

THE EXOTIC FELINE BREEDING COMPOUND'S



FELINE CONSERVATION CENTER

Founded in 1977 and registered as
a non-profit 501(c)(3) Corporation in
California, November 1983

EFBC/FCC was originally intended to be a privately run breeding and reproductive research facility not open to the public. Today, 35 years later, it is open 6 days a week and maintained by a full time staff, along with a group of dedicated volunteers.

EFBC in the late 1980's



Prior to the Endangered Species Act (ESA), zoos considered animals a renewable resource. When one died they just acquired another one from any source including the wild. With the implementation of the ESA, replacing species as they died became more problematic, especially from the wild.

To address this issue, zoos began to concentrate their energies on captive breeding. It was soon realized that with some feline species, compatibility among pairs was going to present a serious obstacle. These compatibility problems, added with the fact that existing gene pools were declining, became the basis for starting EFBC/FCC.



Our intent was to provide a breeding environment that was secluded from the general hustle and bustle of everyday zoo life. To overcome incompatibility problems we would also conduct alternative reproductive research which included artificial insemination, embryo transfer, and intra-uterine insemination.

We were quite successful with natural breeding of the larger cats.



Some of our early assisted reproduction work began on golden cats in 1981 and clouded leopards in 1984.



(Left) Removing an osmotic pump implanted in a golden cat which was filled with a hormone used to induce estrus.

(Right) Electro-ejaculating and inseminating clouded leopards



Over the years EFBC/FCC has been involved in testing many new drugs and other veterinary research involving wild cats. We have sponsored research in Nordon's FeLV vaccine, Pergonal and PMSG use in wild cats, Yohimbine use as an antagonist to Xylazine, and Tolazoline as an antagonist to Ketamine. Amur leopard Sevastian's cancer treatment pioneered use of Elspar and Lomustine in big cats. We have also helped with research into reversible contraception of wild cats using melengesterol implants (MGA).

EFBC/FCC has freely worked with and/or assisted many researchers including semen evaluation by the National Zoo, and their IUI program with fishing cats. We have provided many DNA samples to Dr. Steve O'Brien and his staff at the National Cancer institute from our Amur leopards, North Chinese leopards, and jaguars. In December 2005 we assisted Dr. Rebecca Spindler of the Toronto Zoo in Canada with a project quantifying bone density and semen quality in jaguars. The results of her work are available to zoos in South America to assist them in formulating a balanced diet for their captive populations.



EFBC/FCC has been a contributing member of the International Species Inventory System (ISIS) since 1981 and early on submitted little known data on clouded leopards and golden cats to their original physiological database.

We are active members of the Zoological Association of America (ZAA) and participate when possible in species survival plans (SSP) & population management programs (PMP) in which we hold species. We also regularly submit data to all studbook keepers.



We participate in these programs because we feel that generally they are beneficial to the species as a whole and it is going to require the concentrated efforts of all organizations involved in conservation to be successful in our efforts to prevent extinction.

With our importation of Amur leopard and fishing cat founder animals, our participation in the Amur leopard PMP and the fishing cat SSP was critical to its success. EFBC/FCC also maintains a sizeable collection of Pallas' cats, many of which are founder animals in the North American population.

EFBC/FCC has provided quite a few jaguars to AZA institutions wishing to exhibit and increase awareness of this species.



Over the years the EFBC/FCC has formed close relationships with many zoos in the U.S. and abroad. The list includes such facilities as: San Diego Zoo, Henry Doorly Zoo, Audubon Zoo, Cincinnati Zoo, Columbus Zoo, Wildlife World Zoo, Zoo World, Tanganyika Wildlife Park, Point Defiance Zoo, Boise Zoo, Granby Zoo, Living Desert, Moscow Zoo, Singapore Zoo, and London Zoo.



In early 1982 the idea was born that we should open the facility to the public. This would be a serious commitment. Opening the facility to the public would require completely tearing down existing cages and rebuilding everything so it could safely accommodate visitors. It would also have a serious effect on our breeding programs. Constant noise from heavy construction does not create an environment conducive to successful breeding.



Opening to the public proved to be self-sustaining. Regular hours were set, with no admission fee; just donations (until 2000). In 1983 the facility filed for recognition as a public benefit organization and on November 3, 1983 was granted a tax exempt status as a 501(c)(3) organization.



With the support of the Blackwood Foundation in Bakersfield, construction of our gift shop/visitors center began. It was completed in October 1993.



