



MISSION STATEMENT:

CCWR works to promote the highest standards of animal care in wildlife rehabilitation by providing education and networking opportunities among wildlife rehabilitators and regulatory agencies.

WINTER 2014

CCWR NEWS

Nicole's CORNER

Permit Requirements for Non-Releasable Wildlife from the Wilds of California

By Nicole Carion - California Department of Fish & Wildlife

A Native Species Exhibiting Permit is required to exhibit non-releasable wild animals originating from the wilds of California. A Native Species Exhibiting Permit can be obtained from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW or "the Department") License and Revenue Branch located at 1740 N. Market Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95834. The License and Revenue main phone line number is 916-928-8322. Information about the permit can also be found on CDFW website at www.cdfw.com under Licensing/Special permits/Restricted Species permit.

Wildlife Rehabilitation

As a rehabilitator you are given permission (by qualifying and applying for a Wildlife Rehabilitation permit) to possess small mammals and birds for "temporary possession" during the rehabilitation process for the purpose of release back into the wild. A wildlife rehabilitation permit was never intended to allow for exhibiting wildlife; its sole purpose is for rehabilitating wildlife and returning sick or orphaned animals back to the wild. This is clearly stated in the California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 679 which states:

679. Possession of Wildlife and Wildlife Rehabilitation.

(a) General Prohibition on Possession of Wildlife. Except as provided in subsection (b) below or as otherwise authorized, it is unlawful for any person to possess any live game mammal or bird, nongame mammal or bird, furbearer, reptile or amphibian.

(b) Temporary Confinement of Wildlife. Except for big game mammals listed in Section 350, Title 14, CCR, injured, diseased or orphaned animals may be temporarily confined by persons if they notify the nearest regional office of the department within forty-eight (48) hours of finding or confining such wildlife.

(1) Wildlife Rehabilitation Facility Defined. For the purposes of these regulations, a wildlife rehabilitation facility is defined as a site where activities are undertaken to restore to a condition of good health, for the purpose of release to the wild, animals occurring naturally and not normally domesticated in this state.

Non Releasable Wildlife

The Wildlife Rehabilitation Regulations specifically mention what is to happen to non-releasable wildlife in CCR T-14 Section 679 (f)(4):

(4) Department Approval Requirement for Release of Wildlife Back into the Wild. Rehabilitated wildlife may be released back into the wild only as directed by the department. If any animal cannot be released, it shall be transferred to a zoological garden, museum, college, university or other educational/research institution or wildlife exhibitor. If it cannot be released, or transferred it shall be humanely euthanized.

A wildlife rehabilitation facility is not a zoological garden, museum, college, university or other educational/research institution or wildlife exhibitor (who

possesses a Restricted Species Exhibition Permit/Native Species Exhibition Permit).

Historically, some facilities housed non-releasables with or without the permission of the department for what probably started out as a surrogate(s) then formed into a practice of exhibiting non-releasables for possible donations. Conditions were set forth in the wildlife rehabilitation MOU and have developed over the years (even though the regulations clearly stated non-releasables should be transferred) into the following :

NON-RELEASABLE

1. The permittee may transfer any wildlife, except fully protected, threatened or endangered animals, which cannot be released into the wild because of permanent injury (or red foxes) to a bona fide public zoological garden, museum, college, universities, or other educational or scientific institution as determined by the Department. Records of such trans-

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fers will be maintained and be available for inspection. If wildlife cannot be released or transferred, it shall be humanely euthanized.

EDUCATIONAL WILDLIFE HELD UNDER A WILDLIFE REHABILITATION PERMIT

2. The permittee is not authorized to possess non-releaseable wildlife for educational or surrogate unless the animal is approved by the Department's Wildlife Rehabilitation Coordinator or an officer of the Department. Non-releasable birds require permission from the USFWS (United States Fish and Wildlife Service).

a. Only wildlife determined to be permanently injured and suitable for public exhibition will be considered for non-releasable status. That determination shall be made by the Department and/or the USFWS. A veterinarian shall prepare a written document describing the permanent injury that qualifies the animal as non-releasable. A copy of the veterinarian's document shall be forwarded to the Department within 30 days of the veterinarian's classification. Proof of minimum standard caging and documentation on how the animal will be used for education must be provided (a sample presentation shall be provided).

