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# AT A GLANCE

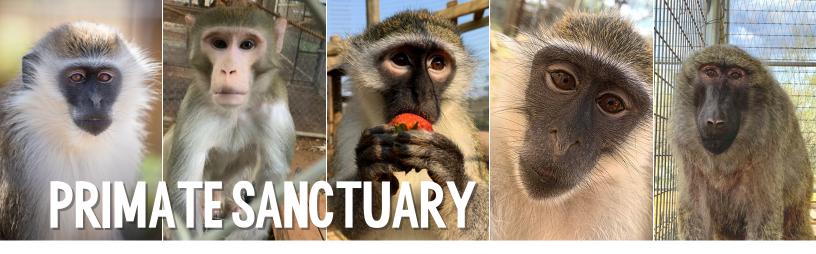
**Rescued** five monkeys and brought them to the primate sanctuary, where they will enjoy a spacious, natural home for the rest of their lives.

**Delivered** crucial wildlife law enforcement trainings in West Africa that resulted in the successful seizures of hundreds of trafficked animals and thousands of pounds of wildlife parts in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, and Nigeria.

**Campaigned** for the passage of eight important federal bills, which address a wide range of wildlife issues, including captivity, trapping, wildlife trade, and endangered species protection.

**Published** a new report exploring the cruelty and danger of primate pet ownership, drawing together expert voices from the fields of primatology, rescue and care, rehabilitation, and law enforcement, and a former "pet" monkey owner.

**Defended** North American native wildlife by preventing lethal wildlife culls in Canada and through an educational campaign focused on how these animals form a vital part of their ecosystems, how their survival is under threat from human activity, and how we can help them.



2021 was a year of new starts at our primate sanctuary. We welcomed five new monkeys over the course of just a few months during the summer and made important additions to our team to strengthen and improve our overall care of the monkeys and the management of our 175-acre site.

A reminder that the cruel trade in primates as pets is still going strong, we were asked to provide a forever home to four former "pet" monkeys over the course of the summer: Kiki, Gambit, Maliki, and Willis. All of them had been kept in inappropriate conditions in private homes – Willis kept illegally – and all of them arrived with health or welfare problems that our team began work to manage. Sadly, Maliki passed away soon after arrival from a heart condition that had gone undiagnosed and untreated for a long time. We take solace in the fact that, during his few weeks with us, he finally experienced life outside of a tiny cage, was able to run, jump, and play, and be alongside others of his own kind. Maliki's short life and untimely passing makes us even more determined to end the cruel trade that imprisons thousands of monkeys in homes around the country.

The other three former pets have happier stories. Vervets, Kiki and Willis, rescued from Dallas, TX and Chicago IL, respectively, are thriving in their new homes. They have made friends with other monkeys and spend their days eating, climbing, exploring, sunbathing, and playing in their forever home.

Gambit, a rhesus macaque who was locked inside a tiny 3' x 4' x 2' cage for more than three of his five years, arrived in July and is slowly settling into life at the sanctuary. Gambit carries with him significant trauma from his past life, and socialization for him is more of a challenge. As he gradually begins to feel more comfortable around other monkeys, we are delighted to see him gain healthy color in his face, put weight onto his previously skinny limbs, and enjoy his large living space alongside other monkeys.

Picassa, a 42-year-old olive baboon, reminded us that it is never too late to make a new start when she arrived to us from a defunct animal sanctuary in Los Angeles CA, in September. Having spent her first years in a laboratory, she was later left without options when the sanctuary she was living in shut down. We were her last resort and were honored to offer her a home to spend her twilight years. We had feared that her advanced age may have caused her health problems but were delighted to find her in robust health, and extremely mobile and inquisitive, despite now being our oldest resident. She is enjoying her new life with us and is gradually being introduced to long-term resident baboon, Betsy. The pair have a combined age of 81, but it does not stop them from living life to the fullest!

