



# COLORADO WOLF & WILDLIFE CENTER

MARCH 2021 · CONSERVATION · EDUCATION · PRESERVATION



CERTIFIED BY



## The Colorado Wolf and Wildlife Center

is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization certified by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA). Look for this logo whenever you visit a zoo or aquarium as your assurance that you are supporting a facility dedicated to providing excellent care for animals, a great experience for you, and a better future for all living things.

The contents of the material we include in our newsletter does not necessarily reflect the views of CWWC. We collect information from other organizations, the web, news feeds, and/or other sources. We choose articles that are in the related field of education and conservation.



TO SUBSCRIBE to our monthly newsletter, go to [wolfeducation.org](http://wolfeducation.org) and sign up on the newsletter page.

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PO Box 713 Divide, CO 80814 719.687.9742



## A NOTE FROM MR. & MRS. BURKE

My wife and I drove from Tennessee to Colorado for our honeymoon. Interestingly enough, we are both very passionate about wolves and we ourselves have two beautiful wolf dog rescues (Koda Bear and Odin). So when we found out that our honeymoon spot was right down the road from the CWWC we were ecstatic! We called to set up our tour, which included a meet and greet with two incredibly special wolves named Makuee and Keyni. The staff was extremely helpful and told us what to wear, what time to be there, and they even made a second phone call to confirm the day before our appointment. Ours was set for 8:45 am with our meet and greet kicking off by 9:00 am. We got there a little earlier to have a chance to look around the gift shop. When you pull up the drive to the CWWC, you are greeted, or we were at least, by distant howling and can even see a bit of a peek of some animals as you walk to the check in window. The staff is beyond friendly, and even though they are busy with things, they take the time to talk with you and truly make you feel welcome. They are also extremely patient so that made us even more thankful that they took time out to talk with us. I will say that there are plenty of rules in place here, and rightly so! The rules are there to protect those coming in for the tours, and even as important, to protect the animals that call the CWWC their home. If you follow the guidelines and respect both the staff and these beautiful creatures, I can promise you that you will have an unforgettable experience. My wife and I were eager to experience as much as we could while we were there, so we did make a few purchases in the gift shop, and plan to purchase the photos taken for us during the meet and greet. Words cannot express how being with these wolves in person touches a deeper part of you. We were instructed on how to interact and love on Makuee and Keyni, while respecting these majestic creatures. They are incredibly eager to be given attention, however remembering that these are still wild animals is important. It was helpful having the wolf expert there with us in the enclosure, because my wife and I wanted to be as respectful as possible, and at the same time love on these two wolves as much as possible. Once the meet and greet was over, as well as the tour, we all stood and attempted to howl with the wolves. When we stopped and they howled in return, the feeling was so incredible. It made my wife and I both tear up because it was so beautiful being able to hear that sound in person. Even the coyotes got in on the action a little haha. To sum this experience up, I feel as though 5 stars doesn't do it justice. The location is gorgeous, it abides by covid guidelines, and the atmosphere and animals and staff, all make this truthfully one experience my wife and I will forever hold dear in our hearts. Thank you to the staff for making this possible and a special thanks to Makuee and Keyni, for welcoming us into their world.



*Thank you Mr. & Mrs. Burke  
and Happy Honeymoon!*

## JOB OPENINGS @ CWWC

For more information, go to [wolfeducation.org/job-openings](http://wolfeducation.org/job-openings)

## | SOCIAL MEDIA HAPPENINGS |

While we are all coping with our new way of life, you can still stay up to date with the animals here at CWWC. We are working to keep you involved in the work we are doing here, knowing how our animals are doing, and staying educated about wildlife news.

**Subscribe to our YouTube Channel:**  
[ColoradoWolf&WildlifeCenter](#)

We post bi-weekly videos of the training and enrichment we are providing for our animals. Our bi-weekly educational vlog about wolves—*Wolf Wisdom with Erika*—talks about the wolf reintroduction of wolves in Colorado, and other hot topics.

**Follow us on Facebook:**  
[Colorado Wolf and Wildlife Center](#)

Thursdays between 3-4pm we have a Ask a Keeper livestream where you can ask us all those questions you've been dying to know. Every Friday at 8pm we post a video of one of our keepers howling with

the wolves for the Go Outside and Howl at 8 movement. We also share current wildlife events and stories that are happening around the world to keep you informed.

