



South Sound Critter Care

2014 Annual Report

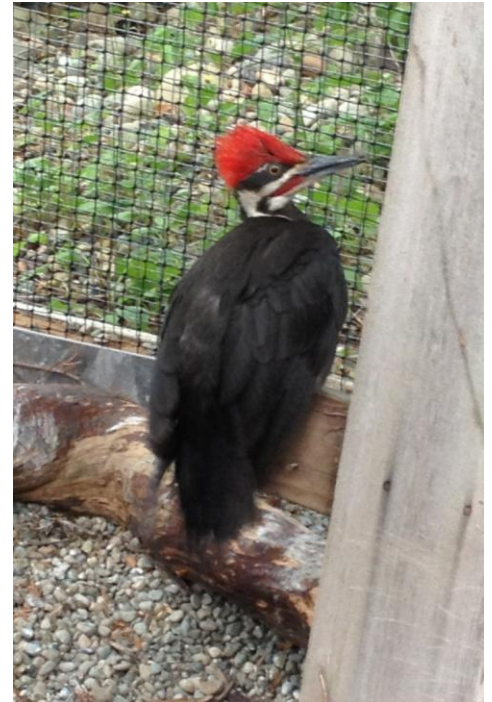
At the Crossroads: 2014 in Review

Jan White, DVM
President, SSCC

Shortly after the New Year began in 2014, several veterinary hospitals that took in animals for the Sarvey Wildlife Center in Arlington, WA, began calling us to take animals that had been dropped off the day before. When I asked why, they said, “Sarvey is telling us they will not pick up the animals in the system, not today, not ever.” I was standing up, and then I sat down. This was not good news. Sarvey Wildlife Center had this system in place for King County for 20+ years. It was a rock solid program, but it was expensive to operate.

The End of Sarvey's Ambulance System

I called their Executive Director, Suzanne West, and she simply said, “Yes, we will not be picking up animals.” She said the truck needed repairs, but even repaired, the animals would be left at the hospitals that had collected them. She said they ended the program permanently as of December 31, 2013. We called the hospitals and told them to bring us the animals and thus ended the ambulance system. We became, overnight, the “last center standing” in King County.



A Pileated Woodpecker at SSCC

Sarvey had been receiving over 4,000 animals a year and with no ambulance, that number would likely drop by 3,000 animals. How did we know this? Earlier in their history, the ambulance was not funded for a year and they took in a little over 700 animals. I became very afraid. The other two centers in Puget Sound, PAWS and West Sound Wildlife Shelter, had strict quotas by species on what they could take. Neither was in a situation to quickly expand and one had a lease that prohibited building any new facilities. At that point, I became very worried. We are situated on less than a half acre at the Sawyer Lake Veterinary Hospital and quickly negotiated a lease for some additional adjacent land to put enclosures on to help. But there was no way we could accommodate 3,000 additional animals.

Winterlife Co-op to the Rescue

Then there was the timely arrival of Winterlife Co-op, a medical marijuana operation. The wonderful folks at Winterlife Co-op believed in the little critters and gave us \$35,000 in cash to build more animal enclosures. Joe Papineau, a retired industrial designer who is good with his CAD program, worked with our college interns and we built seven more enclosures. We built four raccoon pens, a public aviary for non-releasable songbirds, and an opossum barn, which when not in use for opossums, can be transformed to help house other small animals. Additionally, Craig Holmes, our waterfowl specialist and Board Member, built the first of two Seabird pool enclosures. That enclosure was funded by the *WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife license plate funding program for wildlife rehabilitators and we thank them too*. The second pool enclosure was completed in 2015.

The Public vs. Raccoons (Procyon lotor)

The public worries when they find a raccoon under their home and often hire an exterminator -- only to find a few days later that it was a "she" with four hungry babies who now are screaming day and night for her. It can be hard to sleep through that noise. It is tragic and they generally go under the house, get the kits, and look for a free place to dump them. Each one of those raccoon kits costs \$750 to raise because they need dedicated pens of substantial size, many vaccinations, multiple dewormings, a ton of expensive food and, if injured or diseased, all manner of other veterinary services. That one litter is a \$2,800 expense and the trapper only costs about \$250 to kill the adult. These calls come in over and over every spring. What people need to understand is that they do not need to kill the mother raccoon. She has 2-3 sites that she uses for each litter. If they exclude her before she has young, she will just go to her other spot. Once she has the kits, they must all get excluded and she will take them elsewhere.

