



California Wildlife Center

Patient of the Week

June 21, 2024

Renesting

Renesting is something we don't always get the opportunity to do, but when CWC got a call from a professional wildlife photographer about a fallen Red-tailed Hawk nestling in the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve, we knew we could make a difference. There was a finite amount of time to work with our community partners to get the Red-tailed Hawk back to the nest, as being away from the nest too long can signify to the parents that the nestling is deceased. CWC kept the nestling hawk overnight to assess that the hawk was in good health and to provide the necessary support. While the nestling was in care, we quickly coordinated renesting efforts with the LA Animal Services SMART (SMall Animal Rescue Team, a part of Los Angeles Animal Services) team to reunite the bird back with the other members of the clutch the next morning. Fortunately, the rescuer was able to capture this renesting journey and reunion.



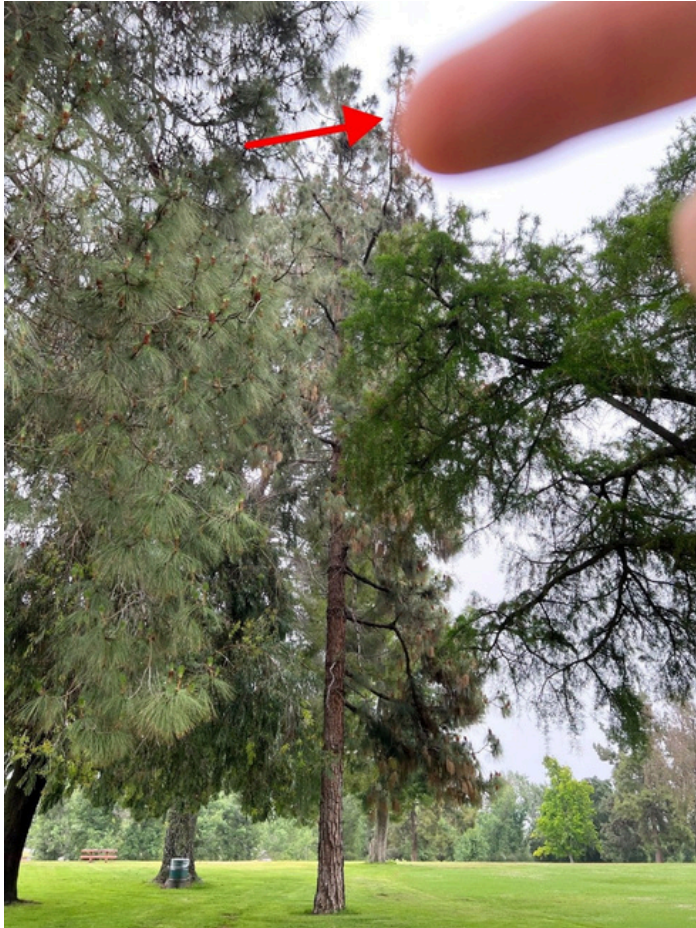
First pictures captured of the nestling by the rescuer who noticed the hawk sitting near the base of a tree. It appeared that the bird was in good overall health, but on the ground and without the ability to fly, the animal was at high risk of predation.



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The nest was located 80 feet from the ground, a far fall for the nestling. After an exam by CWC, it was determined that the hawk did not sustain any injuries.

The LA Animal Services SMART team geared up for the 80 ft climb (the highest climb they had ever attempted), part of which was assisted by a cherry picker. The SMART team is an elite team of animal rescuers who are certified Swiftwater Rescue and Rope Rescue Technicians.





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Jose Navarro, SMART team member, climbs the tree with the nestling hawk in tow, inching closer to the nest.





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Click on the picture to the right to see the nestmates' greeting.



After an arduous journey up the tree, the Red-tailed Hawk was successfully reunited with their nestmates!

See more commentary and video of the Red-tailed Hawk renesting journey [here!](#)