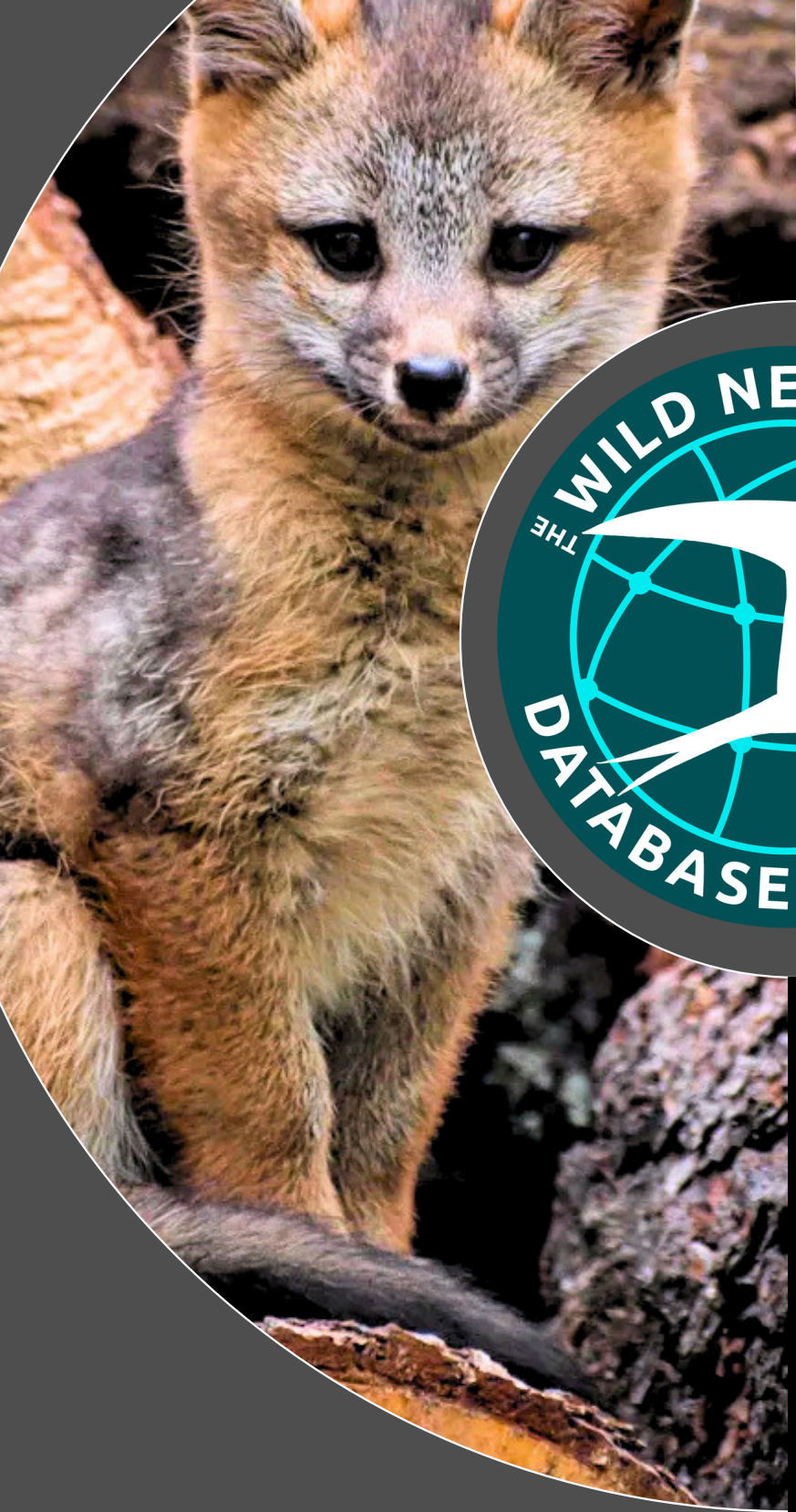




2025

Impact Report

A Message From Our Executive Director

First, I'm excited to share that at our Fall 2025 board meeting, the Board of Directors appointed me as Executive Director of the Wild Neighbors Database Project. While it has been a bit of a soft announcement, I'm truly honored to step into this role for an organization that Devin and I built from the ground up. As I settle into this role, I've found myself reflecting on the past year and the incredible people who have made this work possible. I want to begin with a sincere thank you to the global community that supports the Wild Neighbors Database Project. Your engagement and feedback continue to shape the work we do.