At its peak, EFBC/FCC was hosting close to 100,000 visitors per year. Toward the end of the 1990's, the economy took a drastic turn for the worse and still has not fully recovered in our region. We have managed to complete the majority of the main exhibit area and have started on the second phase. This will include a large exhibit housing tigers and a variety of small cat habitats. It will also include an educational building which will display the many cat related items we have collected over the years. Hopefully the economy will recover soon and we can finally complete this second phase.



Small cat exhibits, then and now

(you are here)





EFBC/FCC hosts interns from around the world.



Feline Follies started out in a hotel in Lancaster. When we first moved the event here we rented tents, until the grass was planted.

Our other fundraisers include Twilight Tours and Kids' Day. After AAA Westways Magazine featured us, we had record turnout of over 1,100 people at one Twilight Tour!





EFBC/FCC also supports cats in the wild. We sell Amur leopard t-shirts, with all proceeds going to Amur leopard conservation in the wild. In the past we've sold Fishing Cat cards and Pallas' Cats stuffies to support studies of those cats in the wild. In 2007 we donated an X-ray machine and supplies to Cheetah Conservation Botswana. Hosting small cat researchers such as Dr. Jim Sanderson and his colleagues has raised money for their efforts as well.

Our AAZK chapter, which raises money through bake sales and various gift shop items, has donated money for Amur Leopard, Snow Leopard, and Black-Footed Cat conservation.



We also assist in placing orphaned cougars and bobcats every year, not just from California but other western states as well. By exhibiting these local animals, we help educate our visitors on how to share the planet with wildlife.





New Dietary Prep Center (2005) and new walk-in freezer (2010), both make life much easier for our hard-working zookeepers now that we have over 70 cats!



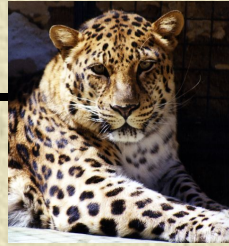
We thank the Karlson, Healey, and M. Piuze foundations, and all our individual supporters, for making things possible



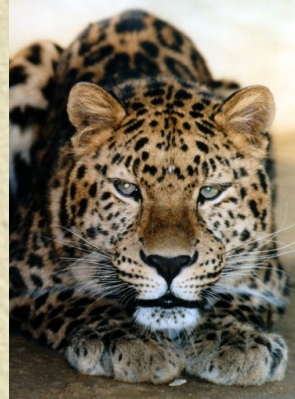
Some of our births!



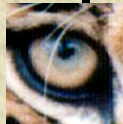
Amur leopard tree



Staten Island zoo



Audubon zoo



Tanganyika Wildlife park



Now at San Diego Zoo

In late 2011 we temporarily housed 3 young Amur leopards now living at the San Diego Zoo. They belong to us through breeding loans; they are descended on both sides from EFBC cats

Project Tiger – waiting for residents!



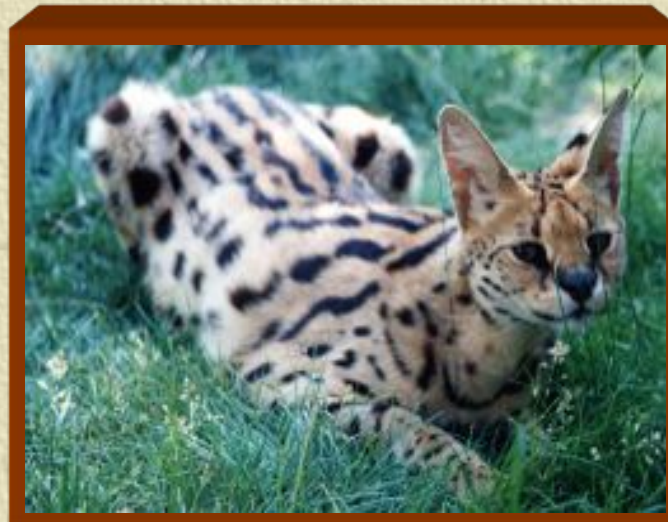
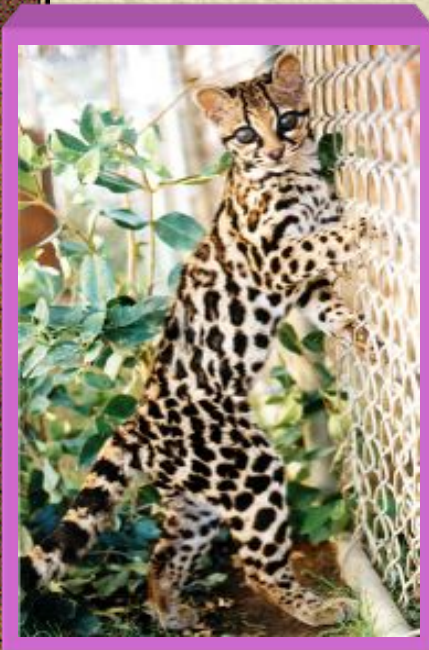
EFBC's Feline Conservation Center



