



COLORADO WOLF & WILDLIFE CENTER

SEPTEMBER 2021 • CONSERVATION • EDUCATION • PRESERVATION



CERTIFIED BY

**ASSOCIATION
OF ZOOS &
AQUARIUMS**

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 and sign up on the newsletter page.

CONTACT US
tours@wolfeducation.org
PO Box 713 Divide, CO
80814 719.687.9742



| 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.

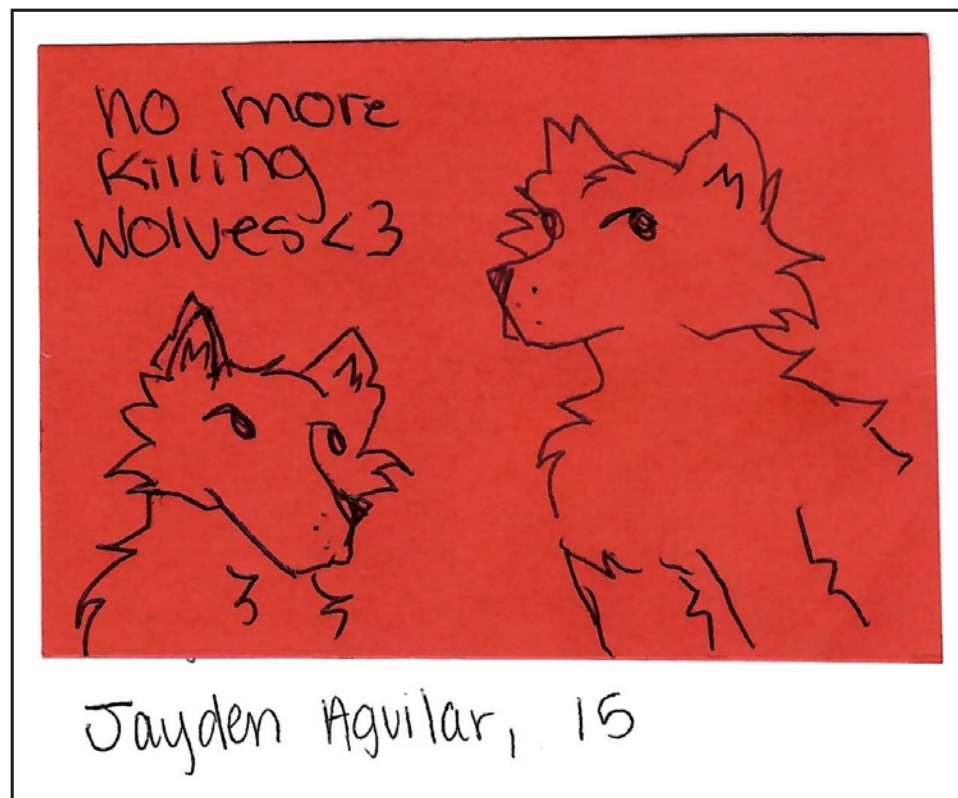
 **Follow us on Instagram:**
cowolfcenter

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!

Hey kids! Send in your drawing with wolves and why you love them, why they need to be on the landscape, or any message that you feel strongly about. We will choose up to 2 for the October newsletter. Please no bigger than 8"x10". Please include your name and age.



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



<https://tinyurl.com/RestoreWolfProtection>

WILDLIFE ADVOCACY GROUPS ARE SUING TO STOP THE WISCONSIN WOLF HUNT

Paul A. Smith | Milwaukee Journal Sentinel | August 31, 2021

Wildlife advocacy groups on Tuesday filed a lawsuit in Dane County to stop a fall 2021 Wisconsin gray wolf hunting and trapping season as well as overturn the state statute that requires an annual wolf season.

The legal action represents the first in-state attempt to stop a wolf season and test the Wisconsin law that defines it.

Animal Wellness Action, the Center for a Humane Economy, Friends of the Wisconsin Wolf and Wildlife, Project Coyote and state resident Patrick Clark claim Wisconsin officials were "reckless and politically motivated" when they set a kill quota of 300 wolves for the season scheduled to begin Nov. 6.