This year marked a major milestone with the launch of **WRMD 4.0**. As with any large system upgrade, the transition came with challenges, and we are deeply grateful for the patience and support of the wildlife rehabilitation community. Your feedback has been invaluable in helping us strengthen the platform and ensure it continues to meet the evolving needs of wildlife rehabilitators around the world. We are also incredibly grateful to the many organizations that support our mission through WRMD Pro subscriptions. Your support directly sustains development, system stability, and user support, allowing us to keep these tools flexible, responsive, and accessible to the field.

While WRMD remains the largest and most widely used program we support, the Wild Neighbors Database Project has grown significantly over the past year. What began as a single database has evolved into a broader suite of tools designed to support wildlife rehabilitation, wildlife health monitoring, and collaboration across sectors. In addition to WRMD, we continue to develop and support **OWRMD** (Oiled Wildlife Rehabilitation Medical Database), which plays a critical role in documenting wildlife impacted during oil spill events. This year also saw increased activity in **WildAlert**, our wildlife health surveillance platform. With two new states joining, the network now includes five states working to better detect and understand wildlife morbidity and mortality events. In addition to these systems, our program **Ceto** continues to support marine mammal stranding response efforts in the Gulf of Mexico, helping organizations document strandings and monitor marine mammal health. We hope to expand this program to support additional marine mammal organizations in the future.

Together, these projects represent a shared effort to turn day-to-day wildlife care, field observations, and response work into meaningful data that can support research, improve response coordination, and strengthen wildlife protection efforts at a larger scale.



Most importantly, the work happening every day within your organizations reaches far beyond any individual case or facility. Each record entered, each patient documented, and each observation shared contributes to a growing body of knowledge that benefits wildlife professionals, researchers, and response teams around the world.

Thank you for being part of this community and for your continued commitment to wildlife and the collaborative sharing of information that helps us all do this work better.

With gratitude and appreciation,

A handwritten signature of Rachel Avilla in black ink.

From Individual Care to Collective Impact



Photo courtesy of Ingrid Taylar Foto

Every day, wildlife rehabilitators, responders, and researchers focus on the immediate needs of individual animals, often under urgent, complex, and resource-limited conditions. This work generates vast amounts of critical information, yet much of it has historically remained isolated within individual organizations or systems.

The Wild Neighbors Database Project exists to bridge that gap.



Photo courtesy of Ingrid Taylar Foto

Our mission is to strengthen wildlife care, response, and conservation by developing user-driven data systems that transform individual records into shared knowledge. By making it easier to collect, manage, and standardize wildlife data, we enable organizations to focus on animal care while contributing to a larger, interconnected understanding of wildlife health and response.

Reliable data infrastructure turns individual cases into collective insight. When information is carefully stewarded and responsibly aggregated across facilities, regions, and disciplines, it supports better clinical decision-making, more effective emergency response, stronger collaboration, and long-term understanding of trends affecting wildlife. Through our platforms, the daily work of caring for one animal at a time becomes part of a broader effort that benefits wildlife far beyond any single case or organization.

