Greetings!

In late July, Board member Adam Grogan and I attended the 2nd Compassionate Conservation Conference. I'm excited to share thoughts from the conference over the next several months and continue the July theme of minimizing harm.

Meanwhile, we have some interesting news items, unique opportunities, and timely announcements in the August Newsletter.

Happy Reading,

Kai

IWRC is looking for a new Membership Chair!

Sue Wylie, IWRC President

The field of wildlife rehabilitation is constantly evolving as we learn new techniques and husbandry skills and get results from post-release studies. As times change organizations must change in order to best serve its members.

IWRC is driven to ensure that we are offering valuable services that meet our member's needs and that any new services we explore will be well used. As an organization dedicated to continuing education to promote conservation and welfare it is our priority to continue to develop resources for wildlife care.

We find it important that our membership has a voice in the organization and that your needs are represented. This is why we are reaching out to you, our membership, to find a new membership chair.

As membership chair you would be representing your fellow members and be involved in deciding what direction our

Price Change

Individual and family membership prices increased by $5 in August. For more information

IWRC Courses

Register Now

Click to read IWRC's Lead Poisoning Position Statement

Register Now
membership is going. Responsibilities include working alongside the Executive Director by making membership service recommendations, suggesting marketing strategies, and helping and supporting your committee members. On average this position requires one to four hours of volunteer time a week.

With the support of the office, IWRC's committees, such as the Membership Committee, are driven by volunteers. We depend on volunteers in order to keep our committees active. If the membership chair position does not interest you please consider giving your time as a volunteer at large to the Membership Committee or one of our other committees such as the Course Development Committee, States and Provinces Committee, or Development Committee.

For more information please do not hesitate to contact me or Kai.

Lawlessness and Seabird Decline

A study released in June finds that monitored seabird populations have declined 70% since 1950. Of special concern, the most drastic declines are in wide-ranging pelagic species. With a unregulated ocean amounting to the surface area of 6 moons (see below) survival challenges for denizens to this no-man's-land are unsurprising.

This depressing news coincides with a large investigative journalism series, The Outlaw Ocean, by The New York Times reporter Ian Urbina. If you are pressed for leisure time read this portion, Protecting the Untamed Seas. What's striking about the series is the links between environmental, societal, and person against person crime - much as we see in wildlife trafficking. And as with wildlife trafficking, the United Nations is getting involved in this transborder problem.

What the Eyes See

Form and Function

How well do you remember your Basic Wildlife Rehabilitation course (or your college zoology class)? Regardless, here is some information that will help you with understanding form and function of species new to your rehab practice.

The shape of an animal's pupil is related to their ecological niche. Example: low to the ground, crespuscular, ambush predators tend to have vertical slit pupils.
NPR discusses how this relates to fictional creatures

Want more eyes?

Scientists at the University of Exeter have created open source image calibration software that allows us to visualize what other species see.

Sign the Consensus Statement on Lead Ammunition

Lead ammunition and tackle is the cause of many wildlife center intakes.

Join HSUS and IWRC is signing on to a consensus statement to reduce the use of lead ammunition. If you would like to add the name of your organization to this statement email Lena Spadacene with your name, position, and organization's name.

Research Corner: Global Ranavirus Reporting System

Upload confirmed ranavirus cases at https://mantle.io/grrs.

The Global Ranavirus Reporting System (GRRS) is an open-source web platform designed for the storage, sharing, and visualization of global ranavirus surveillance data, including diagnostics and genetic isolate differences.

Please contribute to discussions on the GRRS at: @EcoHealthNYC @mantle_io @RanavirusGRC

See more at: http://www.ecohealthalliance.org/press/108-ecohealth_alliance_and_the_u_s_f=#sthash.rSb7aZBD.dpuf