

## "Beak" cause They Matter



This Barred Owl arrived at Hope for Wildlife in November after being hit by a car. It suffered from an upper and lower beak fracture, an eye injury, and head trauma. Miraculously, radiographs showed no other broken bones! Our Veterinarian was able to pin both beak fractures and the owl is recovering in our Intensive Care Unit where he is being tube fed twice daily by our medical team. As the fractures heal, solid food will be slowly introduced again. We are hopeful for a full recovery for this owl but he will be with us for several months while he recovers from his injuries.

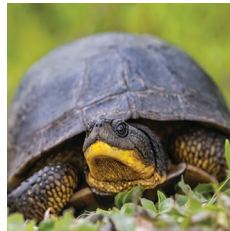
## Turtles of Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia is home to four freshwater turtle species: Blanding's Turtle, Common Snapping Turtle, Wood Turtle, and Eastern Painted Turtle

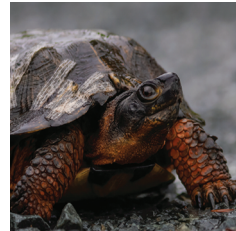
All are considered at risk in our province. At Hope for Wildlife, we are incredibly happy to offer exceptional turtle care. The most common turtle injuries we see are the result of being hit by vehicles. Last year for the first time ever, we treated and released all four of these species at once.



Common Snapping Turtle



Blanding's Turtle



Wood Turtle



Eastern Painted Turtle

## Sneaking Around- Meet Brooks the Weasel

This adorable young weasel was dropped off in June after making a home in a pair of Brooks sneakers! The Long-tailed Weasel had been living in the sneakers for two days with no sign of a mother, so the finder called our hotline and then brought the critter in to our wildlife drop-off center. She transported the weasel inside the shoes without needing to disturb the little one at all, and thus the weasel got the name "Brooks".

It's always interesting to see what kinds of items animals use for shelter and what creative solutions people have for getting them to us, keeping in mind the animal's comfort. We've had baby squirrels dropped off inside soft tuques and sweaters, a toad inside a fish bowl, and even a porcupine in a laundry hamper! Sometimes we need to use our imaginations to safely transport an injured animal, and we appreciate the thoughtful solutions we have seen from the many people who have stepped in to help our wildlife this year.



## White-Winged Scoter



At the end of September, a female White-winged Scoter arrived at Hope for Wildlife after being found on the beach unable to fly. Upon arrival her condition was looking quite grim, with a very large neck wound that required several surgical procedures as well as a wing injury. It became quickly apparent that she was a fighter though, and her will to live, even despite her terrible injuries, was a pleasant surprise to our team as she showed significant improvements on a daily basis.

Scoters are sea ducks, so it is a seafood only diet for this patient! Due to a sea duck's particular eating styles, it took our team a couple of tries to be able to find the feeding method that best suited her needs in a rehabilitation setting. Sometimes something as simple as switching out a stainless-steel bowl with a black bowl, makes all the difference, as it mimics the look of the duck's natural world. Meeting a patient's husbandry needs can be just as important as the medical care they require to be able to make a full recovery. Much research goes into every patient that arrives through our doors so we can ensure they are as comfortable as can be while in care. We are happy to say that she is well on her way to recovery and will be returning to the wild again in the near future!

## Beaver Tails

During the summer Hope for Wildlife received two young Beaver kits after they were found alone for several days. A caring member of the public was able to safely contain them and bring them in for rehabilitation. One arrived injured and received care throughout the summer from our medical team, but they are now both outside in a large enclosure that will be their winter home before moving to our large marine unit for their final stage of rehabilitation in the spring. Wildlife show strong instincts from a young age. These two beavers are already working on building their own dam with the materials that they have to keep them warm for the winter, even though they did not have that parental influence showing them how to do so! Beavers have very strong family bonds and will remain with their parents for two years so these young Beavers will be here until the spring of 2024 before being released back into the wild.



## Right on Target

Through a partnership between Hope for Wildlife and the National Wildlife Centre, we are able to offer the best training for our medical team in order to help the animals. Our Veterinarian, Dr. Mikaela, is learning all about chemical immobilization - this is needed when we have to tranquilize an animal for its own health and safety.

This is a 2-week course that culminates with hands-on training and assessment. Dr. Mikaela aims the tranquilizer gun on a practice target while Dr. Sherri Cox and Octavio Perez from the National Wildlife Centre train her on the process. She passed the course with a perfect score! This can be a life-saving course to help sick and injured wildlife, and it means our medical team is able, prepared, and trained to help our on-site wildlife patients when in need.



## No Day Like the Other!

During the first weeks of my internship as a Veterinary Assistant at Hope for Wildlife, I quickly realized that no day is like the other!

My name is Jule and I am a veterinary medicine student from Germany who decided to make the final year of my veterinary studies something very special which brought me to Hope for Wildlife in Nova Scotia! Working as the Veterinary Assistant in the hospital at Hope for Wildlife means facing many new, exciting challenges which I absolutely enjoy handling together with Dr. Mikaela!

I have learned how to treat Snapping Turtles with broken shells or jaws, had to get creative when building a little splint for a nimble squirrel with a broken arm, I have made boots for geese with broken toes, and I've taken countless x-rays of different bird species that all have different injuries. Every day is a learning process for me and no day is quite like the other.

Hope for Wildlife taught me how incredibly diverse wildlife in Nova Scotia can be and the value in helping injured wildlife. Every animal gets its best possible treatment and it is amazing to see how successful wildlife medicine can be. Even though I am 5,263 km away from my hometown, I already feel at home in this beautiful place with these amazing animals and the caring people around me. I have made new friends both with and without fur or feathers. I enjoy being at Hope for Wildlife every single day!



## Hurricane Fiona



In September Nova Scotia was hit with Hurricane Fiona, a category 1 Hurricane that brought lots of devastation to the Maritimes causing months of repair.

Hope for Wildlife lost dozens of trees throughout the storm, some landing on enclosures, but thankfully not causing too much damage. We were without power for 6 days, and experienced a high volume of intakes ranging from birds with broken wings after being thrown around in the storm, to native and non-native bird species recovering from dehydration, starvation and exhaustion.

Nova Scotia is prone to receiving bad weather such as hurricanes like this one so our team has created emergency evacuation plans for our patients in case major damage occurs. Thankfully we have yet to execute those plans but it is always good to be prepared!

## 50/50 Raffle

This fall has been a very busy season at Hope for Wildlife with a record breaking number of owls including 44 barred owls, 14 Northern Saw-whet Owls, and 5 Great Horned Owls! This has meant a very expensive food bill for Hope for Wildlife. It costs around \$6.50 to feed one Barred Owl a day, \$3.00 to feed one Northern Saw-whet Owl a day and \$10.00 to feed one Great Horned Owl a day!

All proceeds from our 50/50 raffles go to caring for our wildlife patients, which includes their food, medical care, and husbandry needs. Hope for Wildlife is a non profit organization that relies on donations from our supporters, we couldn't do what we do without you! To purchase tickets please visit [www.hoperaffle.ca](http://www.hoperaffle.ca). You can also make a donation by filling out the form below, or visit our website at [www.hopeforwildlife.net](http://www.hopeforwildlife.net) to find out other ways you can help!



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for  
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Help support our Wildlife Rescue



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AND / OR

I would like to sponsor a species for one year:

☐ \$125 – Sponsors receive a personalized Certificate of Sponsorship, a fact sheet, a Hope for Wildlife bumper sticker, and a story of an animal from the selected species (please choose):

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| <input type="radio"/> Red Fox           | <input type="radio"/> Bald Eagle |
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