As well as monkey additions, our team at the sanctuary grew during 2021. We added a veterinary technician position to support our staff veterinarian, which allows us to provide seven-day-a-week medical cover for the monkeys. In addition, we added two caregivers to our team, and welcomed a Facilities Manager. These new positions reflect our ongoing commitment to constantly building and improving the care we provide to the animals. We hope to see this growth continue into 2022.





In 2021, our campaign work shone a spotlight on the cruelties of trapping, the public danger and animal welfare concerns surrounding the keeping of primates as pets, and the threats facing wildlife species native to the United States. In addition, we continued our work to challenge fur farming, to protect and strengthen the Endangered Species Act, and to speak out against the keeping of big cats in private hands around the country. Reflecting our ongoing commitment to ensure that our campaigns to protect animals have the best chance of success, we also expanded our team mid-year by adding a new Campaigns Associate position.

Early in the year, our groundbreaking report, *Crushing Cruelty: Animal Trapping in the United States*, highlighted the urgent need to ban cruel trapping as we revealed the shameful lack of oversight and regulation of this barbaric practice across the United States. Updating work carried out in 2017, and building upon our 2020 Trap Free Trails campaign, the new report examined laws in every state and found almost all of them lacking. This report is now being used in vital lobbying efforts to introduce new legislation to bring an end to trapping across the country.

Our Big Five, Little Five campaign uncovered the plight of some of North America's most iconic wildlife species – both big and small. From polar bears to raccoons, we explored the ways in which these animals form a vital part of their ecosystems, how their survival is under threat from human activity, and how we can help them. With species-specific calls to action, the aim of our work was a reminder that conservation can start at home.

As the year came to close, our work on primates as pets stepped up, and is set to continue into 2022. A new publication, *Public Danger, Private Pain: The Case against the U.S. Primate Pet Trade*, reported on the impact of the trade in monkeys and apes as pets, and brought together experts in primatology, rescue and care, rehabilitation, law enforcement, and even a former "pet" monkey owner. These people, with diverse expertise and experience, all agree that primates are not pets. The report, which is the first in a series of resources that we will be releasing in the coming year, is a vital tool in our lobbying efforts to see the Captive Primate Safety Act passed into law. The Captive Primate Safety Act would ban private ownership of primates and most public interaction with them in setting such as zoos and other entertainment venues. There are likely thousands of monkeys kept in private homes in the United States. In the coming years, we hope to see an end to the suffering of these complex, sentient animals with the passage of this important law.



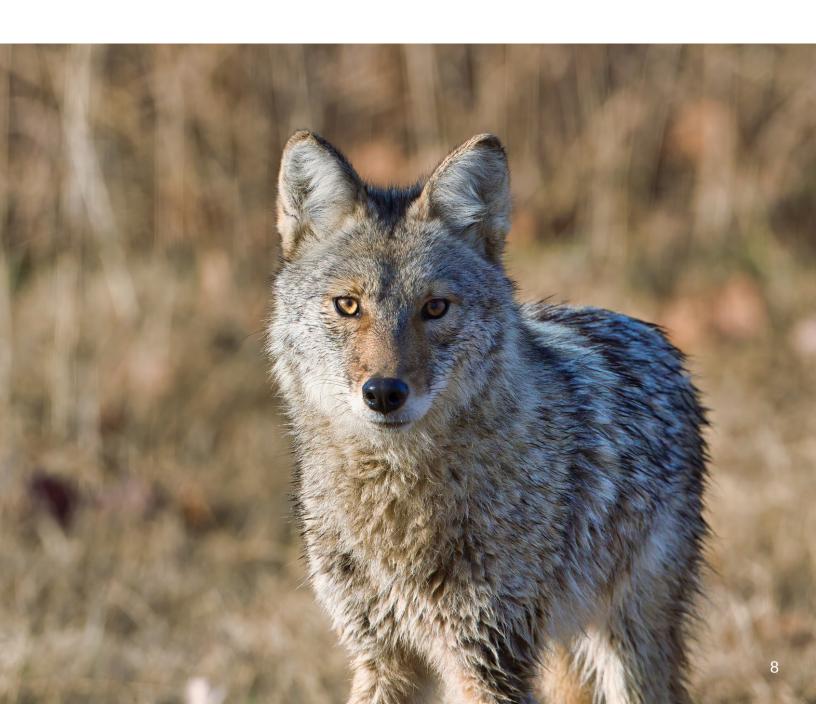
The Big Cat Public Safety Act (H.R. 263/S. 1210): Reintroduced in both the House and Senate in early 2021, this popular bill would strengthen existing law to prohibit the private possession of big cat species. This bill also bans public contact of big cats – such as cub petting and photo ops – which drives the rampant, irresponsible breeding and interstate trade of captive big cats in the U.S. Big cats, such as lions, tigers, leopards, and pumas are not pets, and keeping them in captivity is both cruel to the animals and potentially dangerous to the public. At the end of the 116th Congressional Session (2019-2020), this bill passed the U.S. House of Representatives under suspension with a strong bipartisan vote of 272-114. Unfortunately, because there was not enough time in the remainder of the legislative session for the U.S. Senate to take up the bill, it had to be reintroduced last year. We are working with our House and Senate champions on potential pathways forward for the bill to ensure passage before the end of the current Congress.

