

W.O.L.F.

Celebrating 30 Years

SPRING 2025

Sanctuary Update

30th Anniversary

Happenings

007: License to Howl Gala

Interviews: Zakai and Tenali



ON THIS COVER: MAYARI



- IRS Tax Exempt Status Under Section 501(c)(3)
- Colorado Nonprofit & Tax Exempt Corporation
- United States Department of Agriculture, Licensed
- Pet Animal Care Facilities Act, Licensed
- American Sanctuary Association
- Community Shares of Colorado, Member
- Candid Gold



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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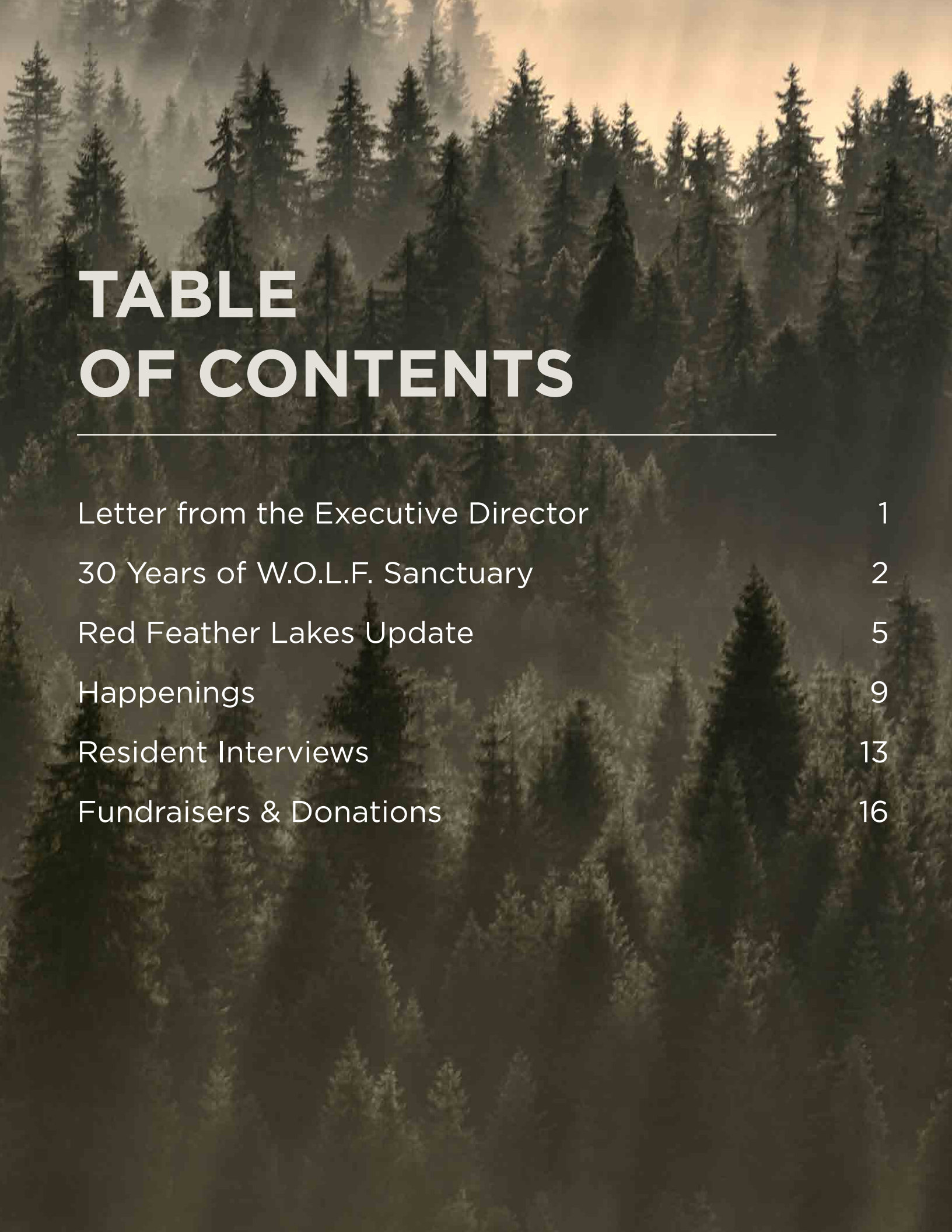


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Letter From The Executive Director

Hello W.O.L.F. Pack!

As we move into summer, we're excited to share some of the incredible milestones we've reached—thanks to you. This spring, we raised an amazing \$95,500 at our *007: License to Howl* Gala, bringing our supporters together for an unforgettable casino night, raising critical funds for the Sanctuary, and creating life-changing impact for our wolf dogs. We're also looking ahead to a busy and exciting season of tabling events and community outreach, where we'll continue to connect with supporters, educate the public, and spread the word about our mission.

