



EFBC/Feline Conservation Center

<http://www.wildcatzoo.org>

DEDICATED TO THE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF ENDANGERED FELINES Winter 2009

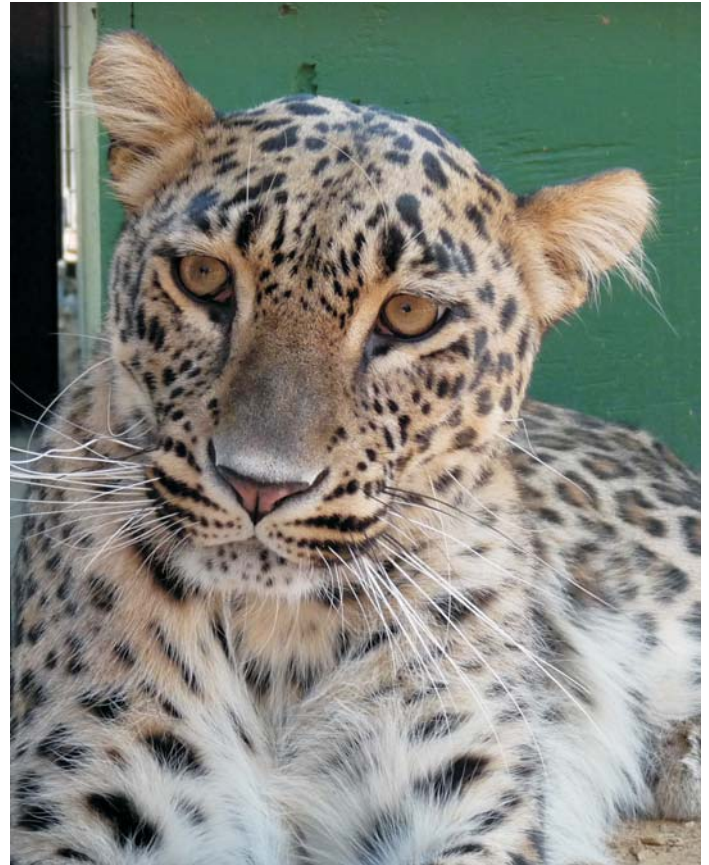
Message from the president:

Our supporters are great and have continued to help EFBC expand its programs to help save the World's wild felines, despite these hard economic times. "Project Tiger" is nearing the final stages, we demolished and rebuilt new cages in the old "Main" area, and purchased and constructed a new 18" X 33" walk-in freezer by the dietary prep building which will allow us to store up to a year's supply of food for our cats if necessary. Our revenues have remained consistent, and we are seeing an increase in visitation from local communities. EFBC will also be working with species survival programs in Europe. We imported a female Persian leopard (*Panthera pardus saxicolor*) and will soon be importing a mate for her from Denmark. EFBC will be the only facility in North America which will be working with European zoos in an effort to save this rare subspecies of leopard from extinction. Our involvement with the growth of ZAA (Zoological Association of America) will not only influence feline captive management, but also a host of other species as well. To our supporters we say - KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK. YOU ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Janet W. Myer'.

Community Appreciation Weekend:

In an effort to thank our local communities for their support, admission fees for the weekend of February 27 & 28, 2010 will be free to all adults living in the 935 zip code, and up to two children



(0-12) can accompany them. Visitors will have to present a photo ID verifying their residence. If you have friends or relatives in the 935 zip code, please spread the word that this would be a great time to come and check us out.

Reciprocal Zoo List:

Enclosed is our 2010 reciprocal zoo listings. Remember when you travel to bring along your EFBC membership card so you can take advantage of visiting these other great facilities along the way.

2010 dates: Mark your calendars now! Our well attended **Twilight Tours** are:

April 24, June 19, and September 18.

The **Fabulous Feline Follies** will be held on the **14th of August.**

Kid's Day will be on **November 20.**

Thank you to the following people for helping to make this year's Kids Day a great success:

First, a special thank you to our \$500 sponsor, Amber Lovett @ Duckie Dreams. We are always seeking sponsors to our events, and Amber really stepped up.

