

Flight log

Annual Newsletter and Impact Report from Teton Raptor Center – Jackson Hole, Wyoming

"I just want you to know how heartwarming it is to see how much incredible rehab work you are doing. It's a real bright spot in a very dark time. Keep it up, no matter what!"

-Benj Sinclair, Jackson Hole, Wyoming

Our Mission

To advance raptor conservation through education, research, and rehabilitation.

.....
Where conservation takes flight!



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Allison Swan, Jessie Walters

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Contact us

307.203.2551
raptors@tetonraptorcenter.org
www.tetonraptorcenter.org

Connect With Us:



Cover photo: American Kestrel in the wild,
©Chuck Schneebeck Photography.



Injured Raptor Hotline
307.203.2551
Ext. 1 | Available Daily

Executive Director Amy McCarthy and
Board Chair Wayne Turner at TRC's
campus in Wilson, Wyoming. ©TRC Staff.



Letter from the Executive Director and Board Chair

*"It is not the strongest of the species that survives, not the most intelligent that survives...
it is the one that is the most adaptable to change."— Charles Darwin*

.....

Last year, as we sat to pen our annual letter to you, we looked toward 2020 with enthusiastic and ambitious vision. Our sights focused on advancing raptor conservation through innovative approaches to education, research, and rehabilitation, the three pillars of Teton Raptor Center's mission. We also looked forward to a year of significant site improvements—all focused on bird care—that would create a new and expanded clinic, upgraded chambers for our resident raptors, and a flight barn.

In spite of the many challenges 2020 has brought, and because of your continued support and enthusiasm for our work, we are proud of what we accomplished this past year. Among these, opening the doors to new state-of-the-art facilities to care for raptor patients and ambassadors. Extraordinary in its own right, but even more so during this unprecedented year.

Today, however, as we reflect on this past year, the key word to describe 2020 is not vision, but rather adaptation. As we close out a year filled with some of the greatest volatility and uncertainty in generations, we are pleased to share that Teton Raptor Center has drawn on our most needed and treasured qualities to ensure uninterrupted service to injured, ill, and orphaned raptors; sustain ongoing studies in the field to better understand raptors and their needs; and bring new and creative approaches to educational outreach. Each day since the pandemic hit, Teton Raptor Center's team has showcased passion, resiliency, creativity, and adaptability.

Birds teach us about adaptability and resiliency each and every day. As we close out a year that won't soon be forgotten, we ask you to remember the birds. Please consider entering the new year as one of our "Frequent Flyers"—a recurring donor—and have your gift matched through this year's Flight Challenge.

Be well. Stay safe. Go birding!

With great gratitude for your commitment to this cause,

Amy B. McCarthy

Amy Brennan McCarthy
Executive Director

Wayne H. Turner

Wayne Turner
Board Chair

Become a Frequent Flyer

Have your gift matched during the 2020 Year-End Giving Challenge

Raptor conservation needs sustaining members to help raptors keep flying. You can become a Teton Raptor Center Frequent Flyer with a recurring gift that will ensure we are able to provide engaging education programs, innovative research and have the latest tools and training to rehabilitate injured and ill raptors. The Frequent Flyer program is a group of dedicated supporters who are helping us advance raptor conservation by giving on a monthly basis.

Help us soar out of 2020 and into 2021 with a donation between now and December 31, 2020! All new supporters who enroll in the Frequent Flyer program and donors who make a new or upgraded gift, will have their gift matched through the generous year-end Flight Challenge sponsored by the John M. Simpson Foundation and David May.

To sign-up for our monthly giving program or make a gift online please visit www.tetonraptorcenter.org. You may also call us at 307-203-2551 to become a TRC Frequent Flyer.



Did
You
Know?

A gift of \$10 per month will supply our resident raptors with their annual supply of Vitahawk (a vitamin supplement).



Red-tailed Hawk, ©Steve Poole.

Invest in Raptor Conservation

A gift of any size ensures that our education, research, and rehabilitation programs continue to soar.

Recurring Gifts: NEW! Become a Frequent Flyer by providing a monthly donation through our website, tetonraptorcenter.org.

Donate Online, By Mail, or By Telephone: Making a gift is as simple as writing a check payable to Teton Raptor Center or authorizing a charge from your credit or debit card via our website, using the enclosed envelope, or contacting us at **307.203.2551**.

Matching Gifts: Many companies match gifts made by employees to nonprofit organizations. Increase the impact of your gift by asking your employer to match your contributions to TRC.

Planned Gifts: Leave a legacy for raptor conservation by joining The Soaring Society and naming TRC in your will or estate plans.

Gift of Securities: Gifts of stocks, bonds, and mutual funds are a great way to support our work. Contact TRC for information on gifting securities.

Facebook: Comment “#donate \$___” on our Facebook page and you’ll quickly make a difference for birds of prey through GoodWorld.

AmazonSmile: Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to raptor conservation when you shop at smile.amazon.com and select Teton Raptor Center as the charitable organization.

“We chose to be monthly donors to Teton Raptor Center because we believe they are doing some of the most important work in this valley. Everytime we see an eagle, an osprey, a hawk, or hear an owl in the evening's darkness, we feel peace and yet are reminded of the bigger issues that need to be addressed to help save this planet.”

— Jennifer Durning, Wilson, Wyoming, TRC Frequent Flyer

Please contact us to learn more about ways to contribute to raptor conservation, 307.203.2551.

Teton Raptor Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations are tax-deductible.

Our tax ID # is 83-0328068.

