

“H”

Public Comments
Napa Wildlife Rescue
P19-00495-UP

From: [Beth Milliken](#)
To: [Hawkes, Trevor](#)
Cc: qualjohn@hotmail.com
Subject: Wildlife Rescue Center
Date: Thursday, June 4, 2020 9:51:12 AM

Dear Trevor,

As long-time supporters and enthusiasts of the Wildlife Rescue Center, I am writing to express our strong support for granting WCR a Use Permit that will allow it to convert its new property out in Carneros to a permanent wildlife hospital. This is a goal that this organization has been pursuing for 29 years, and it is finally within reach.

What the WCR offers injured wildlife in our community is extraordinary, and as passionate environmentalists I feel we have a moral obligation to be stewards of our land and of our flora and fauna. Not only does WCR take in injured wildlife, but it maintains and monitors owl boxes (we have three, with two barn owls ready to fledge), and offers volunteer opportunities (my two sons, now 20 and 18, volunteered at their center below Rector Dam at different times).

Wildlife Rescue offers a great (I would even call it essential) service to our community, and I hope that you will grant it the Use Permit it needs to allow them to operate in the Carneros.

Please let me know if you have any questions – thank you so much!

Very sincerely,

Beth

Beth Novak Milliken
President & CEO

SPOTTSWOODE
SPOTTSWOODE ESTATE VINEYARD & WINERY
1902 Madrona Avenue • St. Helena CA 94574
707/963-0134, x116 • spottswood.com



Please paws before printing. – Riley

From: [Loban, Lee](#)
To: [Hawkes, Trevor](#)
Cc: [John Comisky](#)
Subject: Napa Wildlife Rescue
Date: Friday, June 5, 2020 12:51:25 PM

Dear Napa Valley Planning Commission,

I have been a volunteer for Napa Wildlife Rescue (Wildlife Rescue Center of Napa Valley) since 1996. I began volunteering in a 20 ft song bird rehab trailer that got moved around to various places. Other than home re-habbers, it was all we had. I then volunteered off and on over the years and finally became a board member in 2016. I still volunteer at the clinic as well. I assisted the organization through 3 gala events and I serve as a fundraising perspective for the board. The members of the board are all thoughtful professionals who care deeply about our mission.

I couldn't be happier about the progress this organization has made just in the last 10 years from its humble beginnings in the early 90's. We are on a positive trajectory with our message and our supporters becoming more meaningful with each year. I am truly proud to be a part of the success of this important organization.

Warmly,

Lee Loban

Ms. Lee Loban | Development Office Coordinator & Executive Assistant | St. Helena Hospital Foundation
10 Woodland Rd. | St. Helena, CA 94574
P 707-963-6208 | C 707-738-4166 | lobanlr@ah.org

From: [Carol Poole](#)
To: [Hawkes, Trevor](#)
Subject: NWR use permit P19-00495-UP
Date: Friday, June 5, 2020 4:57:49 PM

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Summer Wilms <summer.wilms@gmail.com>
To: Carol Poole <cpoole1135@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 5, 2020, 03:51:36 PM PDT
Subject: Letter to Planning Commission

Dear members of the Napa Planning Commission,

I've been both a volunteer and (formerly) an employee at Napa Wildlife Rescue. I'm now one of a handful of volunteer home rehabbers that focus on a single species. I take care of all the orphaned, injured, and sick fawns in the area. I have been with the organization, in one role or another, for 5 years. It is demanding and often difficult work but I've been granted a sense of fulfillment and duty. I feel privileged to have the opportunity to do this unique and important job. I know I'm not the only county resident who feels this way, as there are dozens of us volunteers.

Because of NWR, thousands of animals who would otherwise not survive, often due to human interference, are gifted with a second chance at life. In addition, countless community members have had the terrible feelings of desperation, anxiety, and helplessness that comes with encountering a wild animal in distress alleviated because they were able to bring the animal to us, knowing that we could help. I cannot tell you how many times I've heard the phrases "Thank God for you guys and what you do." And "I didn't know what to do and I couldn't bear to see this creature suffer. I'm so glad I found you!" spoken by individuals who have ask for our assistance. NWR is not only a blessing for our local fauna, but for the people of Napa County, as well.

I have been working professionally in animal care since 2003, for a variety of animal welfare organizations. Napa Wildlife Rescue ranks high among those in its quality of operations. Though it is overwhelmingly staffed by volunteers, there is a high level of professionalism, responsibility, and knowledge within our ranks. I'm proud to be a part of this team and have the utmost confidence that, given the right tools such as a permanent home, we can only improve upon our already impressive body of work in wildlife rehabilitation.

Napa is a beautiful place. Our wildlife is one aspect that contributes to that. Napa Wildlife Rescue is essential in mitigating the impact that we, as humans, have on this unique and wonderful part of the world. We are here for the animals, yes, but we're also an asset to the community and the environment. I urge you to approve the permit for their Middle Avenue property so that we may not just continue, but grow the positive impacts that we have.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Summer Wilms
Pope Valley

From: [Doug Shafer](#)
To: [Hawkes, Trevor](#)
Cc: qualjohn@hotmail.com
Subject: Napa Wildlife Rescue
Date: Friday, June 5, 2020 2:05:01 PM

Dear Members of the Planning Commission,

At Shafer Vineyards we believe the work of Napa Wildlife Rescue helps to preserve an integral part of what keeps Napa Valley beautiful, healthy, and special – our wildlife.

We believe so strongly in the importance of the organization that in 2016 we donated a five-acre parcel of land to house the center's first permanent rehabilitation aviary for wild birds.

It has been Shafer's privilege to support the work of Napa Wildlife Rescue for a number of years and we look forward to continuing to contribute to their success in the future.

We whole-heartedly support the application for this use permit. We believe that giving Napa Wildlife Rescue a permanent home is vital to its mission and its ability to continue to foster the health of our natural environment.

Best regards,

Doug Shafer, President
Shafer Vineyards

Shafer

Doug Shafer

Shafer Vineyards
6154 Silverado Trail
Napa, CA 94558
707.944.2877 ext. 117
707.944.9454 fax
www.shafervineyards.com

From: phyllis.phyllisphunt.com
To: [Hawkes, Trevor](#)
Cc: [Eve-Anne Wilkes](#); [John Comisky](#); [Carol Poole](#)
Subject: Napa Wildlife Rescue Letter of Support
Date: Friday, June 5, 2020 11:51:42 AM

To: Napa County Planning Commission
From: Napa Wildlife Rescue (Farmers Market Team)

Hello and thank you for your continued support of Napa Wildlife Rescue. Together with our community we not only support, save and protect our wonderful wildlife, we also support, save and protect our beautiful and very special ecology. One cannot be without the other.

And that is the very message our Napa Wildlife Rescue Farmers Market Team happily promotes while we engage with our caring community at our Farmers Market.

Stories and pictures are the winners here at the Farmers Market and NWR has a never ending source for both. Moms, Dads, kids, visitors, friends, shoppers, even fellow vendors regularly come by to ask about our organization, and invariably share a wildlife story of their own.

Many also have questions “What do I do about the skunk in my backyard?” or, “WOW! I didn’t know opossums kill Lyme bacteria?” (a favorite topic for our team) “You mean opossums are really useful?”. Get us talking about the ‘benefits’ of opossums, skunks, bats, birds, hawks ————— and it’s hard for us to stop.

The public love it! It's that “WOW” moment when the parent and child share a discovery or story together or the visitors remark about how wonderful it is that Napa has such awareness and community spirit. It’s about letting people know there’s a number they can call for help or questions regarding wildlife. And the good messages spread. Public awareness is expanded. Opportunities to volunteer grow. And there’s a palatable uptick in just plain feeling good about wildlife, ourselves and our community.

We miss not being able to attend the Napa Farmers Market during Corono Virus times but we also know this will end and we will be back with more stories, more engagement, more awareness and those WOW moments.

