



Rocky Mountain
RAPTOR
Program

a second chance at freedom

2020

Annual Report

Leadership Message

Review of Programs

Financial Statements

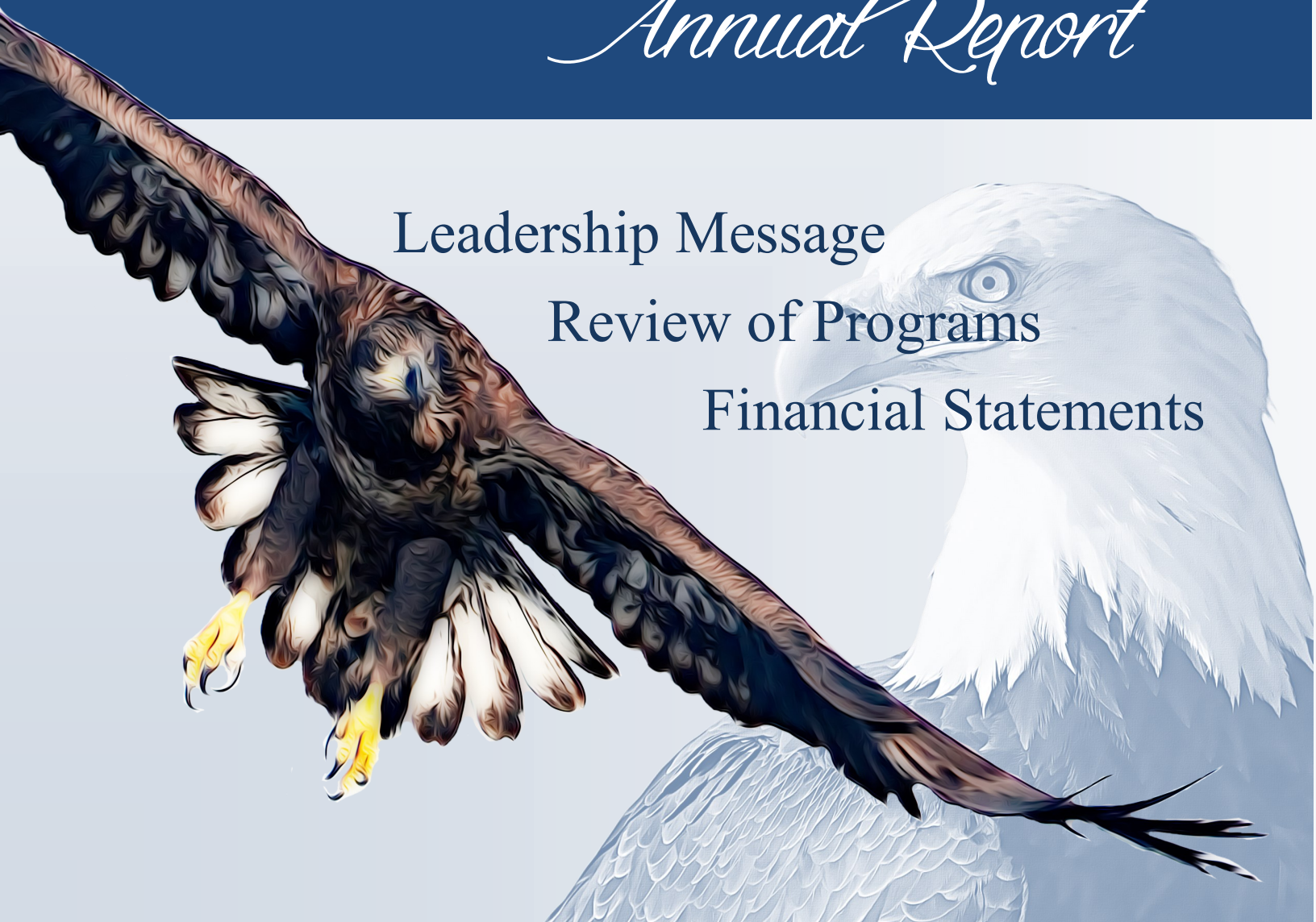


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“As we look to the future, the horizon is full of new and exciting possibilities. We aim to soar higher and share our passion within our community on a larger scale.”

Carin Avila, Executive Director

OUR MISSION

To inspire the appreciation and protection of raptors and the spaces where they live through excellence in *rehabilitation, education, and research.*

Rehabilitation: “A Second Chance at Freedom” is the goal for every raptor that comes into our facility. The RMRP staff of highly skilled, licensed raptor rehabilitators works closely with CSU’s avian veterinarians to ensure the highest quality care for every patient that needs our help.