Our Projects: What We've Built



WRMD

Wildlife Rehabilitation Medical Database

An online medical database designed by wildlife rehabilitators to collect, manage and analyze patient data.

wrmd.org

WildAlert

An early warning system that uses aggregated WRMD data to identify anomalies and alert agencies to potential wildlife health events in near real time.

wildalert.org



OWRMD

Oiled Wildlife Rehabilitation Medical Database

An oil spill response database for wildlife care, developed in partnership with the Oiled Wildlife Care Network at UC Davis Weill School of Veterinary Medicine

wildneighborsdp.org/owrmd



Ceto

A centralized online tool for collecting and managing marine mammal health and stranding data.

ceto.org



Our Impact: By The Numbers



African Penguins at SANCCOB,
Cape Town, South Africa

WRMD

4.3 Million +

Patients in WRMD

2,000+	4,500+	1,510
WRMD Organizations	WRMD Users	Support Inquires
48+	50+	8
Countries	US States/Territories	Conferences/Events

WildAlert

5	179,705	255+
State Agencies	Cases Monitored	Participating Rehab Organizations

OWRMD

4	315	13
OWRMD Organizations	OWRMD Patients	Incidents/Events

Ceto

18	292	47
Ceto Organizations	Stranding Events	Support Inquiries

Building The Future: WRMD 4.0

The launch of WRMD 4.0 marked one of the most significant milestones in the history of the Wild Neighbors Database Project. What the community saw as a new release was, in reality, the result of more than five years of work to rebuild WRMD from the ground up so it could remain stable, scalable, and responsive to the evolving needs of wildlife rehabilitation organizations.

The path to launch was not without challenges. In April 2025, we attempted an early release, but quickly realized the system was not yet ready. At the same time, an unexpected major server issue forced us to pause and rethink our timeline. Rather than push forward prematurely, we stepped back and recommitted to getting it right.

Much of that progress was made possible through the extraordinary dedication of our co-founder and lead developer, Devin, who volunteered thousands of hours to bring WRMD 4.0 to life. The reality of building a system used by thousands of organizations is that there are always things that only emerge once the software is in the hands of real users. We knew the only way to truly test WRMD 4.0 was to release it and work alongside our community to identify and resolve issues as they appeared.

In the months leading up to launch, our team prepared extensively. We developed a full communication campaign, produced video tutorials, and ran a large beta testing project with early users. At the same time, we worked through one of the most complex organizational changes we had faced: designing the payment structure and systems that would support WRMD Pro.

When launch week finally arrived, The entire WRMD team prepared for several intense days. We anticipated long hours—and we were right. Our small team rotated schedules so that someone was always available, often working late into the night. There were even a few 36-hour stretches along the way.



Co-Founder and Executive Director Rachel Avilla and Lead Developer Devin Dombrowski getting prepped for the big night!



Ground Control for WRMD 4.0. There was a magnitude 4.0 earthquake this same evening - no joke!

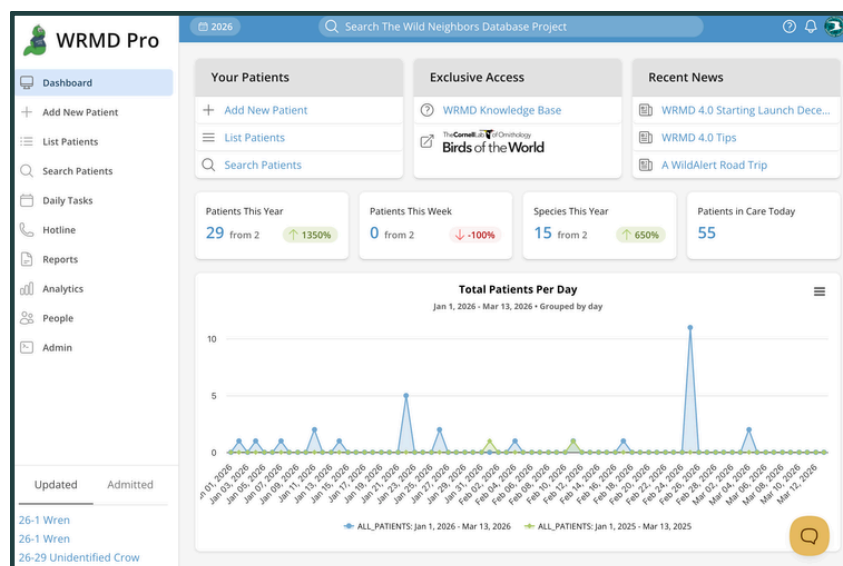


On the first day alone, we received more than 80 HelpScout support notifications from users. Every single message received a response. From the start, we made a commitment to be present and available to the people using the system. While many large software platforms offer little direct access to support, we believe it matters that when someone reaches out, there is a real person on the other side.

