



# IWRC

## International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council

April 2014

### Dear Reader

Happy almost Earth Day!

The new issue of the [Journal of Wildlife Rehabilitation, 34\(1\)](#), is now available to members on the IWRC website. We are testing out a new citations style using superscript numbers instead of (name, year) in text. Let us know what you think - better, worse, the same? Email [director@theiwrc.org](mailto:director@theiwrc.org)



If you've been active on the web this last week you've likely heard of the Heartbleed bug ([Read this explanation](#) of the bug and how to stay safe). IWRC has seen no issues on our servers as of this time. We've worked with our hosting company to ensure the latest patches are in place and rekeyed our SSL certificate. To the best of our knowledge we are not vulnerable to Heartbleed. It's not required but we suggest you update your IWRC membership password and all other web passwords. It's a big pain, but doing this every few months, or even once a year, really increases your internet security (especially if you are sharing passwords between sites).

Forgive this somewhat avian heavy issue, but the two studies, "Crash" and "Navigation" showed up in my in box on the same day and seemed like an ideal pair for the newsletter. The first highlights a significant anthropogenic wildlife mortality problem, building crashes, and the second hints at a way we can design large buildings to mitigate the issue.

Kai

### Crash

A study of literature on North American avian/structure collision research was recently published in [The Condor](#). The study concludes that building collisions are the second highest anthropogenic mortality threat to birds in North America (the first being cats). Best estimates based on their research review shows between 365 and 988 million birds are killed in these collisions

April is Volunteer Appreciation Month. Every day is a good day to thank volunteers, but since this month has been called out for their notice, I'd like to call out IWRC's volunteers with my utmost and sincere thanks:

Robert Adamski  
Francisca Astorga  
Lloyd Brown  
Halley Buckanoff  
Jean Chamberlain  
Becky Crow  
Mike Davidson  
Kelly Donithan  
Penny Elliston  
Adam Grogan  
Brenda Harms  
Susan Heckley  
Tonie Harrison  
Kristen Heitman  
Karen Higgs  
Mandy Kamps  
Alice Kottmyer  
Lynn Miller  
Kim Poisson  
Alicia Pruitt  
Steve Pruitt  
Renee Schott  
Randie Segal  
Leslie Tuckeek  
Dave Weiss  
Beka Weiss  
Jon Williams  
Sue Wylie  
Dody Wyman

### Notes

JWR 34(1) is now published!  
Available to all members from

each year. The study differentiates between residential, low rise (up to 11 stories), and high rise buildings. While residential buildings, being most numerous, kill the most birds, the low and high rises contribute most to the deaths of migratory species, especially warblers, hummingbirds, and swifts. The study concludes with suggestions for mitigating impacts.

### An Eye Towards Navigation

Did you know? When flying through a corridor, birds fly closer to blank walls or walls with horizontal stripes than to walls with vertical stripes. [Experiments](#) at the University of Queensland in 2011 found that the perception of speed depended on the type of wall markings, causing birds to adjust their position relative to the wall accordingly. The optic flow perception from vertical lines tells birds to move away. Watch the [video](#) of a starling demonstrating the study findings.

Understanding optic flow "could help us build structures, like wind turbines and skyscrapers, that are more visible to birds so they can keep on soaring." (<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/nature/optic-flow.html>)

### Research Corner: Working Partnership Survey

Dr Robert Adamski is researching the attitudes, opinions and viewpoints of wildlife rehabilitators towards their local veterinarian. The ultimate goal is to strengthen and improve the coordination between these two professions by alleviating any questions, concerns, miscommunications, misunderstandings, rumors, and grievances between rehabilitators and veterinarians.

[Take the survey](#)

<http://theiwrc.org/journal-of-wildlife-rehabilitation/jwr-current-issue>

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.

## Links

### [IWRC Courses](#)

Live courses are now done for the season (unless you live in Ireland). We'll start posting Fall courses in June. Meanwhile, if you are interested in hosting contact Julissa at [julissa@theiwrc.org](mailto:julissa@theiwrc.org)

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

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