

WRNC WILDLIFE REHABILITATION LEARNING PLAN

Specialized knowledge and skills are required for a person to provide effective rehabilitative care for wildlife. The following list identifies basic knowledge and skills that the Apprentice is expected to develop and demonstrate prior to applying for a full Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit. Topics listed may be changed or added. The chart also suggests some topics that relate more to an Apprentice finding and having available certain resources rather than having specific knowledge or skills. Mentors are likely to recommend additional information and/or training and resources. *Items in italics* are optional as they relate to other wildlife outside the basic three mammals needed for Apprenticeship.*

Completed: Mentor Initials/Date	Tasks For Completion	Apprentice Initial			
		Book/ Video/ Website	Training Conferences/ Symposium	Mentor/ Rehabilitator	Other Resources
	Ethics and minimum standards of wildlife rehabilitation				
<input type="checkbox"/>	https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.nwrawildlife.org/resource/resmgr/Min_Standards/MinimumStandards3rdEdition.pdf				
<input type="checkbox"/>	https://www.nwrawildlife.org/page/Code_of_Ethics_Rehab				
	Regulations affecting wildlife rehabilitation				
<input type="checkbox"/>	State Wildlife Rehabilitation Regulations				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Federal regulations regarding sale and interstate transport of wildlife				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Basic confiscation and chain of custody procedures				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other regulations affecting wildlife and rehabilitation: federal, state, local				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Federal Bird Rehabilitation Regulations*</i>				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Migratory Bird Treaty Act (protected vs. unprotected species)*</i>				
	Basic identification of common native wildlife species				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Basic native wildlife identification books				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ability to recognize common native wildlife species				
	Natural history and behavior of common native wildlife species				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Basic information on native species (e.g., habitat, range, when they have young, litter size, nest/den description)				

<input type="checkbox"/>	More in-depth knowledge of species rehabilitated (e.g., developmental stages, common natural diet, acceptable diet for wildlife in rehabilitation, predators, stressors)				
	Methods to prevent and resolve problems with wildlife				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Awareness of common human-wildlife conflicts				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ability to provide the public with some suggestions for humanely preventing or solving wildlife conflicts				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resources to get more information or refer the public (e.g., books, other rehabilitators)				
	Diet and nutrition of wildlife species being rehabilitated				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated understanding of basic nutritional considerations for wildlife				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Knowledge of how to evaluate effective diets as well as what is appropriate for common native species				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Knowledge of how and where to order effective juvenile diets/formula as well as for adults				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated skill in preparing diets and formulas for species to be rehabilitated				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated skill in feeding juveniles and adults of the species applicant will be rehabilitating				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated skill in identifying an animal's age and condition thus determining feeding schedule, caging needs, etc.				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated understanding of how to determine amount to feed species to be rehabilitated				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated ability to identify and respond to problems regarding feeding technique, diet, quantity, etc.				
	Ability to safely capture and handle wildlife species being rehabilitated				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated understanding of when and why animals should or should not be captured or handled				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated skill in handling all ages of the species to be rehabilitated				

<input type="checkbox"/>	Safe capture and handling of injured animals of the species to be rehabilitated				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated knowledge of when and who to call for help in capturing and handling wildlife				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Demonstrated understanding of handling of other common native species*</i>				
	Identification and general assessment of basic health problems (not diagnostics)				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated ability to recognize healthy animals and those with physical problems				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated ability to conduct basic physical examination and document results				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated ability to recognize severity of condition/problem				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated ability to recognize common physical problems/conditions: shock, dehydration, emaciation, fractures, punctures, lacerations, head trauma, neurological conditions, poisonings, respiratory problems, etc.				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Knowing when to consult your veterinarian and doing so				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Knowing when to consult Mentor or other rehabilitator and doing so				
	Basic first aid and problem solving of wildlife species being rehabilitated				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated skill treating shock				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated skill treating dehydration (e.g., oral fluids, subcutaneous injections of Lactated Ringers Solution); different types and affects of rehydration fluids				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated skill cleaning and treating minor wounds				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated knowledge of types of questions to ask about medications and treatments, their effects and potential results, and when they are not needed				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated ability to administer medications and treatments on veterinarian's instruction				
	Wildlife parasites and diseases, including zoonotic diseases				

