RED FEATHER UPDATE Many ways to provide enrichment Colorado gives day is back!



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Howling for Mother Earth Gala 2023

SAVE THE DATE! W.O.L.F. Sanctuary's 19th annual Gala Fundraiser

annual Gala Fundraise APRIL 22,2023

Save the date for a Mother Earth themed nigh with special auction items, gourmet vegetarian and vegan meal entrees, a wolf ambassador, and more!

With special guest Carter Niemeyer Author of *Wolf-er* his memoir and *Wolf Land* a collection of stories. Niemeyer is retired from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service where he was the wolf recovery coordinator for Idaho, his unique experiences in the field have made him an essencial speaker for wolf conservation.





Hull Hearts

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RED FEATHER UPDATE

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Wolf dogs need more stimulation than most dogs, and will often find something to do if they don't receive enough enrichment. Find out what we do to provide our residents with plenty of enrichment!



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Every donation made on Colorado Gives Day is boosted by an incentive fund through the Community First Foundation and FirstBank. Pre-schedule your donation today!



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Time for more Facts & Tracks! In this issue, we are thrilled to introduce you to Topaz and Sapphire.



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Cover Photo:Iver

Mission: To improve the quality of life for wolves and wolf dogs through:

- **Rescue** Save captive-born wolves and wolf dogs in need and find them appropriate placement at a sanctuary or other qualified site;
- **Sanctuary** Provide a lifelong home at W.O.L.F. in a natural habitat that takes into account each individual's physical, medical & emotional needs;
- **Education** Provide the public with education about the plight of wolves and wolf dogs (both captive-born and wild) to help foster a greater understanding of them and their value.

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear W.O.L.F. Friends and Supporters,

Fall is here and the furry ones are gleeful for the cooler weather, getting friskier! The summer was a tad bit too warm for both the 4- and 2-legged ones. The water troughs got extra use this year.

With COVID concerns relaxing, we have been able get back to doing public events such as tabling at Elk Fest October 1st and 2nd, doing educational programs at schools and libraries, holding our 2nd Wine, Wolves and Art Fundraiser on September 13th after being paused due to COVID, and presenting at events such as the Fort Collins Museum of the Discovery on October 15th and The Dairy in Boulder on October 22nd. It's great to be back out connecting directly with the public.



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We continue to make progress in preparing our Red Feather property for moving the sanctuary. The vertical fencing for the habitats is complete and we have buried the dig guard about 2 feet to reduce maintenance issues. Currently our dig guard is chain link that is secured along the surface with logs and rebar that we need to keep covered with mulch. Maintaining the dig guard requires frequent attention. We are designing the water bucket and food bowl holders such that we can access them outside of the habitats via common alleyways.

The buildout of our new property will be conducted in stages. We have raised approximately \$1.8M to date and have approximately \$2M more for a full buildout of our Phase 1 dream. Please consider donating to our goal. The complete build is state-of-art habitats for our furry ones, a meat processing building with an attached walk-in freezer, retrofitting the existing outbuilding with offices for staff and volunteers and small veterinary exam room for routine procedures, a pavilion for visitors and a public restroom. At our new home, we will finally be open to the public and you will be able to see the impact of your support!

Our second largest fundraiser, Colorado Gives Day, is around the corner, December 6, 2022. It is a single day of online giving for Colorado nonprofits and is a huge success. Prescheduled donations began on November 1. Please consider donating to W.O.L.F. as this is a very important fundraising event for our furry souls. You can preschedule prior to or donate on the day of Colorado Gives Day, December 6th at https://www. coloradogives.org/organization/Wolf.

Save the Date for April 22, 2023, for our annual fundraiser gala themed Howling for Mother

Earth. We are excited to announce that Carter Niemeyer will be our Guest Speaker. Carter Niemeyer retired in 2006 from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service where he was the wolf recovery coordinator for Idaho. As an expert government trapper, he was a key member of the federal wolf reintroduction team in Canada in the mid-1990s. He has two degrees from Iowa State University and is a Wildlife



Society certified biologist. In 2010 he wrote his first memoir, *Wolfer*. He published his second collection of stories, *Wolf Land*, in March 2016.

