

**Cochrane Ecological Institute  
Injured and Orphaned Wildlife  
Response Guide 2023**



*In partnership with Bragg Creek Wild*



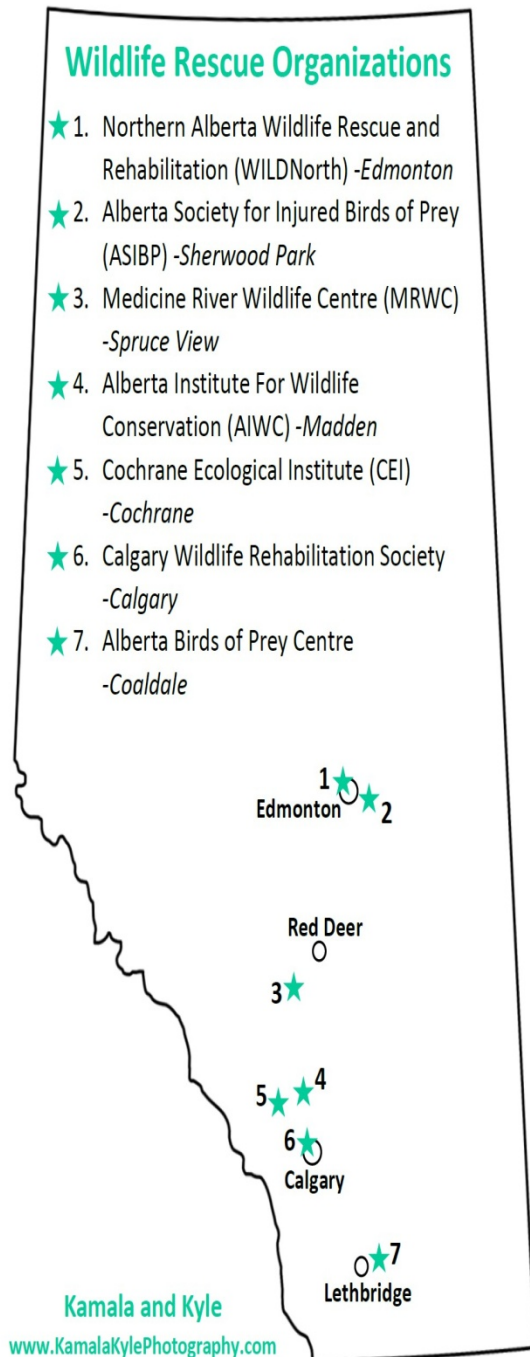
<https://ceiwildlife.org/>

<https://www.braggcreekwild.ca/>

## Locations of Wildlife Rehabilitation Facilities in Alberta

### Wildlife Rescue Organizations

- ★ 1. Northern Alberta Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation (WILDNorth) -Edmonton
- ★ 2. Alberta Society for Injured Birds of Prey (ASIBP) -Sherwood Park
- ★ 3. Medicine River Wildlife Centre (MRWC) -Spruce View
- ★ 4. Alberta Institute For Wildlife Conservation (AIWC) -Madden
- ★ 5. Cochrane Ecological Institute (CEI) -Cochrane
- ★ 6. Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society -Calgary
- ★ 7. Alberta Birds of Prey Centre -Coaldale



#### 1. Northern Alberta Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation (WILDNorth)

12515 128 Street, Edmonton

780-914-4118 [www.wildnorth.ca](http://www.wildnorth.ca)

#### 2. Alberta Society for Injured Birds of Prey (ASIBP)

51562 Rge. Rd. 222, Sherwood Park

780-922-3024 & 780-720-5507 [www.raptorshelter.org](http://www.raptorshelter.org)

#### 3. Medicine River Wildlife Centre (MRWC)

Twp. Rd. 360 between Rge. Rd. 40 and 42, Spruce View

403-728-3467 [www.medicineriverwildlifecentre.ca](http://www.medicineriverwildlifecentre.ca)

#### 4. Alberta Institute For Wildlife Conservation (AIWC)

Twp. Rd. 282 & Rge. Rd. 30, Madden

403-946-2361 [www.aiwc.ca](http://www.aiwc.ca)

#### 5. Cochrane Ecological Institute (CEI)

Twp. Rd. 280 & Rge. Rd. 51, Cochrane

403-932-5632 [www.ceiwildlife.org](http://www.ceiwildlife.org)

#### 6. Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society

11555 85 St NW, Calgary

403-214-1312 [www.calgarywildlife.org](http://www.calgarywildlife.org)

#### 7. Alberta Birds of Prey Centre

2124 16 Ave, Coaldale

403-345-4262 [www.burrowingowl.com](http://www.burrowingowl.com)

#### \* Emergency \* 911

-In an emergency where there is immediate danger to humans

#### \* Report a Poacher \* 1-800-642-3800

-Report suspicious or illegal hunting and fishing activity, or dangerous wildlife encounters

-For reporting large, injured wildlife (bears, moose, deer and cougars)

When suspected sick, injured, trapped or in-need wildlife is found, please note the species, location and other relevant information and contact the nearest wildlife rescue organization for advice and so they can determine if rescue is required. Phone numbers valid as of 2023.