Looking forward

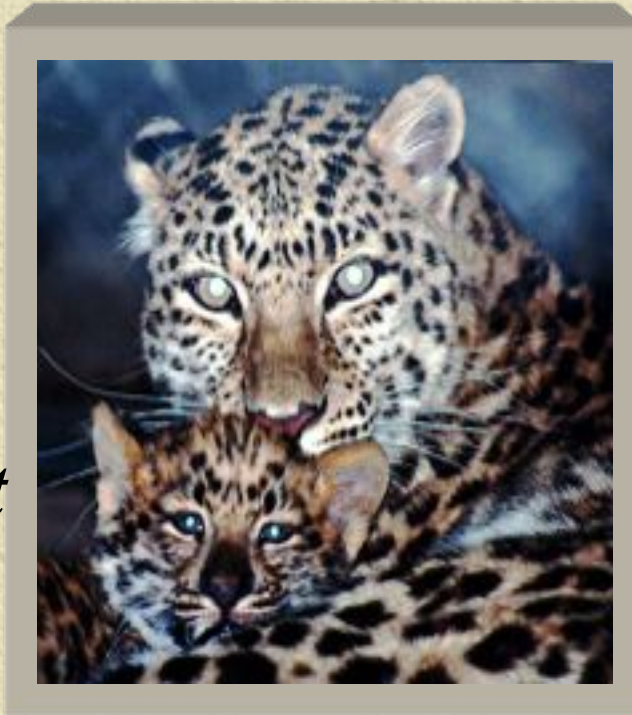


*Today, 35 of 36
wild feline species remain
threatened or endangered.*



*EFBC's past achievements will lead the way
to our successes in the future.*

*Captive
Breeding
Management*



Research

*Education &
Public Awareness*

Expansion of Breeding Programs & New Species Pairings



Anny & Zach, Snow Leopards



Ky & Tate, Clouded Leopards

*Where efforts to save endangered
species seems a daunting task,
EFBC sees hope.*



***Kiana & Bam Bam
Persian Leopards
Births of new generations
of these rare felines will
ensure survival of the
species and prevent
extinctions.***



Emphasis on South American Wildcat Species Preservation

EFBC's future projects include expansion or preservation programs in South America.



Just as some of our past programs have supported Research and Preservation efforts in the wild, we will continue to expand on those efforts; supporting Field Research, and donations of medical supplies and equipment.

“New World” Wild Feline Species

*Of the wild felines indigenous to North, Central & South America,
a majority are found on the South American continent*

✓ *Past & Present Species Housed at EFBC*



*Threats include:
Deforestation, Human
Encroachment & Poaching*

✓ *Bobcat*

✓ *Canadian Lynx*

✓ *Cougar (aka Mountain Lion
& Puma)*

✓ *Jaguar*

✓ *Jaguarundi*

✓ *Margay*

✓ *Ocelot*

✓ *Geoffrey's Cat*

Andean Mountain Cat

Guigna

Oncilla

Pampas Cat

As EFBC continues to grow, we strive to meet our needs as a world class breeding, preservation, and conservation center.



Much is needed to accomplish our goals.

- ❖ *Build more natural habitats*
- ❖ *Maintain daily operations*
- ❖ *Feed and maintain a high quality of life for feline residents*
- ❖ *Continue improvements around EFBC for visitor enjoyment.*

Projects on the Horizon



Public Restrooms

Continuing improvements to the visitor experience, a public restroom facility will accommodate increasing attendance during the year & at special events.

Small Cat Breeding Area

New enclosures, specially designed to comfortably house smaller wildcat species in a natural setting.



Nursery

Fully equipped and adjacent to our medical clinic. Hand-reared cubs will have an improved place to grow and play.



Museum & Educational Center

A building to house displays and educational items relating to wild cat species preservation and conservation efforts.