Niemeyer has been a trapper, hunter, and wildlife proponent his entire life. Wolves, he believes, add to the outdoor experience, and people who see or hear them should consider the experience thrilling. Wolves do not, as many believe, kill everything in sight, destroy their own food supply, or lick their chops at kids waiting at bus stops. Most recently Carter has served as an advisor on the Technical Working Group (TWG) in Colorado to develop a plan to restore and manage gray wolves.

As always, gratefully and humbly yours, Shelley



RED FEATHER UPDATE

The Red Feather Lakes site project continues to make significant progress. W.O.L.F. is very close to being able to relocate our residents to the new site. We remain optimistic that this can be accomplished before the end of 2022. There are still tasks that need to be completed before we are able to move the animals. We continue to be grateful for the partnerships W.O.L.F. has developed with our contractors, volunteers, work groups, and other non-profits that are working with W.O.L.F. to help make this a reality.

RED FEATHER LAKES PROJECT PROGRESS

Since the last newsletter release, several tasks have been completed. Specifically, the new Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS), more commonly known as the septic system, has been installed and approved by the Larimer County Public Health Department.

The well pump and supply line have been partially installed. Completion of the water supply line installation and electrical associated with the well pump are expected to be completed the week of October 10th. For the habitat enclosures, leveling and installation of the flooring materials for the deck pens has been completed. This involved leveling the ground in the habitat enclosure anterooms, and then installing range fencing, weed mat,









and pebble rock that will become the floor of the deck pens for the wolves.

The next step in completing the habitat enclosures will be to purchase and install the deck pens for each wolf. These deck pens serve as a 'den' for each animal and it is where they

will be fed and provided with water. These deck pens are in the process of being ordered from the manufacturer. As part of the deck pen configuration, a solar powered generator will be placed in each anterooms of the habitat enclosures so that the water bowls can be heated in the wintertime to prevent freezing.

The water and feeding stations are being designed to be accessed from an aisleway in each habitat enclosure anteroom to allow for watering and feeding each animal without having the enter the full enclosure. A prototype of the water and feeding station has been completed by Armando Martin with the Reborn Sanctuary and Keith Laposh with W.O.L.F. W.O.L.F. is now in conversations with a welder to assist with building these watering/ feeding stations.

Ted Harapat has been, and is instrumental, in the identification and installation of the infrastructure necessary to operate our security cameras. W.O.L.F. is fortunate that Ted is in the Red Feather Lakes area and willing to share his extensive expertise in getting our security camera network set up and operational. A proof of concept has been completed and is operational. The full system will be installed in the coming weeks.

W.O.L.F. has been fortunate to have several partners that have worked with us and/or continue to work with us to complete the remaining tasks at Red Feather that are essential for allowing us to relocate. Since our update in the Summer 2022 Newsletter, the following entities have been instrumental in working with W.O.L.F. at Red Feather: 1. Joe Walton, of JS Walton Construction – Installation of the habitat enclosure anterooms, installation of the Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS), installation of the water supply line from the well, and road maintenance;

2. Mike Coley, Earth Engineering Company, Inc. – Design and construction observation of the construction of the OWTS

3. Wayne's Pump Service – Installation of the water well pump, pressure tank, and supply line

4. Coalition for Poudre River Watershed (CPRW) and The Ember Alliance (TEA) – Continued fire mitigation at WOLF

5. The Drala Center –



Support with many facility and operational issues, including guidance and support associated with noxious weed identification and potential mitigation methods In addition, W.O.L.F. has been fortunate to have several organizations that have volunteered and supported W.O.L.F., CPRW, and TEA with fire mitigation and constructing burn piles and/or removing downed trees and slash from the habitat enclosures. The following groups have been and/or are scheduled to support this project:

Otterbox – Otterbox has been very supportive and multiple volunteer days have been completed. In addition to the large workgroup highlighted in the last newsletter, Otterbox completed another volunteer workday on August 11, 2022 and has another one planned for October 21, 2022. W.O.L.F. really appreciates this growing partnership!