2014 Board of Directors

***Jan White, DVM – President
Craig Holmes – Vice President***

***Kate Harper – Secretary
Heidi Hague – Treasurer***

Board Members At-large:

***Richard Cassell
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Trappers are mandated by law to kill every animal they trap. If they brought all of their catches to wildlife centers, they would be delivering huge liabilities (costs) and no income to cover it. There is not enough room for raccoons whose mom has been mowed down by cars or killed by a large dog, let alone the by-catch of the trapping business. This year, we received nearly 80 raccoons. We need a lot of capacity and we did expand what we had as fast as we could. We need more capacity because those cages at Sarvey are no longer available and at the height of every season, even with those cages, there was no excess capacity in the system. It felt like a game of musical chairs and when the music died, so did the baby raccoons.

The Annex

So in June, I personally bought an acre of land near the center that we now call the Annex. It took the next 12 months to develop. We had to build a volunteer building where we could work writing records and doing health checks. The Auburn Humane Society sold us a small block of used stainless steel cages to put in the building. Winterlife Co-op helped fund the rough building which cost about \$10,000. It did not come with interior wiring, vents, insulation, sheetrock, or paint. We needed to develop a cleaning station to wash dishes, perches, and caging. We needed to build a workshop with a volunteer bathroom and a place to build other enclosures at the site. Working with frozen ground was, frankly, not fun. We needed a water system we could connect to the cleaning station and outside hoses for the future pens. It was a large-scale effort and we got the volunteer building up (not finished inside) and the workshop and cleaning station done. At the end of the year, we had not brought new PSE service to the site but planned on that early in 2015. We closed the year with the potential of a place to build more wildlife housing and not much more. Unfortunately, Winterlife Co-op was shut down near the end of 2014. With their shut down went their generous donations, thus slowing our expansion of the center.

Thankfully, the people who used to use the pick-up system in King County did not all find their way to our door in 2014. We don't know where they went. Since there is no center in all of Pierce County, many of them did

beat a path to our door. While the numbers increased, they did not overwhelm us. This is a good thing. Still, the demand for our services is currently above what we can offer. So we must plan for the future.

Henry's Switch

We continued our conversations with the Maple Valley Parks Commission for the possibility of a purchase or lease of Henry's Switch, a 14-acre parcel, down the road from the veterinary hospital. This is a forest that needs some entity to manage it, but because the city has no funds to develop or manage the property, nothing has been done since they bought it. We've worked into 2015 on the project, which is when we hope to get a decision. The Annex is a middle station for us and Henry's Switch is a terminal, permanent site for the wildlife center and some other needed services for our community.

