



# COLORADO WOLF & WILDLIFE CENTER

MAY 2022 • CONSERVATION • EDUCATION • PRESERVATION





CERTIFIED BY



## The Colorado Wolf and Wildlife Center

is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization certified by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA). Look for this logo whenever you visit a zoo or aquarium as your assurance that you are supporting a facility dedicated to providing excellent care for animals, a great experience for you, and a better future for all living things.

The contents of the material we include in our newsletter does not necessarily reflect the views of CWWC. We collect information from other organizations, the web, news feeds, and/or other sources. We choose articles that are in the related field of education and conservation.



TO SUBSCRIBE to our monthly newsletter, go to [wolfeducation.org](http://wolfeducation.org) and sign up on the newsletter page.

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## | SOCIAL MEDIA HAPPENINGS |

While we are all coping with our new way of life, you can still stay up to date with the animals here at CWWC. We are working to keep you involved in the work we are doing here, knowing how our animals are doing, and staying educated about wildlife news.


 **Subscribe to our YouTube Channel:**  
**ColoradoWolf&WildlifeCenter**

We post bi-weekly videos of the training and enrichment we are providing for our animals. Our bi-weekly educational vlog about wolves—*Wolf Wisdom with Erika*—talks about the wolf reintroduction of wolves in Colorado, and other hot topics.

 **Follow us on Facebook:**  
**Colorado Wolf and Wildlife Center**

Thursdays between 3-4pm we have a Ask a Keeper livestream where you can ask us all those questions you've been dying to know. Every Friday at 8pm we post a video of one of

our keepers howling with the wolves for the Go Outside and Howl at 8 movement. We also share current wildlife events and stories that are happening around the world to keep you informed.

 **Follow us on Instagram:**  
**cowolfcenter**

We post pictures of our beautiful animals, share stories of what we are doing around the center, and keep you up to date on everything wolf and wildlife related. Keep your eye on our story for fun videos of the day to day lives of our wolves and keepers.

We will also be doing monthly and possibly weekly giveaways and sales. These will only be announced on our social media so make sure you follow us on every platform and turn on your notifications.

*We hope to give you something to look forward to every day!*



**Zak gets an exam and an ear cleaning with Dr. Beyer. Doc Beyer and his wife moved here from Denver and are now working with Dr. Volz at The Animal Clinic of Woodland Park. We are excited to have two awesome veterinarians as a part of our Center.**



## A Special Kind of Love





# W.O.L.F. SANCTUARY JOB DESCRIPTION

**Job Title** | Facilities and Maintenance Associate  
**Reports to** | Senior Director of Operations

**Job purpose**

The position provides property, equipment, tools, and vehicle maintenance services as directed by the Senior Director of Operations (SDO).

**Duties and responsibilities**

The primary job duties and responsibilities:

- **Facilities Maintenance**
  - › Address maintenance of W.O.L.F. facilities, properties, equipment, tools, and vehicles as directed by Senior Director of Operations.
  - › Remove waste, including recycle and trash from all W.O.L.F. properties.
  - › Pick up all meat donations. Ensure that all meat and food products are properly stored and recorded. Ensure the meat rotation program based on dates received is followed and fully implemented
  - › Report significant maintenance and facilities issues to the Senior Director of Operations and/or the Executive Director immediately upon discovery of the issue. Report on routine maintenance and facilities issues on a daily and weekly basis as requested by management.
- **Animal Care**
  - › Serve as support staff for animal care, as approved by the Senior Director of Operations.
  - › Perform overnight duties as required, as approved by the Senior Director of Operations.
  - › Report emergencies involving animal care (e.g., health issues, injuries, etc.) immediately to the Executive Director and/or the Senior Director of Operations. Provide daily reports on animal issues during overnights.
  - › Assist with animal rescue and transport as assigned and approved by the Senior Director of Operations.
- **Records Management**
  - › Complete Incident Reports and submit to the Senior Director of Operations and/or the Executive Director when urgent issues arise related to the animals, facilities, equipment, etc.
- **Other Duties**
  - › Perform occasional additional duties as assigned by the Senior Director of Operations and/or the Executive Director on an as needed basis.
  - › Respond to emergency situations at the direction of the Senior Director of Operations and/or Executive Director.

