

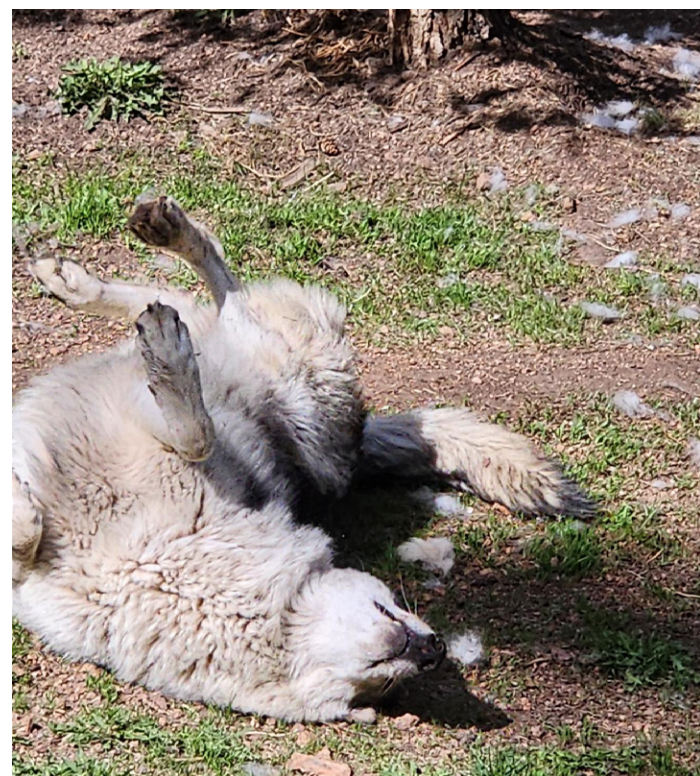


COLORADO WOLF & WILDLIFE CENTER

MAY 2024 • CONSERVATION • EDUCATION • PRESERVATION



SUMMER
SHEDDING
BEGINS!





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.

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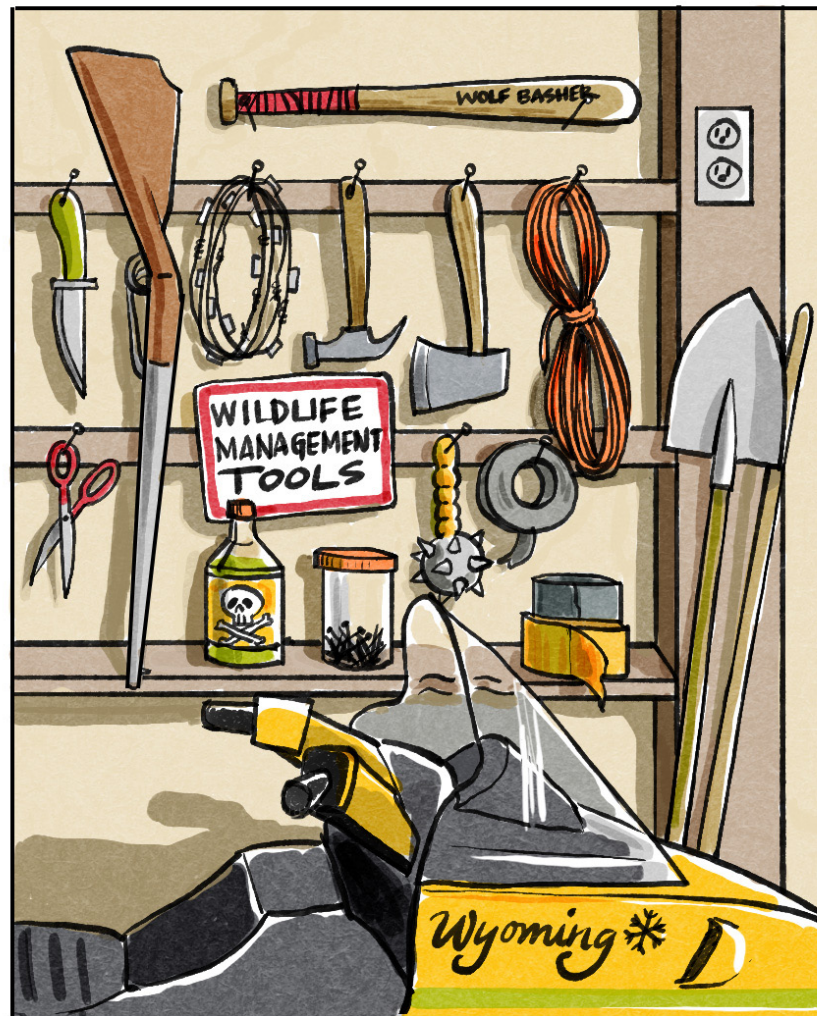
| SOCIAL MEDIA HAPPENINGS |