On top of the 218 wolves killed by hunters and trappers in February, the two seasons could reduce wolf numbers by half in just one year and risk survival of the population, according to the groups.

Defendants in the suit are the Natural Resources Board and the Department of Natural Resources.

The lawsuit alleges the political appointees on the NRB – including Fred Prehn of Wausau, whose term expired May 1 but has flouted board custom and refused to vacate his seat for an appointee of Gov. Tony Evers – disregarded the recommendations from professional staff at the DNR and instead set an "arbitrary and unsustainable kill level."

The DNR had recommended a wolf quota of 130 for the fall hunting and trapping season.

The filing calls the board's action "a parody of reasoned deliberation" that "spurned the recommendations of DNR's experts, disregarded science, and ignored the facts to arrive at a politically contrived conclusion that violates the



Board's constitutional and statutory responsibility to protect and conserve the state's wildlife."

Absent court intervention the petitioners say the result "will be another devastating blow to Wisconsin's wolf population."

Further, the groups argue the 2011 law that requires Wisconsin to hold an annual wolf hunt is unconstitutional.

State law says the DNR "shall" establish a wolf hunting and trapping season that begins on the first Saturday in November and ends on the last day of February of the following year when wolves are not listed as federally- or state-endangered.

Wisconsin is unique among states for the statutory requirement to hold a wolf hunt.

The lawsuit asks the Dane County Circuit Court to overturn the law, reverse the quota set by the board and enjoin the DNR from issuing licenses for the November hunt.

"The Natural Resources Board should know its role – to oversee and ratify the decisions of the professional staff at the Wisconsin DNR," said Paul Collins of Stoughton, AWA's Wisconsin state director. "Instead, the Board has hijacked

wolf management. The courts cannot allow this arbitrary and capricious decision-making to drive wildlife management decisions in Wisconsin."

Wolves are native to Wisconsin but were deliberately extirpated by the 1960s through bounties, poisoning and other aggressive government-sponsored tactics.

The federal Endangered Species Act in 1973 brought protections for wolves and helped a remnant population in northern Minnesota spread to Michigan and Wisconsin.

The wolf population in Wisconsin was estimated at 25 in 1980, 34 in 1990, 248 in 2000, 704 in 2010 and 1,195 in 2020, according to DNR reports.

Significantly, the DNR has failed to update the state's wolf management plan, written in 1999 and tweaked in 2007, to keep pace with social and biological science as the wolf population grew. It is working to get a new wolf plan approved next year.

Wolf management over the last decade has saw-sawed between state management and federal Endangered Species Act protections.

The most recent chapter began in January when the wolf was removed from the endangered species list by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Although the DNR wanted to wait until November to hold a wolf season, a lawsuit forced the agency to conduct one in late February. The kill of 218 wolves was 83% above the state-licensed quota.

"The combination of the February hunt and the planned fall hunt could result in a 60% decline in Wisconsin's wolf population," said Melissa Smith, founder of Friends of the Wisconsin Wolf and Wildlife. "That is extraordinarily reckless and cannot be allowed to happen. This is a species fresh off the federal endangered species list, with a current federal legal challenge arguing that the delisting itself was not warranted."

The plaintiffs are represented by lawyers with Animal & Earth Advocates, Greenfire Law and the Wisconsin-based firm of Laffey, Leitner & Goode.

Sarah Hoyer, DNR communications director, on

Tuesday said the agency had "no comment at this time" on the lawsuit.

Luke Hilgemann of Marshfield, president and CEO of Hunter Nation, the Kansas-based hunter advocacy group that initiated the lawsuit that led to the February wolf season, called Tuesday's filing the "latest frivolous attempt by the national anti-hunting groups to trample the rights of hunters in Wisconsin."

"Following the Biden administration's decision to not put wolves back under federal protection, a huge blow to the strategy of these national anti-hunting groups, we've seen them pull out all the stops in a desperate effort to end the statutorily-required wolf hunt," Hilgemann said.

Hilgemann said Hunter Nation is reviewing the case with its attorneys.

The DNR received 27,288 applications for the fall wolf hunting and trapping season, which included 10,551 for a preference point-only. The agency is scheduled to conduct the drawing in the coming weeks and notify successful applicants by Sept. 21.