Christy & Randy Cregut for bringing the circus train & pony rides from their place in Frazier Park.



Cheryl Rendes with some junior volunteers , and a big snake!

Cheryl Rendes, who brought her mom and their critters from Wonders of Wildlife, provided the terrific live animal educational shows. Carnita the pot-bellied pig was a hit! And we were very happy to be the venue for Cheryl's newest animal addition, a baby raccoon.

Michele Caldera and her RUFFians for providing the Origami demonstration.

Matt Chambers and his associates from New York Life for providing the Child ID Card Registrations.



Origami was made easy with great teachers!

The Manul (*Otocolobus manul*)

Also known as a Pallas' Cat, Rock, or Steppe cat, this is a species with little data on wild populations. Although red listed and protected, there is still a market for its fur, even in its native land, Central Asia. In June of 2009, a merchant in Vladivostok was fined about \$500 US dollars



Boris is the only Manul "on display", but you do have to know where to look. We have no signs made up for this species, although we can boast the most success in reproductive efforts in North America. When you visit look for Boris on top of his den box, just to the right of the Margay enclosure. We currently house eleven of this captive population, which currently numbers around 50.

for selling mittens made from this threatened animal. Several agencies were involved in making the arrest, but it took a 10 year old girl to get the ball rolling, and she was 11 by the time the individuals were charged.

In Kazakhstan (ninth largest country in the world by size) this feline was once found from the Caspian sea to Markakol Lake, and from the Kazakhstan low hills to the southern boundaries. Now they have disappeared from the central habitat. They can be found on a narrow belt along the south and east shore of the Caspian Sea and in the east of the region. The IUCN placed the Manul as near threatened back in the year 2000 due to hunting and habitat loss. Now it seems this feline has disappeared from most of the Caspian region.

A study began in 2009 to learn more about the status of this felid in Kazakhstan. For more information please visit Savemanul.org

WCN conference a success! On October 3rd several of our volunteers and zookeepers had the opportunity to attend a Wildlife Conservation Network conference in San Francisco. The expo allows conservation organizations from around the world to get together and to learn from each



EFBC has a traveling booth that goes to many events. Here is the crew at the Wildlife Conservation Network event.

other. It is open to the public and there was a fantastic turnout. All of the attendees from the EFBC-FCC were able to listen to lectures from a large variety of guest speakers, as well as man the EFBC-FCC booth. It was a wonderful day and they all plan on attending next year. Several organizations at the conference have received support from the EFBC-FCC, including Cheetah Conservation Botswana, and the Small Cat Conservation Alliance.

Volunteer of the quarter:



Brittany with Sage, bobcat

My name is Brittany Furr and I am honored to be chosen for Volunteer of the Quarter. Starting this year as a second year student at Antelope Valley Community College I really hadn't figured out what I wanted to study. I have always wanted to work with animals, but I don't want to be a veterinarian. So in February of 2009 I started volunteering with the EFBC-FCC, planning on being there one or two days a week. I am now volunteering four days a week and I know what I want to do. I want to work with exotic animals, and I have fallen in love with the cats especially. My first day all I did was shovel dirt into a wheelbarrow. I was bored and thought, "Well this isn't going to last long, but I'll come a few more times." Then one of the zookeepers gave our tiger, Ceasar, a cardboard box to play with. This would prove to be the first among many wonderful experiences, from joking around with



Rico, ocelot, enjoys his toy made by the enthusiastic children on Kids' day.



The snow leopards Anny and Zack enjoyed the enrichments the children designed and made on Kids' Day!

other volunteers to getting baby bobcat kisses. The EFBC is like a second home now, and all of our volunteers work hard to maintain the facility. It really is wonderful to be counted among them.

