

WILDLIFE CENTER RAPTOR ENCLOSURES



On average, MT WILD's Wildlife Center rehabilitates 150 – 200 animals annually and makes over 25,000 public contacts with its live bird education programs, including the nationally recognized Veteran Program that has served over 1,000 veterans recovering from PTSD and substance abuse issues. The demand keeps growing every year to take in more raptors and deliver additional education programs. To meet this demand, over the years, the Wildlife Center has secured additional external funds to build an eagle flight barn and additional small raptor enclosures. But each year, the demand keeps growing and currently the Wildlife Center is struggling to meet this increased demand. Additionally, the existing raptor enclosures do not meet USFWS and the National Wildlife Rehabilitation Associations standards.

To meet these challenges, the Montana Outdoor Legacy Foundation is implementing a MT WILD Capital Improvement Campaign to develop a new *facility for Raptor rehabilitation in Helena, MT*. The goal is to build a raptor facility that includes:

- Educational bird enclosures that will allow students and visitors to view and learn about various Montana bird species that cannot be released into the wild due to injury and will live out their days at the wildlife center.
- Trail and viewing area adjacent to the educational bird enclosures with interpretive signage, encouraging the public to participate in birdwatching at Spring Meadow Lake and the Last Chance Audubon's Jane Beasley Trail.
- Enclosure for birds that will be rewilded and released once recovered from their injuries.

Total Cost: \$780,317

Total Secured: \$392,030 (Sue Jackson, Jean Smith Estate, Treacy Foundation, Partners for Wildlife, Helena Motors, MPG Ranch, MT Trail Stewardship Program Grant, and others)

RAPTOR FACILITY ILLUSTRATION AND DESIGN

