

November 2016



# IWRC

## International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council

Hello Friend!

It's exciting times at IWRC in Eugene. We are all over the moon with the new book. We are also finishing things up with peer review on a few changes to the Basic Wildlife Rehabilitation course slide presentation in preparation for its upcoming Veterinary Registry of Approved Continuing Education (RACE) renewal. And we are gearing up for year end things, e.g., budgets & fundraising – (well okay maybe those aren't thrilling things, but they sure are necessary). Of course super exciting is the work planned for winter class locations (more on this next month) and work underway on new and revised courses (Parasitology is getting ready for its RACE submittal and work continues on Nutrition and Herptile Rehabilitation).

In fun staff personal news:

**Laura** just taught her first yoga class

**Kai** got a **goofy award** from the great folks at NTEN

**Julissa** is soon to be a goat mama (well not really but she's doing all sorts of farm animal work with the great folks at Oregon State University)

Wishing you well,

Kai

## #GivingTuesday

On November 29, the world will come together for #GivingTuesday, and we need YOU to join us. It's 24 hours of unprecedented nonprofit giving—and it's your chance make a real difference in the international wildlife rehabilitation community. If you love knowledge, classes, labs, the JWR, wildlife, helping your fellow rehabilitators, and oh yes – did we mention knowledge?, then you love IWRC. And by showing your love through #GivingTuesday, you help sustain this amazing organization, which gives so much to our community. Join me in supporting our community on



JWR 36(3) is ready for you to [read](#)



For sale in IWRC's [online store!](#)

**IWRC Courses**

[Register Now](#)

November 29, by [donating online](#).

**Black Friday. Cyber Monday.**

**#GI~~VE~~INGTUESDAY™**

**November 29, 2016**

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## Leprosy in Squirrels

Several major news journals (BBC, New York Times, The Atlantic) have picked up on a paper published this month in Science. Eurasian red squirrels (*Sciurus vulgaris*) in the UK can carry leprosy, both the more common *Mycobacterium leprae* bacterium and *M. lepromatosis*. There is currently no evidence of a zoonotic concern.

Read [The Atlantic's](#) report

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## Quantity, Quality, Slime....

If you follow IWRC on Facebook you may have seen a recent share from HaKai magazine *Slime, Shorebirds, and a Scientific Mystery*. The very interesting science news article reports that researchers in BC's Fraser river delta have discovered Northernly migrating western sandpipers (*Calidris mauri*) eat a lot (up to 59% of stomach contents) of biofilm, a slimy substance that includes diatoms and other organisms rich in fatty acids.

This reliance on fatty acids for avian migrations isn't unique to western sandpipers. Take a look at these recent items published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the USA. Tree swallow fledglings (*Tachycineta albilinea*) developed faster and healthier when fed a diet rich in specific fatty acids common to aquatic insects versus being fed a Mazuri nestling diet without the added high quality long-chain omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acid (LCPUFA). The presence of this fatty acid was deemed more important to successful development than the quantity of food provided.

Martinez del Rio C, McWilliams SR. [How essential fats affect bird performance and link aquatic ecosystems and terrestrial consumers](#). Proc Natl Acad Sci USA. Oct 2016. 113(43):11988-11990. [www.pnas.org/cgi/doi/10.1073/pnas.1614106113](http://www.pnas.org/cgi/doi/10.1073/pnas.1614106113)

Twining CW, Brenna JT, Lawrence P, Shipley JR, Tollefson TN, Winkler DW. [Omega-3 long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acids support aerial insectivore performance more than food quantity](#). Proc Natl Acad Sci USA Sept 2016. 113(39):10920-10925. doi: 10.1073/pnas.1603998113



Basic Wildlife  
Rehabilitation

November

- Ohio

January

- Texas

February

- South Africa

Many more coming next month!



Parasitology

February

- South Africa



Pain & Wound  
Management

February

- South Africa

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## Research Corner: Journal Abstracts

### AN ANALYSIS OF JUVENILE RED FOX BEHAVIOR IN RESPONSE TO AMBIENT TEMPERATURE CHANGES IN AN OUTDOOR PRE-RELEASE ENCLOSURE .

Cale Matesic and Esther Finegan

**Abstract:** The behavioral responses of 7 red fox kits to temperature changes in an outdoor enclosure were recorded for 2 weeks prior to release. Images of the animals were captured by thermal imaging and behavior was documented through observation from outside their enclosure. At ambient air temperatures ranging from 20–23°C, red fox kits exhibited natural wild behavior (walking, running, eating, playing). At higher temperatures, 26–28°C, red fox kits began exhibiting potentially thermally related behaviors including lying with their loins exposed. This analysis suggests that there may be benefits for larger, better ventilated outdoor enclosures for red fox rehabilitation so that confined areas of increased temperature can be avoided.

### CAUSES OF STRANDING AND MORTALITY, AND FINAL DISPOSITION OF LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLES (*CARETTA CARETTA*) ADMITTED TO A WILDLIFE REHABILITATION CENTER IN GRAN CANARIA ISLAND, SPAIN (1998–2014): A LONG-TERM RETROSPECTIVE STUDY

Jorge Orós, Natalia Montedeoca, María Camacho, Alberto Arencibia, and Pascual Calabuig

**Abstract:** Aims: The aims of this study were to analyze causes of stranding of 1,860 loggerhead turtles (*Caretta caretta*) admitted at the Tafira Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Gran Canaria Island, Spain from 1998 to 2014, and to analyze outcomes of the rehabilitation process to allow auditing of its quality....

**Conclusions:** This survey, the first large-scale epidemiological study on causes of stranding and mortality of Eastern Atlantic loggerheads, demonstrates that at least 71.72% of strandings have anthropogenic causes. The high Rr emphasizes the importance of marine rehabilitation centers in conservation. The stratified analysis by causes of admission of final disposition rates and parameters Td and Tr should be included in the outcome research of the rehabilitation process of sea turtles to allow comparative studies between marine

*Read the rest of the [abstracts here](#), or, if you are an IWRC member, read the [full journal issue](#).*

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We are working on the Winter course schedule. If you are interested in bringing a class to your area, contact Julissa at [julissa@theiwrc.org](mailto:julissa@theiwrc.org)

## Notes

All IWRC Journals of Wildlife Rehabilitation are available to members at <http://theiwrc.org/journal-of-wildlife-rehabilitation>

The most recently published journal is November's 36(3)



## Research Corner

As always, if you are working on a study and need participants, email me at [director@theiwrc.org](mailto:director@theiwrc.org) to be featured on our website and in our newsletter.



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