Rocky Mountain RAPTOR program

a second chance at freedom

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Our Vision

RMRP envisions a world where humans achieve a harmonious balance with wildlife and the environment.

Our Mission

inspires the protection RMRP and conservation of raptors and the environment through excellence in rehabilitation, education, and research.

Our Goals

Our commitment to wildlife focuses on three key areas: rehabilitation, education, and research.

Rehabilitation Goal:

To provide the highest level of care to sick and injured raptors and prepare them for "A Second Chance at Freedom."

Education Goal:

Encourage adults and children to be stewards and heroes of wildlife and wild places.

Research Goal:

Increase knowledge of how to care for and protect wild raptors, while identifying and monitoring challenges to their environment.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings from the Rocky Mountain Raptor Program!

As I mark my fifth year as Executive Director, I reflect on the challenges we have faced: the global pandemic, the threat of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, and our ambitious plans for a new facility have been formidable hurdles. However, we have persevered and thrived. Your trust and support have been instrumental in propelling RMRP into the future. Though more challenges lie ahead, we remain dedicated to overcoming them with your ardent support.

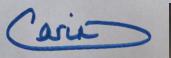
RMRP's stability is due to your unwavering support. We deeply appreciate your belief in us and your sharing our vision. Your recognition of the value of raptors and conservation reflects your commitment to preserving all life on our planet. Your role in our success cannot be overstated.

Through educational outreach, we emphasize the positive impact we can have on our world, state, cities, and rural areas for the benefit of all. Our community-based raptor rehabilitation efforts give injured raptors a chance to thrive in the wild. Additionally, our research and avian care contribute to advancing knowledge of emerging diseases, benefiting human populations. We're determined to protect our way of life and that of these fantastic creatures.

Our dedicated staff and volunteers work tirelessly to enhance our world and the environment through rehabilitation, education, and research. Your generous support enables us to preserve wildlife and protect life on our planet. Because of you, we soar higher in everything we do.

While our plans for a new facility are navigating the political process, we remain optimistic and determined that it will come to fruition. In the meantime, we are working collectively to create something remarkable: hope for our future and future generations. With your continued support, we are confident that we can overcome any obstacle.

Thanks for your continued trust in the RMRP,



Carin Avila (she/her



Executive Director Contact me at Carin@rmrp.org or 970-484-7756 x103

PS: Donate and witness the impact of your generous gift on countless lives. What legacy will you leave - today, tomorrow, or forever?

EDUCATION

EDUCATION

Empowering Environmental Stewards:

As a keystone species, raptors serve as an indicator of the health of our environment. Foremost in our educational program planning is teaching that safeguarding raptors fosters a deeper appreciation for our earth. Our educators enlighten children and adults about the repercussions of human activities on our precious resources.

Educating for Impact:

RMRP ignites a passion for conservation by illuminating the interconnectedness between human actions and environmental health, equipping our audiences with tools and information to make informed choices and embrace sustainable lifestyles.

"Together, we are building a future where nature thrives, and every individual plays a vital role in preserving our planet."

-Jessica Miller, RMRP Education Coordinator

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Inspiring Future Guardians:

Central to our mission is cultivating a new generation of environmental stewards. Through immersive experiences and hands-on learning activities, we spark curiosity and instill a sense of responsibility toward our natural world. By nurturing a love for nature and wildlife, we create future leaders who will champion conservation and spearhead initiatives to protect our planet's biodiversity. We use mentorship and guidance to empower young minds to become catalysts for positive change in their communities and beyond.



Above: Excited children in a classroom ask questions about Cedar, RMRP's Educational Ambassador Eastern Screech Owl. Students learn how raptors are adapted to the wild and how each species is specialized to survive.

2023 Program Reach

- 132 school programs presented.
- 6,900 students reached.
- **138** days of community outreach.
- 63,000 people were reached at outreach events.

270 total days of outreach.
69,900 total people experienced the majesty of raptors.

"Rocky Mountain Raptor Programs's gift of knowledge is greatly appreciated. We especially enjoyed your interactive learning opportunities; the owl was an amazing addition. You helped unite our community through this event, and we are grateful."

- Poudre Heritage Alliance

Right: Children at Liberty Common Elementary learn about the great migration of Swainson's Hawks from North America to Argentina. At the same time, they watch the Swainson's Hawk Educational Ambassador Barley eat his lunch.



