



# IWRC

## International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council

February 2014

### Dear Reader

This month IWRC welcomes a new staff member. Eric Faulk will be working at the IWRC office for the next few months. Eric joins us after two years in the Peace Corps doing youth development in Morocco. After his stint with IWRC, Eric will be attending graduate school in public policy. It'll be great to have one more policy person with knowledge of wildlife rehabilitation! So if you receive an email or call from Eric, be sure to say 'hi'.



Julissa training Eric, with Matilda, the office bird, looking on.

Kai

### Winter Visitors

Here in North America, it hasn't been a very quiet winter for wildlife rehabilitation. I've talked to numerous people with higher than normal intake levels and in some cases unique species: grebes, neonatal porcupines, and especially snowy owls.

Snowy owls have been spotted as far off as Bermuda and France. A snowy in downtown Washington DC has been making the news, first from its very presence and then its unfortunate encounter with a city bus. As a native to Wisconsin I always 'knew' that the owls came south when lemmings were scarce. As it turns out the snowy owls come far south after a particularly food good year. Thanks to last year's IWRC film festival showing of [Snowy Owl: Queen of the North](#), I know that most immature owls leave the far north during the Arctic winter. When that crop of youngsters is very large (ie this year) we see a larger and more far reaching irruption.

More information on the 2013/14 snowy irruption can be found at <http://www.healthywildlife.ca/?p=3250> and <http://www.projectsnowstorm.org/>.

## IWRC Symposium

December 1 – 6, 2014

Cincinnati, Ohio, USA



The International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council and the Ohio Wildlife Rehabilitators Association are proud to bring the annual IWRC Symposium to Cincinnati, Ohio, USA in December 2014.

Cross numerous items off your to do list by attending the December 2014 symposium.

- Network with colleagues
- Learn new techniques
- Relax after the rehab season
- Complete your holiday shopping

We'll be staying in downtown Cincinnati at the elegant Hilton Regency, a four diamond hotel for the amazing rate of \$99 a night.

Early bird registration opens this spring.

[Call for Papers](#)**White Nose Updates**

Canadians! The Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre (CCWHC) is asking you to report bats found this winter to your regional CCWHC office ([office contact info](#)). This information will help scientists keep track of the spread of White Nose Syndrome.

The US Forest Service has released a short film, [Battle for Bats: Surviving White Nose](#). It shows how government and private agencies have come together to search for solutions to help our bat populations overcome WNS.

White Nose Syndrome has been confirmed in [Arkansas, US](#).

**Research Corner: Mammal Rehabilitators Sought for Milk Replacer Comparison Study**

Commercial milk replacer formulations are regularly reported to cause diarrhea and various forms of malnutrition, and to undergo poor quality control. Scientific literature reveals that their ingredients are very different from the natural milks of the species for which they are labeled.

Based on that literature, the principal investigator has formulated new species-specific replacers that much more closely resemble authentic milks.

This study aims to directly compare the new formulations with commercial ones currently in use.

Participants would agree to:

- Create, and keep separate, two matched groups of orphans (i.e., by dividing litters)
- Feed to the control group the usual commercial formulation; feed the other experimental group the new formulation
- Record group weights at prescribed intervals (typically every 2 days)
- Record observations of orphans' stool quality and other indicators of health status

Benefits:

- New formulation will be sent to you free of charge (grant funds pending), so your milk replacer expenses will be halved.
- You will be an author on peer-reviewed publication(s) resulting from the data you collect.
- You will benefit your patients and hand-reared mammals everywhere!

Please contact Janine Perlman, Ph.D. at [jpandjf@swbell.net](mailto:jpandjf@swbell.net) for more information.

## Notes

Selected papers and presentations from the 2013 Symposium in Victoria are online at <http://theiwrc.org/symposium/>. Head over to peruse and download that talk you missed.

Don't forget to read Issue 33(3) of JWR. Available to all members at <http://theiwrc.org/journal-of-wildlife-rehabilitation>

## Links

**[IWRC Courses](#)**

February

- Pain and Wound Management, WI, USA
- Basic Wildlife Rehabilitation, CA, USA

March

- Basic Wildlife Rehabilitation, MI, USA
- Basic Wildlife Rehabilitation, KY, USA
- Basic Wildlife Rehabilitation, MA, USA

April

- Basic Wildlife Rehabilitation, MI, USA

**[Upcoming Conferences](#)****[Other Upcoming Opportunities](#)**

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