30-Year-Old Bald Eagle Window Strike Recovery

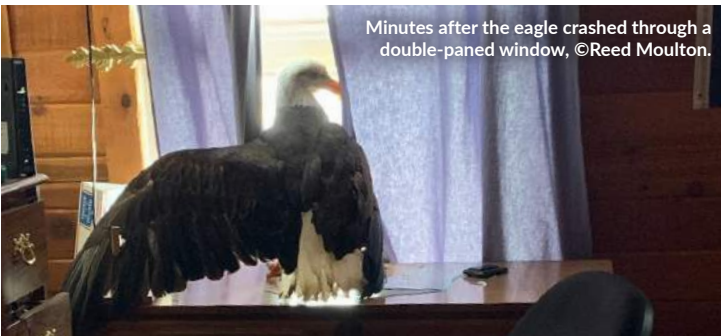
After a six-week recovery at TRC's Rehabilitation Clinic, this eagle was released back into the wild.

BAEA 1.28.20 released back into the wild, ©Mark Gocke.

On January 28th, a local resident of Jackson WY, Reed Moulton, had an unlikely visitor crash through his double-paned window and land in his bedroom. This fully mature Bald Eagle crashed through the window and was unconscious for about 10 minutes, which gave Reed enough time to call Wyoming Game and Fish who referred him to Teton Raptor Center. Teton Raptor Center staff member Meghan Warren and volunteer Anne Hare were on the scene shortly and were able to safely

retrieve the bird from Reed's bedroom, although it put up a good fight and sent glass shards everywhere. While it is a common occurrence for birds to crash into windows, it's not often to hear of a Bald Eagle hitting one. Once the bird was in hand, Anne quickly noticed that the bird had bands on both of its legs and the identification number was reported to the USGS Bird Banding Lab. At first an error message occurred, meaning either the number was entered incorrectly or the eagle was unusually old. The eagle turned out to be 30 years old and was banded in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem in the spring of 1989! Staff and volunteers alike were astonished to discover this Bald Eagle was one of the oldest eagles ever to be documented in the wild.

The Bald Eagle was admitted that same day and was given the identification code: BAEA 1.28.20, (an abbreviation for his species, plus his date of admission). After a thorough examination, TRC's rehabilitation team treated the eagle for lacerations to the feet, wings, and right eye, and for an elevated lead level in the bird's blood. Each year, eagles feed on gut piles that are littered



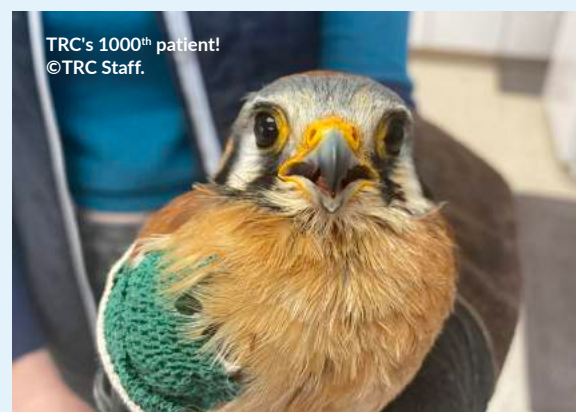
Minutes after the eagle crashed through a double-paned window, ©Reed Moulton.

with tiny fragments from lead bullets that can result in lead poisoning. This elevated lead level most likely was a contributing factor to the bird crashing through the window. Treatment consisted of anti-inflammatory medications, wound care for the many lacerations, and two rounds of chelation therapy to pull the lead out of the bird's blood. While at TRC, the eagle soon became very aggressive and feisty. Dr. Lorimer, an avian ophthalmologist on TRC's Advisory Council, was able to examine the right eye before release to ensure the cut had fully healed. After a month and a half of care, the lacerations healed and the bird's lead level was low with no symptoms. On March 6th, 2020, BAEA 1.28.20 spread his wings and returned to the wild once again.



Did You Know?

14 raptors were admitted during the 19-20 fiscal year after crashing into windows, seven of which were able to be released back into the wild.



Our 1,000th Patient

On May 10, 2020 Teton Raptor Center admitted its 1000th patient to the rehabilitation clinic. An American Kestrel was unfortunately struck by a vehicle in Rexburg, ID and sustained a luxation of the ulna and radius in the elbow of the right wing. Thankfully the talented veterinarians at Jackson Animal Hospital were able to set the bones back in place the very next day. Unfortunately, this patient was ultimately euthanized as it was not able to fully recover from the trauma due to the car strike.

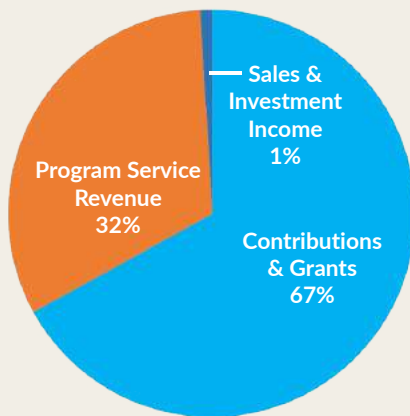
Impact Report

Finance: Teton Raptor Center's fiscal year runs from June 1st through May 31st. TRC generated \$934,294 in revenue, with an additional \$1,659,467 in restricted funds to support TRC's capital improvements. Total FY 2019-20 operational expenses were \$969,340. TRC's Form 990 is posted on our website and we invite you to review that report for more detailed financial information. Our FY 2020-21 operational budget is \$986,034. The statistics reported throughout this publication focus on the fiscal year, June 1, 2019 - May 31, 2020.

Fundraising Efficiency: In FY 2019-20, TRC spent 2 cents to raise each donated dollar (or \$2 spent to raise \$100). Both Charity Watch and BBB Giving Alliance guidelines state that it should cost no more than \$35 to raise \$100 worth of funds.

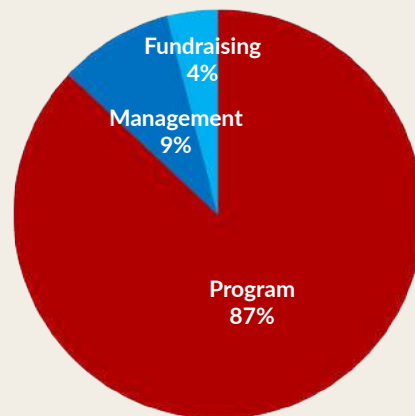
Income by Source

Operating Revenue



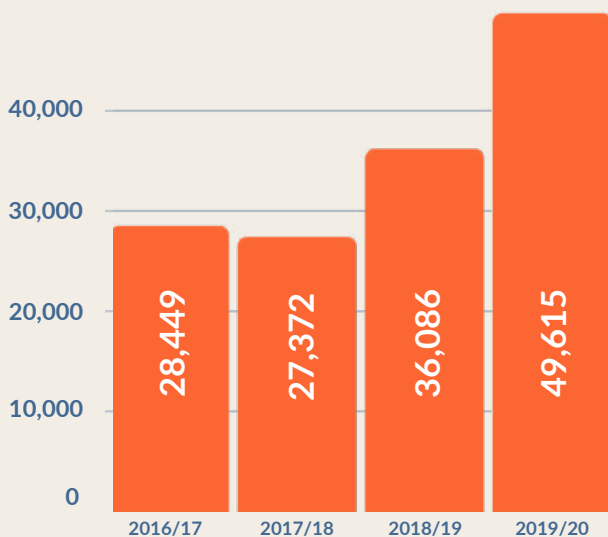
Expenses by Class

Functional Expenses



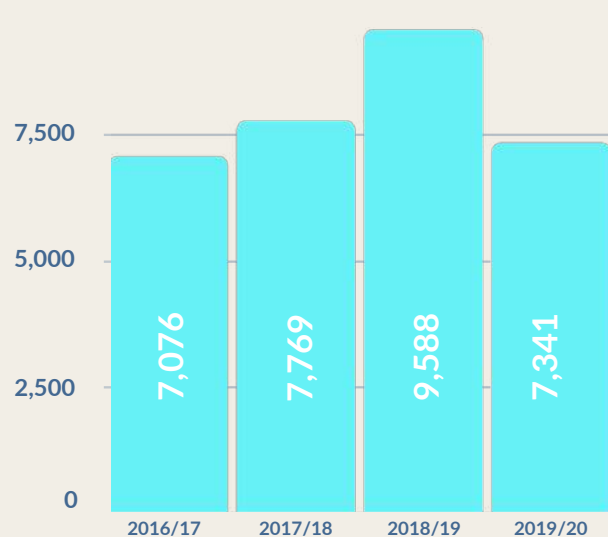
Program Participants

By Fiscal Year



Volunteer Hours

By Fiscal Year





By the Numbers: FY 2019-2020



401

Educational programs delivered

14

Ongoing research and conservation projects



124

Raptor patients

49,615

Program participants



99

Raptor Rescue Network volunteers

1,641

Poo-Poo Project screens distributed



7,341

Volunteer hours donated



135,000+

Most Popular Social Media Post



This 30-year-old bald eagle crashed through a double-paned window into a bedroom in Jackson. Age was determined by USGS leg bands from when the bird was admitted to our clinic. The eagle was successfully released back into the wild on March 6, 2020. This post reached over 135,000 people on social media.



The eye of a 30-year-old Bald Eagle admitted with soft tissue damage and lacerations after striking and flying through a window, @TRC Staff.



Education



Volunteers and staff engage with Flights and Feathers program participants at the Jackson Hole Airport, ©TRC Staff.

The Year of Adaptation

2020 has provided us with both challenges and opportunities to adapt to an ever-changing world. The education team at TRC has worked tirelessly to adapt to the changing educational landscape, exhibiting a great showcase of ingenuity and creativity in the ways that we can engage our program participants. As social distancing and personal safety remain a priority, we continue to adapt our educational offerings to best fit the needs of our audience, and our staff, by offering an array of safe and fun ways that you can interact with TRC's educational ambassadors, and learn a thing or two along the way!

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An Incredible Team

TRC's Education Team By The Numbers
June 1, 2019 - May 31, 2020



14 Avian Ambassadors

325 Programs featured Hunter the Peregrine Falcon

401 Education programs this fiscal year

1,921 Hours donated by the education team volunteers

7,824 Miles traveled by our education team

49,615 Program participants



TRC volunteer Ben Prochnow with Otus the Eastern Screech Owl, ©TRC Staff.

Spotlight: AmeriCorps at TRC

AmeriCorps service members have played a vital role in TRC's education team for many years. This year, as with many things, COVID-19 caused their service to look a bit different. Our AmeriCorps members served virtually this year, meeting via video platforms and working on projects from their own homes. These AmeriCorps opportunities are made possible through partnership with Teton Science Schools.



Mary Sellars - AmeriCorps Member 2020



Mary handles Beatrix, TRC's resident American Kestrel. ©TRC Staff.

Mary Sellars completed her undergraduate degree in Wildlife Biology and Geographic Information Systems from Northland College in Ashland, Wisconsin on the shores of Lake Superior. While studying in Wisconsin's Northwoods she managed a research project examining the breeding habitat of the American Kestrel and prescribed fires as a source of ecological restoration for wildlife. This experience illustrated first hand the significance of raptors as an indicator species for ecosystem

health. Mary pursued an AmeriCorps position with Teton Science Schools to serve at the intersections of wildlife science and community organization in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Mary chose to work with the Teton Raptor Center as part of her AmeriCorps service term because she believes the intersections of research, education and wildlife rehabilitation are fundamental to species and ecosystem recovery.