Colorado State University – CSU has been very active in volunteering with W.O.L.F. There are a number of individuals that are ongoing volunteers at our current location. In addition, there have been several workgroups at the Red Feather Lakes site, including:

•CSU Pre Vet Club that spent an entire day at W.O.L.F. on September 25th, 2022 •CSU Alpha Phi Omega that completed a work day on October 1, 2022 and is participating again on October 15, 2022

There are two events that are planned to continue the fire mitigation project:

1. On October 10th, 2022, the Credit Union of Colorado is sending a team of volunteers to W.O.L.F. and there are also some individuals that volunteered through the United Way of Larimer County.

2. On October 15th, 2022, there is a very large volunteer event planned with DECA, The Ember Alliance, Coalition for Poudre River Watershed, CSU Alpha Phi Omega, and United Way of Larimer County participants.

In addition to the fire mitigation project, W.O.L.F. has provided seeds from ponderosa pine trees on our property to assist with reseeding areas that have experienced forest fires. Daniel Bowker with CPRW coordinated this effort and W.O.L.F. was pleased to learn that based on calculations that the seed harvesting team made, it is estimated that the cones collected from the W.O.L.F. Sanctuary will have enough seed to grow seedlings to replant around 250 burned acres! Daniel Bowker summed it up best by saying "Having that kind of an impact on forest health and watershed resilience is something we can all be proud of..."

The photos on the right are associated with the team that performed the collection of the ponderosa cone/seed harvesting at W.O.L.F.

TO GET INVOLVED WITH W.O.L.F. PLEASE VISIT OUR Website or scan the QR code Bellow:







Outlaw & Reese

MANY WAYS TO PROVIDE ENRICHMENT

One of the reasons that wolves and wolf dogs do not make good pets is that they get bored easily, which can often be a cause of stereotypic behaviors. These are categorized as repetitive behaviors with no clear purpose. In humans, this can look like us chewing on our nails. In a wolf dog, this can look like excessive pacing or more destructive behaviors such as chewing on furniture. Wolf dogs need more stimulation than most dogs, and will often find something to do if they don't receive enough enrichment.

At the Sanctuary, the mountain habitats provide a lot of natural enrichment in the form of hills, trees, bushes, sticks, and even bugs – all of which our resident self-entertainer, Mayari, will take advantage of. We can often find the animals digging holes to lay in, chewing on and playing with sticks, hunting the small critters that visit, and chasing each other along the expansive and steep slopes of their habitats.

We also like to offer the animals new and exciting things to keep them engaged. One of the main ways that our animals get enrichment during the summer is with their water troughs. We put livestock tanks in the wolf dogs' habitats, which helps them cool off on hot days and provides lots of fun for those that enjoy splashing around in the water! This is a simple way to give the animals something to keep themselves busy and entertained, and some of them especially love





WATER TROUGHS & PAWPSICLES



to help when we are filling and cleaning the troughs as the hose is an especially fun toy!

Puzzle feeders can also serve as great enrichment. These are items that make obtaining food a bit more challenging and fun. Animals tend to enjoy the process of using their brains as well as their bodies to retrieve food. An example of a puzzle feeder we use at the sanctuary is a Jolly ball with treats stuffed inside! The animals exercise their brains as well as their bodies when trying to retrieve the treats. We recently started providing the animals with chicken and beef broth popsicles which, it turns out, they love! They are great on hot days and keep them occupied while we are doing chores.

Through generous donations and creative brainstorming, we have been able to acquire more materials to make even more enrichment items to keep them excited and engaged. Giving an animal the same enrichment over and over can become boring over time, so it's important to switch it up and provide them with a new routine and new toys. Enrichment schedules and frequent innovation can help with this so that the same enrichment isn't given several days in a row.





Pumpkins provided by Hometown Harvest Pumpkin Patch in Windsor.

We also give festive enrichment such as pumpkins for Halloween. Hometown Harvest Pumpkin Patch has been generous enough to donate pumpkins for each of the animals. This is not only enrichment for the animals, but for the volunteers and staff, too! We had a great time carving them and then watching the wolves play with them.