And perhaps most meaningfully, this summer marks W.O.L.F. Sanctuary's 30th Anniversary—a remarkable milestone celebrating three decades of unwavering dedication to rescuing, rehabilitating, and providing lifelong care for wolf dogs with nowhere else to turn. It's a powerful reminder of how far we've come—and the lives that have been forever changed because of you.

Your continued support—through attending events, volunteering, or donating—makes all of this possible. Together, we are building a brighter, safer future for these remarkable animals.

Thank you for being part of our journey.

Humbly and Gratefully Yours,

Shelley J. Coldiron, PhD
Executive Director, W.O.L.F. Sanctuary

30TH ANNIVERSARY

The History of W.O.L.F. Sanctuary

Celebrating 30 Years of Rescue, Sanctuary, and Education

In 1994, Pat Lanteri and Frank Wendland welcomed a wolf-dog puppy named Shaka into their home after her previous owners found her wolf-like behaviors too challenging to manage. This experience opened their eyes to the plight of captive-born wolves and wolf dogs—animals often misunderstood, mistreated, and frequently euthanized due to their complex needs. Determined to make a difference, they set out to rescue as many as possible and give them a safe, permanent home.

Pat and Frank purchased four adjacent parcels of land in Rist Canyon, Colorado, totaling approximately 180 acres. The location was remote and rugged, accessible only by a dirt road that stretched over two miles and crossed six private properties. In 1994, they built the first enclosures, and on July 5, 1995, W.O.L.F. Sanctuary was officially incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Its mission was clear from the start: to rescue and provide lifelong sanctuary for captive-born wolves and wolf dogs, educate the public about their unique challenges, and promote conservation efforts for wild wolves. By the end of its founding year, W.O.L.F. had already saved 20 animals.

W.O.L.F. operated in Rist Canyon for nearly two decades, but the sanctuary faced significant challenges from the remote landscape and natural disasters. One of the most pivotal moments came on June 9, 2012, when the High Park Fire broke out. As the flames spread, Shelley J. Coldiron, PhD—who had recently joined W.O.L.F.'s board while leading a biotech startup—reached out to the Executive Director to check on the Sanctuary. She was assured that an evacuation plan was in place, but there was no designated emergency housing for the animals.

As evacuation became necessary, the first group of animals was transported to Coldiron's three-acre property outside Loveland. The rest were rescued with the help of Pat Craig's team and temporarily housed at The Wild Animal Sanctuary. With the Rist Canyon property uninhabitable for more than three weeks, Coldiron's home became W.O.L.F.'s temporary headquarters. During this time, the former Executive Director resigned, and Coldiron stepped in to lead the organization through its most difficult period. One year later, on the anniversary of returning to Rist Canyon, a devastating flash flood emphasized the urgent need for a safer, more sustainable

home. Coldiron left her professional career to dedicate herself fully to W.O.L.F., leading the charge to find a new location for the animals.

A New Beginning in Red Feather Lakes

After years of searching, W.O.L.F. found its forever home: a 180-acre property near Red Feather Lakes equipped with electrical service, essential structures, and a reliable water source. But before moving, the Sanctuary had to navigate a complex permitting process with Larimer County, raise funds for the property purchase, and construct infrastructure suited to the unique needs of wolf dogs.

W.O.L.F. was preparing to hire contractors when Laura Davis joined the team as Senior Director of Operations. With expertise in compliance, environmental regulations, public health, and project management, Davis quickly became instrumental in overseeing the project. When COVID-19 hit, supply chain disruptions and skyrocketing material costs posed additional challenges, but Davis persisted—securing qualified contractors and ensuring all work met regulatory standards.

Funds raised were invested in:

- Building spacious, naturalistic half-acre habitats with deck pens and feeding/water stations
- Relocating the entrance road for safer access
- Developing a water well and modern septic system
- Installing a site-wide security system with surveillance cameras
- Upgrading electrical service to the headquarters building

Finally, in August and September 2023, W.O.L.F. successfully relocated its animals to the new Sanctuary. Today, the residents enjoy ample space to roam, boulders to climb, and lifelong care in a setting designed for their safety, enrichment, and well-being.

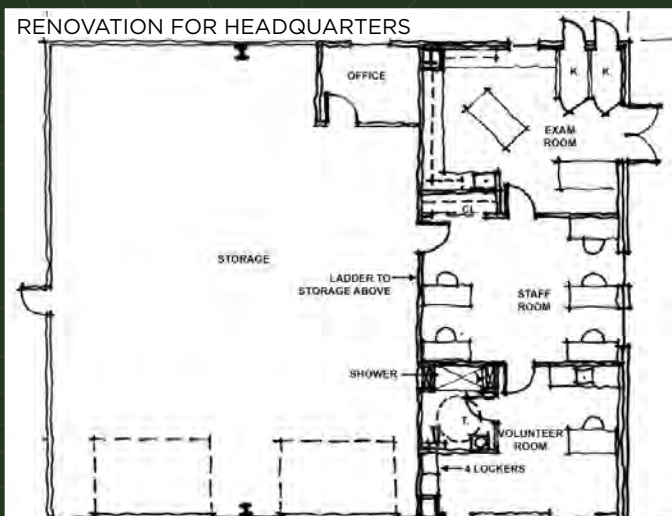
Looking Ahead: Building the Future of W.O.L.F.

