



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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from our founder : PAT CRAIG

It seems in the rigidly polarized dynamic of 2021, that every societal issue has exactly two sides. The world as we now know it is painted exclusively in black and white; no longer does a range of grey exist let alone any of the infinite colors and tints found in nature's spectrum. Imagine if we approached the creation of art with the same clenching desire to paint in only black and white that we apply to the many divisive issues of today.

Can you picture Van Gogh's "The Starry Night" without those stunning swirls of violet and indigo surrounding a brilliant Indian yellow moon? Or Monet's "Water Lilies" without the serene shades of lavender, cobalt violet, and viridian green? What a drab and melancholy world that would be!

Under this limited school of thought, compromise is considered a weakness rather than a virtue, a fundamental lack of understanding rather than a trait symbolic of empathy and compassion. There are so many controversies today that it is near impossible not to find yourself sucked into one or another of them, even if you do your best to stay above the fray.

As one of the oldest and largest Sanctuaries in the world for Captive Wildlife, one such

two-sided controversy that we have been deeply rooted in is the Animal Rights versus Animal Welfare debate. This controversy was thrust upon us in large part due to the airing of the salacious Netflix series "Tiger King". One of the favorite tactics used by each of the featured characters to explain away their heinous abuse of the animals in their care was to claim that they stand for Animal Welfare, and those complaining about the mistreatment of the hundreds of animals housed in their dilapidated roadside zoos are all Animal Rights "whack jobs" who oppose all forms of animal ownership and use – even domestic pets and livestock. They could not face the simple reality that the truth, as it is with many things, lay somewhere in the middle. It is possible for truly caring individuals to believe in an in-between where animals have the right to live as close to free as possible, with others of their own species in a natural environment while human caretakers still provide for them in the ways that matter most – nutritious food, shelter, and medical care. Providing them with a quality of life that they have never before known, without pretense, strings, or expectations for return on investment.

For scoundrels like Tim Stark, Jeff Lowe, and Joe Exotic, the idea that those who oppose their methods and practices could be caring, smart, rational people - and not all violent vegan extremists as they have whole-heartedly convinced themselves is the case - is utterly unfathomable to them. It is an affront to their most core belief that, above all else, they are right, and anyone who disagrees is wrong.

Luckily for us, our dedicated supporters, volunteers and staff still see in Technicolor. Through education and leadership efforts covering an expanse of 42 years of directly combating the Captive Wildlife Crisis coupled with extensive animal care, rescue and rehabilitation programs, The Wild Animal Sanctuary and our network of facilities in Colorado and Texas have made a global impact and broadened minds to what being an advocate for Animals truly means. Over the course of the last 12 months, we have returned time and again to rescue the innocent victims of these Tiger King villains, as well as helping many others in similarly dire circumstances along the way.

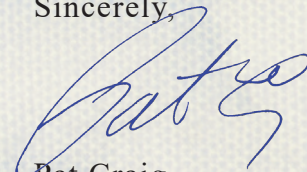
In 2021 alone, we have rescued close to 100 innocent souls from neglect and abuse. Many of those rescued Animals are now living out their lives

in peace at The Wild Animal Refuge in Springfield, Colorado. Here, there are more than 9600 acres of vast, forested hillsides, juniper trees, and rocky outcroppings for them to explore. On-site Animal Caretakers provide the best quality care imaginable, visiting each habitat daily to deliver fresh foods, clean water, and to ensure that each and every rescued Animal is living their best life possible. Though we only purchased the Refuge land in 2018, through the dedicated support of our Founders we have succeeded in paying off the note in only four short years! What an incredible and exciting feat! We could not have done it without you.

We hope the rescue stories featured in the pages of this Annual Report allow you to experience the world through a new colorful lens. The journey from victimhood to freedom, from depression and abuse, to love

and companionship is never black and white. Please take the time to read these touching tales of rescue and second chances to truly understand our mission and the impact that the Captive Wildlife Crisis has had on so many magnificent creatures. We have made amazing strides in this fight, but there is still more work to be done. There are more lives to save. Please consider joining us as we continue in our mission to combat the Captive Wildlife Crisis. 🐾

Sincerely,



Pat Craig,

Executive Director

IN THIS REPORT

OUR PROGRAMS:

ANIMAL RESCUE

ANIMAL CARE

EDUCATION

THE WILD ANIMAL REFUGE UPDATE

FINANCIALS

A BLACK BEAR CUB NAMED AFTER A HURRICANE

RESCUE

Baton Rouge | Louisiana

Nearly everyone reading this newsletter has seen or has been moved by one of those heart-tugging advertisements where a forlorn, malnourished looking dog is tied up with a chain or rope in a seemingly-abandoned backyard. Usually the poor animal is severely malnourished and looks all-around miserable as it silently accepts its plight.

Such scenes, sadly, play out all too frequently not just here in the United States but around the world. As painful as it may be to see, part of us at least realizes that such situations do exist with dogs and we reluctantly accept it as part of the human condition that allows such things to take place.

But what about when it involves a Black Bear cub?!

Such was the case near Baton Rouge, Louisiana when a



Little Sally with a very short lead tied to a collar around her neck.

severely underweight, three month old Black Bear cub was discovered tied to the hitch of a pick-up truck by Louisiana law enforcement officers.

To make matters worse, the undersized female cub was tied to the truck with a very short (*less than three-feet long*) lead tied to the collar around her neck.

All of this took place last fall, but the Winter 2020 Newsletter was already so full of rescue stories (*even after expanding that issue to 52 pages instead of the customary 48 pages which is already more than the 44 pages the Newsletter used to be!*) that this little Bear's story wasn't able to be told at the time.

But little Sally is thriving and it is now time for her story to be told to the world.

Upon discovering the cub, a State of Louisiana large carnivore biologist was initially called in to help investigate the case, since it was not yet known whether the cub was born in the wild or had been born in captivity. Figuring that out would determine how the case would be handled and ultimately adjudicated.

Regardless of the circumstances of this young cub's birth, what was painfully evident to the investigating officers from the outset was how underweight she was; how inadequate her care was and that she wasn't with her mother.

Bear cubs normally spend two to three years with their mothers and are never separated from them. As has been described in previous Newsletters, for a young Bear cub to be separated from its mother prior to being naturally weaned, is about the most traumatic and stressful thing that can happen to him or her. The main coping mechanism to deal with the stress this causes is almost-constant crying and mewling accompanied by the cub sucking on its feet and toes in an attempt to soothe itself.

After some initial questioning of the parties in possession of

the cub, even after receiving evasive and changing answers, the officers determined she had been born and raised in captivity. As a result, the case was turned over to the Law Enforcement Division of Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries (LWF).

In describing how bad things were for the cub (*not yet named "Sally"*), one of the LWF officers stated that the cub had been there for possibly weeks and had no shade structure, and because of how short the lead was, could not even adequately get under the truck for protection from the hot, Louisiana sun.

There was also no water bowl in sight and when first offered water, the cub drank and drank prodigiously to slake her incredible thirst.

Just as bad as the wholly inadequate diet the poor cub was forced to live on based on interviewing the people involved: white bread and donuts, which explains how underweight and small she was.

To get an idea of how undernourished this cub was, an excerpt from an Alaska Department of Fish and Game article on Bear milk will help:

"At peak lactation a black bear cub consumes about 30 ounces

of milk a day...Bear milk can be energetically rich, with the highest fat content of black and brown bears measured around 20-25 percent. Human milk is comparable to cows' milk, generally ranging between three and five percent fat." (<https://tinyurl.com/594qx3cu>)

The takeaway is that baby Bears need incredible amounts of fat (*calories*) and this poor cub was receiving none!

Also blatantly obvious to the officer was how none of the social/emotional needs of the cub were being met: not only did it not have its mother and possible siblings to interact with (*one only needs to think of the three rescued Grizzly cubs, Oliver, Charity and Charlotte, playing to know how important Bear siblings are*), but the people in possession of her were not spending any time with her, either. She was effectively alone in her harsh and cruel world.

Not at all surprising given what had already been discovered, when questioned further the people had no plan for what to do with the cub when she grew up...

By now most readers are probably shaking their heads in utter disbelief, or gnashing their teeth in anger, that such human beings exist and are so utterly unprepared to care for another

A Black Bear Cub... Cont'd

living being and apparently have no problem with subjecting it to a completely unnatural and unhealthy life totally devoid of everything it needs to survive.

But readers of these pages know that these are the kinds of people and situations the Sanctuary staff has been dealing with for over 40 years now, which is why the work to rescue such animals in need is so important and must continue, while the problem of captive wildlife is addressed on varying levels so it can eventually be extinguished or at least greatly mitigated.

Readers of these pages also know that the bad news is not where the story ends for animals that get rescued by the Sanctuary, for that is when a rainbow of hope first appears in the life of the suffering creature.

Fortunately for this cub her situation was discovered just in the nick of time and she was confiscated by the LWF which then set out to find a permanent home for the little orphan, which is where The Wild Animal Sanctuary will enter her story.

While the search for a permanent home took place, the Audubon Zoo in New Orleans was asked to take her in and foster her in the interim.



Sally at the Audubon Zoo | photo credit:Carney Anne Nasser-Garcia

Within a couple of weeks, LWF officers discovered and contacted the Sanctuary and we happily agreed to take in the youngster—knowing how critical her situation was and also knowing that our experience with young Bear cubs would give her the best shot at a long, wonderful life living with other Black Bears.

Plans were made for a two-person rescue crew to drive to New Orleans and retrieve the cub, using a utility van and, for lack of a better description, a dog crate in which to house the undersized cub. Of course, the 19 ½-hour journey would be accomplished with an overnight stop on the way there, but there was a good chance the return trip may not include that

luxury—depending on the cub's health and disposition while traveling.

Which now brings us to the title of this story: how a Black Bear cub was named after a hurricane.

It turned out that while the cub was in the care of the Audubon Zoo, Hurricane Sally made landfall along the Gulf of Mexico—coming ashore in Alabama. But because of its potential to wreak havoc in Louisiana, mandatory evacuation orders had been given and the people of Louisiana had prepared for the storm just the same.

And as the Sanctuary staff members were told the morning they picked up Sally, the Zoo

has a tradition of naming newborn or newly-acquired animals after the named hurricane if both arrive at the same time—which was the case with baby Sally!

Immediately apparent to the Sanctuary staff members was how small and underweight the cub was for her age, and that she seemed to be driven by an insatiable hunger and ravenous desire to eat. Sally paced and cried incessantly as soon as she saw people that morning—associating the Zoo staff members with food, which her body so desperately craved. This craving is what allowed her to easily be loaded into her crate—as she readily went in after the food that had been placed in it.

