



EFBC/Feline Conservation Center

<http://www.wildcatzoo.org>

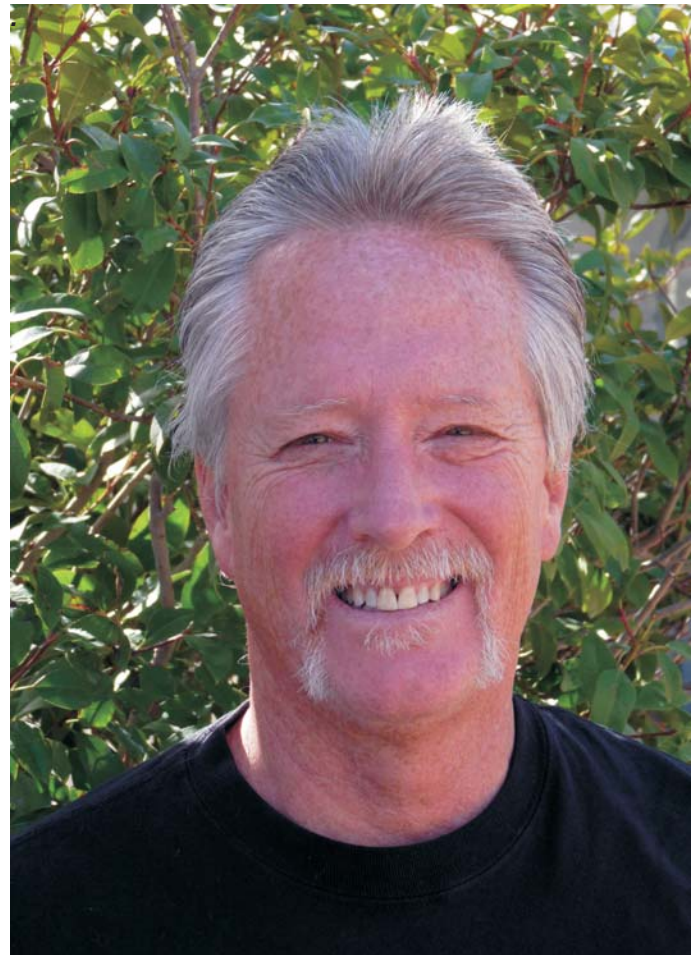
DEDICATED TO THE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF ENDANGERED FELINES SPRING 2010

We have two new members on the board of directors of the EFBC-FCC!

her interests and skills in avian/exotic medicine, feline medicine and emergency



Kristi Krause DVM, ABVP (Feline)



Scott H. Weldy, DVM

Dr. Krause graduated in 1997 from the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of California in Davis. Upon graduation she worked primarily in companion dog and cat medicine, but continued to develop and nurture

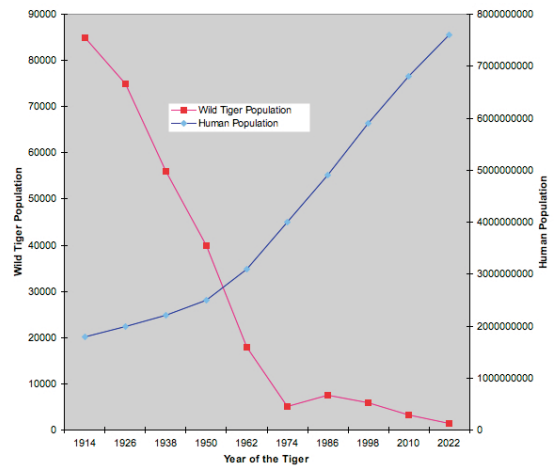
medicine. In 2003 Dr. Krause began working part time with Dr. Weldy and quickly became a full time associate at the hospital. She acquired her Board Certification in Feline Medicine in 2005 and serves as an integral

part of the veterinary team assisting local, State and Federal agencies, the Santa Ana Zoo, Orange County Zoo, the Orange County Bird of Prey Center, California State University in Fullerton, Children's Hospital of Orange, Rancho Las Lomas and the Exotic Feline Breeding Compound/Feline Conservation Center. Her passion is Pallas' Cats and she serves as the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) fishing cat SSP veterinary advisor.