**Follow us on Instagram:**  
[cowolfcenter](#)

We post pictures of our beautiful animals, share stories of what we are doing around the center, and keep you up to date on everything wolf and wildlife related. Keep your eye on our story for fun videos of the day to day lives of our wolves and keepers.

We will also be doing monthly and possibly weekly giveaways and sales. These will only be announced on our social media so make sure you follow us on every platform and turn on your notifications.

*We hope to give you something to look forward to every day!*

## SNOWSTORM MARCH 2021



# Wisconsin Hunters Kill 216 Wolves In Less Than 60 Hours, Sparking Uproar

Kills quickly exceeded statewide limit, forcing the state to end the hunting season early

**The Guardian | By Victoria Bekiempis | March 3, 2021**

Hunters and trappers in Wisconsin killed 216 gray wolves last week during the state's 2021 wolf hunting season – more than 82% above the authorities' stated quota, sparking uproar among animal-lovers and conservationists, according to reports.

The kills all took place in less than 60 hours, quickly exceeding Wisconsin's statewide stated limit of 119 animals.

As a result, Wisconsin's department of natural resources ended the season, which was scheduled to span one week, four days early.

While department officials were reportedly surprised by the number of gray wolves killed, they described the population as "robust, resilient" and expressed confidence in managing the numbers "properly going forward".

Most of the animals were killed by hunters who used "trailing hounds", the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported.

The state's overkill was exacerbated by Wisconsin law that mandates 24-hour notice of season closure, rather than immediate notification.

Natural resources department officials also sold 1,547 permits this season, about 13 hunters or trappers per wolf under the quota's target number. This equated to twice as many permits as normal – and marked the highest ratio of any season so far.

State authorities had a total culling goal of 200 wolves, in an attempt to stabilize their population. As Native American tribes claimed a quota of 81 wolves, this left 119 for the state-licensed trappers

and hunters. Because the tribes consider wolves sacred, they typically use their allotment to protect, not kill, them.

"Should we, would we, could we have [closed the season] sooner? Yes." Eric Lobner, DNR wildlife director, said, according to the Journal Sentinel.

"Did we go over? We did. Was that something we wanted to have happen? Absolutely not."

The overshoot, which has never exceeded 10 wolves in prior seasons, spurred criticism.

Megan Nicholson, who directs Wisconsin's chapter of the Humane Society of the United States, commented in a statement: "This is a deeply sad and shameful week for Wisconsin."

She added: "This week's hunt proves that now, more than ever, gray wolves need federal protections restored to protect them from shortsighted and lethal state management," Nicholson also said.

This hunt comes in the wake of federal policy, and local litigation, that stripped gray wolves of protection.

In the 1950s gray wolves, which are native to Wisconsin, were extirpated from the state due to years of unregulated hunting. Heightened protections, such as the federal 1973 Endangered Species Act, helped the population rebound.

Following the implementation of these protections, gray wolves emerged and spread from a northern Minnesota "stronghold", the Journal Sentinel said.

The implications of these protections were



Photograph: GatorDawg/Getty Images/iStockphoto

sweeping: while the gray wolf population had dropped to about 1,000 by the 1970s, the number now totals about 6,000 in the lower 48 states.

The gray wolf was delisted for protection in 2012, however. Wisconsin officials subsequently provided three hunting and trapping seasons. In 2012, 117 wolves were killed; in 2013, 257; and in 2014, 154.

A federal judge, in response to a lawsuit from wildlife advocates, decided in December 2014 that the gray wolf must be put back on the Endangered Species List. In October 2020, the Trump administration removed the gray wolf from the Endangered Species List.

A Kansas-based hunting advocacy group filed suit against Wisconsin's department of natural resources in January over its decision not to provide a gray wolf hunting or trapping season

this winter. This legal action reportedly "forced" the department to hold a season before February ended.

