



TURPENTINE CREEK ANNUAL REPORT 2018

We wish you and yours a healthy and happy 2019! I want to update you on our progress and efforts to end the Exotic Pet Trade. This past year we made some amazing strides, faced some terrible heartbreak, and gave home to several animals. It has been a year of ups and downs, but it is only with our supporters' help we can continue to strive towards a better future for our animal residents and all survivors of the Exotic Pet Trade across the USA.

In the past 27 years, directing TCWR and rescuing over 500 big cats and bear, I've learned of sad events prompting exotic "PET" owners to call us for help: people die, get divorced, laws pass and are only sometimes enforced; homeowner's insurance gets canceled, forcing owners to rehome big cats in their yard/home/basement/garage, or people just get too old to care for their menageries, most without an exit plan. We are always ready to answer the call to offer these survivors a home with quality care, enriched lives, and plenty of love.

This year we made large advancements towards our future. We expanded our team, began planning for our Visitor Education Center, increased the number of habitats for our animal residents, expanded our lodging options for visitors, implemented new membership programs, and of course, cared for our animal residents and offered refuge to even more.

Here are just a few things we accomplished in 2018:

Accomplishments

- New Advocacy Program Implemented – Stay tuned for Big Cat Safety Act updates in 2019 – we CAN get this vital legislation passed! In 2018 alone we had:
 - 2,326 Advocacy Visitors
 - 1,655 Emails Sent to Congress
 - 24 Advocacy Tweets
- Rescues/Rehomes – elevated quality of life dramatically, and in some cases, saved lives:
 - 2 Tigers
 - 2 Servals
 - 1 Savannah Cat
- Welcomed Staff Veterinarian, Dr. Kellyn Sweeley, reducing our need to transport animals 48 miles roundtrip. While stocking our clinic is costly, early intervention with regular exams will prevent many emergencies, improving quality of life for our animals.
- New Education Department
 - 2 New Staff Members
 - 1 New Education Internship
 - 40 Off-site Presentations
 - 75 School Groups
 - 15,703 People (all ages) Educated Through on And Off-Site Group Presentations

- 5,615 Students Educated On-site and Through School Visits
- \$22,715 Brought in Through Education
- Big Cats for Small Cats – TCWR Helps Find Homes for Local Shelter Cats
 - 22 Cats Featured
 - 10 Cats Found Forever Homes
- On-site Bear Food Forest Planted
 - 12 Native Fruit Trees
 - 100 Pawpaw Seeds
- Notable Event and Online Fundraising
 - Northwest Arkansas Gives - \$19,105
 - Cats at the Castle – \$16,258.16
 - Kite Fest – \$1,298.62
 - Online Auction – \$2,423
 - Sipping for Sanctuary - \$3,394.95
 - Howl-o-ween Spooktacular - \$2,185
 - Giving Tuesday – \$35,000
 - 1,688 People Donated Through Facebook
 - 155 Supporter Started Fundraisers Brought in \$19,439.66 through Facebook
- 49,501 Refuge Visitors took part in our Educational Tours
- Hosted Big Cat Sanctuary Alliance Annual Conference in September
- Completed Our Two Largest Habitats: These wooded bear enclosures allow for multiple introductions and natural behavior, perfect for studies to benefit other captive bears.
 - 2 Habitats sit on 3.5 Acres
 - House 6 bears
 - Natural sustainable environment with trees and undergrowth
- Heated 31 Dens (and counting)
- Hosted Arkansas and Texas youth groups during Spring Break, whose help was much appreciated; we have Spring Break 2019 availability - please contact us!

Major Expenses

- Habitat Construction/Repairs/Maintenance
 - \$56,775
- Animal Food
 - \$136,533 For Food Purchased
 - 17,863 lbs. of Beef Donated
 - 145,185 lbs. of Chicken Donated
- Animal Care/Enrichment/Veterinary/Medications
 - \$70,335
- Cost to Heat Dens
 - \$14,465 To Run Electric + Unknown Addition to Utility Bill

In 2018 Turpentine Creek received \$167,135.35 in dedicated funds: \$36,000 from Foundation support and \$131,135.35 from individual donors. Total contributions for 2018 totaled \$768,620.29, with another \$1,866,408.25 coming from lodging, entry and other revenue streams. Our expenses totaled \$2,599,471.56.

We would like to extend a special thank-you to all our Membership Level Donors:

The members of the Hilda Jackson Society, the Kenny Fellowship, the Bam Bam Benefactors, and the Friends of India include Turpentine Creek's most committed members who support TCWR's rescue and education initiatives. By enrolling in a membership tier and pledging to give again, these dedicated stewards enable us to budget for bigger projects and projects with further impact in the years to come. Without their help, we could not do all that we have done and continue to do. Thank you.

The Hilda Jackson Society: Annual Donation of \$10,000+

Scott and Vicki James*
Fred and Sherry Sieber*
Heather Klatt*
Amy Patterson*
James and Linda Jacobson*

Kevin and Renee Kyzer*
Cheryl Nickell*
Terry Zaslaw*
Joseph and Barbara Latham*
Julie and Shawn Schrader*
Pamela Hurt and Vicki Sue Samuelson*
Jerry and Elizabeth Borgert*
James and Justine Holladay*

Steelman, Jessie Herr*
Diane Whitley*
Marney and Brenda Gilmore*
Rebecca Bell*
Richard Bereman*
Lois Young*
Vickie Owens and Mike McCratic*
Scott and Tanya Smith*
Judy Unrath*

Bam Bam Benefactors: Annual Donation of \$1,250 – \$2,999

Paul and Michelle Sommers*
Thomas and Rebecca Faichney*
Bob Kramer*, Ron Gordon*
Joy Annette Mayfield*
Lester and Lora Park*
David Hitchins*
Karen and Rob Widdis*
Tracy Garry*
Matthew Casey
Seigrid Schaeffler