Finley Tevlin - AmeriCorps Member 2020



Finley Tevlin. ©TRC Staff.

Finley's time as an AmeriCorps member and education intern with Teton Raptor Center challenged and pushed him to master new skills, develop new ideas and ways of handling tasks, and allowed for growth opportunities, both personally and professionally. Finley shared, "This time has been of irreplaceable value, allowing me to become part of a team that feels more like family. After my experience as an AmeriCorps member and education intern with Teton

Raptor Center, I would encourage anyone who has considered this kind of service to give it a try, and see what amazing things you too can accomplish!"

Eli Wilson - AmeriCorps Member 2020



Eli Wilson. ©Eli Wilson.

Eli grew up in Rhode Island, where he spent his summers on the Atlantic Ocean and his winters in the White Mountains. Along the way, Eli cultivated a deep appreciation for natural beauty and all of its organisms—especially birds! Eli hopes to continue expanding his curiosity through schooling, hands-on work, and activities in his free time. Eli recently graduated from Georgetown University, where he studied ecology and physics, and had the opportunity to participate in some

cool field research and teaching experiences along the way. Eli came to Teton Raptor Center through the AmeriCorps program at Teton Science Schools, drawn by TRC's unique combination of research, rehabilitation, and education, and their friendly team of employees and volunteers.



GIVE A HOOT — ON ZOOM!

TRC Owls Enhance Virtual Meetings

Throughout the pandemic Teton Raptor Center has been working with virtual meeting participants to "Give a Hoot" by having TRC resident raptors drop into meetings for fun learning experiences. These educational "Zoom bombs" have been a great way to break up the monotony of virtual meeting experiences and introduce attendees to the incredible adaptations of owl species.



"This time has been of irreplaceable value, allowing me to become part of a team that feels more like family."

- Finley Tevlin, AmeriCorps Member



Education Wish List

Your Donation Can Help the Birds!

\$25,000 BIG WISH Sponsor an AmeriCorps member or education intern

\$10,000 Education program underwriting

\$2,500 Education materials (supplies, posters, print materials, etc.)

\$1,500 Gas (7,824 miles traveled in FY19/20)

\$1,000 Equipment (perching, leashes, kennels, etc.)

\$500 Staff/Ambassador Uniforms

\$100 Art supplies

Visit our website for our ongoing and up-to-date wish list items.



Research



Creating Opportunity

TRC facilitates graduate level projects for past, current, and future researchers

Beyond advancing wildlife science, management, and technology, our research department is continuing a strong history of helping to foster the next generation of wildlife biologists. Equally important to understanding and gathering critical data to manage raptors, our research also serves as a catalyst for learning and opportunity with young scientists. We are proud to help facilitate many graduate level projects for past, current, and future researchers at Teton Raptor Center. Six years ago, we bolstered our research program and solidified TRC's three-pillar approach to raptor conservation with foci on education, rehabilitation, and research. In line with these goals, several biologists from our research team have used our research projects to obtain Master's and PhD degrees.

Recently, Beth Mendelsohn used data she helped collect while at Teton Raptor Center to complete her Master's project investigating the genetic connectivity of Great Gray Owls in western North America at the University of Wyoming (UWYO). Two other TRC employees are currently pursuing advanced degrees at UWYO. Katherine Gura has been collecting vital movement data on Great Gray Owls to map critical habitats of this secretive raptor for her PhD. Nathan Hough is using data he

helped collect while at TRC to map critical habitats of Golden Eagles in Wyoming and beyond. Similarly, after working both in our rehabilitation and research departments, Sarah Ramirez is currently working on her Master's degree at Colorado State University using our research project on how best to mitigate development effects on Ferruginous Hawks.

In addition to our research team using our projects for graduate school, we also provide valuable data for many graduate projects not directly associated with Teton Raptor Center. Data from our projects are helping graduate students model habitats of Rough-legged Hawks in western North America, describe the genomics for Golden Eagles, and link geophagy (soil ingestion) and habitat use for Greater Sage-grouse.

Researching and providing data to manage our raptors isn't enough to conserve wildlife in the long-term. Equally important is helping to educate and train future biologists. We are proud to be able to provide those opportunities through our ongoing long-term research at Teton Raptor Center.



"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest."

-Benjamin Franklin

TRC research staff member, Allison Swan, ©TRC Staff.



Did You Know?

It costs roughly \$35,000 a year to support a graduate student on top of normal project costs.

TRC Research Director, Bryan Bedrosian
with a Short-eared Owl during field
research, ©TRC Staff.



Conservation Collaboration

It takes a village. Conserving raptors is no exception. When a species relies on different habitats across a continent, collaboration is key. We have been working for years with different teams of researchers to map critical habitats of Rough-legged Hawks and Golden Eagles. This year, we embarked on a new adventure with dozens of others to learn more about a grassland raptor, the Short-eared Owl. As part of a national initiative lead by the Intermountain Bird Observatory in Boise, Idaho, we are collectively trying to gather data from at least seven states to learn about this nomadic species. This owl nests on the ground across the sagebrush sea in Wyoming and we are leading the efforts here to gather critical data to help these owls. Last spring, we were able to kick off this study for the team by marking the first two owls ever in the state.



Northern Goshawk outfitted with transmitter, ©TRC Staff.

Research Wish List

Your Donation Can Help the Birds!

