

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 2015

CHANGES TO REGULATION 679 GOVERNING WILDLIFE REHABILITATORS

Nicole Carion, Senior Environmental Scientist, Wildlife Rehabilitation Coordinator of the California Department of Fish & Wildlife, conducted face to face meetings with Regions 1-3 in October and November 2014 and due to an injury preventing travel, WEBEX meetings for Regions 4-6 in January, 2015.



On the agenda was the Proposed Regulation Changes for California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 14, Section 679. The issuance of wildlife rehabilitation permits is currently being administered through the Wildlife Investigations Lab. The proposed changes would add the wildlife rehabilitation permit to the more appropriate Automated License and Data System (ALDS) which is managed by the License and Revenue Branch (LRB) to be consistent with all other permits that are issued by CDFW. This would allow for the renewal of permits online. To align with other permits on ALDS, the Wildlife Rehabilitation permit would be issued annually, instead of every three years. The plan is to take the \$41.00 now owed every three years

and divide it by three to arrive at the annual cost of renewal. Added to this annual permit cost would be the COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) increase, which had not been applied to Wildlife Rehabilitation Permits. Applying COLA to application, inspections and renewal fees listed in 679 (e)(2) (B) require the section being moved to 703, which is updated annually. Section 679 (e)(2)(1), Wildlife Rehabilitation Application and Renewal form will be updated for ALDS and also moved to Section 703.

The IWRC/NWRA Minimum Standards, third edition (2000), adopted in CCR 679(e)(2)(A) are outdated and may need to be updated to the IWRC/NWRA Minimum Standards, fourth edition (2012). The third edition can be viewed on the NWRA website at: <http://www.nwrawildlife.org/content/minimum-standards>

The fourth edition is available for purchase online at the same web address for \$15.00 plus shipping and handling.

Nicole is asking for wildlife rehabilitators to speak up now if the cage size changes among other things changed in the fourth edition (2012) are something California wildlife rehabilitators wish to adopt for their state.

NWRA has on their website a list of changes from the 3rd edition to

the 4th edition but it only lists the Chapter and sections which were changed, not the actual verbiage. The differences do not list all the cage sizes changes of different species. CCWR recommends you purchase the 4th edition and compare the caging changes to the 3rd edition to know how it will affect your operation and let Nicole Carion know now if the 4th edition changes should be adopted into 679(e)(2)(A).

See *CHANGES TO 679* on page 2



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YOUR BOARD ACTIVITY

Vann Masvidal was chosen as the new President as Leslie Bale had reached term limits for serving on the Board of Directors. Membership elected Sharon Ponsford to the BOD and she begins her term At Large this year. Kathy Bolen remains Vice-President, Sharron Baird remains Treasurer and Nancy Barbachano steps into the Secretary position vacated by Vann. Dr. Shannon Riggs and Veronica Bowers remain board members At Large. Monte Merrick resigned his position from the Board.

Any member is welcome to attend the board meetings.

Please advise CCWR President Vann Masvidal at least two weeks prior to attending (Vann@ccwr.org). Members

who wish to present a topic must understand that speaking time will be limited as the meeting agenda is typically full of items to be discussed. Also the board may call an executive session or vote during the meeting and all regular members will need to temporarily step out of the room. ↻



Board members at their January 2015 meeting in Sacramento: Kathy Bolen, Sharron Baird, Veronica Bowers, Vann Masvidal, Nancy Barbachano, Sharron Ponsford, and Shannon Riggs

Upcoming Board Meetings

April 7 | Skype Meeting

August 29 | Skype Meeting

November 6 | Embassy Suites Hotel, Sacramento

AVIAN INFLUENZA facts, technical information and migratory bird patterns can be found on the California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW) website at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/WIL/disease/avianflu/>

They have also posted information specifically for wildlife rehabilitators working with birds suspected of infection at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/WIL/disease/avianflu/rehab.html>

CCWR will also be posting the links on our website in the “Resources” area.