Captive Primate Safety Act (H.R. 1588/S. 3135): The Captive Primate Safety Act was reintroduced in the House and Senate in May 2021. This version of the bill has been updated to align it more closely with the Big Cat Public Safety Act. This bipartisan, bicameral bill now fully prohibits the private possession of all nonhuman primates, which would effectively eliminate these wild animals entirely from the dangerous and cruel exotic pet trade. Born Free USA was a leader in crafting the updated text, and this issue remains close to our hearts due to the dozens of rescued former pet monkeys at our primate sanctuary. On July 29, 2021, the Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee of the House Natural Resources Committee held a hearing on the bill. We once again offered our strong support and endorsement of the bill.

The Refuge from Cruel Trapping Act (H.R. 4716): Reintroduced in the House in July 2021, this bill would prohibit the possession or use of body-gripping traps – including steel jaw leghold traps, Conibear kill traps, and snares – within the National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS). There are currently 568 refuges that make up the NWRS, and these refuges contain one of the most diverse collections of fish and wildlife habitats in the world, providing homes for more than 700 bird species, 220 mammals, 250 reptiles and amphibians, 1,000 fish, and 380 endangered species. Refuges are also popular tourist destinations, with more than 61 million visits every year – visitors who bring their families and beloved pets to experience our native flora and fauna. And yet, trapping is allowed within the NWRS, with trapping currently occurring on 242 refuges – approximately 43% of the entire system. The use of these cruel, indiscriminate traps violates the mission of the NWRS and is a threat to the safety of wildlife, humans, and pets. Born Free USA has long been a leader against cruel, indiscriminate trapping; we worked with Congressman Jerold Nadler (D-NY) on the reintroduction of this bill in 2021 and will be working with that office, the House Natural Resources Committee, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to move it forward in 2022.

The Public Safety and Wildlife Protection Act (H.R. 5578): Introduced in the latter half of 2021, this bill would ban the import, export, or interstate commerce of leghold traps and Conibear traps. Steel-jaw leghold traps and Conibear body-grip traps are the two most widely used traps in the United States. This bill would stop their further spread and offer a buffer to states that ban traps outright or impose stricter trapping regulations than their neighboring states. This bill was first introduced in response to an 11-year-old boy whose arm was caught in a Conibear trap while playing in his backyard in North Carolina. This bill is an important reminder that traps are indiscriminate and brutal by their very nature and should be left to the annals of history. Born Free USA is working with Congresswoman Alma Adams (D-NC) on moving this important bill forward.

