



NORTHERN COLORADO  
WILDLIFE + CENTER

# ANNUAL REPORT

2021



EDUCATE  
ADVOCATE  
REHABILITATE

# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

2021 brought great achievements and growth to Northern Colorado Wildlife Center. In just one year our team was able to hire our first staff member, protect over 165 acres of open space, and complete our most successful fundraiser yet, Fort Collins' Top Dog. This prosperity and success helped inspire our team to continue adapting to a pandemic stricken world, but despite COVID-19 continuing to disrupt life across the globe, 2021 allowed us to bring wildlife education to the mountain, urban, and rural communities of Northern Colorado; all while helping to save hundreds of wild animals in distress. While we are still in need of an expanded facility, our team continues working towards acquiring a small portion of Hughes so that we can educate even more community members, rehabilitate more species of wild animal, and bring more volunteering opportunities to the NoCo community.

Thank you for your continued support!



**TALLON NIGHTWALKER**  
Director of Northern Colorado Wildlife Center

30 UNDER 30  
AUGUST 2021 ISSUE





# OUR MISSION

The mission of Northern Colorado Wildlife Center, a 501(c)3 independent nonprofit, is to:

**REHABILITATE** sick, injured, and orphaned wildlife, and when successful, release those animals back into their natural habitats.



**EDUCATE** the public about the natural histories of wildlife native to northern Colorado, ways to peacefully coexist with them, and provide humane solutions to human-wildlife conflicts.

**PROMOTE AND ADVOCATE** for the preservation and restoration of native ecosystems that provide wildlife places to live and thrive.



# COLLABORATING TO SAVE LIVES

## WATERFOWL REUNITES

Throughout the spring and summer of 2021, our team worked alongside Greenwood Wildlife Rehabilitation Center to reunite over 40 baby geese and ducklings who found themselves orphaned and in need of a new wild family.



## EDUCATION EVENTS

Education is just as important as rehabilitation to our nonprofit, and collaborating on education events has proven to be a great way to reach an even broader audience. For example, NCWC and the Rocky Mountain Raptor Program worked together at the 2021 Drink Ales, Save Scales fundraiser for the Northern Colorado Herpetological Society; an event that educated over 200 people!



## PROVIDING SUPPORT

While we still do not have a large scale facility, we have highly trained rehabilitators on our team who can help support other facilities in many ways. This support includes providing supplemental staffing, providing advice, and providing wildlife food such as these crayfish our team caught and took over to Sonflower Ranch Wildlife Rehabilitation Center.





# 2021 TEAM ACHIEVEMENTS



## HIRING AS OUR FIRST EMPLOYEE

In February of 2021 Northern Colorado Wildlife Center took the exciting step of hiring the nonprofit's first employee.

Tallon Nightwalker, who helped found NCWC back in April of 2016, was hired as the director of NCWC and tasked with growing the organization through service creation, grant writing, and community engagement.

## WE PARTICIPATED IN OUR FIRST COLORADO GIVES DAY

Since Northern Colorado Wildlife Center turned five years old in 2021, our team was able to participate in Colorado Gives Day for the first time. This opportunity allowed our team to reach new donors, share our mission with new groups, and cultivate relationships with local community foundations and businesses.



## 2021 PRESIDENTIAL SERVICE AWARDS

Our team celebrated seven of our team members who were awarded Presidential Service Awards for their volunteer work.

- Alex Koenigsberg received bronze level for 100+ hours
- Jacquelyn Schoppe received bronze level for 100+ hours
- Lacey Gaechter received bronze for 100+ hours
- Emily Olivo received gold level for 400+ hours
- Michela Dunbar received gold level for 400+ hours
- Kate Boyd received gold level for 400+ hours
- Bob Nightwalker received gold level for 400+ hours



