



DISCLAIMER FOR DONORS/PUBLIC

Automatic Revocations #91-1481441 – West Sound Wildlife Shelter

Unfortunately, as of August 9th, 2021, West Sound Wildlife Shelter's (#91-1481441) tax-exempt status was automatically revoked by the IRS. This automatic revocation was the result of a supposed failure to file the necessary annual Form 990 returns with the IRS for three consecutive years. This came as a surprise since the IRS failed to let the Wildlife Shelter know that there was any problem with a prior Form 990s. It was a donor that brought it to our attention. Although the IRS received the relevant Form 990 in 2019, it was not returned to the Shelter until April 2021, in error. Then, since another Form 990 was on extension and/or extended as a result of COVID, this led the IRS system to issue an automatic revocation.

To be sure, IRS has recently released guidance indicating that many non-profit organizations have been improperly "preemptively revoked" because of IRS' inability to alter their computer systems to reflect extended filing deadlines as a result of COVID; not to mention they are experiencing significant processing delays.

As of today, the Wildlife Shelter is current on all its Form 990s. In addition, the Wildlife Shelter's accountant has filed the necessary forms to fix this discrepancy, requesting retroactive reinstatement. The Wildlife Shelter has discussed this with representatives at the IRS and everything is being done to expedite the solution. We must now await a response from the IRS.

2020 and 2021 have been an extraordinarily difficult time for the Wildlife Shelter. We continue to work hard to remain sustainable through these uncertain financial times. In 2020, the Office of the Governor of Washington State deemed the Wildlife Shelter essential. We were forced to furlough our team of 65 volunteers to keep them safe and we continued to push through with a small staff of only 5 employees. Executive Director Lisa Horn personally contracted COVID-19 twice. She was left incredibly sick and this has resulted in significant damage to her autonomic nervous system.

We are sharing this information with you to demonstrate the challenges that have occurred in addition to the issues with the transition from the Wildlife Shelter's previous accountant who quit just before the late 2018 Form 990 report was due, and set this problem into motion. During this time, the Wildlife Shelter was unaware that the 2018 Form 990 was not accepted and thus in jeopardy of automatic revocation.

The Wildlife Shelter takes stewardship of its organization, funds, and donors very seriously; exercising due care and prudence on behalf of the Wildlife Shelter. Prior to these unusual circumstances, the Wildlife Shelter had a good record of compliance with timely filing of all its Form 990 reports.

While it is important that we give you this notice so you understand that the Wildlife Shelter's tax exempt status is currently revoked, we are confident that this issue will be resolved and that the Wildlife Shelter meets all the requirements to be tax exempt under the tax code. We apologize for the inconvenience, and greatly appreciate your support.