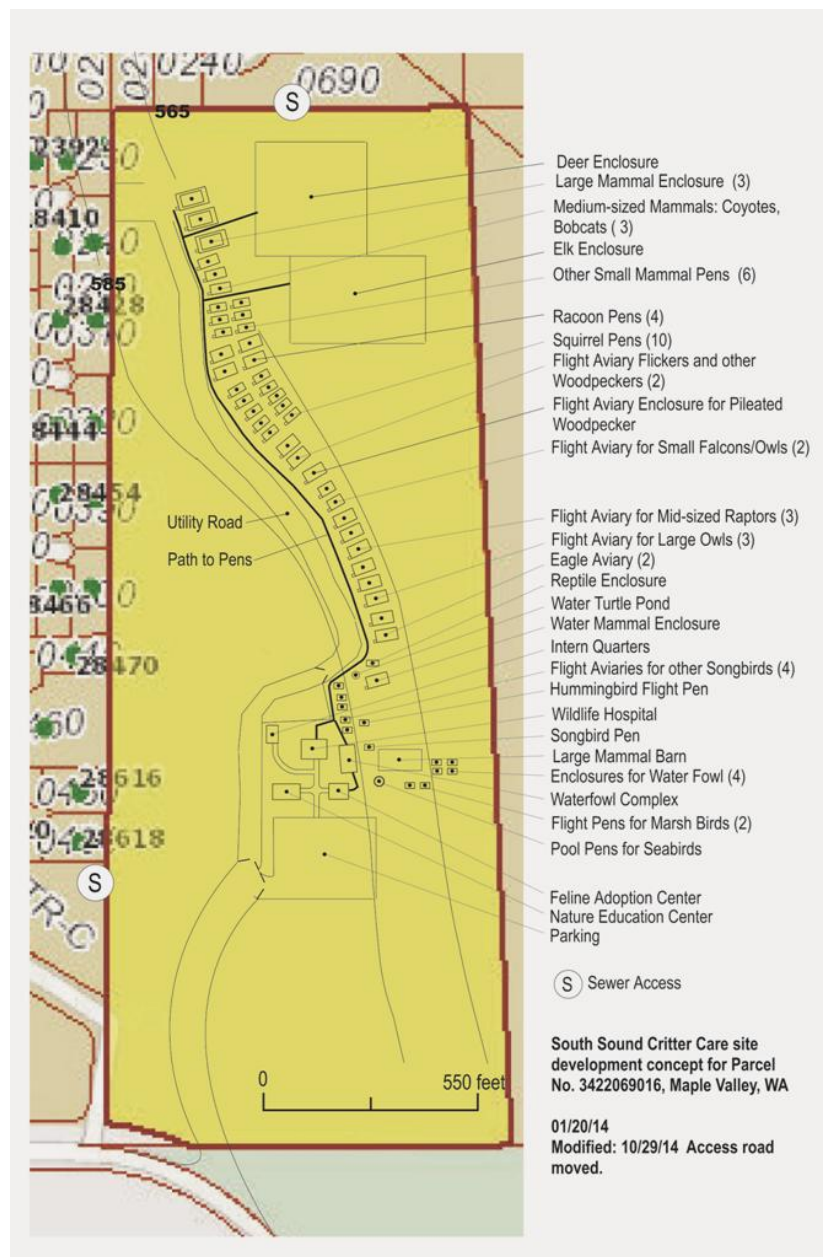
We are asking to build a state-of-the-art wildlife hospital that will provide the normal services and also provide a site for injured adult deer and elk, which would be unique in the state. With the populations of ungulates in the area, this is really needed. We are now working on plans for both a nature center for the community and a feline adoption center for the site.

All of this will necessitate a large capital campaign down the road in about two years. To the right is a basic plot plan of what we would like to do. It is courtesy of Joe Papineau and his CAD program. It is not pretty, but that is what architects are for and they will arrive next year. Still, you will see what we are trying to accomplish. We look forward to 2015!