b. In the unusual event that an animal is brought into a center imprinted, the Department shall be notified within 72 hours after the permittee determines the animal is imprinted. If an animal becomes imprinted during the rehabilitation process, the animal shall be either transferred to another rehabilitation center (other than the responsible rehabilitator) to be used as an education animal, euthanized or transferred to a Department-approved wildlife exhibitor.

c. Unless otherwise authorized by the Department, only nongame birds, fur-bearing mammals, nongame mammals, resident small game mammals, reptiles or amphibians [sic] shall be used for edu-

cation and specimen imprinting purposes.

d. All non-releasable wildlife shall be maintained in accordance with the caging and care provisions listed in sections 671.2 and 671.3, Title 14, CCR unless otherwise authorized by the Department.

e. Exhibitors, including wildlife rehabilitation organizations, wishing to use wildlife for educational purposes must be either licensed or registered as an exhibitor by the U. S. Department of Agriculture (a "licensed" exhibitor is one receiving compensation; a "registered" exhibitor does not).

f. Educators shall display animals while maintaining a reasonable distance between the audience and the animal (a minimum of four feet is recommended). The educator shall maintain control of the animal at all times during exhibition.

g. Gloves shall be worn when displaying raptors or mammals.

h. The public shall neither be encouraged or allowed to come into contact with live animals.

i. In a continuing effort to maintain dignity to wildlife, educators shall not use display techniques that promote a "pet" type of relationship between the handler and the animal (i.e., refer to the animals using endearing terms like "cute", or allow animals to crawl or climb on the handler or in the clothing or pockets of the handler).

j. Any photographs of educational wildlife on brochures or websites, etc. cannot portray the animals as "pet-like"; i.e. inside homes, playing with toys, displayed with domestics, eating unnatural foods, etc.

Native Species Exhibiting Permit.

Wildlife rehabilitation permits were never intended to allow permanent care and exhibition of wildlife. The wildlife

rehabilitation regulations specifically state they must be transferred to other qualifying organizations. There is good reason for this. The permanent care of wildlife is an entirely different function than rehabilitation. Permanent care requires long term management of an animal for a much longer period of time, sometimes more than 20 years. In California long term possession of wildlife (restricted species) is prohibited unless a person is qualified for one of the 12 types of restricted species permits administered by the Department for specific practices. Over the years more and more non-releasable animals were being kept by rehabilitators for either a surrogate and/or exhibiting. Some specific animals were approved by the department and if the rehabilitation permittee followed the specific conditions in the Memorandum of Understanding, the animals were allowed to be maintained. Some non-releasable animals were not approved by the department but kept, anyway, for personal and emotional reasons, without permission.

Anyone who wishes to exhibit wildlife should have the proper experience, the proper caging, know the proper diet and should be in the business of exhibition for conservation education. For animals coming from the wilds of California, the exhibition should be focused on conservation efforts for these specific species. Conservation education is the only reason these animals are allowed to be kept for permanent care. Animals originating from the wild that are non-releasable are meant to be ambassadors for their species and should be exhibited in a respectful, professional manner. More harm than good is being created by people who walk around with birds of prey on their heads or raccoons on leashes.

There is a quote that needs to be reflected upon often in the rehabilitation world:

"Those who wish to pet and baby wildlife love them, but those who respect their natures and wish to let them live their natural lives, love them more".-Edwin Way Teal.

