



Newsletter of Forest Animal Rescue (formerly known as Peace River Refuge & Ranch)



King and Three Little Bears

How about a little *good news*?

Forest Animal Rescue is happy to welcome four newly rescued animals to the sanctuary.

“King” arrived first. He is an African Serval, a mid-sized wild cat with beautiful spots.

Unfortunately, King was bred in captivity and sold to be a wild pet. In less than a year, the misguided purchaser was unable to handle him and quickly realized he had made a serious mistake. King was less than a year old and already showing aggression toward humans.

Luckily, King found his way to Forest Animal Rescue, where he will live the rest of his life in a true sanctuary setting. He will not be unrealistically expected to behave like a domestic animal or live inside someone's house. King will have the companionship of other servals in a non-breeding, accredited, sanctuary setting.

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Socialize with FAR: www.ForestAnimalRescue.org



[Instagram.com/forestanimalrescue](https://www.instagram.com/forestanimalrescue)



[Facebook.com/forestanimalrescue](https://www.facebook.com/forestanimalrescue)



[Twitter.com/ForestAnimalRes](https://twitter.com/ForestAnimalRes)



[Youtube.com/ForestanimalrescueOrg](https://www.youtube.com/ForestanimalrescueOrg)



THE RESPECT THEY DESERVE

Forest Animal Rescue (FAR) is dedicated to meeting the lifetime needs of all wild animals:

- Rescued, non-releasable animals (usually born in captivity) deserve:
 - lifetime care at an accredited sanctuary
 - a healthful, natural diet
 - quality veterinary care when needed
 - a firm “no breeding” policy
 - socialization and enrichment appropriate to each animal's preferences, and
 - protection from further victimization
- Releasable wild animals deserve to be restored to health and returned to the wild
 - We rehabilitate black bears and return them to the authorities that bring them to us for re-release
 - We work with dozens of rehabilitation facilities to release other native wildlife on our acreage property, where they have a chance to safely reacclimate to life in the wild

FAR is an internationally recognized organization, accredited by the **American Sanctuary Association**



Forest Animal Rescue
640 NE 170th Court
Silver Springs, FL 34488



King and Three Little Bears (continued)

...Right after King's rescue, the sanctuary received a call about three little bears.



Can you find all 3 bears in their rehabilitation habitat?

In addition to providing lifetime care to non-releasable wild animals, rescued from abuse, neglect, and exploitation, Forest Animal Rescue works to help native wildlife.

In one of our programs, we work with wildlife officials to rehabilitate and release black bear cubs.

The Bear Program Manager from the State of Louisiana called for assistance. A mother bear was hit by a car, leaving her three small cubs alone. Since she was still nursing the cubs and they were too small to survive alone, the biologists trapped them so they could lend a hand. They were malnourished and already showing signs of needing medical attention.

It was a cooperative effort; Forest Animal Rescue met a Louisiana biologist at the Florida state line and drove the cubs the last 7 hours to the sanctuary. Here, they will get the excellent nutrition and veterinary care required to restore their strength.

Although we don't allow the cubs to see or interact with humans, we have named them *Iris*, *June*, and *Kyle*. In the spring, when they are large enough to take care of themselves and natural food is plentiful, they will be returned to Louisiana for release back into the wild.

Happily Ever After...

Hurricane Ian Impacted the sanctuary

Thankfully, the impact was not nearly as bad as it was south of us.

We planned for the worst and prayed for the best – and wound up on the lucky end of the spectrum. No animals escaped or were injured.

Thankfully, our advance planning was successful. The animals were all secured in their 'safety areas' – the strongest parts of their habitats, built to withstand severe storms.

Our facility-wide generator did a wonderful job. When the power went out, the generator kept the well working so the animals had all the water they needed. It kept the walk-in meat freezer and refrigerators used for fresh produce all running uninterrupted.

In the end, we have only a few damaged spots on fences, some trees down, and LOTS of branches and tree debris down all over the 80-acre facility.

We have a lot of cleanup to do, and will need to refill our big propane tanks to be ready for the next storm, but it certainly could've been much worse. Our prayers go out to those who were hit the hardest.



Big Cat Public Safety Act Update

On International Tiger Day in July, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the “Big Cat Public Safety Act” (H.R. 263) by a vote of 278 to 134, sponsored by Rep. Michael Quigley, D-IL, and Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick, R-PA. The bill has moved to the Senate.

The bill amends the Captive Wildlife Safety Act to prohibit keeping tigers, lions, and other big cat species as pets, and bans direct public contact like cub petting. This prohibition is narrowly focused on pet big cats and exempts zoos, sanctuaries, and universities.

