

THE FROG DAYS OF SUMMER





WILDLIFE IN 2021

3,390

Total animals
cared for

204

Animals currently
in care

191

Different species
admitted

OILED FROGS TAKE OVER SBWCN

Most years, Santa Barbara Wildlife Care Network (SBWCN) rarely receives amphibian patients; last year, there was only one. **But on August 25, there were more than 90 frogs being cared for by SBWCN.**

All of these frogs were found oiled after being recovered from Toro Canyon Creek, just south of Santa Barbara, where there was a leak from an old oil well. California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Oiled Wildlife Care Network (OWCN) called upon SBWCN to aid in caring for these frogs.



SBWCN's Dr. Berkowitz examines a Baja California tree frog.



Top: A small oiled frog is cleaned with a cotton swab. (Rebecca Gaal); Bottom: A frog is released back into its habitat. (Oiled Wildlife Care Network)



Coincidentally, this incident comes just a few months before the completion of SBWCN's new Wildlife Hospital. This 5,400-square-foot building will provide critical upgrades to current facilities, including SBWCN's ability to care for oiled wildlife. With features like newer and larger washing stations, SBWCN will be able to play an even larger role in future incidents like this one.

After these frogs were rescued, they were transported to Santa Barbara where SBWCN assisted in both washing and providing supportive care. Some of SBWCN's animal care staff, including veterinarian Dr. Avery Berkowitz, shifted gears to dedicate a majority of their time to focus on these frogs. **This care included washing the frogs, providing regular exams, distributing meals of tiny crickets, fruit flies, and fly larvae, and ensuring they had a safe, clean, and quiet space to recover.**

"As a partner of the Oiled Wildlife Care Network, we are always on standby to step in whenever we are needed," said Dr. Avery Berkowitz, Director of Animal Care. "We all worked together, alongside OWCN staff, to make sure these frogs received the care they needed."

Thanks to these efforts, almost 99% of the frogs survived and were able to be safely released back into their habitat. The patients were primarily made up of Baja California tree frogs, but also included a few California tree frogs and one fence lizard. All three species are native to Southern California.

TREE FROG FACTS

- Tree frogs are the only frog in the west that make the classic "ribbit" vocalization.
- Baja California tree frogs are the only native frogs known to inhabit the Channel Islands.
- Baja California tree frogs can change color based on air temperature and humidity.
- Baja California tree frogs can be distinguished by the black stripe on their eye.

**2021
RELEASE
NUMBERS**



**125
VIRGINIA
OPOSSUMS**



**62
MALLARD
DUCKS**



**26
BRUSH
RABBITS**



**12
ALLEN'S
HUMMINGBIRDS**

NEW ARRIVALS



WELCOME, IAN!

SBWCN recently welcomed a new member to the Board of Directors: Ian Shive! Ian is an Ansel Adams award-winning photographer and filmmaker whose projects include the Discovery Channel digital series, "Nature in Focus." He joins the board after years of working with SBWCN on a variety of projects, including the Hospital Capital Campaign Committee.



WILD WHEELS

Thanks to the incredible support of the community, SBWCN was able to purchase a dedicated wildlife rescue vehicle! This customized van will have a tremendous impact on staff and volunteers' ability to safely and effectively transport animals. Plus, it's fun to look at! Keep an eye out for it around town - you can't miss it!

WILDLIFE HOSPITAL

Incredible progress is being made on the Wildlife Hospital! Only eight months in, and construction on this groundbreaking building is nearly close to completion.

Thanks to our amazing community of volunteers, partners, and supporters, we are making this long-awaited dream a reality! Donations are still needed to support the hospital and its operations, and there are several naming opportunities remaining at various levels.

Now is the time to support this incredible community project! Become a founding member of the Wildlife Hospital by making a donation today at sbwcn.org/wildlifehospital.



Check out the new & improved website!



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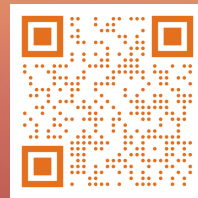
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Wild Night Out

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15 | 5-9 PM
CAROUSEL HOUSE AT CHASE PALM PARK
SBWCN.ORG/BENEFIT2021

Isn't it time for a *Wild Night Out*? Join fellow wildlife lovers for SBWCN's 2021 Benefit for Wildlife! Spend an evening on the beach enjoying delicious food, live music, and an exciting auction – all benefitting the groundbreaking Wildlife Hospital.

Scan here for tickets and sponsorships!





SPONSOR AN ANIMAL

Do you rave about raccoons? Do you think opossums are awesome? It's time you became a sponsor for your favorite animal! A symbolic sponsorship helps provide specialized diets, medication, and quality care for animals in need.

Sponsors also get some fun perks, including:

- Embroidered hats
- Enamel pins
- Certificate of sponsorship
- Species fact sheet

Visit sbwcn.org/sponsor to pick your animal!

Stay up to date on all things SBWCN!

Subscribe to the email newsletter:





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Front cover: California tree frog
(*Lauren Gonzales*)