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Three Orphaned Bear Cubs Arrive for Rehabilitation at Ramona Wildlife Center *Patients transferred to San Diego Humane Society for rehabilitation and return to the wild.*

RAMONA, CA — Three orphaned California black bear cubs have been transferred to San Diego Humane Society's Ramona Wildlife Center for rehabilitation. Two of the cubs came from Valley of Falls in the San Bernardino Mountains, and the third from Lake Arrowhead. The bears all arrived on separate dates, after being rescued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW).

The first two siblings are about 5 months old. They became orphaned after their mother, who was conditioned to seek food from humans, was killed by a civilian while attempting to break into a cabin in Valley of the Falls. The first cub arrived at the Ramona Wildlife Center on July 9, and the second on July 12. The third, unrelated cub arrived on July 15. The cub's mother is believed to have been hit by a car near Lake Arrowhead.



At the Ramona Wildlife Center, the Project Wildlife team will provide a safe environment where the cubs can practice their natural skills and get the proper nutrition they need to grow, and eventually be released back in the wild where they belong. "Typically, the cubs would stay with their mother for about two years," said Andy Blue, campus director of San Diego Humane Society's Ramona Wildlife Center. "Cubs can be weaned at six to eight months but remain with their mother to learn to hunt and forage. Without their mother to protect them, young cubs of this size can be predated by other bears, mountain lions, coyotes and other predators."

After a physical exam and quarantine period, the cubs will be housed at San Diego Humane Society's Ramona Wildlife Center in a large outdoor enclosure until they are old enough to be released back into the wild. The move outdoors will be significant because the bears are given access to trees, shrubs and natural substrate. They also get acclimated to the weather and have more opportunities to run, climb, play and forage for their food. The Project Wildlife team works hard to reduce human contact with the cubs, to reduce their risk of habituation or food conditioning, and increase their chance of survival in the wild.

San Diego Humane Society's Project Wildlife program is the primary resource for wild animal rehabilitation and conservation education in San Diego County. Each year, SDHS gives more than 13,000 injured, orphaned and sick wild animals a second chance. In 2020, SDHS announced a new Ramona Campus, 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 and b-roll for media use can be downloaded here: <https://bit.ly/3nTt5P3>

Suggested Tweet: Three orphaned California black bear cubs have been transferred by [@CaliforniaDFW](#) to San Diego Humane Society's Ramona Wildlife Center for rehabilitation and care. Two cubs came from Valley of Falls in the San Bernardino Mountains, and the third from Lake Arrowhead.

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.