

Vetting questions for organizations of possible placement

1. What is your intention and goal for this avian ambassador? (will they live as an exhibit bird, a glove bird, be flight trained and utilized in flighted programs, etc.)
2. Where is the enclosure located on your property? Is it located near any loud machinery, areas that have consistent large-scale disruptive activity, or within the eyeline of other birds?
3. What is your design plan for the enclosure? Will this enclosure have private and public spaces (somewhere for the bird to go if it becomes overwhelmed by public viewing, etc.)?
4. Can you send a few photos of your current Raptors' enclosures (including perching, size, substrate, and general layout)?
5. What type of handling does your organization practice with your current raptors? Are some of them glove birds? or are they exhibit based ambassadors?
6. Do you free loft your birds? If not, how often are they tethered? When tethered, are birds in a weathering yard with multiple birds of different species or are they tethered in solitude?
7. What type of training do you practice? (For example, I work from a 'trust based' training standpoint, using different techniques involving diet based/positive reinforcement training as well as different types of reinforcement that don't involve food rewards. I take a lot from the Avian Behavior Lab via Avian Behavior International and IAATE resources)
8. How often do your ambassador raptors program, and what would your programmatic goals be for this bird (if she/he is fit for a glove type setting)?
9. Who provides your veterinary care?
 - Are they on staff/on site/on call?
 - Do you conduct wellness checks throughout the year (physical and quality of life)?
10. What does the daily diet consist of?
 - Do you administer vitamins/supplements?
 - How often do you feed?
 - Do you weight manage the birds at your facility?
11. Please describe your organization's background and experience with raptors, raptor husbandry, and training of raptors. Please add any relevant species specific experience as well. (How many years of experience does your lead educator/trainer have? How many years of experience does your staff have?)