Stay up to date with the animals at CWWC, wolves and wildlife in the news, and advocacy opportunities.

-  **Subscribe to our YouTube Channel: ColoradoWolf&WildlifeCenter** We post videos of the training and enrichment we are providing for our animals, and educational vlogs about wolves.
-  **Follow us on Facebook: Colorado Wolf and Wildlife Center** to get updates on new YouTube video postings, read feel good stories from other wolf/wildlife organizations, and learn about new wildlife findings in the research field.
-  **Follow us on Instagram: @cowolfcenter** to see pictures of our beautiful animals, stories of what we are doing around the center, and ways you can help wild wolf populations.. Keep your eye on our story for fun videos of the day to day lives of our wolves and keepers.
-  **Follow us on Twitter: @Wolves_at_CWWC** to see photos of our animals, read fun facts, and hear about events happening at CWWC.
-  **Follow us on TikTok: @cowolfcenter** for the videos you won't see on our other social media pages.

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

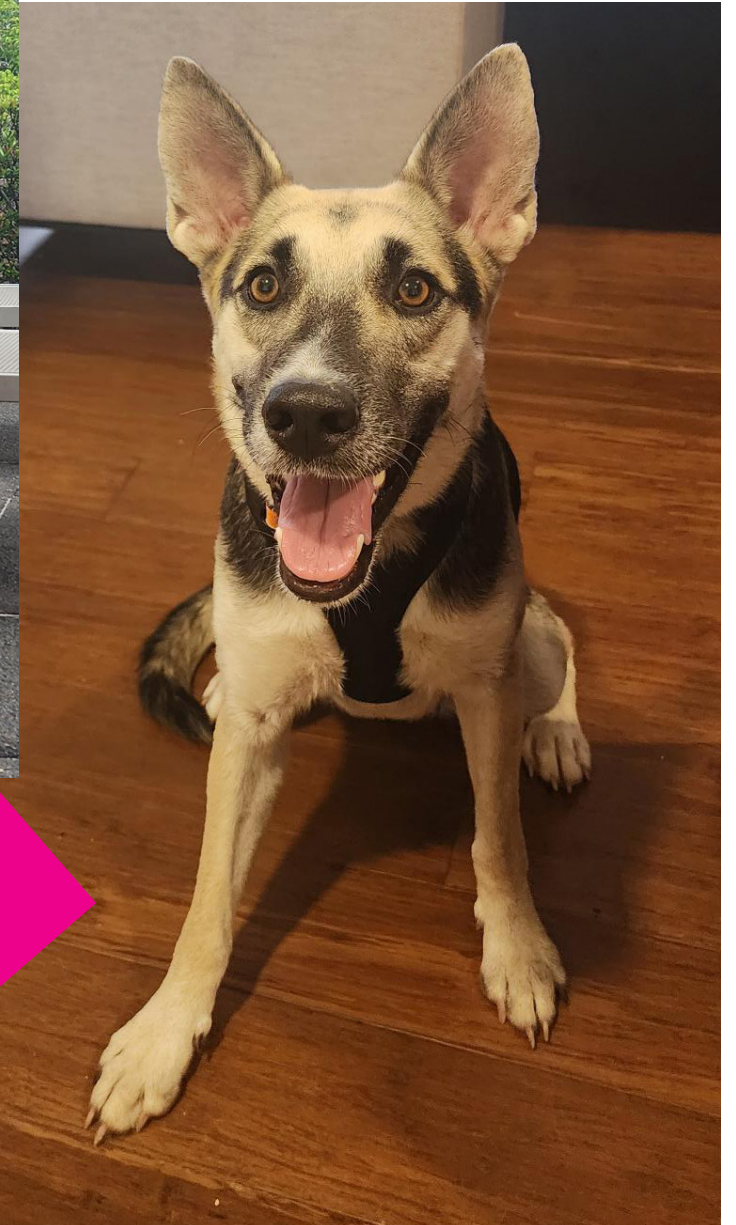
"WYOMING'S WILDLIFE "MANAGEMENT" TOOLS



CREDIT: CORI REDFORD



MEET MIA



Mia made it from being a street dog in Costa Rica to living in her forever home in Colorado! Her new owners love her and she goes on long walks in the mountains, plays with the kids, and she has made a new 4-legged dog friend who lives there. However, I am told that she chases the pet rabbit around the house and that may be a little different than wanting it to be a friend!

SPAY / NEUTER PROJECT IN LAS MONAS

So this last Saturday, 39 animals (strays and those belonging to low income families) were spayed/neutered in Las Monas – Pueblo Nuevo. And a massive THANK YOU goes out to Dra. Yeimi Nuñez Herrera for performing the surgeries, to her assistants Doris Schluckebier, Jody Feldman and Leda Herrera, as well as to the volunteers: Darlene Kobobel, Dawn Wilhelm, Liana Robinson, Alice Veillon, Rosemary Diaz for taking care of the patients before and after their surgeries, to Peggy Solis, Michelle Rodriguez, Tiffany Rodriguez, Karina Jimenez for organizing it all in such a way that the event went smoothly, without unnecessary stress and interruptions and to Francisco Cordoba and Paulina Moisés, both from JACO IMPACT, for their help with transportation and for providing crates, so needed at these clinics.