Phyllis Hunt
NWR Board Member
Farmers Market Team

Eve-Anne Wildes
NWR Board Member
Farmers Market Team

Ann Yasuda

PO Box 2243
Davis, CA. 95617
(530) 902 0403
annyasuda@yahoo.com

6th June 2020

Napa County Planning Commission

- **Napa Wild Rescue - Use permit #P19-00495-UP**

Dear Napa County Planning Commissioners:

My name is Ann Yasuda and I started volunteering for Napa Wildlife Rescue in 2019. Although I am new to general wildlife rehabilitation, I am no stranger to bird rehabilitation. With 19 years of aquatic bird rehabilitation and oil spill response under my belt, I thought it time to return a favor to the wildlife rescue that has come to the aid of the organization that was strategically built near the San Francisco bay area in the event of an oil spill nearby. From the moment it opened, International Bird Rescue and Research Center (IBRRC) as it was known then, never would have thought that the facility would be called into action that winter.

So call out went to the participating network and to some local wildlife organizations nearby. And so I was introduced to the volunteers of Napa Wildlife Rescue back in 2001. You cannot imagine how uplifting it was to have a dedicated group of individuals who had experience working with birds. Not only did they live close by, but they often volunteered several days a week.

I can tell you this, their passion, knowledge, and patience working with the general public that had no experience or patience or discipline gave me the boost I needed to keep going during the Luckenbach I and II event. And so through the years, when the call is put out for volunteers when our facility is responding to a crisis, Napa came. At each event, renewing old acquaintances like the Jans, Dotties, Corals, and Cathys and many, many more.

This is why I'm writing to you today. This is my way to personally say thanks for all the sweat, frustrations, the laughs, and the camaraderie over these past years. As I take a step into their world, and see how hard everyone works on a shoestring budget and a prayer that they would eventually find a permanent home. Well, there is no fitting moment if I failed to go to bat for this organization and this scrappy bunch of people who dedicate their lives for the animals that come into their care and the community they live in, build bonds, and help mitigate human/animal conflicts. This moment has been in the works

for many years and it must bring a sense of relief knowing that the wildlife hospital has a home and place that staff and volunteers can proudly call Napa Wildlife Rescue.

Thanks for reading my letter and I hope you see what I have seen all these many years.

Sincerely,

Ann Yasuda

Volunteer and former staff at IBR since 2001.

Your Name



WILDLIFE
RESCUE
SONOMA COUNTY

June 6, 2020

To the Napa County Planning Commission:

I am writing you to urge that you grant a use permit to Napa Wildlife Rescue, for their new property on Middle Ave, in Napa. We at Sonoma Wildlife Rescue have worked with Napa Wildlife Rescue for many years. We have the highest respect for their organization and the quality of their work with Napa Wildlife, which we know well through ongoing collaboration. It has been gratifying to follow their growth in both range and expertise. We trust them completely, as evidenced by our inviting them to co-found a coalition to spread best practices on Barn Owl boxes that we believe will add another layer, to green and sustainable vineyard management.

Wildlife Rescue in the Bay Area is really a network. We all help each other in our mutual passion to care for and protect our wildlife communities. Napa Wildlife Rescue is a critical link in that system, so we worried for them as they were losing their current home and we cheered with them when they found a site for a permanent one. Napa should be glad to have them. I hope the County will help them in this evolution, as Sonoma has helped us.

Sincerely,

Doris Duncan
Executive Director of Sonoma Wildlife Rescue

June 6, 2020

Douglas Walker
2348 Lone oak Ave
Napa, CA 94558

Napa County Planning Commission
955 School Street
Napa, CA 94559

Subject: Napa Wildlife Rescue-Use Permit #P19-00495-UP

Dear Commission,

I have been volunteering for Napa Wildlife Rescue for seven years. It has been an extremely rewarding experience, being that I was retired, moved to Napa, and always liked animals, I wanted to engage in an activity that I felt was beneficial to myself and to wildlife. I met many people at the rescue center that shared my interest.

Since starting off at our clinic taking care of songbirds, I have moved on to specializing in squirrel care. I am now the lead squirrel care manager with a staff of four volunteers. For the last two years we have taken care of and released back to nature forty-five squirrels for each year. This is ninety squirrels that would not have survived if Napa Wildlife Rescue were not present.

Protecting our wildlife is an effort that is in great need but gets little attention. This effort requires many people with different disciplines and the space to carry out the required care. The organization deserves a larger campus and one that is theirs. The current location off Silverado Trail in Yountville is barely suitable due to its small size. The new location is perfect for us due to its acreage and several buildings. I hope that you approve of this move.

Sincerely,

Douglas Walker

June 7, 2020

To: The Napa County Planning Commission

Re: Napa Wildlife Rescue – Use Permit #P19-00495-UP

Dear Napa County Planning Commission,

I am writing to you today in regards to Napa Wildlife Rescues' Use Permit noted above. I am currently the Treasurer and longtime volunteer for this wonderful organization. In the 16 years of my volunteer service I have witness the changes and growth this non-profit has had to endure and overcome. Starting from a one room small shack when I first volunteered in 2004 to where we are now, with 2 trailers and more than 100 volunteers is nothing short of a miracle. Don't get me wrong, it's been a long road filled with worries that each year may be the last if we don't get donations to keep us afloat. We have had an outstanding group of Board members who have worked tirelessly to get our name and mission out to the Napa County residents to bring us to where we are today. An organization that's sole mission is to "rescue, rehabilitate and release" our patients back to the wildlife they came from.

Through all the struggles we kept our eye on our dream, our vision to one day have our own hospital where we could have the space and equipment to diagnosis and treat each patient that comes in to our care. Currently, we are the only wildlife rescue center in Northern California that doesn't have their own hospital and facility. Not knowing from year to year if you're going to have to close the doors has been difficult for all, especially the volunteers. Although we made the best of the property that the Napa County let us operate on, we were outgrowing it at an alarming rate. The trailers were crowded and attracting volunteers year after year was not always easy with as it was tight quarters at best. Make shift aviaries needed constant repair and maintenance which increased our expenses. Lack of storage kept us from buying in bulk which would also lower our costs. We use an old porta-potty and lack hot water.

Having the space for our hospital would be a game changer for us in that we can reach a donor base that we could never attract before. Donors who have expressed an interest in donating towards our capital growth when we have no permanent home has been challenging. We will now be able to build "permanent" housing, aviaries, caging and the like. That would save much needed money to use towards our future capital growth and sustainability.

I am asking you now to please grant our much-needed permit in order to help our Napa County wildlife, as they depend on us to be their voice.

Thank you,

Debra Brown
Treasurer
Napa Wildlife Rescue

From: [Linda Simms](#)
To: [Hawkes, Trevor](#)
Cc: [Poole Carol](#)
Subject: Napa Wildlife Rescue - Use Permit #P19-00495-UP
Date: Sunday, June 7, 2020 5:59:01 PM

Napa Wildlife Rescue – Use Permit #P19-00495-UP

Dear Mr. Hawkes,

I am writing to show enormous support the Use Permit currently under review for the Napa Wildlife Rescue at 4001 Middle Ave (P19-00495-UP). A wildlife rescue is a perfect use for the site, which is ready and waiting with open arms for all creatures big and small in Napa County. The site, which is surrounded by wineries, a school, and a ranch, is nestled in nature, and serving that nature is the key value to the Napa Wildlife Rescue. As an agricultural watershed district, the surrounding area has many of the animals which will be served by the rescue center. The dedication the center has towards ALL creatures amazes me every single day. No animal is too small, too large, too stinky, too ugly or too pesky. The rescue understands how each of these animals are key to the thriving ecosystems found in Napa County.

The Napa Wildlife Rescue is much more than just a home for animals. It is where all willing people with a variety of experience can find a place in stewardship with nature. It's in the key values of the Rescue: "Rescue, Rehabilitate, Release, Educate."

I've been lucky enough to be a volunteer with the Napa Wildlife Rescue for over five years. They offer amazing classes, which are mandatory for building up the skills of their volunteer force. Every class I've taken I have walked away with a new and greater understanding of why our wildlife is so important and how tough they have it in their shrinking environment.

I started off learning how to feed the native song birds and branched out into being able to feed and assist with care for raptors and mammals when a second set of hands is needed-- I quickly learned to not let go! The dedication of the Napa Wildlife Rescue staff, board members, and volunteers is absolutely amazing, and they are determined to be good neighbors to the surrounding community in their new forever home.

The proposed use will be a boon to the surrounding neighborhood. The space will allow the Napa Wildlife Rescue to thrive and encourage a positive relationship between people within the Napa County community and the surrounding environment. I urge you to approve the proposed use.