Dr. Weldy graduated in 1985 from the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of California in Davis. He has always had an interest in birds and other exotic animals and while working in a small animal hospital, he began branching out into different animal fields. He volunteered as a veterinarian with local animal controls, the Department of Fish and Game, local rehabilitation centers and U.S. Fish and Wildlife. His knowledge and interests increased and in 1990 was asked by Dr. Pat Morris of the Knoxville Zoo and the University of Tennessee along with researchers at the San Diego Zoo to assist in a project at the Exotic Feline Breeding Compound involving embryo transfers in exotic cats. Shortly thereafter Dr. Weldy became the Veterinarian of Record (VOR) for the EFBC/Feline Conservation Center and has continued to work at the facility as part of the veterinary team. Dr. Weldy continues to assist local, State and Federal agencies and is the VOR for the Santa Ana Zoo, Orange County Zoo, the Orange County Bird of Prey Center, California State University in Fullerton, Children's Hospital of Orange and Rancho Las Lomas.

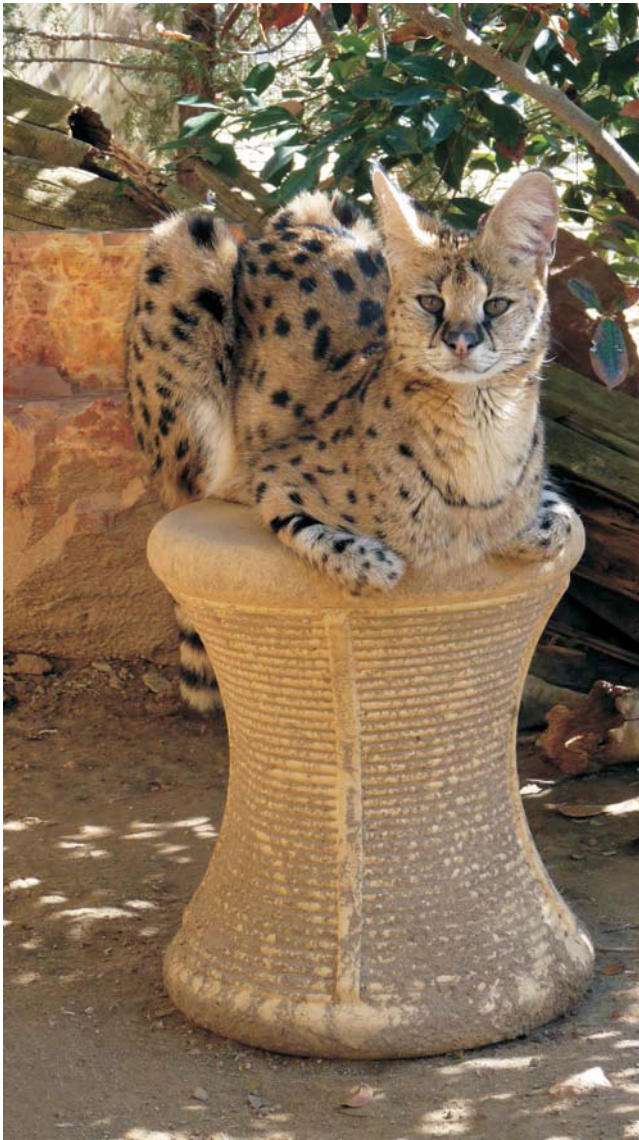
2010: Year of the Tiger

The Chinese zodiac relates each year to an animal in a recurring 12 year cycle. February marked the beginning of the most recent Year of the Tiger, but it's not a good year for tigers. Their numbers in the wild are down to an all-time low of only 3200, and they may not survive until the next Year of the Tiger in 2022. The World Wildlife Fund and other environmental organizations recently launched a campaign to double the number of tigers in the wild by 2022. Threatened largely by the Asian traditional medicine market, they are killed illegally in large numbers in all their remaining range countries. They have also lost 90 percent of their habitat because of human encroachment (graph).