Tuesday's court filing in Dane County asks the defendants for a reply within 45 days.



Engagement Process, Education and Outreach

WOLF RESTORATION & MANAGEMENT PLAN; SUMMER 2021 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT



Proposition 114

Citizen-based initiative passed November 2020 requires:

- Colorado’s Parks and Wildlife Commission to develop a plan to restore gray wolves to the state, using the best scientific data available.
- Statewide hearings to acquire information to be considered in developing the plan, including scientific, economic and social considerations.
- Taking the steps necessary to begin restoration of gray wolves no later than December 31, 2023 in Colorado west of the Continental Divide.

Public meetings

- Outreach events are underway to obtain public input as the restoration & management plan is being developed
 - public open house meetings
 - invitation-only focus group meetings
 - virtual town hall meetings
 - online input
- A draft Wolf Restoration and Management plan is not available at this point in time.
- After public input, CPW staff, with input from the Technical Working Group and Stakeholder Advisory Group, will prepare a Draft Plan for further public input.

Additional educational resources

- CPW Wolf webpage: <https://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/Wolves-Stay-Informed.aspx>
- Three education sessions have been recorded and are available on the CPW Youtube Channel



What we want to know from you

- What suggestions do you have for **engagement, education and outreach** to make gray wolf restoration and management as successful as possible?
- What concerns or questions about **engagement, education and outreach** do you have?



HOW TO BE A VOICE FOR YOUR – COLORADO WOLVES –

GO TO...

wolfengagementco.org

AND FILL OUT THE FORM



– **CLICK ON:** Summer 2021 Public Opportunities on that same page to attend an open house.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to Initiate Status Review of Gray Wolf in the Western U.S. – Says a Listing Action May Be Warranted as Threatened or Endangered Under the Endangered Species Act (ESA)

September 20, 2021 | Sierra Sun Times

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has completed the initial review of two petitions filed to list gray wolves (*Canis lupus*) in the western U.S. as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The Service finds that the petitions present substantial, credible information indicating that a listing action may be warranted and will initiate a comprehensive status review of the gray wolf in the western U.S.

On June 1, 2021, the Service received a petition (dated May 26, 2021) to list the gray wolf Northern Rocky Mountain Distinct Population Segment (DPS) or a new western U.S. DPS as a threatened or endangered species under the ESA. The Service received a second, similar petition on July 29, 2021 (addendum). The Federal Register notice will serve as the 90-day finding for both petitions.

Under the ESA, a DPS is a portion of a species' or subspecies' population or range and is described geographically instead of biologically. The first petition proposes listing a Northern Rocky Mountain DPS consisting of Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, the eastern one-third of Washington and Oregon, and a small portion of north-central Utah. Both petitions also propose some alternative Western U.S. DPS to include all, or part, of the Northern Rocky Mountain DPS states with the addition of California, Colorado, Nevada, and in one petition, northern Arizona.

The Service finds the petitioners present substantial information that potential increases in human-caused mortality may pose a threat to the gray wolf in the western U.S. The Service also finds that new regulatory mechanisms in Idaho and Montana may be inadequate to address this threat. Therefore, the Service finds that gray wolves in the western U.S. may warrant listing.



Photo Credit: Credit: Gary Kramer/USFWS

Substantial 90-day findings require only that the petitioner provide information that the proposed action may be warranted. The next steps for the Service include in-depth status reviews and analyses using the best available science and information to arrive at a 12-month finding on whether listing is warranted. If so, listing a species is done through a separate rulemaking process, with public notice and comment.

The public can play an important role by submitting relevant information to inform the in-depth status review through www.regulations.gov, Docket Number: FWS-HQ-ES-2021-0106, beginning September 17, 2021, upon publication in the Federal Register and will include details on how to submit comments.

The **90-day finding** and **petition review form** associated with this announcement are now available for review [below](#).