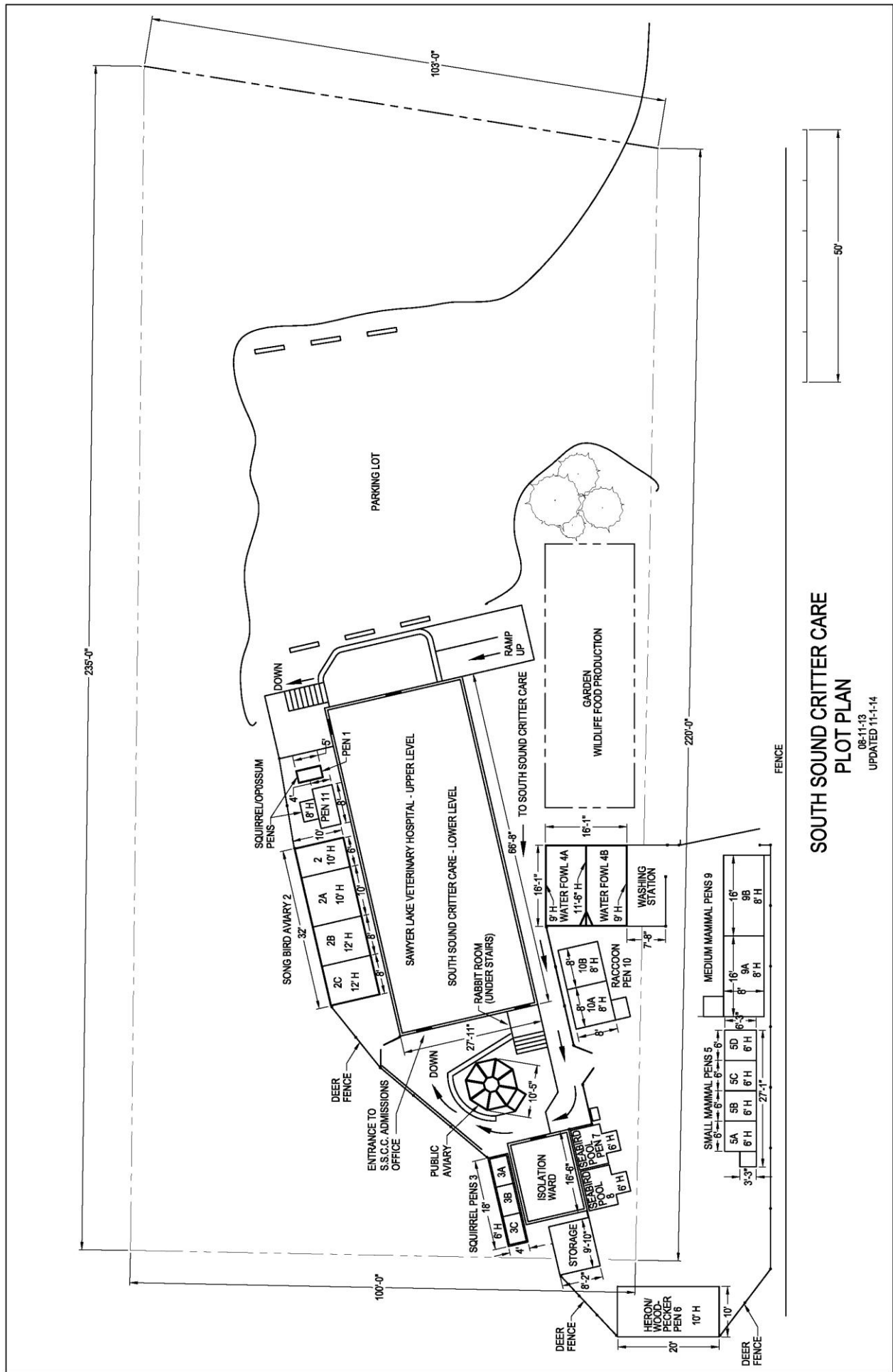
You Can Help

If you are wondering what you can do to change the current state of affairs for wildlife in King and Pierce Counties, you can become a sustainer with a monthly donation. If you are thinking more of a legacy gift, you can include us in your will.

If you are more a one shot kind of person, please help us with our capital campaign fund. We currently have about \$18,000 in the capital fund and we will need a lot more to buy property and develop it.



Proposed Site at Henry's Switch



South Sound Critter Care Plot Plan

South Sound Critter Care

Statement of Activity

January - December 2014

	Total
Revenue	
1023000 Direct Public Support	108,471.35
1023100 Indirect Public Support	16,391.05
1023300 Fundraising	23,542.00
1023400 Grants	4,170.85
1023500 Program Income	3,809.00
1023700 Rentals	28.00
Total Revenue	\$156,412.25
Gross Profit	\$156,412.25
Expenditures	
1020000 Operations	75,389.20
1025900 Operations - Temp Staffing	8,721.35
1050000 Fundraising	5,530.15
1060000 Marketing	162.39
1090000 G&A	7,803.40
Total Expenditures	\$ 97,606.49
Net Operating Revenue	\$ 58,805.76
Other Revenue	
1100082 Other-Interest	18.00
Total Other Revenue	\$ 18.00
Other Expenditures	
1100098 Other-Ask My Accountant	0.00
Total Other Expenditures	\$ 0.00
Net Other Revenue	\$ 18.00
	\$ 58,823.76

A Happy Ending for a Barn Owl, Thanks to a Concerned Citizen and SSCC



The Barn Owl pictured here was spotted by a woman who was out for a stroll along the Interurban Trail in Kent. She was taking pictures as she was walking so when she spotted this Barn Owl perched in the tree, she snapped a picture. (It's not often you're able to see these birds out during daylight hours.) When she was looking at the pictures the next morning she zoomed in on the owl and realized that the owl was tangled in fishing line with the hook stuck on a branch.

She raced back to the spot where she had seen the owl and sure enough he was still there. She began calling around trying to find someone to come help get this owl out of the tree. Because it was a Sunday, she had a very hard time getting anyone to even answer the phone.