# 2021 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

## REVENUE

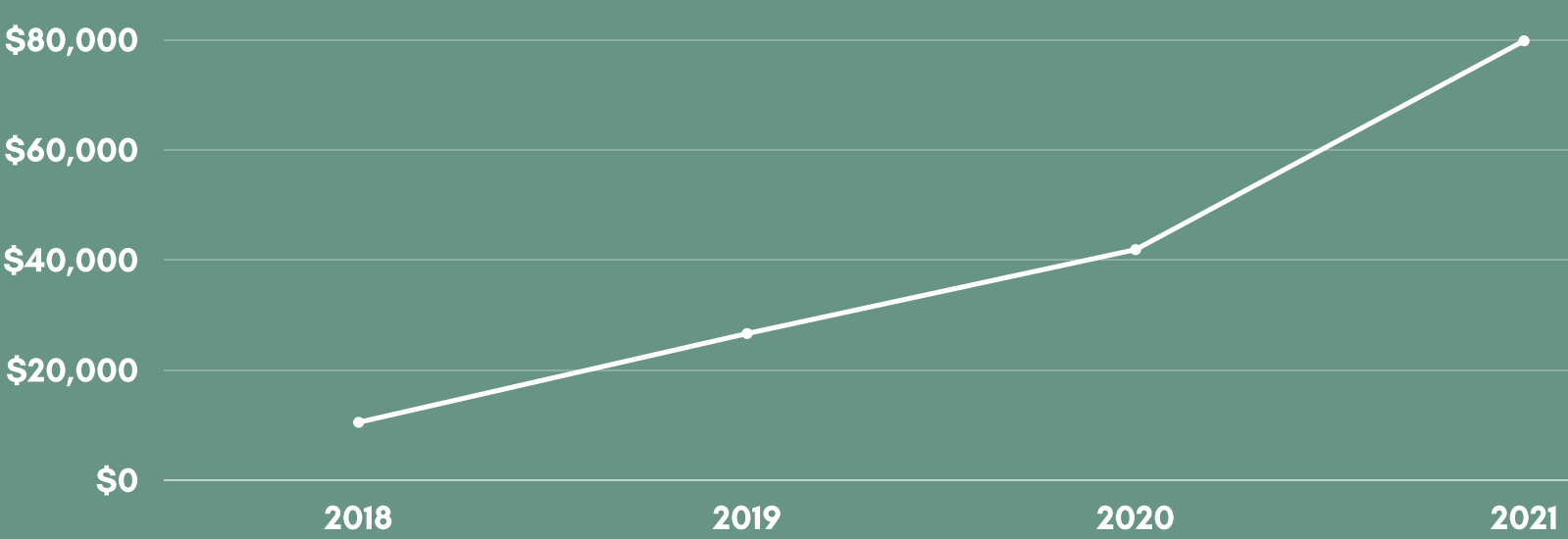
Fundraisers.....	\$30,544.69
Private Grants.....	\$25,000.00
Corporate Donations.....	\$662.85
Public Donations.....	\$85,495.22
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$141,702.76</b>

## EXPENDITURES

Animal Care Supplies.....	\$3,140.00
Rescue Supplies.....	\$2,029.41
Veterinary Care.....	\$854.93
Educational Programs Supplies.....	\$1,101.01
Habitat Improvement Supplies.....	\$126.03
Donor Relations.....	\$241.29
Volunteer Supplies.....	\$862.33
Fundraising.....	\$1,525.94
Printing Costs.....	\$1,545.10
Salary and related expenses.....	\$28,203.96
Marketing/Advertising.....	\$2,767.75
Permits and Licensing.....	\$95.00
Insurance.....	\$2,510.00
Misc.....	\$5,409.07
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$50,411.76</b>



## NCWC CASH POSITION FLOW





# WILDLIFE RESCUE AND REHABILITATION

In 2021 our team responded to over 340 calls for service and helped save over 400 wild animals experiencing an emergency. While we only have capabilities to provide reptiles and amphibians with extended care, we can sometimes provide emergency medical care, welfare checks, reunites, and transportation services for birds and mammals.

## WILDLIFE ASSISTED

### Reptiles = 56

- Snakes = 31
- Turtles = 25

### Amphibians = 21

- Toads = 6
- Frogs = 4
- Salamanders = 11

### Birds = 213

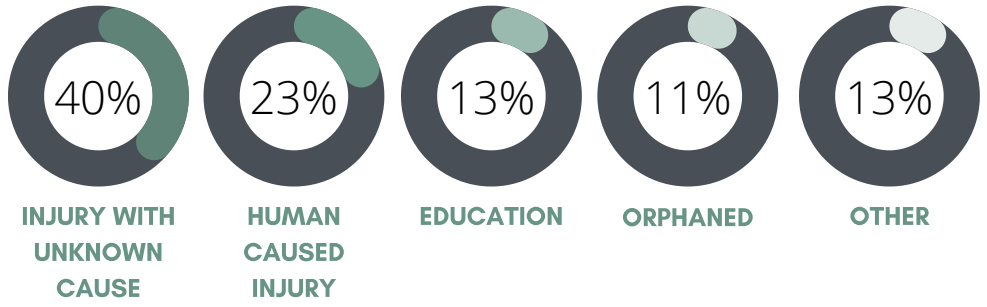
- Small birds = 122
- Waterfowl = 87
- Raptors = 4