CHANGES TO 679, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Send your comments to:

Nicole Carion
California Department of Fish & Wildlife
601 Locust St.
Redding, CA 96001
530 357-3986
Nicole.Carion@wildlife.ca.gov

Fish & Game Code (FGC) 3511 (a) (1) regarding the possession of protected species. More information to come on this topic.

The regulation change process starts with pre-public discussion, then discussion at the Wildlife Resources Committee meeting that was held January 14, 2015 (See the article List of 2015 Fish & Game Commission meetings in this newsletter edition). Following this meeting there will be a Notice of Proposed Text Changes and a 45-day comment period for the public. After another public meeting there's

another 45-day comment period. If there are any requests for last minute changes, they are discussed and then there's a 15-day comment period. The Final Statement of Reason goes to the Office of Administrative Law for a 30-day review period, then the changes are either filed with the Secretary of State, sent back to the Commission for changes, or published as a Public Disapproval.

The whole process, if there are no major contentions, can take six to eight months. If there are contentious items, the process can take much longer. ↻

Also on the Agenda:

- Change the current MOU process to a “permit only” process to expedite the processing time.
- Permit revocation language will be added to Section 679.
- Revise 679(c) to comply with

TREASURER'S REPORT

Income	Jan - Dec 14	Jan - Dec 13	Expense	Jan - Dec 14	Jan - Dec 13
4000 · Memberships			5001 · Bank Service Fees	\$ 41.00	\$ 72.85
4010 · Individual Memberships			5002 · Fees, License, Permits	\$ 329.00	\$ 271.00
4011 · 1 Year Membership	\$ 2,095.00	\$ 1,550.00	5003 · Insurance - BOD	\$ 1,758.00	\$ 1,758.00
4012 · 2 Year Membership	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 960.00	5005 · Board Expenses - Mtgs & Food	\$ -	\$ 175.00
4013 · 3 Year Membership	\$ 2,595.00	\$ 825.00	5120 · Merchandise Purchases	\$ 166.82	\$ 712.94
Total 4010 · Individual Memberships	\$ 6,090.00	\$ 3,335.00	5121 · Merchant Fees	\$ -	\$ 73.06
4020 · Family Membership			5130 · Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 135.38
4021 · 1 Year Membership	\$ 610.00	\$ 480.00	5140 · Office Supplies	\$ -	\$ 808.29
4022 · 2 Year Membership	\$ 140.00	\$ 210.00	5144 · Outside Services	\$ 995.00	\$ 2,192.15
4023 · 3 Year Membership	\$ 550.00	\$ 360.00	5150 · PayPal Fees	\$ 1,032.95	\$ 742.52
Total 4020 · Family Membership	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,050.00	5160 · PO Box Rental	\$ -	\$ 40.00
4030 · Organization Memberships			5170 · Postage	\$ 233.87	\$ 365.15
4031 · 1 Year Membership	\$ 630.00	\$ 320.00	5200 · Printing		
4032 · 2 Year Membership	\$ 190.00	\$ 140.00	5201 · General Office	\$ 31.50	\$ 68.08
4033 · 3 Year Membership	\$ 1,020.00	\$ 270.00	5205 · Membership Directory/Broch	\$ 250.23	\$ 270.56
Total 4030 · Organization Memberships	\$ 1,840.00	\$ 730.00	5206 · Newsletter	\$ 878.35	\$ 1,162.68
Total 4000 · Memberships	\$ 9,230.00	\$ 5,115.00	Total 5200 · Printing	\$ 1,160.08	\$ 1,501.32
4100 · Symposium			5250 · Rentals - Equipment	\$ -	\$ -
4101 · Member	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 7,095.00	5251 · Rental - Storage	\$ 672.00	\$ 487.20
