

## Gold Country Wildlife Rescue: A Lifeline for Placer County's Wildlife

As residents of Placer County, we're fortunate to live alongside some of the most abundant and diverse wildlife in California. This incredible natural heritage enriches our lives and enhances our community. But with this blessing comes a responsibility: to protect and preserve the wildlife that makes our region so unique. At [Gold Country Wildlife Rescue](#) (GCWR), we take this responsibility to heart, working tirelessly to rescue, rehabilitate, and release thousands of animals each year—right here in Placer County.

### Growing Together: Our Community and Our Wildlife

When GCWR was founded in 1991, Placer County was a quieter place, home to about 180,000 people. Back then, our team handled around 300 animals annually. Fast forward to today, and our county's population has more than doubled, surpassing 410,300 residents. Alongside this growth, the demands on GCWR have skyrocketed. In 2020, we cared for 3,700 animals and received over 12,000 calls from people just like you, all seeking help with wildlife in need. By November 2021, those numbers had climbed even higher, with more than 5,000 animals coming through our doors. As of today we have received over 3300 animals this year, 4 months left to go in the year, while we are also currently working to [develop our 15-acre property](#) into our forever home.

This isn't just about numbers, though. The animals we care for often arrive with more severe injuries, requiring more extended rehabilitation periods and more specialized care. Wildfires, climate change, and habitat loss have taken a toll on our local wildlife, pushing many animals to the brink. From bear cubs and bobcats to hummingbirds and lizards, the creatures we care for are not just patients—they are a vital part of the natural landscape we all cherish.

### Working Together for a Wild Future

Caring for our county's wildlife is a shared responsibility, one that we at GCWR are proud to take on with the support of our community. Every time a wild animal is rescued, rehabilitated, and [returned to its natural habitat](#), it's a collective win—a testament to what we can achieve when we work together. Our new facility in Auburn is a significant step forward in this journey, providing the space and resources needed to meet the increasing demands for wildlife care.

But it's not just about the facility. It's about creating a strong, supportive community where everyone plays a part in protecting the animals that enrich our lives. Whether through awareness, education or simply coexisting peacefully with the wildlife around us, every action we take contributes to a future where Placer County's wild residents can thrive.

As we look to the future, let's continue to work hand in hand, ensuring that the natural beauty and biodiversity of our county are preserved for generations to come. Together, we can create a safe and thriving environment for all the wildlife that calls Placer County home.