The woman began to panic. There was no way she could reach the owl by herself because the tree that the owl was stuck in was on the river's edge and the embankment down to the tree was very steep. She tried the fire department hoping they could bring their ladder and reach the owl but had no luck.

The next call she made was to South Sound Critter Care. She was so happy when someone actually answered the phone. She explained the situation and we were able to gather up some people and equipment and we went and

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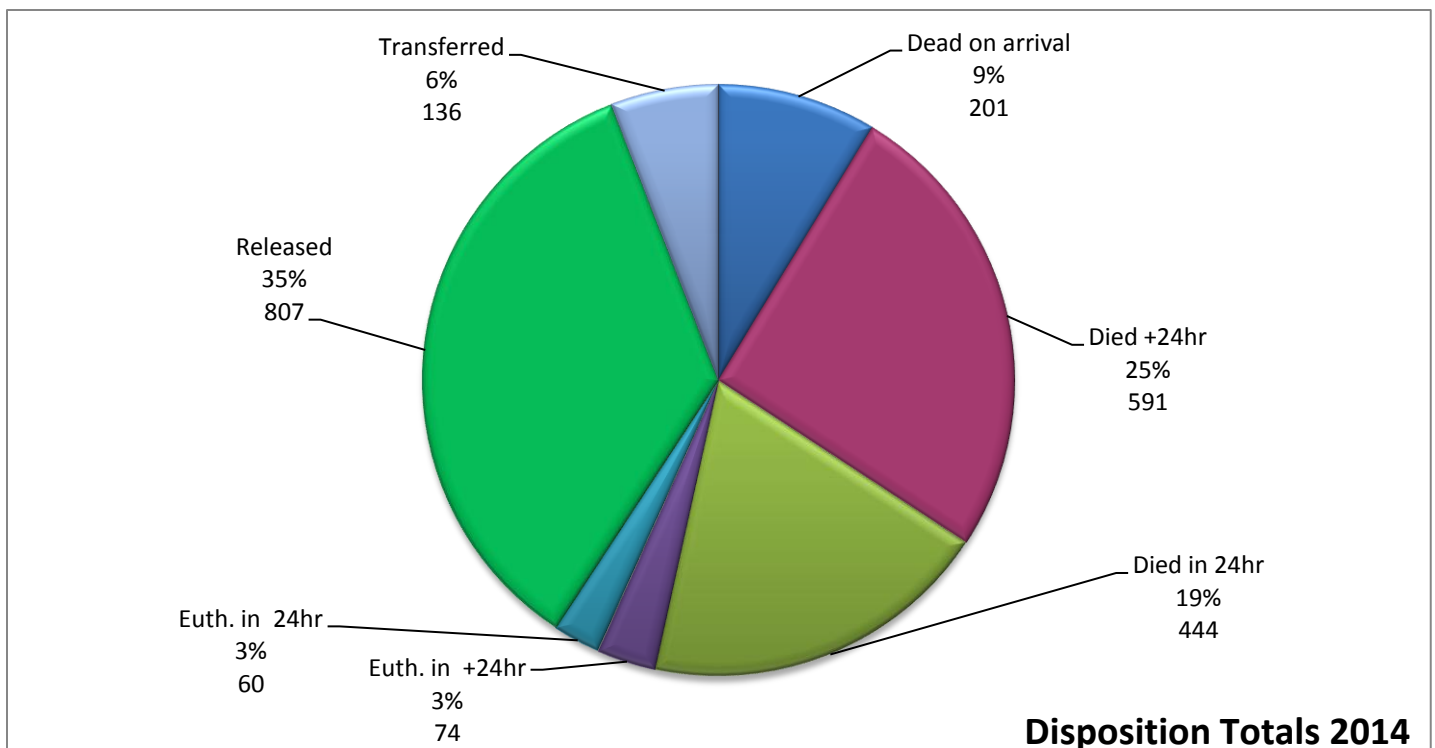


met the woman where the owl was trapped. It was not easy getting the owl out of the tree but we managed to finally free him.

At that point he was pretty lethargic because he had been out there so long. We rushed him back to our center, warmed him up and gave him some fluids. Fortunately there were no injuries from the fishing line. Within just a couple of days the owl was feeling better and acting much more like a Barn Owl should. Within one week of the owl's rescue he was taken back to the same place that he was found and released. In the second picture, the owl is happily flying off over the river.

