



SOUTHWEST
WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION CENTER

Press Kit | 2026





Rescue

Rehab

Release

Educate

ABOUT US

Established in 1994, Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center (SWCC) rescues Arizona native wild mammals that have lost their homes to development or are found injured, orphaned, or abandoned. When possible, the animals in our care are rehabilitated and released, healthy and wild, back where they belong. Those animals that cannot survive in the wild can live out their lives at our accredited sanctuary. We don't buy, breed, sell, or trade animals, nor are the animals for hire or used for commercial purposes.

We are proud of our contribution to the recovery of an endangered species – the Mexican gray wolf. As a holding facility, we offer space at our sanctuary to care for part of the captive population of this rare wolf and participate as a member of the Mexican Wolf Species SAFE Program (S.A.F.E).

Southwest Wildlife shares its knowledge and passion for animals through education. We hope to educate and inspire people to respect wildlife and conserve the habitats in which they live.

RESCUE, REHAB, RELEASE

Rescuing Wildlife

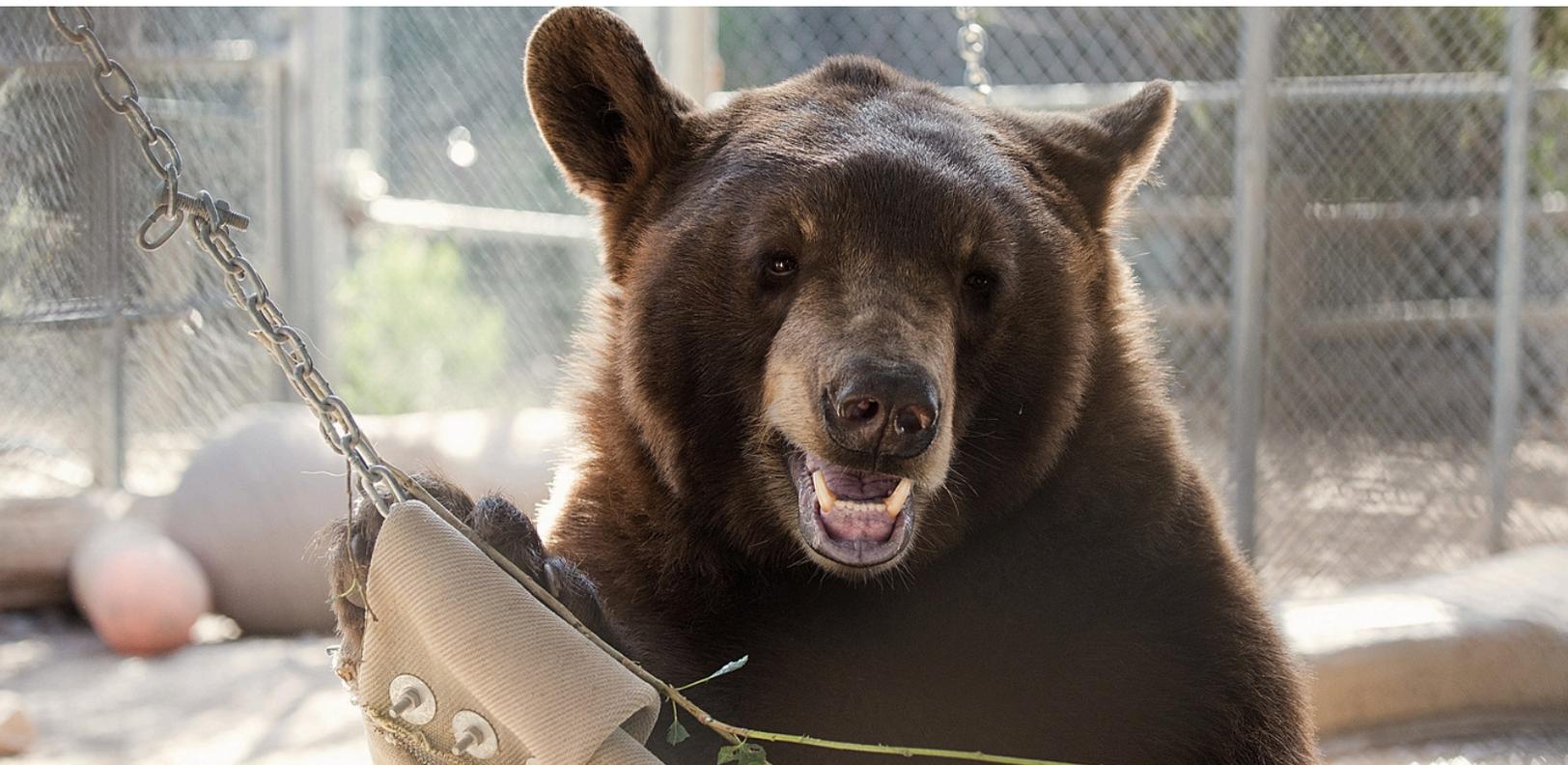
As Arizona grows, wildlife faces increasing threats from habitat loss and urban expansion. Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center responds around the clock to help injured, orphaned, or displaced wild mammals. Our 24/7 Wildlife Emergency Hotline, staffed entirely by dedicated volunteers, is the only one of its kind in the state, operating every day of the year to save lives.