4102 · Non-Member Joining	\$ (85.00)	\$ 2,135.00	5300 · Telephone	\$ 144.18	\$ 149.64
4103 · Non-member	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 1,100.00	5400 · Website Expense	\$ 404.98	\$ 450.00
4104 · Early Registration	\$ 5,325.00	\$ -	5500 · Symposium - Expenses		
4105 · Late Fees	\$ 75.00	\$ 120.00	5501 · Symposium - Hotel Deposit	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -
4107 · Workshops/Labs	\$ 2,240.00	\$ 2,415.00	5502 · Symposium - Meeting Room Rental	\$ -	\$ 8,760.89
4108 · Field Trip	\$ -	\$ 320.00	5503 · Symposium - Guest Room Rentals	\$ -	\$ 2,877.45
4109 · Sponsorship	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,000.00	5504 · Symposium - Hospitality Room	\$ 159.00	\$ -
4110 · Luncheon	\$ 2,575.00	\$ 2,575.00	5505 · Symposium - Equipment Rental	\$ 441.20	\$ 3,143.56
4115 · Silent Auction	\$ 3,788.67	\$ 3,571.83	5506 · Symposium - AV Services	\$ 3,023.78	\$ -
4116 · Raffle	\$ 1,199.80	\$ -	5510 · Symposium - Luncheon	\$ 4,094.03	\$ 3,314.52
4180 · Vendor Fees	\$ 810.00	\$ 1,195.00	5511 · Symposium - Other Food Services	\$ 3,119.91	\$ 2,671.06
Total 4100 · Symposium	\$ 25,228.47	\$ 21,526.83	5516 · Symposium - Spkr Honr'm/Lodg'g	\$ 3,003.90	\$ 2,750.00
4200 · Jessen Scholarship Fund	\$ 400.00	\$ 4,100.00	5527 · Symposium - Workshops	\$ 381.17	\$ 570.15
4400 · Promotional Sales			5528 · Symposium - Field Trip	\$ -	\$ 422.21
4401 · Merchandise Sales	\$ 1,373.31	\$ 1,133.44	5530 · Symposium-Flyer, Broch. & Pckt	\$ 1,302.23	\$ 1,178.08
4402 · Directory Advertising	\$ -	\$ 50.00	5531 · Symposium - General Supplies	\$ 434.19	\$ 527.50
Total 4400 · Promotional Sales	\$ 1,373.31	\$ 1,183.44	5540 · Symposium - Scholarship	\$ 600.00	\$ (300.00)
4700 · Donations	\$ 640.00	\$ 550.00	Total 5500 · Symposium - Expenses	\$ 19,559.41	\$ 25,915.42
Gross Profit	\$ 36,871.78	\$ 32,475.27	66900 · Reconciliation Discrepancies	\$ -	\$ 141.28
			Total Expense	\$ 26,497.29	\$ 35,991.20
			Net Ordinary Income	\$ 10,374.49	\$ (3,515.93)
			Other Income		
			8001 · Interest Income	\$ 5.85	\$ 10.13
			Total 8000 · Other Income	\$ 5.85	\$ 10.13
			Net Income	\$ 10,380.34	\$ (3,505.80)

2015 FISH & GAME COMMISSION MEETINGS

All Meetings Open to the Public

February 11-12, 2015 (Commission) Resources Building Auditorium, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
 April 8-9, 2015 (Commission) Flamingo Conference Resort & Spa, 2777 Fourth Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95405
 May 6, 2015 (Wildlife Resources Committee) Department of Transportation (CalTrans), Conference Room 01.037, 100 South Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
 June 10-11, 2015 (Commission) Mountainside Conference Center, 1 Minaret Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
 August 4-5, 2015 (Commission) River Lodge Conference Center, 1800 Riverwalk Drive, Fortuna, CA 95540
 September 9, 2015 (Wildlife Resources Committee) TBD Central California
 October 7-8, 2015 (Commission) TBD Van Nuys
 December 9-10, 2015 (Commission) Town and Country Resort & Convention Center, 500 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92105
 For a full list of Fish & Game Tribal and Marine Resource Committee Meetings AND as the meeting date draws nearer, a downloadable agenda for the meeting, visit <http://www.fgc.ca.gov/meetings/2015/>


ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM REVIEW

The California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators' 20th annual symposium November 7-9 2014 at the Resort at Squaw Creek in Olympic Valley was a great success. There were over 120 attendees, 21 presenters and ten vendors participating in the three-day event. Friday morning and afternoon featured interesting lectures and labs. The host groups, Tri-County Wildlife Rehabilitation and Wildlife Rescue and Release opened the Hospitality Suite for the attendees' enjoyment. The winner of the William Jessen Scholarship Award for 2014 was Evelyn Pickles. Anysia Dickson was awarded a sponsorship from an anonymous donor and Brianna Abeyta received an earmarked sponsorship from an anonymous donor.

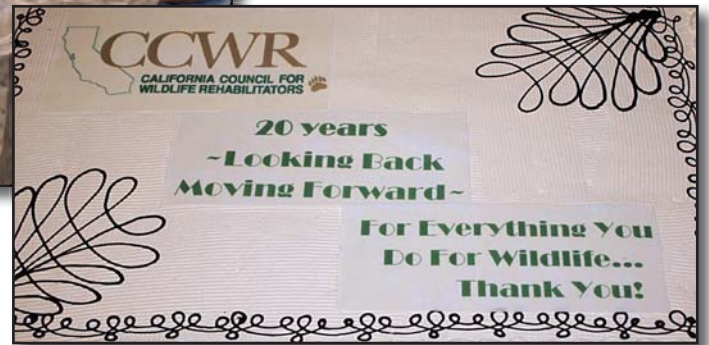
Friday night's keynote speaker, Director Gabriela Cowperthwaite, told the story behind how the movie, *Blackfish*, was produced, filmed and marketed. Saturday continued with more lectures, splitting off into four different topic sessions, including mammal, avian, raptor and general interest. On Saturday night was the popular Silent Auction and Raffle and a talk by Linda Cherkassky. Sunday finished off with radiology labs and lectures and closing remarks. Outgoing President Leslie Bale handed the reins over to new President Vann Masvidal who already has plans in the works for the 2015 symposium. Mark your calendars! The 2015 symposium will start Saturday, November 7 and go through Monday, November 9 at the Embassy Suites in Sacramento. The 2015 symposium drawing winner is Lauren Volgenau-Knapp.



Presenters, get your proposals in so the Board can start working on meeting room scheduling. Applications for presenters can be found on the CCWR website at www.ccwr.org

Please enjoy the collage of symposium photos in this newsletter. Photos: Star Dewar 





NICOLE'S CORNER HELPING CALIFORNIA'S WILDLIFE WITH CALTIP

By Lieutenant Jennifer Ikemoto

Revised January 2015 by LT. Michael Milotz

“THANK YOU FOR CALLING THE CALTIP HOTLINE...”

Some of you may have heard these exact words when calling the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) toll free number 1-888-334-CALTIP (888-334-2258). For those of you not familiar with the CalTIP Program, you may wonder how exactly it works and whether or not this hotline is a useful resource for you. Hopefully, by the end of this article you'll be able to see the CalTIP hotline as a valuable tool protecting California's wildlife.

HISTORY OF CALTIP

CalTIP (*Californians Turn In Poachers and Polluters*) is a confidential secret witness program that encourages the public to provide CDFW with factual information leading to the arrest of poachers and polluters. CalTIP was introduced in California in 1981 in order to give Californians an opportunity to help protect the state's fish and wildlife resources. A toll free number, provided by the CDFW, 1-888-334-CALTIP (888-334-2258), gives witnesses of wildlife crimes an opportunity to report poaching and polluting. Since CalTIP is a secret witness hotline, it is not necessary for callers to give their name when reporting a violation. By the summer of 1993, this toll free hotline was made available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Calling CalTIP is the best way to get information to the wildlife officer who patrols that area in a timely manner. If the call results in arrest or citation, the caller becomes eligible for a reward (rewards up to \$1,000 have been paid).