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Conclusion

The Department will no longer allow non-releasable wildlife to be held under a wildlife rehabilitation MOU. Now that the Native Species Exhibiting Permit has been clearly defined in the California Code of Regulations (as of 2012) the Department will require any person who wishes to exhibit wildlife originating from the wilds of California to obtain a Native Species Exhibiting Permit. Requiring this permit will insure that the applicant meets the requirements and qualifications to maintain and exhibit wildlife on a permanent basis, maintains the animals in minimum standard caging, maintains an official inventory of animals, insures the animals were approved by the Department and have appropriate letters of documentation from veterinarians and are inspected annually to maintain compliance with all state and federal regulations. In short, this will ensure better care, caging and ongoing welfare of all wild animals held in captivity. As most of you know you are not inspected annually to maintain your wildlife rehabilitation permits; in fact, some of you may rarely receive an inspection from the Department. As most of you also know by the number of complaints you express regarding other rehabilitators, there are many different levels of rehabilitation going on throughout the state and many different levels of knowledge and qualified people to care for wildlife long term. Requiring Native Species Exhibiting permits ensures better care of the animals on a fair and consistent basis.

Common Questions and Answers:

Q: Prior to 2012, I had applied for a Native Species Exhibiting Permit and was told I did not need one. Why was I told that and why am I being required to obtain one now?

A: The Department has issued Native Species Permits for many years. Some rehabilitation facilities that were associated with a zoo, a natural history museum or exhibited animals as part of their working profession obtained a Native Species

Exhibiting Permit many years ago and have maintained it with the Department. Some of you may have been told that because of your situation, meaning you were mainly a rehabilitator, you did not need another permit. This was a decision based on low staffing levels at the License and Revenue Branch and the desire by the License and Revenue Branch to have the Native Species Exhibiting Permit defined clearly in regulation. Native Species Exhibiting Permit is now defined in regulation in CCR T-14 Section 671.1.

Q: Why have only certain species been approved for educational animals held on a Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit/Native Species Exhibiting Permit in the past?

A: Keep in mind that a rehabilitation permit is solely for the purposes of wildlife rehabilitation for release back into the wild. One would have to note that specific approval was needed to keep animals for educational purposes and that the possession of these animals is not a right, it is a privilege because wild animals are restricted species and are prohibited for possession in the State of California. I have been speaking with and notifying rehabilitators regarding the need to obtain a Native Species Exhibiting permit for the past two years via numerous regional meetings and symposiums. When I received an inquiry from a rehabilitator, I would notify them to seek approval for a non-releasable animal as long as the rehabilitator was following the conditions of their permit. The only way rehabilitators would not know about this change is if they did not abide by the conditions of the wildlife rehabilitation MOU and not obtain approval when they were seeking to add a new animal to exhibit or they did not attend a regional rehabilitation meeting hosted by the Department or a CCWR annual symposium. Please keep in mind the CDFW is the sole entity with authority to regulate the possession of animals originating from the wilds of California. The wildlife rehabilitation MOU specifically requires that a wildlife rehabilitation permittee obtain approval to keep

wild animals for educational purposes and this is at the sole discretion of the Department and designated personnel.

Why certain animals have been denied for approval can be summed up by reading condition(i) in the wildlife rehabilitation MOU.

In a continuing effort to maintain dignity to wildlife, educators shall not use display techniques that promote a "pet" type of relationship between the handler and the animal (i.e., refer to the animals using endearing terms like "cute", or allow animals to crawl or climb on the handler or in the clothing or pockets of the handler).

Handling animals on leashes (especially mammals presented on a leash) or presenting them in small cages (like a fish in a fish bowl) does not allow a true representation of how these animals would be behaving as seen in the wild: therefore conservation education could not or would not be the focus of the exhibition. The fish bowl scenario is especially stressful to most wildlife and should not be used for exhibiting wild animals. The exception to this rule would be if it is a very small animal (example: rodent) and the enclosure is one that contains an example of its natural habitat and/or the animal is comfortable and can hide if it becomes stressed. Exhibiting mammals on a leash definitely promotes a pet type relationship and could introduce thoughts that the animal would make a good pet because it can be trained to a leash. Birds and raptors luckily do not have the same effect on people as cute, furry mammals, so the jess/leash system is not as concerning. The Department desires that bobcats, raccoons, coyotes, foxes and most mammals be exhibited in a large (dependent on the animals natural history/ needs) natural static display. I think all people who truly understand wildlife would understand and agree that representing them in a way that focuses on their wild characteristics, behavior and needs is the best way to represent them and their conservation needs.