Rehabilitating Wildlife

Every rescued animal begins its journey in SWCC's on-site Veterinary Hospital, where expert care, from exams to surgeries, gives them the best chance to return to the wild. Orphaned babies are nurtured with minimal human contact, then move to outdoor rehab areas to learn survival skills. Those that can't be released receive lifelong care in our accredited sanctuary.

Releasing Wildlife

After rehabilitation, every animal ready for release is returned to a safe, natural habitat chosen for food, water, and shelter. Our goal is always the same: give each animal the best chance to thrive. Watching them take their first steps back into the wild is the heart of Southwest Wildlife's mission.





HISTORY

It all began with one coyote.

In the early 1990s, Linda Searles' compassion for wildlife and a chance encounter with an orphaned coyote pup named Don sparked the vision for Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center. At the time, there were no local veterinarians willing to treat injured or orphaned wildlife, so Linda dreamed of creating a dedicated rehabilitation center. That dream took root in 1994 with the purchase of 10 acres northeast of Scottsdale, where enclosures and trees transformed open desert into a sanctuary for animals in need.

From those humble beginnings, SWCC has grown into one of the leading wildlife sanctuaries and rehabilitation facilities in the Southwest. Thousands of animals have been rescued, rehabilitated, and released back to the wild, while those unable to survive on their own find lifelong care at the sanctuary. Don Coyote lived 20 years at SWCC, serving as an ambassador for wildlife and inspiring visitors to protect Arizona's native species, a mission that continues to guide SWCC today.



Promoting Peaceful Coexistence with Wildlife

As our population grows, so does our encounters with wildlife. Nurturing that delicate balance of peaceful coexistence is critical to our ecosystem and future generations.

