

**WSU College of Veterinary Medicine**  
**Raptor Rehabilitation Fact Sheet**  
**June 2008**

- Total cost for Phase 1 of the Raptor Center effort was \$100,000.
- Total cost for the entire project is estimated to be \$250,000.
- Raptor rehabilitation efforts at Washington State University's College of Veterinary Medicine are based in the Zoological Medicine Service of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.
- The service receives some 100 or more birds per year for care.
- Despite federal and state protection many raptors continue to suffer deliberate or incidental human-caused activities. These include gun shots, car collisions, electrical injuries, poisonings and the various effects brought about by environmental change and loss of natural habitat.
- The university treats as many birds as possible each year and that number varies widely based upon the nature of their injuries.
- Many if not most birds brought in during any year either succumb to their injuries or illnesses or are humanely euthanized.
- Some birds heal well but are not able to return to the wild because they will not be competitive and able to fend for themselves. These are either kept for educational purposes at WSU or transferred to other approved zoos and wildlife centers.
- The service and the essential volunteers of the Raptor Rehabilitation Club promote wildlife conservation through the use of non-releasable raptors as living representatives in public environmental education programs.
- No experimentation of any kind is conducted with birds in WSU's Zoological Medicine Service.
- Special permits for non-releasable injured raptors allow WSU to present the birds to a wide variety of audiences such as schools, service organizations, fairs, summer camps etc., for educational purposes. This spares the lives of these magnificent birds and familiarizes the public with living representatives of various raptor species.
- When not engaged in the more than 80 annual presentations to more than 15,000 people our volunteers provide daily care for these birds at the WSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital. This care includes daily feeding, cleaning, handling and walking of birds as well as maintaining important equipment.