With Sally safely loaded in the transfer crate and then beginning the trek out of New Orleans in rush-hour traffic, the staff members were immediately met with a constant barrage of rhythmic crying as Sally pleaded for more food. It seemed every instinct in her little body was crying out for the essential nutrition of which she had been deprived most of her short life.

While one drove, the other staff member kept trying to placate the unplacatable cub with food provided by the Zoo, which Sally could not get enough

of. It was at this point that the staff members got in touch with the Sanctuary's Director of Animal Care to see what more could be done to effectively fill Sally's belly and help quiet her down.

After a couple of stops at local convenience and grocery stores, a full arsenal of rich, fatty and high-calorie foods was obtained including hard-boiled eggs, cheeses, raw nuts and lunch meats—in an attempt to provide her growing body with some equivalent to the nutrition she would be receiving if still nursing from her mother as she should have been in a more perfect world.

And it worked!

After a few feedings and just like people become sleepy after eating a heavy meal, baby Sally eventually ate her fill of the smorgasbord and actually fell asleep in a peaceful slumber, and the van became quiet for the first time since picking her up. Not only was Sally finally relieved, but so were her two caretakers.

Hours and miles passed by in a blur of pavement and the new routine of feeding Sally regularly kept her, for the most part, calm and sated. So calm and sated that the traveling trio was able to stop at a motel for about 6 hours in the middle of the night somewhere

in Texas—confident that Sally would sleep quietly in the van while her human companions caught some shut-eye in the motel.

Naturally, there was great relief and satisfaction in the morning when Sally was discovered to still be resting comfortably, at which her human companions wondered if it was the first long rest of her life since the gnawing pangs of hunger were not present to keep her awake.

Uneventfully, the travelers arrived back at the Sanctuary in the afternoon of that second day and Sally was immediately housed in the Clinic where she could be medically evaluated and begun on a proper Bear cub diet—with multiple feedings per day—that included an incredibly rich milk replacement formula in addition to the variety of other foods she received.

A physical exam revealed that below her furry coat, she was basically just a skeleton. That is, she had no fat and real "meat" to speak of, which was just another indication of how far towards being gone forever she actually was at the time she was discovered.

What really amazed people was how quickly this little cub could tear through a bottle of formula—or two or three bottles! Such feedings were better

A Black Bear Cub... Cont'd

accomplished by two people as that lessened the time between bottle change-outs when Sally very impatiently demanded the next one!

Once Sally's bodily needs were being met and she began to gain weight over the next few weeks, it was time to meet her other major need: companionship with other Bears that had been utterly lacking in her life since birth.

With over 200 rescued Bears, the Animal Care staff was quickly able to think of a suitable new friend for Sally: Baloo the Black Bear cub rescued from Alabama—known to be a mild, sweet and slightly diminutive Bear. For those who are interested, Baloo and his parents' rescue story can be found in the Spring 2018 Newsletter or here at this link <https://tinyurl.com/1dn7uzfm>

Sally then made the big move out to a large Black Bear habitat in which Baloo was already

living, but given her young age and small size, she was moved into a smaller enclosure known as a lockout where she would not have physical contact with larger adult Bears.

Since Baloo was living at-large in the habitat, he had to be coaxed into a transfer cage so he could be moved to the adjoining lockout next to Sally, something that was easily accomplished by exploiting the weakness of many a Bear—boysenberry jam and other sweet treats! Sorry, Baloo. That was just too easy...



Sally

After a few days of getting to know one another with a fence dividing them, soon Sally and big brother, Baloo, were living together in their double-size lockout and it could not have been a bigger success. From a distance, the two could regularly be seen romping around and playing and chasing after one another, but they have their quieter moments as well where simply being near each other curled up in one of their dens is enough.

Baloo has wonderfully proven himself to be the confident yet gentle older brother looking out for his younger, more vulnerable sister. And according to their Animal Care staff members, the two Bears adore each other and are absolutely inseparable—as it should be between young Bear “*siblings*.”

Given Sally’s young age—still less than a year—she and Baloo will remain safe in their homey double lockout so Sally can enjoy her first attempt at hibernation. Having a controlled environment where we can check on her (*and Baloo*) over the winter will make everyone feel better.

Come spring, when she is large enough to live among the other Bears, Sally will be able to run free and play with whoever she likes. Yet, for now, she and Baloo remain comfy and cozy inside their specially designed hibernation den.

As they dream of lavish meals and all of the special treats their caretakers will soon be sharing, we too can think of the wonderful life both Sally and Baloo have waiting for them. Thanks to your support and caring spirit, Sally and her newfound friend have the world at their feet!

Who would have thought it was possible for a tiny Black Bear cub that was inexcusably bound to a truck bumper in Louisiana would somehow end up living happily ever after at a sanctuary in Colorado? It’s entirely possible, most of us would agree, given the amazing network of caring animal welfare

and wildlife agencies that know who to call when they discover a precious life like Sally’s hanging in the balance.

We are entirely grateful for the opportunity to help Oliver, Charity, Charlotte, Baloo, Benji, Sally and all of the other cubs that have come to our Sanctuary in the past year or so. Each one should have never been placed in harm’s way, but given they were, we are also extremely grateful for your support.

With your generous help, we remain trained, equipped and ready to respond whenever the need arises! 🐾



2010

SPRING 2010
 (5) Lynx (6) Bobcats rescued from WA
SPRING 2010
 (1) Bobcat rescued NE
SPRING 2010
 (1) African Serval rescued from CO
SUMMER 2010
 (5) Tigers (1) African Serval rescued from ID
SUMMER 2010
 (1) African Lion (1) Black Bear Rescued from OH
SUMMER 2010
 (1) Bobcat rescued from ID
FALL 2010
 (1) Wolf Hybrid rescued from MI
FALL 2010
 (2) African Lions rescued from CANADA
FALL 2010
 (1) Brown Bear rescued from CA
FALL 2010
 (2) Black Bears rescued from OH
WINTER 2010
 (20) Black Bears (5) Grizzly Bears rescued from TX
WINTER 2010
 (1) Tiger rescued from WA

2011

SPRING 2011
 (1) Tiger rescued from MO
SPRING 2011
 (6) Shetland Sheep rescued from MO
SUMMER 2011
 (25) African Lions rescued from BOLIVIA
FALL 2011
 (4) Black Bears rescued from OH
WINTER 2011
 (1) Coati Mundi rescued from CO
WINTER 2011
 (3) African Lions rescued from PANAMA

2012

SPRING 2012
 (1) Black Bear rescued from IL
SPRING 2012
 (2) African Porcupines (2) Coati Mundi (2) Jackals rescued from CO
SUMMER 2012
 (2) Wolves rescued from OH
SUMMER 2012
 (1) African Lion rescued from CANADA
FALL 2012
 (2) Black Bears rescued from CA
FALL 2012
 (2) Mtn Lions rescued from CO
WINTER 2012
 (51) Alpacas rescued from CO
WINTER 2012
 (1) Wolf rescued from CO
WINTER 2012
 (4) African Lions (4) Black Bears rescued from OH
WINTER 2012
 (1) Ostrich rescued from CO

2013

SPRING 2013
 (5) Syrian Brown Bears rescued from WI
SUMMER 2013
 (1) Eurasian Lynx rescued from CANADA
FALL 2013
 (3) African Lions (4) Coyotes (1) Kit Fox rescued from MEXICO
FALL 2013
 (5) Black Bears (3) Kodiak Bears (3) Mtn Lions rescued from FL
FALL 2013
 (2) Wolves rescued from CO
FALL 2013
 (2) Black Bears rescued from OH
WINTER 2013
 (5) Black Bears rescued from SC
WINTER 2013
 (3) Black Bears rescued from NC

2014

SPRING 2014
 (15) Grizzly Bears (6) Black Bears rescued from GA
SUMMER 2014
 (1) Black Bear rescued from LA
SUMMER 2014
 (1) Emu rescued from CO
FALL 2014
 (1) Bobcat rescued from CO
FALL 2014
 (1) Mtn Lion (1) Black Bear (1) African Serval rescued from NY
FALL 2014
 (3) Black Bears rescued from NY
FALL 2014
 (6) Black Bears rescued from NY
WINTER 2014
 (3) African Lions rescued from URUGUAY
WINTER 2014
 (3) Black Bears rescued from AK
WINTER 2014
 (5) African Lions (3) Coyotes (2) Kit Foxes (1) Mtn Lion rescued from MEXICO

2015

SPRING 2015
 (2) Asiatic Bears rescued from TN
SPRING 2015
 (3) Black Bears (5) Wolves (1) Mtn Lion (1) Coyote (1) Kit Fox (4) Foxes (1) Bobcat (1) Siberian Lynx (1) Bengal Cat rescued from IA
SPRING 2015
 (3) Tigers (2) Black Leopards (1) Leopard (2) Mtn Lions rescued from OH
SPRING 2015
 (3) Syrian Brown Bears rescued from WV
SPRING 2015
 (1) Black Bear rescued from GA
SUMMER 2015
 (2) Ostriches rescued from NM
SUMMER 2015
 (1) African Lion rescued from MEXICO
SUMMER 2015
 (1) Black Bear rescued from PA
SUMMER 2015
 (1) Tiger rescued from GA
FALL 2015
 (1) Grizzly Bear rescued from FL
WINTER 2015
 (1) African Lion rescued from MEXICO
WINTER 2015
 (2) Syrian Brown Bears (2) Black Bears rescued from PA
WINTER 2015
 (8) African Lions (1) Mountain Lion (2) Bobcats (1) Coyote rescued from MEXICO
WINTER 2015
 (12) African Lions (4) Grizzly Bears rescued from SPAIN
WINTER 2015
 (1) Emu rescued from CO
WINTER 2015
 (24) Chickens rescued from CO
WINTER 2015
 (2) Pigs rescued from CO

ROAD TO RECOVERY

2016

SPRING 2016
(6) Tigers (2) African Lions
(2) Jaguars (1) Leopard
rescued from MEXICO

SPRING 2016
(1) Bobcat rescued from KS

SPRING 2016
(1) Grizzly Bear
rescued from MN

SUMMER 2016
(9) Syrian Brown Bears
(1) Grizzly Bear
(5) Black Bears
rescued from OH