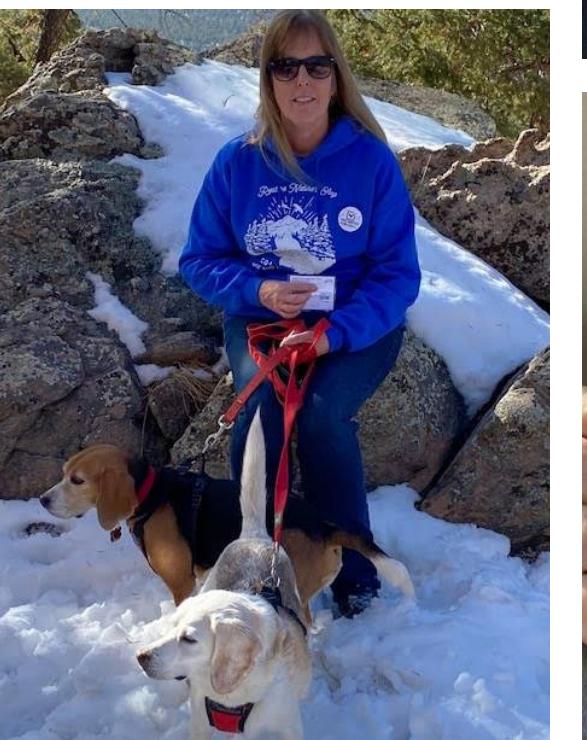
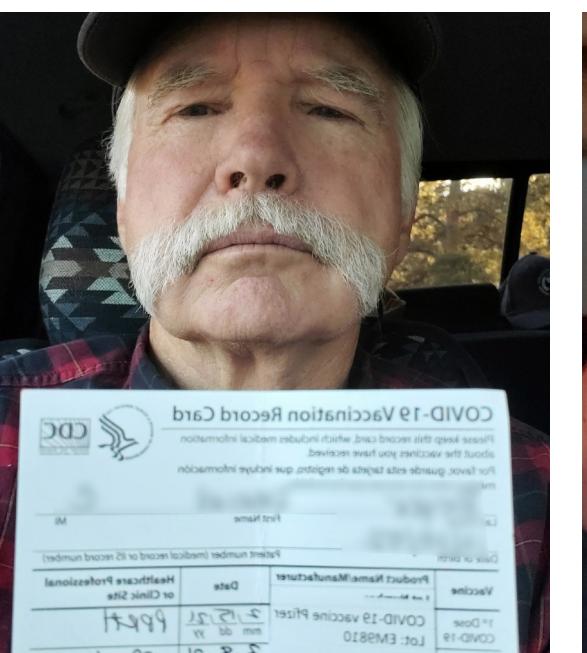
The season was also the first to take place in February, the gray wolf's breeding season. Advocates have worried that killing pregnant wolves could have an even greater impact on their population, possibly disrupting packs.

Because officials rushed to open the season, there was dramatically limited opportunity for legally mandated consultation with Native American tribes, the newspaper also notes.

"This season trampled over the tribes' treaty rights, the Wisconsin public and professional wildlife stewardship," a representative for the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission reportedly said.



# COVID VACCINE DAY



"It was so quick and easy! The longest part was waiting 15 minutes after the vaccination to make sure you were good to drive! Thank you for bringing these clinics to our attention. I have never been so happy to get a shot in my life. It feels good to know we are on track to getting back to some type of normal. Yay for no more temp checks!"