Made by Kamala and Kyle with the hope that it will help fellow wildlife lovers when they come across animals and birds in need!

[www.KamalaKylePhotography.com](http://www.KamalaKylePhotography.com)

*Please identify the closest one to you!*

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## *What to do if you've found an injured or orphaned animal*



1. Stop, look around carefully and note what you see in the environment surrounding the injured or orphaned animal so you can give a wildlife rehabilitator an idea of how the animal got hurt. If it is a larger animal, make sure there is no sign of any other animal of the same species in the area. **We urge you to take several photographs of the animal, location and surrounding environment.**
2. Contact a wildlife rehabilitation facility close to the area (refer to above map). They will provide you with instructions as to how to properly proceed.
3. If you are a layperson and are part of the rescue, plan out how to act on the instructions received from the rehabilitation facility and be confident. Following a plan and acting with confidence will help keep you safer and can provide reassurance to the animal you are handling.
4. Look for a blanket, a coat or something big enough to cover the animal and a box or crate to carry it in. If the animal is lying helpless on the ground, use gloves (if you have them) and blanket it carefully. **Ensure that its head is completely covered.** Once the animal is in darkness, it will be less likely to fight you and more likely to relax.
5. If it is a bird of prey – either a baby or adult - ensure that the blanketing you are using covers both the head and feet. The talons of birds of prey are the most dangerous part of the bird and this will ensure that they are safe to handle. Before approaching a bird, always check where the wind is coming from and approach it from the same direction. **Talk gently to it as you would to a domestic animal.**

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6. If the animal appears to be an orphan, **LOOK around very carefully** before you touch it. Deer young should be left alone unless you see a mother deer dead beside a fawn. Along with baby rabbits and hares, the adults of these species often leave their young alone for long periods of time while they forage for food. **TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS** - if the animal is a fawn and the mom comes back, you must put it back exactly where she left it.
7. Once wrapped in the covering you are using, gently pick the animal up - with gloves (if available) and place it in a box.
8. Do not show the animal to anyone except for those involved in the rescue plan. The goal is to minimize shock to the animal.
9. Leave the box in a cool, dark, quiet place until you can either get the animal to a rehab facility or a facility volunteer can come to collect it.
10. Do not attempt to feed the animal.

People of Alberta: If you want your Indigenous wildlife and wilderness to survive, we cannot continue to take no action. We must act now if we want wild birds in Alberta skies and wild mammals, amphibians, reptiles and fish in Alberta's forests, prairies, and wetlands. One hundred and fifty years ago, in Alberta, the only natural threat to migrating birds was from predation or powerful storms. One hundred and fifty years ago it would have been reasonable for "nature to take its course" on orphaned or injured wildlife. It no longer is. Now, nature itself is at risk due to the actions of humanity. Now the threats wildlife encounter are not caused by nature but by the changes created in Alberta by humanity. *"Monitored wildlife populations — mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and fish — have seen a devastating 69 percent drop on average since 1970."* WWF (2022) *Living Planet Report*.

*"Today we face the double, interlinked emergencies of human induced climate change and the loss of biodiversity, threatening the well-being of current and future generations... Discussions so far are locked in old-world thinking and entrenched positions, with no sign of the bold action needed to achieve a nature-positive future."* WWF (2022) *Living Planet Report*.

## *History and Current Status of Wildlife Rehabilitation in Alberta*

Although Wildlife Rehabilitation Centers operate under government authorization and permit, there is no provincial government funding provided to pay for the work they do. They must rely solely on donations to care for and treat the Indigenous wildlife they receive.



BY CONTRAST, if the government hands over Indigenous wildlife to a zoo, which is a commercial business, that animal becomes the property of the zoo; a commodity that can be exhibited, traded, sold or killed.

<https://ceiwildlife.org/>



As there are no provisions or regulations in the Wildlife Act to provide funding for building facilities, for the care and maintenance of injured or orphaned wildlife OR for the training of government personnel in the skills required for wildlife rehabilitation, the work falls onto wildlife rehabilitation centers.

The onus is on these facilities to rescue, rehabilitate and return wildlife back to the wild on behalf of the government – at no cost to the government. Furthermore, wildlife received at the rehabilitation centers remain the property of the government – so they have complete control over what happens to these animals in the end.



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