Anne Llana Koob*
Wanda S. Mendicino*
EJ & Jeanine Binder*
Dave and Millie Schoonover*
Caden and Jennifer Campbell*
Terry Weers*
Carol Dujanovich*
The Nance Family*
Scott and Christi Ellis*
Sheila and Dale Mitchell*
Pat Quinn

Friends of India: Annual Donation of \$300 – \$1,249

Deborah Hackler*
Paul B. Cardali, MD*
Anna Jones*
Francis and Janice Schwertfeger*
Cynthia Baker*,
Daryl and John Shaw*
Gayle and Arie Britt*
James and Barbara Goldsmith*
Carol Miller*
Patsy Simmons*

Terry Zaslaw
Alynn Maclean
Richard M and Priscilla J Dyer
Mark and Judith Stillwell
Sarah and Marvin Reilly
Debbie L. Boyers
Kathy and Steve Anderson
Martha Morrison
Dona Meyer
Ruth Balis
Gary Duggan

*Founding members of donor membership levels have an * after their name.*

A Look Back in Pictures:



Spring of 2018 kicked off with another successful Cats at the Castle – thank you to everyone who came to bid, enjoy amazing food and mingle with other supporters and TCWR staff to support our Mission. CATC 2019 tickets will sell out fast!



Day camp attendees learn about wildlife and sustainability while having fun at the Refuge with creative projects...



And in scavenger hunts, searching for facts among the educational wayside signs throughout the Refuge.



Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge is hard at work to change the lives of visitors along with our animals!

In August we introduced our Ethical Tourism icon, letting you know you have chosen a destination that works hard to have a positive influence on our ecosystem, environment, wildlife, local people, and local economy.



Our inaugural Sipping for Sanctuary fundraiser in September was filled to capacity with donors enjoying live music and auction, delicious food, and wine.



TCWR staff and interns work to finish night house slabs for our new 3.5 acres of natural bear habitat which opened in October of 2018 after a year of hard work for six delighted bears.



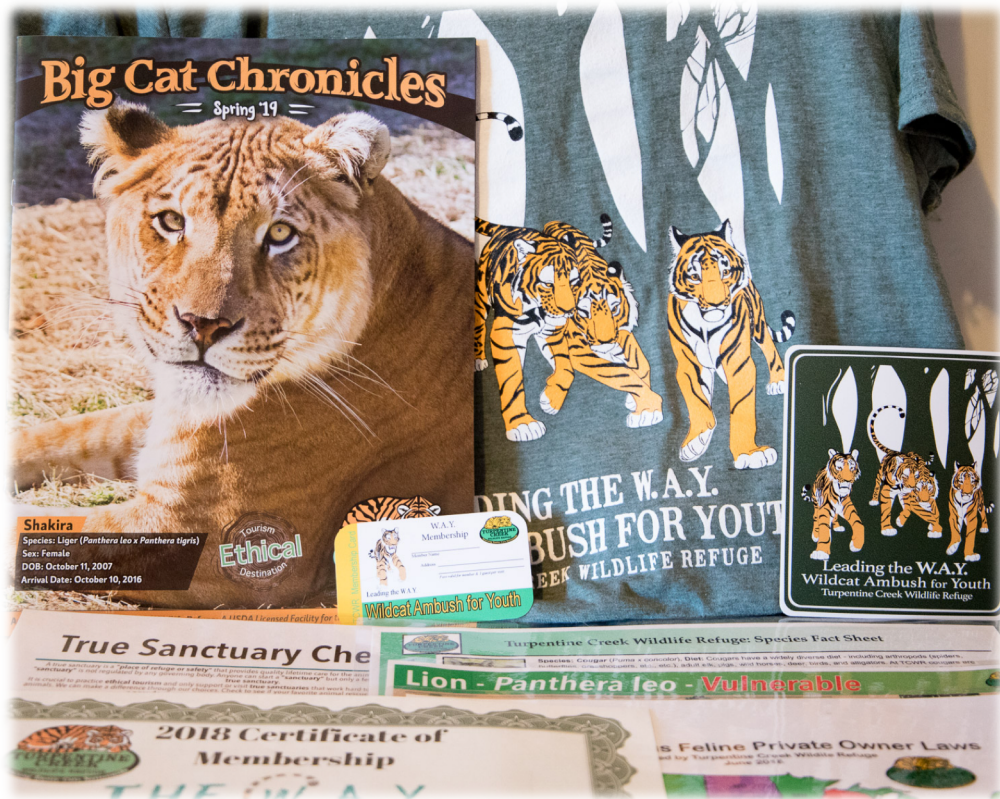
Huggy, a Russian Brown bear, thoroughly enjoyed the in-ground pool he discovered in his new natural habitat shared with black bears Holli and Lolli.



Tsavo on World Lion Day, enjoying some special enrichment items!



Breaking ground on our new serval habitat, which will open in Spring of 2019.



Our new Tier membership for teens, the W.A.Y., helps teens become effective advocates for exotic wildlife, with exciting hands-on volunteer opportunities and access to exclusive educational webinars.



Kite Fest 2019 is set for Saturday, March 23rd! Come enjoy a wonderful day of family activities, including kite flying; make sure to make time to tour the Refuge and support our animal residents!

The progress we have made this year gives me hope, but I issue all of you A CALL TO ACTION in 2019: Share information, visit our Advocacy Page, and support our mission. TOGETHER we will put an end to the Trade and continue to care for its survivors!

Until Then,

Tanya Smith, President/Founder
Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge