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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **SDHS Urges Public to Stop Using Glue Traps to Protect Wildlife**

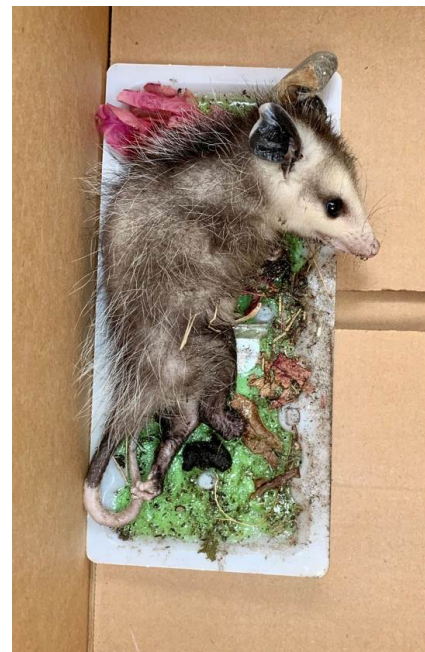
*Inhumane pest control products lead to slow death for animals stuck in glue.*

**San Diego** – San Diego Humane Society’s Project Wildlife team is urging the public to refrain from using glue traps due to the devastating consequences they have for wildlife, and sometimes pets. The medical team at the Pilar & Chuck Bahde Wildlife Center works tirelessly for wild animals who are found stuck in glue traps. Without rescue, these animals experience prolonged suffering and death, often from starvation.

On April 29, 2021 a barn owl arrived at the Bahde Wildlife Center with most of her feathers saturated in glue. It is unknown how long the bird had been stuck in the trap, but she was extremely fatigued when she arrived. The owl received two medicated baths to remove the contaminant, as well as pain medication and fluid therapy as part of her treatment plan. Despite the medical team’s best efforts to save her life, the owl was not able to recover and passed away in care.

On April 24, 2021 an orphaned joey opossum arrived at the Bahde Wildlife Center, also stuck in a glue trap. The animal’s body was fully attached to the tray, which would have meant a very slow death had she not been found and brought to San Diego Humane Society’s Project Wildlife team for care. Luckily, she responded well to treatment and after two weeks in care, was released back into the wild!

“Glue traps are incredibly inhumane, since the traps themselves don’t kill the animal,” said Director of Wildlife Medicine Dr. Jon Enyart. “The animal gets stuck and is left unable to move until they starve to death. It is devastating.”



Many of the animals who get stuck in glue traps are not invasive to humans — on the contrary! Owls control the pest population as their prey includes rodents and insects. Opossums are an excellent animal to have around your property because they eat rats, mice, snails, slugs and insects, as well as rotten fruit and vegetables — they will even eat rattlesnakes and ticks! Opossums and owls are also nocturnal, which means they're much more active at night. They are relatively disease-free, as it is extremely rare for them to carry rabies, parvovirus or distemper.

San Diego Humane Society offers a number of humane resources to deter and coexist with wildlife. To learn more, visit [sdhumane.org/coexist](https://sdhumane.org/coexist).

**B-roll/photos showing decontamination treatments of animals stuck in glue traps for media use can be downloaded here: <https://bit.ly/2PJ4QFW>**

**Suggested Tweet:** @sdhumane's #ProjectWildlife team is urging the public to stop using glue traps due to the devastating consequences they have for wildlife, and sometimes pets. The medical team at the Pilar & Chuck Bahde Wildlife Center works tirelessly to save animals found stuck in glue traps.

### **About San Diego Humane Society**

San Diego Humane Society’s scope of social responsibility goes beyond adopting animals. We offer programs that strengthen the human-animal bond, prevent cruelty and neglect, provide medical care, educate the community and serve as a safety net for all pet families. Serving San Diego County since 1880, San Diego Humane Society has campuses in El Cajon, Escondido, Oceanside, Ramona and San Diego. For more information, please visit [sdhumane.org](https://sdhumane.org).