– **USEFUL LINKS** –

90-Day Finding | tinyurl.com/90day-findings

Petition Review | tinyurl.com/wolfpetition-rvw

THE WORK NEVER ENDS

Just when Rick thinks that he is catching up on the countless projects that is on his list, another pops up. We just found out that we will be receiving a mate for our male Swift fox; Dusty. His new girlfriend will be coming in the next two months, so we now have two major projects. The American Red Wolf and Swift fox.

It is a slow and steady process as the work is primarily done only by one amazing man. Unfortunately, to find someone who wants to mix concrete by hand, dig holes for poles, stretch wire, lift all day and so much more, is hard to find.

It is all for the love of the animals and to make the Center more beautiful. I will give you all updates as the progress continues.



Above: Geronimo making sure that the work gets done

Left & Below: The beginning stage of our new Swift fox enclosure



STOLEN WOLF STATUE

Someone stole our wolf statue a few days ago. They must have staked it out on a couple of occasions to have the right tools to unbolt it from the rock.

It makes you wonder who would do such a thing and why. It could be out of hatred, a dare, or to sell it to someone for money.

In a world like today, nothing surprises me. It is just really sad to steal and I am sure that anyone who is reading this and has been a victim of theft, can relate. I know many people who say that karma will play a part.

We will be replacing our statue again, but there will be added features and equipment that we will not mention. We are grateful for our community and all of our wolf followers. You are all amazing as you have believed in our mission and supported us for almost 30 years. Thank you.

If anyone has any information leading to the whereabouts of our wolf statue and it is recovered, CWWC would like to pay a \$1000.00 reward to you. Please call our Center at 719-687-9742 and Teller County Sheriff's Office at 719-687-9653. You can leave an anonymous tip by hitting #5 if you choose.



Congratulations

to Stephanie Hooper and Anne Killmar.

The correct name for this mushroom is *Sarcodon Imbricatus* "Hawks Wing".



We took the 2:00 tour yesterday and I wanted to let you know how inspiring it was to listen to Lindsey on the tour. She exudes passion and excitement and is a great advocate for our wolves. It makes such a difference in the attitude of a person when they are performing their daily "grind" and I can assure you that Lindsey's exuberance spills over to those listening. I videotaped some of her talks and will be sharing them with my 17 year old daughter to show her how passion can drive a person and challenge her to find that something and be like Lindsey. She is an asset to your facility.

— Joe Joles



Colorado Wolf
and Wildlife
Center

PO Box 713
Divide, CO 80814

Something is a-buzz..!