- › Complete corrective/preventive actions associated with items identified in Incident Reports or through other means, as requested by the Senior Director of Operations and/or the Executive Director.
- › Communicate consistently and regularly with Management, as requested, but not less than after each completed shift.
- › Practice professional behavior associated with interactions with Management, staff, volunteers, Board members, donors, and visitors.

**Qualifications**

- Education – High school education or GED equivalent.
- Specialized knowledge - Knowledge required to maintain real property, equipment, tools, and vehicles. Knowledge of fencing, building requirements for animal habitats is preferred but not required.
- Skills – Basic carpentry, mechanical, plumbing, and electrical skills. Basic computer skills.
  - Abilities – Ability to provide leadership to part-time maintenance staff, volunteers, interns, and work groups; ability to work in a collaborative team environment and successfully resolve conflicts with other staff and volunteers.
- Other characteristics – Ethical behavior.
- Certification/License - Valid Driver’s License.
- Experience – Relevant experience in facilities maintenance at an outdoor facility or other facility where maintenance was performed is preferred.

**Working conditions**

Work potentially requires ‘weekend’ and overnight shifts, performance of duties in an outdoor setting in potentially severe weather conditions. Some indoor office work and computer work. All W.O.L.F. properties are non-smoking properties, including, but not limited to, outside on the facility grounds, vehicles, and in all buildings and physical structures.

**Physical requirements**

Ability to lift 50 lbs., walk in rugged terrain in extreme weather conditions of heat and cold; perform manual labor including facility maintenance in outdoor conditions; Bend, kneel and sit for extended periods of time in outdoor environment including animal habitats.

**Salary and Benefits**

Salary is commensurate with education and experience. The pay range is \$26,000-\$30,000 annually. Benefits include sick leave accrued at 1 hour per 30 hours worked up to 48 hours per year.

# Amid spike in thrill kills, wolf poisonings, Oregon strengthens anti-poaching efforts

Cole Sinanian | Columbia Insight | May 15, 2022



A single gray wolf is caught on remote camera in March of 2020, in southeastern Lane County within the Willamette National Forest. The wolf is within the Indigo AKWA, but may be separate from the Indigo Pack.

*Photo credit: ODFW*

**PORTLAND** – “We’re not messing around anymore with poachers,” says Oregon Representative Ken Helm. “From now on, there’s going to be people watching.”

Helm, a Democrat from Beaverton, co-chairs the Oregon House of Representatives Wildlife Caucus.

He’s among a cohort of bipartisan lawmakers leading the state’s legislative charge against wildlife crime, which ramped up in 2020 with the formation of the Stop Poaching Campaign—a multi-pronged, state-funded effort to increase poaching prosecution rates and raise public awareness.

Supported by several conservation groups and nonprofits, the Stop Poaching Campaign is a response to a worrying trend, with high-profile poaching busts, slaughtered wolves and so-called “thrill kills” on the rise.

Covid delayed the program’s official rollout, but with the recent hiring of a new special poaching prosecutor, four additional state troopers and an aggressive public awareness campaign, Helm says Oregonians should expect more poaching arrests and a boost in wildlife populations in the coming years.

“In the end, these efforts should increase the abundance of both game and nongame species, so you should be seeing more deer

and wildlife out there,” says Helm.

## Poaching prosecutor arrives

Because poaching often occurs in remote areas, wildlife crimes can be exceptionally difficult to detect.

Most often, poachers are caught only when someone they’ve bragged to reports them to authorities. A recent report from Montana-based hunting and conservation organization Boone and Crockett Club estimated that no more than 3% of poaching incidents are detected by law enforcement.