Thank you for your consideration,

Linda Simms
1786 Milton Road
Napa, California 94559

RE:Napa Wildlife Rescue – Use Permit #P19-00495-UP

June 8th, 2020

To the Napa County Planning Commission:

I am writing as the Wildlife Rescue Manager of Napa Wildlife Rescue to inform you of the professionalism and connections that Napa Wildlife Rescue fosters in our community. NWR provides wildlife rehabilitation care for Napa's native mammals, raptors, and songbirds. All of our wild animal patients are found by concerned Napa citizens. The patients are first stabilized, then receive a thorough intake examination. The people who find the animal note on their intake paperwork the reason why they think the animal needs care. This gives us clues as to what happened, and examining the animal from nose or beak to tail helps to fill in the picture of why the animal needs human assistance.

Once we have established the nature of the injury or illness, we proceed with appropriate care. Many orphaned patients simply need foster parenting until they are appropriately developed and have the skills necessary to be released back into the wild. Care is taken to ensure that they do not become habituated to humans. Injured or ill patients may require a trip to a veterinarian for radiographs or further assessment. The most common injuries are a direct result of living among humans: being caught by cats and dogs, hitting windows, or being hit by cars. We collaborate with Silverado Veterinary Hospital, Dr.Sara Mihalek at Napa River Pet Hospital, and Dr.Jeff Northrop at Napa Valley Veterinary Hospital to get local veterinary advice. For specialized raptor surgery, we take patients to Roseville where Dr.Vicki Josephs is able to assist. We also collaborate with other local wildlife rescues for patients presenting with unusual complaints, to match patients with specialists, and to match solo orphans with conspecifics. We frequently work with Wildcare in San Rafael, Lindsay Wildlife Experience in Walnut Creek, Sonoma County Wildlife Rescue in Petaluma, the Bird Rescue Center in Santa Rosa, Native Songbird Care and Conservation in Sebastopol, and International Bird Rescue in Fairfield.

To keep up to date on the latest techniques, we are members of the California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators and the National Wildlife Rehabilitation Association. We receive materials and attend symposia to increase our skills, then create classes for our own volunteers to share the knowledge. Our goal is to provide the best care we can for Napa's sick, injured, and orphaned wildlife so that they can return healthy to the important roles they play in the Napa ecosystem.

Please be assured that in granting this use permit, you are ensuring that the wildlife of Napa County get the medical support they need for years to come and affirming Napa County's commitment to both the citizens you serve and the local ecosystem..

Sincerely,
Linnaea Furlong
Wildlife Rescue Manager, Napa Wildlife Rescue

From: [Jan Gates](#)
To: [Hawkes, Trevor](#); [John Comisky](#)
Subject: To: Napa County Planning Commission
Date: Monday, June 8, 2020 2:13:37 PM

Re: Use Permit for Napa Wildlife Rescue

Hello,

I have been intensely involved with NWR for 18 years. I have been a key staff member in multiple areas: a board member, the volunteer coordinator, day leader, home rehabilitator, medical staff, transporter, and provided the trainings for the field rescue team. In addition, I worked with Brad Wagenknecht to obtain and develop the current NWR site on county property. In the past 4 years I have faded my role to primarily home rehabilitator. I cannot express enough what this organization means to me, and what I believe it means to this county. If Napa is serious about conservation issues and preserving the local ecosystems, the county will do what is needed to keep NWR viable and in the business of saving wild lives and providing educational opportunities to our citizens. I am asking you to please approve the use permit to allow NWR to serve Napa County from their new home.

Thank you,

Dr. Jan Gates

5040 Old Sonoma Rd.

Napa CA 94559

From: [NV CanDo](#)
To: [Hawkes, Trevor](#)
Subject: Letter in support of Napa Wildlife Rescue
Date: Monday, June 8, 2020 6:01:15 AM



Napa Valley CanDo
PO Box 855
Napa, CA 94559

Dear Napa County Planning Commission,

This letter is written in support of Napa Wildlife Rescue (NWR) and their efforts, nearly thirty years in the making, to acquire a permanent Napa County home.

NWR rescues, rehabilitates and releases wild animals that are sick, injured, and orphaned. By doing so, they not only represent the caring heart of the Valley, but contribute to the maintenance of a healthy ecosystem and habitat countywide.

NWR is a good partner when it comes to human interactions, too. They are a veteran participant in Napa Valley CanDo's *Give!Guide*, a year-end campaign to raise awareness and funds for small to large Napa County nonprofits. In seven years, we've brought in over 2.3 million dollars. But the *Give!Guide* is about more than the bottom line; it's also about encouraging nonprofits to collaborate with each other in order to build community.

NWR has put that goal into action by creating volunteer recruitment events not only for itself, but inviting participation by animal and environment NPOs from throughout the county.

Napa Wildlife Rescue is the kind of good neighbor we'd all like to have.

hilary Zunin
Co-founder and President
707.252.7743



To: Napa County Planning Commission

Subj: Napa Wildlife Rescue – Use Permit #P19-00495-UP

Date: June 8, 2020

Dear Planning Commissioners:

It was six years ago last month when I began volunteering for Napa Wildlife Rescue. That was 2014, the first year we had a paid staff position.

Back then, our wildlife facility was known as the Songbird Clinic because we only rehabilitated songbirds. Our campus consisted of a mid-sized trailer for our birds, a medical shed, an office shed, a storage trailer, several bird enclosures and several aviaries. And not to forget our colorful rented porta-potty which was affectionately referred to as the Orange Julius.

I remember my first day of volunteering at the Songbird Clinic. I was awestruck by the skills of the experienced volunteers. Every twenty minutes, they could open an incubator and gently hold a tiny little “nudie” baby bird while feeding it a few drops of liquid formula via a syringe. Every thirty minutes, they could carefully feed a full grown bird with a broken wing. I remember thinking that my 73 year old hands would need a lot of practice so I could safely hold a “nudie” or an injured older bird without breaking it.

Well, that was then and this is now. Napa Wildlife Rescue has steadily expanded to fill the need of Napa County’s orphaned baby mammals and baby birds. It also has steadily expanded to fill the need to treat and rehabilitate injured mammals and birds.

Today we are on the precipice of a new mission. Creating a new campus that will allow us to treat and rehabilitate Napa County’s ever growing number of orphaned and injured birds and mammals. I thank you so much for approving our permit request so we can continue our essential wildlife rescue work.

Sincerely,

Violet Hover, Volunteer at Napa Wildlife Rescue

veshover@att.net or phone (707) 945-1090

Napa Wildlife Rescue – Use Permit #P19-00495-UP

Dear Napa County Planning Commission,

Working at the Napa Wildlife Rescue has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life, and I'm sure if you asked any of our volunteers, employees, or board members, they would tell you the exact same thing. I feel privileged to come in and work with our local wildlife, from the smallest songbirds to the most ferocious raptors. Caring for injured wild animals and raising wild babies is a thankless job, and our patients definitely don't appreciate our work... but when we get to release them back into the wild we feel their excitement, and are pretty sure they appreciate our efforts even if they never say so.

Each year, we raise and rehabilitate any local wildlife that comes in the door. In a typical year, we will rescue around 1,200 animals, the majority of which come to us during the spring and summer months, which we fondly call "baby season". At any given time during these months, we will be feeding baby birds at intervals of 20 minutes to three hours. This requires a workforce of employees and volunteers to make sure everyone's needs are being met while operating for over 12 hours every day.

In 2019, we received 865 birds, 315 mammals, and a few reptiles (who we don't treat but transfer out to a local reptile rescue). Through the help of our volunteer list of over 100 people and a small employee team, our survival rate for intakes was over 80%, which is above average. After over 28 years in operation, Napa Wildlife Rescue has proven its ability to successfully raise and rehabilitate our local wildlife. As we prepare to finally move our operation to a permanent location, we look forward to planting more permanent roots, and expanding our ability to do what we love most.

Last year we received 109 opossums, a vital part of the ecosystem, as each one can eat over 10,000 ticks a year! Many of these were orphaned babies, that we raised at the clinic and with the help of our home rehabilitators, who provide around the clock care to our most critical and high-maintenance patients. Some of the other common mammals we received were 85 squirrels, 30 bats, 23 raccoons and 9 adorable little skunks. Many people don't know this, but skunks are very curious, stubborn and territorial. They will not run when confronted, but instead raise their tail, stomp their feet, lunge at you, and eventually spray. Watching a group of baby skunks practice this on us with their tiny faces and cute little hands is one of my favorite parts of the job. All of our animals come in with a different story, and need a different amount of care to get them back to the wild. We do our best to cater to each animal's individual needs.

