



## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **91 Project Team in Corona Rescues Red-Tailed Hawk**

An injured juvenile red-tailed hawk found near the 91 Project construction area appears to have made a full recovery, thanks to the actions of project crew members and two rehabilitation centers.

Select Electric crew members followed protocol and contacted the contractor's field biologists after observing the red-tailed hawk in distress on the shoulder of westbound 91, just east of Interstate 15, on July 14. The bird was seen falling from a recently fledged nest in this area.

"We believe the red-tailed hawk was one of the fledglings who returned to the nest, hoping for a handout from the parents who were no longer there," said field biologist John Parent. "I think 'Millennial' would be a fitting name," he quipped.

The biologists noted that the male hawk was injured and unable to stand. In the interest of public safety, due to the proximity to traffic on the 91, they removed the bird from the area and transported it to the Wetlands and Wildlife Care Center in Huntington Beach. The care facility stabilized the hawk and then transferred him to Southbay Wildlife Rehabilitation in Rancho Palos Verdes. Southbay Wildlife, which specializes in raptor rehabilitation, was able to fully rehabilitate the bird. This included hand feeding during the first week, and then regular twice-daily feedings of appropriate-sized prey. The hawk also was enrolled in "Mousing School," at which he learned to hunt by being placed in various scenarios.

Parent maintained contact with Southbay Wildlife and arranged to transport and release the bird near where he was found. The release took place October 1, attended by several project

team members and their families, as well as representatives of Caltrans and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

For more information about the work of these two rehabilitation facilities, please go to <http://www.sbwr.org/birds/> and <http://www.wccoc.org/>.

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*Attached photo courtesy of Luz Quinnell*