Red List Species of the Day:

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) publishes the Red List of threatened species to provide an objective global approach to evaluating the conservation status of plant and animal species. To increase awareness of the enormous variety of life on our planet, and raise the profile of threatened species, they have launched the IUCN Red List "Species of the Day." Each day of 2010 will see a different species featured (see link on our home page), with information on the threats it faces. The 365 species selected represent the entire range of taxonomic groups and covers all regions. Both charismatic and obscure species will be featured, providing an insight into the astonishing level of biodiversity that exists. 40



Obi has grown comfortable in his role as ambassador for the Serval species.

percent of all organisms are endangered (at risk of becoming extinct either because of few in numbers, or threatened by changing environmental or predation parameters). Since the last full update of the Red List in 2002, the Fishing Cat, Bornean Bay cat, Flat-headed cat, and Andean Cat were added to the list of Endangered cats (along with the tiger, snow leopard, and critically endangered Iberian Lynx). Only 11 of the 36 species of cats are in the lowest risk category of Least Concern (Caracal, Jungle Cat, Wildcat, Ocelot, Serval, Canada Lynx, Eurasian Lynx, Bobcat, Leopard Cat, Puma, and Jaguarundi), and of those only 5 (Serval, Canada Lynx, Eurasian Lynx, Bobcat, Leopard Cat) have stable populations. EFBC's 3-pronged mission of

protecting the remaining wild cats, establishing healthy captive populations of endangered cats, and educating the public about the threat to cats is more important than ever in the face of today's declining natural environments.

Volunteer of the Quarter: Debbie Crosthwait

My family was probably one of EFBC's first visitors after it opened to the public in 1983. At the time there were only the main enclosures



Debbie with her adopted cat, Gobi the pallas' cat.

(Now being rebuilt) with the most beautiful Tigers and a lot of dirt. I remember when they put up the first cage in the naturals (Now the educational area) and to see what it has become is amazing. I love animals and have always admired people who spend their time and energy protecting and caring for them.

I became a volunteer last year after my husband and I adopted Gobi (Pallas's Cat) and Anny (Snow Leopard). That is when I became very interested in captive conservation. I have loved every minute of my time here. To be able to share, even in a small part of the lives of these wonderful animals is amazing. I enjoy every part of my job, the cleaning, the feeding, and even raking rocks because I know I am contributing a small part in helping to preserve the lives and health of these magnificent cats. Even though it is a lot of hard work, there are no words to describe the feeling you get the day you walk up to a cage and the cat recognizes you and comes over to visit.



Half of the old main has been rebuilt, and already three leopards (Roby, Tanya, and Kiana) live here.

I have joined AAZK (American Association of Zoo Keepers) and I am learning more and more all the time. I have been a volunteer here for a short time but I have fallen in love with these cats and saving, protecting, and ensuring their existence is fast becoming one of my greatest passions.

I have met some wonderful people since I have been here. Some have left or gone back to school and I truly miss them, others I have the pleasure of working with every Tuesday and Thursday. I admire the keepers and the other volunteers not only for their dedication and hard work but because they love and care about the cats. I am looking forward to working with them for a long time.

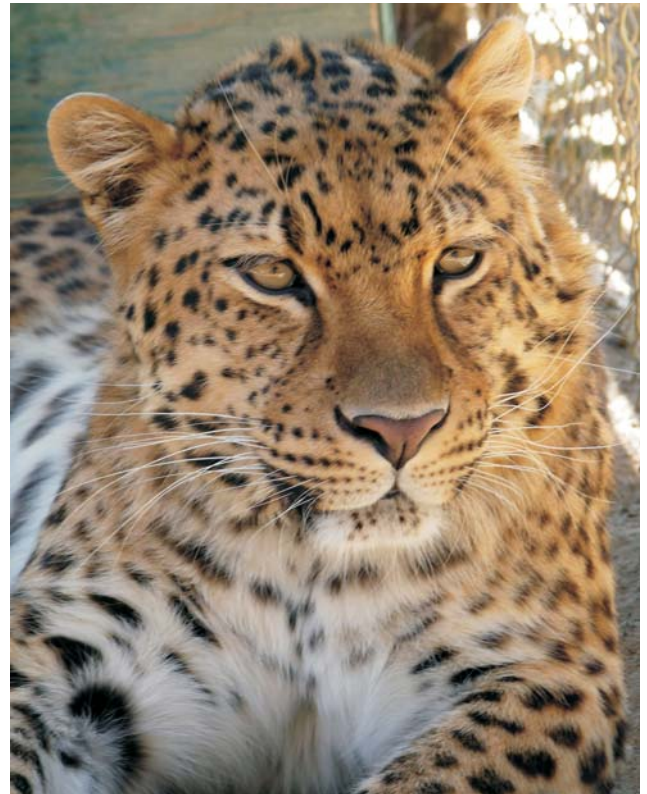
Fabulous Feline Follies - August 14, 2010

This year we celebrate the 21st Fabulous Feline Follies!!! Our theme this year is: "Snow Tails." Sponsors are being sought. An information package is available online, and we invite you to print it and help us solicit sponsors. We hope to have an exciting field research report again, as well as animal ambassadors from a variety of species.

