



North Valley Animal Disaster Group Standard Operating Guidelines

Title: WILDLIFE

Objective: Provide guidelines when dealing with wildlife

Description:

- We do not accept wildlife into our shelters, nor does NVADG evacuate wildlife.
- Do not approach wildlife, for your safety and for the safety of the wildlife. The following bullets are relevant quotes from FEMA: The Role of the Wildlife Rehabilitator in Disaster Preparedness and Response
 - “Wild animals are so abundant and widely dispersed that it is difficult to assist them in escaping the impact of a disaster. Since the capture of wildlife is time consuming, difficult, and requires special skills and equipment, the rescue of wild animals is only a secondary concern of those agencies and workers involved with disaster relief services for animals”
 - “Questions about whether an animal needs to be rescued or what to do if a need is identified should be answered by people who know what to do - like professional rehabilitators.”
 - “Moreover. . . Wild animals are never 'tame.' They may be dazed, frozen in fear, or seriously ill - but they are not tame. If you are uncertain of what to do, or how to do it, call your local shelter for the name of a local wildlife rehabilitator.”
- Do not relocate.
- It may be possible to help wild animals in simpler ways. If wild animals are trapped or no natural food source is available, you can leave food and or water appropriate to individual animals. For an injured and disoriented animal, it might be the only thing needed for it to survive.
- Per the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (formerly Fish and Game):
 - “Contact a local wildlife rehabilitator or facility to report sick, injured or orphaned wildlife.”
 - For Butte County: Bidwell Wildlife Rehabilitation: 530-343-9004
 - “Most rehabilitators are not "on-call" (24 hours.)”
 - “Most rehabilitators do not capture or transport wildlife.”
 - They may not have the ability to go behind the fire line, but they may be able to advise you of options for care.

- You may also contact local animal services for guidance.
- Contact the Department of Transportation local office to report dead wildlife animals on or near roads.
- NVADG is an Oiled Wildlife Care Network member, so we have somewhat of a relationship with various wildlife rehabilitation facilities throughout California that may be able to render assistance during a natural disaster.
- If you do find an injured wild animal and you are equipped to safely do so, put the animal in a dark secure box and bring to a veterinary clinic that handles wildlife.

Legal language regarding the handling of wildlife in California:

Temporary Confinement of Wildlife. Except for big game mammals listed in Section 350, Title 14, CCR, injured, diseased or orphaned animals may be temporarily confined by persons if they notify the nearest regional office of the department within forty-eight (48) hours of finding or confining such wildlife. Notification shall include name and address; the species of wildlife and a description of its injury, disease or condition; the date and location the wildlife was found; and the location where the wildlife is confined. Confined animals must be disposed of pursuant to department direction, including placement in a department-approved wildlife rehabilitation facility. (Department offices: Region 1 (Redding), (916) 225-2300, Region 2 (Rancho Cordova), (916) 355-0978, Region 3 (Yountville), (707) 944-5500, Region 4 (Fresno), (209) 222-3761, region 5 (Long Beach), (310) 590-5132)

Related Documents Attached: n/a

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