For 30 years, W.O.L.F. Sanctuary has remained steadfast in its mission: to provide lifelong sanctuary and compassionate care for rescued, captive-born wolves and wolf dogs. As we celebrate this milestone, our commitment is stronger than ever—and our vision for the next 30 years is already taking shape.

Our future plans include:

- Expanding our facility by converting the headquarters building into dedicated office space for staff and volunteers, along with a small veterinary clinic for routine exams and procedures
- Constructing a meat processing facility equipped with a walk-in freezer, industrial dishwasher, and stainless-steel prep stations to safely store and process donated meats
- Creating a visitor pavilion to welcome supporters and guests, complete with restroom facilities and space for future programming

None of this would be possible without the generosity of those who believe in our mission. We invite you to join us on this journey—help us shape the future of W.O.L.F. Sanctuary and continue providing these incredible animals with a lifetime of care, safety, and companionship.



Sanctuary Updates

From Laura Davis, Senior Director of Operations

IN THIS PHOTO: KIERAN



Spring is finally around the corner, and everyone (people and wolf dogs alike) are looking forward to the change in seasons! It has been a long winter, and even though it is not completely over, signs of spring are everywhere. There are wildflowers emerging in the habitats along with grass, making everything look green.

This winter, we utilized some of the equipment that our generous supporters made possible. The generators used to heat the water buckets helped keep water available to the animals in colder environments. While we still have some enhancements to make, this was a huge leap forward in caring for our residents during the winter months.

This spring, we are turning our attention to constructing new shelters made from cinder blocks for each of our habitats. WOLF has received great support from the Larimer County Department of Natural Resources (LCDNR) and their significant others. They spent several weekends in the late fall/early winter constructing the shelter prototype in Kyah and Kieran's habitat. This pair was chosen due to their unique ability to deconstruct just about anything. The shelter has done quite well, and both Kyah and Kieran enjoy spending time there.

Otterbox has chosen WOLF for the fourth year in a row for their Closed2Open campaign. Employees donate the hours for one day to a nonprofit organization of their choice. We are so fortunate to have the Otters select WOLF once again for this event. In partnership with LCDNR, construction on additional shelters will begin during the Closed2Open event.

Through the partnership with the Northern Colorado Sawyers, WOLF will work with team members to perform additional fire mitigation, including installing a fire break on WOLF's property and repairing the internal roads used to access the habitats. Scott James continues to assist WOLF with identifying resources and new team members. He is still actively engaged in removing hazard trees from the Sanctuary.



It is also the time of year when we work very closely with our Veterinarian, Dr. Teva Stone, in performing annual exams. These are conducted throughout the summer and early fall and include a physical examination and vaccination of the animals, as needed. The first exams were conducted on April 27th and included 7 of our residents.

IN THIS PHOTO: SAGE



IN THIS PHOTO: CREE AND KOVU





Earth Day at Werner Elementary

We had a wonderful time celebrating Earth Day with the students and staff at Werner Elementary! About 186 students and teachers stopped by to learn more about wolves, their vital role in healthy ecosystems, and the work we do at W.O.L.F. Sanctuary to care for rescued wolf dogs.

Our team loves opportunities like this to educate the community and inspire a deeper appreciation for these incredible animals. Whether it's kids asking thoughtful questions or adults reconnecting with their wild side, we're proud to help instill a lifelong love for wolves at any age.



Gala Recap

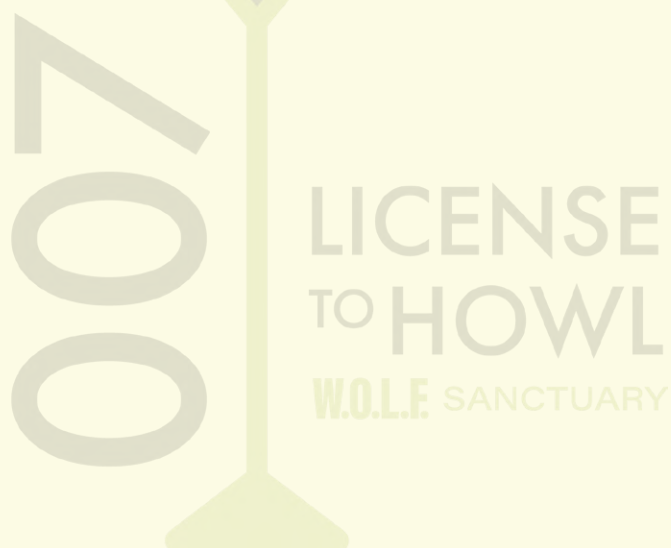
On April 5, 2025, W.O.L.F. Sanctuary hosted our highly anticipated *007: License to Howl* Casino Night Gala at the Marriott in Fort Collins—and what a night it was! Inspired by the world of James Bond, the evening delivered excitement, elegance, and purpose as supporters came together to raise critical funds for our mission.