“Serious, professional poachers are rarely caught,” says Hagan. “They don’t ever talk about what they did, they don’t post pictures on social media. They know how to shut up.”

With Democratic Representative Brad Witt and former Republican representative Wayne Krieger, Helm worked to get poaching on the legislative agenda, culminating in a House bill passed in 2019, HB 3035.

The legislation set aside funding for the Stop Poaching Campaign and increased poaching penalties.

The Stop Poaching Campaign uses a three-prong approach, Shaw says. She was hired in 2019 as part of the campaign’s public awareness prong, along with four additional state troopers and one sergeant to increase detection.

Funding for the campaign was halted in 2020, due to the pandemic, but fully restored this year, allowing the state to hire a new special prosecutor to specifically tackle wildlife crimes.

The prosecutor, Jay Hall, started in February, and will work statewide to help local judges short on time and resources to prosecute poachers.

Hall’s position is meant to ensure that poachers are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law—an important win, given that in the past limited resources often meant poaching cases were low priority for local judges.

Hall’s office responded to an interview request by telling Columbia Insight he’s occupied with settling details of his new position and unable to comment because all of his initial cases remain active.

## Are fines enough?

One challenge Hall may face concerns fines, which in the past have often been lightly assessed.

Fines for poaching in Oregon went up in 2017. But convicted

poachers often end up paying less than the maximum allowable amount due to legal technicalities and lenient judgements.

In 2021, a poacher in Wheeler County who used a semi-automatic rifle to shoot a buck deer multiple times from the road, then left the animal mortally wounded, was sentenced to a one-year hunting suspension, forfeiture of his firearm, \$1,000 in fines and a letter of apology to a private landowner.

State officials and conservationists are enthusiastic about Hall’s appointment. Now that there’s a roaming poaching prosecutor, the expectation is that convicted poachers will be punished to the fullest extent of the law.

## But will fines be stiff enough to deter poaching?

In Oregon, poaching a black bear carries a \$7,500 fine and suspension of hunting privileges.

However, fines now top \$50,000 for some species (moose, mountain goat, sheep with horns) and can lead to suspension of hunting licenses and weapons seizure.

## Wildlife crimes on the rise

When Helm entered office in 2015, he quickly became troubled by Oregon’s high rates of wildlife crime.

Commonly reported incidents included black bear poaching (animals prized for their gallbladders, which are used in traditional Chinese medicine), trophy kills targeting deer for their antlers and poached sturgeon, killed for their caviar.

According to Steve Hagan, vice president of the Oregon Hunters Association, the past five years have also seen an increase in “thrill kills,” a form of poaching in which the only motive is an itchy trigger finger.

“To shoot something in a field and just let it lie there and rot, it’s not something I can relate to,” says Hagan. “I get the impression that some of it is people getting bored with video games and wanting real life targets.”

Sturgeon populations, which are especially vulnerable to poaching due to their long life cycles and slow regeneration time, have been nearly pushed to the brink. They’re highly lucrative, with sturgeon caviar selling for up to \$200 an ounce on the black market.

“These instances of poaching we’re seeing, specifically with sturgeon populations, are definitely impacting the abundance of the overall population,” says Stop Poaching Campaign coordinator Yvonne Shaw.

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In March, Oregon State Police (OSP) troopers seized five sturgeons—one over seven feet long, indicating it was likely more than 50 years old—from poachers in Scappoose Bay near St. Helens. The poachers could now face felony charges.

According to statistics from OSP, troopers recover around 60 poached sturgeon each year. In 2019, OSP reported 324 illegally harvested big game, increasing to 447 in 2020. There were 234 big game animals poached in 2021.

Rewards for tipsters

Through the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), the Oregon Hunters Association funds the Turn In Poachers (TIP) rewards system, providing cash rewards to people who offer information to authorities leading to the arrest or citation of a poacher.

In 2020, ODFW reported that 61 TIP checks were paid out, totaling \$20,599.