What can I do? No matter your age, no matter your health, wealth, or level of schooling, there is a way to help make a difference in the fight to save the cats. The ALTA website asks for photos of people with the Amur Leopard logo, to show the world that people care. Using Goodsearch from our website gives a penny for each search you make, as long as you are connected to the web and are looking for something, you can start with us, and make a difference! Talk about us. Tell your friends, relatives, and even strangers about the felines that reside in the high desert, and why you feel we deserve support.

Amur Leopards in danger - Emergency situation in Kedrovaya Pad Reserve! - On October 8, the oldest nature reserve of Primorski region had its 93rd anniversary. - Unfortunately, there was no cause for celebration, because the reserve's work has been paralyzed due to lack of funds as the result of a poorly executed reorganization of the protected areas in the range of the Amur leopard. - On October 27, 2008 Prime Minister Vladimir Putin signed a decree creating Leopardovy Wildlife Refuge. This new wildlife refuge combines the territories of two refuges, Barsovy and Borisovkoe Plato, into one large refuge. The responsibility for managing Leopardovy Wildlife Refuge was transferred to Kedrovaya Pad Nature Reserve, which passed

from the jurisdiction of the Far Eastern branch of the Russian Academy of Science to the Ministry of Natural Resources of Russia. The rationale for this reorganization was to bring the three connecting protected areas (in which half of the remaining Amur leopards live) under one, improved management structure.

In theory this was a very good idea, but as a result of poor execution, the reorganization has created enormous problems and has now left both the Leopardovy Wildlife Refuge and the Kedrovaya Pad Nature Reserve without protection. In June 2009, the bank accounts of Kedrovaya Pad Reserve were closed, and no state funds have since been transferred to the newly opened accounts and as a result the reserve's staff has not received salaries for five months!

Stimulus funds aid Florida -

Panther/Cougar/Puma. \$171,000 will be used to clear land within the Florida Panther wildlife reserve to allow grasslands to return. Deer populations have been moving away from the area, due to the lack of available food. This often means the cats follow into areas where humans accept deer, but don't tolerate Cougars. The trees being cleared are Cabbage Palms - the Florida state tree. On December 3rd, a decapitated Cougar was found in the Indian River County, and rewards are being offered for information on this crime. The entire population of this felid is estimated at 117 in the wild.

Sevastian's Medical Fund Needs Your Help!!

For those of you who have not visited us recently, you may not know that our 7-year old Amur leopard Sevastian was diagnosed with cancer of the sinus cavity after a series of profuse nose bleeds. Sevastian was scheduled to go to another facility in California for breeding, but that has now been put on hold. For the first time, EFBC has agreed with the veterinarians to try chemotherapy to help prolong the quality and longevity of Sevastian's life. He is on a daily regimen of oral medications, and every four weeks receives injections of an additional drug. Needless to say, the drugs and veterinarian bills are substantial. We all agreed that continuation of treatment would depend on Sevastian's attitude and how he responded to the treatments. He did become depressed for about a week, but

snapped right back out of it. His appetite is great and he is not exhibiting any adverse side effects. AND --- He has not had any nose bleeds since we started treatment which is a positive sign. The chemotherapy will continue for about a year. If



The scent of the Holidays is shared with Anny.

you would like to help, please send a designated donation to the Sevastian Medical Fund. We will keep you posted on Sevastian's condition on our web site and in future newsletters.

Project Tiger:

We are nearing completion of our "Project Tiger" and have a special request.

Our plans were to cover the block walls with artificial rock however we are having difficulty finding someone who knows how to do this type of work. If you know of any contractors who specialize in this please let us know. Our goal is to have this project completed and ready for occupancy in 2010. We thank the following donors last quarter for helping us reach that goal; M. Piuze Foundation \$10,000 - Amber Lovett \$10,000 - Barbara Clifford \$3600 - Anonymous \$1,500 - and Garner Holt & Sheron Pinkstaff \$1,000.

General Donations:

When our supporters take that extra step by providing unrestricted donations, it enables EFBC to have the funding to meet unexpected expenses and do improvements to the facility and animal habitats that was not budgeted.

