

# Wildlife Rehabilitation Protocol – Adequate Veterinarian Care

Facility/Rehabilitator Name: \_\_\_\_\_

This is only a recommendation of what your protocol should cover. Your facility may insert, change or delete any sections of this protocol to fit the mission of your rehabilitation facility, or submit an existent protocol in a different format. All protocols must be reviewed and approved by a consulting veterinarian.

## Veterinarian's Role

1. Licensed veterinarians may, at their discretion, serve as voluntary consultants for Basic and Advanced level license holders.
2. Veterinarians are not required to have a wildlife rehabilitation license to consult with or provide advice on care and treatment of animals undergoing rehabilitation.
3. Veterinarians may treat wild animals in their clinic without possessing a wildlife rehabilitation license, provided that no stay at the clinic is longer than 48 hours.
4. Veterinarians that retain wild animals for longer than 48 hours are required to have a wildlife rehabilitation license, or be working with a licensed wildlife rehabilitator, or notify the department.

Please review and check applicable points and fill in required information.

- Veterinary services are readily available to meet either routine or emergency needs.
- Our veterinarian(s) has sufficient knowledge of wildlife medicine and is familiar with the general care and conditions associated with wildlife patients.
- Days and times when the veterinarian(s) will be available are established. It is agreed that (insert veterinarian name here) will see patients/return phone calls at the following times:
  
- Our veterinarian(s) is available for phone consultation.
- Our veterinarian(s) will come to our facility under these circumstances:
  
- Species for which our veterinarian(s) will provide care have been identified. (List in space provided.)
  
  
- Species for which our veterinarian(s) will not provide care have been identified. (List in space provided.)



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- Goods and services that our veterinarian(s) is willing to provide have been discussed. They include (attach additional sheet if necessary):
  
- Arrangements for admitting wild animals to the clinic (appointment only, in case of emergency, etc.) are established.
- Arrangements for how and where wild animals enter the clinic (secure carrier, through a back door, etc.) have been established.
- Arrangements for where wildlife will be kept while at the clinic have been established [in order to minimize stress to the wildlife and clinic patients (noise, foot traffic, proximity to predators, etc.)].
- Diagnostic procedures that our veterinarian(s) is willing to perform have been discussed. They include (attach additional sheet if necessary): (example - radiographs, hematology, etc.)
  
- Our veterinarian(s) will provide the following therapies (attach additional sheet if necessary): (example - prescribe and administer medications, fracture management, surgery, etc.)
  
- Written guidelines for use in our rehabilitation facility regarding the selection and use of anesthetics, analgesics, and tranquilizing drugs for different species are provided and periodically reviewed by the veterinarian.
- Our veterinarian(s) exercises good professional judgment in selecting the most appropriate pharmacologic agent(s) and methods to relieve animal pain or distress and ensure the humane treatment of animals.
- Protocols for follow up care, treatments, record keeping, and communications have been discussed.
- Protocols and agreements regarding euthanasia have been established.
- All agreements abide by the laws and regulations governing the practice of veterinary medicine.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rehabilitator Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Consulting Veterinarian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