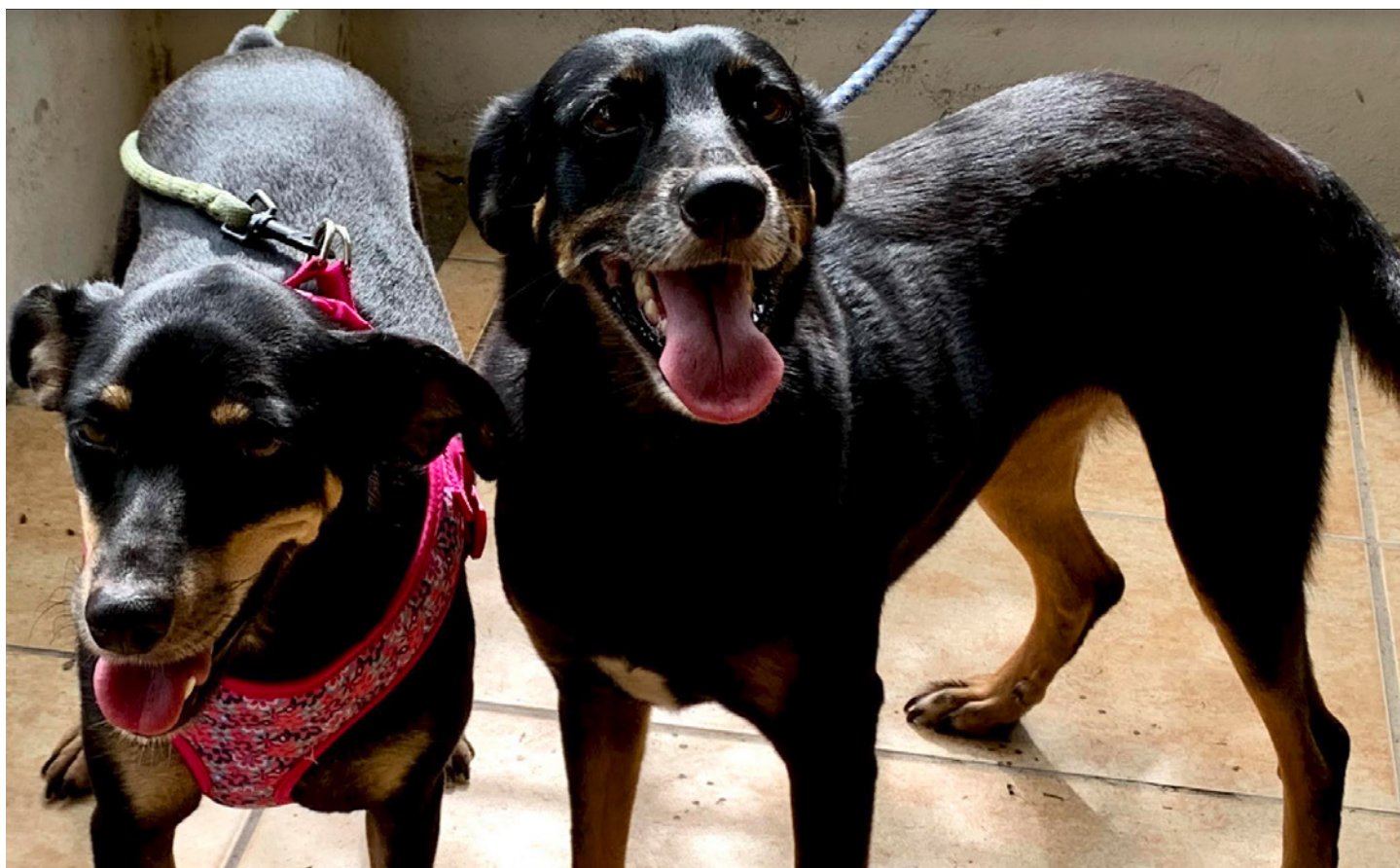
Name this plant with a mini description and why it is good for the environment.

Hint: Look closely to see the winner.

The first 3 emails with the correct answer will win your choice of a magnet of our wolves or fox, a beautiful wolf card, or a surprise of our choice.

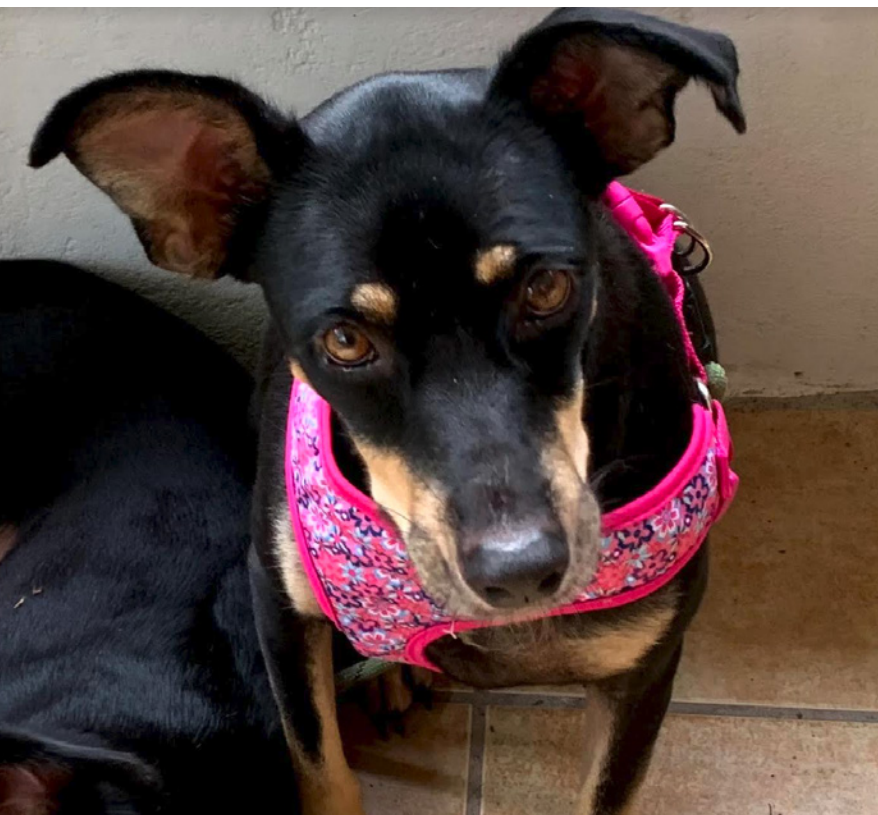
Send answers to:
tours@wolfeducation.org





