



## Javelina Releases

During the summer, Southwest Wildlife released 3 herds of javelinas back into the wild.

Some had arrived at Southwest Wildlife because they had been injured or were sick. Others had been displaced due to human activities. However, the bulk of the javelinas at Southwest Wildlife were here because they had been orphaned.

At Southwest Wildlife, we create new herds with the individual animals we have treated because being a member of a herd is vital to a javelina's survival in the wild. To do this, we form herds that include adults that have been rehabilitated and bottle-raised orphans. Following rehabilitation, the javelinas are gradually introduced to their new herd mates and, ultimately, they create a functioning herd.

It is a long process from rehab to becoming part of a herd. However, the reward is great: freedom to once again roam the beautiful Sonoran desert—their inherent right.