The case is then reviewed by a volunteer citizens' group known as the CalTIP Rewards Committee.

In 1981, the CalTIP Rewards Committee was created in conjunction with the CDFW's CalTIP Program. The CalTIP Rewards Committee believes in working hand-in-hand with CDFW. Their mission statement is to support the CDFW's CalTIP Program through education and outreach. The CalTIP Rewards Committee consists of six volunteer members who meet quarterly to review cases where a citizen has requested a reward through the CalTIP hotline. These reward monies originate entirely from privately donated funds. No state money goes to rewards or for the committee's various educational and outreach projects.

Although cash rewards are available, the CalTIP Rewards Committee notes that more and more Californians are calling the CalTIP hotline just because they believe in preserving and protecting California's natural resources. But this does not eliminate the need to have reward monies available. For some cases, it is the incentive of a reward that encourages an unlikely witness to call the CalTIP hotline.

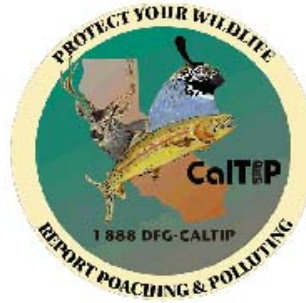
CALLING CALTIP

When you call CalTIP, you will be connected to an automated voice mail system. After some brief directory information, you will be directed to dial "0" to be connected to a dispatcher to report a violation. This dispatcher is a California Peace Officer Standard and Training (P.O.S.T.) certified dispatcher.

They are the dispatchers that wildlife officers work with on a daily basis when out on patrol. Be prepared to give the dispatcher the most detailed description of the violation that has occurred. The details needed when reporting a violation are who, what, when, where, and why.

If you know the name or nickname of the person involved, this is excellent information for the dispatcher. If you don't know who they are, give the most detailed description you can. Are they male or female? What is their build – short, tall, skinny, or robust? What is the color of their hair and is it long or short? Could you estimate their age – juvenile or adult? What are they wearing – the type and color of clothing, hats, gloves, waders or vests? Any distinguishable traits or marks – speaks with an accent, has a limp, tattoos, birthmarks or scars.

“What, when and where” can be combined into one section. Be able to tell the dispatcher what type of violation you believe has occurred. Is it related to hunting, fishing, pollution, illegal possession or sales of wildlife? What species (if any) is involved in the violation? When and where did the violation occur – include county, city and any crossroads or GPS coordinates. Is the violation happening now, yesterday, daily, or will it be happening at a future date (i.e. overhearing a conversation where suspects are planning to violate wildlife laws or hearing them bragging about their poaching or polluting activities)? What type of vehicle or boat were they driving – license plate, color, or



any distinguishing characteristics like stickers or body damage? What was their direction of travel?

Your information is recorded by the dispatcher. Since the CalTIP hotline operates as a secret witness hotline, you may either leave your name or not. If you do leave your name, you can request that a wildlife officer call you about the violation. If you do not request a call back, it is likely that a wildlife officer won't call you about the violation. Keep in mind, there are times when wildlife officers would like to talk directly to the person who saw the violation for additional information, so leaving a phone number can be helpful. Even if you choose to leave your name and number, you can still request confidentiality.

You can also request to receive a reward from the CalTIP Program. If the tip you give leads to an arrest or citation, you are eligible for a reward. As mentioned earlier, this reward is issued by the CalTIP Rewards Committee and can be up to \$1000.