Disposition Snapshot of the 2,313 Wild Animals We Admitted in 2014

41 % Lived, 50% Died



SSCC Admitted the Following Species in 2014:

Birds (1,205 = 106 species)

Auklet, Rhinoceros	Grebe, Western	Merlin	Starling, European
Blackbird, Brewer's	Grosbeak, Black-headed	Nighthawk, Common	Swallow, Barn
Blackbird, Red-winged	Grosbeak, Evening	Osprey	Swallow, Cliff
Bushtit	Gull, California	Owl, Barn	Swallow, Tree
Chat-Tanager	Gull, Glaucous	Owl, Barred	Swallow, Violet-green
Chickadee, Black-capped	Gull, Glaucous-winged	Owl, Great Horned	Swift, Chimney
Chickadee, Chestnut-backed	Gull, Herring	Owl, Northern Saw-whet	Swift, Vaux's
Collared-Dove, Eurasian	Gull, Mew	Pheasant, Ring-necked	Teal, Green-winged
Coot, American	Gull, Ring-billed	Pigeon, Band-tailed	Thrush, Hermit
Cormorant, Double-crested	Gull, Thayer's	Poorwill, Common	Thrush, Swainson's
Creeper, Brown	Hawk, Cooper's	Pygmy-Owl, Northern	Thrush, Varied
Crow, American	Hawk, Red-tailed	Rail, Virginia	Towhee, Spotted
Dove, Mourning	Hawk, Sharp-shinned	Raven, Common	Vireo, Cassin's
Duck, Long-tailed	Heron, Great Blue	Robin, American	Vulture, Turkey
Duck, Muscovy	Heron, Green	Robin, Rufous-tailed	Warbler, Wilson's
Eagle, Bald	Hummingbird, Anna's	Sandpiper, Spotted	Warbler, Yellow-rumped
Falcon, Peregrine	Hummingbird, Ruby-throated	Sapsucker, Red-breasted	Waxwing, Cedar
Finch, House	Hummingbird, Rufous	Scaup, Lesser	Woodpecker, Downy
Finch, Purple	Jay, Steller's	Screech-Owl, Western	Woodpecker, Hairy
Flicker, Northern	Junco, Dark-eyed	Scrub-Jay, Western	Woodpecker, Pileated
Gadwall	Killdeer	Siskin, Pine	Wren, Bewick's
Goldfinch, American	Kingfisher, Belted	Sora (Rail)	Wren, Winter
Goldfinch, Lesser	Kinglet, Golden-crowned	Sparrow, Fox	
Goose, Cackling	Kinglet, Ruby-crowned	Sparrow, Golden-crowned	
Goose, Canada	Loon, Common	Sparrow, House	
Goose, Emperor	Mallard	Sparrow, Song	
Grebe, Pied-billed	Merganser, Common	Sparrow, White-crowned	
Grebe, Red-necked			

Mammals (1,102 = 24 species)

Bat, Big Brown	Marmot, Yellow-bellied
Bat, Little Brown	Mink, American
Beaver, American	Opossum, Virginia
Beaver, Mountain	Raccoon, Northern
Bobcat	Rat, Black
Chipmunk, Townsend's	Rat, Ord's Kangaroo
Cottontail, Eastern	Skunk, Striped
Coyote	Squirrel, Douglas'
Deer, Mule	Squirrel, Eastern Grey
Deer, White-tailed	Squirrel, Northern Flying
Deer Mouse	Vole, Creeping
Elk	Weasel, Long-tailed

Reptiles and Amphibians (6 = 5 species)

Garter Snake, Western Terrestrial
Garter Snake, Northwestern
Northern Red-legged Frog
Olympic Torrent Salamander
Pacific Chorus Frog