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Q: To what regulation can I refer to find out more about Restricted Species permits?

A: 671.1. Permits for Restricted Species.

(a) General. It is unlawful for any person to import, export, transport, maintain, sell, dispose of, or use for any purpose any animal restricted by Section 671 except as authorized in a permit issued by the Department.

Q: If I have non-releasable animals that were approved and held under my Wildlife Rehabilitation permit before 2012, do I have to obtain a Native Species Exhibiting Permit for those animals?

A: No. Wildlife approved by the department prior to 2012 can be maintained on your wildlife rehabilitation permit until the animals expire. You would have had to obtain a letter from a veterinarian stating why the animals are non-releasable and have this available and in your records for as long as you possess the animal. You also would have had to record the animals on your Annual Year End Report to the Department due every January 31st and have documentation that the animals were approved by the Department.

Q: If I had an animal approved for educational purposes under my wildlife rehabilitation permit and the animal expires, can I replace

that animal if it is the same species without obtaining a Native Species Exhibiting Permit?

A: No. You must obtain a new Native Species Exhibiting Permit to exhibit any non-releasable wildlife originating from the wilds of California.

Q: How much will a Native Species Exhibiting Species Permit cost?

A: The non-refundable application fee is \$110.21. The current permit fee is \$464.50 annually. You will also be charged an annual inspection fee based on how many animals you possess.

Q: When I apply for a Native Species Exhibiting permit should I list all of the non-releasable animals that I have both from the past and the new ones I want to add?

A: No. As long as you were given approval from the Department for the past non-releasable animals/ educational animals and have noted them consistently on your Annual Year End Report you do not have to list those on your inventory. The only animals that you need to list on your Native Species Exhibiting Permit inventory are the new non-releasable animals you wish to possess/exhibit.

Q: What if I apply for a Native Species Exhibiting Permit for my rehabilitation organization and

we hold the animals in several different locations. Will we be charged a separate inspection fee for each location?

A: Currently the Department is offering that a rehabilitation organization obtaining a Native Species Exhibiting Permit only pay one inspection fee even if the animals are located in several different locations.

Q: Do wildlife rehabilitators have to obtain a Native Species Exhibiting Permit for birds even though we have obtained an Education Permit from the USFWS?

A: Yes. Any bird listed as "restricted" under CCR T-14 Section 671 can only be possessed with a Restricted Species Permit. Note: not all birds found in the wilds of California are restricted under state law. Please refer to CCR T-14 Section 671 to ascertain what species are restricted and will require a Native Species Exhibiting Permit. If a species is not listed as restricted under state law then a person may only be required to obtain a permit from the USFWS. USFWS regulates all birds classified as migratory.

Q: Does the State of California (CDFW) issue an "education permit" for non-releasable wildlife?

A: No, the CDFW has never issued an education permit. Only the USFWS has an education permit.

CDFW Regional Wildlife Rehabilitation Meeting Schedule 2014

Region 1

Friday, January 31st., 1-4 PM
McConnell Foundation
800 Shasta View Drive
Redding, CA 96003

Region 2

Friday February 7th., 9-12
CADFW Region 2 Office
1701 Nimbus Road
Rancho Cordova, CA 95647

Region 3

Saturday, February 8th, 9-12
OWCN Training Center
4369 Cordelia Road,
Fairfield, CA 94534

Region 4

Sunday, February 23, 9-12
Kaiser Hospital
7300 N. Fresno
Sequoia Bldg., Redwood Room
Fresno

Region 5

Friday, February 21, 9-12
Wetlands & Wildlife
21900 Pacific Coast Highway
Huntington Beach, CA 92646

Region 6

Saturday, February 22, 1-4
Living Desert zoo and Gardens
47900 Portola Ave
Palm Desert, CA 92260



Treating Wildlife Affected by Glue Contaminants

By Vann Masvidal

In the course of wildlife rehabilitation, it is not uncommon for rehabilitators to encounter patients who have become contaminated by glue-type pest deterrents. These products are intended to deter pest species from causing damage to crops and buildings, but often result in wildlife from a wide range of species becoming contaminated and requiring rehabilitation. The purpose of this article is to provide basic guidelines for rehabilitators treating these patients and to discuss the efficacy of several pre-treatments tested during a lab exercise at the 2013 California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitation (CCWR) Annual Symposium.