And a special thanks also to the sponsors of this campaign, COLORADO WOLF AND WILDLIFE CENTER represented by Darlene Kobobel and Rick Silverberg, Barb Burton from Colorado and a friend who wishes to remain anonymous for the money donation which made this clinic possible, to Liana and Alice from PANADERIA ARTESANAL in Jaco for providing delicious lunch and snacks for all volunteers and to Rosemary Diaz and her mom Ana for not only providing their place to work, but also helping out wherever “helping hands” were needed.

The stray animals were fixed for free, and for pets belonging to low income families we were receiving contributions in the amount of what the family could afford. As a result, we ended up with additional funds to cover the cost of fixing 21 more animals. Dra. Yeimi offered to do the surgeries in her clinic for the same price she was charging during the spay day, so THE FINAL RESULT OF THIS CAMPAIGN IS 60 ANIMALS SPAYED / NEUTERED!

As a bonus, all dogs received a good-quality collar and leash, and those who needed also a flea and tick collar which will protect them for up to 8 months. The collars were provided by Darlene.

So again, a huge THANK YOU to all of you who made this little project possible. And we hope to be able to repeat it soon, as our county definitely needs more events like this. If somebody would like to sponsor one or more surgeries of a stray animal or pet belonging to a low-income family, please let me know. Dr. Yeimi offered to help with low-cost surgery any time, if the animals qualify for financial help.

Thank you.



Please send a check to:
Colorado Wolf and Wildlife Center
PO Box 713
Divide, Colorado 80816
Spay/neuter Clinic
Attn: Darlene

\$50.00 Can do 2 dogs or 3 cats. Please think about how many unwanted puppies or kittens this will prevent and the suffering that usually follows. Animals are animals no matter where they live, and if one needs help, that should be something that we do if it is in your heart.

