

IWRS NEWSLETTER

Release season 2025 | Turtle Dreams | Beaver Pen Extension

Continuous education makes us grow.. and get new friends!



A visit at Utah’s Beaver Ecology and Relocation collaborative (BERC) gave our Executive Director a great glimpse into the work of a specialized holding facility that relocates beavers.

Our connections with US beaver relocators was organized after we had met at BeaverCon 2024. It was finally time to visit their facility. Eva learned about live-trapping beavers, sexing awake beavers with the help of a specialized beaver-bag and an animal handler for assistance, as well as post-release monitoring with PIT tags (passive integrated transponders). What else? We have our own livetraps, PIT tag reader and beaver bag now!

Release season of 2025



This fall it was finally time to release our common goldeneye whom we had raised for 4 months from a chick. Originally orphaned, he was found solo with no other wild ducks around on a farm close to a chicken coop. Goldeneyes are diving ducks, feeding on insects and fish. He’s had to see several mallard duckling groups grow up with him and leave after they were only 8 weeks in care, he was still growing in his flight feathers. Eventually he was the only orphaned duck left. In the end he was released in a great spot, right onto a lake with other diving ducks.



Other unusual patients of this summer were two single Northern Flying Squirrels. A native nocturnal and elusive type of squirrel which can glide through the forest effortlessly. Timing was not on their side, as one was already at its release weight of over 115g, when the second one showed up still needing formula. So, we’ve raised each of them solo, but both made it back to each of their home forests eventually. For more featured patient stories go to: interiorwildlife.ca/patients/

Our Monthly Donors



Join our **monthly donor** program, like Jan Rousseau. Become a make-it-monthly supporter via CanadaHelps, 25\$ = vital support for our operating costs (such as electricity, gas, water, insurances, web fees...)

Thank you Jan!

Appreciation Fest '25



Big shout out to all that came to our Supporter Appreciation Fest! Our annual end-of-season social where we get together simply to say "We couldn't do it without you" :-). One year we'll take a photo too, promise!

Acknowledgements

We are humbled to be able to promote co-existence with wildlife on unceded Syilx Okanagan Nation territory. We are also so grateful to use the Summerland private property we are working on.

Turtle Dreams



Just as Dr. Carstairs said in one of our last film festival documentaries Fix & Release: During the busy season, we say "the turtle dreams have started" when volumes of turtles come in, we even dream about turtles... it is like when you have exam dreams, you can't find the classroom... you can't keep up with the turtles". This rang true for us recently, when we received 40 turtles to relocate from a dried up reservoir in Kelowna (Frazer Lake) for the province of BC. We still had injured turtles from the spring and all of a sudden we had turtles everywhere! This sad story turned into a successful outcome and was covered by the local media: globalnews.ca/news/11441127/western-painted-turtles-saved-bc-frazer-lake/



New beaver pens complete

If you are a patron-member supporting us and getting beaver program updates on our Patreon, you will have noticed that we have completed our new beaver pen extension. Finally we have 3 outdoor beaver pens with drainable pools. What a game changer for pool cleaning! No more pumping out 8-10ft diameter stock tanks, now daily beaver poopy water cleaning is being turned into a fertilizer for the poplar grove behind the pens!