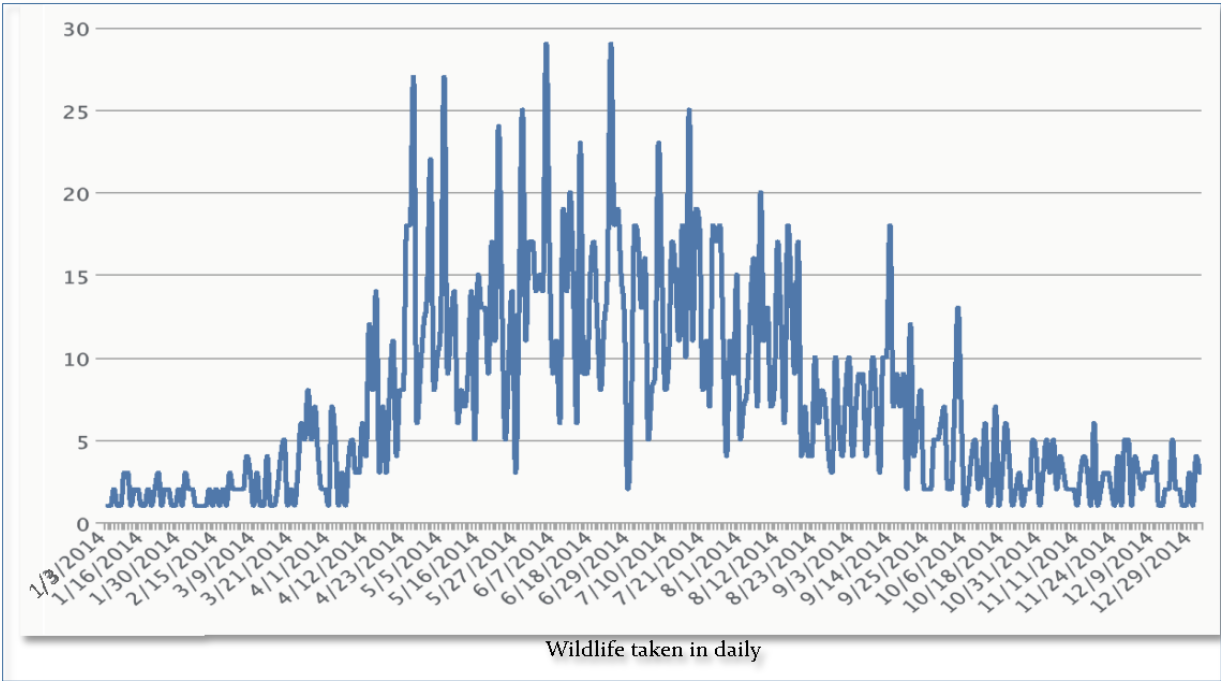


Baby Douglas' Squirrel

Domestic Animals

We often receive domestic animals that people find and have rescued, in many cases believing the animals are wild. In 2014, we received 152 domestic animals consisting of the following species:

Birds	Mammals	Reptiles
Canary	Cat	Turtle
Chicken	Dog	
Dove	Rabbit	
Duck	Rat (Domestic)	
Goose	Sugar Glider	
Parakeet		
Pigeon		
Quail		



Wildlife taken in daily

Our 146 Volunteers and 15 Interns Dedicated Over 22,694 Hours in 2014



Left: Volunteers Don Dowton and Joe Papineau. Right: Our 2014 Interns (10 of 15 Shown)

Outreach Efforts

We have developed an Outreach Program for the community. We have a few trained and dedicated volunteers who go out and meet with various organizations such as Lions Clubs, Kiwanis Clubs, Veteran's Associations, and Boy Scout groups to educate them about our organization and our efforts to help save local wildlife.



Events We Attended in 2014:

- Petapalooza
- Maple Valley Days
- Covington Days
- Kent Cornucopia Days
- Hempfest (w/Winterlife Co-Op)

2014 South Sound Critter Care Donors

We would like to thank all the wonderful people who donated to our organization in 2014 and would like to send an extra big thank you to the awesome folks from **Winterlife Co-Op!** Their generous donations made the expansion of our facilities possible.