Throughout 2021, we also worked on bills to end the shark fin trade in the U.S. (Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act of 2021; H.R. 2811/S. 1106); to rebuild the North Atlantic Right Whale population (The Right Whale Coexistence Act, introduced in 2022); and combat wildlife trafficking (Wildlife Conservation and Anti-Trafficking Act of 2021; H.R. 6059). Lastly, Born Free USA endorsed and worked on the Preventing Future Pandemics Act (H.R. 151/S. 37), a bipartisan bill reintroduced in the House and Senate in early 2021 to address global health risks posed by wildlife markets.



# WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

The Africa Policy and Capacity Building Program team have continued to actively support West African law enforcement authorities in their fight against wildlife crime. Two important grants were secured that will allow us to pursue vital wildlife law enforcement initiatives in West Africa. We were also pleased to witness the positive impact of our capacity building activities in the field, with numerous seizures of illegally traded wildlife and wildlife parts made by officers that were trained by our enforcement experts.

## Grants Secured to Expand Wildlife Law Enforcement Capacity Building Work in West Africa

Born Free USA secured a grant for a West Africa enforcement project funded by the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) of the U.S. Department of State. The project, which is entitled Enhancing Wildlife Law Enforcement Capacity in West Africa, aims to strengthen national and regional responses to wildlife crime in Nigeria, Ghana, Benin, and Côte d'Ivoire, while concomitantly contributing to the implementation of the West Africa Strategy on Combating Wildlife Crime (WASCWC). The WASCWC, which is of critical importance for the region, has now been validated by West African Environment Ministers and will soon be validated by The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and its 15 member States. Activities implemented under this INL project will enable us to support national enforcement authorities through targeted activities aimed at dismantling the criminal networks trafficking wildlife species originating from or transiting through Nigeria, Ghana, Benin, and Cote d'Ivoire, thereby reducing wildlife crime in West Africa and benefiting communities, biodiversity, security, and economies across the region.

In addition, Born Free USA received funding via USAID and will act as an implementation partner for their West Africa Biodiversity and Low Emissions Development (WABiLED) program. This is complementary to the INL work and will allow Born Free USA to continue to work alongside national authorities and stakeholders of ECOWAS member states in their tireless efforts to combat wildlife crime at the regional and national levels. The work will focus on developing National Wildlife Crime Strategies and Wildlife Law Enforcement Task Forces for 13 ECOWAS countries. These countries will also receive support through training programs, strengthening or developing strategies for intelligence data collection and sharing, identifying mentors, developing protocols for collaboration with the West Africa Network to Combat Wildlife Crime (WAN), and providing legal support for legislative amendments as determined on a case-by-case basis.

The INL and WABiLED projects will enable the law enforcement authorities of West African countries to build on the work already carried out by Born Free USA between 2017 and 2020 in 13 ECOWAS countries.

#### Wildlife Seizures in West Africa

Law enforcement officers trained during our workshops immediately applied the knowledge gained and made significant seizures of wildlife and wildlife parts traded illegally in 2021. These included:

#### **Burkina Faso**

- June 8, 2021 555 juvenile spurred tortoises seized by Customs officers in Koudougou (in collaboration with Mali Customs Officers). The tortoises were destined for Togo.
- May 11, 2021 Fourteen elephant tusks seized by Customs officers in Ouagadougou.

#### Côte d'Ivoire

• July 5, 2021 – 344 dried chameleons seized by Customs officers.

#### Guinea

- June 2021 Law enforcement authorities found six warehouses with more than 3,000 logs of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* (an important legume tree) in the Ouré-Kaba area. The logs were were destined for Sierra Leone.
- May 12, 2021 Three trucks full of Pterocarpus erinaceus seized on Faranah- Mamou road. Their destination was Sierra Leone.