Twilight Tour Dates: April 24, June 19, and September 18. Twilight tours are special events when people over 18 years of age are allowed to roam the facility, including the breeding areas normally off limits. These fund raisers are quite popular. Entry can be purchased in advance and allows you to enter early! Tickets are still just \$15. Doors open for early entry at 5 PM, and general admission at 5:30 PM. So what happens at these events? Well, bake sale items are offered up to support EFBC's chapter of AAZK, the Lancaster

Rotary Club sells burgers and hot dogs, great people come from far and wide with an interest in felines, and of course the cats get to play! Enrichments are given out to all the felines, and many of them seem to look forward to these events. Jaguars tear into melons, fishing cats get live fish, and leopards make confetti of whatever gets put into the enclosure with them!

February 27-28 was our first Community Appreciation weekend, where all residents in zip codes beginning with 935 enjoyed free admission. Saturday was rainy but Sunday was packed!



Sevastian (Amur Leopard) has responded well to chemotherapy to treat cancer within his sinus cavity. Costs are high so please consider a donation to the "Sevastian Medical Fund."

The Sundaland clouded leopard has been caught on camera. The film, the first footage of the cat in the wild to be made public, has been released by scientists working in the Dermakot Forest Reserve in Malaysia. The Sundaland clouded leopard, only discovered to be a distinct species three years ago, is one of the least known and elusive of all cat species.

Two more rare cats, the flat-headed cat and bay cat, were also photographed. Details of the discoveries are published in the latest issue of *Cat*



Camera trap photo of Clouded leopard, Jim Sanderson

News, the newsletter of the Cat Specialist Group of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

"Clouded leopards are one of the most elusive cats. They are very hardly ever encountered and almost no detailed study about their ecology has been conducted," says Andreas Wilting of the Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research in Berlin, Germany.

Wilting is leader of a project that evaluates how changes to the forest in the Malaysian part of Borneo impact carnivores living there. As part of that project, the team places a network of camera traps in the forest, that automatically photograph passing animals.

The team, which includes the Malaysian field scientist Azlan Mohamed, also conducts regular surveys at night, by shining a spotlight from the back of a vehicle driven around the Dermakot Forest Reserve in Sabah.

During one of these surveys, they encountered a Sundaland clouded leopard walking along a road. "For the first eleven months we had not encountered a single clouded leopard during these night surveys," says Wilting.

"So every one of our team was very surprised when this clouded leopard was encountered.

"Even more surprising was that this individual was not scared by the light or the noises of the truck. "For over five minutes this clouded leopard was just roaming around the car, which compared to the encounters with the other animals is very strange, as most species are scared and run away after we have spotted them."

Film exists of a Sundaland clouded leopard held in an enclosure. Wild Sumatran tigers were only caught on film for the first time in 2010. A tourist is thought to have taken a 30 second video of a wild Sundaland clouded leopard in 2006, but that video has never been made public.

Until 2007, all clouded leopards living in Asia were thought to belong to a single species, however, genetic studies revealed that there are actually two quite distinct clouded leopard species. As well as the better known clouded leopard living on the Asian mainland (*Neofelis nebulosa*), scientists determined that a separate clouded leopard species lives on the islands of Borneo and Sumatra. The two species are thought to have diverged over one million years ago.

This leopard is now known as the Sunda or Sundaland clouded leopard (*Neofelis diardi*), though it was previously and erroneously called the Bornean clouded leopard. Since 2008, it has been listed as vulnerable by the IUCN.



Flat headed cat in captivity - Jim Sanderson

The clouded leopard, the largest predator on Borneo, appears to live at very low densities within the reserve, as it has only rarely been photographed by the researchers or camera

traps. During the surveys, the research team also discovered a juvenile samba deer (*Cervus unicolor*) which had been killed by a clouded leopard. The scientists suspect a large male clouded leopard made the kill, and had removed part of the front right leg.



Camera trap photo of Bay cat, Jim Sanderson

Despite being a commercial forest that is sustainably logged for wood, the Dermakot Forest Reserve in Sabah, which is an area of approximately 550km square kilometres, holds all five wild Bornean cat species.

