



Montana Wild Wings Recovery Center
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GREETINGS

2021 has been an exciting and busy year here at Wild Wings. We have taken in 111 raptors representing 22 species. Of that number, 32 have been Great Horn Owls and 15 have been Bald Eagles. We have utilized both our flight barns, speeding up the recovery and release of many birds. We have released 54 birds with 6 still pending. The very hot summer was hard on the young birds and their parents. Many young left the nest before they could fly trying to escape the heat. We celebrate each release as a victory, foremost for the raptor but also for the caring folks that call or deliver an injured bird.

Our rehabilitation treatments have improved thanks to a grant from the Lakeside Community Club. We now have our own Laser and that along with physical therapy has helped many birds recover more quickly from their soft tissue injuries. Last year we received a \$5,700 grant from Partners for Wildlife and \$4,000 from Weyerhaeuser to help build the rehab addition. This summer along with the grant monies and an additional donation of 100 sheets of plywood from Weyerhaeuser we were able to build the new addition. The new rehab addition has 18 new enclosures of various sizes and was built thanks to Bob and John who worked six days a week all summer.

This fall we gladly welcomed two new board members. Joining us are Vic Houser MD who has volunteered with Beth since 1996 and was the caretaker and handler for the Golden Eagle (Katherine). Also, John Kero, a Spectrum retiree, has been volunteering since 2020 helping with our building projects.

The number of education programs increased slightly this year. We were able to deliver 138 programs reaching 2,770 adults and 2,004 kids. By being able to do programs outside or in school gyms, we were able to take birds to 7 of our community's schools. We continued to provide education programs at Under Canvas, West Glacier KOA and Whitefish Bar W--reaching many people from out of the area and outstate.

As always, a big thank you for all your support and contributions which enable us to continue providing care for the birds and bring our education programs to the public.

Beth Benjamin Watne

Executive Director