



**Celebrating 30 successful years of  
raptor rehab and public education.**

*Here's to the next 30, made possible with your help!*

# *flight fund*



2018

STATISTICS

71

different  
rescue  
locations

202

raptors  
brought to  
MRCC

40%

released  
back into  
the wild

61

great  
horned  
owls

40

red  
tailed  
hawks

15

eagles  
(bald +  
golden)



## *An emotional rescue, rehab, and successful release*

*BAEA 160-18  
the inspiring  
Bald Eagle*

"In late August, this 5-year-old Bald Eagle (BAEA 160-18) was found unresponsive at Georgetown Lake, near Anaconda, MT. She was brought into our care in extremely rough shape; labored breathing, unable to stand or even open her eyes. We treated her with oral charcoal in hopes of binding whatever toxin might be poisoning her system, but did not believe she would survive the night.

The next morning, she was able to stand somewhat upright. We had hope that she might recover after all, but her outcome was still very uncertain. But on day four, she brought tears to my eyes... she was standing and alert, and we began introducing solid food... as soon as she was given a chance to spread her wings, she took flight in our 120' flight barn, and we began the process of reconditioning her muscles and strengthening her respiratory system. After almost two months in rehab, she made a full recovery, and was released back into the wild on October 19th, in an emotional moment under bright blue Montana skies." – *Becky Kean, MRCC Rehabilitation Director*

## *Education Outreach*

*3,300 miles traveled.  
16,000 people reached.  
154 programs since January.*

We conducted programs at many local schools, and took part in Bozeman's first annual Migratory Bird Day celebration! Our partnerships with Heart of the Valley, Montana Outdoor Science School, YMCA, and Riverside Country Club continue to grow and thrive.

## *Summer Education Series*

*20 summer programs  
onsite at MRCC.  
800 program visitors.*

New topics in the second season of our summer series included the Science of Flight, Vulture and Eagle Biology, and Raptor and Owl Identification. Special thanks to the Green family, whose generous donation kept admission free for the community.

## *Raptor Ambassadors*

*New birds join  
the MRCC  
education team.*

MRCC's education raptor count is up to 14 birds! We happily introduced Stella, the American Kestrel, and our gorgeous new Gyrfalcon, Lily, to the team this year. Lily has already been the star of a few on-site programs, as well as Foodies for Feathers, our first annual celebratory fundraising dinner. Prairie, the Short-Eared Owl, and the iconic and majestic 99, the Bald Eagle, have long been part of the MRCC family. After much training and preparation they now join the ranks of raptor ambassadors.



MRCC has broken ground on our new education mews! This mews (a mews is a birdhouse designed for multiple birds of prey) will house eleven raptors in safe, comfortable shelter with water, heat, and lighting, multiple perches, and ample space for the raptors to move about. During future education programs the mews will allow for improved visibility of the birds at rest.

Our goal is to use this space to host live raptor programs which promote conservation and impact our community's youth to make good environmental decisions, while providing our birds with a comfortable place to live. The structure's completion depends upon your help!



## *Why sponsor? You'll receive:*

*Plaque with your individual, family, or business name, timelessly displayed on the door of a bird's mew*

*Adopt-a-raptor package (includes adoption certificate, professional photo, bird biography, history of the species)*

*Two scheduled visits with your adopted raptor throughout the year*

## *Become a mews sponsor!*

It's a rare opportunity to leave a lasting mark on MRCC and support the incredible life of a raptor of your choice.



**A PORTION OF THIS YEAR'S FLIGHT FUND WILL GO TOWARDS THE PURCHASE OF A NEW RIG.**

As our education outreach continues to grow, so does the demand -- and miles -- on the MRCC education van. The wheels are about to fall off our old Chevy Astro van, and we now hope to upgrade to something more reliable, so that the staff and birds can feel safe while driving to programs.

Montana Raptor Conservation Center is a 501(c)3 organization. We receive **no federal funding for our programs.**

### **Your donation is tax deductible.**

Through the financial support of donors like you, we are able to continue our critical mission of education, rehabilitation, and conservation.



### **PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A FINANCIAL GIFT IN SUPPORT OF MONTANA'S RAPTORS.**

*You may use the enclosed envelope to make a donation of any amount.*

*Or, to give online, please visit [montanaraptor.org/support/donate](http://montanaraptor.org/support/donate)*

# *thank you*