Every year is different at Napa Wildlife Rescue. Last year was affectionately called the year the dove. We received 71 pigeons and 90 doves. The year before that was the year of the crow and raven. This year is turning out to be the year of the fox, although it's still too early to tell for sure. In 2019 we received 9 foxes total, but this year, we have already received over 10! Most are still in care, since they were rescued as babies under 700 grams. Some had injuries and others were just orphaned, but all have thrived in care and maintained their wild side. Our most recent fox intake came in catatonic and covered in ticks. During her intake, her breathing was erratic and her head trauma was causing blood to drip from her nose. I honestly thought she would pass before I could give her fluids and get her warm. After a few hours of care, she started coming around, eating the formula we offered her but still moving erratically and had a lot of face swelling. She's been with us for almost a week now and seeing her today, you would never guess that she came in on the brink death. If she had not been brought to us when she was, she would surely have not survived.

Living in Napa County, we are blessed to be surrounded by a wide variety of wildlife. Most of our intakes are some of the commonly seen local animals. Generally, songbirds consist of 75% of our intakes. Last year, some of our most common bird intakes (after Doves and Pigeons) were Crows and Ravens, Scrub Jays, Towees, Finches, Sparrows and Mockingbirds. Some of the more unique patients we rehabilitated were Cedar Waxwings, Vaux's Swifts, and Hooded Orioles. We also rehabilitate wild fowl, receiving 38 wild Turkeys last year and 51 Quail.

Raptors account for about 10% of our intakes. Every year we get a significant number of Red Tail and Red Shoulder Hawks, but we also get the opportunity to work closely with some more unique species, like American Kestrels, Peregrine Falcons, Coopers and Sharp Shinned Hawks. This year, we received a first year Red-tail hawk with a severe foot injury with bone exposed. One of the expert veterinary surgeons in our network completed a skin graft surgery, and after close to 5 months in care and rehabilitation, we successfully released her near where she was found. We currently have a Peregrine Falcon in care, found in Calistoga with a metacarpal fracture. He is healing and time will tell if he will be able to continue to dive at up to 200 mph.

We also rehabilitate owls each year, last year we received 9 Great Horned Owls, 18 Screech Owls, and 10 Barn Owls. This year we have already received 12 Screech Owls, 5 Barn Owls, and 2 Great Horned Owls. Many of these owls have been successfully re-nested with their parents and others have remained in care. One of the barn owls we received this year was blown from the nest during what must have been its first 24 hours of life. Its sibling had already died. We had never received a raptor so small and had no idea if we would be able to provide the care it needed. After 9 days of rapid growth, it finally opened its eyes. Today it is a fluffy, feisty baby owl who can feed itself. We look forward to releasing this owl when its time comes.

Rarely do you find a career you love, that also does so much direct good in the world. Every day we make a difference in these animals lives, and hopefully our work contributes to the conservation of our local species as a whole. I write you this letter to give you a better idea of what it is we do every day, and with hope that you will approve our use permit at our permanent home. We hope to continue to be a valued organization in the Napa community and continue to follow our passion.

Thank You for your time,

Natalie Carpello
Animal Care Technician
Napa Wildlife Rescue

From: [Carol Poole](#)
To: [Hawkes, Trevor](#)
Cc: [John Comisky](#)
Subject: NWR Use Permit #P19-00495-UP Pena letter of support
Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 6:09:59 PM

I have worked as a volunteer at Napa Wildlife Rescue (NWR) for many years now, and it has been a truly life-enriching experience. Participating in the healing and rescuing of animals is not only good for the animals, it is good for their human helpers as well. It is deeply healing for the human soul. (Not to mention the fact that many of the animals need healing because of our own actions, so perhaps we *owe* it to them....)

This new property will serve to make our efforts even more effective. And the fact that it is located right next door to Jameson Animal Rescue Ranch (JARR) is even more fortunate.

I only recently started volunteering for JARR, which is for domestic and farm animals who need to find a new home. While both JARR and NWR are obviously dedicated to animal welfare, the differences are striking as well. With the animals at JARR, we are encouraged to give them all the open love and affection we can....to play with them, hug them, talk with them, walk them (or let them walk us as the case may be). And the love is usually a two-way street, often leaving one wondering who is giving more to whom!

At NWR, on the other hand, our goal is to keep the animals as wild as possible, and as unattached to, and as independent of, humans as possible, so our love for them has to be of a rather

different kind, providing medical care and support with an owl mask on, for example, to hide our faces so baby owls won't come to associate a human face with food; or providing a gentle squirt with the water hose to keep baby raccoons from thinking of us as friends; or placing a sheet between us and the finches, jays, doves, woodpeckers, and hawks so they won't come to think of hanging out with us humans as something that self-respecting wild animals should do. It's hard to do, but we have to constantly suppress the urge to hug and hold and cuddle and coo in order to ensure that our 'patients' (as we call them), and our wild orphans, will return to the wild just as they came into our care...*wild*.

Together, JARR and NWR provide a perfect complement to each other, healing our relationship with all our animal brothers and sisters--both those whose lives are meant to be with us in our homes or on the farm, and the wild ones who are indeed meant to also share the earth with us....but from a safe distance....

This really is *meant to be*. Thank you for helping make this possible.

Arthur M. Peña

Socialism 101

*The antidote to capitalism isn't redistribution of wealth.
It's redistribution of the OWNERSHIP of wealth-creation.*

[The Pluralist Commonwealth](#)

Rebecca Reicherter
703 Saratoga Drive
Napa, CA 94559

June 9, 2020

Napa Planning Department
1600 1st Street
Napa, CA 94559

Dear Napa County Planning Commission,

I am a Napa Wildlife Rescue volunteer writing to express my support for Napa Wildlife Rescue – Use Permit #P19-00495-UP. Napa Wildlife Rescue plays a critical role in our ecosystem and community, and our new property will enable us to grow our positive impact.

Wildlife are at the heart of the natural beauty and energy that make Napa Valley both an incredible place to live and a premier destination worldwide. Every species from the raptors providing natural pest control to vineyards to the birds and mammals they hunt plays an integral role in our ecosystem. When wild animals are injured – often by human action or accident – Napa Wildlife Rescue allows them to return to their ecosystems and continue to make their impact. I volunteer 8+ hours a week on top of my full-time job because I believe it is our responsibility as humans to mitigate the damage our actions cause to nature. I believe that if we want to preserve the natural diversity and beauty of our valley, we must do our absolute best to care for all the living creatures that make it.

Through its school programming, Napa Wildlife Rescue also plays a key role in educating Napa's next generation – instilling curiosity about the world around them, fostering respect for the wild lives that support our environment, and inspiring them to protect the natural world in Napa and beyond.

We have been creative and scrappy in making the most of our temporary home. However, in order to maximize our impact on the ecosystem and extend our community reach, we need a permanent home we can make our own and that can grow with us. Our new property will allow us to operate more efficiently, accommodate all patients who need help, and even invite the community for volunteer workdays, all under ideal conditions for wildlife and humans alike.

Napa Wildlife Rescue plays a crucial role in Napa Valley's ecosystem and community. I appreciate your consideration and hope you will allow us to spread our "wings" and grow in our new home.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Reicherter

Pamela Zeidell
James Ladwig
6468 Washington St., #43
Yountville CA 94599

June 9, 2020

Napa County Planning Commission
1195 Third St., #210
Napa CA 94559

Re: Napa Wildlife Rescue, Use Permit #P1900495-UP

My husband and I have been volunteers with the Napa Wildlife Rescue for the past 3 years. We have enjoyed helping baby birds, adult birds, small mammals, raptors, and others who come into the clinic for assistance. We do all the jobs necessary to ensure that the animals are well enough to be returned to their habitats.

The premises on Silverado Trail has been "temporary" for many years. There is a strong need for better facilities for the animals, staff, and volunteers. Through an anonymous donor, the property on Middle Avenue has been given to the Napa Wildlife Rescue. We are strongly in favor of your approval for the NWR to start working out of this new property as soon as possible.

Thank you for your interest and support.