<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated awareness of wildlife diseases and parasites				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated awareness of and skill in treating and preventing parasites				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated awareness of and skill in reducing risk of disease transmission (e.g., animal to animal, animal to human)				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated skill in maintaining sanitary conditions, quarantines, releasing within required range, etc.				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Communicating risks related to handling wildlife to the public				
Survival Skills for Wildlife					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Knowledge of ways to ensure the animal is properly imprinted on own species				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Action to ensure that wildlife is not imprinted or habituated on humans, pets, species other than its own (e.g., minimal handling, distance to cages, normal sounds)				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensuring that wildlife has awareness and proper responses of predators (including humans); appropriate social behavior around members of own species; etc.				
Euthanasia, Necropsy, and Disposal					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated understanding of criteria for euthanasia and process to make the euthanasia decision (e.g., consultation with other rehabilitators, veterinarians)				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated understanding of euthanasia methods for different species				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated ability to know when to euthanize				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated ability to make the euthanasia decision in a timely manner				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Awareness of and sensitivity to the grieving process for self and others				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated awareness of when a necropsy is needed or useful and how to arrange for it or perform one				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated awareness of methods to dispose of carcasses and reasons for those decisions				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated appropriate disposal of carcasses				
Release criteria, considerations, preparation					

<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated knowledge of appropriate release criteria (e.g., habitat, season, regulations)				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated ability to evaluate animal's potential and readiness for release				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated ability to find appropriate release sites (e.g., meets regulatory criteria, appropriate habitat, not overcrowded)				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated ability to release wildlife appropriately				
	Public contact (handling phone calls, getting info and animals, education, etc.)				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated willingness to take phone calls on wildlife				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated ability to communicate general information to caller (e.g., safety and health issues, when not to rescue, humane solutions, laws)				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated ability to gather and document information from the rescuer on the phone and in person				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated ability to communicate when rescue is or is not needed				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Refers wildlife to other resources (e.g., rehabilitators, vets, wildlife agency)				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated ability to influence person without a rehabilitation license to surrender a wild animal to a rehabilitator				
	Recordkeeping				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Keeps accurate and complete records on wildlife admitted to rehabilitation				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Compiles and submits timely records to the appropriate government agencies according to regulations				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Keeps accurate daily treatment log				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provides records and information to rehabilitation sponsor as requested				
	Facilities/caging/habitat needs for the wildlife species being rehabilitated that are appropriate to animal's size, age, physical condition; safe for animals and humans; sanitary; and so forth per wildlife regulations				

<input type="checkbox"/>	Assorted baskets, aquariums (with lids), incubators or small cages as appropriate for infants				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Assorted mid-sized cages for juveniles, injured adults, and transport				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Assorted cages for weaned juvenile(s) and adult animals, including pre-release caging				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Appropriate nesting place and bedding materials				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cages/facilities that are kept clean and sanitary, and locked when outside				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Water sources				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Knowledge of and demonstrated ability to create an appropriate habitat for wildlife in care, including where to obtain habitat items				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Place to quarantine animals as needed				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Familiarity with types, sizes, materials used with cages				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Awareness of the Caging Guidelines in the Minimum Standards of Wildlife Rehabilitation and how to evaluate				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Separation from humans except during care, feeding, etc.				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Caging is separate from areas with humans, domesticated animals, other captive nonreleasable wildlife				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wildlife is not exposed to loud sounds (e.g., television, vacuum cleaners), strong scents, and so forth that they would not encounter in the wild				
	Communicating and working with rehabilitators.				
	Basic resources and references				
	Demonstrated commitment to and ability to rehabilitate and release wildlife				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Physical health to meet requirements of rehabilitating wildlife				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Up to date on personal vaccinations (tetanus, etc)				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ability to work with animal injury and death (including euthanasia), exposure to animal trauma, difficult conversations with the public, etc.				
	Demonstrated doing what is best for wildlife and people				

	Other:				
Apprentice Name: _____		Apprentice's License No.: _____			
Mentor Name: _____		Mentor's License No.: _____			
		Completion Date: _____			