Orphaned Cubs Released!

Just months ago, they were near death from starvation, injury, and infection. But in May, male Louisiana black bear cubs AVONACO and BEAU were successfully released, the first to benefit from our new Bear Freedom Project. (continued on pages 4-5)
**Four-Acre Bear Habitat Nears Completion!**

*B-BEAR, DOLLIE* and *LIZZIE* will soon enjoy one of the largest bear habitats in the country!

Their beautiful new 4-acre home is nearly complete, thanks in large part to *Westbrook Services*, providers of heating, AC, plumbing, gas, and electrical services for Central Florida for over 60 years. Westbrook has helped FAR with work trucks, electrical services, water lines, heavy equipment, and much more – including lots of strong backs and smiling faces!

*University of Florida* students picked right up where Westbrook finished, followed by volunteer groups from college campuses around the country *(shown on the adjoining page).*

![B-BEAR](image)

![DOLLY](image)

![ELIZABETH ROSE (LIZZY)](image)

Volunteers from the “Healing Animals Division” of Alpha Epsilon Delta, the *University of Florida*’s Pre-Health Honor Society

Hard-working volunteers from *Westbrook Services*
FAR’s Awesome Volunteer Workforce

Since moving to our new site on March 1, 2013, hundreds of volunteers and interns have helped us in a variety of ways, including groundskeeping, construction, food and medicine preparation, feeding animals, enrichment activities, cleaning habitats, and animal husbandry.

University of Delaware students working on the Bear Habitat

Eléa Dolliou from the University of Western Brittany in France, washing buckets

Jérémy Cornec from the University of Western Brittany in France, with BEERCAN (one of very few animals at FAR who is safe with humans)

Want to Volunteer?
see page 7 for half-day, onsite opportunities or visit us online at forestanimalrescue.org

University of Illinois students, back for a second year of hard work!

Sonya Smith from Lady Lake, FL has been volunteering to help the animals for two years!

University of Kentucky students worked on the Bear Habitat

Ohio State University students returned for the seventh time!
Orphaned Cubs Released!

Louisiana black bears AVONACO and BEAU were successfully released into the wild on May 15, 2015! Although a year apart in age, the cubs are just like brothers, with so much in common: Both found just a few months apart in the wilds of Louisiana, both males and, sadly, both orphaned, starving, and unable to fend for themselves.

AVONACO (Cheyenne for “lean bear”) weighed only 15 pounds when found at one year of age—he should have weighed between 65 and 85 pounds. BEAU, his two-year-old friend, was found at 65 pounds—he should have weighed more than 130.

AVONACO in his temporary home, where he gained 48 pounds before his release. Friend BEAU also gained weight, and was 110 pounds at release time.

Each cub was transported to a “human-free zone” to recuperate, gain weight, and build strength for a healthy return to their habitat in Louisiana, where their lives will depend on remaining afraid of humans.

A Team Effort

Before transport, the cubs were tranquilized and examined by biologists who declared their health “excellent.” They were then ear-tagged, tattooed, and loaded for transport.
Brian Scheick, Certified Wildlife Biologist and Assistant Coordinator of the Bear Research Program of the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, works with Moriah Winch to keep the cubs from overheating by applying packages of frozen chicken near major arteries in the cubs’ hind legs.

Now that their health is improved, they should do very well in their new environment!

Lisa Stoner, Brian Scheick and Novalis Yao (volunteering from West Africa), loading the anesthetized cubs into the truck. They will make the 12-plus hour trip home to Louisiana!

Transportation boxes are prepared by Hank Atkins, a Bear Biologist with USDA Wildlife Services.

The shotgun noise and yelling is to ensure that these cubs remain properly afraid of humans.

Scan the code at left with a smartphone, or view the video by visiting:
forestanimalrescue.org/bear-freedom-project-2015-is-a-success
We are sad to report that **KISA**, a Siberian lynx and one of FAR’s first rescues, passed away in April at the age of 17.

**KISA** and her sister **SASHA** were rescued from a Canadian fur farm in 1998, where they would have eventually been killed for their beautiful fur.

**KISA** and **SASHA** joined **MISHA**, another rescued Siberian lynx; **KISA** survived the longest.

Although all three cats are greatly missed, the three lived together happily for many years in the most natural setting possible.

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**New Memorial Garden Installed**

**Angel’s Peace**, our new Memorial Garden, has been established on the grounds of Forest Animal Rescue.

This garden is not only the last resting place of our animals that pass on, but also a meaningful way to honor or remember a friend or loved one with a special tribute.

The beautiful angel statue was a gift from four of our wonderful supporters: Garo Partoyan, Bev Meadows, Brinton Smith and Mellonie Smicklas.

Angel’s Peace features beautiful floral plantings including a wisteria arbor, wind chimes, and small monuments for our animals that have passed on.

FAR is seeking support from local garden clubs, landscaping companies, and green-thumbed volunteers for Angel’s Peace.

If you are interested, please contact us!
YES - I WILL HELP!!

Name ____________________________________________
Address __________________________________________
City __________________________ State _______________ Zip __________
Phone __________________________ E-mail __________________________

☐ I am enclosing my tax-deductible donation to “Forest Animal Rescue” for $__________

☐ Please charge my ☐Visa ☐MasterCard ☐Discover in the amount of $__________
   Card Number: __________________________ Expiration: ________ CVV Code: _____
   Name on card: __________________________ Signature: ______________________

My gift if for: ☐ general operations ☐ other __________________________

☐ Make this a recurring monthly gift, ending on (date) _______________
   (One-time and monthly donations can also be made securely at forestanimalrescue.org)

☐ Please contact me to discuss a tax-deductible contribution of the following equipment or
   materials: ______________________________________________________________

☐ Please contact me regarding a planned gift to The Legacy Society

☐ I would like to volunteer in Silver Springs on the following project(s) (circle area(s) of interest)
   Groundskeeping (half-day, mornings if possible)
   Electrical / Machine Repair / Plumbing / Handyman (half-day, mornings if possible)
   Gardening in Angel’s Peace (half-day, mornings if possible)
   Other (please describe) ___________________________________________________

Interested in a resident volunteer experience?

Visit forestanimalrescue.org for additional details and application forms!

Thank you!
Forest Animal Rescue is grateful to our dedicated volunteers,
Who help us care for almost 100 animals at our 80-acre location in the beautiful
Ocala National Forest

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We are tax exempt under IRS 501(c)(3), EIN 65-0864695.
What’s new in 2015?

It’s hard to believe, but FAR recently celebrated the second anniversary of our state-of-the-art, 80-acre facility located in the Ocala national Forest! We felt this was the perfect time to update our friends on the new animals, projects and programs underway at FAR in 2015.

Warm regards,

Lisa Stoner