Last quarter we received many donations to the fund from the following: - Raedell Simon Trust, Sandra Masek, Leo & Kathy Notenboom, Chris Tromborg, Lisa Edmondson, Ralph Roberts, Lauren O'Brien & Noel Deis, Vicki Collins, Juan Montano, Phil & Terry Hamory, David Gregory, Bonnie J. Douglas, Tara Lara, Debbie Peasley, Barbara Hunsinger, Rulon Beesley MD, Rebecca Knowles, Eric Barkalow & Nancy Vandermeay, Richard Goodman, Edwina Lu, Steven & Pamela Lane, Janet Weaver, Jim & Debbie Wenck, Brent Prindle & Vicki Haneckow. Thank you All.

Non Cash Donations:

Donations of material and equipment are always appreciated. Thanks to Michael Watson for donating a 4' X 8' welding table, and to Sean Haworth for providing cleaning supplies and enrichment fruits and toys for our feline family.

A Christmas Feast:

Everyone gets to enjoy the Holiday Season and so do our feline family. Our members Randy & Terry Scott of Rosamond, CA. extended their generous spirits to EFBC by donating all the turkeys, whole chickens, game hens, and turkey drumsticks needed to provide all of our felines



Randy & Terry delivering their load of turkeys.

with their special Christmas dinners. In addition, Randy, Terry, and the two students they are sponsoring, spent Christmas Eve here at EFBC helping the staff prepare the cat's dinners.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Exotic feline breeding Compound Incorporated, Feline Conservation Center is a not for profit, 501©)(3) public benefit corporation dedicated to the preservation and propagation of rare and endangered felines through breeding, research, and education. EFBC/FCC is run by an active Board of Directors which governs policies, procedures, and the direction of the corporation. Directors and officers receive no compensation for their services, nor retain any personal interest in any portion of the assets of the corporation. Officers are elected at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors and serve a term of 3 years.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Financial Statements for the Exotic feline Breeding Compound Inc., Feline Conservation Center fiscal year ending September 30, 2009 are now on file. The following are highlights of our annual report. For copies of the complete financial statements, please send a self addressed #10 envelope and a check for \$7.00 postage and handling to: EFBC/FCC, 3718 60th Street West, Rosamond, CA. 93560-7779.

Total support and revenue, including non-cash donations:	\$ 429,222
Program service expenses:	\$ 369,339
Administrative & fund raising expenses:	\$ 49,800 (11%)
Net support and revenue over (under) expenditures:	\$ 10,084
Total net assets:	\$1, 060,183

EFBC/AZK:

The American Association of Zoo Keepers, EFBC Chapter, has provided the bake sales at our various events as well as started a line of jewelry and collectibles made from the paw prints of our cats. They have worked hard and presented EFBC with a check to the general fund for \$2,000.



Camille & Melany presenting the check for \$2,000.

WISH LIST

Landscape materials, plants and trees
(8x8x16 concrete block, re-bar, cement)

New electrical supplies

Golf carts (electric)

Decorative park benches and trash
receptacles

In addition, they also spent over \$650 on a shopping spree and purchased new water buckets, husbandry equipment, and large metal tubs for the cats to play in during the hot weather. Way to Go!!!!

The Healey Foundation - who has previously helped us a great deal with our Project Tiger Building Fund, once again comes to our aid. We

experienced several straight days of high winds in excess of 50 MPH and gusts reaching 90 MPH which caused a great deal of damage. We lost some trees and many of the shade tarps on our habitats were torn beyond repair. The Healey Foundation granted us \$7,500 to replace these tarps which will be installed in the spring of 2010.

Start at wildcatzoo.org when you go shopping online, and it will help our felines, while costing you nothing!

Affiliate programs at Ralph's/Cala Foods, Igive, Amazon, and cafepress, earn money for us while you shop.

Searching the Net? Use GoodSearch, and find online shops through GoodShop. On Facebook, join our group and cause "Save Endangered Cats" (and invite your friends to do the same). We have videos on YouTube and a page on MySpace as well.



Katmandu, tiger, with toy on Kids' Day.