

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **IWRC to Hold First Green Conference in Wildlife Rehabilitation Field**

San Jose, California, USA – The International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council (IWRC) is extremely pleased to further its commitment to protecting wildlife and habitat by offering the first green conference in wildlife rehabilitation. Recognizing that the loss of habitat and degradation to the environment is the gravest threat to the survival of wildlife, IWRC is structuring International Education Symposium 2008 to foster discussion, learning and understanding of how wildlife rehabilitators can minimize their carbon footprint and take a leading role in educating others about the importance of implementing sustainable practices. IWRC is honored to collaborate with the Gaia Hotel and Spa in Napa Valley---the country's only hotel to receive Gold Level Certification from the US Green Building Council---in offering eco-friendly accommodations and services the week of the event.

Hosted by Lindsay Wildlife Museum, one of the first wildlife rehabilitation centers in the United States, the symposium will offer wildlife rehabilitators and educators the best in skills-based classes, wet labs, roundtables and panels on the most pressing issues and cutting-edge developments in wildlife rehabilitation. *“This is definitely going to be one of the most exciting conferences IWRC has held in our 36 year history,”* said IWRC Executive Director, Jennifer Gursu. *“The partners we are collaborating with for the scientific program, the networking and social events our committee is putting together and the ecological components are all contributing to a wonderfully diverse and dynamic event.”*

Three concurrent tracks will be held daily, each filled with classes and workshops in areas such as animal care, behavior, enrichment, public education, disaster response, post-release monitoring and more. Brown-bag lunch presentations, panels and roundtable discussions will round out the educational program and social events like the dine-around, wildlife film festival and annual silent auction will provide the fun and inspiration so needed and well-deserved by rehabilitators at the end of the busy season.

Learn, grow and be inspired---join us in beautiful Napa for an educational, informative, and inspirational week! The International Education Symposium will take place November 5 – 9, 2008 at Gaia Hotel and Spa in Napa Valley, California. Registration opens August 12, 2008. For more information, visit the IWRC website at [www.iwrc-online.org](http://www.iwrc-online.org).