EMERGENCY ADOPTION!

These two beautiful dogs are with a foster mom in Costa Rica. The foster mom is moving and cannot care for them. They have until the end of October to find a home or they will be on the street. Colorado Wolf and Wildlife Center is prepared to fly them to the states if a forever home is available. If you are interested, please email the tours@wolfeducation.org Attention your email to Darlene.



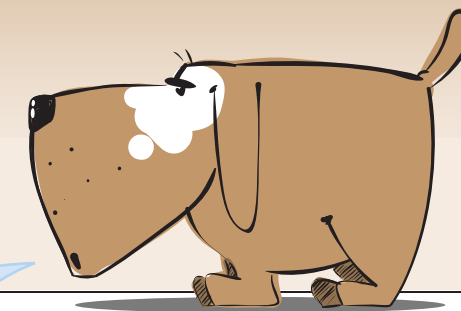
Adoption corner

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.]

APOLLO »

AGE: 3 years 3 months
SEX: Male/Neutered
Domestic Shorthair/Mix

Hello! I'm Apollo! I have the most handsome face and I'm such a lover once I get to know you! I like to take my time to make sure that I'm safe but once I am I promise I'll make the best cuddle buddy.



« LA DIXIE

AGE: 4 years 7 months
SEX: Female/Spayed
Terrier, Pit Bull/Mix

This active girl would love to go hiking and learn agility. Also she is the best cuddler. Come on, what are you waiting for? Come and spend some time with this lovely dog. "I am part of the Paw in Hand - No Limits program! Ask a TCRAS human for more info!"

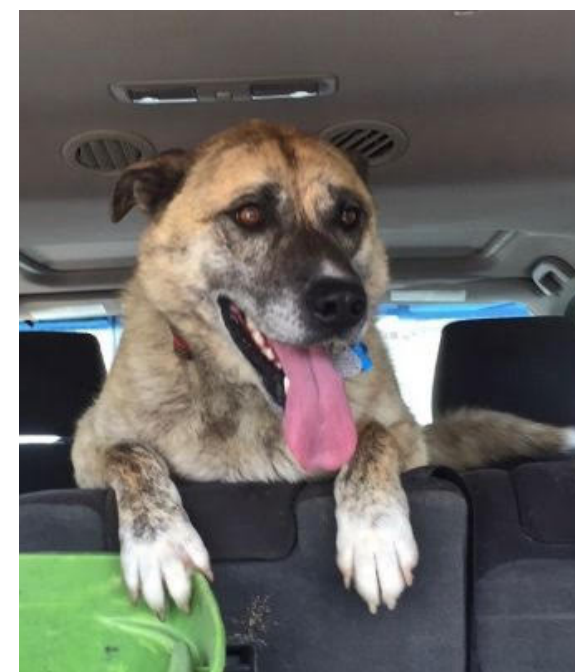


SLVAWS ADOPTION FAIR

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

« BUDDY

Seven year old Buddy seldom gets noticed for a forever home. His eyes are looking sadder and sadder. He loves to ride in vehicles and cuddle. He doesn't like other dogs and needs a fenced in yard. He is neutered, current on all vaccinations, German shepherd mix, ~ 65 lbs. Best in a family without children.



FOXY »

Foxy needs a home with a doggie door and fenced in yard. We have had Foxy for several years. She gets to run free but she needs a family. She is a bit shy and best as an only dog. She is about 6 years old. Spayed, chipped, all vaccinations. She had spent her former life tethered on a chain.