Pamela Zeidell
James Ladwig

Sent from [Outlook](#)

From: [John Comisky](#)
To: [Hawkes, Trevor](#); [Carol Poole](#)
Subject: Napa Wildlife Rescue – Use Permit #P19-00495-UP
Date: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 3:55:01 PM

To the Napa County Planning Commission,

Napa Wildlife Rescue is well known for our work as the only organization permitted by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, to rescue, rehabilitate and release Napa Wildlife back into the wild. Our Mission, however, extends beyond that to strengthening the connection between the human and wild worlds, through education and advocacy. A primary channel is our Facebook page. We post multiple times a week on our work and its stories, that often reach thousands a day, many of whom respond with Likes & Loves, Comments, and Shares. It is one of the best ways to get to know us and our patients, as well as the people who care about what we do. I invite you to visit and look around if you haven't already. It may change your day.

<https://www.facebook.com/Napa-Wildlife-Rescue-117530298358117/>

Napa Wildlife Rescue - Home | Facebook

Napa Wildlife Rescue, Napa, California. 5,812 likes · 850 talking about this · 62 were here.
Supporting the presence of wildlife through rehabilitation and to promote public awareness through...

www.facebook.com

Sincerely,

John Comisky
President - Napa Wildlife Rescue



June 10, 2020

Trevor Hawkes, Planner III
Napa County Planning, Building & Environmental Services Dept.
1195 Third Street, Suite 210
Napa, CA 94559

To the Napa County Planning Commission,

The Napa Wildlife Rescue (NWR) provides our community with vital services. They are not only the sole organization in Napa County licensed to rehabilitate and release wildlife, but they also serve as incredible educators. As just one example, they excel at social media communication. NWR posts feature photographs of animals they are helping paired with educational and engaging content that gets shared many times over. All of the work NWR has been doing over the past 10 years is proof that Napa County needs a permanent wildlife rehabilitation facility. I strongly support their application for a Use Permit to establish a permanent wildlife hospital on the Carneros property.

One of the ways Napa Green members directly benefit from NWR's work is through their Barn Own Maintenance Program (BOMP). NWR provides boxes built to scientifically proven standards, installed only in locations suitable for the territorial owls. They then monitor the use of the boxes, contributing to broader research, and clean the boxes at the appropriate time of year. While we have all seen many owl boxes around the County many are not designed properly, installed in the right locations, and/or cleaned frequently enough. One of the things that I have learned from NWR is that barn owls can't count. NWR has been able to re-home recovered fledglings in boxes where a mother owl already has a brood. BOMP also provides funds to help sustain NWR's valuable work.

We urge you to approve this Use Permit and provide our community with a permanent wildlife hospital that ensures NWR can continue to do what it does so well - care for our California wildlife - for many years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anna Brittain', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Anna Brittain
Executive Director

From: [TERRY SCOTT](#)
To: [Hawkes, Trevor](#)
Subject: Wildlife Rescue
Date: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 1:26:16 PM

Trevor,

This is to express my support for the Wildlife Rescue Use Permit. This organization will provide a needed service and boarding location for the many animals in Napa County who need their help.

Sincerely,

Terry Scott
Policy Advisory Council
Metropolitan Transportation Commission

From: [Claudia Hanna](#)
To: [Hawkes, Trevor](#); cpoole1135@yahoo.com
Subject: Napa Wildlife Rescue Use Permit #P19-00495-UP
Date: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 4:39:17 PM

Dear Trevor,

We are writing today in support of use permit #P19-00495-UP. We think moving the Wildlife Rescue to 4001 Middle Ave. would be beneficial for this great organization. From what I understand they can move there, but in order to be fully effective they must get a use permit allowing non-zoned activities.

I would like to tell you of our recent interaction with Napa Wildlife Rescue. On a rainy May day we had a dead tree cut down only to find it contained a screech owl nest with five baby owlets. I called NWR and within a few minutes a member came to our home and picked up the owlets. They were checked out (thankfully fine) and NWR suggested we try to re-nest them in a nearby tree. We agreed and by late afternoon they returned with the owls and a beautiful new home which was installed and secured to a nearby tree. We were told if the parent owls didn't find the babies we could hear them crying for food. Fortunately the parents found the babies and they seem to be doing just fine in their new home. I have seen the parent owl almost daily. This week I saw the parent dragging in dinner (squirrel or ?). Our little visitors should fledge in a week or two - a very happy ending to what could have been the death of some great creatures.

We would very much like to see their wonderful work continue as we feel it's very beneficial for Napa Valley.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bill and Claudia Hanna, Hanna Vineyards, Inc.

--

Claudia Hanna

Napa Wildlife Rescue - Use Permit #P19-00495-UP

June 10th, 2020

Dear Napa County Planning Commission,

I am writing in support of Napa Wildlife Rescue for their application to obtain a Use Permit for their recently acquired facility on Middle Avenue. As a former employee and current volunteer I have seen the direct positive impact the rescue has for the many species that we share Napa County with. As a current employee at the Land Trust I am able to experience and see first hand the amount of biodiversity Napa County has. It is essential we help to maintain this biodiversity hot spot in any way we can. Napa Wildlife Rescue (NWR) is doing just that. As humans, we have made such a large impact on this planet, and it is our duty as stewards of this land that we do all we can to help the other creatures that inhabit the place we all call home.

I have been involved with NWR for a little over two years now. I have seen thousands of animals come into the clinic injured by human actions or by natural causes. And I have seen thousands leave the clinic, healthy and strong, to be released back into the wild. In just two years, I have also seen the organization itself grow immensely. They developed an education program that teaches thousands of students a year throughout the county. In this program students learn the importance wildlife has for our community. Their ambassador animals provide close-up encounters to really engage and inspire youth to protect and preserve wildlife and their habitat.

Without Napa Wildlife Rescue, Napa would be at a loss. It has been years that they have been scraping by as an organization living in trailers on different properties and trying to find a secure location. I believe it is their turn to have a permanent home for their facility and be able to continue protecting the important wildlife we share this county with. Please, provide them with the Use Permit so they can continue the amazing work they do. Our wildlife will thank you!

I appreciate the time you took to read through my letter. I hope to be volunteering soon at their Middle Avenue location!

Sincerely,

Mackenzie Gilliam

From: cloudrock@aol.com
To: [Hawkes, Trevor](#)
Subject: NWR Use Permit
Date: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 7:44:09 PM

Napa County Planning Commission

Having lived and worked here for 20+ years, I felt a need to give back to the community. As most of you know, the Napa Valley has a beautiful and unique ecosystem and Napa Wildlife Rescue has provided a wonderful opportunity for me to not only work with species of animals that I would not otherwise be interacting with, but to also get to know a number of incredibly dedicated volunteers that perform the direct care and rehabilitation of our native wildlife. Some use the term "labor of love" loosely, but I can think of no other way to describe the level of commitment the volunteers give to the NWR effort. Many hours, days, weeks raising young orphaned wildlife in the spring, being on call to take over the care of an injured mammal, going out to a good Samaritan's house on a weekend to help re-nest a bird that has fallen out or maybe simply being available to advise someone that a lone fawn probably doesn't need help, but NWR will make sure and monitor it just in case. My periodic opportunity to give back pales in comparison to what the volunteers of Napa Wildlife Rescue give day after day, week after week and year after year. The burden that would be put upon the city and county by having to handle the cases that NWR currently handles efficiently, economically and compassionately can not be understated. They provide an invaluable resource to our wonderful community. The granting of the Use Permit would allow NWR to have a permanent home to continue and expand their work.

Sincerely-
Dr. Jeff Northrup
Owner/Veterinarian
Napa Valley Veterinary Hospital



Napa County Planning Department
1195 Third Ave.
Suite 210
Napa, Ca. 94558

6/10/20

Dear Napa County Planning Commission,

Thank you for your consideration of granting a use permit to Napa Wildlife Rescue at their new location at 4001 Middle Ave in Napa. I have had the pleasure of working with Napa Wildlife Rescue's Director John Comisky on several projects over the past four years. The development of a new hospital and rehabilitation site will create a vital asset for Napa county's wildlife and strengthen Napa's resources to sustain a healthy wildland interface.

I first encountered Napa Wildlife Rescue in 2014 when I found an injured Great Horned owl on my property. They quickly dispatched an experienced volunteer who was able to safely capture and transport the owl for medical evaluation. I was impressed with their resources, educational mission, and local connections. I was also surprised to hear that they did not have a permanent site in Napa to conduct their important work. Access to a new hospital and operational site will no doubt bolster their impact and benefit local wildlife.