Thank you,
~Darlene

BE A VOICE FOR WOLVES

Colorado Parks and Wildlife is contemplating changes in the management plan that would be detrimental to Colorado's wolves. They are considering allowing the use of "nighttime aids" to lethally manage wolves, and are looking to define "chronic depredation" which would determine when ranchers can obtain permits to kill wolves.

Please visit these QR codes below to find out more information on why we must advocate for the science of nonlethal coexistence.



SCAN FOR
TALKING
POINTS



SCAN TO
DIRECTLY EMAIL
COMMISSIONERS

I would like to thank everyone including my staff for making comments against the use of Artificial lights to lethally kill wolves. The comment period to the CPW Commissioners is now over and we will wait for the decision in a few days. I will keep you updated. I am attaching a few emails from people that sent in their emails. We hope that the Commissioners will understand that Artificial lights are truly not needed, as there are many non-lethal deterrents that can be effective in reducing and totally eliminating depredations.

~Darlene Kobobel
President/ Founder, Colorado
Wolf and Wildlife Center

I am absolutely heartbroken that Colorado Parks and Wildlife is considering lethal management just as the re-introduction of wolves to our ecosystem is taking place.

Please look at the science.

Nonlethal management can be much more effective at preserving livestock as evidenced in Idaho, where it is implemented. Guard animals, donkeys, llamas, can not only deter wolves from attacking livestock, but will keep them from coming back. You're jumping straight to lethal management of wolves using nighttime aids that could result in the death of the wolf simply for walking through a range where these aids are implemented. Lethal management is not as effective as non-lethal management. Again, please consider the science.

Wolves and coyotes can be confused. Depredation could be the result of coyote attacks and we also know that simply killing coyotes is not as effective as non-lethal management because of their compensatory rebound. Kill a coyote, and there are now more resources for another coyote family to have even more pups, creating more coyotes. It's not about whether a rancher has the right to kill a coyote, but what's more effective? Non-lethal management is more effective at deterring canid attacks.

And if you consider giving some ranchers licenses allowing for lethal management, I guarantee you're going to have situations like what's just happened in Wyoming. It makes absolutely no sense, given that Colorado has an extremely generous compensation package for ranchers who've lost livestock to wolves. And wolf attacks account for such an incredibly small percentage of livestock losses, compared to domestic animals, birds of prey, illness, and other natural causes. it would be too easy for ranchers to claim that a wolf or wolves have been near a livestock herd. They could chase a wolf down and kill it without true justification. Please, require them to use non-lethal management means to preserve their herds.

Again, I appeal to the wisdom of the group to use science and not political pressure to give our wolves a chance to integrate into our ecosystem. A healthy ecosystem will result in a healthier landscape, non-lethal management will result in safer herds, and both of these factors contribute to a stronger economy in Colorado.

Commissioners,

As a 4th generation native born Coloradan whose family homesteaded here in 1881, I am against the use of artificial lighting as a means to aid producers dealing with depredating wildlife. The people of Colorado voted to return wolves to our landscape, there is a mechanism in place to "undo" Prop 114 - let the producers gather signatures and take their issues to the people again with another vote. They won't do that however. They simply want to maintain the status quo because for more than a century livestock producers have had free run of our public lands.

By considering allowing the use of night vision and infrared technologies, the Commission is propagating the producer narrative that wolves are a problem. Wolves are not the problem, producers refusing to modify their practices is the problem. There are many tools and organizations willing to assist in implementing co-existence and non-lethal practices. My understanding of the current events in Grand County is that the producer who is being plagued by depredations has refused all assistance and has refused to implement non-lethal techniques. Convenient for producers, that part of the story however never finds its way to the media reports.