— Kelly

# 2020 CLASS SUPERLATIVES



**NAVI**



**RAKSHA**



**KEKOA**

Most Contagious Smile

Teacher's Pet



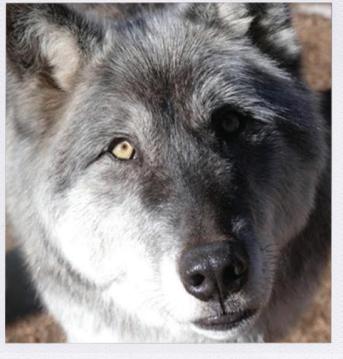
**ORENDA**



**AMAROK**

Drama Queen

Bring home to  
Meet Your Parents



**KEYNI**

Cutest Couple

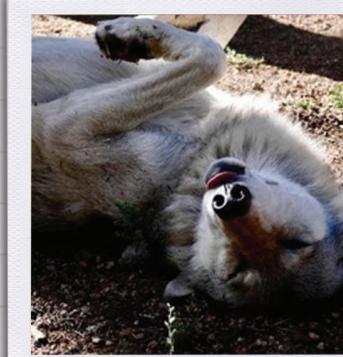


**KODA & AMAROK**

Best Howl



**TALA**



**MAKUEE**



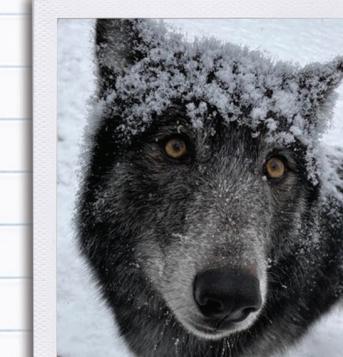
**RINGO**



**ISHA**



**MICAH**



**CHAKRA**

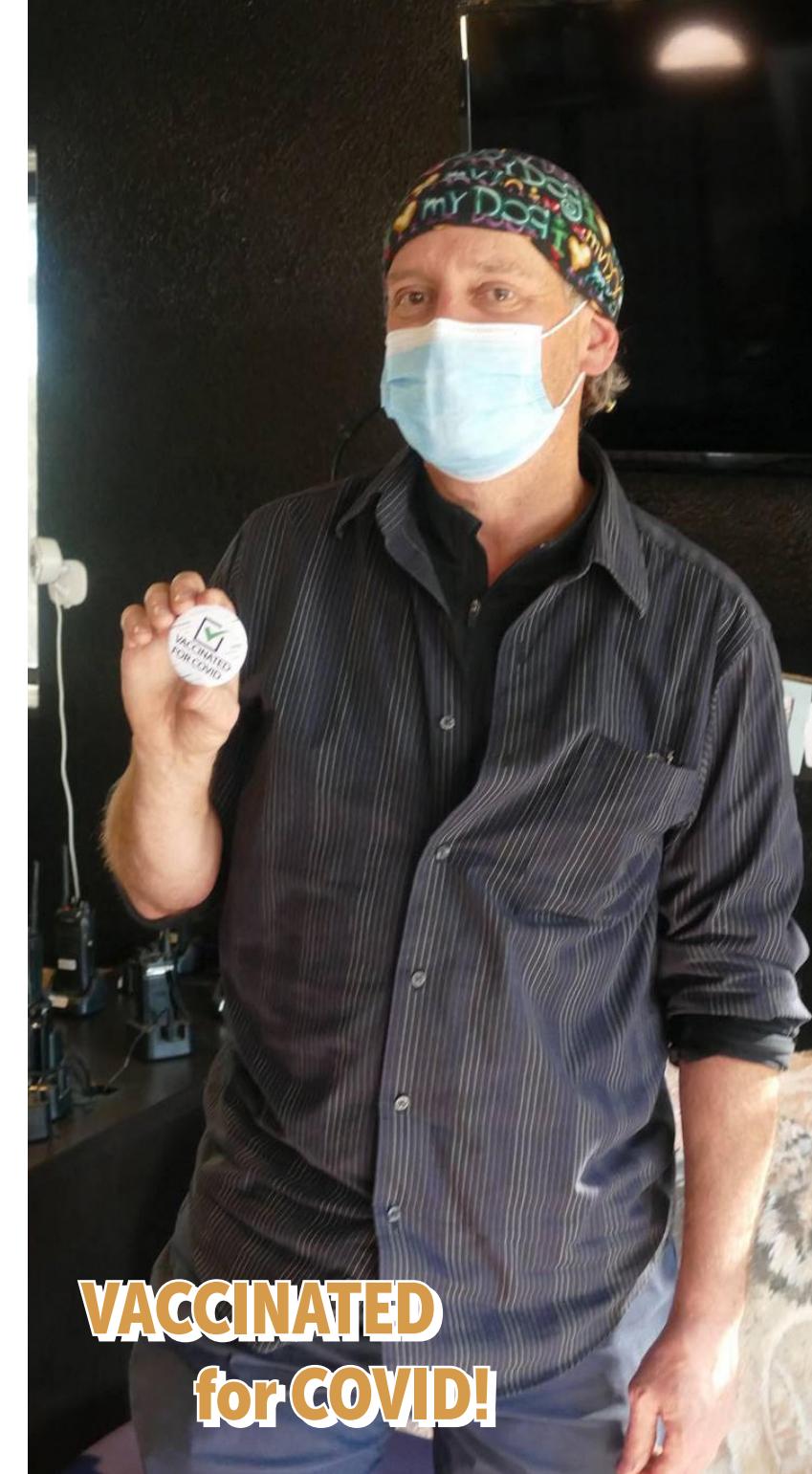


**KODA**

Most Affectionate

Most Likely to Quietly Take  
Over the World!