SUMMER 2016
(1) Tree Fox rescued from CO

FALL 2016
(1) Bobcat rescued from CO

FALL 2016
(2) African Lions
rescued from IA

WINTER 2016
(1) Grizzly Bear
(2) Syrian Brown Bears
(4) Black Bears (1) Wolf
(9) Tigers (1) African Lion
rescued from SD

WINTER 2016
(2) Wolves (2) Black Bears
(2) Syrian Brown Bears
rescued from SD

WINTER 2016
(1) Arctic Fox rescued from NE

WINTER 2016
(1) Kit Fox rescued from CO

WINTER 2016
(1) Asiatic Black Bear
rescued from MD

WINTER 2016
(4) Black Bears
rescued from OH

WINTER 2016
(1) Arctic Fox rescued from NE

2017

SPRING 2017
(2) Tigers
rescued from MEXICO

SPRING 2017
(3) Tigers
(2) African Lions
(2) Grizzly Bears
rescued from ARGENTINA

SPRING 2017
(3) Black Bears (1) Ostrich
rescued from AL

SUMMER 2017
(6) Black Bears
rescued from GA

FALL 2017
(1) African Serval
rescued from NV

FALL 2017
(1) Syrian Brown Bear
(1) Black Bear
rescued from MI

FALL 2017
(1) Black Bear
rescued from IN

FALL 2017
(1) Wolf rescued from CO

WINTER 2017
(19) Tigers
rescued from OK

WINTER 2017
(20) Tigers (3) Black Bears
rescued from OK

WINTER 2017
(1) Syrian Brown Bear
(1) Black Bear
rescued from NC

WINTER 2017
(3) Black Bears
rescued from AL

2018

SPRING 2018
(2) Black Bears
rescued from IN

SPRING 2018
(1) Fox rescued from WY

SPRING 2018
(2) Coyotes
rescued from CO

SPRING 2018
(1) Bobcat
rescued from CO

SUMMER 2018
(3) African Lions rescued
from SOUTH KOREA

SUMMER 2018
(2) Grizzly Bears
rescued from ARGENTINA

SUMMER 2018
(2) African Lions
(2) Black Bears
rescued from OH

FALL 2018
(1) Fox rescued
from LEBANON

FALL 2018
(10) Yaks
rescued from CO

FALL 2018
(4) Emu (1) Yak
rescued from CO

WINTER 2018
(1) African Lion
(1) Tiger rescued
from SAIPAN

2019

SPRING 2019
(20) Call Ducks (4) Cavys
(9) Ducks (11) Wallaroo
/Wallabies/Kangaroo
(3) Tortoises (3) Horses
(9) Donkeys (10) Goats
(4) Peacocks (6) Geese
(1) Camel (1) Mini Horse
(1) Llama
(50) Miniature Pigs
rescued from CO

SUMMER 2019
(1) Red Fox rescued from CO

SUMMER 2019
(6) Camels (3) Tigers
(2) African Lions (4) Foxes
(4) Lynx (2) Asiatic Blk Bears
(3) Coati Mundi
rescued from VA

FALL 2019
(6) Grizzly Bears (4) Blk Bears
(1) Mtn Lion
(3) Spotted Hyenas
(2) Tigers rescued from CA

FALL 2019
(2) Wolves rescued from FL

FALL 2019
(3) Spectacled Bears
rescued from ARGENTINA

FALL 2019
(2) Grizzly Bears
rescued from TX

WINTER 2019
(1) African Lion (2) Wolves
rescued from CANADA

WINTER 2019
(10) Grizzly Bears
rescued from ARGENTINA

WINTER 2019
(1) Llama (1) Kit Fox
(3) Coyotes (2) Black Bears
rescued from IA

2020

SPRING 2020
(2) Mules rescued from IA

SPRING 2020
(1) Asiatic Black Bear
rescued from PA

SPRING 2020
(1) Grizzly Bear
rescued from TN

SPRING 2020
(1) Tiger rescued from TX

SPRING 2020
(2) Tigers (1) African Lion
rescued from MD

SPRING 2020
(12) Wolves rescued from CA

SPRING 2020
(1) Cow rescued from CO

SPRING 2020
(3) Tigers (4) African Lions
rescued from MEXICO

SPRING 2020
(1) Arctic Fox rescued from CO

SPRING 2020
(6) Tigers rescued from FL

SPRING 2020
(3) Grizzly Bears
rescued from OH

SPRING 2020
(1) Buffalo rescued from CO

SUMMER 2020
(1) Coyote rescued from CO

SUMMER 2020
(1) Llama rescued from IA

FALL 2020
(2) Tigers (2) Black Bears
rescued from TX

FALL 2020
(5) Tigers (7) Felid Hybrids
(2) African Lions
(2) Grizzly Bears
rescued from IN

FALL 2020
(1) Black Bear
rescued from LA

FALL 2020
(3) Tigers (3) African Lions
(11) Wolves (1) Black Bear
(1) Grizzly Bear
rescued from OK

WINTER 2020
(2) Wolves rescued from OH

WINTER 2020
(1) Wallaby rescued from
LEBANON

2021

SPRING 2021
(14) Tigers
rescued from OK

SPRING 2021
(1) Mtn Lion (5) Grizzly Bears
(2) Black Bears
rescued from IN

SPRING 2021
(2) Tigers
rescued from ARGENTINA

SPRING 2021
(1) African Lion
(2) African Servals
rescued from GUAM

SPRING 2021
(1) Felid Hybrid
rescued from OK

SPRING 2021
(24) Tigers (1) African Lion
(9) Felid Hybrid
rescued from OK

SUMMER 2021
(1) Grizzly Bear
rescued from OH

SUMMER 2021
(2) Grizzly Bears
rescued from LEBANON

SUMMER 2021
(1) Wolf rescued from LA

SUMMER 2021
(3) Wolves (1) Lynx
(1) Coyote (2) Bobcats
(5) Caracals rescued from OK

FALL 2021
(1) Black Bear (3) Foxes
rescued from MI

FALL 2021
(1) Wolf rescued from LA

WINTER 2021
(5) Bobcats rescued from MT

WINTER 2021
(1) African Lion (2) Black Bear
(1) Grizzly Bear Transfer from
The Wild Animal Sanctuary TX

2022

ROAD TO RECOVERY

PROGRAM REVIEW

ANIMAL RESCUE



In 2021 the Sanctuary was home to over 650 large exotic animals – making us the largest carnivore sanctuary in the world – and that number is constantly growing due to our dedicated efforts to save the lives of what seems like a never ending stream of animals needing to be rescued.



In 2021, we were able to rescue 92 animals from across the United States and internationally representing over 13 species and sub-species from all over the world. Of those rescued, 47 came to the Sanctuary in Keenesburg. The other 45 are now at home at The Wild Animal Refuge.



Animal rescues take an extraordinary amount of time, resources, and dedication. In 2021, our team drove over 40,000 miles on rescue operations within the United States, using over 6100 gallons of fuel. Leading up to their release, we do everything in our power to ensure that each obstacle faced by these animals is overcome so that they can have the best life possible.

Rescuing these animals is the first step in their journey at The Wild Animal Sanctuary. Some live up to 30 years of their lives in our care. They come to us from all different stages of life and often with medical complications from their previous life before they were rescued that require long term care.



LIFE IN A BARREL



RESCUE

Sawmiller | Indiana

As we have written about numerous times in previous newsletters, there are some pretty iconic offenders out there who are infamous in the world of animal welfare. Of course, with in the last year we have documented numerous rescues involving characters from the Netflix Tiger King saga... so we haven't had much space to highlight some of the other people within the United States that have been contributing their fair share toward the Captive Wildlife Crisis.

However, in February of this year, we were called upon by the USDA to help rescue numerous exotic animals that were located within the state of Indiana. The five Grizzly Bears and two Black Bears, as well as one Mountain Lion, were owned by a man named Robert Sawmiller.

Sawmiller was a notorious traveling exhibitor and breeder of captive wildlife, who operated primarily under the name "*Wildlife on Wheels*." He has been known to keep wild species such as Bears, Cougars, Wolves, Coyotes, Foxes, and Badgers, whom he has exhibited at events such as festivals, county fairs, and school programs. He has previously sold bear-cub photo opportunities — and he has even sold the cubs themselves.

The USDA had licensed Sawmiller as an "*exhibitor*" and performed regular inspections on his traveling road show (*when they could find it*) - as well as at his two main compounds located in Ohio and Indiana. At his Ohio location, Sawmiller also bred Yellow Labs and Wolf hybrids in order to capitalize on those markets as well.

Buried deep within Amish-laden countryside, his Indiana compound was the spot where he kept his Grizzly and Black

Bears, as well as medium-sized cats such as Mountain Lions. It was also the place where he often kept cubs that he was advertising for sale.

He was in hot water now with the USDA because he was failing to provide adequate shelter and proper care for the animals within the Indiana compound. Of course, trouble was nothing new for Mr. Sawmiller, as he had just finished scraping with the Animal Legal Defense Fund (*ALDF*) over a court case he lost and ended up owing them money for court costs and legal fees.

Just weeks earlier, we were called to his Ohio compound to rescue two Wolves and one Yellow Lab as part of that settlement. As expected, the Wolves and domestic Dogs were being kept in filthy rusted-out cages that were filled with excessive dead animal and fecal debris, as well as rusted and frozen water dishes.

Thankfully, we were able to rehabilitate the two male Wolves and release them into a new large acreage habitat, and also find a loving home for the female Yellow Lab. Having been raised in severe puppy mill-like conditions, the female Lab was initially unnerved by having so much freedom. Yet, within days, her sweet and loving disposition took hold, and she

became a much-loved member within her new home.

On our way to Sawmiller's compound in Indiana, we became somewhat delayed in meeting with the USDA. We were making good time heading to the farm site where Sawmiller kept his animals, but everything came to a near stop when an Amish horse-drawn buggy appeared from behind a grove of trees and began trotting down the narrow country road in front of us.

The night before, we had driven through a major snow storm, so by morning, the entire landscape was completely covered with a heavy blanket of snow. The all-black buggy, combined with the jet black stallion pulling it, created a stark contrast as its narrow wooden wheels quietly sliced two thin paths through the deep white snow just ahead of us.

For a moment we were transported back to a time when large trucks and heavy machinery failed to exist, and horses were the only source of transportation. Through the windshield of our truck, our rescue team watched the horse and buggy as it made a gentle turn onto a road leading to our left.

The driver made a quick glance over his shoulder and saw our large industrial truck with its massive 50' trailer in tow. He



Life In A Barrel Cont'd

did a quick double-take just as we had moments earlier. We were quite sure he was just as stunned by the true dichotomy that existed between his world and ours.