Above: RMRP Volunteer Ash gives a child the oncein-a-lifetime experience of feeling owl talons and feathers at one of our outreach events.

Our Partners in Education:

Ability in Motion

AIMS Community College Alta Vida Living Art in the Park Loveland Aspire NoCo **Becks Martial Arts Boulder Public Library District City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department City of Fort Collins Recreation & Open Spaces Colorado Early Colleges** Colorado State University, College of Natural Sciences, Professional Science Masters program **Colorado State University, Vet Symposium** Colorado State University, Warner College of **Natural Resources First Light Nature Preschool** Front Range Community College **Gardens on Spring Creek Good Samaritan Water Valley** Greeley School District 6 **High Plains Library District** Housing Catalyst at Mason Place **Jack Ludlam Photography**

James Madison STEAM Academy Jax Outdoor Gear Fort Collins Lago Vista Mobile Home Park Larimer Conservation District Larimer County Larimer County Humane Society Little Pines Fort Collins Nature Preschool Longs Peak Scottish-Irish Highland Festival, Inc.

MacKenzie Place Morning Fresh Dairy Nature's Educators Northern Colorado Homeschool groups and families

Northern Colorado Wildlife Center Open Arms Christian Pre-School Pawnee School District RE-12 Poudre Landmarks Foundation Poudre Pet and Feed Poudre River Public Library District Poudre River Trail Poudre School District R-1 Poudre Valley REA Primrose School of Fort Collins



Where We Delivered Educational Programs:

Colorado: Berthoud Boulder Denver Eaton Estes Park Evans Firestone Fort Collins Greeley Johnstown LaPorte Longmont Loveland Steamboat Springs Windsor **Wyoming:** Laramie

Purpose Brewing Salt Road Brewing Scandinavian Alliance of Colorado **Spring Park KinderCare** St. Vrain Valley School District RE 1J **Steamboat Creates** Stephanie Woodward. RE/MAX Alliance **Team Player Productions** The Children's Workshop **The Goddard School The Learning Experience** The Logan School for Creative Learning **The Welby School The Windsor Independent Living Thompson School District R2-J Town of Estes Park Town of Firestone Trinity Lutheran Preschool** Weld County School District RE-5J Wild Birds Unlimited Fort Collins Wild Crescent Forest School Windsor RE-4 School District **Zion Lutheran Church**

REHABILITATION

A Tireless Effort to Save Lives:

In our hectic, very mobile world, raptors face many challenges. From collisions with vehicles and human infrastructure (the #1 reason for admission) to habitat loss due to human population growth, more damaging weather patterns, and the spread of avian diseases, these magnificent birds often find themselves in dangerous situations. RMRP, and thus you, are there for them when they need us most.

We are committed to providing unparalleled care to every raptor that crosses our path. With a team of dedicated professionals, volunteers, interns, and accomplished veterinarians from Colorado State University's Avian, Exotic, and Zoological Medicine Service, each raptor benefits from decades of raptor medical experience.

As we continue our work of healing fallen raptors, we are reminded of the importance of our collective responsibility to protect and conserve these remarkable creatures and the environment that they (and we) call home.

2023 Rehabilitation Statistics

69% of treatable raptors were released.

53 DAYS: Average length of stay of a rehabilitating raptor.

10,340 DAYS: The total number of rehabilitation bird care days in 2023. What is a bird care day? Every day a raptor is in our care, it counts as one bird care day.

Top 4 Most Common Causes of Injury:

Almost 90% of the raptors in our care experience one of the following issues:

- General trauma or fractures
- Disease

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- Vehicular collisions
- Starvation

Other reasons for admission include: Immature/baby raptors falling from destroyed nests, entanglement in barbed wire, netting, baling twine or fishing line, window strikes, electrocution or electric shock, water immersion, lead poisoning or toxicity, gunshots, oil spills, and exposure to toxins.



Above: Volunteer Michael Dollard helps Rehabilitation Coordinator Michael Tincher syringe feed an intensive care liquid diet that replenishes energy and protein stores to a Great Horned Owl. This therapy helps very emaciated patients recover from severe starvation.