\$15,000 BIG WISH 6 GPS transmitters for Northern Goshawk study

\$7,500 All-terrain vehicle with trailer

\$2,250 Acoustic recorders

\$1,750 DSLR Still/4K video camera kit

\$1,000 In-Reach satellite safety device with subscription

\$750 Software subscriptions (ArcGIS, Adobe, Acoustic Analysis)

\$300 Mud/snow truck traction ramps

\$200 Two professional first-aid kits

\$150 GoPro gimbal stabilizer

\$50 Fuel cards (many needed)

Unlocking Secrets

It is amazing how a huge raptor can vanish in a flash though the dense forest. As one of the few sensitive raptors in the West, the Northern Goshawk is our largest Accipiter, or forest hawk. Known by their gray feathers and unmistakable crimson eye, goshawks have short, rounded wings and long, rudder-like tails allowing them to zip through tight forests. Eerily silent during the nesting season, they switch to aggressively protect their young, even hitting people in the head as they walk by.

We still don't know much about this species in Wyoming. How many are there? Are populations stable? Do they migrate? What do they eat? How much area do we need to protect? These are among some of the questions we just set out to answer. In 2020, we began outfitting goshawks with GPS transmitters to unlock some of their secrets.



Rehabilitation

Raptor Rescue Network during COVID-19

“Being a Raptor Rescue Network volunteer is a most fulfilling role to play, as we transport these magnificent injured and rehabilitated birds in their critical time of need.”

-Denny Emory, Raptor Rescue Network Volunteer

While the COVID-19 pandemic has forced us to modify our approach to bird care, especially with greatly reduced volunteer participation, Teton Raptor Center has not turned away any birds in need of our care throughout this health crisis. One way volunteers have sustained engagement is through our Raptor Rescue Network (RRN), providing a safe and socially distant volunteer opportunity by helping to transport injured, ill, and orphaned birds from throughout Wyoming and Idaho to care at Teton Raptor Center's clinic. TRC (and the birds) are honored to have such dedicated volunteers during these uncertain times. The Raptor Rescue Network was created to coordinate the efforts of the four raptor rehabilitation resources for Wyoming, agency partners, veterinarians, and transport volunteers to ensure that every injured raptor has access to the care it needs. Recently, we received a grant through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to help enhance the RRN and provide better, and more efficient care to injured raptors. Please contact us if you are interested in becoming a member of our Raptor Rescue Network.



RRN Volunteer Denny Emory transporting an injured Great Horned Owl, ©TRC Staff.



Did
You
Know?

For the FY 19-20, our Raptor Rescue Network volunteers donated over 100 hours of drive time and 5,700 miles!



Luisa Frankenburg, Rehabilitation Assistant, with Golden Eagle patient, ©TRC Staff.



Bald Eagle receiving an eye exam by Dr. Lorimer before release, ©TRC Staff.

Rehab Statistics June 1, 2019 - May 31, 2020

124 Raptor Patients*

33 Birds released back to the wild

56% Survival Rate for birds surviving more than 24 hours

23 Great Horned Owls admitted — our most common species

18 patients from Idaho Falls & **18** from Jackson Hole

23 Admissions in July and September— our busiest months

21 Distinct raptor species admitted



Admissions by Species

12 American Kestrel	2 Northern Pygmy-Owl
8 Bald Eagle	1 Northern Saw-whet Owl
6 Barn Owl	8 Osprey
3 Cooper's Hawk	2 Peregrine Falcon
2 Flammulated Owl	2 Prairie Falcon
4 Golden Eagle	15 Red-tailed Hawk
23 Great Horned Owl	2 Rough-legged Hawk
2 Long-eared Owl	9 Sharp-shinned Hawk
1 Merlin	1 Short-eared Owl
1 Northern Goshawk	18 Swainson's Hawk
	2 Turkey Vulture

*TRC also supplied emergency triage and stabilization to 23 non-raptors, covering 9 different species of songbirds and corvids.



Barn Owl ready for release, © TRC Staff.

CASE STUDY- Barn Owl Car Strike Victim

On the evening of February 8th, a member of the public witnessed a Barn Owl hit by a car while it was hunting. The bird was showing signs of a concussion so they called Teton Raptor Center's Raptor Hotline and the bird was admitted as a patient. X-rays luckily showed no broken bones from the car strike, but the bird was suffering from head trauma and ulcers, or infected cuts, in both eyes. Treatment included eye drops and anti-inflammatory medications, along with time in our oxygen chamber to help alleviate its concussion. Luckily the bird made a quick recovery after only two weeks and was released back into the wild by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

Cost of Rehabilitation:
\$384 +16 hours of volunteer support



TRC Rehabilitation crew, ©TRC Staff.

Rehab Wish List

Your Donation Can Help the Birds!

- \$48,000** BIG WISH Portable DRE X-ray Machine & Table
- \$3,000** Send our rehabilitators to a rehabilitation medical conference
- \$1,500** Medical supplies for 6 months
- \$750** Supplies to conduct in-house bloodwork
- \$500** Fund a bird's surgery
- \$500** iPad for new Rehab Clinic
- \$350** Purchase Abaxis Rotors to help analyze patient bloodwork
- \$50** Medical books and subscriptions



teton raptor center

POO-POO PROJECT

Poo-Poo Project



Did
You
Know?

**The 16,000th Poo-Poo
screen went to Salmon
Challis National Forest
in Idaho.**

California State Parks staff installing Poo-Poo screens at
SVRA, Hungry Valley, ©CA State Parks.

