

WDFW Rules and Conditions

- A wildlife rehabilitation permit from the Department does not exempt the wildlife rehabilitator from complying with other state, federal, county, and city laws and regulations. A federal wildlife rehabilitation permit is needed to rehabilitate migratory birds (<http://www.fws.gov/permits/mbpermits/birdbasics.html>).
- In compliance with Washington State law, wildlife remains the property of the state and is subject to control by the state.
- It is unlawful to 1) publicly display wildlife while it is undergoing rehabilitation and 2) use wildlife being held for rehabilitation for propagation.
- The Department will make available to the public and wildlife rehabilitation permittees a list of names, addresses and telephone numbers of wildlife rehabilitation permit holders and the species they are authorized to rehabilitate.
- Injured or diseased wildlife requiring treatment by a licensed veterinarian will receive such treatment as soon as possible.

Wildlife under rehabilitation will be maintained in a separate enclosure from domestic or exotic wildlife to prevent the possibility of disease transmission.

- The regional wildlife rehabilitation coordinator will be notified of wildlife known to have died of the following diseases: *avian cholera*; *avian pox*; *duck viral enteritis (duck plague)*; *environmental contaminants (lead shot poisoning, oil spill contamination, etc.)*; *ornithosis*; *Newcastle's disease*; *rabies*; *canine distemper*; or *tuberculosis (in species other than birds)*.
- The Director may limit the numbers and species of wildlife to be rehabilitated at a wildlife rehabilitation facility based on the wildlife rehabilitator's qualifications and their ability to comply with the Wildlife Rehabilitation Facility and Care Standards. Oiled bird rehabilitation facilities must comply with the facility requirements in section 24 of WAC 232-12-275. When treating oiled birds, the facility requirements in section 24 take precedence.
- Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Officers may inspect at reasonable times and in a reasonable manner the wildlife, permits, records, and wildlife rehabilitation facility of any wildlife rehabilitator.
- The regional wildlife rehabilitation coordinator will be notified within 24 hours when a state endangered or threatened wildlife species, or an oiled bird, is received at a wildlife rehabilitation facility. The regional wildlife rehabilitation coordinator will be notified within 72 hours when a state sensitive species or marked, tagged, or banded wildlife is received at the wildlife rehabilitation facility.
- The holder of a wildlife rehabilitation permit who is authorized to rehabilitate endangered or threatened species must, prior to release, notify the regional wildlife rehabilitation coordinator when an endangered or threatened species is ready for release. When releasing rehabilitated wildlife that had been oiled the regional wildlife rehabilitation coordinator will be notified of the number of birds being released, the species of birds being released, the proposed location of the release, and the proposed date/time of release.
- The regional wildlife rehabilitation coordinator will be notified within 24 hours of any state endangered or threatened species, or oiled bird, which dies. Live endangered or threatened species unsuitable for return to the wildlife shall be reported to the Department as soon as the determination is made. Endangered or threatened species, or oiled bird, will not be disposed of or euthanized without prior Department approval.
- Except as authorized by the Department, rehabilitated wildlife will be released as soon as possible, but no later than 180 days, into its proper habitat in the same area as recovered. Rehabilitated oiled birds shall only be released in the same area as recovered when the threat of becoming re-oiled no longer exists. If the area that they were recovered in is not clean enough to allow for their release at that location, department approval is required prior to releasing rehabilitated oiled birds in another location.

- When a wildlife rehabilitator determines wildlife is not suitable for release (except endangered or threatened species, see above), one of the following options will be exercised.
 - A. Research project with required permits;
 - B. Approved breeding projects;
 - C. Orphan imprinting as approved by the Department; or
 - D. Euthanasia

- The rehabilitator will dispose of dead wildlife (except threatened or endangered species, see above) by exercising one of the following options:
 - A. Deposit at an approved university or college museum in the state of Washington;
 - B. Research project with required permits;
 - C. Bury, incinerate, or provide to licensed rendering facility.
 - D. Dead oiled birds shall not be disposed of without prior department approval.