

# Young Man From Poconos Jumped In Delaware River To Save Injured Bald Eagle

By Grace Griffaton, Karin Mallett

MONROE COUNTY - A young man from the Poconos is being credited with saving a bald eagle's life. On Monday, while most eyes were fixed on the solar eclipse, his were set on the Delaware River, where the bird faced imminent danger.

The plunge Sampson Metzgar took could only be described by Janine Tancredi one way:

"Horrrifying. Initially, it was like I didn't believe you just did that," she said.

"I could care less. I would do anything to save an eagle," said Metzgar.

At just 19, Metzgar is Pocono Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center's lead avian specialist.

"Sampson is an incredible handler, by far the most valuable intern that we have," Tancredi said.

And those handling skills would come in handy as the young man swam chest deep, against the current, with special gloves on, to bring the bird safely to the bank.

"I wasn't really thinking about the consequences of what could happen," he said.

"He was hyperventilating when he came out. The shock of the cold and the adrenaline of the catch," Tancredi said.

"I was heaving the whole time. When I got back, my chest hurt the whole day because of that," Metzgar said.

Metzgar is okay, and the bald eagle is expected to be, too.

"Thankfully, nothing life-threatening. It's a very small break in the metacarpals of her wings," Metzgar said.

She's receiving medicine to reduce pain and keep the swelling down, but very soon, she'll be reunited with her mate and family.

"She will absolutely go back. She'll know exactly where that is," Tancredi said.

Metzgar says it was his first rescue, and it just so happened to be in the middle of the solar eclipse, so it's only fitting the bird would be named Eclipse.



Young man from Poconos being credited with saving bald eagle's life  
WFMZ-TV | Grace Griffaton

# HIRING DRIVERS

## BANGOR SCHOOL DISTRICT

— NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED —

**BONUSSES**

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION OF AMERICA®

# 610-588-3590

APPLY ONLINE

# RIDESTA.COM