Current owners are grandfathered in and are simply required to register their animals to ensure that first responders and animal control officers are aware of the presence of such animals in their communities.

It is estimated that thousands of captive big cats live in captivity in the U.S. More often than not, these large, dangerous, wide-roaming predators are kept in small, barren cages where they can barely turn around.

They are improperly fed, are not provided with appropriate veterinary care, and have no means to express their complex emotional and behavioral needs. Keeping big cats in these settings is not only inhumane but is also a serious public safety issue.

A number of unscrupulous facilities offer cub petting or photo opportunities, which fuels a vicious cycle of breeding and dumping cubs and is the primary cause of the growing population of captive big cats in this country. After they outgrow their usefulness and profitability at about 12 weeks old, these cubs are funneled into the exotic pet trade, sold to another disreputable exhibitor, or killed to supply the black market trade for wildlife parts.

Please urge your U.S. Senators to support the Big Cat Public Safety Act.



Five Dollar Friday

What can you do with \$5? You could buy a soy latte or your favorite beverage. Or you could change a life!

Say hello to Five Dollar Friday! We created this campaign to try and get a little extra help from our wonderful supporters.

We would love you to be part of the team creating true change for wild animals in need; together we truly can create a kinder world.

If you would like to chip in, please visit us here:

<https://www.ForestAnimalRescue.org/5-friday>

We would love for you to share this with your friends and family!

ALL wild animals **DESERVE** our help

Did you know that we have **THREE** different programs that help animals?

As you know, we provide a lifetime care sanctuary for non-releasable animals, and we rehabilitate and release black bears in cooperation with State authorities (they are released by the state biologists, not by us.)

But there is a third animal rescue focus that we haven't often publicized...for over 24 years, we have worked with dozens of wildlife rehabilitators to assist in the safe release of animals that cannot be returned to where they were found.

We restore and maintain the native habitat on acreage that the sanctuary owns, away from the captive animals and human activity, to ensure that there is no risk of harm from hunters, herbicides, or pesticides.

When animals including deer, small mammals, and birds are ready to be released but it is not safe to release them where they are found, wildlife rehabilitators contact us and we coordinate to release them on our land. We can also coordinate with them to allow for "soft release," where the animals are held for a short period in habitats on the release site to become acclimated before being fully released. Sometimes additional food is supplemented after release until they are fully acclimated. It is very important for these animals to remain wild with extremely limited human interaction.



Save the Date!

GivingTuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of radical generosity. On the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, GivingTuesday was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Since then, it has grown into a year-round global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity.

This year, GivingTuesday will take place on **November 29, 2022**

It's a simple idea: whether it's making someone smile, helping a neighbor or stranger, showing up for an issue or people we care about, or giving some of what we have to those who need our help, every act of generosity counts and everyone has something to contribute toward building the better world we all want to live in.



Our Monthly Donors are What Keep Us Going

One simple but very meaningful way you can help the animals is to include a small amount for their care in your monthly budget. **For what you might spend on one lunch**, you can help to feed a rescued big cat, bear, monkey, bat, or wolf.

Sharing your pocket change with the animals allows us to budget for their ongoing care without sacrificing new construction and growth. Donations may be made automatically from your bank account or credit card – you can set it and forget it!

If you are one of our special friends who has already signed up – **THANK YOU!**

If we continue having a few new supporters sign up for recurring gifts each month, we will stay on track with our ever-increasing cost of meeting the lifetime needs of rescued animals.

Will you help?

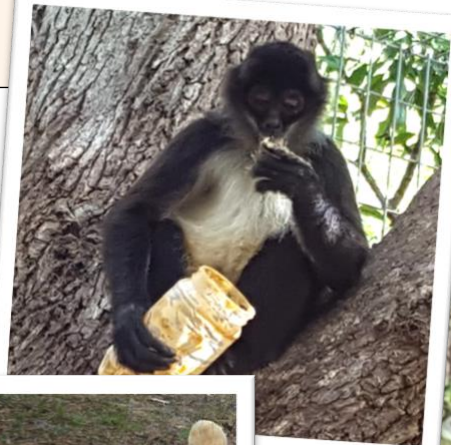


TO SET UP MONTHLY GIFTS ONLINE:

Simply visit our website at www.ForestAnimalRescue.org and give using any donate button on our site. When you check “Recurring Donation,” your gifts will be repeated automatically from your credit card or bank account. You receive an email confirmation and remain in complete control over the frequency, amount and when your recurring gifts end. We will mail you a year-end recap of your donations for tax purposes.