As he began to vanish behind another heavily wooded area, we realized he had turned onto the very same road we were looking for. Moments later, we arrived at the Amish farm where Sawmiller kept his animals.

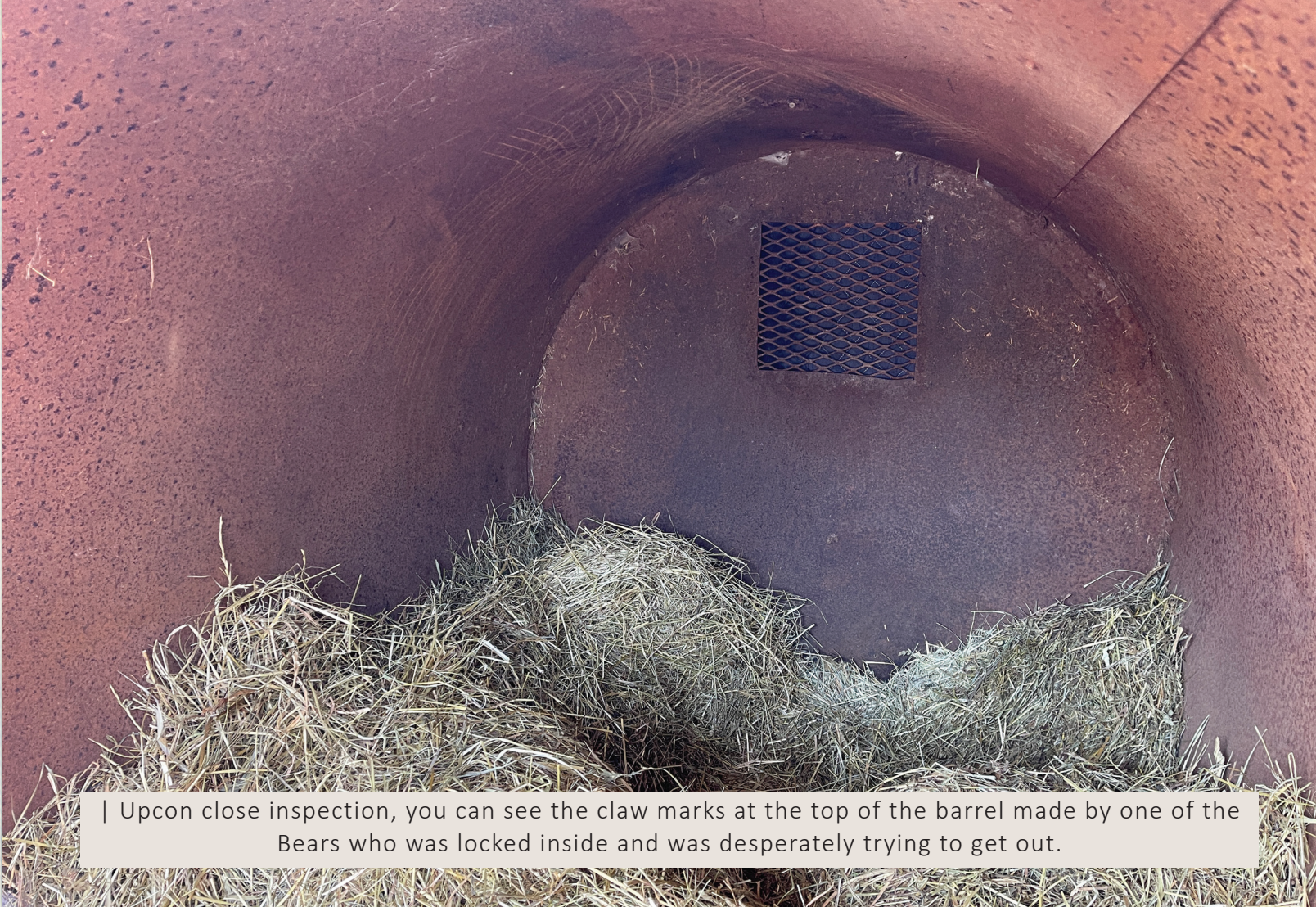
As the horse and buggy crested the hill beyond the driveway we were about to enter, we realized just how deep the snow had become. Rather than drive down the unplowed driveway that lead to the farm's traditional barnyard area, we decided to leave our trucks and trailers out on the county road.

As we trudged through the snow on our way to the compound where the animals were kept, we realized how difficult it was going to be getting our forklift through the deep snow. With three of the five Grizzly Bears being full grown, there was simply no way our team would be able to push or lift the transport crates once the large brown bruins were inside.

This is why we had brought our own forklift to the rescue, but now the challenge was to dig a path leading up to, as well as inside the tightly quartered compound. In fact, when we say "*tightly quartered*" we actually mean extremely small, cramped, miniscule or any other word that would describe an animal compound that occupied less square feet than the average household.

Of course, the only way the compound could have three adult Grizzly Bears, two adult Black Bears, two juvenile Grizzly Bears and one Mountain Lion in it was by giving each animal less than 200 square feet to live in. The conditions were appalling and quite similar to being forced to live full time inside of a jail cell.

Thankfully, our rescue team worked alongside the USDA Inspectors and their contracted security personnel to shovel a path through the snow leading to an area in front of the compound gates. Once inside, we were able to start assessing the animals and any other challenge that laid before us.



| Upon close inspection, you can see the claw marks at the top of the barrel made by one of the Bears who was locked inside and was desperately trying to get out.

Two adult Black Bears were found hiding inside separate iron barrels that were connected to a tiny 8' by 12' cage. Next door, one adult male and two adult female Grizzly Bears were moving frantically inside of their 16' by 12' cage.

At first glance, we thought they were upset by our sudden intrusion into their hibernation cycle... but within minutes it became clear they were far from being in any stage of the hibernation cycle and were actually upset because they knew we had brought food along with us. It was obvious they were hungry and extremely

interested in the bucket of treats we had sitting outside the compound gates.

But why were they so hungry in the middle of winter? By all standards of Bear behavior, both in the wild and in captivity, Bears living in cold climates would already be in the deepest part of their hibernation phase by now. However, all of the Bears in this compound were awake and highly interested in food.

It turns out, most of the USDA's concerns revolved around this very fact as well. Rather than providing proper

housing for the Bears, Mr. Sawmiller had simply provided large iron barrels for the Bears to use as dens.

Each iron barrel had a steel guillotine door at the front that he would lower upon a date of his choosing, creating a situation where the Bears were forcefully relegated to "*hibernate*". However, being locked inside a bare metal drum did little to encourage the Bears to sleep, let alone remain calm.

Inspectors found the Bears were being locked inside of these iron barrels from a chosen date in the fall until

Life In A Barrel Cont'd

another chosen date in the spring, all without regard to their own inclination or natural behavior patterns. Trapped inside, without food or water, each Bear was forced to lay inside their tiny metal drum until such time as their human captor would graciously open the door.

Adding insult to injury, the barrels had no insulation or ability to prevent the wind, rain, snow or sub-zero temperatures from penetrating the steel blockage that was considered to be their "door". Unlike their wild cousins, or even the Bears that hibernate in our underground dens, these bears had little-to-no protection from the elements.

In an attempt to improve their accommodations Sawmiller had the Amish farm owner who took care of the animals for him lay some quilts over the drums as if that would resolve the issue. Of course, when it rained or snowed, the quilts simply got wet and lost what little insulative value they may have had.

With the doorways being unsealed, it was all a futile exercise anyway. The Bears needed to have proper accommodations, and it was clear that Mr. Sawmiller was incapable of providing that. Thus, we were given the green light to rescue them.

Just beyond the Bears in the back corner of this incredibly small space we found a small round cage with an emaciated female Mountain Lion hiding inside of a plastic den box. The box was one of those plastic fluid totes that are often used these days for chemical transportation.

As with the Bears' iron barrels, the Mountain Lion's den offered no shelter from the elements either. With nearly the entire front wall being cut out, the den area had filled with snow that subsequently melted and refroze into a sheet of ice.

The tiny Mountain Lion was forced to lay in a puddle of water or on a layer of ice as she attempted to avoid being soaked by rain or covered in snow with each summer and winter storm that passed through the area. Although most Mountain Lions could successfully weather various storms in the wild, this dainty female was in bad shape and had no muscle or fat reserves to call upon.

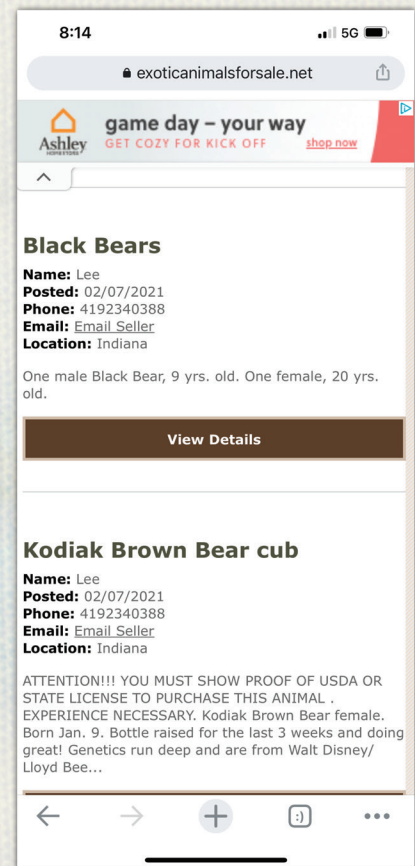
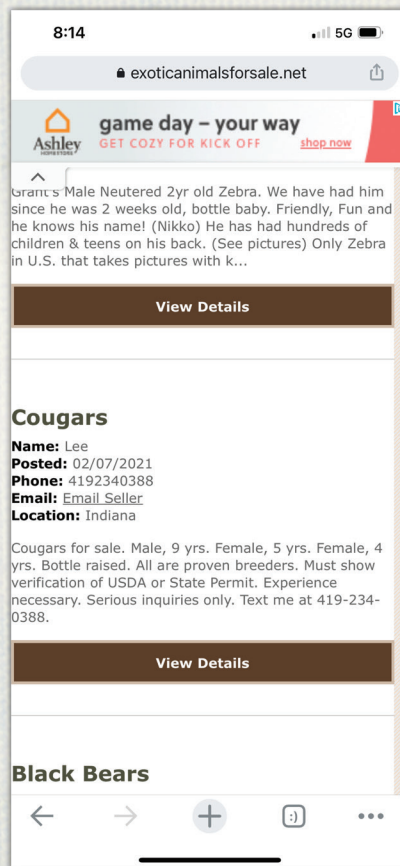
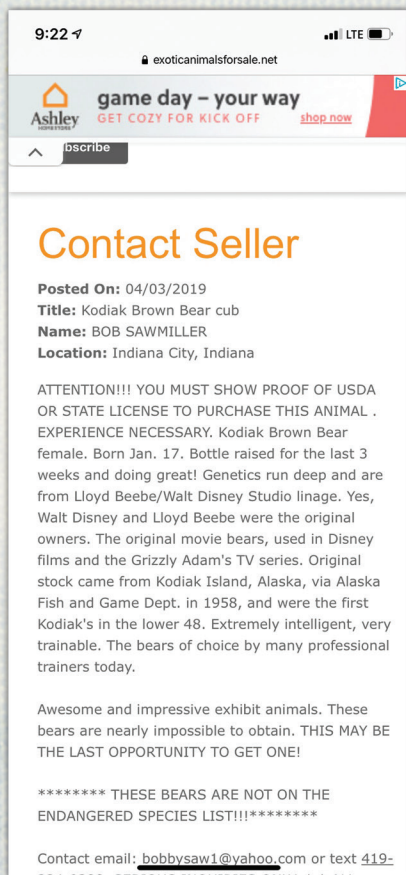
To her left was another incredibly small cage that housed two juvenile Grizzly Bears. Likely the offspring of one of the two adult females, this male and female were both extremely underweight and skinny as rails. Although their dull fur coats helped hide their true physique,

it was vastly apparent they too had not been fed during the imposed hibernation routine.