Most Likely to  
Brighten Your Day



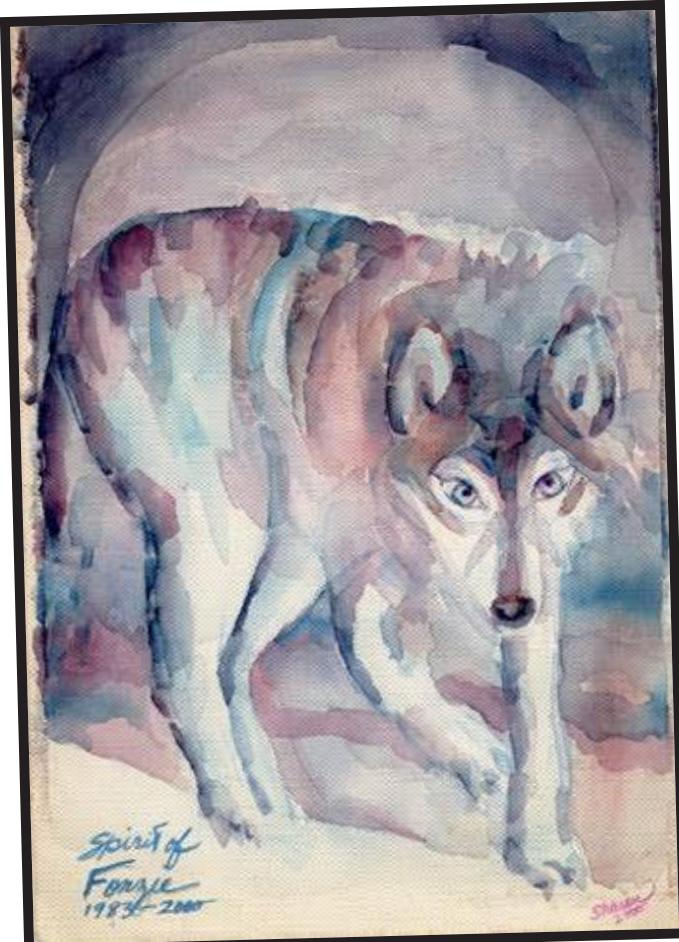
**VACCINATED  
for COVID!**

## A VET CLASS WITH DR. VOLZ

Dr. Volz holds a class session teaching staff about how to do blood draws, looking at the results under the microscope and explaining the pathology. He was assisted by vet intern; Lauren Termine. We discussed diseases, cells, and he answered many questions. We are so grateful to have Dr. Volz.

Dr. Volz has treated our animals for over 18 years! For us and I am sure countless others, he is truly the best of the best. Too bad he isn't a human physician as well.

*Thank you Dr. Volz!*



# Meet Some of Our Pack

## » *Daniel Beyer*

Born in Grants Pass, Oregon but grew up in Redding, California. After graduating from high school, Shasta Junior College was next for general education. Attended Humboldt State University and received a degree in Forestry and Geology. After a number of years in the forestry industry I attended Chico State University where I earned my K-14 teaching credential and received a degree in Mathematics and Physics. Taught junior high and high school for 25 years and loved every minute

of it. Volunteered for 25 years with the Shasta County Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team. Married for 43 years with two wonderful kids, 37 and 34, and two perfect grandkids, 7 and 5.

Came to the Colorado Wolf and Wildlife Center to volunteer thinking I would have very little contact with wolves but wanted to contribute to a worthy cause. I was pleasantly surprised that I was wrong. But what was the greatest surprise was the exceptional and wonderful people at the center, all working for a common goal. It is a pleasure to come to work and see the enthusiasm and smiles.

## » *Amanda Kalbow*

Growing up on a farm in southeast Texas I have always loved the outdoors and would routinely find myself exploring the woods around our property, investigating interesting plants and searching the creek for aquatic life. My adult life bounced me from Texas to Tennessee and from there to the mountain west, exploring the wilderness every chance I got. During my travels I quickly began to realize how much of our ecosystems need to be protected, so upon settling in Colorado Springs I began working towards my bachelor's degree in Conservation Biology at Colorado State University.