Poo-Poo Project Continues to Expand

Our long-time partner and screen manufacturer, Premier Powder Coating and Custom Fabrication, purchased a new laser cutting machine in 2019. This advanced technology allowed TRC to save costs on welding labor and powder coating and provide an improved stainless steel product for our partners at \$34.50. These stainless steel Poo-Poo Screens have been in circulation for a year and the reviews are in; they are easier to install and better at withstanding various weather conditions! If you are in need of custom sized Poo-Poo Screens, we have them available from \$39.95 and bulk orders of 75 screens for \$2,495. With our reliable Poo-Poo Screens 2.0 and a price reduction, we are well on our way to completely screening all state parks across the country.



Barn Owl rescued from a vault toilet, ©USFS



States with the most Poo-Poo Partners:

Montana	63
California	55
Wyoming	52
Colorado	49
Oregon	34



Poo-Poo Project History

Every year, thousands of cavity-nesting birds and mammals become entrapped in vertical pipes, such as ventilation pipes. Vault toilets found in many of America's wild areas, feature a 12-inch diameter ventilation pipe that mimics the natural cavities preferred by various bird species. Once a bird enters the ventilation pipe, it can easily become entrapped and often succumbs to starvation, dehydration, or disease. TRC began working with federal, regional, and state agencies in 2010 to screen vault toilet ventilation pipes. Our affordable screens are durable, easy to install, and provide superior ventilation.

Sponsor-a-Screen

The Sponsor-a-Screen program is crucial to protecting cavity-nesting wildlife. Just \$45 allows individuals and families to participate in wildlife conservation and help raise awareness about wildlife entrapment issues. The program began in the summer of 2016 and over 2,300 sponsored screens have been purchased by TRC supporters and shipped to Poo-Poo partners around the United States and beyond.

With the holidays approaching, are you wondering what to get that person who has everything, or is just hard to buy for? Sponsor-a-Screen as a gift to celebrate a family member or a friend, and TRC will send you a sticker and a special Poo-Poo greeting card that you can personalize and mail directly to the recipient. Plus, you will find out when and where your sponsored Poo-Poo Screen is installed.

250+

Hours donated by Poo-Poo volunteers last year



Poo-Poo Heroes

Carol Poole, a dedicated Poo-Poo Project volunteer, has been a huge asset to the project as she continues to donate personal time to prepare Poo-Poo Screen orders for shipment. Ever dedicated through these uncertain times, she is able to ensure that every order of Poo-Poo Screens is ready to protect cavity-nesting wildlife.

June Green is based in Missouri and remains a steady figure in the Poo-Poo Project. She is an essential and enthusiastic ambassador for the project, donating hundreds of hours every year to ensure there is awareness of the danger posed by unscreened vault toilet ventilation pipes to all federal and state agencies.



Project Partners

Assoc. of Nature Center Administrators
 Audubon Society Chapters
 State Park Agencies
 State Wildlife Agencies
 National Park Service
 Numerous County Agencies
 US Army Corps of Engineers
 US Bureau of Land Management
 US Fish and Wildlife Service
 US Forest Service
 The Nature Conservancy
 Vault Toilet Manufacturers
 -Missoula Concrete
 -Boom Concrete
 -Huffcutt Concrete
 Private Individuals
 Sponsor-a-Screen Supporters



Volunteers

Ambassadors Hit a Huge Milestone

During the last fiscal year, TRC Ambassadors contributed 7,341 hours of service and even more astonishingly, they donated 10,832 hours to raptor conservation in the 2019 calendar year. We had 23 ambassadors reach the rankings of Talon Society, in which each person donated over 100 hours of service within a calendar year. Our volunteers joined us for the usual tasks with education, research, and rehabilitation, in addition to assisting with our clinic transition and moving of birds to temporary enclosures.



"It is truly humbling to know we have a volunteer team ready to step up and help in any situation. Our volunteers are the heart of TRC."

-Jessie Walters, Administrative and Volunteer Coordinator



Volunteer and staff perform laser therapy on a Barn Owl patient, ©TRC Staff.

Volunteering During a Pandemic

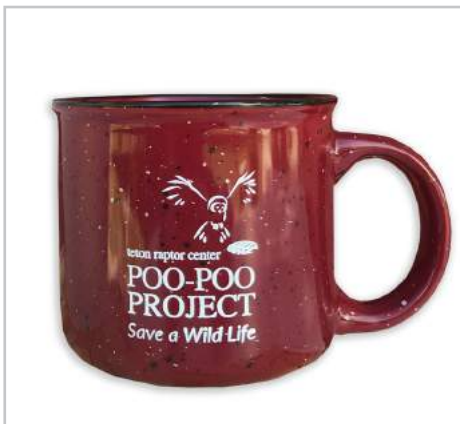
When the normal that we once knew changed due to COVID, our volunteer activity had to shift as well. Instead of allowing four to five volunteers on site per day, we halted all volunteer activity in mid-March. Our ambassadors were understanding and appreciative of our new protocols. As we continued to follow state and county guidelines, we were able to welcome back a handful of volunteers beginning in May, but we still limited it to one volunteer per shift per day. Eventually, we built up to two volunteers in the morning and one in the afternoon before cutting back to one volunteer for a longer shift. We matched up volunteers with a staff member, to limit wiping out our entire team if someone were to test positive for COVID. Although volunteers were not on-site as regularly, we were able to offer more remote opportunities for all ambassadors. Volunteers assisted from afar with various educational program projects, organization of our photo drive, and analysis of research recordings. Through this, we learned of several volunteers who love to sew! We put them to work making masks for the staff and for our education team. The staff continue to make sure our volunteers feel appreciated and included by sending out weekly updates and videos, along with phone calls to check in.



Volunteer Connor Hartnett, handling his first raptor, Great Horned Owl, ©TRC Staff.

Shop

Gifts that make a difference! All proceeds from our shop directly support our mission to advance raptor conservation. Some of our most popular items are featured below. You will find a complete selection of items at tetonraptorcenter.org.