Thankfully, with all of the heavy shoveling that had taken place, we were able to get our forklift down the driveway and into the compound where it would be extremely useful in positioning our transport cages. One by one, we loaded the Bears into the cages and ferried them out to the trailer waiting at the road.

The female Mountain Lion was also more than happy to join us as she walked directly into her transport cage. Sadly, we had learned that Sawmiller had "bottle-raised" Grizzly cubs being held inside the farm house, and that the USDA could not seize them at this time.

Since they were being cared for inside a controlled environment and not in danger of succumbing to the elements, it was perfectly legal for Sawmiller to keep them under his license. His intent was to sell the cubs in order to make a profit, and he already had internet advertisements boasting they could be purchased for the right price.



Additional ads were found that offered the Black Bears and Mountain Lion we had just rescued as well. Thankfully, they were no longer available for him to sell, and were now on their way to a beautiful new home in Colorado!

Like all of our rescues, each of the animals that arrived at the Sanctuary in Keenesburg was placed into an introduction enclosure where they could adjust to their new home while we also evaluated them from a medical standpoint. Although the female Mountain Lion and female juvenile Grizzly Bear were extremely underweight and were suffering from nutritional deficiencies, we were confident they would recover over time.

All five Grizzly Bears were placed in separate temporary enclosures within a 20-acre

habitat and given time to adjust. The Black Bears were similarly placed inside of one of our Black Bear habitats, and also given time to adjust.

Both sets of Bears were not in any phase of hibernation, so they were fed on a regular basis in order for them to gain much needed weight. While all of our other previously rescued Bears continued with their hibernation cycles, this new band of Bears had a unique opportunity to get comfortable with their new home.

Now that summer is beginning to come into full swing,

all of our Bears have woken from their winter naps and are actively moving about within their respective habitats. As such, “Porter”, “Loretta” and “Lynn” the adult Grizzlies – as well as “Clementine” and “Oscar” the Juvenile Grizzlies – have all been released in their habitat.

Needless to say, their first few days of freedom were not filled with joyous romps or silly play. Instead, cautious short ventures just yards beyond the doorway of their introductory enclosures were all they could muster.



Life In A Barrel Cont'd

| Loretta with her cubs, Oscar and Clementine

But as time went by, the joyous scenes we are all so used to expecting finally came forth. Loretta was the first to let her hair down and begin playing without reservation. She quickly convinced Porter to join her in a quick dip in the pool – which was really a small lake that was close to their staging area.

After splashing each other and bobbing up and down numerous times, both Loretta and Porter took off on a lumbering gallop around the eastern half of their habitat! We could see how their rhythmic steps began with a kind of awkward timing, but amazingly, within minutes, they seemed to have found

and recorded the correct motor skills needed to gallop with grace and beauty.

Soon, Lynn joined in with Loretta, and they together went for a swim. It was a pure joy to see them finally getting to be Bears - no longer restrained and relegated as reproductive possessions.

As the days passed, we waited to release Oscar and Clementine. It would be important for the jubilant adults to calm down a little before releasing the much smaller Bears.

Thankfully, it didn't take long for the adult Bears to spend what little built up energy they had. Having been locked

inside tiny cages their whole life, they were lacking the muscle and endurance that a wild Bear would normally take for granted.

Once the juveniles were set free, Loretta quickly took a role of dominance. It was clear she was their mother, and Lynn was not.

Both Oscar and Clementine seemed extremely happy to be reunited with her and spent their first free steps playfully engaging with her in every way possible. Clementine was the most cantankerous with respect to Loretta's motherly authority, as she would run up to her and stand on her back two feet while simultaneously cradling

Loretta's head with her front paws. She would then quickly twist Loretta's head back and forth as if to rattle her brain.

Being an understanding mother, Loretta allowed her prankster daughter to do this maneuver a few times. However, on the next attempt, Loretta decided to make it abundantly clear that she had had enough. Standing up, she towered over Clementine and let out a groan that must have meant "go to your room", as Clementine quickly ran off to her open enclosure and sulked inside for the next five minutes.

Whether there is really such a

thing as "*Bear Time Out*" we will never know, but from that point on, Clementine and her brother seemed amply aware that momma Bear had very clear boundaries when it came to physical play. Regardless, seeing the three of them reunited was a blessing and to know they could live the rest of their lives together inside of a 20-acre natural habitat was amazing!

Lynn took the time to interact with the juveniles as well, but it was very obvious that "*Aunt Lynn*" was not open to any of their shenanigans. Although she and Loretta lived together in their tiny cage and

had forged a close bond, Lynn seemed to be OK with Loretta spending time with her babies.

Porter, on the other hand, seemed a little jealous that Lynn was having so much fun and tried to join the party. Unfortunately, Oscar and Clementine were not comfortable with his large stature being so close.

As Porter would approach the family group, the two juveniles would very calmly move away from their mother and wait for Porter to move on. However, after numerous weeks at the Sanctuary, we began to see their concerns fade.

We do not know if Porter is their father, but either way, all



Lynn

Life In A Barrel Cont'd



Loretta

(including Lynn) are getting along wonderfully at this point. The daily antics of Oscar and Clementine remind us of the three other Grizzly cubs we currently care for.

“Charity”, “Charlotte” and “Oliver” are the three Grizzly cubs we rescued in April of 2020. They too had belonged to Robert Sawmiller, but had been surrendered to the Columbus Zoo via an agreement with the Ohio Department of Agriculture – then subsequently donated to our Sanctuary.

As far as everyone could tell, these three cubs were likely born to either Lynn or Loretta back in January of 2020, but Sawmiller had pulled them and was caught inside Ohio without a proper permit relating to bringing them into the state. Yet, there was also a chance their mother was neither Lynn nor Loretta, since two other adult female Grizzly Bears had died when Mr. Sawmiller had hastily sedated all of the Bears during a midnight loading in Indiana when he was trying to get his Bears out of a place called the Cricket Hollow Zoo in Iowa.

Many readers may remember that name, as its owner, Pam Sellner, has a long history of trouble with the USDA and

animal welfare groups such as The Animal Legal Defense Fund, who sued Pam over the conditions and animal care practices at her facility. One of many animals we have rescued from that roadside zoo included “Jonwah”, a female African Lion that had serious medical issues, but Sellner had left her to die in a tiny cage at the Zoo.

This current connection between Sawmiller and Sellner involved five adult Grizzly Bears, which Sawmiller had been keeping at Sellner’s zoo for a number of years. When Sawmiller heard there was a court order for all of the animals in Sellner’s zoo to be confiscated and sent to accredited sanctuaries – he went into the zoo the night before the seizure was supposed to take place and removed the Bears.

Sadly, two adult female Bears died as a result. We were never able to discern if those two females ever had cubs, but we do know that Sawmiller would show up at the Iowa zoo to pull any and all cubs that were born so he could put them up for sale. This is how Charity, Charlotte and Oliver ended up in Ohio.

Now that this trio of Grizzly cubs had made their way to our Sanctuary and were given the benefit of a whole year to grow and thrive, they too were ready to be released into a large acreage habitat. This meant all of Sawmiller’s Grizzly Bears

would have the chance to be reunited.

Now that the three adult Grizzlies, as well as the two juveniles were gleefully enjoying their new home, we took the opportunity to move Charity, Charlotte and Oliver into an introduction enclosure within the same habitat. They haven’t been there long enough to be released, as yet, but most likely

will be by the time this newsletter shows up in your mailbox.

We fully expect them to love playing with their cousins (*or whatever specific relation they happen to be*), and look forward to endless hours of romping, swimming, wrestling and whatever else this bundle of rowdiness can muster.

There’s no doubt Loretta, Lynn and Porter will also will appreciate the children getting together, since all three adults would probably prefer to lumber around the lake and some of the habitat’s other amenities at their own pace.

Since we do not mix Bear species, the male and female Black Bears that we rescued from Sawmiller’s compound were taken to the Refuge in southern Colorado. With 243-acres of forested habitat waiting for them, we were very excited to see them succeed as well.



Life In A Barrel Cont'd

“Cleo” and “Caspian” spent the first couple weeks inside an introductory enclosure located within the habitat, which allowed them to meet some of the other Black Bears already living there. Since then, the pair have been released and are now roaming freely within the giant forested area.

Although neither adult Black Bear has the energy to be as wild as the juvenile Grizzlies... they do seem extremely happy to have such a wonderful home. Of course, anything is better than the tiny 96 sq. ft. cage they used to live in at Sawmiller’s compound, but there is little doubt these two Bears ever thought they would have such incredible freedom!

Seeing how we have always looked forward to the day we would see one of our rescued

| Caspian exploring his large acreage habitat after a swim

animals majestically standing atop one of the massive rock formations found at the Refuge, we are now thrilled to say that dream has finally come true!

As we were recently working on moving new animals into an adjacent habitat, we noticed a Black Bear sitting high on a ridge within the Black Bear habitat.