### Mammals = 139

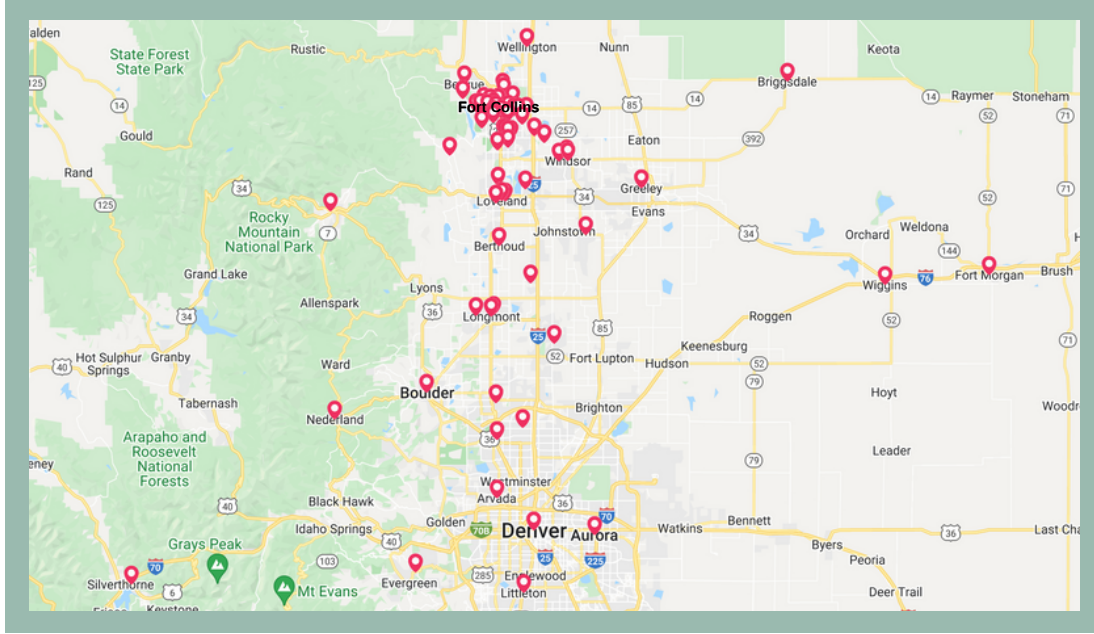
- Squirrels = 31
- Other rodents = 8
- Raccoons = 11
- Cottontails = 48
- Deer = 3
- Canids = 6
- Bats = 25
- Other Mammals = 7

**Total wild animals served = 429**

## CALL TYPE



## NCWC SERVICE AREA MAP



# 2021 CASE HIGHLIGHTS

## SALAMANDERS RESCUED FROM CISTERN

On September 23rd of 2021, our wildlife rescue team responded to Lyons, Colorado for five salamanders who found themselves trapped in a twelve foot deep cistern. After assessing the situation, our team decided to call for help and received mutual aid assistance from Greenwood Wildlife Rehabilitation Center who was able to provide a ladder and additional staff. After several hours, all five salamanders were rescued and released back into the wild at a nearby marsh.



## 500 MILES DRIVEN TO SAVE OPOSSUMS

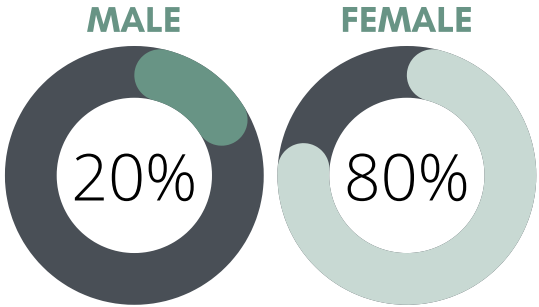
On May 6th of 2021, Michela Dunbar responded from Loveland to Haxtun, Colorado to help five opossums who were found in the pouch of their dead mother who had been hit by a car. Unfortunately the finder could not get them out of the road due to disabilities. After three hours of driving, Michela arrived and found two babies who had unfortunately passed away from the vehicle impact. She immediately provided medical attention to the other three babies, and transported them to the nearest wildlife rehabilitation center, Sonflower Ranch Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Brighton.



# WILDLIFE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

2021 allowed our team to continue a hybrid approach to education; teaching both in-person and through virtual avenues. Our educational programs on humane solutions and coexistence play a huge role in building appreciation for wildlife within our community. NCWC believes that our education efforts can prevent situations where people unknowingly injure or orphan wildlife. In 2021, we educated hundreds of people of all ages, demographics, and backgrounds. NCWC believes everyone should have access to environmental education and this is why we provided over 1,700 people with in-person education services.