But while the TIP rewards system has proven successful in incentivizing the reporting of poachers, the rewards are applied only to animals listed as game species—animals that can legally be hunted in Oregon. This excludes protected and endangered nongame species such as certain raptors, reptiles, fish and amphibians.

Gray wolves, of which there are only 175 in Oregon, technically have game status, although they cannot legally be hunted.

“There’s been a lot of focus on addressing only the species we hunt and fish, but there’s lots of other animals out there being killed,” says Danielle Moser, wildlife program coordinator for conservation group Oregon Wild.

Oregon Wild is part of the Oregon Wildlife Coalition, a coalition made up of nine wildlife conservation groups working closely with the Stop Poaching Campaign and the Oregon Legislature to support anti-poaching efforts.

In March, the group began funding Oregon’s first standardized cash rewards program for nongame species. The program offers \$500 for information regarding raptors and mammals like cougars, bobcats and beaver, and \$1,000 for information regarding federal or state listed endangered species like wolves, wolverine, lynx and otter.

“The list of species covered under the Oregon Hunters Association program is narrow,” says Moser. “One or two instances of poaching could set back an entire recovery for threatened or endangered species.”

Wolves a target

Wolves have faced the brunt of Oregon’s poaching problem in recent years. Gray wolves, which were driven to the brink of extinction in the mid-20th century, have been making a slow recovery since the introduction of the state’s wolf management plan in 2005.

But poachers have been unrelenting, raising concerns about the future of Oregon’s wolf population.

In February 2021, an entire pack of eight wolves was found dead by state troopers in Eastern Oregon, having been poisoned. Moser says the incident helped make 2021 one of the deadliest on record for wolves in Oregon.

So far in 2022, there have been three reported wolf poachings, at a rate that may end up topping 2021’s.

Animals ‘belong’ to everyone

Since the program began, the OWC has paid \$1,000 in rewards—two \$500 payouts for the poaching of two Cooper’s Hawks. Both hawks died after being shot with BB guns, Moser says.