Nursery

*EFBC
In the Future!*

*Small Cat
Enclosures/
Breeding
Area*

Clinic

Project Tiger

We are
here!

First habitat

*Museum & Educational
Center*

Public Restrooms





The Importance of Saving Wild Feline Species

- ❖ *Wild Feline Species are one of nature's top predators.*
- ❖ *Wild Feline Species help keep the world's ecosystems in balance.*
- ❖ *Wild Feline Species ensure prey species do not overrun vegetation, which can devastate grasslands and forests needed for the survival of many other species.*

*For 35 years, EFBC's Feline Conservation Center has been generously supported solely by the public through **memberships, donations, bequests, special fundraising events, and gift shop purchases.***

We are able to sustain our feline's needs and the center's maintenance and expansion requirements without State or Federal funding.

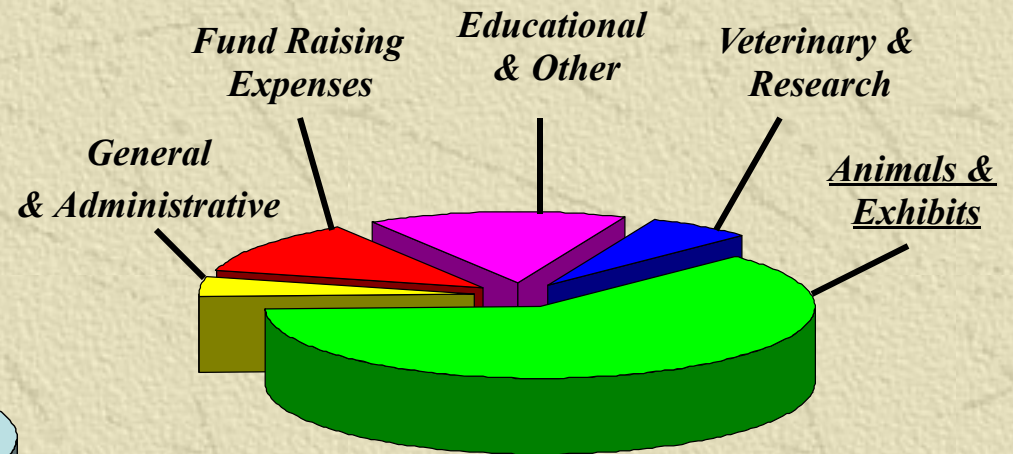
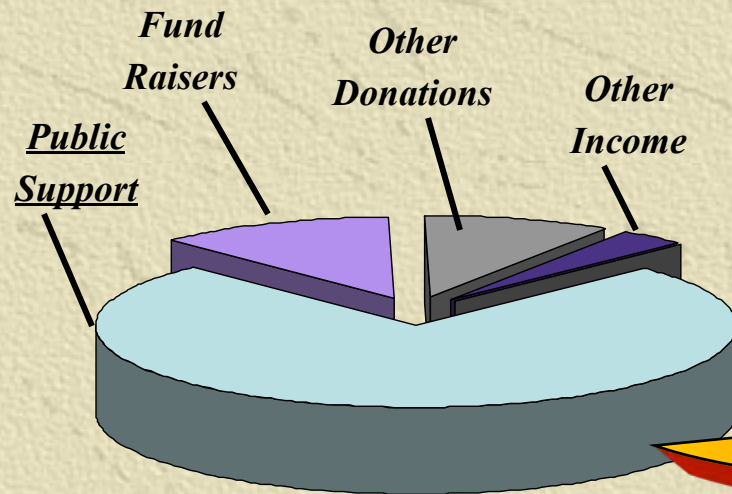


All Donations are Tax Deductible

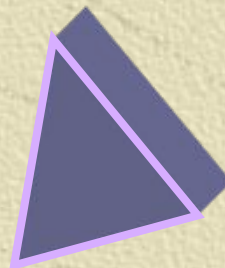
*96 cents of every Dollar Benefits EFBC Programs,
Wild Felines & Exhibit Projects & Improvements*