24/7 Rescue Hotline

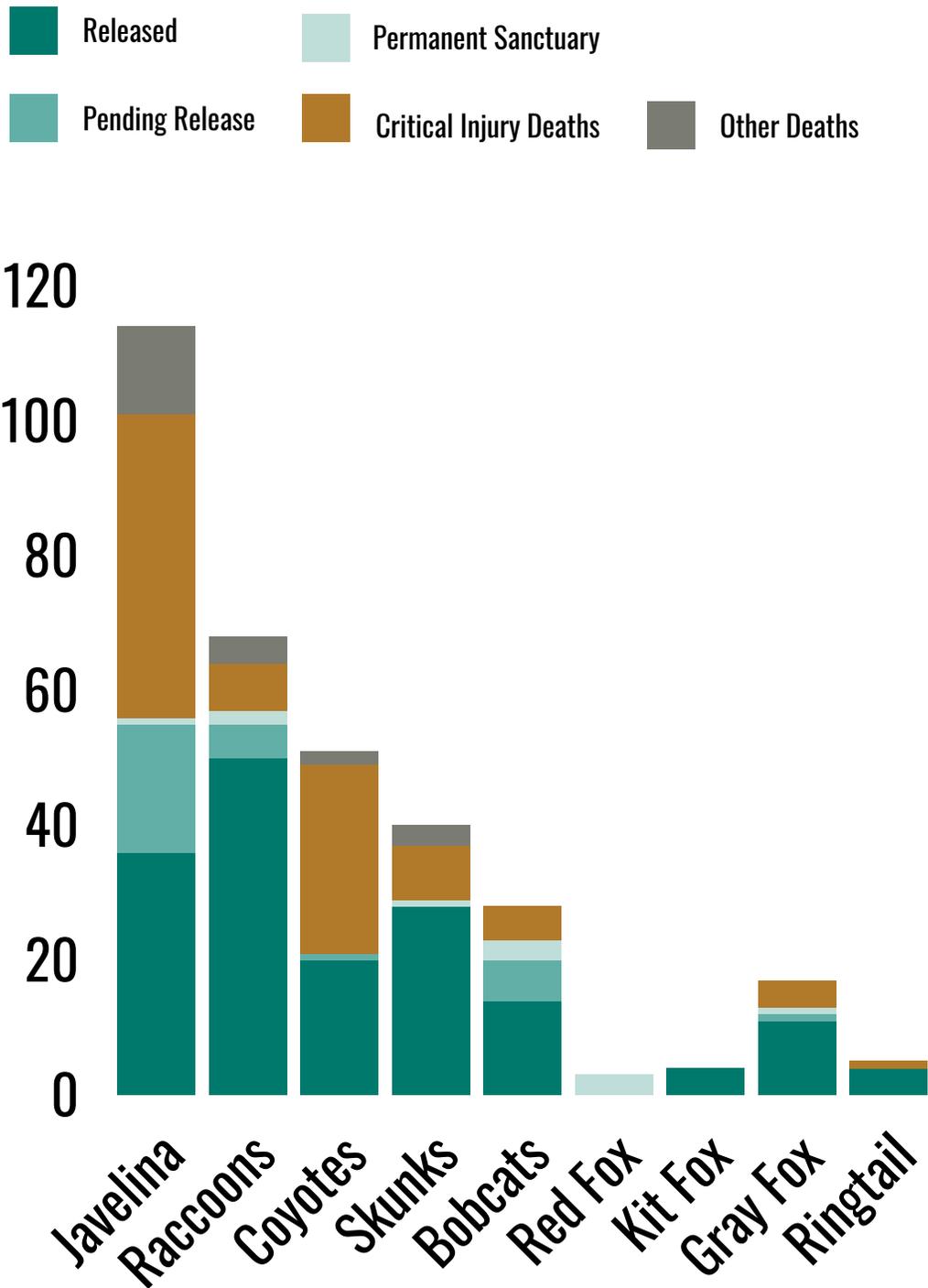
We are the only 24/7/365 Wildlife Rescue & Resource Hotline in Arizona, with upwards of 3,000 calls annually with increases recorded each year.

A Safe Haven For the Mexican Wolf

We are one of 60 Sanctuaries nationwide that are part of the S.A.F.E. program (Saving Animals From Extinction) focused on saving the endangered Mexican Gray Wolf. There are currently 12 Mexican Gray Wolves living at the Sanctuary.



2024 RELEASE RATE



The release rate was calculated using the following calculation.

$$\frac{\text{Released + Pending Releases}}{\text{\# of Core Species Rescued - Critical Injury Deaths}}$$

STEVIE'S SECOND CHANCE

When Stevie, a young bobcat, arrived in September 2024, his future was uncertain. Found immobile on a roadside after a suspected car strike, X-rays revealed severe injuries, including a metal pellet lodged in his brain, leaving him nearly blind. Returning to the wild was impossible, but sanctuary offered hope.

After surgery to remove a painful eye, Stevie began to thrive. He memorized his enclosure, responded to staff voices, and eventually bonded with Rufina, a 16-year-old bobcat.

Today, they share a life of safety and companionship at Southwest Wildlife's sanctuary, a testament to resilience and the power of second chances.





SANCTUARY ADDRESS

27026 N. 156th St
Scottsdale, AZ 85262

MAILING ADDRESS

Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center
PMB 115
8711 E. Pinnacle Peak Rd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85255

GENERAL PHONE NUMBER

480-471-9109

EMERGENCY RESCUE LINE

480-433-5656