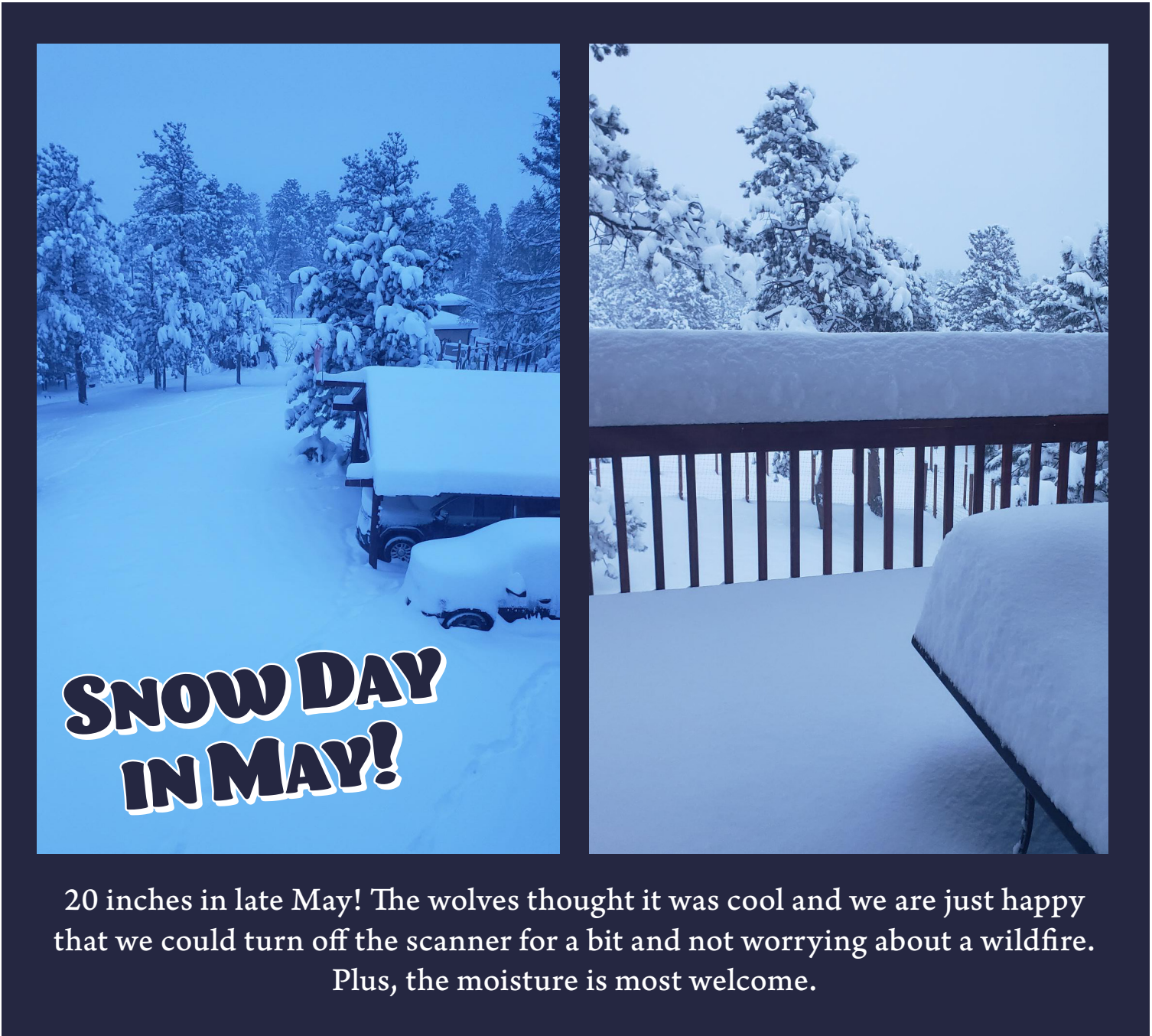
The state of Oregon views poaching as a form of theft, legally classifying the state’s diverse wildlife as one of its most valuable natural resources.

“When a poacher takes an animal, they take it away from everyone forever,” says Shaw. “That means it can’t be harvested or encountered by a hiker or kayaker. It can’t be photographed. It’s just gone from the landscape.”

When combined with the worsening effects of climate change and the habitat destruction caused by rapid urbanization, the poaching of already stressed wildlife populations can tip the scale dangerously close to ecological collapse.

But beyond that, Helm says there’s a deeper moral imperative to ensure that Oregon’s fauna is treated with dignity.

“They deserve our respect,” he says. “Our fish and wildlife deserve to be protected from human interference. They don’t deserve to be wantonly killed.”





## SAY NO TO LETHAL MANAGEMENT OF OUR WOLVES!

Now more than ever, you need to be a voice as the SAG meetings will come to a close August 2022. In developing the plan, there is talk of lethal management and recreational hunting of our wolves. I believe that we do not need to kill wolves for recreation and I believe that there are other methods that we can do for wolves that may become troublesome with livestock such as translocation and producers who can benefit from using non lethal-deterrents such as fladry, fox lights, range riders and various other practices before lethal control.

Below is a link that is not a survey nor a petition, however it is a tool that can be used to present to CPW to make them aware that we want our wolves to live and they deserve our respect as a native species, an animal who is intelligent, who lives as family, and is an ancestor of your best friend.