When Napa Community Animal Response Team was formed in 2016, John Comisky joined the Advisory Board. He worked with the CART leadership to plan and create protocols relevant to wildlife in disaster and became a valuable resource of information. John and his team were at the ready to assist the animal component when the Wine Country Fires hit in 2017. Very little is known about impact of large-scale disasters on wildlife, and John and his team are committed to gathering data and educating our community to improve outcomes for wildlife in disaster.

Recently, my Leadership Napa Valley Classmates (Class of 33) elected to build a garden for Napa Wildlife Rescue at their new site. When it came time to select a community project, our team saw the long-term value in creating a garden to sustain wildlife during the healing and rehabilitation period. Napa Wildlife Rescue staff have guided our efforts on plant selection and garden design, and the new site is transforming into a community gem as volunteers lay the ground for their inspiring work.

As a Napa citizen, and disaster coordinator for the animal component of response, I strongly support the intended use permit request. More than ever, the health and welfare of our wildlife is at a tipping point and warrants true commitment and investment in a sustainable future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Claudia Sonder DVM".

Claudia Sonder DVM
President Napa Community Animal Response Team
Owner Napa Valley Equine Hospital
LNV Class of 33
3198 Silverado Trail
Napa, Ca. 94558
Claudia@napacart.org
707-227-8973

June 10, 2020

Dear Mr. Trevor Hawkes,

As a long time supporter of wildlife and animal causes in general, such as the Humane Society, Jameson Canyon Rescue Center, local animal assistance clinics and the Wildlife Rescue Center of Napa County, I urge the Planning Commission to approve the Use Permit for the Wildlife Rescue Center.

The Wildlife Rescue Center is a great organization attempting to rehabilitate injured animals and birds. It is scantily funded and relies mostly on volunteers that are passionate about assisting injured wildlife. This worthwhile organization deserves your support and the support of all Napa County residents.

I endeavor upon you to approve this Use Permit application.

Sincerely,

Dario Sattui

RECEIVED

JUN 15 2020



Napa County Planning, Building
& Environmental Services

June 10, 2020

To: Napa County Planning Commission - Napa Wildlife
Rescue Permit - #19-00495 UP

I would like to submit a letter of support for the Napa County Wildlife Rescue Permit request. I have been a volunteer for eight years in the Songbird Clinic since my retirement from the Napa County Office of Education as an educator.

It has been a delight and privilege to work with such a dedicated group of volunteers to rehabilitate and support the wildlife of our county. Wildlife not only supports our very vital and important agriculture industry, but it nurtures all of us. The program also has an incredible outreach program for schools and community groups which promotes respect for all life.

I urge you to approve the use permit so the organization may continue their very important and vital work.

Thank you,

Schanna Math - Volunteer

July 11, 2020

Dear Napa County Planning Commission:

As Vice-President I wear multiple hats for this organization. I started as a volunteer in 2011, shortly after I retired. I work at the clinic caring for our patients and spend many hours searching for nests and reuniting baby raptors with their parents. I've worked on finding and purchasing this new property, helping coordinate the renovation and completing the application for the use permit.

However, the absolute best part of my volunteer work is the time I spend to train, care for and share our ambassador animals with school children. I take Maddie, our Red-tailed hawk, to Napa County public and private elementary schools, and occasionally to middle schools and high schools. Maddie and I made 35 visits in 2019.

The children are prepared for the visit beforehand by Ezjra, our education coordinator, but the look of amazement on their faces when I take her out of her traveling box tells me that they had no idea - no idea how magnificent, fierce and beautiful this animal is when up close. Their questions are wonderful and they often stump me. I can talk about her and other raptors for hours, and so can the kids, but the teacher eventually has to end the session.

Our philosophy is that people will protect what they love. These kids love Maddie and undoubtedly some will grow up to fiercely protect wildlife.

Sincerely,

Carol Poole
Vice-President
Napa Wildlife Rescue



Napa County Planning Commission

Napa Wildlife Rescue – Use Permit #P19-00495-UP.

Dear Napa Planning Commission,

My name is Debbie Welborn and I have been a volunteer for Napa Wildlife Rescue since 1991. I have volunteered over the years feeding songbirds, rehabbing squirrels, fund raising and helping out wherever I can. It is a rewarding and worthy cause.

Napa Wildlife Rescue is the only non-profit organization in Napa county permitted by California Fish and Game that is allowed to rehab sick, injured and orphaned wildlife and then return them back to nature. The environment depends on wildlife to establish and support a healthy ecosystem. With ongoing development putting pressure on wildlife we are needed now more than ever before.

In 1991 we started out of one room in a small house on Cuttings Wharf. We were there for a year then moved to various locations throughout Napa over the next 28 years with great difficulty and dedication to keep it going. With your help we can now have a permanent home.

Wildlife centers in other counties are well established and have had great support by their counties.

The location on Middle Avenue is ideal since there is already a domestic animal rescue facility next to the property. Our facility will have low impact to the area.

A few benefits to the environment and county:

- a. Less use of rodenticides with a healthy birds of prey population.
- b. less use of chemicals for insects in vineyards with blue birds
- c. less use of chemicals for insects - swallows eat their body weight in insects daily
- d. Opossums eat rodents, rattlesnakes and ticks that carry Lyme disease!

Our organization is a great educational tool for children and young adults keeping them in touch with the natural world.

I can't imagine a world without wildlife.

I ask for your support in this use permit.

Thank you,

Sincerely yours,

Debbie Welborn

Napa Wildlife Rescue – Use Permit #P19-00495-UP

Dear Napa County Planning Commission,

I am currently the Assistant Manager of Napa Wildlife Rescue for almost three years. I had the privilege to start as a volunteer, assisting with the care of mammals, birds, and raptors. When they had a job opening, I could not miss the chance to be part of this fantastic group. It can be physically demanding and arduous work sometimes, but for sure, incredibly satisfying. The volunteers represent 90% of the staff, and without their assistance, it would be not easy to care for the wildlife.

The sheltering-in-place situation has shown me how precious Napa Wildlife Rescue is to our community. Although everyone had to be compliant with all CDC guidelines, we could always count on the community to bring us animals in distress. The rescue team, the home rehabilitator team, the transport team, veterinarians, and many other volunteers from Napa County are part of our remarkable volunteers. Because of them, we can give a second chance at life for the animals in trouble, most of them injured due to human interference.

Our organization is the only wildlife rescue organization in Napa County permitted by both State and Federal Fish & Wildlife Services to rehabilitate sick, injured, orphaned wild animals and release them back into the wild. Additionally, Napa has a unique ecosystem, and it is our obligation to preserve it as best as we can. We have been blessed with the place that we have been operating, but it is undeniable that we could accomplish so much more, given the proper tools such as a permanent home.

Last year Napa Wildlife Rescue became part of the Coalition of Science-Based Wildlife Professionals Barn Owl Box Maintenance Program (BOMP) working alongside Sonoma County Wildlife and Humboldt State University. Napa Wildlife Rescue manages a total of 276 Barn Owl Boxes, distributed in Napa, Calistoga, St. Helena, Oakville, Yountville, Rutherford, and American Canyon. We do an occupancy check in the Spring where we look inside the barn owl box to see if they are occupied by barn owls. If they are occupied with barn owl babies, we can use the box to foster orphaned barn owls. This helps attain genetic variety in barn owl populations. The fall cleaning is essential to keep the boxes clean to make space for the new family next year. Barn owls rear up to six chicks in a single breeding season, and the family can consume one thousand rodents every year. These unique owls form part of an organic pest control system called Integrated Pest Management. IPM directs the use of natural predators to reduce the number of unwanted species, such as gophers and moles, in a vineyard or garden. The loss of habitat, nesting sites, collisions with cars, and secondary poisoning from rodenticides represent the many challenges that the owls face. Therefore, the number of owls in their natural habitat is decreasing. The barn owl nest boxes in the vineyard are the perfect example of how vineyards owners can enhance wildlife habitat on their land. It is mutually beneficial relationship that can flourish over the years!

Granting us the use permit will ensure the continuity of our hard work and give a second chance to all wildlife in distress to return healthily to their natural habitat.