Guests enjoyed the thrill of casino table games, a lively silent and live auction, signature cocktails like the “Pax-tini,” and the unforgettable opportunity to meet Pax in person. The room was buzzing with energy, laughter, and deep commitment to the animals we serve.

Thanks to the generosity of our attendees, sponsors, and donors, we raised more than \$95,550—funds that directly support:

- Veterinary care to keep our wolf dogs healthy
- Habitat maintenance and improvements
- High-quality nutrition and daily enrichment
- Educational outreach to inspire awareness and advocacy

Events like this are vital to sustaining our work and ensuring the best possible care for our residents. From all of us at W.O.L.F., thank you for making this evening a resounding success.



IN THIS PHOTO: PAX





Zakai - Male



Birthday: April 10, 2018
Given Sanctuary: Aug 18, 2018
Companion: Tenali
Guardian Angel: Robert Grove
Lifetime Defender: Robert Grove



Likes: Zakai enjoys soaking up the sun and exploring his habitat with his companion, Tenali. He likes to greet his caregivers at the fence line of his habitat in the morning when his meal is on the way! Since coming to Red Feather Lakes, he has become much less shy and enjoys the company of his favorite staff and volunteers. He is a truly majestic boy!

Dislikes: Mr. Zakai strongly dislikes being separated from Tenali. He has been known to howl while she is gone for her onsite walks and, even more so, when she is gone for a veterinary appointment.

Fun Fact: A new tradition of getting a birthday cookie was started this year. Zakai has strongly embraced this new tradition!

Personality: Zakai is still a bit shy, but once he 'accepts' a person, he really enjoys their attention and being petted. He now greets caregivers at the fence and follows them along the fence line, observing them closely to determine their purpose for being there. He is especially happy when it involves food or cookies! Zakai is a very sweet boy and continues to have a close bond with Tenali.

Tenali - Female

Birthday: Nov 28, 2013
Given Sanctuary: July 23, 2016
Companion: Zakai
Guardian Angel: Fran Eicher
Lifetime Defender: Elvind "Jill" Bentsen



- Likes:** Tenali loves it when attention is lavished on her by staff and volunteers. Her favorite thing is rolling over on her side or back so that she gets belly rubs. She is also very food-motivated and anxiously awaits her meals! When she gets her birthday or holiday cookies, she throws the cookie up in the air and does a "happy dance" before settling in to enjoy it.
- Dislikes:** Tenali dislikes it when she is not fed promptly! In her world, she should be the first one to get her meals.
- Fun Fact:** Tenali, unlike many of her fellow wolf dogs, loves her veterinary appointments at Red Sage. She treats her visits like spa days and has been known to sit on the couches while her caregivers sit on the floor or stand. She has also been known to provide scent rubs on the freshly cleaned rugs at the clinic!
- Personality:** Tenali is well known for her sweet and friendly disposition. She awaits staff in the mornings at the edge of her habitat and runs to follow the UTV until it stops. She is very bonded with her companion, Zakai. Their relationship developed from the first moment they were introduced, largely due to her maternal nature. She and Zakai enjoy soaking up the sun, wrestling, and running the fence with their neighbor, Yuki.

IN THIS PHOTO: TENALI AND ZAKAI





We could really use your help stocking our shelves. Weruva canned food is a huge part of our animals' daily diet, and right now, our supplies are running low, especially on chicken and steak-flavored meals (the kiddo's favorite).

If you'd like to support them, the easiest way is to shop our Chewy wish list. Every donation ensures our pack stays healthy and happy with high-quality food! Thank you for helping us care for these incredible animals. Scan the QR Code to visit our Chewy page.



You can make a difference even while you shop for groceries at King Soopers! Create a digital account that is attached to your King Soopers card or Alt ID, go to the Community Rewards tab and search "W.O.L.F. Sanctuary" or use our organization number "UU724," then enroll! It is that easy! Every time you use your King Soopers card or Alt ID, you will be helping us!





W.O.L.F. Sanctuary

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EVERY DONATION HELPS.



Donations from valued supporters like you are the reason W.O.L.F. has been able to help save and provide quality care for unwanted, abused, and abandoned wolves and wolf dogs for 30 years. Every donation, big or small, makes a difference.

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