We monitored raptor diseases in 2023:

86 raptors tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV). 30 raptors tested positive for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI).

Both are challenging diseases to treat, and HPAI is almost 100% fatal in raptors. When HPAI patients are in our facility, they must be treated with strict biosecurity concerns in mind to ensure other raptors in our care do not also catch the disease. We are one of the few facilities in the US where an HPAI-positive raptor has recovered and returned to the wild.

"You guys are so amazing. You saved an owl I found hit by a car on College Avenue. You guys were so cool, giving me updates periodically when I'd call. It was so awesome to hear it was released." - Mary K.

Cities Where Raptors Were Rescued:

colorado:	
Ault	
Bellvue	
Berthoud	
Briggsdale	
Brush	
Carr	
Denver	
aton	
lizabeth	
vans	
leming	

Fort Collins Fort Morgan Frederick Galeton Gill Greeley Grover Johnstown Jamestown Kersey Kiota LaPorte

REHABILITATION

Admissions by Species		
Species	Total	
Great Horned Owl	83	
Cooper's Hawk	75	
Red-tailed Hawk	62	
Swainson's Hawk	31	
American Kestrel	16	
Osprey	8	
Bald Eagle	7	
Barn Owl	6	
Turkey Vulture	5	
Ferruginous Hawk	3	
Burrowing Owl	2	
Golden Eagle	2	
Northern Saw-whet Owl	2	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	
Eastern Screech-Owl	1	
Flammulated Owl	1	
Long-eared Owl	1	
Merlin	1	
Mississippi Kite	1	
Northern Harrier	1	
Northern Pygmy Owl	1	
Prairie Falcon	1	

Total Admissions: 312

LaSalle Leader Livermore Longmont Loveland Lucerne Mead Milliken Nunn Platteville **Red Feather Lakes** Severance

Timnath Wellington Westcliffe Windsor Wray Wyoming: Chevenne Guernsey Laramie **Pine Bluffs** Wheatland

RESEARCH

Knowledge for the Future

Raptors in the wild are at risk due to habitat loss and human interference. We conduct research to help us better understand how to protect them and their habitats, as well as monitor disease transmission. Our research also informs decisions that make the world safer for them. Investing in raptor research is crucial for their survival and the health of raptors and our ecosystems.

2023 Research Projects

- West Nile Virus surveillance in raptors (RMRP, CSU Ebel, Bosco-Lauth)
- Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza testing and detection in local raptor populations (RMRP)
- Diversity of Leucocytozoon (a blood parasite) (Collins, Rhodes University, Memphis TN)
- Osprey Parasite Study focusing on trematode parasite infections, particularly flukes (parasitic flatworms) within the genus Scaphanocephalus, which are osprey specialists and travel with the birds during migration (Johnson Lab, University of CO)
- PacifiCorp Wind Project (PacifiCorp, USGS, RMRP) PacifiCorp will study bird safety near wind turbines and evaluate the effects of painting one wind turbine blade black to reduce risks to birds flying near wind projects. Before the study, PacifiCorp must understand the impact of scavengers on any carcass removal below the wind turbines so bird casualty counts are as accurate as possible. Carcasses from the RMRP are being sent to the wind turbine site in WY to help with this preliminary scavenger study.
- Wing measurements to determine dimensions of utility poles to prevent electrocution (RMRP)
- Ectoparasite (a parasite that lives on the outside of its host) collection (CSU Museum of Arthropod Diversity)
- Survey of lead levels in raptors of Northern Colorado and Wyoming (RMRP)
- Raptor carcasses collected for the Denver Museum of Nature and Science will become part of their tissue bank for education and research.

Our Sponsorship Partners in Research:

- · Greg Ebel and Angela Bosco-Lauth provide West Nile Virus testing services through their respective labs.
- PacifiCorp provided an anesthesia machine for research and rehabilitation purposes and has helped support the costs associated with HPAI testing.

Are you conducting research surrounding raptors?

We would be happy to contribute data to your research project so we can continue to further our collective knowledge of raptors. Contact Michael Tincher, Rehabilitation and Research Coordinator at Mike@rmrp.org or 970-484-7756.

