks we also wear a mask (so they don't recognize and become familiar with any particular person) and we never talk when handling any wild animals but especially infants, we don't want them associating the human voice with anything positive, feeding. At 4 weeks they are instinctively skittish of new sounds etc. Which we take advantage of when cleaning, creating an aversive that at this age in the wild they would be paying attention to and move away from. At 6 weeks they are fully weaned and go into a larger run in the clinic and their crate(den) with bedding and all of their scent goes with them for comfort, familiarity, and a minimum of handling. But the cape, mask and gloves which have been mom for 6 weeks goes away and now we raise them as if they just came in and are fearful of us.



Coyote pup reunited ! By a resourceful homeowner!



This is a perfect example of why a rehabilitation facility should be called before animal control, it can be the difference between life and death for a wild animal.

We got a call from a homeowner in the Yucca Valley that had rescued a coyote pup (approx. 10 weeks old) that was stuck in her fence. She cut the fence to get the pup out and she successfully removed him placing him in a crate in the garage.

She proceeded to tell us that her 2 pit bulls had chased it but did not catch him, she intervened and put the dogs inside.

She also had already called animal control and they were on the way, she was worried now that they would just euthanize him. We advised her to let them know our wildlife organization was working with her to reunite the coyote pup with its mom, it was an obvious case of separation, the coyote pup was not injured or touched by the dogs, nor did he bite anyone.

Animal control arrives and tells the woman they need to confiscate the coyote pup and euthanize him to test for rabies, because she was in contact with him. We tried to explain to them there were no signs of sickness or abnormal behavior coming from this pup and that course of action was extreme, when the history of what had happened was obvious and witnessed. After 3 officers showed up telling her that was their protocol when a person comes in contact with a wild animal, we told her at this point it was out of our hands and it's up to her and the officers. She called back 20 minutes later and let us know that she had told them the pup escaped out of her garage. The pup later that night was successfully reunited and is now back with his family!

There are always situations that will require an animal to be euthanized but this was not one of them. God speed to this little pup and his second chance. And a huge thank you! to this homeowner for seeing the situation for what it was.



FACTS ABOUT THE URBAN COYOTE

- **Coyotes mate for life and are monogamous.** In a 2012 study of 18 litters of coyotes, researchers discovered that once they find love, a coyote couple is in it for the long haul and never cheat. According to Urban Coyote Initiative, "This loyalty holds even when there are other coyotes in adjacent territories and plenty of opportunity for cheating. But coyote pairs stay faithful, and faithful for life. Some of the pairs followed by the research team were together for as long as 10 years, only moving on when one mate died."
 - Coyotes start looking for **denning sites** in January and can have multiple spots picked out with in a small area and will move their den if they feel they have been discovered. So if you notice an increase in coyote presence and activity between January and March they may be searching out a den site. Now is the time to haze if you don't want them raising pups in your neighborhood.
- **Dens** are chosen by the abundance and availability of water, food and shelter, in dimly lit areas shelters can be: overgrown hedges, dense tree packs, hill sides in open space, abandoned buildings and especially if they have no competition with other coyotes, large dogs, or loud crazy people chasing them off.
 - **Hierarchy** the coyotes position in the pack is determined from a very young age and engaged in as play.
 - Coyotes have many vocalizations; locating family members, reuniting, warnings to intruders but none of which they use over a kill.
 - Coyotes will not enter into a situation that is questionable to their escape or safety.
 - **Coyotes** are very timid, and scare easily, with loud noises and aggressive movements.
 - The eastern coyote weighs in at 40-50 lbs has slightly more wolf-like features and is larger than the western coyote at 20 -30 lbs.
 - **When Not to haze:** an injured or sick animal, an animal protecting a den, a cornered animal or a lone baby.
 - **Highly adaptable** to the urban environment, and cunningly smart, this resourceful coyote knows how to make the most of all situations. The coyote is an **expert hunter** of rodents, and is a wonderful species to have around for rodent and squirrel control.
 - Very acute sense of smell, hearing and sight.
 - **Diet :** Rodents, voles, squirrels, rabbits, in season fruit, berries, trash, carrion (road kill) and small pets if available, they are considered omnivores.

It is illegal in the state of California to:

1. Trap or kill native wild animals unless you have a permit from the DFW.
2. Keep native wild animals as pets. This applies to mammals and birds, although reptiles up to five per species are exempted (we still discourage collection of native reptiles).
3. Rehabilitate wild animals without a license. The license must be issued by your local State Department of Fish and Game, and in addition, to rehabilitate birds a license must be issued by US Fish & Wildlife Service.
4. Release any wild animal into the wild except through a licensed rehabilitator ; release any exotic animal into the wild. An exotic is a non-native species such as a ferret, prairie dog, sugar glider, non-native reptile, exotic bird, captive bred wild animal or hybrid.
5. To disturb an active bird nest with eggs or babies. You must wait until the birds have left the nest before removal.



Wildlife Care of So Cal

WCSC (formerly Wildlife Care of Ventura County) was founded in 1994 as a non-profit 501(c)(3) volunteer organization, which holds permits through the City of Simi Valley, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, United States Fish and Wildlife and US Department of Agriculture.

Our organization is permitted to rehabilitate all native wildlife; with the exception of bear, mountain lion, and deer. Our volunteers specialize in one or more species, and operate as a team of dedicated, and highly trained individuals. We work very closely with veterinarians who provide medical care, x-rays, surgery and humane euthanasia when necessary. Beyond the immediate benefits of helping wildlife in need, WCSC provides a valuable service to the entire community by making help accessible to those who find wildlife in distress, and educating the public on living with our wild neighbors.

Director, Anna Reams
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