Education: As the world changes around us, the value of community driven conservation is growing. We believe that education, at all stages of life, can inspire people to take action to preserve the things they care about; and our passion is bringing people to care about raptors.

Research: We believe it is important to learn as much as possible about the raptors we care for and the diseases and environmental hazards that affect them in the hopes of finding solutions to the problems they face.



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

In a year of upheaval, RMRP is grateful to have you as our supporter. COVID has changed all of our lives, however the mission of RMRP stays steadfast. Our Rehabilitation Department is as busy as ever, however our Education Department (and therefore our income) has come to a standstill.

We thank everyone who has continued to support RMRP despite the obstacles 2020 continued to deliver, and our hearts go out to those who have suffered.

As we move into the future, we are poised to bring wonderful things to our community and our supporters. Your participation in our mission gives RMRP the strength it takes to soar higher!

With Greatest Gratitude,

Carin Avila

Executive Director



OUR HISTORY

In 1979, an injured hawk was brought to Colorado State University's Veterinary Teaching Hospital. At the time, there were no programs in the area to support raptors when they needed help. The students banded together and created a small club focused on helping these amazing creatures.

Over the years, the program grew beyond what a student club could handle. At that time, the founding Executive Director of the Rocky Mountain Raptor Program, Judy Scherpelz, was hired. Judy helped to organize and expand the program, turning it into a program that involved the local community.

The years have brought us to this: a nationally recognized organization that contributes to the rehabilitation of raptors, the education of thousands of people, and research to help conserve these creatures we love so much.

We are hoping to spring into the future and continue to grow and become more than just an inspiration to our community—we hope to inspire people world wide.

STAFF & BOARD

The dedication of these individuals, backed by the support of generous donors, has enabled the RMRP to become the leading raptor rescue and rehabilitation facility in the region.

Staff Members:

Carin Avila, Executive Director
Lisa Winta, Assistant Director
Lynsey Reed, Donor Relations Director
Gail Kratz, Rehabilitation Director
Michael Tincher, Rehabilitation Coordinator
Jessica Miller, Education & Outreach Coordinator
Bonnie Cleaver, Educational Ambassador Coordinator
Carrie Laxson, Rehabilitation Assistant
Amanda Burton, Rehabilitation Assistant

Board Members:

Carin Avila, Board Chair
Judy Scherpelz, Board President
Dyanne Willow, Board Vice President
Susan Baker, Board Member
Jessica Manning, Board Member



REVIEW OF PROGRAMS

Here are just some of the ways you have enabled RMRP to continue our mission to save wildlife. The RMRP provides the following services to our community and environment:

24/7 Emergency On-Call: The RMRP is reachable every hour, every day of the year for people who have concerns about injured raptors.

Welfare Checks: Many situations call for a professional eye to assess a raptor with a potential problem. RMRP's Staff often drive out to assess when a concerned member of the public calls about a possibly injured or distressed raptor.

Raising Awareness: We strive to alert our surrounding community to problems that wildlife of our area face. We provide outreach, educational conservation programs, and publications to help others understand how they can make a difference in wildlife conservation.

Golden Eagle Rescue Network (GERN) - Partners for Raptor Transport: RMRP coordinates with GERN to respond immediately to help injured raptors in the Southeastern Wyoming area.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Raptor Training: Officers and volunteers at CPW are given training on identification and safe capture and transport of raptors so we can work together to ensure the best care for raptors in our area.

Colorado Wildlife Commission: Rehabilitation Coordinator Michael Tincher works closely with Wildlife Commissioners and regularly attends commission meetings to help ensure that rehabilitation issues and raptor populations are considered in state regulations to best protect and serve wildlife.

Professional Workshops for Wildlife Professionals: RMRP hosts professional workshops providing education to energy companies, wildlife agencies, and environmental consulting firms, plus we consult with field operatives to help resolve and prevent conflicts with raptors.

Powerline Safety: Raptor powerline deterrents and supplemental perches are tested at the RMRP using live raptors. This helps many companies understand how their designs will work to save wild raptors from electrocution and high voltage trauma risk.

Professional Science Masters Program (CSU): Students that are part of the PSM in Zoo, Aquarium, and Animal Shelter Management have the opportunity to learn and intern at the RMRP with our knowledgeable staff as mentors.



REHABILITATION

Raptors come up against a variety of challenges in today's busy world. Each and every raptor that needs help receives the highest quality of care and the dedication of our caring rehabilitation team and volunteers. The average stay of a raptor that was returned to the wild was 41.5 days in 2020.

Of treatable raptors, **nearly 73% were released back to the wild.** Without you, without compassion, that number would be ZERO. Their lives were saved because someone cared, because someone didn't give up. That someone is YOU.