Income

Total Revenue	\$1,104,654
Research Grants	\$21,930
Education & Outreach Fees, Sponsorship, & Donations	\$26,524
Merchandise Sales (Net)	\$19,521
Grant/Foundation/Business	\$428,948
Individual (inc. Gala)	\$607,731
Source	Income

Liabilities & Equity		
Source	2023	
Current Liabilities	\$0	_
Long Term Liabilities	\$833,137	\$82
Total Equity	\$788,571	\$6'
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$1,621,708	\$1,49



Above: A tiny baby Great Horned Owl had its nest destroyed in a terrible wind storm.

Right: The young Great Horned Owl grew up at RMRP and was returned to the wild nearly eight months after being rescued.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Expenses

Project	Expense
Rehabilitation and	\$293,668
Research	
Education and Outreach	\$232,547
Fundraising	\$254,009
Administration	\$150,282
Facilities & Operations	\$129,572
Property Expenses	\$5,566
Total	\$ 1,065,644
Net Surplus	\$39,010

2022 \$0 22,949 76,053 99,002

Assets				
Source	2023	2022		
Cash	\$408,180	\$308,318		
Fixed	\$28,235	\$14,420		
Land	\$1,176,264	\$1,176,264		
Total	\$1,612,679	\$1,499,002		



OUR TEAM

VOLUNTEERS Staff

RD

BOA

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STAFF

Carin Avila, Executive Director: Carin@rmrp.org Bonnie Cleaver, Education Avian Coordinator: Bonnie@rmrp.org Jennifer Elliott, Data and Donor Communications Coordinator: Jennifer@rmrp.org Jazmine Fenner, Education & Outreach Associate: Jazmine@rmrp.org Frank Hoffman, Rehabilitation & Research Associate: Frank@rmrp.org Gail Kratz, Rehabilitation & Research Director: Gail@rmrp.org Carrie Laxson, Rehabilitation & Research Assistant: Carrie@rmrp.org Shayna Madalena Feinberg, Rehabilitation & Research Associate: Shayna@rmrp.org Jessica Miller, Education & Outreach Coordinator: Jessica@rmrp.org Rochelle Platter, Director of Development & Major Gifts: Rochelle@rmrp.org Lynsey Reed, Director of Donor Relations: LynseyReed@rmrp.org Jeff Stark, Facilities Associate

Mike Tincher, Rehabilitation & Research Coordinator: Mike@rmrp.org Lisa Winta, Assistant Director and Volunteer Coordinator: Lisa@rmrp.org

Our Volunteers:

Jillian Artiolo Melanie Auer **Piper Aune Brooke Baggett** Susan Baker Krista Banks Esmerelda Barrientos Nancy Bartholomew Jenny Berven Ed Bischoff Tesa Blewitt Lucas Bornhoeft Julia Borys David Bousquet Jessie Brause **Kristy Buettner** Catherine Burns Debra Burton Erin Carlson **Tony Carlson Christine Chapman** Larry Chapman Karen Colombo **Austin Critchlow** Adrienne Cunningham Jacelyn Day Martha Davis Marty Diecchio

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Virginia Poe

Carina Price

Susan Baker Jenny Berven Catherine Burns Christine Chapman Stephen Scheid Michael Dollard Barb Duffner Jeannette Hoffman

"Volunteering at the Rocky Mountain Raptor Program really helped me grow into the person I am today. I respect and value each and every person there who made that possible. And the birds. Because the birds are really awesome, too!!"

-Ben D. with RMRP Ambassador Golden Eagle, Watson

Board

Carin Avila, Chair Judy Scherpelz, President Susan Baker, Secretary Jack Dude, Treasurer Bill Wheeler, Member

2023 Volunteer Statistics:

Total Volunteers: 114 Total Volunteer Hours: 19.593

2023 Barn Owl Bureau

The Barn Owl Bureau celebrates the outstanding volunteers who have donated 10+ years of service to the RMRP. Piper Aune