Funds Usage

Support



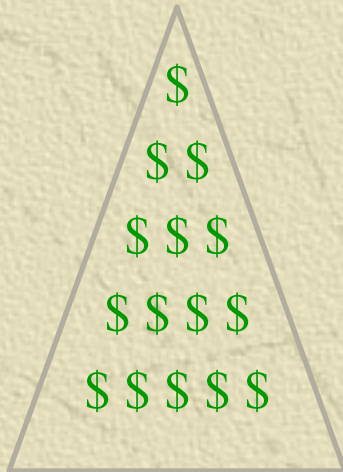
***How will you
fit in?***



***We Couldn't Do It Without
YOU!***

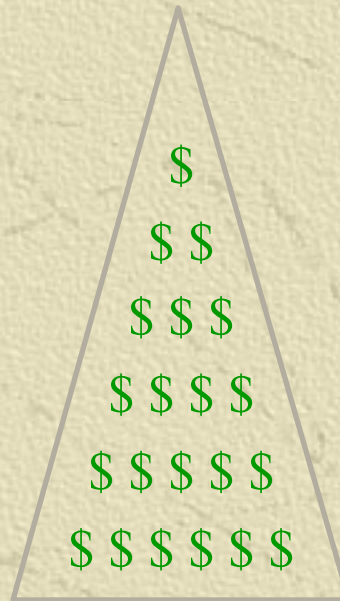
What a difference a few dollars make!

*EFBC could
Transport Cats,
Pay Food &
Utilities,
Purchase
Supplies &
Equipment*



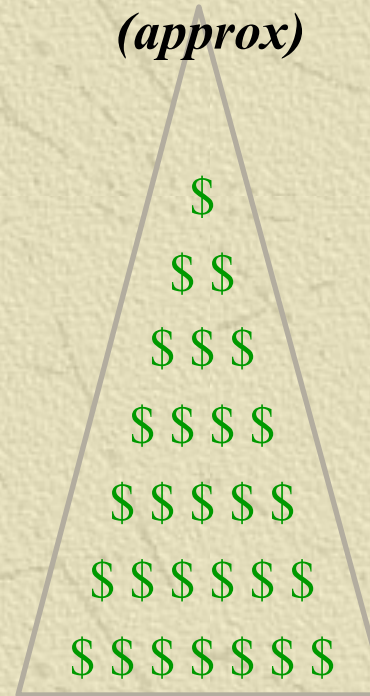
*If every
attendee
donates \$50*

*Public Restrooms
\$75,000*



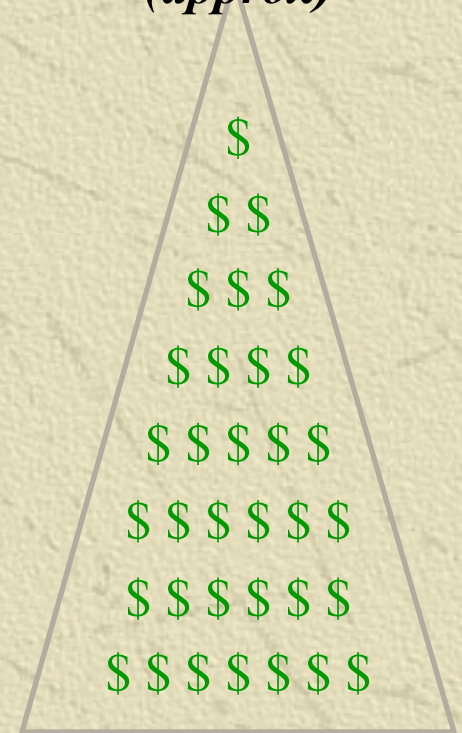
*If every
attendee
donates \$300+*

*Small Cat
Enclosure
\$50,000 - 75,000
(approx)*



*If every
attendee
donates \$500+*

*Museum/
Educational Center
\$500,000 - \$750,000
(approx)*



*If every
attendee
donates
\$3,000+*

Many options & ways to support

*Donate
Much Need
Supplies/
Equipment*

*Attend
Twilight
Tours,
Fabulous
Feline
Follies &
Kids Day*

*Become an
EFBC
Member*

*Adopt an
EFBC Feline*

*TELL A
FRIEND!*

*THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT AND
GENEROSITY!*

*Shop On Line
through
Amazon, Café
Press*

*Volunteer as a
Zoo Keeper/
Docent*



Final Thoughts



**SUPPORT YOUR
LOCAL
"CAT HOUSE"**

E.F.B.C.

Rosamond, Ca.

Many variables contribute to extinctions in the wild, however still the greatest threat to species like these magnificent wild felines remains Human Indifference.

Species Preservation cannot be accomplished unless people develop an appreciation for balanced ecological systems and the variety of life necessary for their existence.

***HERE'S TO 35 and MORE YEARS OF SAVING
THE WORLD'S
RAREST WILD CAT SPECIES***



CONGRATULATIONS EFBC!