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San Diego Humane Society Acquires Fund for Animals Wildlife Center in Ramona

Project Wildlife — Ramona will enable SDHS to treat more wildlife species in San Diego County.

San Diego — San Diego Humane Society has acquired the Fund for Animals Wildlife Center in Ramona, Calif., from the Humane Society of the United States. The 13-acre wildlife center provides care to wildlife, including native apex predators such as bears, bobcats, coyotes and birds of prey. With this additional center, known as Project Wildlife — Ramona, San Diego Humane Society will expand its lifesaving capacity to rescue, rehabilitate and release additional species of injured and orphaned wildlife throughout San Diego County. It will also continue to care for 29 of the center’s existing ambassador animals, including a bear, bobcats, snakes and a pygmy hippo.



“This a big step for wildlife and our environmentally conscious community,” said San Diego Humane Society President Dr. Gary Weitzman. “By bringing this exceptional wildlife and conservation program into the lifesaving work of Project Wildlife, we’ll be able to care for many more orphaned or injured wild species from hummingbirds and owls to bobcats and coyotes.”

“The Fund for Animals, an affiliate of the Humane Society of the United States, searched to identify the best organization to take ownership of the Fund for Animals Wildlife Center in Ramona,” said Melissa Rubin, president of the Fund for Animals. “We’re excited that San Diego Humane Society will be taking on that role. Their Project Wildlife program is already one of the largest and most well recognized programs in the country, and the center will add new capacities to its work. We’re thrilled that the center will be run by a group with their expertise.”

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 care.

Interesting Facts About Project Wildlife — Ramona:

- A fully equipped medical center with trained staff ensures the special needs of ill, injured or orphaned wildlife can be met year-round.
- A 150-foot, free-flight enclosure enables birds of prey — from Cooper's hawks to golden eagles — to exercise their atrophied muscles after recovering from illness or injury.
- Enclosures for mammals are spacious and comfortable, allowing orphaned youngsters and injured adults to get plenty of exercise and same-species companionship with minimal human contact.
- The center is one of only two licensed bear rehabilitation centers in California.
- A 47-year-old pygmy hippo named Hannah Shirley spends her days relaxing in her own natural pond. Her 13,000-square-foot paddock also includes a swimming pool!

Photos and B-Roll can be downloaded here: <https://bit.ly/3gMdpYJ>

Suggested Tweet: @sdhumane acquires Fund for Animals Wildlife Center in Ramona from #FundforAnimals. With this additional center, SDHS’s #ProjectWildlife can rescue, rehabilitate and release additional species of injured and orphaned wildlife throughout San Diego County.

About San Diego Humane Society

San Diego Humane Society’s scope of social responsibility goes beyond adopting animals, by offering 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 Escondido, Oceanside, San Diego and Ramona. For more information, please visit sdhumane.org.