The two general classes of glue-based pest control products are “sticky trap” types (which include glue boards, ‘sticky huts’, fly paper, etc.) and liquid glue products, sold under trade names such as Tanglefoot, 4-The Birds, and Bird-B-Gone. Although both types of products utilize polybutene-based glues, only the liquid products are subject to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulation, which requires labeling that indicates prohibited usage where species protected by the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act are present. Wildlife may become contaminated by these products while trying to feed on insects trapped in the glue, or by encountering the products due to improper application. There are currently six pest control products containing polybutene registered with the EPA.

Stabilization of Contaminated Patients

Stabilization of an animal affected by a glue contaminant begins as soon as the phone rings. As with any other debilitated wild animal, and perhaps to an even greater degree due to the nature of the problem and the rescuer’s well-intended desire to help a glue-trapped animal, it is imperative members of the public understand that attempting to clean or treat the animals themselves may result in disastrous consequences. When answering a call regarding a glue-contaminated animal, calmly advise the rescuer to keep the animal warm, dark, and quiet and to arrange transport to a licensed rehabilitator immediately. Should the animal be only partially adhered to a glue trap, it may prove beneficial to advise the rescuer to de-activate the trap by carefully covering exposed areas of the trap (but not the animal!) in sand, saw-dust, soil, etc. before transport. Gather as much information as possible from the rescuer, noting when and where the animal was found, how the animal became contaminated, if the source of contamination has been removed, and if there are any other animals known to be contaminated in the area, including those deceased.

Once the animal is in care, caution must be taken to assess the patient’s stability before attempting to remove the contaminant. A quick examination for injuries which may prohibit rehabilitation is essential. If no such injury is found, stress level, amount of



Juvenile opossums stuck on glue trap.

time in trap, nutritional status, dehydration, body temperature, and general responsiveness of the patient should all be noted before proceeding. When possible, performing basic bloodwork will often prove useful in evaluating your patient’s ability to withstand the rigors of treatment. Working with a contaminated animal requires an even greater level of patience from a rehabilitator- if ever in doubt about an animal’s stability, wait!

After the animal is warm, calm, hydrated, and stable, evaluate the level of contamination to determine if an emergency wash is required. If an animal is only mildly contaminated and able to ambulate, rest, and eat more or less within normal limits, it is usually not advised to remove the contaminant during its first day of care, so as to allow the patient to regain strength and recover from the stress of being immobilized. Providing appropriate diet, habitat, and cage rest for approximately 24 hours is usually beneficial in such cases. Patients adhered to sticky traps may be removed from the trap by using a small amount of pre-treatment, and allowed to rest overnight before washing. However, when an animal has become so severely contaminated to the extent where self-feeding appears unlikely, a brief emergency wash may be necessary. The purpose of such a wash is to clean the most contaminated areas which are causing debilitation in as an efficient, quick, and low-stress manner as possible, keeping in mind that a more thorough wash will be required later during the animal’s care. It is generally advised to allow 24 hours rest between washes. As with most wildlife rehabilitation guidelines, there will be exceptions- relying on your own knowledge of your patient, and consulting others who have experience in similar cases are always two of the most powerful tools at a rehabilitator’s disposal.

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Pre-Treatments

Given the difficulty of removing glue contaminants, a soap and water wash alone is usually ineffective. Using a pre-treatment before wash for glue-contaminated animals is a must. A pre-treatment is a substance used to help facilitate the removal of a contaminant during wash. Polybutenes - the active ingredients in glue pest control products - are non-polar compounds, and dissolve in non-polar solvents (the "like dissolves like" rule). Non-polar solvents lower the viscosity of the contaminant, thus facilitating cleaning. The pre-treatments most commonly used by wildlife rehabilitators are oil-based and non-polar. Pre-treatments are most effective when warmed to 100-110° F, applied sparingly, and only to contaminated areas - keeping in mind that once applied to an animal, the pre-treatment becomes a contaminant itself that will have to be removed! Once applied, the pre-treatment may be gently worked through contaminated areas- wearing textured surgical gloves during this step is helpful, but not required. After applying pre-treatment to all contaminated areas, allowing the animal to rest in its cage for a few minutes will both reduce stress before wash and allow time for the pre-treatment to further solubilize the contaminant.

