



## Just Look at Us Now! One Year After the Catskill Game Farm Auction

### TRACKING THE LARGE CATS

A year ago, Wildlife Watch was instrumental in getting three African lions, three mountain lions, and one black leopard from the Catskill Game Farm in upstate NY to The Wildcat Sanctuary in Sandstone, MN. [www.wildcatsanctuary.org](http://www.wildcatsanctuary.org). We've been staying in touch throughout the year and recently we checked in with Tammy Quist, the Director of the sanctuary to find out how the cats were.

Here is what Tammy reported:

Many positive changes have taken place for the Catskill Cats since they arrived at The Wildcat Sanctuary in Minnesota last December. We have seen the spirit awaken in each of these special animals and we are honored to be part of it. The Sanctuary strives to provide enjoyment to each cat through enrichment, natural habitats, and neighboring friends.

#### Shazam

Shazam, the leopard, has made a huge breakthrough. When Shazam first arrived from the Game Farm, he had emotional wounds – fear and an inability to trust. He was very unsure towards his keepers and aggressive when they approached. He would throw himself against the fence and foam at the mouth. It was difficult to even approach his enclosure to give him water. Now he rubs happily and vocalizes when the keepers come around. He is also playing with his neighboring jaguar, Diablo Guapo, through the fence quite a bit. They run up and down and then jump up playfully. He makes a new, happy chirping sound, and is much more relaxed.

A large new enclosure and new neighbors brought these welcome changes to the attitude of Shazam, the leopard. The neighboring jaguar and tiger have both encouraged Shazam to be a more playful leopard with confidence to match. With the help of these friends, and some of his favorite enrichment items like pumpkins, scents, and his fire hose hammock, he now is starting to trust his keepers.



Shanti Deva and Aslan snuggle together

#### Aslan's Pride

Aslan and his lionesses, Asha Ann Shanti Deva, had terrible facial scars while they lived at the Catskill Game Farm, caused by their incessant, frustrated rubbing against their too-small enclosures. Now, those scars have healed, and their days are filled with fun.

Whether it be large plastic eggs, jollyballs, or milk cartons covered with cologne, Shanti Deva can be found playing soccer with her toys throughout the day. Asha enjoys her day by tearing up her plastic kiddie pools, cooling off with her scenticles and roaring with Aslan and Shanti Deva.. And Aslan loves his scents, too. His favorites include rubbing on his Vicks scented toys and rolling in boxes of catnip. Whatever the scent, at the end of the day Aslan's mane is likely to be covered with pleasing spices.



Here is Shanti Deva today playing with her ball and Asha in the inset eating her pool.

Tammy's very sad motto is:

"They will never know freedom. Can they at least know compassion?"

We encourage you to put all of the sanctuaries mentioned here on your Holiday Contribution List. - Oh, and please don't forget Wildlife Watch!

#### The Cougars

Matty and Mia were extremely thin when they left Catskill Game Farm, and Mia's coat was patchy and ratty-looking. Max was afraid of everyone and even his own shadow. Both girls have put on weight now, and their coats have improved. Matty, the young one, is so active. And although she is elderly, Mia is like a young cat these days. You would never know that Max, Mia, and Matty were the same cats as before.

All three cougars now live together and they sure do have fun with their enrichment activities. Anything destructible is what Matty chirps for.

She enjoys ripping up the pages of phonebooks, shredding boxes, and tearing up her paper maché. Mia's philosophy - everything is more fun when it has a little Lawrys seasoning salt sprinkled on it. This seasoning will keep her busy for quite a while. A PVC tube enclosing spices is an enrichment toy Max can't pass up.

All the cats have made great strides at The Wildcat Sanctuary, but we still need to build the lions their new habitat. If you'd like to help these wonderful animals to live fuller, happier lives, please visit [www.wildcatsanctuary.org](http://www.wildcatsanctuary.org). All the big cats will thank you.



Matty



Max



Mia

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