



California Wildlife Center

Patient of the Week

May 30, 2025

Goose on the Mend

On May 19th a Canada Goose was found limping near Malibu Lake in Agoura Hills. An officer from the Agoura Animal Care Center was able to contain the goose and bring them to our facility. The patient arrived bright, alert and hissing. During the initial intake, our Wildlife Technician observed that the patient was unable to put weight on their right leg. Upon examination, they noted significant swelling in the right foot and detected crepitus along the right tarsometatarsus (a long bone in the lower leg of birds), indicating a fracture.

Our Senior Wildlife Technician stabilized the fracture with a splint made from two tongue depressors cut to size and wrapped with Telfa padding. The patient was also given fluids for hydration, antibiotics and anti-inflammatory pain medication.

The Canada Goose is a migratory species, native to North America and recognizable by their black heads and necks, white chinstraps, and brown bodies. They are common in and around lakes, parks, and other areas like golf courses. These locations, with well-manicured grass, provide them with a clear view of potential predators when they are with their young. These sites also provide good feeding opportunities, as Canada Geese feed on a variety of grasses they can digest easily.



A leg splint was made to stabilize the patient's fracture.



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Patient of the Week

May 16, 2025

The Canada Goose can be very aggressive, especially when defending their territory or when they feel their nest or goslings may be in danger. They display their displeasure by hissing, head pumping, vibrating their neck feathers and honking.

Our ICU team provided the patient with a large ceramic water dish filled with a variety of foods, including waterfowl pellets, shredded greens, seeds, and mealworms. They were very eager to eat and had an excellent appetite. For added comfort and stability, we also gave the goose a padded horseshoe support (a rolled towel), which allowed them to rest more comfortably.

If you find an injured goose, contact your local wildlife rehabilitation center for guidance. Do not approach or handle the animal unless instructed by a trained professional.



Patient's are provided with diets similar to what they would eat in the wild.