Wash

For the majority of wild animals, being washed by a human is one of the most stressful treatments they could ever be subjected to. For this reason it is extremely important that the animal be carefully evaluated before being washed. Although it may be a rehabilitator's first instinct to clean a contaminated animal as soon as it comes into care, washing without prior evaluation may prove disastrous. If ever in doubt about an animal's stability when considering a wash, patience is key.

Before washing, an animal must meet the following criteria:

1. Have passed a thorough intake/triage examination.
2. Be stable (bright, alert, responsive; normal ambulation considering level of contamination).
3. Be able to thermoregulate.
4. Be of acceptable nutritional status.
5. Be hydrated.

When proceeding to wash, gather all necessary supplies, ensure an adequate supply of hot water is available, and set up a drying area for the animal before beginning. The ideal water temperature would be at or slightly above the normal body temperature of the animal being washed. The goal when washing an animal is to be quick but thorough, keeping the patient's stress level as low as possible. Be prepared to stop the wash immediately should the patient become overly stressed, and bear in mind that general anesthesia may be necessary for aggressive or highly stressed species. Patients that are only mildly contaminated may only require 'spot' washing of affected areas, whereas those more greatly impacted will require a full body wash. It's help-

ful to establish a pattern when washing (for example: head to tail, right ventral side first, head to tail right dorsal side second, head to tail left dorsal side third, etc.) to ensure that no areas are overlooked during a full wash. For those new to washing animals, working with a rehabilitator who has had some experience with the process is essential, as there is no substitute for hands on experience in this treatment.

Rinsing and Drying

The most important and often the most time-consuming portion of cleaning a contaminated animal is the rinse. The purpose of the rinse is to remove soap from the animal's integument and to check for possible contaminated areas which may not have come clean during the wash. Remember that soap, once applied to the animal, becomes a contaminant itself and must be removed!

As in wash, the goal of a rinse is to be quick but thorough. When rinsing, use water near the body temperature of the animal being treated, and work from the skin outwards to help ensure that all areas are rinsed clean. When beginning to rinse a contaminated animal, notice how the fur or feathers will appear matted at first, but will become less matted or even 'fluffed' as the contaminants are rinsed away. Be sure to use a more gentle water pressure around an animal's head and eyes, and as with every step of the cleaning process, be prepared to stop should the patient become overly stressed.

After the rinse is completed, place the animal in a secure drying area until completely dry (the drying area temperature should be approximately the normal body temperature of the animal). Check periodically for signs of hypo/hyperthermia, and adjust temperature accordingly. After drying, having subcutaneous or oral fluids available to rehydrate the patient, and performing a quick exam to check for any remaining contaminant are essential.

Pre-release Conditioning

After an animal is clean and dry, making sure that it is ready to survive once returned to the wild is the final step of rehabilitation. The goals of pre-release conditioning are to re-acclimatize the patient to the outdoors, restore body condition, restore the normal range-of-motion for the species, and, for avian species, to ensure that the feathers are waterproof. On most species of birds commonly affected by glue contaminants, waterproofing may be checked by misting the bird's feathers with clean, tepid water, using a clean spray bottle, one to three times per day and allowing the bird to dry thoroughly in a warm area between misting treatments. Although a bird may appear to be clean and ready for release, misting can often help reveal flaws in waterproofing that must be addressed for the patient to thrive once returned to the wild. When setting up pre-release caging, pro-

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Treating Wildlife Affected by Glue Contaminants

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viding as natural a habitat as possible with a source of ample, clean water to allow bathing is vital to post-release success.

