

# Squirrel Release Protocols



## PRE- RELEASE CHECKLIST:

- Is the pre-release cage inside or outside? Does this cage meet the regulations from NCWRC?
- If outside, what is the size of the squirrels? What is the group size?
- What is the physical fitness of the squirrels?
- Can the squirrel crack hard nuts?
- What is the squirrel eating?
- Does the squirrel have any disabilities?

- Are there any injuries or wounds left unhealed?
- Does the squirrel display proper squirrel type behavior?
- Does the squirrel display proper wilding up behavior?
- Is the squirrel at the correct age and weight for independent survival?

Before you go to the release phase, you must be able to answer the pre-release questions. The squirrel must be able to:

- Identify normal foods consumed by squirrels and consume those foods
- Display proper species behavior
- Be able to forage for food
- Identify predators
- Pose no risk to the animal population by spreading disease
- Be physically fit to get away from predators

This is an example of what a pre-release cage looks like.

Pay attention to the stability and size of wire used.



What type of release are you planning for squirrel?

SOFT RELEASE?

HARD RELEASE?