It was an intense experience, but also an incredibly meaningful one. We are deeply proud of the way our team showed up for the community and grateful for the patience, feedback, and encouragement we received throughout the transition. We may be a small team, but we care deeply about making this system work for the people who rely on it every day.

By choosing WRMD Pro, organizations are directly supporting the sustainability of WRMD and the broader wildlife data community.

As with any major system transition, the launch of WRMD 4.0 and WRMD Pro came with challenges. The organizations and individuals who offered feedback and worked through issues with us played a critical role in strengthening the platform under real-world conditions and helping us move forward together.



The new, cleaned up and beautiful WRMD Dashboard

Alongside this release, we introduced WRMD Pro, our first paid tier. WRMD Pro was created to help ensure the long-term stability of the organization and the tools wildlife rehabilitators rely on every day. Revenue from WRMD Pro directly supports ongoing development, system maintenance, and user support, allowing us to remain a nonprofit, mission-driven software provider while reducing reliance on unpredictable funding sources.

Today, WRMD 4.0 and WRMD Pro together represent a stronger and more resilient foundation—one that supports daily animal care while ensuring the data entered today remains reliable, accessible, and valuable for the wildlife field well into the future.

From Record To Response

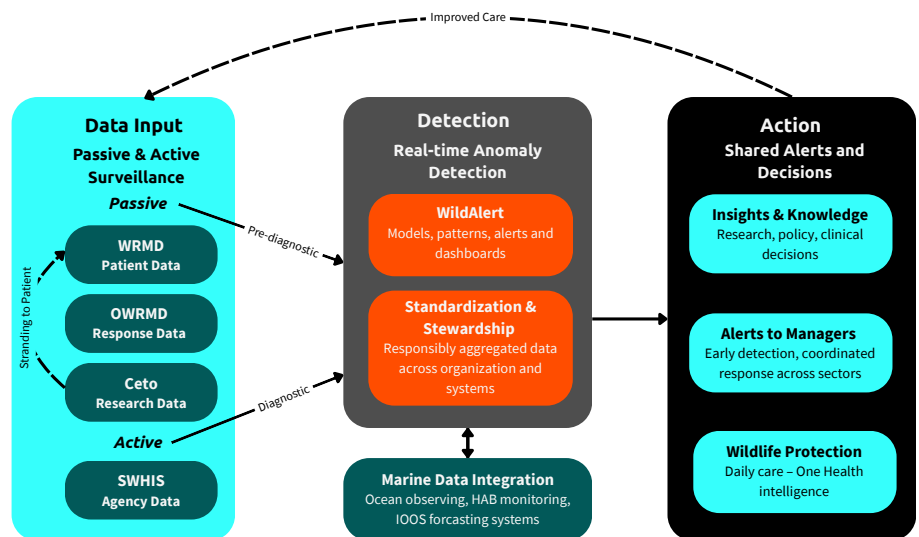
Every day, wildlife rehabilitators, responders, and researchers record vital information about the animals they care for. These individual records—entered into **WRMD**, **OWRMD**, and **Ceto**—capture details about treatment, response, and outcomes that would otherwise remain isolated within individual organizations.

Through careful stewardship and standardization, this information becomes more than documentation—it becomes knowledge. The true power of wildlife data lies not only in its collection, but in its ability to reveal patterns, inform decisions, and support coordinated action across organizations, sectors, and regions.

