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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FEB. 8, 2023**

Bobcat Believed to Have Been Struck By Car Returns to Wild *San Diego Humane Society's Project Wildlife Team rehabilitates bobcat before release*

RAMONA, CA — A bobcat, who spent three weeks in care with San Diego Humane Society's Project Wildlife team, returned to the wild this afternoon. The adult male was released by Project Wildlife staff in Mission Trails Regional Park, not far from where he was initially found on Jan. 18, 2023 by a good Samaritan who called San Diego Humane Society's Humane Law Enforcement for help. Humane Officers responded and transported the injured cat to the Veterinary Emergency Group in Encinitas where he was triaged and given supportive care overnight.

The bobcat arrived to San Diego Humane Society on Jan. 19, 2023 with injuries indicating he had likely been hit by a car. Project Wildlife's veterinary team at the Pilar & Chuck Bahde Wildlife Center in San Diego immediately administered pain medication, performed radiographs and treated the bobcat for abrasions and minor contusions.

Once stabilized, the bobcat was moved the next day to the organization's Ramona Wildlife Center, where Project Wildlife's staff specialize in caring for native apex predators such as bobcats, coyotes and bears. In Ramona, the team conducted additional medical tests including a dental exam, which included an extraction of the bobcat's broken tooth. Once healed and cleared medically, wildlife care specialists monitored the bobcat to ensure he was able to feed on his own and met the criteria for release.



"Seeing this bobcat return to the wild is what it's all about for us," said Andy Blue, campus director of San Diego Humane Society's Ramona Wildlife Center. "Bobcats play an important ecological role in our region and we are glad to see this one back where he belongs. I am grateful to the citizen who found the bobcat, our Humane Officers, Veterinary Emergency Group and our staff for collaborating to save his life."

San Diego County is one of the most biologically diverse areas in the United States with the greatest number of endangered species. People from all over the county bring wildlife patients to San Diego Humane Society's Project Wildlife program for rehabilitation and care. Each year, SDHS gives nearly 13,000 injured, orphaned and sick wild animals a second chance. In 2020, SDHS announced the Ramona Wildlife Center, where they specialize in caring for native apex predators and birds of prey, including hawks, owls, eagles, coyotes, bears, bobcats and, under special pilot authorization, mountain lions.

Photos/b-roll of the bobcat's care, recovery and release can be downloaded here: <https://bit.ly/3I12X6x>

Suggested Tweet: A bobcat, believed to have been hit by a car, has returned to the wild after being rehabilitated by #ProjectWildlife's medical team at @sdhumane's Ramona Wildlife Center. The bobcat was treated for abrasions and minor contusions, and given a dental exam and X-rays before being released.

About San Diego Humane Society

San Diego Humane Society's scope of social responsibility goes beyond adopting animals. We offer programs that strengthen the human-animal bond, prevent cruelty and neglect, provide medical care, educate the community and serve as a safety net for all pet families. Serving San Diego County since 1880, San Diego Humane Society has campuses in El Cajon, Escondido, Oceanside, Ramona and San Diego. For more information, please visit sdhumane.org. Follow the SDHS Media Relations department on [Twitter @sdhumane](https://twitter.com/sdhumane).