## EDUCATIONAL REACH



## EDUCATING TOGETHER

Many of our education programs involved working along side our joint venture partner, the Northern Colorado Herpetological Society. Not only did we educate community members at schools, libraries, and colleges, but we also ensured that each one of our fundraisers and events had an element of education.



## FIRST VETERINARY STUDENT

In the spring of 2021 we were able to host our first veterinary intern, Bree Karns, who needed to complete a 40 hour independent study for her studies at Colorado State University's Vet Teaching Hospital. Throughout her time with us she learned about wildlife handling, physical therapy techniques, and humane solutions to human-wildlife conflicts.

# ADVOCATING FOR WILDLIFE HABITAT

While our team continues to work towards finding a property to call home for our future facility expansion, we use the 50 years of wildlife rehabilitation experience on our team to help lead by example and advocate for, and increase the protection of, the open spaces and habitats that wildlife call home.

## RESPONDING WHEN NATURE NEEDS US

Our team is always ready to respond to natural disasters whether they be big or small. When our team heard about a sewage spill into a local Fort Collins park in October of 2021 we quickly responded with a team of staff and volunteers who could patrol for sick wildlife. The team patrolled Spring Creek for miles down stream and helped any wild animals they found in need. The team also helped move rocks and safely adjust water flows to help facilitate the dispersal of waste in the water.



- ### NATURAL AREAS SERVED
- Red Fox Meadows
  - Kingfisher Point
  - North Shields Ponds
  - Pineridge
  - Springer
  - Ross
  - Goose Hollow
  - Big Thompson River
  - Horsetooth Reservoir
  - Riverbend Ponds
  - Arapahoe Bend
  - Prospect Ponds
  - Fort Collins City Park
  - Hughes Open Space
  - Golden Ponds
  - Fossil Creek Wetlands
  - Udall
  - Cottonwood Hollow
  - Cattail Chorus
  - River's Edge
  - Lake Loveland City Park
  - Gustov Swanson
  - Spring Canyon
  - Poudre River



## ADOPTING OUR FIRST NATURAL AREA

Throughout 2021 our team cleaned up various natural spaces all around Larimer county, but we also adopted Red Fox Meadows natural area in Fort Collins. Each month we would go out as a team and clean up litter that we found and enjoy the wildlife that surrounded us. Adopting this natural area not only allowed us to give back to our community, but also provided us with a crew bonding opportunity each month.



# 2021 WILDLIFE CENTER TEAM

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lacey Gaechter, President  
Kate Boyd, Vice President  
Alex Koenigsberg, Treasurer  
Michela Dunbar, Secretary  
Emily Olivo, Volunteer/Outreach Chair  
Bob Nightwalker, Board Member  
Lacey Gaechter, Board Member  
Jacquelyn Schoppe, Board Member

## STAFF

Tallon Nightwalker, Director

## VETERINARY TEAM

Dr. Miranda Sadar, DVM  
Theresa Sterling Carlson, CVT

## VOLUNTEERS

Anya Davies  
Ayla Jane  
Bree Karns  
Jennie Smith  
Dog's Own Grooming Team  
Jennifer Litzau  
Keely Ryan  
Dakota Cliffton  
Taylor Carpenter  
Laurie Westby  
Sam Wright  
Scott Boyd  
Roe Larson  
Sue George  
Trent Brant





# 2021 WILDLIFE CENTER PARTNERS

## JOINT VENTURE PARTNER

Northern Colorado Herpetological Society

## PRIMARY VETERINARY PARTNER

Colorado State University Veterinary Teaching Hospital

## NONPROFIT, CORPORATE, AND MUNICIPAL PARTNERS

Amazon Inc

Animal Help Now

Arula Inc.

Big 5 Sporting Goods

Birds of Prey Foundation

Bonfire

Celestial Bodies Animal Wellness

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Colorado State University

Community First Foundation

Dogs' Own Grooming

First Bank

Fort Collins Natural Areas

Fort Collins Police Services

Front Range Community College

Google LLC

Greenwood Wildlife Rehabilitation Center

Human Bean of Northern Colorado

Jax Outdoor Gear

King Soopers

Larimer County Natural Resources

Larimer County Public Health

Larimer County Sheriff's Office

Larimer Humane Society

Legacy High School

Loveland Open Lands

Loveland Public Library

Maxline Brewing

Muttch App

Nature's Educators

NOCO BEET

NOCO Unleashed

Odell Brewing

PATHS: Planning Action for Transforming Hughes Sustainably

Poudre School District

Red Wing Shoes

Rocky Mountain Raptor Program

Sonflower Ranch Wildlife Rehabilitation Center

The Coloradoan

Town Square Media

Weld County Health and Environment

Windsor Parks and Recreation