Within WRMD, selected data from participating organizations in states where WildAlert is active is analyzed through models and algorithms that run in parallel to daily casework. Using pre-diagnostic data entered during patient admit and initial care, WildAlert identifies unusual patterns in wildlife illness and mortality. When activity exceeds expected levels, alerts are generated and shared with wildlife agencies and partners—enabling earlier detection of emerging threats and strengthening situational awareness across regions.

Standardized, responsibly aggregated data supports wildlife response in critical ways:

- Improves clinical decision making through trend analysis and outcome evaluation
- Strengthens emergency preparedness by identifying unusual patterns early
- Supports research and policy development with reliable, standardized data
- Builds long-term understanding of wildlife health and population trends



As participation grows, so does the value of the data itself. Each organization that contributes data strengthens the collective understanding of wildlife health and response, turning daily care into insights that extend far beyond individual cases.

At a time when biodiversity is under increasing pressure worldwide, knowledge is one of the most powerful tools we have. By transforming daily care into shared understanding, WNDP systems help turn individual action into collective insight—supporting the protection of wildlife and the ecosystems they depend on.

On The Road: Growing The Network



NWRA Conference

Rachel Avilla - WNDP, Dr. Shannon Riggs - Pacific Wildlife Care and Marie Travers - WNDP & Bird Ally X



Arizona Roadtrip

Rachel and Dr. Terra Kelly - WNDP & EpiEcos visiting Tucson Wildlife in April 2025.



WDA Conference

Stephanie Herman, Kai Williams and Julissa Favela from IWRC. Jenny Schlieps from NWRA and Rachel in Victoria, BC.

Feb

Represented WNDP at the **National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association** (NWRA) Symposium in Bellevue, Washington.

Attended the **Florida Wildlife Rehabilitators Association** (FWRA) Symposium in Orlando, FL where WNDP presented "How Wildlife Data Is Saving the World"

April

Traveled through Arizona to connect with wildlife rehabilitation organizations and met with the **Arizona Game and Fish Department**.

June

WRMD surpassed 4 million patients entered.

July

Attended the **Wildlife Disease Association** (WDA) Conference in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

Washington State joined WildAlert .

Sept

Pennsylvania joined WildAlert .

Oct

Attended the **Effects of Oil on Wildlife** (EOW) Conference in Cape Town, South Africa, where WNDP presented OWRMD.

Nov

Attended the **California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators** (CCWR) Symposium in Petaluma, CA where WNDP presented on WRMD 4.0.

Dec

Presented WildAlert at the **Pennsylvania Association of Wildlife Rehabilitators** conference with Sabrina Greening - University of Pennsylvania, Wildlife Futures Program, and presented WildAlert to the Wildlife Futures staff.

Building Global Partnerships

One of the most important things WNDP does as an organization is travel to meet the people who use the systems it builds. Over the past year, the team attended seven conferences, often as vendors, but some of the most meaningful moments came from time spent visiting wildlife rehabilitation organizations in person. Those visits deepen the team's understanding of the challenges users face and serve as a reminder of why this work matters.

One of the highlights of the year was a trip to Africa, where the team spent time in both Kenya and South Africa. In Kenya, they had the opportunity to visit Dr. Zoe Gibbs. Zoe is a WRMD user, born and raised in Kenya, who runs the Raptor Rehabilitation Trust of Kenya, which she describes as "more than just raptors, of course." Over the years, WNDP has visited wildlife rehabilitation organizations in many parts of the world, including countries where resources are limited and the challenges of building a wildlife rehabilitation program are significant. Our team was deeply impressed by the work Zoe and her father are doing.

Starting a wildlife rehabilitation organization anywhere is difficult, but in Kenya the challenges are even greater. There is extensive coordination required with government agencies, and building the trust needed to operate can take years. Despite Kenya's extraordinary wildlife diversity, there are surprisingly few wildlife rehabilitation organizations, particularly those focused on birds. When a country is home to lions, leopards, rhinos, giraffes, and elephants, birds can easily be overlooked.



