



Project Overview, Conservation Plan and Budget
From Rescue To Freedom: Wildlife In Guatemala
ARCAS – Wildlife Rescue and Conservation Association
Fundraising Goal: US\$50,000

1. Project Overview:

ARCAS operates a wildlife rescue and rehabilitation center in Petén, one of Guatemala's most biologically diverse regions. Each year, the center receives approximately 250–300 wild animals in need of care, including monkeys, coatis, and other native mammals.

Many arrive after being rescued from illegal wildlife trafficking, captivity, or other human-related threats. Some are young animals requiring intensive care and a lengthy rehabilitation process before they can be considered for release.

This 18-month project will provide the resources necessary to support rescued mammals throughout their journey from rescue and initial care to rehabilitation and, whenever possible, their return to the wild.

2. The Challenge:

Wild animals removed from their natural environment often arrive at ARCAS with physical, nutritional, behavioral, or developmental needs. Young mammals can require particularly intensive attention because they must grow without becoming dependent on humans while developing the behaviors necessary to survive independently.

Rehabilitation can take one to two years, depending on the species, age, condition, and individual progress of each animal. During this period, ARCAS must continuously provide appropriate nutrition, veterinary attention, enrichment, suitable enclosures, monitoring, and specialized care.



3. Our Approach:

The project will support the complete rehabilitation process through veterinary assessment and treatment, species-appropriate nutrition, care of orphaned and juvenile animals, behavioral enrichment, maintenance of rehabilitation enclosures, monitoring of individual progress, preparation for release, and release of suitable animals when they meet the necessary criteria.

Throughout rehabilitation, ARCAS works to encourage natural behaviors and minimize unnecessary human interaction so that animals have the best possible opportunity to successfully return to their natural habitat.

4. Expected Results:

Over the 18-month project period, ARCAS expects to strengthen its capacity to care for the hundreds of wild animals arriving at its Petén center each year. The project will improve access to food, veterinary care, appropriate environments, enrichment, and individualized rehabilitation.

For animals that successfully meet rehabilitation criteria, the ultimate objective will be release back into suitable natural habitat.

5. Proposed Budget — USD \$50,000:

Budget Category	Amount
Food & specialized nutrition	\$9,000
Veterinary care & medicines	\$10,000
Animal care & rehabilitation	\$9,000
Enclosure maintenance & improvements	\$10,000
Enrichment & rehabilitation materials	\$3,000
Release & field monitoring	\$4,000
Transportation & rescue logistics	\$5,000
TOTAL	\$50,000



6. Long-Term Impact

Successful wildlife rehabilitation goes beyond saving individual animals. Returning native species to appropriate habitats contributes to the conservation of Guatemala's biodiversity and helps mitigate some of the long-term consequences of wildlife trafficking and other human pressures.

Through this project, ARCAS will continue building a pathway from rescue to freedom, giving vulnerable wildlife the specialized care, time, and opportunity needed to return to where they belong.