



## *California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitator*

### **President's Message**



Dearest Members,

This has indeed been a very interesting year. There is so much going on right now in the world and it is hard to even know what to say. California rehabbers are no stranger to natural disasters, however, I am not sure if anybody was quite ready for a pandemic. This has greatly affected each and every one of our daily lives and work. Organizations are working off skeleton crews to try and keep animals cared for. Volunteers have been sent home and some places are not accepting any new animals, or are conducting intakes outside. CCWR wants to be able to support our very hardworking community in any way possible. If there is anything you think we should add to our website or communicate to the community as a whole, please let us know. We will be creating an emergency page on our website soon with information on COVID-

19 so be on the lookout for details when the page is set up.

Be safe and take care everyone!

Rachel Avilla  
Board President

## **In Other News....**

### **Financials**

The CCWR financials will come in a separate Action Alert at the end of March. Be on the lookout!

### **Symposium**

The 26th Annual California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators Symposium will be held at the [Doubletree by Hilton](#) in Santa Ana.

The CCWR Board of Directors is taking into account that this symposium has the potential of being cancelled, if by September it appears that the COVID-19 virus has NOT subsided.

Our theme is "We Are All Connected", which seems like a very relevant theme for this year. This theme sprang from the idea of wildlife corridors, especially since we will be in Southern California where they are a hot topic and critical for many species survival. We need to connect the wild places together, more so than ever before. We are also one with our environment and every single choice we make in life has an impact on something else, so choose wisely my friends.

Here are some preliminary details:

Room Rates - \$129 a night not including taxes and fees

Registration Rate - \$80

Labs - \$15

Anticipated dates:

Speaker Proposals Open - April 15th

Speaker Proposals Close - June 1st

Registration Opens - July 1st

Vendor Proposals Open - June 1st

Vendor Proposals Close - July 15th



## **The Website Updates**

We have made a few recent additions to the [website](#).

1. We have created an ["In recognition of.."](#) page on the website. This page is designed for people to nominate retirees or people who have passed that have had a major impact on our community. If you know of someone who deserves this spot, please fill out the form and send us a photo so we can get some of these very important people publicly recognized for their hard work and years of service.

2. We have also created an ["Events"](#) page on the website. This page is designed for CCWR to be able to post upcoming events as well as our members to post any educational events that they would like to share with the community. Under Member Resources (only accessible by members) there is an [Event Proposal](#) form that can be filled out.

## **Advocacy - Legislation to be aware of this year.**

These past couple of months the Advocacy Committee has been involved with the campaign led by the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) to list Southern California and Central California Coast mountain lions as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act, or CESA. Last month, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), recommended that the petition initiated by CBD move forward, passing the first steps towards achieving the listing of the species. On **April 16th**, the California Fish and Game Commission will vote on whether to adopt CDFW's recommendation and grant Southern California and Central California Coast mountain lions "candidate status" under CESA. A favorable vote would then trigger a year-long review of whether Southern California and Central Coast mountain lions should be formally protected under

the Act. The Act's full protections would apply during the year-long candidacy period.

In order to put further pressure on the Commission to vote in favor of CDFW's recommendation, a letter is being sent to the Commission which will include CCWR as a signatory. Our membership can also contribute by sending individual comments by **April 16th** to the Commission via CBD's submission form, [here](#). Talking points for comments can be found [here](#).

The April 16th Commission meeting will be held via Teleconference at this web address:

<http://videobookcase.com/california/fish-game-commission/>

There is also a [change.org](#) petition found [here](#).

### **Your 2020 [Board of Directors](#)**

We are excited to announce our newest Board members: Cambria Wells, Marissa Jacky, and Emma Baldwin! Their participation means nearly full representation of the land-based wildlife regions for California and they are already proving to be vital to the mission of CCWR. Find out more on our website about all our Board Members.

### **CDFW Updates from the Annual Mega Meeting**

January 18th, 2020

A link to the full meeting can be viewed [here](#), use password "owcn". A note from Nicole Carrion: "This recording was made for California Wildlife Rehabilitation Permittees and their official volunteers, only. Please do not send to outside entities, post or infringe on these recordings. In the beginning, we were having technical difficulties and the recording does not start until 26:16 minutes in (so fast forward until that time). The power point does not come into view until the fourth presentation. This recording is more like a podcast for the first four presentations. My apologies! In addition, there is a scheduled break. Please fast forward through that time frame."

So please be respectful and refrain from forwarding this newsletter or link/password to non-CCWR members unless they are permitted California wildlife rehabilitators. Thank you.



### **Need a Crafty Person to Make you a Custom Creation?**

[Every Stitch Matters](#) is connecting crafters who want to make things to help animals with animals who need things made! Like pouches, nests, cage covers and more. They have several patterns they already know how to make and are happy to learn more. Check out the organizations they are currently crafting for and the current patterns at their [website](#). Need something different? Email Raquel at [raquel@everystitchmatters.org](mailto:raquel@everystitchmatters.org) to explain what your needs are and see what you can come up with together.