This producer initiative is the first step in creating producer friendly predator free zones similar to those that exist in neighboring Wyoming where our native Jackson County wolves were lured across the state line using distressed animal calls blasted through loudspeakers and killed by Coloradans. Wolves are a non-game protected species in Colorado, the Commission must protect them as such. I urge all of the Commission to vote NO on allowing the use of artificial lighting as a means to deter wildlife/livestock encounters.

Good morning CPW Commissioners,

I am writing to you today regarding the proposed changes to the Colorado Wolf Management Plan. The use of artificial lighting and nighttime aids to lethally manage Gray Wolves in the state of Colorado should not be allowed. If livestock producers are willing to sit outside with night vision scopes waiting to kill wolves, they certainly can sit outside with their herds and use non-lethal scare tactics to frighten the wolves away from their herds instead. At this time, lethal management of wolves should not even be considered by CPW, let alone should lethal control be allowed to be used by livestock producers. Colorado has significant funding to reduce livestock losses to wolves thanks to the Born to be Wild license plate and legislature. Certainly the funds can be used to temporarily hire an effective range rider and to ensure that cattle and sheep are moved into temporary electric pens at night. This method is tried and true and used by producers such as the Alderspring Ranch in Idaho which has completely eliminated livestock losses thanks to these methods.

As for the second proposed change, regarding the definition of chronic depredation, I do believe this is something that should wait until wolves are no longer considered endangered on the state level. Defining chronic depredation will only lead to lethal control of wolves, which should not be done under any circumstances before wolves have a strong foothold in this state.

Good Afternoon Commissioners,

As a member of the SAG, we debated on lethal take and never discussed artificial lights as an option. The **War on Wolves** has been ongoing since the 1600's in North America and it is time to stop.

It was no secret that there would be depredations over time, which is why CPW, the SAG, and the TAG spent nearly two years developing a plan that included the most generous compensation plan for producers worldwide.

Wolves **ARE** native to Colorado. Having wolves back after 80 years is not because people wanted to hurt the livestock industry, it was because **they were missing** from Colorado as a beautiful and important species. There are more benefits than not. Cattle have dominated wildlands for centuries, and depredations **do** occur, especially when **domestic** animals that have had their natural instincts and defenses bred out of them **live among** many predators ---such as bears, lions, coyotes, and more. In addition to disease, toxins, calving problems, and most recently, 34 cows killed by a single lightening strike, not to mention that almost 30% die of respiratory issues and the list goes on. This is way more than losses by wolves, and not only that, producers are compensated very generously for their losses.

Most land occupied by cattle ranches are **public**. Grazing allotments are a privilege and not a right. They also don't come with shepherds. To assist both producers and wolves, CPW and NGOs have **offered help** to affected ranches. However, our help has been turned down by most, so how can we ever work together? This sets the wolves up to fail and producers hold anger that wolves are back. This just doesn't seem fair when there are ways to reduce depredations with many tools that are available and no incentives to ranchers to remove attractants.

Now, the demand is for artificial lights. My main concern is that wolves can move through a pasture with cattle at night and the cattle may bellow, which can alarm the rancher. Then, an infrared scope on a rifle can be used, and wolves can be killed by just passing through if a producer claims that the wolf was "chasing" their cattle without any proof.

For that reason, I strongly oppose the use of artificial lights for lethal take. It is **simply unfair**, as this privilege can be used with abuse, and not in line with what the SAG agreed upon.

I do feel that if the general public is made aware that wolves can be killed by artificial lights on a scope of a rifle, there will be many who will view this as a way to eliminate wolves especially when most ranchers don't have to do anything to protect their livestock.



Our Montana tractor that was purchased in Lake George in 2004 has went to the tractor graveyard. We purchased a new Bobcat tractor that will not only accomplish all of the tasks that we need with a tractor, but for the first time, we will have a cab to help protect us form the harsh elements in the winter when plowing snow.

Kelly Murphy(assistant director) and Kirk Tidland (Animal educator/handler) are learning all of the features of the tractor. Both will be great additions to help with snow plowing or road grading this year.