It was “Tupak”, one of the Andean Bears we had previously rescued from Argentina, and he was sitting quite peacefully watching our movements below. After a few moments, he decided to climb to a higher vantage point, which involved him gracefully scaling a number of sandstone protuberances.

It was an incredible sight to see, and easily rivaled anything we could ever expect to see in the wild! Our hearts

were filled with joy, as we immediately imagined how a day would come when Cleo or Caspian would enjoy a similar experience.

There is no doubt these Black and Grizzly Bears have come a long way, and as such, we had similar hopes for “Gemma” the female Mountain Lion we had also rescued. However, being so underweight and fragile, as well as having clouded eyes, we decided it would be best for her to go to our on-site Veterinary Animal Hospital for evaluation.

There, Gemma would be able to receive specialized care and also be evaluated by our full-time Veterinary staff. Thankfully, other than having an ocular issue related to poor nutrition, there was nothing that a good diet and exercise would not cure.



| Gemma inside her transport cage heading home to The Wild Anima Sanctuary

After a week of being spoiled, Gemma was able to move to our Mountain Lion rehabilitation area - which is also connected to a large acreage habitat. Now that she has gained enough weight to have a happy and energetic disposition, and the haze within her eyes has all but cleared, we will begin letting her go out to explore the natural space.

We fully expect Gemma to continue gaining weight with her increasing muscle and added body fat, and look forward to the point when she will resemble a healthy and vibrant Mountain Lion. By then, she will have made friends with one or more of our other

rescued Cougars, which will help her find even more peace through companionship.

The tale of these Bears and their horrible life being stuck inside barrels for many months each year would never have been told had the USDA not gone to investigate Sawmiller's Indiana compound. Since the Grizzlies and Black Bears were nothing more than a commodity to Sawmiller, they would most likely have continued to be used as bruin cub factories for possibly another decade, or longer.

Thanks to all of the humans in this country who believe Bears, Mountain Lions and other majestic creatures should not

be abused or made to suffer, there are laws and regulations in place that protected their lives and allowed them to be rescued.

We can never thank our supporters enough for all the wonderful things you do to help. From making regular and generous donations, to spreading the word about our mission to save Captive Wildlife, you are the key to our success!

Thank you so much for caring about Porter, Lynn, Loretta and all the other animals we were able to save. We are extremely grateful for your kind and generous help, and everything you do to empower the change that is needed! 🐾



In 2021, we had over 18 full-time Animal Keepers on staff to care for over 650 rescued animals.

The Sanctuary operates on 789 acres of land in Weld County, Colorado. Operations include:

- 🐾 1 Operations Office
- 🐾 1 Business Office
- 🐾 1 Veterinary Clinic
- 🐾 1 Lion House
- 🐾 1 Tiger Compound
- 🐾 1 Rest Area/Snack Bar
- 🐾 1 Nutrition Center
- 🐾 1 Education Center
- 🐾 1 Welcome Center

In 2021 The Wild Animal Sanctuary delivered over 1.75 million gallons of water and 2.75 million pounds of food to our rescued animals. Utilizing multiple refrigerated trucks with three full-time drivers, the Sanctuary picks up food from over 60 food sources across Colorado's Front Range.

Our natural large acreage habitats are a critical component in addressing the overall physical and psychological needs of our rescued animals.

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In 2021, our Operations Team built and/or improved 12 large scale habitats at The Wild Animal Refuge for our growing population of rescued animals! These include 7 new big cat habitats, 1 grizzly habitat, and 4 wolf habitats for our Refuge residents.

We completed construction of a new state-of-the-art veterinary clinic at our Wild Animal Refuge!

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We relocated 2 Black Bears, 1 African Lion, and 1 Grizzly from our Texas Sanctuary to our facilities in Colorado. Those rescued animals now enjoy even larger and beautifully forested habitats than they had previously known.

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In 2021, our Operations Team planted over 200 trees and thousands of seeds at The Wild Animal Sanctuary!

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Our expansive Wild Animal Refuge has 9,684 acres bringing the acreage total of both facilities to 10,473 acres! In addition to these facilities, our Wild Animal Sanctuary- Texas has an additional 41 acres and over 70 additional rescued animals under our care.

CAJUN WOLVES



Although most people these days think of wild Wolves roaming in certain parts of the northern United States, Canada, and Alaska, they used to roam freely throughout the American Continent above the 15th parallel north at one time. Many other subspecies of Wolves have also lived and roamed in other parts of the world.

Yet, like all wild species, there are some that find themselves being held captive in the most unusual places one can imagine. From keeping Polar Bears in South America to keeping Elephants in Edmonton, Canada, it never ceases to amaze us how wild animal species end up in such extreme places.

Of course humans are to blame for every one of these anomalous transplants, as well as the overall absurdity of how they are kept. In many cases animal welfare groups have found Horses, Cows, Pigs and Sheep being kept as pets inside family homes... which is somewhat

akin to our line of work, since we have been called in to rescue Lions, Tigers, Bears and Wolves from similar situations.

However, as crazy as it may seem to expect a Lion, Tiger or Bear to live happily or peacefully within an inner-city home, so too is it nuts to believe a 160 pound Arctic Wolf would fare much better. Given the sheer size of a healthy wolf - let alone all of the engrained instinctual responses and hierarchical characteristics they possess - it's truly a recipe for disaster every time a person thinks they are special and will succeed at taming a Wolf.

Of course, like most baby animals, Wolf pups are quite

harmless early on and seem extremely loving as they begin to grow. Like human children, even Wolf pups need a certain amount of time to develop and learn specific skills that will help them survive.

And since Wolves are one of the few species that naturally rely on group dynamics to survive, it's only natural they would seem to do well in captive situations during the beginning stages of their development. Yet, most people mistakenly assume that a Wolf's behavior during these early stages will remain the same as they develop into an adult.

Instead, as Wolves continue to grow and mature, their needs,

perceptions and reactions begin to change. One of the first clues to surface is their need to protect themselves and their family from danger.

Soon, other natural instincts will drive them to begin stealing and possessing valuable items, which will also worsen over time. Eventually, their determination to move upwards within the pack hierarchy causes the worst problems.

Instead of naturally challenging fellow Wolf Pack members, they have no choice but to challenge their human family members. As most families that have tried will tell you, the issues began when the juvenile Wolf began ignoring directions that were coming from the children.

Later, the same issue begins to happen with either the wife or the husband depending on the sex of the Wolf. Ultimately, over time, the Wolf will continue to move up the strata and begin to challenge anyone and everyone that is not part of the pack.

By now, families begin to realize the Wolf has no desire to have strangers, or any non-pack member entering the house, and is equally or even more aggressive when taken outside of the home on walks. In most cases, the Wolf will attack domestic dogs and cats with every opportunity that arises.

If (*or rather when*) they escape, they almost always kill all or most of the other animals they encounter. And finally, they will always start disrespecting the alpha family member if they remain together long enough.

Only through repeated and severe dominance interactions will the alpha human's control over the Wolf remain intact. Even then, there will be serious injuries on one side or the other – or both – each time there is a fight for dominance.

Of course there are literally thousands of people out there that will argue otherwise. We have run into hundreds over the years that insist they had a great relationship with a Wolf.

However, when pressed, it slowly becomes apparent that they too ran into the same problems and had to get rid of the Wolf. Yet, in their mind, they only want to remember the good things.

It's completely normal for people to romanticize living with wild animals and sharing a special bond – but in reality – it's nearly impossible for people to adapt their human lifestyle to the level and complexity that wild animals require.

Thus, our phone and email accounts continue to be flooded with people seeking a new home for their Wolf. Of course it is not their fault, as they

always have some rationalization as to why they must get rid of it.

The number one reason we receive is because the Wolf escaped and killed one or more of the neighborhood dogs. The second most is the Wolf nipped someone in the family, or a friend who came to visit their house.

The lists go on and on, but of course, everyone thinks they had the situation under control – that is – until the Wolf did what he did. Only in rare instances do we hear of Wolves being kept without incident or injury.

These cases involve Wolves that were kept in remote areas like the mountains and were given large fenced areas to live. Yet, even then, with the vast majority of those cases the people fail to maintain their set up and suddenly find themselves needing to move.

Whether it is a couple getting divorced, or possibly evicted, or simply not complying with county ordinances, we always receive the call to come get them! There are literally hundreds of thousands of Wolves and Wolf hybrids in these kinds of situations throughout the United States.

Two such Wolves recently came to us from the state of Louisiana. Not together, but on separate occasions.

Cajun Wolves Cont'd

In fact, there was a third Wolf that was supposed to come as well, but his owners lawyered up and got a Judge to give them enough time to move somewhere far away. So even though the Wolf had escaped and killed some other family's precious and beloved pets, it was somehow better to let the problem continue to exist as long as it left that area!

Thankfully, both Jacob and Sabo (*both adult male Wolves*) made it out of Louisiana before their owners did the same. Otherwise, without doubt, they would have ended up in trouble again in the not too distant future.

Initially, we received a call from the Louisiana Fish & Game department concerning a monstrous jet black Wolf that had been seen walking down a neighborhood street while basically dragging his owner behind. His massive frame dwarfed both the other dogs and humans that sheepishly passed nearby.

Once the owner was found and a genetic test was done to determine if the Wolf was pure (*which it was*), we were asked to come rescue it. A rescue team was dispatched immediately, and within 24 hours arrived at the local Humane Society where the Wolf had been stationed.

Yet, this was the case where the owners discovered a way to use certain legal loopholes to get their Wolf back. That meant that our team arrived to find an empty cage where the Wolf once stood.

Of course our team knew that every rescue we go on has the potential to get turned upside down. We can easily name dozens of times where we had teams in route, or those that had just arrived at their destination, only to find the rescue was aborted for some legal reason or another.

It's simply part of the process and something that we

understand – even if we do not like it. A lot of hard work, due diligence and sacrifice goes into each rescue operation we undertake, so it is only normal for us to feel a sense of sadness when something derails a rescue.

Our thoughts always shoot immediately to the animals involved, as in most cases, they are suffering greatly and really needed us to succeed at getting them released from the hell they were living in. Thus, we feel a true sense of anguish and sorrow each time a rescue is either delayed or aborted altogether!



Jacob at Humane Society



Jacob

Ironically, not long after our team returned from Louisiana empty handed, we received another call from their Fish & Game Department. Another male Wolf named “*Jacob*” had escaped within an inner-city neighborhood and had been caught and taken to the local pound.

Again, after DNA tests confirmed the Wolf was pure, the owner was told he could no longer keep the Wolf. Being fairly young, the Wolf looked full grown, but was nowhere near as large as the first Wolf we had intended to rescue.

