

EFBC/Feline Conservation Center

<http://www.wildcatzoo.org>

DEDICATED TO THE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF ENDANGERED FELINES Fall 2009



Annie and cubs

Annie gives birth!!!

On June 13th, 2009 Annie (Jaguar) gave birth to two cubs, and is currently being a very protective mother. Dexter and Saddle are being raised off display, but they have been glimpsed by those of you that know where to look. The September Twilight Tour may see them old enough and adventurous enough to be viewed, but that will be a decision made closer to the event. Right now the cubs are getting comfortable with the varied faces of the volunteers and staff. If you want to know where to look, ask when you come out - it would be helpful to bring some low power looking glasses.

Jaguars seek protection:

Our volunteer, Misty Hailstone, attended an Endangered Species Act conference recently, and came back with this interesting piece of information. The jaguar may finally receive the protection it deserves now within the boundaries of the United States. In the past it was deemed a "foreign species," and therefore was denied the



The two cubs, Saddle and Dexter

protection that other endangered or threatened species are afforded within our borders.

Ctr. For Biological Diversity v. Kempthorne, 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 30151 (D. Ariz. Mar. 30, 2009) - The court found that the Jaguar did not qualify for exemptions to listing due to "foreign species" status or "other circumstances." The

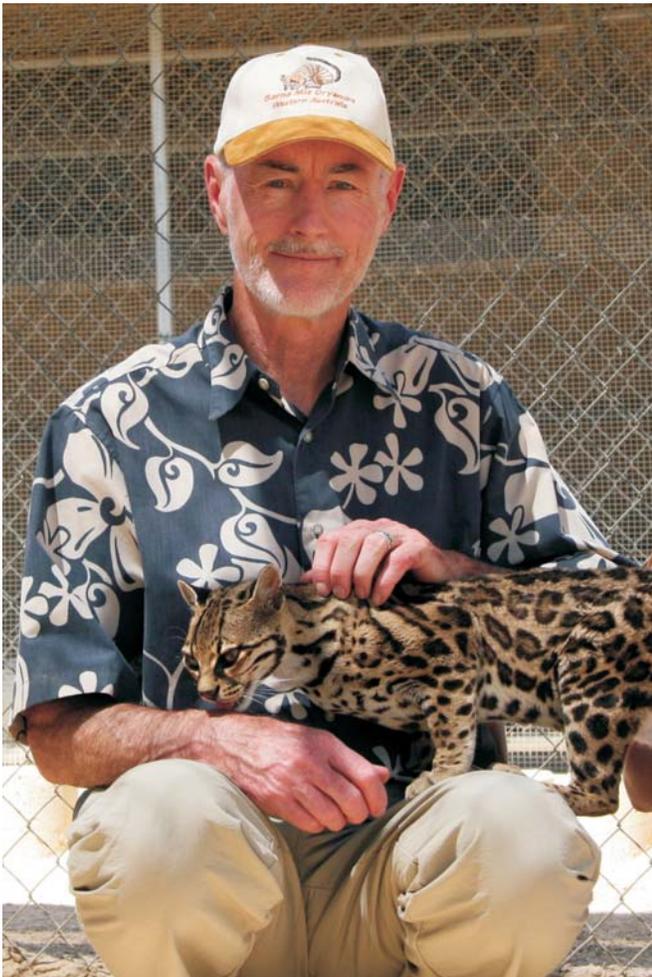
court found that the species was present in the U.S. and the "other circumstances" exemption was inapplicable in this instance based on previous action of the Service in similar listing scenarios.

Case is remanded to the agency (USFWS) for further consideration of scientific data and reports in determining need for a Critical Habitat Designation and Recovery Plan.

The agency has been ordered to make a determination by January 8, 2010.

Increasingly all predators are being assaulted. Stresses in the wild areas are becoming critical for many species, and often the first to go are the felids. Good news is often hard to find, and we will await the agencies determination with cautious optimism.

20th Annual Feline Follies:



Dr. Jim Sanderson and Maggie Margay

Felitarian Award:

This felitarian award was presented to Camille Gadwood.



Board member Camille with her Felitarian award

Camille started as a volunteer at EFBC in 1996 and immediately got involved with all areas of our operations. She joined our Board of Directors in 2002 and currently handles our public relations, as well as attends numerous fairs and events to spread the word about our organization. Her innovative ideas lead to Kid's Day and the Big



Cat Bazaar, and she is an active member of EFBC's AAZK Chapter. We keep Camille busy, and even with a full time job, she still manages to donate time cleaning cages. We thank Camille's husband Jerry for all of his support, and allowing us to take up so much of Camille's time.