### **Dealing With A Pandemic**

We want to hear from our members! We are trying to find a way to provide virtual support and information to California centers dealing with the COVID-19 Pandemic. Please let us know if there are resources or information you want that we can try to help with. Please contact the CCWR Board at [info@ccwr.org](mailto:info@ccwr.org) to offer your suggestions or ideas.

As everyone is aware, the world is dealing with the COVID-19 Pandemic. There have now been cases confirmed in all 50 U.S. states with New York, Washington and California having the highest number of confirmed cases. These are stressful and confusing times with still much uncertainty about what to expect in the coming weeks or even months. As of Thursday evening all of California was ordered to "shelter-in-place". Schools are closed and students are completing their studies online; people are only allowed to leave their home to carry out necessary tasks such as getting medical supplies, shopping for food or other essential household or health-related errands, etc.



What does this mean for wildlife rehabilitators? At the moment veterinary services, including wildlife care, are considered a necessity and clinics are still open. Fish & Wildlife is working to ensure that wildlife centers remain an essential service. However, many centers are without volunteers and operating with only a couple staff members. Some facilities are taking in patients by appointment only or restricting open hours to the public for new intake. Be sure to set up an emergency plan if you are forced to close your doors.

Educational programs are on hold until further notice. There is concern of jobs being lost and/or reduced hours for employees. Many of us are going through new volunteer orientations and trainings, which are now either cancelled, or staff are attempting to create online courses to be taken at home. Be sure to provide updates to your volunteers, staff and the community as well as other nearby rehabilitation centers. This is a constantly evolving situation and accurate information needs to be relayed in a timely manner so everyone stays safe and healthy.



WildCare (San Rafael, CA) has set up a way to eliminate direct interaction with rescuers. An intercom is used to communicate and secure caging is set up during intake hours for the public to bring new patients. Only 2 medical staff are on site each day while phone staff and other departments are working from home. Other centers are putting into place similar protocols to ensure the health and safety of staff and community members. *Photo credit: WildCare 2020.*

So what are some things we can do to work through this? Some of us may be housebound or perhaps working extra hours at our clinics due to a lack of staffing. Remember to take care of YOU! Eat food and stay hydrated, try to get good and regular sleep and check in with your family and friends. Find activities that help you relieve stress. That might be going for a hike or meditating, reading a book, watching a movie, drawing or whatever it is that helps you relax.

If your center is looking for resources or ideas, reach out to other rehabilitators for suggestions. Some centers are already dealing with shutdowns and limited resources while others may still be fully functioning, so talk to one another! Centers should also stay in contact with their County Health Department and Animal Care and Control organizations.

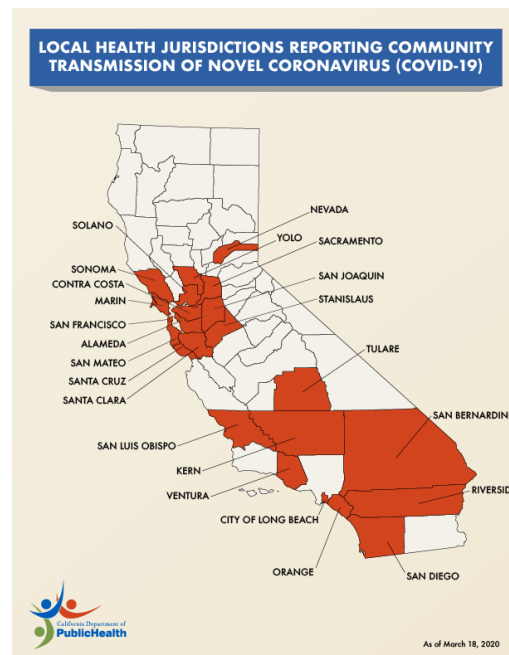
The [COVID-19](#) Pandemic is causing a lot of worry and anxiety but we all need to try to stay healthy and optimistic. Follow the CDC guidelines to ensure your safety and the safety of others.

The IWRC and their partners have put together a page with advice for wildlife centers during the COVID-19. Click [here](#) to review their suggestions.

Good health and good luck to you all.

In Solidarity,

CCWR Board of Directors



[Click here to find out more about CCWR!](#)

The California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators is dedicated to advancing wildlife rehabilitation and supporting wildlife in a changing world.

---

*Copyright © 2019 California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators. All rights reserved.*

**Our mailing address is:**

P.O. Box 7203, Cotati, CA

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.

---

This email was sent to [<< Test Email Address >>](#)  
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)  
California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators · PO Box 7203 · Cotati, CA 94931-7203 · USA

