

From: [Protect Our Wildlife VT](#)
To: [Cronan, James R.](#)
Cc: [Fowler, Sean](#); [Stedman, Justin](#); [Jensen, Andrew](#); [Johnson, Jacob E](#)
Subject: Re: Raccoon
Date: Wednesday, May 3, 2023 5:39:32 PM

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Thank you, Jim. I understand the dispatcher advising the woman to go to the hospital for the scratches, but to leave this animal suffering like this without even calling a trooper to humanely dispatch, is unacceptable in my opinion. Also, it's not the legal trapping season, so this trap might've been set illegally. The warden is now unable to look into any potential illegal activity. The warden staff responds to more than just big game species.

Brenna Galdenzi
President

Protect Our Wildlife POW
www.ProtectOurWildlifeVT.org

On Wed, May 3, 2023 at 3:57 PM Cronan, James R. <James.R.Cronan@vermont.gov> wrote:

Hi Brenna,

I had some time to research this given the timeframe you were able to provide me. The caller spoke with a dispatcher. He recommended getting in contact with a wildlife rehabilitator. He admitted to her that an animal injured in a trap is definitely not a typical call for us, but that wardens generally deal with large game animals. I will speak with the dispatcher and tell him in cases when the call is not typical, especially with a trapped and injured animal, and with human exposure which the caller advised him of towards the end of the call, to get in contact with a warden for guidance. I did not find the dispatcher condescending in any way, he was genuinely trying to help her. He did advise that he would not recommend placing an animal in her car and the caller agreed that might not have been the best of ideas. The last option that he gave her was to just leave the animal which the caller said she was not willing to do.

I hope this helps.

Jim

James R. Cronan

PSAP Administrator

CIDT Team Leader

Vermont State Police A-Troop

Williston, VT 05495

802-878-7111

From: Protect Our Wildlife VT <info@protectourwildlifevt.org>

Sent: Wednesday, May 3, 2023 3:20 PM

To: Fowler, Sean <Sean.Fowler@vermont.gov>; Stedman, Justin <Justin.Stedman@vermont.gov>; Jensen, Andrew <Andrew.Jensen@vermont.gov>; Cronan, James R. <James.R.Cronan@vermont.gov>; Johnson, Jacob E <Jacob.E.Johnson@vermont.gov>

Subject: Re: Raccoon

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Resending with Warden Johnson's correct email address.

Brenna Galdenzi

President

Protect Our Wildlife POW

www.ProtectOurWildlifeVT.org

On Wed, May 3, 2023 at 3:18 PM Protect Our Wildlife VT <info@protectourwildlifevt.org> wrote:

Hi Warden Johnson,

I spoke with Lauren Barss, the woman who found this injured raccoon with a conibear trap on his/her head and got some new details. She found the animal in the middle of a road around 1pm yesterday and put the animal in a box. She originally brought the raccoon to a local

vet clinic who told her they don't handle injured wildlife. Not sure why they didn't contact you.

She then called Newport P.D. who put her in touch with a state trooper. She claims the trooper was extremely condescending to her and chastised her for helping the animal. He told her to put the raccoon in the woods and let nature take its course. Horrible advice for a number of reasons. I'm waiting back for details from Jim Cronon as to that conversation. The woman had also been scratched while trying to help the raccoon and I believe the trooper told her to seek medical attention due to raccoons being RVS.

I appreciate you responding swiftly to this upon learning of this last night. However, due to the amount of time that had elapsed, this raccoon was nowhere to be found.

Lt. Fowler and Col. Stedman, Joanne Bourbeau, JoAnn Nichols and I were recently talking about providing LE with some kind of flowchart visual that they can easily refer to when fielding these calls. That's obviously something that needs careful collaboration. We need to work together to ensure that the public is given safe, humane, practical advice in the future. I don't know if we can maybe request a meeting with Colonel Matthew Birmingham.

The reality is that even if the public is told to "let nature take its course," most people are not going to take that advice. They're going to try and help, which presents a public safety issue, especially if the public is handling RVS.



Thanks,
Brenna

Brenna Galdenzi

President
Protect Our Wildlife POW

www.ProtectOurWildlifeVT.org