Sincerely

Juliana S. Vieira

Wildlife Assistant Manager

assistant@napawildliferescue.org

(321)666-4129

June 14, 2020

Napa County Planning Commission

Napa Wildlife Rescue – Use Permit #P19-00495-UP

Greetings Napa Planning Commission,

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to speak to you about my experience with Napa Wildlife Rescue.

I have been volunteering with Napa Wildlife Rescue since 2006. This organization is made up primarily of volunteers with (finally!) a few staff members. I also started answering our Hawkline (wildlife hotline) in 2014. In answering calls for Napa Wildlife Rescue, I have been able to not only help animals in need, but also educate the public on all matters of wildlife - in need of help or not. From birds, to bats to beavers to skunks ... we get calls from people all over the world. I've gotten calls from Hawaii - from people on vacation and ours is the phone number they remembered (224-HAWK). From Los Angeles - from Davis, Dixon, all surrounding counties. Why? Because we answer our phones later than most other rescue organizations and people know it. They know that if they leave a message and it's an urgent situation, we will return their call even after 8:00pm when we regularly put our phones down after a 12 hour day. And lately - lately, we've been answering calls for not only us, but for referrals from Suisun Wildlife Rescue as well since their facility and phone lines were damaged in a fire. It is not unusual for us to have 4-6 early morning calls (before 7am). It is not unusual for us to have several after hours calls. And I'd like to put a word in for Silverado Vet Hospital who has tirelessly helped us manage patient intakes as a way station for us to pick up from.

For clarity, let me give you a comparison. In 2016 (the first year we started digitally logging calls), in the month of June, we took 240 calls on the Hawkline. This month, as of June 14th, we've taken 257. That puts us on target for over 500 calls this month.

I hope through this letter you can see the importance of our **Use Permit #P19-00495-UP**. I urge you to approve it for our organization, for Suisun Wildlife, for injured and non-injured animals in Napa, Solano and other Counties who count on us to be their help, advice and partner.

Thank you for your time,

Debra Foerder
American Canyon, CA

Elizabeth Munk
10 El Nido Drive
Napa, CA 94559
707-337-0591
Elizabeth@acutabov09.com
June 11, 2020

Napa County Planning Commission
Napa Wildlife Rescue – Use Permit #P1900495-UP
1195 Third Street, Suite 210
Napa, CA 94559

Dear Napa County Planning Commission:

My name is Elizabeth Munk. I am a Napa county resident and have lived, worked and volunteered here almost 30 years. I have been an active Napa Wildlife Rescue volunteer, home rehabbing baby squirrels, for the last four years and an active board member for the past year. In between squirrels I recruit wine growers and vintners to participate in Napa Wildlife Rescue's Barn Owl Maintenance Program. I am also a regular donor to NWR because this organization is strong. Everyone involved has a great deal of integrity from the board of directors to the managers and to all the volunteers.

Want to know the reason I love Napa Wildlife Rescue? Several years ago, I had to undergo rotator cuff surgery and was going to be isolated for six weeks (seems like nothing after this Covid-19 thing!) and then limited use for another four to six months. I was going to go nuts if I did not have something useful to do. So, I signed up for the NWR orientation at the Napa College. The next day I was rehabbing four Western Grey squirrels and the rest is history. I was hooked! It has been a very fulfilling experience and has given me a new sense of purpose. I have learned so much over the last four years and I have made so many new, like-minded friends. I am so grateful to be a part of the NWR family!

Napa Wildlife Rescue has opened my heart and given me greater appreciation and love for the wildlife in the valley. It is so easy to take all we have for granted. We are so blessed to live in this gorgeous environment with all the trees, vineyards and wildlife. Every year our population grows, and the native animals get confined to smaller and smaller spaces. Growth is inevitable and with that, we need to protect our native resources, especially the wildlife. I feel that I am helping a bit to make a difference in our wildlife population and that is important to me.

It is fun to reach out to folks and educate them on how to nurture our wildlife and how to treat them when they find an animal in need of medical attention. It is also great to get folks excited about volunteering or donating to Napa Wildlife Rescue.

Napa County Planning Commission

June 11, 2020

Page 2

Napa Wildlife Rescue desperately needs this new location on Middle Avenue. Our current location's lease, county property, has expired and is non-renewable. The Middle Avenue location will allow us to nurture more wildlife than we thought possible. It will give more volunteers the satisfaction and gratification for taking care of these lovely creatures. Middle Avenue will be a 2-acre slice of heaven for the sick, hurt and orphaned animals that need our love, care and attention. The site is perfect for us!

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration in approving the Napa Wildlife Rescue Use Permit.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Munk

Jan Huey Kim
3173 Tiffany Lane
Napa, Ca, 94558
707-225-2549
jhueykim@yahoo.com

Napa County Planning Commission

Napa Wildlife Rescue – Use Permit #P19-00495-UP

I have been a volunteer at the Napa Wildlife Rescue for 2 years. I was recruited by one of the rescue's educational animals, Maddy, the red tail hawk. When I met her at the farmer's market, I was fascinated with her majestic beauty. I found out about the volunteer program with NWR and signed up. I have come to learn and appreciate so much about wildlife since volunteering. My volunteer work is mainly feeding baby song birds, raptors and mammals ranging from foxes, opossums, raccoons and more. Working with these animals has given me an awareness of how important these animals are to our environment and ecosystem.

Just as the Napa Wildlife Rescue was about to lose its current site in Yountville, a generous person is giving the rescue a new permanent home that will enable the rescue to continue the wonderful work of saving these creatures. Please grant the use permit so that saving these animals can continue. Over 1200 animals a year were seen and cared for in the 2 years I've volunteered. Please let this work continue so that wildlife in Napa will continue to thrive.

Sincerely,
Jan Huey Kim

RECEIVED

JUN 15 2020



Napa County Planning, Building
& Environmental Services

June 7, 2020

To: Napa County Planning Commission

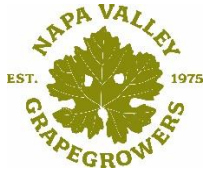
Reference: Napa County Wildlife Rescue

I would like to submit a letter of support for the Napa County Wildlife Rescue permit request. Over the years I have worked with and supported many groups. I am pleased to say that my experiences with NCWR has been a delight. It consists of a large number of volunteers who devote untold hours to rescue birds and animals at no cost to the County. In fact it is the only organization that is authorized to do the work it does. Over the years I have served on it's Advisory Board, had them several times as guests on my TV show, contributed financially, and my wife is a volunteer, so I feel I know it well.

Because of all it does NCWR needs a larger space to better serve and help this community. I have observed volunteers going out at all hours to save birds and other animals. It does a service to grape growers by saving raptors and provides educational programs for young people and adults. There is so much more that I could say that is positive about NCWR. I urge you to please approve their permit request. Napa County will benefit from a positive vote.

Thank you, 

Harris Nussbaum
P.O. Box 3868, Napa, CA 94558
Nussbaum@napanet.net



Attention: Trevor Hawkes
Planner III
Napa County Planning, Building & Environmental Services Department
1195 Third Street, Suite 210
Napa, California

Dear Napa County Planning Commission,

On behalf of the Napa Valley Grapegrowers, I write in support of Napa Wildlife Rescue's property proposal. NWR's work directly contributes to preserving a healthy local eco-system, which in turn, supports the health of Napa Valley vineyards. NVG values their commitment to the protection of beneficial vineyard species including raptors, owls, snakes, and more. We have also greatly appreciated their partnership on our educational programs such as Día de la Familia and the Napa County Pruning Contest.

We are pleased they found a permanent home, and one that does not lead to the intensification of use on agricultural land.

Sincerely,

Paul Goldberg
President, Napa Valley Grapegrowers

6/15/2020

To: Napa County Planning Commission

From: Linda Howard

Re: Use Permit for Napa Wildlife Rescue

I am writing in regards to granting a use permit to Napa Wildlife Rescue to allow them to use the property they own on Middle Ave. as a wildlife rescue center.

I have been volunteering with Napa Wildlife Rescue for the past 15 years, and currently hold the position of Secretary on the Board. Please bear with me while I give you a little history of my experience with the organization.