[WWW.TINYURL.COM/NO2LETHAL](http://WWW.TINYURL.COM/NO2LETHAL)

## HOW TO BE A VOICE RIGHT NOW

Written comments are encouraged to be provided through the online comment form available at

**Wolf Engagement CO Comment Form** | [tinyurl.com/weo-comment](http://tinyurl.com/weo-comment)

Verbal comment opportunities are available in person at the **SAG meetings** as well as in person and/or virtually on Parks and Wildlife Commission meeting agendas

**Wolf Engagement CO** | [tinyurl.com/weo-advgrps](http://tinyurl.com/weo-advgrps)

**CPW Meetings** | [tinyurl.com/cpw-meet](http://tinyurl.com/cpw-meet)

I will also keep you updated on the progress that is being made (good or not so good) from every SAG meeting I attend for the next 14 months. I can tell you that now is the time to speak up and become part of this process as it is being formed and it will become the way Colorado manages our wolves.

**YOU** can help prevent our wolves from being like what has happened in Idaho and Montana. Be their voice now.

## HELP US TO BUILD OUR NEW RED WOLF ENCLOSURE



We are in the process of building our new American Red Wolf enclosure! It is quite the process as it starts with completely demolishing the old enclosure, cutting down and removing dead trees, and then rebuilding it. The main difference on this one is that the new enclosure will need to meet SSP/ AZA/CPW standards because the Red wolf is a federally endangered wolf. That means 8' high chain link, 3' cantilever tops and two catch pens. This enclosure will cost in the upper \$30,000 range. If you are interested in donating to help us financially with the costs, please send to the address to the left. Any donation of \$250.00 or more, your name will be added to our Red Wolf monument.



## WAYS TO CO-EXIST WITH WOLVES

[www.woodriverwolfproject.org/tools](http://www.woodriverwolfproject.org/tools)



<https://tinyurl.com/RestoreWolfProtection>



# **FATHER'S DAY WITH THE WOLVES**



**Sunday, June 19th • 9-11am**  
**Wolf Tour • Breakfast Burritos • Raffle**

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**\$40 (12 & older) • \$20 (6-11)**  
**RSVP today • Space is limited 719.687.9742**

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**Colorado Wolf & Wildlife Center**  
**[wolfeducation.org](http://wolfeducation.org)**



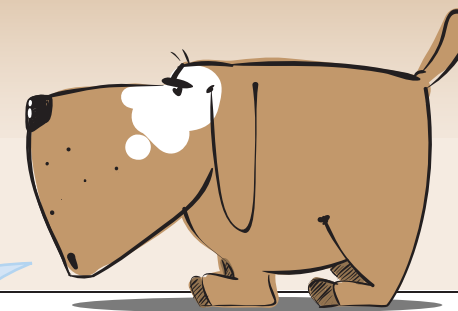
# Adoption corner

## TCRAS

Teller County Regional Animal Shelter  
tcrascolorado.org · 719.686.7707

## SLVAWS

San Luis Valley Animal Welfare Society  
slvaws.org · 719.587.woof (9663)



[ NOTE - Our shelter is still open for adoptions, but we are asking that you call ahead and make an appointment before coming in to the shelter - 719-686-7707. ]

### **MACY »**

AGE: 3 years 1 month  
SEX: Female/Spayed  
Hound/Mix

This is Macy. She came from Carlsbad, New Mexico so we do not have any past history. We can tell you that she is very sweet and would be so happy to get a new beginning with you.



### **« TIGER**

AGE: 2 years 1 month  
SEX: Male/Neutered  
Domestic Shorthair/Mix

Tiger is a brown tabby with beautiful stripes. Just two years old, he is looking for the perfect home and the perfect lap.



### **SLVAWS ADOPTION FAIR**

Every 1st Saturday of the month 11:00am-3:00pm  
at the Petco in Colorado Springs  
5020 N. Nevada

### **SHAGGY**



Shaggy is a sweet, affectionate 1 year old terrier mix pup who gets along great with other dogs. He was abandoned with his sisters. Less than 50 lbs, neutered, chipped, all vacc's.

### **URSULA**



Beautiful, mellow girl Ursula is a mastiff/boxer mix. So affectionate, gets along with other dogs. Abandoned in the mountains with a litter of starving puppies. She is a love considering all she has endured. Weighs about 70 lbs, spayed, chipped, all vacc's.