Announcement!! Discussion Board Opens

Recently, the Presidents of IWRC and NWRA met with the USF&WS’s regional permit examiners and Washington staff at the national office in Washington, DC. As a result of this meeting and some further discussions, USF&WS supports our proposal to update the MSWR. They agree it should be a document that reflects what practicing rehabilitators feel is workable and successful. They support removing the present contradictory language. They recognize that there is much more to rehabilitation than cage dimensions, and that we (rehabilitators) need to express what those modalities are.

Toward that end we are Announcing the Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation Discussion Board brought to you by IWRC! This Discussion Board is intended for all Wildlife Rehabilitators and others interested in wildlife rehabilitation. We hope to involve all interested parties in conversations about new advances and new understandings in our field. We plan to explore the existing document, and to elucidate additional knowledge, skills, techniques and hardware. We hope to produce an integration of old and new knowledge to further the professional development of wildlife rehabilitation. Please help us by forwarding this message to all of your colleagues-- other rehabbers, volunteers, veterinarians, etc. Forward it also to the regulatory agencies that you deal with and who issue your permits. We appreciate their perspective too.

The Discussion Board is an on-line message center where anyone can read, learn, and participate in discussions about relevant topics. The Board is organized into several areas of interest, or Forums. These correspond to the Chapters in MSWR 3rd Edition.

Please post your questions and your comments in the most appropriate Forum. Please also contribute to the discussion by replying to others' questions, or by imparting your own special knowledge. We hope you will return often; if today’s topics do not interest you, perhaps tomorrow’s will. Otherwise, you are most welcome to open topics of your own. The more we discuss, the more we can all learn.

Within each Forum, Topics (also called Threads) are devoted to specific discussions. So in the Forum Chapter 6 Reptile Housing, there may be a Topic called Proper Substrate for Water Turtles. That Topic can be read and responded to by everyone. Questions can be asked and answered, issues can be debated, and information can be shared. Each Topic may generate additional questions, which can be posted as New Topics themselves. Participants can create New Topics by simply posting a message. Please post New Topics in the most appropriate Forum-- which may or may not be the same forum. And be sure to USE A DESCRIPTIVE TOPIC TITLE so readers will know what the discussion is about without having to open the Topic and read the Posts.

Attached is a PDF file with some screen shots and basic instructions. Don’t be afraid! It looks complex at first, but it really isn’t hard to use. Discussion Boards can be a lot of fun and allow you to communicate with interested people.

Please help us make the Discussion Board for MSWR a useful tool for the betterment of rehab. You can read all the Forums, and all the threads in each forum, as a Guest. But you must Register to Post. This is a protection from spam and other internet evils. To Register you need a valid email address. You will then create a User Name and a Password. You can make up a new User Name, not your email name, for your own privacy if you wish. The system will test your email address to be sure you are a valid person, but it will not give it out. The system also requires your gender and birthdate. If you are sensitive, you can lie about both. Just so long as the birthdate is a valid date, and it makes you more than 13 years old. (Note European date format Day, Month, Year)

There is an on-line FAQ that may answer your questions about navigating and posting, if you have problems. If you get lost though, on every page is a Board Index link. It may be pretty small, but it appears somewhere. Click that and you’ll get back to the list of available Forums. From there you can join any discussion.
The Simplified Rules for use of this Discussion Board are:

1) Do not be a jerk.
2. Do not post any copyrighted material unless the copyright is owned by you, except as permitted by the “fair use” provisions of the U.S. copyright laws (in general this means brief excerpts only).
3) Do not post spam, including but not limited to advertisements, chain letters, pyramid schemes, solicitations, offers to trade or barter, charitable appeals, or other messages primarily intended to promote a cause, venture, organization, event, website, or other entity or activity, whether or not money is involved. We allow exceptions for worthy causes (in our sole opinion) if you obtain prior permission from a moderator or administrator.
4) Do not post any material that you know or should know is false and/or defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, vulgar, hateful, harassing, obscene, profane, threatening, invasive of a person’s privacy, or violative of U.S. law. Do not post links to pornography. You agree not to post material that in our opinion fosters or promotes activity that is illegal in the U.S.
5) You are free to express your views in a forceful manner provided you remain civil. Hate speech, abusive insults, and purposely inflammatory remarks (i.e., trolling) will not be tolerated. Do not post threats or state or imply that any individual or group is deserving of harm. Topics/threads whose sole purpose is to flame a person or group are to be confined to a special Forum, The Kitchen.
6) You may have only one screen name on this Board.

Violations of the Rules may result in Warning by a Moderator or Administrator. Multiple Warnings or a single particularly noxious violation may result in Banning (revocation of your privilege to post) by the Board Administrator.

You agree to abide by the wishes of the board moderators in interpreting and enforcing these rules. Refusal to cooperate with board moderators or to abide by these rules is grounds for revocation of your posting privileges.
Visitors will see the Board something like this. As Guests, they can read everything, but cannot post their own replies. Two different links will lead to registration. For Members, Log-In is available top and bottom.

Forums are the “Main Areas” of the discussion, like chapters in a text (these are not the real Forums).

Running count of the number of Topics and Posts in each forum.

Set automatic log in for each visit.
Registration
You can Read the Board as a Guest, but you must Register to post.

First you must agree to some pretty standard Terms of Service.

Then you will create your User Name and your Password. Suggest that, for privacy, you do not use your email name as your User Name. You must though provide a valid email address so we know you are not a machine.

You are asked for your Gender and Birthday (note European order of Day, Month, Year). If this upsets you, note that you can be either sex, and any valid date will work as long as it makes you more than 13 years old.
This Index appears for registered members

The Forums or areas of interest are listed here (these are not the real Forums)

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General Info is here

Click a Forum name to open it

Each Forum contains a number of Topics that are created by the users. Topics should be created for specific discussions, like “Best recipe for meatless chili.”

Each Topic (also called Thread) will contain a number of Posts from users, discussing that Topic

Some other info appears here
An opened Forum, listing the Topics it contains

Forum rules
Everyone has stories of the skills and techniques they successfully deploy, and this is the place to share them. Everyone also has tried things that just don’t work out, and your frank appraisal will be useful to others.

The Reviewers are particularly interested in techniques that are not presently recommended in MSWR, whether because they are new or merely overlooked. Please tell us about falconry assistance, creance conditioning, directed exercise, “donut” flight cages, and other techniques that may be useful to our compatriots in wildlife rehabilitation.

As always, this is NOT the place to flame someone who you believe is not working to a high standard. All flames belong in The Kitchen.

Innovative and/or Alternative Techniques

create a New topic
list of Topics already in this Forum
click a Topic name to open it
if there are posts in the thread that you have not read yet, click here to go to the first unread post
go directly to the last post in a Topic

Board Index
jump to a different Forum
An opened Topic (or Thread) with several posts or replies

Board Index

name/subject of this Topic

all posts to this Topic are shown in chronological order

Report this post to a moderator- spam, off topic, inappropriate

quote this message in your reply- if you click this, a box will open in which you can compose your reply, which will automatically contain the quoted post

start a New Topic in this Forum

Post a Reply- if you click this, a box will open in which you can compose your reply

jump to another Forum
After you have typed a Reply or a New Topic, a button will allow you to Preview your reply before you Submit it. If it looks OK, you then Submit. If it needs fixing, you can edit it.