The Raptor Rehabilitation Trust, Kenya



Co-Founder and Executive Director Rachel Avilla and Dr. Zoe Gibbs at The Raptor Rehabilitation Trust, Kenya

But Zoe cares deeply about them.

What she has built is remarkable. Every step forward requires persistence, patience, and determination, and it would be easy to give up along the way. Instead, Zoe continues to push forward. Her work is a powerful reminder that wildlife rehabilitation often depends on the dedication of individuals who simply refuse to stop advocating for the animals that need them. WNDP is incredibly grateful that she took the time to share her work with the team.

Strengthening Wildlife Emergency Preparedness



WNDP Co-founders along with members and manager of the Oiled Wildlife Care Network

From Kenya, the team traveled to Cape Town, South Africa, to participate in the 15th Effects of Oil on Wildlife (EOW) Conference. This landmark international gathering brings together oiled wildlife response professionals from around the world to share knowledge, experience, and best practices. The 2025 conference was particularly meaningful, coinciding with both the 25th anniversary of the Treasure Oil Spill — which affected 19,000 birds — and African Penguin Awareness Day.

While in Cape Town, the team also had the opportunity to visit SANCCOB, an organization that has been using WRMD for many years. Seeing their work firsthand was incredibly inspiring. SANCCOB plays a critical role in the conservation of the endangered African Penguin, and their ongoing efforts to rehabilitate birds affected by oil spills and other threats are vital to preventing the species from disappearing from the wild.

Our attendance at EOW was made possible through scholarship support provided by the Oiled Wildlife Care Network (OWCN), which enabled representatives from the Wild Neighbors Database Project to connect directly with international partners, researchers, and responders working in oiled wildlife preparedness and response.



Important partnerships - Dr. Mike Zicarrdi of UC Davis, Dr. Valeria Ruppolo of Aiuká and Rachel Avilla



Devin found a computer with WRMD on it at SANCCOB

Experiences like these are a powerful reminder that WRMD is more than just software. It is a shared tool used by people around the world who are working every day to care for wildlife under vastly different circumstances. Being able to visit these organizations, learn from them, and see their work in person strengthens the connections that make this global community possible.

Voices From The Field



Rachel Avilla and Laird Henkel Supervisor of the CDFW Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care & Research Center, using OWRMD during an oil spill drill in Cordelia, CA

“SANCCOB is a wildlife rehabilitation and conservation organization for seabirds in Southern Africa. And we've been using WRMD for over five years now. It's really made our lives a lot easier. We were writing everything down on paper cards, which then got lost and wet and full of bird poop. And, it's really made a huge difference to have a system where we can put all our records and retrieve them quickly. So even right now, while I'm in a conference, I have people at work who are writing down little bits and pieces about birds asking me for information, and before I give them any prescriptions, I look up their details in WRMD and find out the whole history, and that helps me a lot. It's been absolutely amazing having a system, which has been freely available to us, and just really fits in with our wildlife work. It's made for wildlife rehabilitation, which is much better than using any hospital database, which was the only thing that was available in the past.”

Dr. David Gordon Roberts
SANCCOB
South Africa



“Using the Wildlife Rehabilitation Medical Database has been an absolute game-changer for our organisation. The system is incredibly intuitive—everything from logging new admissions to tracking ongoing treatments is straightforward and fast. What used to take us valuable time and paperwork now happens in just a few clicks. The database keeps our records organised, accurate, and easy to access, which means we can focus more on animal care and less on admin. Whether you're a small volunteer-run shelter or a large rehabilitation centre, this tool makes managing wildlife cases simpler, smarter, and more efficient. I can't imagine working without it.”