Growing up I had my reservations regarding wolves, primarily because like so many others, I was raised on big bad wolf stories like 'Little Red Riding Hood'. Despite this misinformation my opinion immediately changed when I came for a tour at CWWC and heard that magical howl for the first time. My time teaching others about wolves led me to face my fear of public speaking and solidified that I will always be an advocate for preserving our endangered species and fragile ecosystems. Upon graduation from CSU, I hope to gain a position planning and implementing conservation projects across the Rocky Mountains, believing that together we can leave the world a better place than how we found it.

# Our Sweet Sage Needs A Home!

Sage was previously posted in January 2021. She has been at the Morgan County Animal Shelter in West Virginia since January, and the Staff now has a much better assessment of her behaviors and personality. She is approximately 2 years old. Sage is a wonderful and sweet wolf dog who needs a home. She should NOT be placed with other female dogs, cats, or small dogs. She will be neutered this week and brought up-to-date on her rabies shot. She is partially house-trained but still needs some work. The Shelter is waiting on her Embark Test results to determine her exact wolf content. This girl is a beautiful wolf dog and can be placed in the right home in a safe and legal area. She will need appropriate, secure containment. If you are able to help Sage, please contact Susan Weidel at [sweidel@wolfsanctuary.net](mailto:sweidel@wolfsanctuary.net); [weidel@uwyo.edu](mailto:weidel@uwyo.edu)

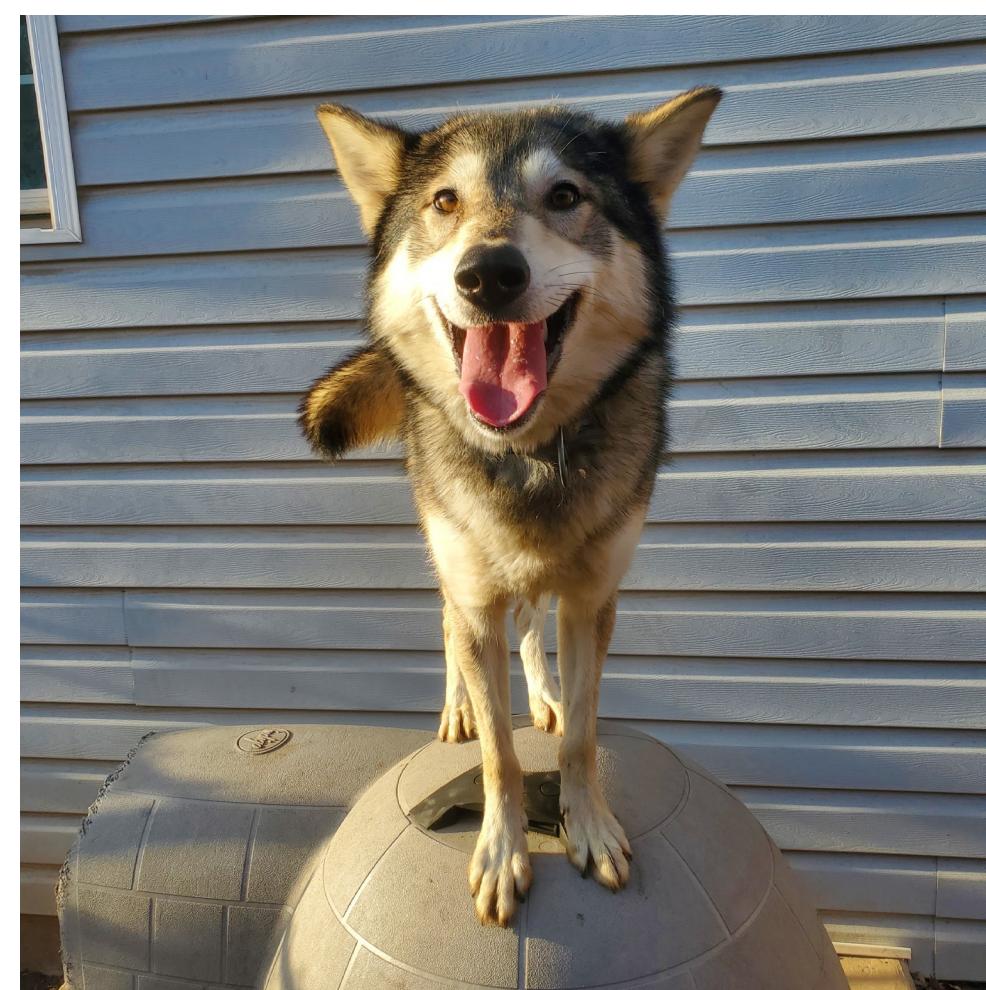
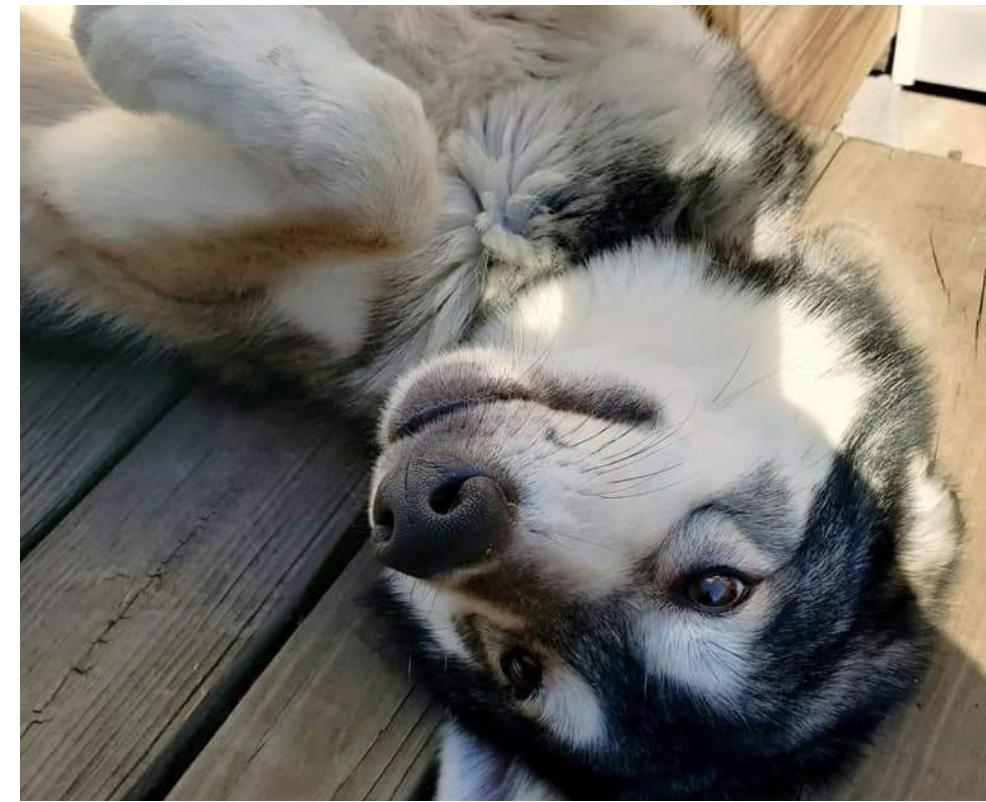
You may already be aware of Sage. We have better and more updated information now, and I'm a LOT more educated about wolf/dog mixes than I was. I am still nowhere near an expert on these animals, and never will be, but we know much more about Sage and wolf/dog mixes as a whole than we did months ago.