Our Feline Follies was a great success and sold out again this year, Guests were entertained by animals, compliments of Zoo to You, and Dr. Jim Sanderson provided a wonderful presentation about his work with wild populations of little known small cats.



The success of our Follies would not have been possible without the generous support of our sponsors. Special thank yous to the following:

\$2500.00 + Titanium Sponsors - Mary Marlowe, Los Angeles, CA. - Diamond Jim's Casino, Rosamond, CA - Eric Barkalow & Nancy Vandermeij, Altadena, CA.

\$1000 + Platinum Sponsors - Steven M. Crutchfield, Gainesville, VA. - AAZK-EFBC Chapter - Jerry & Camille Gadwood, Burbank, CA. - George & Joan Paulikas, Palos Verdes Estates, CA. - Scott & Nicole Pearson, Los Angeles, CA. - Susan Lozier & Ian MacLeod, Omaha, NE. - Barbara Clifford, Reno, NV.

\$300.00 + Silver Sponsors - SavOn Fence Company/Larry Purcell, Lancaster, CA. - In Memory of Steve Rendes, former Director of EFBC by Irene & Cherylrene Rendes, Fullerton, CA.

\$200.00 Bronze Sponsors - Diane Citron, Santa Monica, CA. - Jeff & Ann Conrad, Athens, GA - LaneScapes Designs/Magda Lane, Studio City, CA. - Toboco Traders/Richard & Marilyn Toborg, Ridgecrest, Ca. - Halley Olsen Murphy Funerals & Cremations, Lancaster, CA.

The winner of the 1st prize of \$1000.00 in our Follies raffle drawing was one of our lifetime members, Nancy Hoverman of Lancaster, CA.

Long Distance Volunteer:

Last issue we brought you the story of a long distance volunteer from the San Francisco area. This issue we have the story of a truly long distance volunteer.

For more than two months during the summer of '09, I dedicated my time as a volunteer at the EFBC. I have realized that it was much more than just an experience. Not only did I have the privilege of working hands-on with beautiful



Kim Marotta came from Pennsylvania to spend some time and learn what her sister, head keeper Melany could teach her. Here she is with our bobcat, Poppy.

exotic felines, but I met great friends and people that I can not wait to see again.

By the time I had to leave, I knew what food bowl belonged to what cat, how to make meals, and how to safely feed the majority of the cats. I was impressed that I could memorize the bowls and loved that I could help with food preparation. In addition, I learned correctly how to clean the small cats and back up a person while they were in the enclosures. After a couple full days in a row, everything became routine and the little things that I was taught came naturally. Little things, such as rolling up the hose and making sure it is off before walking away, and checking every corner of the cage to make sure I did not miss any bone scraps or stool. When I come back to the EFBC to volunteer again, I am sure that I will fall right back into the daily routine.

Everything I was taught, along with my experience, will guide me in what I want to do with my education in Conservation and Wildlife Management. These two months were

memorable and I look forward to the next time I will be able to volunteer at the EFBC.



Anny, snow leopard, is adjusting to her new home, and boyfriend well.

A wake up call:

Animal rights organization's attempts to prevent so called abuses of captive animals through reduction (or elimination) of animals in captivity may end with complete extinction of many great species in a short period of time. Legislation being pushed forward by some groups is backhanding the effort to further species survival through increased costs, paperwork, and requirements that accomplish nothing but fewer animals. The Lacey Act along with the ESA (Endangered Species Act) are tools being misused by many to supposedly control the exotic species trade but in reality are the direct cause of the decline of species. Similar emotional based wildlife & environmental laws that

have been enacted are the direct cause of what is happening to those same animals in the wild.

Many large zoos are opting to not house species such as elephants, primates and large cats and as such are being systematically eliminated from their collections.

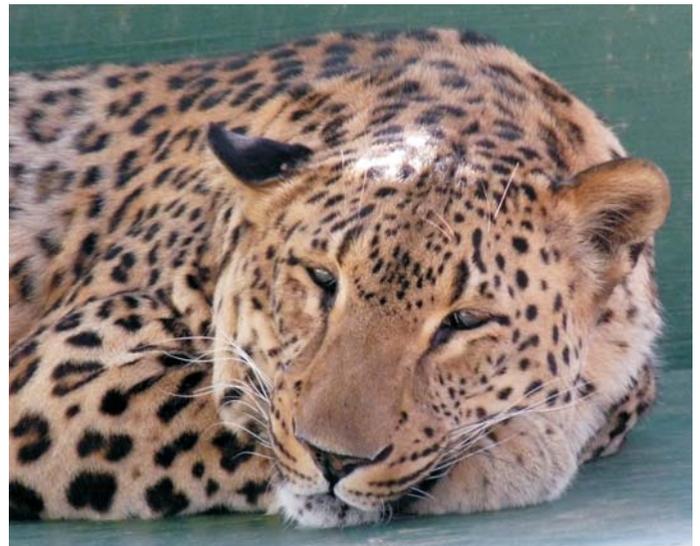
Through perseverance and determination, the EFBC-FCC will continue to push forward with other facilities that seek to provide a safe breeding environment for these amazing creatures.

