



# Camp Cat Rescue Project

# The Cat Breeding Cycle

Cats can get pregnant at just four months of age (kittens can have kittens!).

Cats are seasonal breeders and enter their reproductive cycle in spring as daylight starts to lengthen, and stops in late Autumn when daylight is reduced. This explains why new litters of kittens are typically seen between April and September.

An average cat has 1-8 kittens per litter (4 is average) and 2-3 litters per year.

**If a cat has 4 kittens per litter, they produce 8 to 12 kittens per year!!**

# Background: Fall of 2022 at Camp

- Over the summer of 2022, MANY new kittens were born, setting the stage for a population explosion in the spring of 2023.
- Cats (juvenile and adult) are commonly seen across camp.
- The actual number is unknown, but the cat population estimate ranges from 30 to 50 (PCP).



# Goal: Manage the camp cat colony to:

- Prevent a cat population explosion in spring and summer of 2023.
- Obtain medical care for colony cats, spaying/neutering, vaccinations, ear mites, fleas and other medical issues.
- Formalize feeding and hydration year round.
- Provide warm shelter space during the winter, including provision of 9 temporary shelters in storage bins.

## Summer of 2023

- Work to identify new born or young kittens camp wide, before they reach 5 weeks of age.
- Develop a plan for identifying pregnant cats asap, so that cats can be brought into a fostering program before birth, or shortly thereafter.

# Community Partners:

- The Palmerton Cat Project (PCP) – Trapping, fixing/spaying and medical care for ferals—they provided us MANY resources including traps, cat food, heated water bowl and \$\$\$ for spaying/neutering.
- Carbon County Friends of Animals (CCFOA)-provided temporary shelter and resources for MANY of the rescues.
- Angie's Cat Rescue/Lehighon Animal Hospital (fostering 3 cats to socialize them prior to adoption)
- Forgotten Felines and Fidos (FFF) low cost spaying/neutering and medical care-(funded by PCP).

# Sally

## Trapped Cat #1 (FEMALE)

- (Ang-Jeff), now at CCFOA, needs to be re-released in the spring.
- She has been away from camp since Nov 1, but we are waiting to re-release her until spring to avoid weather shock.



# Bonnie

## (Trapped Cat #2FEMALE)

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- Jeff arranged medical care of this 12 week old girl.
  - Now in PERMANENT HOME!!!



# Taboo

## Trapped Cat #3, (FEMALE)

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- Jeff arranged spaying, medical care and Angie has Taboo in a foster home to be socialized for adoption!



## Clementine AND Billy Trapped Cats #4 (FEMALE) and #5 (MALE)

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- Jeff arranged spaying, medical care and Angie has Clementine and Billy with Taboo in a foster home to be socialized for adoption!



# Alice

## (Trapped Cat #6 FEMALE)

- Angie and CCFOA tried to socialize her, but she really wanted to be back at camp.
- AND, she has been re-trapped TWICE already..lol



# Ziggy Trapped Cat #7 (MALE)

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- PCP. now at CCFOA being socialized for adoption!!



# Abby

## Trapped Cat #8 (spayed FEMALE)

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- Upon arrival at FFF, it was determined that she was tipped already. So they treated her ear mites, and she was re-released at Graver's Orchard barn.



# Kater JR Trapped Cat #9 (MALE)

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- PCP and CCOA, re-released to camp!



# Sandy Trapped Cat #10 (MALE)

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- PCP re-released to camp!!



# Clyde, Trapped Cat #11 (MALE)

PCP -re-released at camp 1/06.

Also, Clyde was re-trapped again on 2/1 and was brought to the vet one more time due to a large abscess on his head. He was treated and re-released on 2/3!



# Zoltan

## Trapped Cat #12

### (MALE)

- 
- PCP., CCFOA now being socialized for adoption!!



# Diamond

## Trapped Cat #13

(FEMALE)

- PCP, re-released at camp 1/6

Diamond is VERY friendly and has many camp friends. One orange cat ran out to rub tails with her when she was re-released!



# Bonnie

## Trapped Cat #14

### (FEMALE)

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- PCP, re-released at camp 1/6



# Lyle

## Trapped Cat #15 (MALE)

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- PCP, re-released at camp 1/6



# Annie

## Trapped Cat #16 (FEMALE)

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- PCP, re-released at camp 1/9



# Rip

## Trapped Cat #17 (MALE)

- PCP, re-released at camp 1/18



# Winston

## Trapped Cat #18

### (MALE)

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- PCP, re-released at camp 1/18
- In addition to being fixed and vaccinated, Winston was treated for a wound to his right rear leg.



# Sadie

## Trapped Cat #19

### (FEMALE)

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- PCP, re-released at camp 1/18



# Percy

## Trapped Cat #20

### (MALE)

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- PCP, was at CCFOA being socialized in hopes of adoption! BUT, it didn't work out and he was re-released at camp in late January.



# North

## Trapped Cat #21 (MALE)

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- PCP, re-released at camp 2/01, after being fixed and receiving medical care for a head injury.
  - I have seen him around and his recovery is going well!



# Tilta

## Trapped Cat #22 (FEMALE)

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- PCP, re-released at camp 2/01
  - In addition to being treated for fleas, vaccinated and spayed, a metallic wire was found stuck in her abdomen. The vet removed it.



# MaGraw

## Trapped Cat #23

### (MALE)

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- PCP, FFF, re-released at camp 2/10



# Gender Tally as of February 10, 2023

- Male: 11
  - Female: 11
  - Already spayed: 1
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- ALL trapped cats have been spayed/fixed now!

# Where are they now??

- Forever home: 1
- Fostering at:
  - Angies Cat Rescue to socialize for adoption: 3
  - SOAR: 1
  - Carbon County Friends of Animals: 1
- Re-released to Graver's Orchard barns: 2
- Re-released to Camp Colony: 15
- 23 total as of 2/10/2023



# Spaying and Neutering Impact

- As of February 10, 11 females will NOT be having kittens this year!
- **11 cats would have produced 8 to 12 kittens each this year, which means 88 to 132 kittens will NOT be born at camp this spring!!**
- **HOWEVER, numerous untipped/unspayed cats REMAIN at camp, so we need to keep trapping to keep the population under control, but we won't have to trap as frequently going forward.**

# Money, time and resource contributions by organization:

- The Palmerton Cat Project (PCP) – Trapping, fixing/spaying and medical care for ferals—they provided us MANY resources including traps, cat food, heated water bowl and \$\$\$ for spaying/neutering. **50%**
- Carbon County Friends of Animals (CCFOA)-provided temporary shelter and resources for MANY of the rescues. **40%**
- Angie's Cat Rescue/Lehighton Animal Hospital (fostering 3 cats to socialize them prior to adoption) **10%**