We have had Sage since early January. She was picked up as a stray and never reclaimed. Immediately we had suspicions that Sage may be a wolfdog or possibly coydog mix. One of our rescue partners/volunteers ordered a DNA test through UC Davis. We got the results back a month later, and they were pretty useless. They confirmed she was a "hybrid" (which I've learned is detrimental and outdated verbiage) but didn't provide percentage or any other breed identification. We sent out another DNA test through Embark and will hopefully have percentage information and any other breed identification back within the week.

Sage is around 5 years old. Originally, we estimated her to be younger. The longer she's been here, the more comfortable she's gotten around us and I've been able to physically assess her more thoroughly. She goes in to get spayed tomorrow. It was difficult finding a vet willing to spay/vaccinate her, but we were able to find one about an hour away from us. I'm hoping once she is spayed and vetted it will make it easier to find placement.

Sage is more dog in personality than anything else. She loves people. She thrives off of being around people and prefers to lounge in our office with us than be outdoors. She enjoys her time outside when the weather is nice, but she will pick a soft bed inside over being outside. She is never let out in our main yard off leash (4ft fence), but we do let her run around in our side yard (6 ft fence) when we're outside with her to keep a very close eye on her. She's been on a few outings with us to get lunch, go to the local Tractor Supply Store, etc. and is always very well behaved. She's not a huge fan of car rides but tolerates them well. We always double leash her with a harness and slip lead, and she does well on a leash. She loves soft beds, and hoards any and all squeaky toys she can get her paws on. She is also a treat maniac. She is not potty trained very well. Some days she has no accidents, other days she finds a nice secluded and hidden spot to use the bathroom.