Yet, no matter the age or size, we knew this Wolf would be much happier living with other Wolves in a large natural habitat, so we agreed to return to Louisiana right away. Upon arrival, our team found Jacob cowering in the corner of his concrete cell block.

He was definitely scared, especially with hundreds of domestic dogs barking incessantly - as well as with all of the staff and volunteers that constantly walked up and down his specific aisle throughout the day.

Yet, in a matter of minutes our team had Jacob coaxed into one of our large Wolf crates, which was then loaded inside our large sound-insulated van.

Soon, the team was off and on their way to Colorado where Jacob would spend a few days receiving medical evaluations and caretaker observations just to make sure he had no hidden issues. Being a Wolf, Jacob wasted no time in searching every inch of his temporary indoor/outdoor enclosure, which was located at our Veterinary Hospital at the Sanctuary in Keenesburg, CO.

Cajun Wolves Cont'd

Looking for an escape route, Jacob soon discovered the enclosure had been built for not only Lions, Tigers and Bears - but also for very smart (*and sneaky*) Wolves. Thankfully, the Sanctuary's resident Wolfhounds and other assorted rescue dogs soon befriended Jacob.

As ironic as it might seem to have Irish Wolfhounds around a full-blooded Wolf, everyone agreed to forget their ancestral backgrounds and make nice for Jacob's benefit. That is, everyone except "Marcel", as his duty being the resident dog pack leader was to maintain his position of authority!

Unfortunately, there wasn't much that his tiny 10-pound Maltese body could do that would somehow intimidate Jacob, so he decided to remain about ten feet away from Jacob's enclosure and growl under his breath while puffing up his white fur as much as possible!

Within days Jacob could be seen happily howling each morning as the Sanctuary dogs would pass by his enclosure on their way to the Operations Office. In the distance, numerous packs of Wolves that also lived at the Sanctuary would join Jacob and soon be howling in unison.

This kind of communication is vital to our Wolf integration techniques here at the

Sanctuary, as well as at our Refuge in southern Colorado. Being able to remotely introduce themselves in each direction becomes extremely helpful when the time comes to move a new Wolf into an existing pack.

For Jacob, the communications that transpired over the first week he was there helped introduce him to one of the packs living near the Hospital. In fact, the pack in question was relatively new themselves, so they were open

to adding a new member to their ranks.

Soon, Jacob was running freely within the Wolf Pack's 10-acre habitat and enjoying his newfound freedom to run, play and swim. Yes, swim, as that particular Wolf habitat has a large concrete pool in place.

Jacob, along with one of the shyer female Wolves, were soon splashing and running along the edges of the pool with its tapered walls. The water was exhilarating and they continued to play for quite some time!

Eventually, from not having a large amount of stamina built up yet, Jacob had to stop and rest. That night he slept like a log while the rest of the pack

stayed up to howl softly at the nearly full moon while enjoying the cool summer night.

It's times like these that we are rewarded for the hard work that goes into building large natural habitats. Our operations and animal care teams work very hard to create these warm and inviting spaces, and of course, they continually look for new and better ways to provide our animals the very best care and housing possible.

Meanwhile, unbeknownst to us, another Wolf was now running free in Louisiana and would soon find himself locked in the same concrete holding cell that Jacob once occupied. That's right, a new full-blooded Wolf named "*Sabo*" had been confiscated, and he now faced the same dilemma that Jacob had.

His domestic situation had failed just as miserably as all those before him, so Sabo was now desperately seeking a better and more natural life. Without help, he would most likely have to be destroyed.

Without fail, numerous staff at the Sanctuary quickly volunteered to make the 1,292-mile journey once again in order to help Sabo. After seeing how happy Jacob was, there was little doubt that we could do the same for him.

Although Sabo was much larger than Jacob, he too was

A photograph of two husky-like dogs on a concrete surface. The dog in the background is sitting upright, facing left, with a light tan and grey coat. The dog in the foreground is lying down, also facing left, with a similar coat. The background is a blurred, warm-toned wall or wall of brush. The names 'Jacob' and 'Zola' are written in white cursive script over the image.

Jacob

Zola

Cajun Wolves Cont'd

Sabo



incredibly scared when our team arrived to rescue him. For anyone who has ever been to a city pound or county humane society, you know how deafening the sound can be inside the holding areas.

It would be completely natural for any dog to be scared in such an overwhelming environment... so imagine what it is like for a Wolf that has been locked inside a quiet house ever since he was a pup. The way Wolves and other wild animals are so tightly wound, being caged in such a high pressure environment would most likely be akin to a human standing next to a massive volcano erupting!

Being extremely considerate, everyone agreed to get Soba loaded as quickly as possible and get him on the road toward his new life in Colorado. Another 1,292 miles later, Soba was also

initially placed in the Veterinary Hospital so he could follow in Jacob's footsteps.

However, as much as we would love to pass on Sabo's full recovery story in this article... he just arrived a few days ago, so we will have to wait to read about his amazing transition in our next edition of the Sanctuary News!

Thanks to you and so many other amazing Sanctuary supporters, we know that Sabo will have a wonderful home to move into. We also know that Jacob and all of the other Wolves that we have rescued over the years will also remain healthy, happy, and very content while spending the rest of their lives living in peace and comfort.

Thank you for caring, and thank you for supporting our mission. Together we can make a difference for each and every animal we rescue!





VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

PROGRAM REVIEW

In 2021, the Sanctuary had over 160,000 visitors!

Our Animal Ambassadors presented 27 virtual and in-person speaking engagements in 2021 to promote the Sanctuary and educate the public about the Captive Wildlife Crisis.



We installed a new system of informative audio kiosks along our 1.5 mile long Mile Into The Wild Walkway to allow for greater education opportunities for visitors!



A stunning new Lion King display visible from our Walkway displays a unique collection of metal animal sculptures crafted by local artists from a small village in Kenya, Africa.

We had 197 dedicated volunteers in 2020 that provided much needed support to our staff in caring for our rescued animals.

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We had 210 dedicated volunteers in 2021 that provided much needed support to our staff in caring for our rescued animals.



Our volunteers gave over 29,000 hours of work valued over \$653,000 helping the animals in 2021.

Our volunteers split their time equally between Animal Care and Education. Volunteer work includes but is not limited to Cleaning - Bathrooms, bear tubs, compound, pens, education center, grounds. In our Carnivore Nutrition Center, volunteers help with preparing animal diets. On the walkway, volunteers talk with visitors and help guide people along the habitats to learn about the animals and the work that we do to rehabilitate them.



BEIRUT BEARS



RESCUE

Lebanon | Beirut

BEIRUT Bears

As if the world isn't already in a pickle, there seems to always be other problems that add fuel to the fire so-to-speak. Take Lebanon for example, as the country has had more than its share of problems recently, so it's a wonder we were able to recently rescue two Bears from there.

“Homer” and “Ulysses” are two adult male Brown Bears that were being kept in a private zoo in Lebanon, and like so many of the other animals there, they were desperately trying to find a new home.

Trapped in tiny cages, some smaller than a ping-pong table, the bears had no water, sporadic food, and inadequate shelter from the weather. Both bears not only suffered from malnutrition but also extreme stress and displayed severe behavioral disorders.

Given the country's rapid decline over the last three years, as well as the massive explosion that took place in 2020, the country's people are struggling now just as much as the zoo animals were before them.

Working with a group we have cooperated with numerous times called Animals Lebanon, we were able to begin making plans to get the two bears out of the country in 2019. However, due

to so many roadblocks pertaining to resources and permits, then the onset of COVID in 2020, the rescue kept getting delayed.

Thankfully, another animal welfare organization named *“Four Paws International”* stepped in and continued to help care for the bears while all of the roadblocks were being worked on. With so many travel restrictions in place, there was a time when the Bears were thought to be stuck in Lebanon permanently.

As 2021 drew near, and people began to travel more freely, it looked as if the Bears would finally be able to make the journey to the United States. In mid-July, 2021, the two boys took flight leaving the embroiled countryside behind.

After a layover and quick medical check in Dubai, both bruins were flown to Chicago, where Colorado's The Wild Animal Sanctuary met them for the first time on Monday morning, July 19th. From there, TWAS drove them to The



Wild Animal Refuge, a 9,684 acre-property near Springfield, CO which the Sanctuary has owned and operated since 2018.

For over ten years, “home” to these two Bears were kept in small concrete cages in a private zoo in southern Lebanon. As of July 30th, the Bears began roaming freely within a new 73-acre natural habitat at The Wild Animal Refuge in southeastern Colorado.

The incredible rescue efforts by Four Paws International, Animals Lebanon and The Wild Animal Sanctuary to free Homer & Ulysses were finally a success! Known as the “Beirut Bears” across social media, these two Bears faced a myriad of obstacles before finally finding a permanent home in Colorado.

Today, as Homer and Ulysses wander slowly through the thick pine forest that blankets their large natural habitat, we can tell they are finally happy, pain free and at peace. In the coming



| Amir Khalil, head of project development at FOUR PAWS International checking on one of the Bears inside the transport crate.

months and years, it’s highly likely that other rescued Brown Bears will be joining these foreign transplants.

But no matter where Homer and Ulysses came from, nor the amount of strife and hardship they endured, they will be happy to have the company and comradery of other rescued Bears! 🐾



Homer



REFUGE

Update | Springfield, CO

SUCCESS BRINGS RESPONSIBILITY

There are times in life when a monumental challenge will get placed directly in front of us. We will either choose to take it on with a great amount of courage, or we will turn and run in the opposite direction overshadowed in disgrace.

In most cases it doesn't really matter whether you had any chance at surmounting the challenge, since the true test at hand was to see if you would try regardless of the outcome.

Such was the case with our recent purchase of land in southern Colorado, which was begun just four short years ago. The challenge we faced then was based on our facility in Keenesburg becoming landlocked, and we had to find a solution to our need for more space to build habitats.

Upon finding an incredible parcel of land for the animals, the challenge quickly shifted from simply needing to find land – to needing to find a way to pay for it. By the grace of mathematical equations, we were able to see that the 9,004-acre purchase price of \$7 million

dollars worked out to be \$777 an acre.

There was no doubt in our mind that somehow the solution to this equation was meant to be! With the number 7 being considered a very lucky number... and the combination of three being even more powerful... we felt that we had the perfect price per acre to share with our supporters.

Thus, the Wild Animal Refuge purchase project was born. Starting with the land and the wonderful amenities it had to offer, we were very excited to begin sharing our vision with the world!