Lab Results from Pre-treatment Trial

During a lab exercise at the 2013 CCWR symposium, participants were asked to evaluate the performance of several pre-treatments' when used to remove glue contaminants from carcasses. Pre-treatments tested included Armor-All (recommended for use with glue contaminants by James W. Carpenter in Exotic Animal Formulary, 4th edition), Methyl Soyate, Simple Green, (two products cited as effective pre-treatment for glue contaminants by Tegtmeier and Miller in A Subjective Evaluation of Products to Facilitate Contaminant Removal. Effects of Oil on Wildlife Conference Proceedings 2007), mineral oil, surgical tape remover, and canola oil (three popular pre-treatments used by wildlife rehabilitators), and "Twinkie® guts" (rumored to be an effective pre-treatment, due to the product containing an emulsifier called Polysorbate 60, in an email circulating amongst wildlife rehabilitators in 2012).

The lab procedure directed participants to apply the warmed pre-treatment to the affected areas of the animal, allow it to rest for 3-5 minutes, then wash animal in a warm water bath consisting of a 1-2% dilution of Seventh Generation unscented dish soap; changing water between animals. Participants were then

asked to give each pre-treatment a grade on an A-F scale, where A=4 and F=0. The following table represents the results from the trial.

Summary

Wildlife affected by glue contaminants requires specialized treatment for successful rehabilitation. Careful assessment of the patient's stability, degree of contamination, and stress level are key factors to consider when determining if the patient is prepared to advance in the decontamination process. When ready to proceed, a pre-treatment is judiciously applied to contaminated areas of the patient to facilitate the removal of the contaminant. Further steps in rehabilitation include a gentle wash in warm, soapy water; followed by drying, post-wash assessment, and an appropriate period of pre-release conditioning.

Based upon the results from the lab procedure at the 2013 CCWR Symposium, numerous testimonials from wildlife rehabilitators, and the author's personal experience, Methyl Soyate is the pre-treatment found to be most effective when working with glue-contaminated wildlife. Unfortunately, at this time the product is only available in industrial quantities that create storage and other issues for the average wildlife rehabilitator. CCWR is currently working on a solution to this problem and will notify its members after one is found.

Pre-Treatment	A	B	C	D	F	Average	Notes from Participants
Armor All	1		3			B- (2.5)	"Glue residue clumped/became very gummy, but did dissolve off animal" "Must go slow, but removes glue almost completely before wash" "Effective but requires more to work"
Canola Oil		1	2		1	C (1.75)	"A tad less effective than methyl soyate" "Took larger amounts to remove glue" "Feather loss high"
Methyl Soyate	16	2				A (3.94)	"It works" "Lifted glue immediately" "...Came off cleaner during rinse" "Worked very well" "...Quickly began to loosen junk, fairly clean after rinse..." "Was much more effective on the wing feathers than on the body feathers, possibly because I could put my fingers on both sides" "Easily able to remove bird from trap, separated contaminated feathers and washed off easily" "Awesome!" "Almost no work to remove from trap"
Mineral Oil		1			2	D (1.0)	"Slow to remove glue"
Simple Green			2	1	2	D (1.0)	"It sucks- ate feathers" "Did not work well"
Surgical Tape Remover	1	2	2			B (2.8)	"Effective in separating glue, but difficult to rinse" "Feathers not clean after wash" "Concerned about safety use"
Twinkie Guts				1	4	F (0.2)	"It sucks too" "Messy, useless" "Created sticky, dry goop" "Left feathers sticky but did separate them"

NWRA CORRECTS MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR OPOSSUM HOUSING

Please take note of the following corrections to minimum standards for opossum housing as copied from the NWRA Member News email the last quarter of 2013.

2. Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation Fourth Edition 2010 Notice of Corrigendum (editor's note: they mean 2012, not 2010)

Please note an error made in the printed version of the above

referenced publication.

In the table on page 62, top row, the cage size noted for an adult opossum of 10 ft x 12 ft x 8 ft is an error and should be deleted. The correct size for an adult opossum is 4 ft x 4 ft x 8 ft as listed on the next line of the table on page 62.

The 10 ft x 12 ft x 8 ft cage is the size for a litter of juvenile opossums as shown in the table on page 58.



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