

Thomas F. Sweets
1304 Elizabeth Street
Key West FL 33040
727.455.4163

Education: **International Academic Program**, Chemistry for Conservators, 1991.
The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, BFA; Painting, 1990.

Professional Affiliations/Certifications:

- Organizational Member, **National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association (KWWC)**.
- **Member, US Coast Guard Area Committee** Wildlife Response Team 2011- 2013.
- United States Coast Guard Auxiliary **HAZWOPER** certified, 2012-2013.
- Certified Oiled Wildlife Care Training Florida Keys Community College 2010.
- **Save-A-Turtle** Beach Nesting Surveyor 2011-2013 (Pat Wells FWC Permit).
- Leader, **Save-A-Turtle Sea Turtle** Stranding/Salvage Team 2011-2013 (Pat Wells FWC Permit).
- **FWC Florida Shorebird Alliance** Rooftop Nesting surveyor 2012-2013.
- **Marathon Turtle Hospital** Rescue/Response team (Turtle Hospital FWC Permit). 2011-2013.

Experience:

- 6/11-present** **Executive Director, The Key West Wildlife Center**, 1801 White Street, Key West FL. Responsible for running wildlife rescue and rehabilitation facility. Oversee administrative responsibilities including finances, payroll, purchasing, ordering, human resources, permitting, vendors, fundraising, and community relations. Administer City of Key West Community trapping program. Instruct public in using humane chicken traps in order to catch local chickens. Receive chickens from individuals and organizations enrolled in Community trapping program. Transport all chickens to new adoptive homes on Florida mainland. Continually source and monitor conditions for current and potential chicken adoption outlets. Manage volunteers and community service worker programs. Oversee wildlife rescue operations and personally handle 24 hour wildlife rescue hotline. Provide rescues, care, cleaning, and feeding for rehabilitating wildlife and chickens on premises. Conduct daily observation of animals to evaluate behavior patterns and general health condition. Assist with capture, handling, and when necessary, transport of wild birds in a safe and low stress manner. Release fully rehabilitated wildlife back to wild areas close to where they were rescued. Give tours of the facility and permanent aviary residents to educate the public about wildlife conservation.
- 11/09-6/11** **Aviary Manager, The Key West Wildlife Center**, 1801 White Street, Key West FL. Responsible for wildlife rescues and maintaining wild bird aviary. Handled all after hours wildlife rescues and was responsible for answering 24 hour rescue hotline. Provided care for permanent resident education birds and wildlife rehabilitation patients. Oversaw cleaning, maintenance, feeding and daily general operations Ordered all food and non-food supplies used in daily operations. Gave tours of facility and worked to educate the public about conservation issues related to wild birds.
- 6/09-11/09** **Wildlife Rescue/Animal Care, The Key West Wildlife Center**, 1801 White Street, Key West, FL. Rescued wildlife and chickens on 24 hour on-call emergency basis. Provided rescues, care, cleaning, and feeding for all rehabilitating wildlife and chickens on premises. Conducted daily observation of animals in order to evaluate behavior patterns and general health condition. Assisted with capture, handling, and when necessary, transport of wild birds in a safe and low stress manner. Transported and released all rehabilitated wildlife.