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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Dying Mountain Lion Cub Saved by San Diego Humane Society's Project Wildlife**  
*Firefighters located orphaned cub near Idyllwild in critical condition: emaciated, dehydrated and weak.*

**Ramona, CA** — An orphaned mountain lion cub who arrived at San Diego Humane Society's Project Wildlife — Ramona Campus in critical condition is finally feeling better after weeks of intensive care by medical staff.

The cub was spotted by firefighters from the Vista Grande Fire Station near a road in Idyllwild on Sept. 2. She was semiconscious, extremely emaciated, dehydrated, weak and had tremors. The firefighters contacted the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, who reached out to San Diego Humane Society.

The organization's Project Wildlife team went to work providing lifesaving treatment for the 10.5-pound cub, estimated to be only 14 weeks old. She received daily fluid therapy and medications. Within a couple of weeks, she progressed from five to three small, nutritious meals per day. They include ground proteins with milk replacer, to allow her body a slow transition to solid foods. We are happy to report, she has more than doubled in weight to 22 pounds!



“With each passing day, she becomes more active and responsive and, though she still has some medical issues to overcome from being in such a fragile state, we are delighted she has responded well to our treatment and are hopeful she will make a full recovery,” said Christine Barton, director of Operations & Wildlife Rehabilitation at San Diego Humane Society's Ramona Campus. “Mountain lions are special predators and we are proud to have an expert team trusted by the state of California to care for the species.”

Mountain lions typically stay with their mother until they disperse to live a solitary life at around 12-18 months of age. Because it is not safe to return a young mountain lion to the wild if found injured or orphaned as a kitten, Project Wildlife has been working with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to monitor her progress and when stabilized, to ensure she has a good permanent home at a qualified facility.

San Diego Humane Society acquired the Fund for Animals Wildlife Center in Ramona on Sept. 1 from the Humane Society of the United States. This mountain lion cub is the first wildlife patient admitted at the Ramona Campus since San Diego Humane Society's Project Wildlife took over.

Project Wildlife is one of only two licensed rehabilitation organizations that have a special agreement with the state to work with black bears and are also routinely called on to assist with other apex predators, such as mountain lions.

**Photos and b-roll of the mountain lion cub can be downloaded here: <https://bit.ly/30IKuoa>**

**To schedule an in-person interview at San Diego Humane Society's Ramona Campus, contact Nina Thompson at 619-372-0916.**

**Suggested Tweet:** We are delighted that an orphaned, dying mountain lion treated at @sdhumane's Project Wildlife is finally feeling much better! The cub was located by a firefighter in Idyllwild in critical condition: emaciated, dehydrated and weak. Now the cub has more than doubled in size.

**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](http://sdhumane.org).