As well as capturing images of the clouded leopard, the researchers also recorded four other wild cat species. One video shows a wild leopard cat scent-marking its territory. This smaller species is more common in the area, and has been filmed before. "But due to its mainly nocturnal behaviour, specific behaviours like the scent marking are rarely documented on camera," says Wilting.

More thrilling are the pictures taken of the other cats: the flat-headed cat (*Prionailurus planiceps*), bay cat (*Catopuma badia*) and marbled cat (*Pardofelis marmorata*). "All three species are very special," says Wilting. "The bay cat was special, as there has never been a confirmed record of this species in our study site. "Therefore I really did not expect to get a photo of this species and I was amazed when I saw this picture."

Since 1928, there had been no confirmed record of this cat, before it was rediscovered in 1992 in Sarawak. It is currently considered to be one of

the world's least known cat species, and is listed as endangered. "In addition our record is the most northern record of this species, which is endemic to Borneo."

"Also the records of the flat-headed cat are very special as well, because just a few camera-trapping pictures of this species exist," explains Wilting. "The flat-headed cat is a highly specialized cat, restricted to lowland forests and wetlands, those areas which have the highest destruction rates in Asia. "This was also the reason why we changed the classification in the red list in 2008 from vulnerable to endangered, which puts this species in the same category as the tiger.

"The marbled cat is presumably mainly arboreal and therefore it is much harder to get this species photographed with the ground-based cameras." The marbled cat looks much like a miniature clouded leopard, with a cloud-like spot pattern and long tail. "We have encountered this species twice during our night surveys in Dermakot and once we even observed it climbing headfirst down the tree-trunk. "These cats have really amazing climbing skills."



Camera trap photo of Marbled cat, Jim Sanderson

Wilting says that finding all five Bornean cat species in one area suggests that Dermakot Forest Reserve is home to a particularly high diversity of animals, especially as Borneo is one of the biodiversity hotspots of the world. It also suggests that even commercially used forests, as

long as they are managed sustainably, may harbor threatened cat species and therefore contribute to their conservation, he says.

WISH LIST

Large food prep table (Stainless Steel)

Industrial refuse containers

New electrical supplies

Golf carts (electric)

Pulse Oximeter units

EFBC's 50/50 Raffle Drawing:

Enclosed in this newsletter is the entry ticket for our 50/50 raffle drawing which will be held at our Summer Twilight Tour on June 19th. The tickets are \$20.00 each and the winner receives 50% of the net proceeds received. We hope you continue your support of EFBC through this raffle, and additional tickets are always available. Good luck to those who enter.

Project Tiger:

The welding of the panels for the outside #2 cage should be completed by the time we send out our June newsletter. We are still working out the logistics of getting the artificial rock walls constructed but we hope to get that dialed in soon. Everyone at EFBC wants to extend a special thank you to the M. Piuze Foundation who donated an additional \$7500 this quarter to our building fund, which makes them one of the largest contributors to this project.

General Donations:

We received great support in donations to our general operating fund this quarter which will allow us to do a lot of extra things this spring. Sections of the walkways in our exhibit area have been lifted by tree roots and we now have the funds to make those repairs. Special thank you to the M. Piuze Foundation who in addition to supporting Project Tiger, also donated \$7500 to our general operating fund. Brent Prindle and Vicki Haneckow

donated \$1000, Roxana Gerns also donated \$1000, and Fred Hood donated \$500. Additional donors were Susan Lozier and Ian MacLeod, Michael Franconi, Vicki Collins, Chris Tromborg, Dell Hledik, and David Gregory. Katie Turner (a neat kid) also donated her birthday money. She requested money in lieu of presents so she could give it to the cats here at EFBC.



Most of the Volunteers and staff of the EFBC-FCC

Non-Cash Donations:

Thanks to William Popowicz for donating a Dell 964 All-In-One printer and to our employee Lori Hands for donating two heavy weight entrance mats for our gift shop.

We are seeking items for our Follies silent auction and Twilight Tour raffles: Special thanks to Pam Rose and Bettye Platero for already donating some great items and getting us started.



Poppy, bobcat

Start at wildcatzoo.org when you go 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.



Dexter, Jaguar cub born to Annie and Nacon last year.



Several months of food, and Melany are shown inside the new freezer. Thanks to all that helped make this possible.