The numbers seen below look a little different from previous years. The emergence of COVID-19 and the subsequent lockdown created a notable drop in our regular caseload. Fewer cars on the road meant that fewer raptors experienced collision trauma. Decreased development resulted in fewer young-of-the-year imperiled by human activity.

Although this temporary reprieve resulted in a positive outcome during an otherwise difficult year, it demonstrates the strong correlation between human activity and wildlife welfare, and highlights the growing need for RMRP to continue expanding our rehabilitation, conservation education, and research missions to match the demands of a rapidly increasing populace.

2020 REHABILITATION STATISTICS

ADMITTED SPECIES AND NUMBERS

Great Horned Owl	54	Eastern Screech Owl	1
Red-tailed Hawk	53	Ferruginous Hawk	3
Cooper's Hawk	29	Prairie Falcon	4
American Kestrel	21	Rough-legged Hawk	1
Swainson's Hawk	29	Long-eared Owl	2
Barn Owl	5	Northern Saw-whet Owl	3
Golden Eagle	7	Osprey	3
Turkey Vulture	5	Flammulated Owl	1
Bald Eagle	5		
Peregrine Falcon	1	TOTAL ADMISSIONS: 228	

TOP 10 CAUSES OF INJURY

1. Impact trauma
2. Hit by vehicle
3. Window strike
4. Fell from nest
5. High voltage trauma
6. Disease
7. Entanglement/Caught in barbed wire
8. Poisoned
9. Gunshot
10. Attack by cat or dog

MOST COMMON TYPE OF INJURY

1. Fracture
2. Soft tissue trauma
3. Emaciation
4. Head trauma
5. Soft tissue wounds
6. Lead poisoning

RESCUE CITIES SERVICED

Colorado:

Ault
Bellvue
Berthoud
Briggsdale
Colorado Springs
Eaton
Elizabeth
Evans
Firestone
Fort Collins
Fort Lupton
Fort Morgan
Franktown
Gill
Greeley
Grover
Hillrose
Hudson

Johnstown
Keenesburg
Kersey
Laporte
LaSalle
Larkspur
Livermore
Longmont
Loveland
Masonville
Mead
Milliken
New Raymer
Nunn
Orchard
Parshall
Platteville
Red Feather Lakes
Snyder

Sterling
Timnath
Wellington
Windsor
Wyoming:
Carpenter
Casper
Cheyenne
Douglas
Evansville
Guernsey
JayEm
Laramie
Wheatland

The total number of Bird Care Days
in 2020 was **8,336.**

For every day a bird is cared for by RMRP, we count it as a "Bird Care Day." The total number of Bird Care Days is calculated from the day the bird arrives to the day it is released back to the wild, or is humanely euthanized due to its injuries.

EDUCATION

The RMRP's Education and Outreach programs are essential to the conservation of raptors, our community, and our environment. The RMRP has **reached over 17 million people** with our conservation message. Stimulating minds, inspiring change, and protecting raptors begins with the efforts each of us take to make our world better.

2020 severely limited the Education and Outreach program. With classrooms, exhibits, and most public venues closed, we were unable to serve our beloved community in our usual capacity. *Additionally, with Education and Outreach as one of our main sources of revenue, we suffered a financial blow to our mission.*

Along with many others, we had to adapt to our "new normal." RMRP, with the support of generous donors, acquired the equipment and knowledge to take our Education and Outreach programs online. **We are in awe of our Education Team who developed and implemented an entirely new system of education in just a few weeks.**

We are excited to return our in-person Education and Outreach programs as soon as it is safe. We will continue to offer online programming to reach friends across the US and further! The staff, volunteers, and Educational Ambassador raptors greatly miss meeting our supporters and making new friends.

2020 EDUCATION & OUTREACH STATISTICS

FORMAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Programs Presented	33
Programs Canceled Due To COVID	72
Number of People Reached	1,759
Income	\$4,285.00
Approximate Loss of Income	\$8,000

INFORMAL OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Days of Outreach	35
Days Canceled Due To COVID	123
Number of People Reached	128,638
Income	\$2,476.90
Approximate Loss of Income	\$47,500

ALL-NEW VIRTUAL PROGRAMS & OUTREACH

Virtual Outreach Events	22
Virtual Programs Presented	65
Number of People Reached	119,745
Income	\$1,150.00

APPROXIMATE LOSS OF INCOME DUE TO COVID: \$54,350

If you are interested in helping us recover from the effects of COVID, check out the "How You Can Help" page of this report.



RESEARCH

Research is a way for RMRP to help increase the world's knowledge of raptors and environmental hazards. We are involved in several ongoing projects, and we hope our contributions will continue to advance the conservation of raptors and the places they live.