Don't be fooled into believing these animal extremists, before voting, research carefully any animal related legislation that surfaces, especially sponsored by PETA, HSUS, or other animal rights organizations.

Persian Leopard:

A breeding age female Persian Leopard (*Panthera pardus saxicolor*) has arrived and it is hoped we will see a renewed effort to save this valuable sub-species within America. Her name is Kiana and came to us from Zoo Parc de Beauval, France.

We will also be importing a young male as a mate for her.



Shapur (Panthera Pardus Saxicolor) is known to many as the "gentle giant" due to his nature and size.

In the wild, Armenia, possibly western Turkey, Iran, and Afghanistan are among the only remaining wild areas for this leopard. Fragmented populations are often shot on sight, and it is clear that people that would eliminate felines from the earth are many, and those that wish to save them are few. Thank you all for being part of the effort to preserve and protect them. This leopard once roamed a broad range that it shared with another great cat, the Caspian Tiger. The Caspian Tiger is now extinct, both in the wild and in captivity. Although leopards are more adaptable, the outlook for this sub-species is grim. Those of you that have been out to see Shapur may not realize it, but you have seen a sub-species of leopard that numbers just five in North America. Through the import of two Panthera Pardus Saxicolor (1.1) from the European continent, we look forward to announcing some new "American-Persian leopard" cubs in the future.



While the heat of the desert has kept Anny and Zack in their den box during the day, the cooler weather will likely see them out during visiting hours.

Events:

Kid's Day: November 21, 2009

This is an all day event aimed at the family. While the center always seeks to be an educational center for young minds, on this day we pull out all the stops, and create a fun learning environment for children of all ages. Live animal shows, scavenger hunts, and enrichment making for the felines always make the day special.

This year we expect the small additional charge for the train ride to be in high demand, since that is



the only way patrons of all ages will be able to get close to our tigers. It should be interesting to see how Katmandu will react to the train, since he is agitated by electric carts. There is a slight chance that the train will have to change its intended route should he react too strongly.

There is no need to buy tickets in advance for this event. Admission prices are raised on this day to help fund our many missions, and membership does not gain you free admission on this day. Adults will pay \$7, and children (3-17 must be accompanied) at \$5 per child.

Enrichments will be handed out several times on this day, and everyone is sure to have a great time.

Shopper alert: Ralph's club shoppers need to re-enter in the community contribution program every year, so if you haven't updated your card, please do so now.

Go to www.ralphs.com to sign up. Refer to EFBC's # 82845.

You can look at the bottom of your receipt and it will show our name as your choice! Thank you for helping us in this easy way. Also, Christmas is coming, so please use our home pagelinks to sites for shopping which donate a portion of the sale back to EFBC.

INTERN:

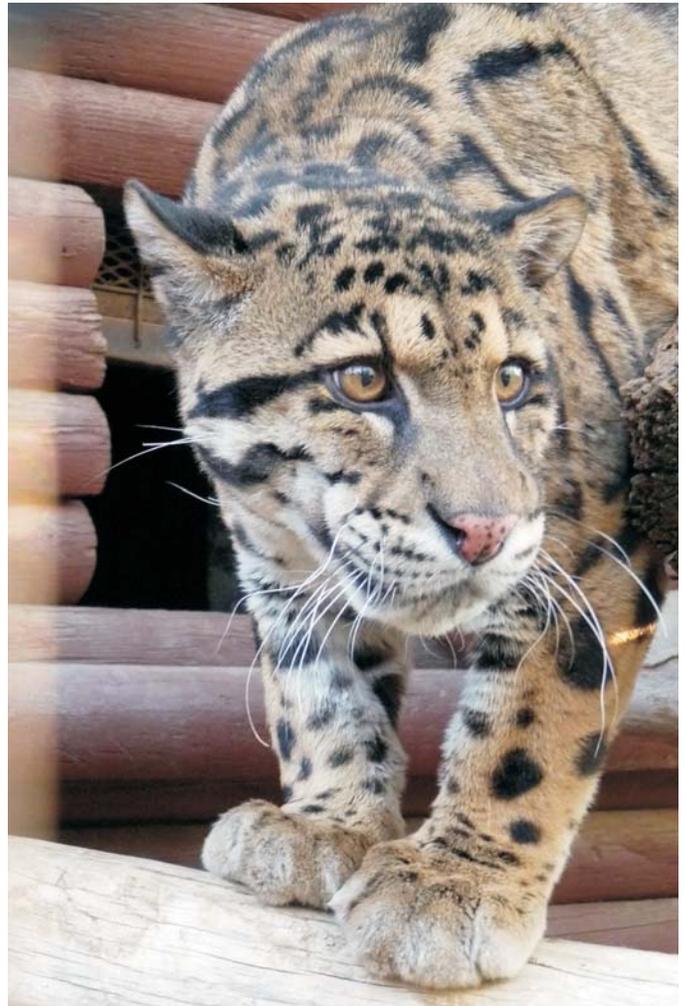
My name is Cindy Cabrera. I am currently a fourth year undergraduate with a major in Animal Science at the University of California, Davis. This past summer, I had the opportunity to work at the EFBC and help with its endeavors in preserving endangered animals. As I am writing this, I am saddened by the fact that tomorrow will be my last day here. In the past two months, I became attached to the cats through my interactions with them. For example, I petted and talked to them, and I was even kissed by a few of them! If I had to pick my favorite cat, which I can't, it would be a tie among Caesar, Ted and of course, Shapur, the sweetest cat in the compound!