Carol Jans Diane McCarthy Loene McIntyre Mark Nelson Judy Walton

making an annual gift of \$1,000 or more. Amanda & Jason Abell Alice N. Jenkins Foundation **Amazon Smile** Mrs. Ilka Archambault and Mr. Bill Hudson Elizabeth Ann Armour and Philip Rakita **Carin Avila Nancy Avila** Eileen and Bryan Baker Dr. Thomas & Mrs. Jaqueline Bennett Christine Berkness George and Barbara Biedenstein Christopher Bielinski and Jenny Geiser The Baloro Trust - Yvon Chouinard Family Trustees Paula Boswell and Donna Herrick Michael Bowie and P. Elaine Roberts Dave and Kerry Brookman David and Alexandra Butler **Brvan Bvers** Lisa and James Carlson **Rhonda Carpenter and Kolt Johnson** Joan Carter **Jerry Chase** Chris Clark **KC Collins Frame** Kitty Cottingham Bryan and Christina Cressey **Ross and Jill Cunniff** Laurie Cure Dan and Chris Danford Julie Daves John & Kate Davis The Denver Foundation, Nordic Pearl Fund Jav Desai Norm and Sandy Dinnsen **Barbara Duffner** Kenneth F. Dunnington **El Pomar Foundation Trish Faubion Fishing Dog Foundation Bob and Rose Francella** Karen and Ron Frohock **Dennis and Geri Georg** Heather and Brandon Gleeson

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SPONSORS & PARTNERS

30th Annual Gala, a Great Success!!

Poudre

Pet & Feed

Pet & Feed

Supply

Supply

We're over the moon to have raised over \$100,000 at the 2023 Gala! Thank you for your support and participation in this event as an item donor, sponsor, pledge supporter, silent auction bidder, or one-time event donor. There is no "one-way" to support RMRP, and we're so grateful to everyone who made a bid, donated or sponsored the Gala. Our mission is stronger because of you!!

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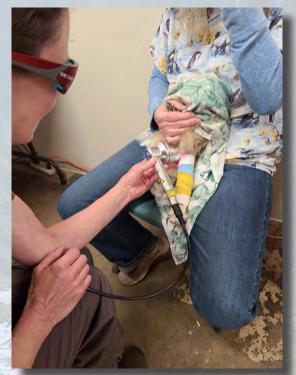
Foundation Sponsors

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Angela Bosco-Lauth Chevenne Pet Clinic Colorado Parks and Wildlife **Greg Ebel** Full Moon Integrative Veterinary Care James L. Voss Veterinary Teaching Hospital Northern Colorado Wildlife Center **USDA APHIS US Fish and Wildlife Service** Wyoming Fish and Game Department

Become a Sponsor

Sponsorships are a way to show your support of RMRP in a way that suits you best. Create your sponsorship by contacting RMRP Development Director Rochelle Platter at Rochelle@rmrp.org.



Above: Dr. Sneva of Full Moon Integrative Veterinary Care does laser light therapy on a young Great Horned Owl with a broken leg.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Our local human population is booming, which spells big trouble for our resident raptors because getting hit by cars and trauma is the #1 reason that we admit these amazing creatures for treatment.

Our hospital never closes, and each injured raptor requires an average of 53 days of specialized medical care before release. Your support of our rehabilitation efforts allows us to provide healing care for hundreds of raptors each year and release nearly 69% of those with treatable injuries.

Meanwhile, our world needs conservation & environmental education more than ever, and your support helps us provide 250+ days of education each year to children and adults who want to learn more about how to save our planet.

Donate now to drive our rehabilitation and education programs. You'll be saving raptors and saving our planet!

Make a Gift



www.rmrp.org/donate/the-1987-club

Leave a Legacy



www.rmrp.org/donate/legacy-offreedom-society

> "Thank you so much for giving us a tour of the rescue. The operation, staff, and volunteers are nothing short of amazing-helping so many raptors every year. My family feels incredibly thankful for all of your hard work to help rescue birds, educate the community, and to raise funds to keep the rescue going." - Faye, Richie, Lucas, Miles, and Alice

Make a Recurring Gift



Support the Wish List



www.rmrp.org/donate/wish-list

Become a Volunteer



CONTACT US

Physical Address (by appointment only): 720 E. Vine Drive, Unit B Fort Collins, CO 80524

Mailing Address: 2519 S. Shields Street, 1K-115 Fort Collins, CO 80526

Phone: 970-484-7756 Rehabilitation Hotline: 970-222-0322 Website: www.rmrp.org Email: Carin@rmrp.org

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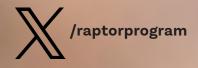
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Northern Harrier by Dan O'Donnell