Sue
Geo Bay Wildlife Rescue Inc
Australia



“I have just had a wonderful experience with my &^*^(%# ‘records’ this year all thanks to you. (And you may quote me on this !) As you know I probably have as many birds in home care per year as some small rehab centers. The ‘paperwork’ seems endless, and a real burden at the end of the year. I live a 45 minute drive from the center and computer access is limited there. Thanks to your program I did my ‘records’ from home, and was finished in hours instead of weeks! It is so easy to use and I can see you are continually enhancing the program. I simply love it, and am so grateful that you designed such an incredible system for wildlife rehabilitation. Bless you both!”

Note: Julie was a dear friend and mentor to both Rachel and Devin. She passed recently but her spirit lives on. She was deeply loved and will be deeply missed.

Julie Burkhart
Lindsay Wildlife Museum
United States



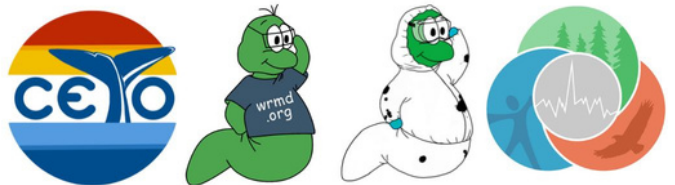
Looking Ahead

The wildlife field is changing — and the tools that support it must change with it. In the year ahead, the Wild Neighbors Database Project will build on the foundation it has spent years establishing, with a clear focus: to provide wildlife professionals with the tools they need to work more effectively, share knowledge more broadly, and bridge the gaps that too often exist between organizations, disciplines, and regions.

Development will continue across WRMD, OWRMD, Ceto, and WildAlert — driven not by trends, but by the real needs of the wildlife professionals who use these platforms every day. Performance, usability, and coordinated response capabilities will all advance, with particular attention to how these systems work together during large-scale events and emerging challenges. The goal is not simply better software, but a more connected, more capable global wildlife community.



River Otters in care with one of our greatest supporters – Sonoma County Wildlife Rescue



Investing in the organization's long-term health is equally central to that vision. By diversifying revenue through WRMD Pro and strengthening its infrastructure, WNDP is working to ensure its platforms remain stable, accessible, and free from the pressures that compromise mission-driven work. Remaining firmly nonprofit is not incidental — it is the point. Every decision about what to build, how to fund it, and who to serve flows from that commitment.

At its core, this work has always been about more than software. It is about the rehabilitators, responders, and researchers who show up every day for wildlife, often under difficult circumstances and with limited resources. WNDP exists to serve them — and to help turn the care they provide into knowledge that strengthens the entire field, now and for the years ahead.

2025 Financial Report

Revenue - \$166,532

Donations — \$39,629

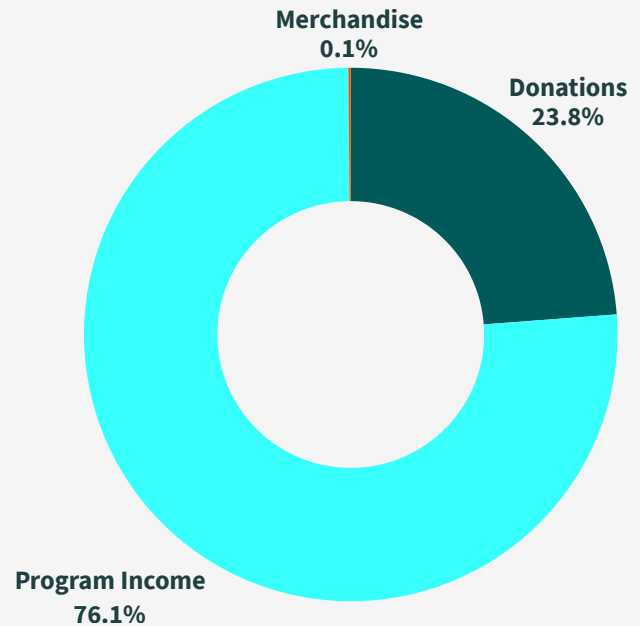
Just under 25% of our income came from donations. These unrestricted funds sustain the day-to-day operations of WNDP. Donations allow us to support our users, attend meetings and conferences, maintain reliable and faster servers, and respond when our community needs help most.