Cindy with Shapur

My experience here has helped me to focus on my passion in life: helping exotic animals, specifically endangered wild cats. After graduation, I plan to continue to work with these beautiful creatures and do my part in helping to preserve them. Presently, I plan to take this work to Colombia, my country of birth and where my family resides. With their full support (32 of us!), I can start a conservation center and build off the ideals and regulations as those of the EFBC. Also having considering staying in the United States, I want to help with current exotic feline conservation projects. Whichever I decide, I will apply my scientific knowledge and my experience working with animals, especially that which I gained by interning at the EFBC.

I am very grateful for having been able to work with such an amazing group of people, all just as passionate about the cats as I am. I will definitely



Ted (Clouded Leopard) is gaining confidence thanks to the patience of our visitors. Staying quiet and respecting the cat's homes is appreciated.

miss you all! I plan to return to the compound and help when I get the time to, but until then, hasta luego! Caesar, I'm going to miss your royal appearance, Ted, I'll miss you coming out to after we fed you and groaning while I petted you, and Shapur, I'll really miss you, sweet boy. Cindy

Focus on the feline world news: For more detail on these stories, use goodsearch from our website, and get involved!

The Guardian – 29 Dec. 2008 reports that cheetah may not have evolved in the Americas. New fossils suggest they may have evolved in Asia.

Six years ago, the Panna reserve in India boasted 40 tigers. Now, other than two that were just relocated (Both female 0.2) from other environments, there are none.

Vietnam - Environmental police on Jan.10, 2009 confiscate over 4000 lbs of bones in one of over one hundred cases they have investigated since the formation of this task force in Hanoi in 2007.

Afghanistan - The first National Park will begin thanks to the United States Agency for International Development. Band E Amir is in the Hindu Kush mountains, and once was a habitat for snow leopard.,They were hunted to extinction in this area. Now, this lake area will receive protection for the first time.

Canadian Lynx - Habitat restored to 39,000 miles (From 1841 miles in 2006.) within the United States.

Tiger related crimes in India – 9 convictions out of 642 accused over a ten year span. 16 poachers of Gir lions were recently sentenced to five years of

rigorous imprisonment and fined US\$40. This is the highest fine of any poaching related crime in the country.



Jaguarundi, Maya and Aztec

Georgia - United States 2009: Florida Panther (Puma concolor, considered endangered and protected in Florida) shot and killed when it wandered across the state line and came upon a hunter.

It is believed that less than one hundred mountain lions live in this area of the east coast, although they once were found throughout the country. California is the only state that has a law against hunting them.



Kalaj, (Caracal) is often a favorite although he is not as active as he once was. He turned 13 on April 8th, 2009

California 2009: Agriculture commissioner and San Benito poachers (Self proclaimed) seek to repeal proposition 117, outlawing the hunting of mountain lions.

Donations:

Donations to our General operating Fund are always appreciated as they help us keep up with the ever increasing expenses, and special projects like rebuilding our main caging area. Special thank you to: Brent Prindle & Vicki Haneckow, Terrel Richmond, Tina McGrath, Vicki Collins, David Gregory, Monika Ritter, David Forward, Robert & Henriette Fremont, Chris Tromborg, Kathy Cummings, Nancy Pfeffer, Ruth Adams, Earl Cox, Scott & Nicole Pearson, Stephanie Sobieski, Caron Hanford.

The winner of our 50/50 Raffle drawing held on June 20th was Curtis Rolland of Castaic, CA. Curtis donated \$1000.00 of his \$1220.00 prize back to EFBC to help us continue our work. Thank you Rolland for your generosity.