

MEDIA CONTACT:

Dariel Walker
(619) 250-6801 cell
dwalker@sdhumane.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Dec. 3, 2019

Celebrating International Cheetah Day on Dec. 4

San Diego Humane Society Leader Assists Cheetah Cub Rescue in Somaliland

San Diego - San Diego Humane Society is celebrating International Cheetah Day on Dec. 4 by announcing SDHS's assistance with cheetah conservation efforts in Africa. SDHS Escondido Campus Director Andy Blue recently returned from a trip to Somaliland, where he assisted the [Cheetah Conservation Fund](#) with caring for orphaned cheetah cubs.



Blue brought critical supplies such as kitten milk replacer, canned food, medications, syringes, needles and other medical instruments provided by SDHS, San Diego Zoo Global, Fossil Rim Wildlife Center and The Wilds in Ohio. In addition to providing care for the cubs, Blue oversaw the construction of an additional facility to accommodate the animals.

“I have been lucky enough to work on conservation projects all over the world and I believe our contribution directly impacted the survivability of the cheetah cubs in Somaliland,” said Blue. “I’d go back tomorrow.”

It is estimated that only about 7,000 cheetahs are left in the wild. They are listed as “vulnerable” by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, but many scientists are calling for the species to be declared endangered. Cheetah cubs are often captured and smuggled from Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia and then sent primarily to countries in the Middle East where there is lax law enforcement.

Blue represented SDHS while volunteering in Somaliland, and it is part of SDHS's strategic plan to support the global animal welfare movement.

[B-roll and photos of Andy Blue working with cheetahs in Somaliland are available here: http://bit.ly/35WmZIS.](http://bit.ly/35WmZIS)

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 located in Escondido, Oceanside and San Diego. For more information; please visit sdhumane.org.