The idea was simple - we would ask our supporters, and anyone else who would listen, to help us pay for the new land by purchasing an acre for \$777 and then gift it to the animals. Over time, we would be able to pay off the note and forever secure the land for the animals!

We began this project in April of 2018 by creating a new category of supporter called "Founder". Anyone who was willing to donate \$777 for one or more acres would become a

Founder and would thereby be able to tell anyone and everyone they know that they were now vested in the Wild Animal Refuge!

Founders were given special certificates that could be proudly framed and displayed, as well as other bonus items like progress updates and a yearly invitation to visit the Refuge in person. It was a wonderful program and one that we were sure our supporters would love!

Thankfully, that is exactly what happened, as thousands of dedicated supporters signed up to purchase acres of land. Some purchased a single acre, while others were able to purchase more.

Some supporters held fundraising dinners, parties and other events to help them raise the \$777 they needed. Others created social media birthday wishes that centered on raising enough money to buy at least one acre – and in some cases, many more!

Over the past four years we continued the program via a dedicated website (www.WildAnimalRefuge.org), as

well as having a featured section within our Sanctuary's website. Day-by-day and week-by-week amazing supporters continued to hop online and purchase land for the animals.

From the beginning we knew the land at the Refuge was special and that it would enable us to build a new sanctuary for animals that was not only incredibly unique, but also truly pioneering by design. There was no doubt in our minds the animals would soon live in the most natural and visually stunning habitats we could ever dream of building.

As the years went by, critical habitat development at the Refuge progressed. From the very first habitat we built, to the dozens of amazing habitats we built thereafter, we continued to create incredibly natural habitats for every new animal we rescued.

Today, the Wild Animal Refuge is an amazing masterpiece of truly groundbreaking spaces designed for Lions, Tigers, Bears, Wolves and

other amazing creatures. The land's spectacular topography combined with its abundantly forested landscape and grass-filled valleys are truly something to behold!

From the smaller 5-acre specialty habitats designed for older animals with special needs... to the massive 234-acre Black Black Bear habitat that was built to house dozens of rescued Black Bears... we have succeeded in creating amazing spaces where formerly abused animals can not only live, but more importantly, begin to thrive!

Now, after four years of incredibly hard work by the staff and volunteers that have toiled to build these incredible spaces, and the seemingly endless flow of Founders that have joined forces to purchase many thousands of acres, we have reached a pivotal point in the project's development.



Success Brings Responsibility Cont'd

We are extremely proud to announce the Wild Animal Refuge land has been completely paid off! Yes, through a historic effort, we have succeeded in not only paying for the original 9,004 acres, but also raised the funds to purchase an additional 640 acres of land previously owned by the State of Colorado!

This is an extraordinary achievement – one that was only made possible through the love and dedication of thousands of caring and compassionate people! We are truly blessed to have reached this amazing milestone in just four short years!

Yes, we are celebrating this astonishing accomplishment today by sharing this wonderful news with everyone who has ever cared about the welfare of the thousand-plus animals we have rescued over the years. Anyone and everyone who supports our organization should be extremely proud of what we have been able to accomplish by working together.

Simply put, the images and videos that continue to flow from within the Refuge vividly authenticate the incredibly natural environments that now exist for our rescued animals to enjoy. And for the Founders who visit the Refuge on a yearly basis, they are able to experience the Refuge in a truly

immersive way that is nearly impossible to describe!

Although we would love to sit back, relax, and revel in the splendor that exists – we absolutely cannot allow ourselves to do so. There is far too much work that still needs to be done in order to keep the animals' best interest at heart.

That's right, the animals need to always remain our number one concern no matter what! Quite frankly, that is how we arrived at this point today – meaning our dedication toward doing everything we can to make their lives better is what has fueled our success.

Beginning 42 years ago, we have always put the animals' welfare ahead of our own and worked tirelessly to improve their lives every step of the way. This includes countless days and hours spent traveling across the country and around the globe in order to free them from horrific situations – just so they can return to our Sanctuaries and Refuge where they will be cared for in the most respectful and dignified manner possible.

Yet, the only way that we can make this equation work, is through our unending commitment to build habitats ahead of time, so they will be ready and waiting for the next emergency rescue that comes knocking on our door. Without this

advantage, more than half of all the animals we have rescued would have never lived to see another day.

That is why we constantly toil day after day building habitats that quickly become life-long homes to rescued Lions, Tigers, Bears, Wolves and other innocent creature that truly needs our help! It is a fundamental component of what drives our success, so we need to forge ahead with a renewed energy and commitment toward building habitats for animals that are out there right now waiting to be rescued!

In order to do this, we are asking you to join us as we tighten our focus toward building more habitats at the Refuge. We need your help now more than ever to donate to our Habitat Construction Fund - since it is our number one priority next to the daily care of the animals we love so much.

For more information on our Habitat Construction Fund, and the two-pronged approach we are taking to continue building and expanding The Wild Animal Refuge, please visit the Refuge's dedicated website at www.WildAnimalRefuge.org, or go to the Sanctuary website at www.WildAnimalSanctuary.org and follow the dedicated links leading to our Habitat Construction Fund subpage.



Success Brings Responsibility Cont'd





CONGRATULATIONS

To all the Founders who made this dream possible, we can never thank you enough for your generous land purchase donations!

We are ever so grateful for you believing we could accomplish the impossible by working together and never losing sight of the end goal!





THE WILD ANIMAL SANCTUARY
 (a Non-Profit Corporation)
STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

	Animal Care/Op	Refuge	Education	Rescue	Total Programs	Administration	Fundraising	2021 Total Functional Expenses
Personnel	\$ 2,649,317	\$ 114,018	\$ 1,079,258	\$ -	\$ 3,842,593	\$ 1,026,276	\$ 250,999	\$ 5,119,868
Community Outreach	-	-	756	-	756	-	-	756
Animal Care/Maintenance	8,774,364	191,274	217	-	8,965,855	-	-	8,965,855
Food/Merchandise Expense	-	-	416,481	-	416,481	-	-	416,481
Program Supplies	329,724	533,444	93,296	22,710	979,174	-	47,878	1,027,052
Contract/Professional Svcs	256,093	72,485	216,614	-	545,192	51,461	141	596,794
Communications	33,101	7,177	1,587,862	-	1,628,140	29,009	3,914	1,661,063
Office Expense	48,965	15,302	113,445	1,115	178,827	37,087	255,907	471,821
Travel/Transportation	212,737	41,697	91,240	89,274	434,948	-	-	434,948
Staff Development/Donor Cultivation	1,450	680	7,795	-	9,925	3,071	16,833	29,829
Occupancy	190,278	279,871	423,512	-	893,661	33,461	7,245	934,367
Depreciation	1,086,214	624,308	669,190	41,429	2,421,141	43,892	17,030	2,482,063
Insurance	155,609	2,467	574	-	158,650	15,783	-	174,433
	\$ 13,737,852	\$ 1,882,723	\$ 4,700,240	\$ 154,528	\$ 20,475,343	\$ 1,240,040	\$ 599,947	\$ 22,315,330



THE WILD ANIMAL SANCTUARY
(a Non-Profit Corporation)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
December 31, 2021

ASSETS

	2021
Current Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 1)	\$ 2,899,459
Cash - Restricted (Note 1)	71,040
Investments (Note 1)	286,481
Inventory (Note 1)	181,699
Prepaid expenses (Note 1)	59,711
Other current assets	672,163
Total Current Assets	4,170,553
Property and Equipment	
Property and equipment - at cost (Note 1)	37,771,075
Less: accumulated depreciation	(12,480,076)
Net Property and Equipment	25,290,999
Total Assets	\$ 29,461,552

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities	
Accounts payable	\$ 198,510
Accrued liabilities	226,591
Current portion of long-term debt	1,408,999
Total Current Liabilities	1,834,100
Long-Term Debt (net of current portion)	9,032,876
Total Liabilities	10,866,976
Net Assets	
Without donor restrictions	14,347,863
With donor restrictions	4,246,713
Total Net Assets	18,594,576
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 29,461,552

THE WILD ANIMAL SANCTUARY
(a Non-Profit Corporation)
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

	2021		Totals
	Without Donor Restriction	With Donor Restriction	
Revenue and Support			
Contributions	\$ 8,029,115	\$ 4,423,883	\$ 12,452,998
Special event revenue	355,802	-	355,802
Less: direct event expenses	(56,721)	-	(56,721)
In-kind donations	8,412,360	-	8,412,360
Other income	4,561,165	-	4,561,165
Net assets released from restrictions:			
Satisfaction of program restrictions	3,374,904	(3,374,904)	-
Total Revenue and Support	<u>24,676,625</u>	<u>1,048,979</u>	<u>25,725,604</u>
Expenses			
Animal care	13,737,852	-	13,737,852
Refuge	1,882,723	-	1,882,723
Education	4,700,240	-	4,700,240
Rescue	154,528	-	154,528
Administration	1,240,040	-	1,240,040
Fundraising	599,947	-	599,947
Total Expenses	<u>22,315,330</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,315,330</u>
Change in Net Assets	2,361,295	1,048,979	3,410,274
Net Assets, Beginning of the year	<u>11,986,568</u>	<u>3,197,734</u>	<u>15,184,302</u>
Net Assets, End of the year	<u>\$ 14,347,863</u>	<u>\$ 4,246,713</u>	<u>\$ 18,594,576</u>



**THE WILD ANIMAL SANCTUARY
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021**

	2021
Cash Flow from Operating Activities:	
Change in Net Assets	\$ 3,410,274
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:	
Gain (Loss) on sale of assets	(63,481)
Unrealized gain on investments	(16,573)
PPP Loan forgiveness	(773,100)
Depreciation	2,482,063
Change in:	
Other assets	(225,525)
Inventory	21,447
Prepays	10,113
Accounts payable	44,646
Accrued liabilities	(21,842)
Net Cash Provided By (Used in) Operating Activities	4,868,022
Cash Flow from Investing Activities:	
Proceeds from sale of equipment	63,481
Purchases of property and equipment	(3,174,607)
Purchases of investments	(321,889)
Proceeds from sale of investments	86,304
Net Cash Used In Investing Activities	(3,346,711)
Cash Flow from Financing Activities:	
Proceeds from long-term debt	135,317
Payments on long-term debt	(1,387,734)
Net Cash Used In Investing Activities	(1,252,417)
Net Increase (Decrease) In Cash and Cash Equivalents	268,894
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of the year	2,630,565
Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of the year	\$ 2,899,459



THE WILD ANIMAL
Sanctuary

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