2020 RESEARCH PROJECTS

Primary researchers listed in parentheses.

- Survey of lead levels in raptors of Colorado. (RMRP)
- Raptor carcasses are sent to the Denver Museum of Nature and Science to become a part of their tissue bank for genetic population studies.
- Specimens are also sent to the University of Northern Colorado to be used for teaching and education.
- West Nile Virus surveillance. (RMRP)
- Wing measurements for dimension of raptors on electric utility poles. (RMRP)
- Peer reviews of multiple raptor research papers.
- Prevalence of Avian Bornavirus in raptors of Colorado. (Colorado State University/University of Georgia)
- Ectoparasite collection. (CSU Museum of Arthropod Diversity)



FINANCIALS

RMRP 2020 INCOME & EXPENSE STATEMENT

Income

	2019	2020
Individual Gifts	\$337,659	\$420,998
Grants & Foundations	\$29,313	\$548,669
Corporate Support	\$6,500	\$6,000
Auction	\$89,668	\$105,737
Merchandise Sales	\$22,867	\$10,172
Education Fees	\$28,811	\$12,868
Miscellaneous	\$149,591	\$7,541
Total Income	\$684,705	\$1,111,985

Expenses

	2019	2020
Rehabilitation & Research	\$187,876	\$189,305
Education	\$113,036	\$104,958
Fundraising	\$211,626	\$110,310
Program Administration	\$199,526	\$366,659*
Total Expenses	\$712,064	\$771,232
Beginning Balance	\$75,297	-\$27,360**
ENDING BALANCE	-\$27,360**	\$330,870

* Indicates investor payoff

** Negative balance indicates payment of investor debts.



DECEMBER 31, 2020 BALANCE SHEET

Assets

Cash	\$368,936
Fixed (net of depreciation)	\$23,750
Land	\$1,176,264
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,568,950

Liabilities & Equity

Current Liabilities	\$0
Long Term Liabilities	\$851,102
Total Equity	\$717,848
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$1,568,950



HOW YOU CAN HELP

By becoming a supporter of the RMRP, you can ensure the future of our mission. Supporters at every level build the base upon which we expand our mission.

BECOME A SUPPORTER

MAKE A DONATION

Go to www.rmrp.org/donate to generate immediate resources for the RMRP. *EVERY donation makes a difference for the raptors in our care.*

1987 CLUB

Join our monthly giving society (at ANY level) and receive fun perks! Monthly donors create a stable foundation RMRP can count on to save raptors month after month!

SPONSORSHIPS

You can be a foundation for RMRP to stretch our message even further. Sponsorship opportunities are available for our photo calendar project, annual gala dinner and benefit auction, community outreach events, and much more.

GIVE AT NO COST TO YOU

KING SOOPERS/CITY MARKET/KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

Did you know that when you shop at King Soopers or City Market, you can support the RMRP?? Register your Shopper Card or your Alt # and then choose to enroll in Community Rewards. Enroll to support Rocky Mountain Raptor Program and your regular shopping can support the RMRP at NO COST TO YOU! **Our organization ID is BF841.**

AMAZON SMILE

Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchase to the nonprofit of your choice! Amazon Smile is the same Amazon that you are used to shopping at, with the added bonus of helping Rocky Mountain Raptor Program. Login to your Amazon Account and designate RMRP as your charity.

WISH LIST

[www.rmrp.org/
donate/wish-list](http://www.rmrp.org/donate/wish-list)

Many resources are needed to continue our life-saving mission. From sponges to laundry detergent to microscopes, you can find items at a variety of prices that will make a huge impact on the day-to-day operations of RMRP.



FIND US

Mailing Address:
2519 S. Shields Street, 1K-115
Fort Collins, CO 80526

Physical Address*
720B E. Vine Drive
Fort Collins, CO 80524
*Do not send mail to this address



Rocky Mountain
RAPTOR
Program
a second chance at freedom

Phone: 970-484-7756

Fax: 970-484-7763

24/7 Raptor Emergency: 970-222-0322

Note: Our emergency line is **ONLY** able to respond to immediate, life-threatening emergencies for birds-of-prey in need. For all other inquiries, please call our main phone and leave a message.

If you have an emergency for other wildlife use:
Animal Help Now - <https://ahnow.org/>

Website: www.rmrp.org

Email: info@rmrp.org

SOCIAL MEDIA



Rocky Mountain Raptor Program — RMRP



Rocky Mountain Raptor Program



@RaptorProgram



Rocky Mountain Raptor Program

Scan this code to find us on YouTube:



(or just search for Rocky Mountain Raptor Program)