\$10,000 and Over

Winterlife Co-op
Mary Tattersall

\$1,000 - \$9,999

Boeing Employee Match
Kroger (Fred Meyer Rewards)
Matthew D. Devine
Megan McCabe-Gather
Microsoft Matching Gifts
Renton Veterinary Hospital
The Seattle Foundation
Jan White

\$500 - \$999

Scott Travis Belcher
Debra Myers
Smile Brands, Inc.
Richard Cassell
Estrada Colon
Heidi Hague
Kate Harper
Craig Holmes
Katherine Koch
Sawyer Lake Veterinary Hospital
Herbert Secreti

\$100 - \$499

Lydia Abbott
Jessyka Albert
Jennifer Alford
Francis and Susan Allen
Danna Marie Anderson
Anonymous
Julie Armitage
Fernando Ayata
Nicole Bacot de Recat
Mary Bardon
Judy Beach

Peter Biddle
The Benevity Community Impact Fund

Debbie Bird
Tyra Blaisdell
Kelly Blake
Philip L. Boldman
Seth Brooten
Brenda Brown
Diane Burke
Laurie Carson
Matt Cleary
Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)
Ginger Cook
Elizabeth Crawford
Shawna Crawford
Larry Dare
Rachael Dexheimer
Elizabeth Druin
Jerome Dunham
Enumclaw Garden Club
Foresters Eastside Legacy
Robin Forgey
Grandwood Products
Keri Green
Deborah Griffin
Carmen Grimes
Tracy Gulla
Randolf Haagens
Dan Hallman
Linda L. Harris
Stephanie Herrman
Samara Hoolahan & Marshall Ross
Jason Hutson
George Ireland
Jeffrey S. Isbell
Jennifer Jenkins
Jennifer Johnson
Sarah Renee Jucker
Shawn Karlsson
Jori Keller
Erica Lankford

Kris LaPlante
Tani Loomis
David Mason
Kristen McQuerry
Sally Mendel
Robert C. & Valorie Merriman
John Mitchell
Margaret Murphy
Michelle Nitz
Lillian Olson
Zachary Penman
Laura Petkov
Rod M. Powell
Ninfa Qviroz
Doug Raymond
Karen Richter
Lorraine Robbins
Melissa Rogers
Jennifer Rose
Judy Rose
Charlene Ryerson
Timothy Shoen
Kathy Simeona
Linda Simpson
Kayla Smith
Larry Smith
Janet Sobczyk
Donata Spear
Jessica Strutner
Rhonda Summers
Ron Talcott
Truist, Washington, D.C.
Jana Van Amburg
Nicole Vizquel
Jon & Cathy Wagner
Pam Watson-Malnes
Rosemarie Wentz
Deborah Wigen-Noble
John Wilheim
Christopher Yeager & Keri Ann
Frattini

\$50-\$99

Jordyn Anderson
Kelly Anderson
Miya Anderson
Vanessa Armstrong
David Asplund
Dennis Austill
Darrin Baker
Katherine Barrett-Avendano
Jen Bates-Worden
Michael Bayha
Dr. Ronald Bechtold
Anyah Behan
Danielle Crispin
Mark Cross
Jill Daggett
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Erin Dees
Tracey Delaire
Kelli Derrig
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Alecia Ferterer
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Skip Gaebe & Luisa
Jenny Kenyon Gentry
Dolly Green
Jean Hartjoy
Kelly Hember
Bill & Noralou Hildebrand
Ace Hill
Patricia Holland
Jessica Howard
Jason & Nicole (no last name)
Chelsea Jordan
Sarah Jullion

B.L. Kapela Household
Kathleen King
Gloria Lambert
Phillip Lawrence
Linda Lee
Cheri Lewis
Lisa (no last name)
Lara Lindersmith
Laura Lindstrom
Elizabeth McAllister
Kim Ljungberg
Kathleen Loeffler
Brett Lund
Lisa Lux
Monica Markuson
John Martin
Katherine Maxey
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Warren Roberts
Bill Plautz
Katherine Ranzoni
Brandy Reed
Barbara Sbisa
Scott Sellars
Mindy Seppala
Shannon (no last name)
Sharon Funk
Chad Smith
Maggie Soderstrom
Debra Jo Frickelton
Elizabeth Spokoiny
Jenn Stebbings
Lauren Strain
Douglas Still
Edward Stumm
Asta Tabiassen
Angie Tamblyn
Courtney Taylor
Juanita & Trent Testerman
Elizabeth Thompson
United Way
Tara Van Hooser
Robert VanAlstyne
Kathy Velasco
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Judith Weaver
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Steve & Beth Westmore
Vicky L. Woods
Roderick Yee
Iring Zaytseva



*On our cover: Photo of Pileated Woodpecker taken for SSCC by Curt Pliler
Animal Statistics: Jennifer Gould. Layout and Editing: Sally Dinius*