**PBS filming for
documentary on Wolf
Reintroduction. Should
air in October. Stay tuned.**



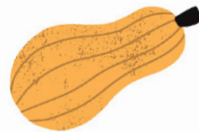


Dear CWWC Family,

Thank you so much for hosting our volunteer group this weekend. My students felt so good being able to help you and being seen in a positive way. We appreciate the time we got to spend in your beautiful space. Please share our gratitude especially with Catharine, Alexis, Kelley, Shane, and John who worked with us most closely. We can't wait to see you again.

Howls,
Nadene

BUTTERNUT SQUASH



"On January 11th, Wild Spirit Wolf Sanctuary in New Mexico was met with a rather unfortunate surprise. Their staff followed a cacophony of barks from outside our sanctuary doors, discovering what they assumed was a stray galivanting around the parking lot. However, upon closer inspection, they discovered a leash tied to the front of our Giftshop-accompanied by a collar the stray clearly slipped-all but confirming that this poor animal was abandoned on their doorstep in the dead of winter.

Not a wolf, not a wolfdog, but simply a domestic dog that was no longer wanted. The good girl that she was, she remained exactly where she was dropped off, as if waiting for her owner to return. This lovely German shepherd soon became known as Butternut Squash, affectionately dubbed "Squash."

Wild Spirit's team went to work to catch up Squash, who was lost, confused and frightened. With enough time and effort, they managed to build enough of a relationship to lead her into the Giftshop and get a good look at her. She had no tags, no tattoos, or anything for us to identify her, or her true owner with. The only thing they could confirm was that she was, in fact, just a domestic dog dumped at a wolf sanctuary.

Sadly, Wild Spirit had little options for Squash, but one of their staff members was kind enough to take her in as they went to work to find a shelter with available space, or a new place for her to call home. This proved more challenging due to Squash's nervous nature. She is incredibly sweet with those she knows and is comfortable with, but takes time to warm up to people and didn't like her boundaries being pushed. For this reason, Wild Spirit knew a no-kill shelter was essential to avoid her being put down.

Until they find her a forever home, they thought it best to welcome her as part of their pack! Squash currently spends her days on sanctuary grounds in a yard that she gets all to herself, eagerly awaiting a family who will give her all the love and attention she deserves. She likes long walks, finding the perfect stick to carry around and munching on ice cubes!

As mentioned, Butternut Squash is a dog, and thus, adoptable! If you are interested in adding this sweet girl to your family, please fill out this form: <https://form.jotform.com/241184814207150>

Or contact Wild Spirit Wolf Sanctuary in New Mexico."

Almost 300 animals transferred to refuge after closure of zoos in Costa Rica

The Tico Times
May 12, 2024

Police, veterinarians, and officials from the Ministry of Environment transferred nearly 300 animals to a refuge in Costa Rica this Saturday, following the closure of the last two state-run zoos after an 11-year delay since the approval of a wildlife protection law.

A jaguar, crocodiles, spider monkeys, a sloth, among other species, were taken one by one by officials from the old Simón Bolívar Zoo, in the center of San José, and placed in portable cages, loaded onto trucks, and escorted by the Police to the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, known as Zoo Ave, located on the outskirts of the capital.

“We have become a country without state zoos and with a vision towards sanctuaries and rescue centers only,” said the Minister of Environment, Franz Tattenbach, during the transfer operation at the Simón Bolívar site. However, there are at least 18 private zoos in the country, which are not affected by the law.

Official José Pablo Vázquez, from the conservation area of the Ministry of Environment, explained that the health status of the zoo animals is unknown and that biologists and veterinarians preliminarily examine each specimen before caging them and loading them onto trucks.

The premises of the Simón Bolívar zoo and the state-owned Santa Ana Conservation Center, adjacent to San José and also closed, belong to the State, but their management was in charge of the FundaZoo Foundation.



Photo: Ezequiel Becerra / AFP

Both animal enclosures should have been closed in 2014, after the approval of the law in 2013, but various legal actions by FundaZoo to defend the concession delayed the closure for a decade, which finally occurred this Friday when the contract expired, and the government refused to renew it.