TO SET UP MONTHLY GIFTS BY MAIL:

Simply fill out the coupon at the end of this newsletter with your credit card information and check the box to make it a monthly gift and mail it to us. We will process it from here and send a year-end recap of your donations for tax purposes.



✧ Volunteer Spotlight ✧

Sonya Smith, Senior Volunteer (9 years!)

Where are you from? Born in Tennessee but lived most of my life in Central Florida.

What do you do for a living? I am a Data Coordinator for LifeStream Behavioral Center.

Where did your interest in animals start? Just born that way I guess. I have always loved animals

Did you grow up with any pets/have any currently? Yes I have had many animals over my life. I currently have 4 dogs, three beagles and a Black Mouth Cur.

What drew you to FAR? I went on vacation one year and ended up visiting a true sanctuary where I learned about all the ways exotic animals can be exploited and how true sanctuaries give them forever homes to save them. I knew when I got home from vacation that I wanted to find a sanctuary close to where I live so I could volunteer. I found Forest Animal Rescue who had just relocated to the Ocala National Forest and I applied right away. I have been volunteering 9 years now and love helping take care of these magnificent animals.

Who is your favorite animal and why? Well I love all the animals and have many favorites but tigers have always been my favorite. I love Eva, Juanita, and Natasha.

What memory do you think will stick with you from your experiences at FAR? A tiger chuffing at me. I love it when they come up to greet me and I get chuffs. Coolest thing ever.

What have you learned from volunteering here that you'll apply to your daily life? Every life matters and we have to take care of the ones who cannot take care of themselves. Animals are at our mercy and we have to protect them.

What's your favorite part of your day? First thing in the morning when I get there and check on all the animals. It is quiet in the forest and I just love the peace and all the sounds of nature.

What are your hobbies? Bowling, motorcycle riding, and playing with my dogs.

Thank you Sonya for the awesome work you've been doing – we love having you as part of our 'family'!



Do you want to help the animals?

Do you want to gain experience working with an accredited wild animal sanctuary? If you don't qualify as an intern, you could participate in our local or residential volunteer programs! Visit our website at <http://Forestanimalrescue.org> under 'Internships' or 'Volunteer' to learn more and apply today!

We are resuming our volunteer program and hiring animal care interns. By applying now, you will be among the first to get your foot in the door!

YES-I WILL HELP!!

Fall 2022

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

☐ I am enclosing my tax-deductible donation to Forest Animal Rescue for \$ _____☐ Please charge my credit card in the amount of \$ _____

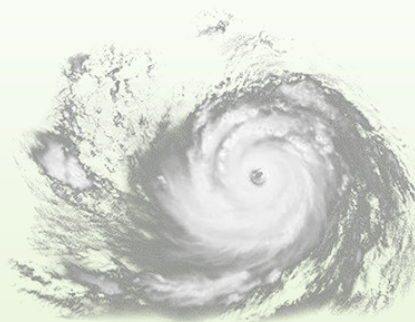
Card Number: _____ Expiration: _____ CVV Code: _____

Name on card: _____ Signature: _____

Please earmark my gift: ☐ **General fund/Where it is needed most** ☐ Animal rescue and lifetime needs☐ Other _____☐ *Make this a recurring monthly gift, ending on (date) _____**(One-time and recurring donations can also be made securely at ForestAnimalRescue.org)*☐ Please contact me to discuss a tax-deductible contribution of equipment or materials☐ Please contact me regarding a planned gift to The Legacy Society

Peace River Refuge & Ranch, Inc. dba Forest Animal Rescue is a Florida nonprofit charitable corporation. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer by calling toll-free within the state 1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352) OR www.FloridaConsumerHelp.com. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the State. Florida Registration CH9372. We are tax exempt under IRS 501(c)(3), EIN 65-0864695.

In a typical year,
we must raise \$300,000
to fill the gap in funding for animal care



This isn't a typical year.
Please help: ForestAnimalRescue.org

Forest Animal Rescue
640 NE 170th Ct.
Silver Springs, FL 34488



Join our email list ☐

Make a difference



MEET THE ANIMALS

Scan this with your smart phone

THE WILD SIDE

www.forestanimalrescue.org

FALL 2022

They DESERVE our help...

This pandemic has been hard on everyone, but things are getting better. The general public is becoming more aware of how we impact the lives of wild animals.

We are grateful for our broad base of dedicated supporters. Without you, we would never be able to step up to the challenge of picking up where others leave off.

The animals still need us – they DESERVE our respect and dedication. With help from like-minded people, they will have the care and attention they deserve. Thank you so much for being our friend!

Lisa Stoner, VP



FAR Board of Directors:

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