

Swan LakeThere are three species of swans in North America. The Trumpeter Swan and the smaller bodied Tundra Swan are native while the Mute Swan is a non-native species that has been introduced and now breeds in the wild in some places. There aren't too many swans in the Phoenix area so when a Tundra Swan was spotted on the lake at Kiwanis Park by Ron and Ann Thomas, it caused quite a stir. It was identified as a Tundra by a small yellow mark on the side of the beak.



Another unusual factor was that this swan was fairly tame and swimming up to people for handouts of bread. It was then noted that the swan was missing a hind toe (called the hallux) which is an indicator that this particular swan was captive raised. Federal law requires that migratory waterfowl bred in captivity be marked by removing the hallux, hole punching the webbing on one foot, or wing pinioning (amputation of the end section of the wing). This swan didn't fly into Kiwanis



Park on his own power; someone...for some reason...took him to the park and dumped him there. When it was

realized that the bird was also non-flighted, East Valley Wildlife was called to capture the swan for his own protection. A tame, grounded, bread-loving swan at a city park would be easy prey to unleashed dogs or human cruelty.



Super Rescuer Carl Price was dispatched to catch the wayward swan and he brought the bird to Jeani Garrett for temporary care. An acceptable home with a private pond was found for the swan in northern Arizona and his new owner is even willing to purchase a mate as soon as we find out if the bird is a male or female.



Thanks to all the people involved in making this rescue a success and giving this swan a chance to survive. 🦢