“State zoos in Costa Rica make no sense. Each 10-year contract cost 1,000 million colones (almost two million dollars) to Costa Ricans,” said Juan Carlos Peralta, director of the NGO Association for Animal Welfare and Protection.

Peralta agreed with the authorities that the site of the former Simón Bolívar Zoo should be transformed into a green lung in the heart of the capital in the style of a botanical garden.



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Photos by Carol Vogel

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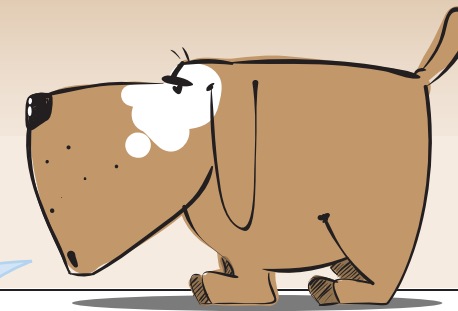
Adoption corner

TCRAS

Teller County Regional Animal Shelter
tcrascolorado.org · 719.686.7707

SLVAWS

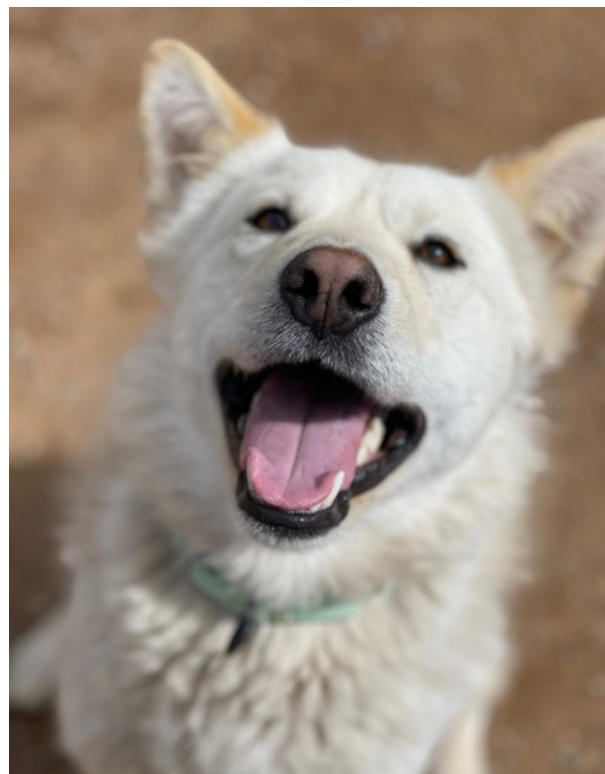
San Luis Valley Animal Welfare Society
slvaws.org · 719.587.woof (9663)



[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.]

CATIER »

Hello. No my name is not a typo, I'm my own designer kitty! Sounds like "Cartier" but I made it my own! I'm a shy girl, very sweet but need my own time to open up. I'd love a quiet home that is all my own where I can be spoiled with all designer kitty accessories!



« APHRODITE

Hi there friends! My name is Aphrodite. I love my humans so much that I'll carry on a whole conversation with them! I am a bit nervous meeting new people but once I warm up, I'll love you forever! I'm a bit picky with my doggie friends mainly females; if you have any fur babies already, I would love to meet them beforehand. I have a medical condition that my friends at the shelter would like to speak with you about further prior to my adoption. I just need a little extra TLC.

TACOMA »

We love Tacoma, a 2 year old Great Pyrenees mix, about 60 lbs. who needs a buddy dog or two to play with. A bit shy, quiet. Neutered, all vacc's. He is getting vacuum groomed and well-behaved. He loves the attention.



« PANDA BEAR

Panda Bear is 2 years old. High energy and gets along with other dogs. She is heeler/border collie, spayed, all vacc's. LOVES attention and belly rubs.