WILDLIFE OFFICER RESPONSE

Armed with the CalTIP information, the dispatcher then forwards the tip to the local wildlife officer for the area in which the violation occurred. They can forward this information in a number of ways – over the radio, by phone, fax or e-mail. Ideally, a wildlife officer would be in the vicinity of the violation and be able to respond immediately. Realistically, the wildlife officer force, including direct supervisors, numbers at just over 300 positions statewide. These officers are responsible for patrolling 159,000 square miles of land, 4,800 major lakes and reservoirs, 30,000 miles of rivers and 1,100 miles of coastline out to 200 miles offshore. But even with

odds such as this, wildlife officers do their best to respond to all the CalTIP hotline calls they receive.

Wildlife officer work is a unique type of law enforcement and response to CalTIP calls are just as unique. Unlike “911” call response, wildlife officers don't regularly respond to CalTIP calls with lights and sirens. Citizen callers to CalTIP may get the impression that there is no response to their report however, many times wildlife officers are watching from a distance using spotting scopes or binoculars. Sometimes they don't contact suspects until long after the original call into the CalTIP hotline. Or, suspects may be contacted away from the location where the violation occurred.

Due to staffing and the large areas that wildlife officers cover on patrol, there are times when officers must prioritize violation-call response. If they are working a spotlighting case where they have their suspects in sight, they may not immediately respond to a “fishing without a license” violation over an hour away. Even though the wildlife officer may not be able to respond, the CalTIP information is never ignored.

The saying “Every dog has its day” rings true for wildlife law enforcement. There have been CalTIP cases resolved the next day, the next week or even a few months later. By receiving detailed information through CalTIP, wildlife officers can successfully investigate ongoing wildlife crimes. Sometimes it's a series of calls from the public which allows the officer to put the pieces of the puzzle together and make the case.

IS IT A CALTIP?

There are times that calls come into the CalTIP hotline that aren't a CDFW . For example, if you have problem with raccoons getting into your garbage cans, that wouldn't be a CalTIP issue. It would be more appropriate to call the local animal control or a pest control service. On the other hand, if you know of someone that is keeping a raccoon as a pet that could be a CalTIP issue if they don't have the proper permits.

Overall, if you believe that you have witnessed a wildlife violation don't hesitate to call the CalTIP hotline. The protection of California's wildlife is not only the responsibility of wildlife officers, but of all Californians. Combat poaching and polluting by calling the CalTIP hotline at:

1-888-334-CALTIP
(1-888-334-2258)

To support the CalTIP rewards program, you can send donations to:

**California Wildlife Officers
Foundation
C/o Blum & Tripp, CPA's
480 Lytton Avenue, Suite 4
Palo Alto, CA 94301
Attention: CalTIP**





P.O. Box 406, Los Alamitos, CA 90720
(415) 541-5090 www.ccwr.org

CALIFORNIA COUNCIL FOR WILDLIFE REHABILITATORS
Office Address: P.O. Box 406, Los Alamitos, CA 90720
Phone: (415) 541-5090 Email: info@ccwr.org

NEWSLETTER & WEB STAFF
Website Committee Chair: Kathy Bolen
Website Committee: Star Dewar, Ruth McDunn, Karen Scheuermann
Newsletter Committee Chair: Leslie Bale
Newsletter Type/Design: Ruth McDunn
Text Editors: Sharon Baird, Leslie Bale, Libby Osnes-Erie, Marie Travers

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CALIFORNIA COUNCIL FOR WILDLIFE REHABILITATORS MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone: _____ Email Address (if any): _____
Affiliation: _____ Region: _____

- Membership Type and Length:**
- Individual Organization/Family
 - 1 year \$35.00 1 year \$ 50.00
 - 2 years \$50.00 2 years \$ 80.00
 - 3 years \$65.00 3 years \$100.00

- Check if you **do not** want to be listed in the CCWR's Membership Directory.
- Check if you **would like** to receive the newsletter via e-mail instead of paper.
- Enclosed please find my donation for: \$ _____

Please make checks payable "CCWR" and mail to P.O. Box 406, Los Alamitos, CA 90720