Sage has NOT liked any other female dog since she's been here. I think she's gone through heat since we've had her (it's that time of year). I also think she is just a very domineering female and won't tolerate other female dogs well. She seems to tolerate males much better and is even playful with the male dogs through the kennel. I think she would enjoy a male buddy as long as she had an opportunity to properly acclimate to him. She isn't a fan of our office cat and is dangerously curious of him. We have kept them totally separated since we've had her. If Sage is in the office, Franklin is in our medical room. I would imagine she wouldn't do well with smaller animals like cats or chickens.



# Adoption corner

## TCRAS

Teller County Regional Animal Shelter

tcrascolorado.org · 719.686.7707

## SLVAWS

San Luis Valley Animal Welfare Society

slvaws.org · 719.587.woof (9663)



[ UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE: - Our shelter is open BY APPOINTMENT ONLY - PLEASE CALL before coming to the shelter for any reason - 719-686-7707 ]

### AETHER »

AGE: 2 years 3 months

SEX: Female/Spayed  
Domestic Shorthair/Mix

I love people and enjoy to show off my beautiful fur! I really love to rub against my human friends with a big ol' purr. I'm lots of fun and love to play!

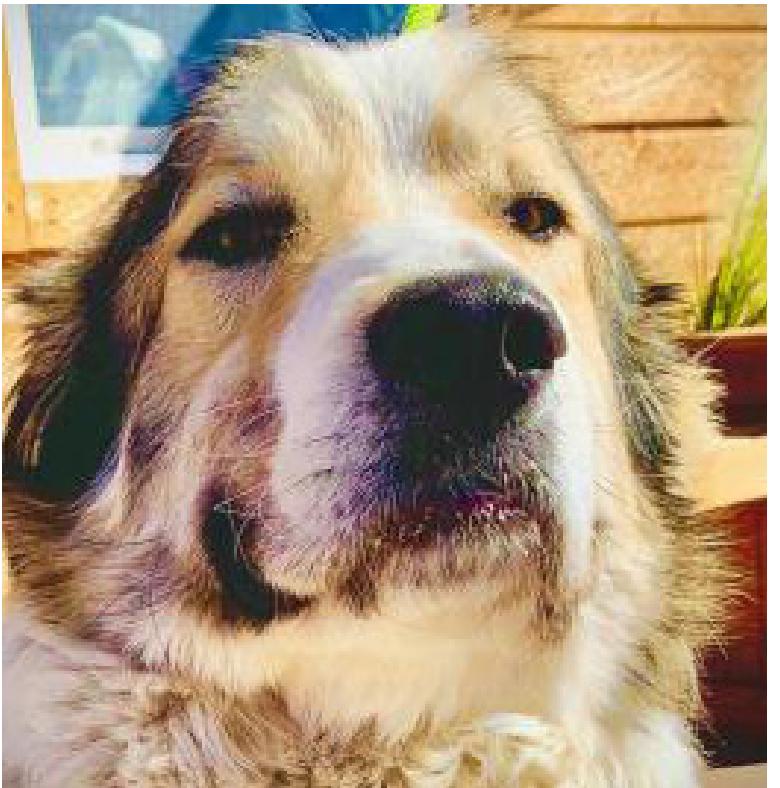


### « DAISY MAE

AGE: 1 year 8 months

SEX: Female/Spayed  
Great Pyrenees/Mix

I'm a gorgeous Pyrenees mix which makes me perfect for the cold weather up here! I love nothing in this world more than some affection and I'm extremely laid back. I LOVE to explore and I've figured out that I'm big enough to jump most fences. If you would like to know if your home is suitable for me, call my friends at (719)686-7707 to get more information!



### SPARKY & SPARKLES

These one year old best friends want to go home together. Sparky and Sparkles (the surrendering family's children named them) are not good with cattle. Sparky is a pure bred Australian Cattle Dog. Sparkles is a border collie/aussie. They are very well socialized and always excited to see you. Neutered, spayed, microchipped, vaccinated. Beautiful pups!!!!