

Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA Rehabilitates Rare Wildlife Patients

Burlingame, CA—Two baby long-tailed weasels are currently being treated at the Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA's (PHS/SPCA) Wildlife Care Center. The weasels were found abandoned on a hiking trail in Half Moon Bay and brought to PHS/SPCA by the Good Samaritans who found them.

"These nocturnal animals are rarely even seen by humans, so we could hardly believe our eyes when these tiny baby long-tailed weasels were brought to our Wildlife Care Center," said PHS/SPCA's Communications Manager Buffy Martin Tarbox. "Even though they are native to the Bay Area, we have only ever admitted one other weasel in our center since we opened our Wildlife Care Center."

The weasels were brought into PHS/SPCA on April 23 and are estimated to now be about $4\frac{1}{2}$ weeks old. One is male and the other is female and both are in good health and thriving.

Long-tailed weasels are ferocious predators and hunt squirrels, gophers, rats, cottontails, and even insects. They are nocturnal and solitary hunters and rarely seen by humans.

"The weasels are doing very well and we expect to release them back into the wild when they reach about eight weeks old," according to Tarbox. "It's an honor to rehabilitate these elusive native animals."



PHS/SPCA's Wildlife Care Center successfully rehabilitates 1,200 to 1,400 animals each year and is funded entirely by donations.



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About the Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA

The Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA (PHS/SPCA) is a local, private, non-profit charitable organization dedicated to animal welfare. Among our major programs, PHS/SPCA adopts fully 100% of the healthy dogs and cats in our care and also, through our charitably funded Hope Program, makes well and finds homes for thousands of animals who come to us sick, injured, or too young to survive without supportive care. PHS/SPCA is truly an open admission shelter, not only accepting many pet animals who might be refused at other shelters, but also taking care of injured and orphaned native wildlife from San Francisco through San Mateo and the northern half of Santa Clara County. Our work means 6,300 lives saved each year. Please visit <u>www.phs-spca.org</u> to learn about all our programs and services, ways to help our animals and special events.

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