Program Income — \$126,670

Program income includes user fees, but is primarily made up of grant funding earmarked for specific projects and deliverables. While grants allow us to expand and innovate, they also require additional project-specific work, which can limit the time available for ongoing maintenance and daily support of our systems.

Merchandise — \$234

Merchandise sales provide a small but meaningful supplemental revenue stream and help increase awareness of WNDP within the broader community.



Expenses - \$182,231

Personnel — \$113,377

Employees and contractors who design, maintain, support, and improve WNDP systems.

Operations — \$40,689

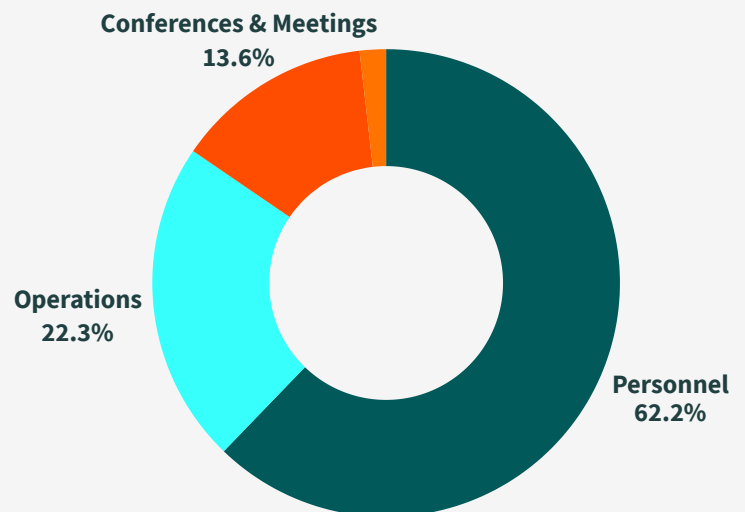
Server fees and essential tools that keep our systems reliable, secure, and accessible.

Conferences & Meetings — \$24,859

Building trust with our community requires showing up. Meeting users in person strengthens relationships, improves our tools, and ensures we remain people-centered—not just technology-focused.

Other — \$3,306

Computer hardware, dues and subscriptions, business expenses, and bank charges.



Note - As we continue to grow our impact, we recognize that our expenses have exceeded our income, and we are taking thoughtful, strategic actions to ensure the long-term financial health of our organization.

Why Your Support Matters



Every day, wildlife rehabilitators and responders work under urgent and complex conditions to care for animals in need. Behind that work is an equally critical need: accurate, accessible, and standardized data.

81% of expenses directly support people and technology that keep these wildlife data systems running.

A strong foundation — and a growing need

Through WRMD, OWRMD, WildAlert, and Ceto, wildlife professionals can:

- Improve patient care
- Inform research
- Strengthen collaboration
- Respond faster to emerging threats

These systems do more than store information — they turn data into action.

The ripple effect of your support

Every record entered contributes to something larger:

- Better data → better care
- Shared data → stronger research
- Connected systems → faster response
- Trusted tools → stronger wildlife communities

The impact extends far beyond any single animal, case, or organization.

Looking Ahead

Because of your support, WNDP is financially stable. That stability allows us to maintain secure systems, support a growing global network, and continue improving tools that wildlife professionals depend on every day. But the need is growing.

As challenges like habitat loss, wildlife disease, and environmental change intensify, wildlife professionals need scalable, connected systems more than ever before. With your partnership, we can continue building the next generation of tools needed not only to respond to today's challenges, but to also stay ahead of tomorrow's concerns.



The Wild Neighbors Database Project

We Design and Develop Online Data Management Systems to Empower Wildlife Professionals and Advance One Health

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Rachel Avilla, Devin Dombrowski,
Doris Duncan, Terra Kelly, DVM, PhD, Dipl. ACZM,
Sonia Lunacek, Carolyn Nash, Marie Travers

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