Of all the types of enrichment that we can do with our residents, nothing compares to the stimulation and engagement provided by a companion. Wolves and wolf dogs are highly social creatures with their fellow canines, and they thrive on canine interaction. Providing compatible companionship to wolf dogs is more important than any other type of enrichment, as it gives them the bonding and friendship that they so desire.

For more information about the challenges of owning a wolf dog, visit: https://wolfsanctuary.co/ownership/



COMMUNITY FIRST FOUNDATION COLORADO GIOCESDAY ISTBANK Community Partner

PRE-SCHEDULE YOUR COLORADO GIVES DAY DONATION!

It is that time of year! Colorado Gives Day is just around the corner and we need your help! Every December in lieu of Giving Tuesday, Community First Foundation, in partnership with 1st Bank, hosts one of the biggest giving days of the year. For 24 hours, supporters from all over the U.S. come together to raise funds for local nonprofits and we're excited to be part of the day! Your support counts toward our Dec 6 goal and toward the \$1.6 million Colorado Gives Day Incentive Fund! All participating Colorado Gives Day nonprofits earn a percentage of the fund, so the more we raise, the more we get!

This year, we are celebrating our accomplishments and looking to the future. In the 27 years since we began operations, we have helped rescue and place over 4,000 captive-bred wolves and wolf dogs, provided lifelong sanctuary to 125+ wolf dogs, and reached tens of thousands of Coloradoans with our education program. And our future is looking brighter by the day as well! We are getting close to being able to move to our new Red Feather Lakes property and only have a few pieces left to build before the facility is ready for the animals!

Help us meet our goal early by pre-scheduling your donation! Your support and generosity of any kind is appreciated now more than ever. We invite you to join us by helping us share the news about Colorado Gives Day and invite your family, friends and your personal network to participate. Every gift is tax-deductible and helps us reach our goal of \$75,000.

We look forward to having you join us for this special campaign. Together, we can make the world a better place for wolves and wolf dogs in need.

Visit www.coloradogives.org/organization/Wolf to pre-schedule your donation today.



WOLF FACTS & TRACKS



TOPAZ — MALE *Birthday:* March 20, 2021 *Given Sanctuary:* September 15, 2021 *Companion:* Sapphire *Guardian Angel:* Dianne Rosenfeld

Likes: Doing training so he can get treats. *Dislikes:* Being closed in his kennel.

Favorite Food: Cooked chicken.

Fun Fact: Topaz likes to scratch at the window to the cabin to get caretakers' attention.

Personality: Topaz is a young wolf dog who has endless energy. He is still an exuberant puppy who has not fully learned his manners but is working on them through training. In the summer, he is often found playing in his trough or running around the habitat with Sapphire!

SAPPHIRE — FEMALE

Birthday: March 29, 2020 Given Sanctuary: September 28, 2021 Companion: Topaz Guardian Angel: Nichelle Houser

Likes: Racing around her habitat with Topaz. *Dislikes:* Caretakers doing chores in her habitat.

Favorite Food: EVERYTHING!

Fun Fact: When she is feeling confident enough, Sapphire will chuff at her caretakers if she doesn't like what they are doing.

Personality: Sapphire is a stunning high-content wolf dog. Even though she does not want humans in her habitat, she likes to find a spot high on the hill or on top of her dog house to watch the goings on around the Sanctuary. She is always extremely interested in what her neighbors are doing and will often run up and down the fence-line, trying to join in on their fun!



RESIDENT S CURRENT



Akela



Ember



Kira



Nysa



Spartacus



Tundra



Amaris





Kovu



Outlaw





Wayaho





Iver





Pax



Tenali







Castiel



Jacob



Mayari



Reese



Topaz





Cree



Kieran



Nala







Trigger



Zoey



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~Colors depicted in each photo are the color options available for that item

~Some items may be out of stock. We will call or email you if this is the case.

Purchase through the mail by Nov. 27, 2022, or online at https://w-o-l-f-sanctuary.myshopify. com/ and over the phone (970-416-9531) by Dec. 11, 2022 to ensure holiday delivery.

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Payment Information				Total: \$
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