When I first started volunteering with them, what rehabbing was done was almost all at volunteers' homes. During baby bird season, we had use of a small trailer and 2 aviaries on the private property of one of the volunteers, as during this time we got too many orphaned and injured birds for volunteers to care for them all in their homes. Obviously, we were very limited as to number and types of animals we could care for, and had to send many to rescue centers in other counties. This was less than ideal, because it often meant Napa wildlife was not remaining in Napa, as well as straining the other centers. If there was not room at other centers, or if we didn't have volunteers willing and able to rehab in their homes, we had no recourse at all.

After several years, we lost even this small "center", as we no longer were able to keep the trailer and aviaries on the volunteer's private property. For a couple of years we limped along, with volunteers allowing us to use their homes and yards for short term rehab – most birds and animals had to be sent out to other centers, which wasn't always possible. We were at the point of having to stop almost all rehabbing, when the County generously allowed us use of the pipeyard in Yountville, and we moved our small trailer and aviaries out there.

Over the years, with generous donors and grants, we have been able to add several larger trailer, and aviaries to the pipeyard site. However, we always knew this would be a temporary solution, and continued to actively pursue finding a permanent home. There were several opportunities that seemed hopeful, but each one fell through for various reasons. We were lucky to be able to continue at the pipeyard site.

However, the County finally had to give us notice, and we were starting to get desperate. Finding a place in the Napa Valley that was suitable was, as you can imagine, extremely difficult. In what now seems like a miracle, the property on Middle Ave became available, the owner was amenable, and- such a godsend - we had a donor who was willing to help us.

So, you can see that for 29+ years we have struggled just to have a place to rehabilitate wildlife. We have such dedicated volunteers and donors, who over all those years have managed to keep this organization going, despite having no actual physical center. Can you imagine what outstanding work

can be done and how many lives can be saved if these same amazing volunteers had a center, with enough room, equipment, resources, and supplies?

The property on Middle Ave. is pretty much perfect for our needs. The already-existing buildings, the acreage, the location, are all important factors toward the type of work we do. Because almost everything we need is already there, the disruption to the neighbors for any modifications we need to make will be minimal.

A wildlife rescue center, by virtue of its very reason for existing, is a quiet place. Because we want the animals to remain as wild as possible, we try to keep human noises to a minimum. This means reducing or eliminating noises of cars, equipment, music, radios – as well as human voices. Pretty much the only sounds are those of the animals – bird calls, mostly. So there is very little impact on the neighborhood. Also, there will not be a lot of traffic, as there are a limited number of people there at a time and every effort is made to keep the noise of people coming and going at a minimum. The birds and animals go to sleep early, so there is virtually no noise at all after 9pm or so. A wildlife rescue center is basically a perfect neighbor.

Unbelievably, Napa County is the only county that does not have a wildlife rescue center. Many surrounding counties have more than one. With the richness and beauty of our wildlife, this seems unconscionable to me. Wildlife is extremely important, and especially to an area such as Napa County. There is no way Napa can sustain its health, beauty, agriculture, and tourism without wildlife. Because human activity is the main cause of injury to wildlife, it is our responsibility to do whatever we can to repair the damage that is done.

Without approval for use of this property as a wildlife rescue center, our organization will have few choices. Please approve this permit, and help us help Napa wildlife. Please feel free to contact me if I can be of any further help.

Thank you,

Linda Howard
707-287-2373
lindaly1956@sbcglobal.net

From: [Carol Poole](#)
To: [Hawkes, Trevor](#)
Cc: [John Comisky](#)
Subject: Fw: Public Hearing for our Use Permit
Date: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:41:13 AM

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: SUSAN <shepple@sbcglobal.net>
To: Carol Poole <cpoole1135@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020, 07:37:27 PM PDT
Subject: Re: Public Hearing for our Use Permit

Napa County Planning Commission
Napa Wildlife Rescue-Use Permit
#P19-00495-UP

To whom this concerns:

I have been a volunteer for approximately 1 year.

I have taken several classes and that enables me to feed new arrival patients, clean them and their bedding and to release them when they are ready.

What I love most about doing this work is rescuing and helping injured birds return to good health.

I am and have been a donor

for a number of years because I know of the diminishing numbers of so many of our native birds, and I want to be a part of their rescue.

Sue Hepple

Sent from my iPhone

June 29, 2020

By email: Trevor.hawkes@countyofnapa.org

Trevor Hawkes
Napa County Planning
1195 Third Street
Second Floor
Napa, CA 94559

Re: Use Permit Application of Napa Wildlife Rescue
Hearing Date July 1, 2020

Dear Trevor:

I write this letter in my individual capacity in support of the use permit application of Napa Wildlife Rescue. My recent experience with them illustrates what a valuable service Napa Wildlife Rescue renders to both human beings and to wildlife.

Recently in my backyard in a rural area near Soda Canyon, I encountered a very strange looking bird, large, with down-type feathers, white as snow with a long beak. Upon seeing me, it hissed and spread its wings, I assume in an effort to scare me, which it unquestionably did. I had no idea what it was. Though the bird looked somewhat like a penguin, I fairly quickly concluded that was extremely unlikely (I have been told that I am a pretty smart guy). But I was still leaning in the direction of a maritime bird maybe an albatross or seagull, both of which seemed slightly more possible than a penguin.

In any event, I called Napa Wildlife Rescue. They immediately returned my call and assessed the situation and introduced me to Carol Poole. She promptly identified the bird from a photo I sent her as being a baby vulture. They are highly reclusive and sensitive, and rarely seen. Since a baby vulture has a tendency to imprint on anything that feeds it, meaning that if I fed it, the vulture would adopt me as its father, Carol advised me to by no means feed the vulture. That may have been the best advice I have ever received.

The next day, Carol came to my property. She had consulted with raptor specialists in Santa Rosa and UC Davis. She scouted the property and located the baby's nest in the hollow of a large Bay Tree growing from the bank of Soda Creek. She netted the hissing and flailing bird, returned it to the nest and installed a camera so that she could determine if mom would return sometime to feed the baby. Carol returned daily with dead mice to feed the baby - yes - she keeps dead mice in her freezer for just such an occasion - because you never know!

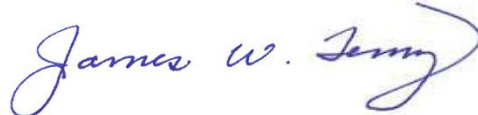
Meanwhile, Carol continued her research and consulted UC Davis on what to do in the event mom never returned. She texted me frequently to keep me updated. After reviewing the camera footage, she determined that mom was not returning, and likely would not. She returned one last time, and plunged into a scary, dark, stinky tree hollow, and somehow got the bird into a portable carrier. Carol relocated the vulture to a Napa Wildlife site where the vulture is being cared for and raised to be released in the wild.

Carol Poole was the Planning Director of St. Helena retiring in 2010 after a 20 year career with the City. In an interview published in the Napa Register, she said one of the things she wants to do in retirement is to learn “about raptor rescue and rehabilitation.” When asked what she hopes to accomplish in the remainder of her life, she said she wants to “grow old with grace and die with peace.” When I think of Carol, “grace” is the first word to come to mind and when she dies, there will be a grieving vulture by her side who calls her “Mom”.

Thank you for approving the application of Napa Wildlife Rescue.

Sincerely,

DICKENSON, PEATMAN & FOGARTY



James W. Terry

Dear Napa County Planning Dept,

RE: P19-00495

My name is Sandi Keist and I am writing to urge you to please approve the use permit for the new Napa Wildlife Rescue property.

I have been a volunteer with Napa Wildlife for over 20 years. I find the experience of caring for tiny songbirds - feeding, incubating, watching them grow and develop, and eventually releasing them back into the wild to be extremely rewarding. It is what has brought me back year after year.

During my time as a volunteer the organization has grown from a simple songbird trailer to a center that takes care of other forms of wildlife as well. We now even employ a full-time manager to oversee everything. During my time here the clinic has had to move over 5 times due to various circumstances. Most recently, the clinic has been on property owned by Napa County which we must vacate at the end of the year. The crucial work we have been able to do, in temporary locations under not ideal conditions, will be dramatically improved in a new permanent site.

I feel that the work Napa Wildlife does is very important not only to me but to the entire Napa community. Local wildlife populations are under constant pressure due to climate change, habitat loss and human contact. It is vital that we are granted a use permit so that we can continue the important work of rescuing and rehabilitating the many species we take care of and maintaining the health of our local wildlife community.

Please approve our use permit.

Sincerely,

Sandi Keist