Ceramic Campfire Mug - \$12.99

This mug makes a great gift and supports the Poo-Poo Project.



TRC Water Bottle - \$19.99

A Teton Raptor Center water bottle, 24oz.



Poo-Poo Tote - \$9.99

Natural, organic cotton tote. Support the Poo-Poo Project.



Bird Watching for Kids - \$14.99

Entertaining projects that allow kids to learn about the needs and behaviors of wild birds.



Trucker Hats - \$24.99

Our trucker hats are handcrafted in the Tetons featuring owl art by Jackson Hole artist Nicole Gaitan.



Phantom of the North - \$49.95

A thorough natural history of Great Gray Owls with award-winning photographs.

Featured Item: New Avian Ambassador Collector Cards

All Avian Ambassador Cards highlight facts about the bird's species, the reason they came to Teton Raptor Center, and the reason why they cannot return to the wild. All sets are randomly assorted with six cards per set. Order yours today at tetonraptorcenter.org. \$3.50/set. Three sets for \$10.



Collect the full flock!

Site Improvement

2020: It's All About the Birds

Raptor housing and bird care facilities at the center of 2020 site improvement work



Flight Barn construction, ©Steve Poole.

This year's site improvements turned the focus to our most important assets, the birds! Five new facilities were moved or constructed this year to help increase the space to house and care for resident and patient raptors. With the generosity and support of those who have supported TRC's Capital Campaign, construction was able to begin in early April to:

- **Create a new rehabilitation clinic for injured, ill, and orphaned raptors,**
- **Construct new resident raptor chambers,**
- **Restore the historic Pump House, and**
- **Build a new Flight Barn to accelerate raptor recovery.**

All patient and resident raptors were temporarily moved into the historic North Barn for the construction season. The raptors will move into their permanent enclosures later this fall, upon the completion of the bird care facilities. We also look forward to flying our rehabilitation patients untethered in the new Flight Barn before the end of 2020!

Site improvement work will continue throughout the winter

beginning with the renovation of the historic Horse Barn, which will serve as the hub of the research team. The focus in 2021 will shift to staff facilities, to allow for the creation of enhanced work spaces for TRC's dedicated team and to promote greater collaboration through purpose-built work spaces. The final phase of the project will take place in 2022 with the restoration of the historic North Barn to become the home for year-round live raptor and natural history programming.



Flight Barn rendering, ©The Kubala Washatko Architects.

Project map



Support a home for world-class raptor conservation

To learn more about TRC's site improvements, visit tetonraptorcenter.org. If you are interested in discovering how you can support a home for world-class raptor conservation, please contact Advancement Director, Nick Delmolino, **307.203.2551** or nick@tetonraptorcenter.org.

Special Thanks to TRC Capital Campaign Council Members

Gregg Foster
Madelyn Foster
Lisa Friesecke
Louise Haberfeld
Leslye Hardie
Berte Hirschfield

Missy Hoster
Lisa Price
Katrina Ryan
Roger Smith
Wayne Turner

Project Timeline

2017 - 2018 - Phase 1



- ✓ Land Acquisition
- ✓ Design
- ✓ Infrastructure

2019 - Phase 2



- ✓ North Barn Stabilization
- ✓ Facilities Support Building

2020 - Phase 3



- Flight Barn
- Expanded Clinic Space
- Patient Enclosures
- Avian Ambassador Enclosures

2021-2022 - Phase 4



- ⊗ Staff Innovation Hub
- ⊗ Education Hub
- ⊗ Research Hub
- ⊗ Workforce Housing

Phase 1 photo by Mary Gerty. Phase 2 photo by Teton Gravity Research

● Underway

✓ Completed

⊗ Future Project

Radio RaptorFest

RaptorFest Makes Radio Debut

At the beginning of 2020, Teton Raptor Center staff were gearing up for a big in-person celebration as the organization looked forward to celebrating the 10th anniversary of RaptorFest on Father's Day. However, with pandemic protocols and physical distancing measures in place, TRC was forced to reimagine how to provide a safe, fun, and educational substitute for the annual celebration of birds of prey.

TRC decided to take its programming to the airwaves for a new type of experience, Radio RaptorFest! On June 21, 2020, a radio version of the celebration was broadcast live on 89.1 FM KHOL, Jackson Hole Community Radio. The program featured segments on all things related to raptors along with a great musical playlist provided by JacksonHoleLive, a long-time partner of the annual celebration. Specific segments featured Teton Raptor Center staff and covered topics including Where to Find Raptors, Sounds of Raptors and What You Can Do to Help Raptors at Home.



A very special thank you to the staff at KHOL, JacksonHoleLive, and to Radio RaptorFest sponsors Teton Conservation District, First Interstate Bank, and Graham-Faupel Mendenhall & Associates for their support to bring this new program to the community.



If you missed RadioRaptorFest live, scan the QR code and listen to the full recording or specific program segments.



Otus the Eastern Screech Owl visits the KHOL 89.1 studio for a live appearance at Radio RaptorFest, ©TRC Staff.

Staff and Board Highlights



TRC board and staff, ©TRC Staff.

Welcome to New Board and Advisory Council Members

Teton Raptor Center would like to extend a big welcome to several new board and advisory council members who will be serving TRC and the birds moving forward. We are very grateful for their time, experience, talents, and generosity to help ensure we deliver on our mission to advance raptor conservation. In 2020 TRC welcomed **Phoebe Coburn**, **Hadyn Peery**, and **Bill Egan** to its Board of Directors. New Advisory Council members include **Andrew Salter**, **Dr. Dan Lorimer, D.V.M., DACVO**, **Susan Patla**, and **Dr. Joe Weinman, D.V.M.**



Sarah Ramirez, former TRC staff member and current graduate student, ©TRC Staff.



Jessie Walters, TRC's Admin. & Volunteer Coordinator ©Rebecca Bredehoft.

Staff Celebrate Latino Conservation Week at Teton Raptor Center

In support of Latino Conservation Week, team members from Teton Raptor Center engaged in the annual initiative to support the Latino community in encouraging participation in outdoor activities and protecting natural resources. Throughout the week, Teton Raptor Center posted stories in celebration of TRC team members who identify as members of the Latino community. Posts included videos showing a day in the field with TRC biologists and highlighted team members engaging in other raptor conservation activities.



Thanks for Giving a Hoot!

Teton Raptor Center shares our fullest gratitude and appreciation with the many individuals, families, businesses, and foundations that have generously contributed time, talent, and financial resources to support our work. This extensive list includes our RaptorFest sponsors and Sponsor-A-Screen donors too. These contributions keep us soaring and support important education, research, and rehabilitation initiatives. TRC's birds, staff, and Board of Directors are grateful beyond measure for the goodwill and generosity extended to the Center this year. **

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Top photos, left to right: TRC staffer, Jess, flight training a Great Horned Owl patient, ©TRC Staff; Release of a Barn Owl that recovered after being stuck in a vault toilet, ©WERC; TRC education program, ©TRC Staff; Bald Eagles in the wild, ©Irene Greenberg; TRC staff, board, and friends celebrate Executive Director Amy McCarthy's 10th anniversary with TRC, ©TRC Staff; Barn Owl patient flight conditioning, ©TRC Staff.



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Judy Powers

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Shaner Garner Crooke

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Kelly Elementary School student artwork, ©TRC Staff.

Special Thanks

We'd like to thank the 3rd and 4th grade students from Kelly Elementary School in Kelly, WY who helped TRC staff, board, and volunteers celebrate birds of prey by creating handmade signs to be held at our Raptor Rally in September 2020 as a part of Old Bill's Fun Run 2020.



TRC Bald Eagle mascot celebrating at 2020 Raptor Rally, ©Orijin Media.

Talon Society Members

Donors and volunteers who gave an annual gift of \$1,000 or more, or 100 hours of volunteer service.

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Join the Talon Society!



Show your commitment to birds of prey by joining the Talon Society. Your annual gift of \$1,000 or more, or 100 hours of volunteer service within a calendar year, grants you entry into this treasured community of TRC supporters. We'll celebrate your investment in raptor conservation with invitations to special events and a custom-made pin by Wilson, Wyoming artist Annie Band.

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Photo, this page: This year's big winners at our annual Ambassador Appreciation Night, ©TRC Staff.



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Show us what you've got!

We invite you to share your raptor-inspired art, stories, and photos. Teton Raptor Center is always interested in learning about your observations of raptors in the wild. If you would like to submit a photo-of-the-week for our website, please send your submission to raptors@tetonraptorcenter.org.



PHOTOS, left to right: TRC residents, Hemlock and Manzanita, ©Jeanette Buffalo; Education Ambassador with Hardeman the Red-tailed Hawk, ©TRC Staff; Bald Eagles in the wild, ©Bob Bailey; left: Hardeman, ©Bob Bailey.



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William Ryerson



"A wonderful and educational experience! People of all ages will enjoy — and learn a lot from — this presentation. It held the attention of our entire family / ranging from 6 to 87!! Don't miss this."

—Diana Joyce, New York, NY

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Save the Date
Father's Day,
Sunday, June 20, 2021

raptorfest

We plan to celebrate birds of prey once again on
 Father's Day 2021, stay tuned for details.

** Donors and volunteers who contributed time, talent, financial resources and/or in-kind services and gifts between October 1, 2019 and September 30, 2020 are recognized on this list. Teton Raptor Center regrets any inadvertent omissions or misspellings. Please contact us if you are not properly recognized so we can correct our information on file.



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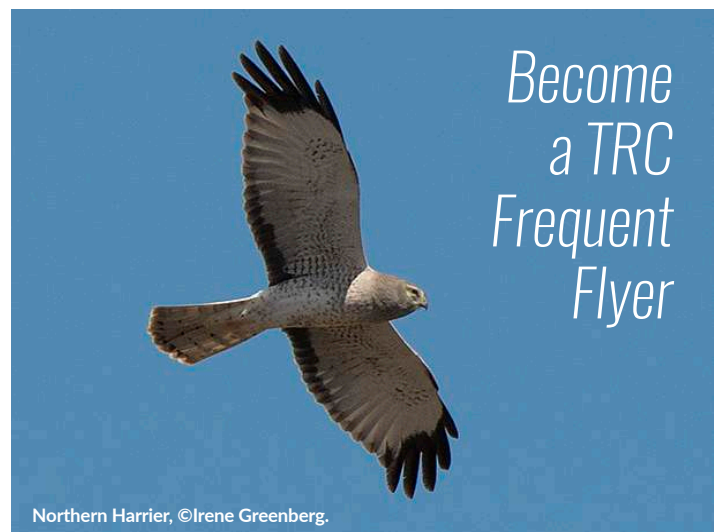
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Support Teton Raptor Center with a gift by December 31, 2020 and **double the impact of your contribution** by having your gift matched.

This inspiring **\$20,000 challenge** to close out 2020 is generously provided by the John M. Simpson Foundation and by David May. Eligible contributions include gifts to our new **Frequent Flyer recurring giving program, all new donations, and gifts that are upgraded from last year.**

Help us meet the challenge by returning the enclosed envelope, or by giving online at **www.tetonraptorcenter.org**.



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