#### **Nigeria**

- July 28, 2021 1,918 lb. of elephant ivory and 196 sacks of pangolin scales weighting 15,734 lb., and 410 lb. of pangolin claws seized in Lagos by Nigeria Customs Service.
- **June 26, 2021** 200 grey parrots seized by customs officials in the Katsina area.
- June 18, 2021 Twenty grey parrots seized by customs officers along Katsina to Maradi road, near the border with Niger. Their destination was Europe (country unknown).
- May 11, 2021 One grey parrot was seized at Murtala Muhammed International Airport in Lagos by Nigeria Agricultural Quarantine Service. The destination for the bird was Lebanon.
- March 2021 882 lb. of pangolin scales seized by customs officers in the Northern part of Nigeria.
- January 2021 819,400 lb. of pangolin scales, 2,772 elephant tusk pieces, 11 lb. of rhino horns, dried and fresh animal bones, 227 lb. of skulls suspected to be of lions and other wild cats; and 76 pieces of semi-processed and processed timber, seized by Customs Officer at Apapa Port.

# Attended first-ever online CITES meetings

Born Free USA has continued to support the African Parties in their implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

We attended the 73rd session of the CITES Standing Committee (May 5-7, 2021) and the 31st session of Animals Committee (May 31– June 24, 2021). These meetings were scheduled to take place in 2020 but were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and took place virtually for the first time ever.

The Standing Committee provides policy guidance to the CITES Secretariat and Parties on the implementation of the Convention, oversees the management of the Secretariat's budget, and coordinates the work of CITES committees and working groups.

#### Webinar to Educate about Global Nature Recovery

Born Free USA hosted a webinar on Earth Day 2021 to present Born Free USA's global plan to prioritize wildlife and nature.

This webinar took place on April 22 and explored how stewarding and investing in nature will help restore our Earth. In this context, Born Free USA took the opportunity to reveal exciting information about its Global Nature Recovery Investment Initiative launched in October 2020 in response to the emergence of COVID-19 pandemic. This important initiative encourages international bodies and national governments to prioritize nature recovery and protection.

The vital work of enforcement officers in West Africa was showcased through new footage of their activities. These films also highlighted the challenges they face in performing their duties to fight wildlife crime and conserve nature in the field.

The webinar featured Angela Grimes, Born Free USA CEO; Alice Stroud, Born Free USA Africa Policy and Capacity Building Director; Ian Redmond OBE, Co-founder of Rebalance Earth and Policy Advocate for Born Free Foundation; and John Scanlon AO, CEO of the Elephant Protection Initiative Foundation, Chair of the Global Initiative to End Wildlife Crime, and former Secretary-General of CITES.

#### **Translation of Parts of Our Website into French**

Born Free USA is delighted that the translation agency, TranslationServices.com, has offered to provide us with pro bono support to translate parts of the Born Free USA website into French. This invaluable service will enable us to inform French-speaking partners and members of the public in West Africa and around the world about our work. The new French-language sections of the website will be made available online during 2022.





Throughout 2021, Born Free USA's Canada office took action to speak up for captive wildlife, defend the environment and endangered species from threats, protect wild animals from culling and other harmful forms of "wildlife management," and promote wildlife education.

# **Blocking the Expansion of Private Zoos and Menageries**

A significant victory was achieved late in the year when Reptilia, a private reptile zoo that features live mobile animal programs (MLAPs), tried to get an exemption to zoning regulations so it could set up in downtown Toronto, the country's most lucrative market. Born Free USA's deputation to the city council was deemed crucial to convincing the city hall committee to unanimously vote against allowing Reptilia from moving in. Our effort continues in two other cities in southern Ontario.

Born Free USA also contributed to a successful effort to close a terribly run private zoo, which we had previously helped close down in two previous sites. Following this latest loss, the zoo's owner has vowed not to try a fourth time. Sadly, this vow came too late to save a tiger who was killed when lions entered her enclosure.

# **Protecting Wetlands in Quebec**

Born Free USA was requested to assist environmentalists in Quebec in the fight to protect the last natural wetland on Montreal Island, an urbanized region of 182 square miles with a human population of over two million, but also home to dwindling numbers of wildlife, including wetland birds and monarch butterflies. Called Technoparc, the area adjoining the Montreal airport, was slated for "development" against mounting opposition. Our office wrote a document explaining the importance of small wetlands even when endangered species are present. This and other efforts failed to move the federal government, but amazingly did convince the private landowner, who now claims the property will be protected.

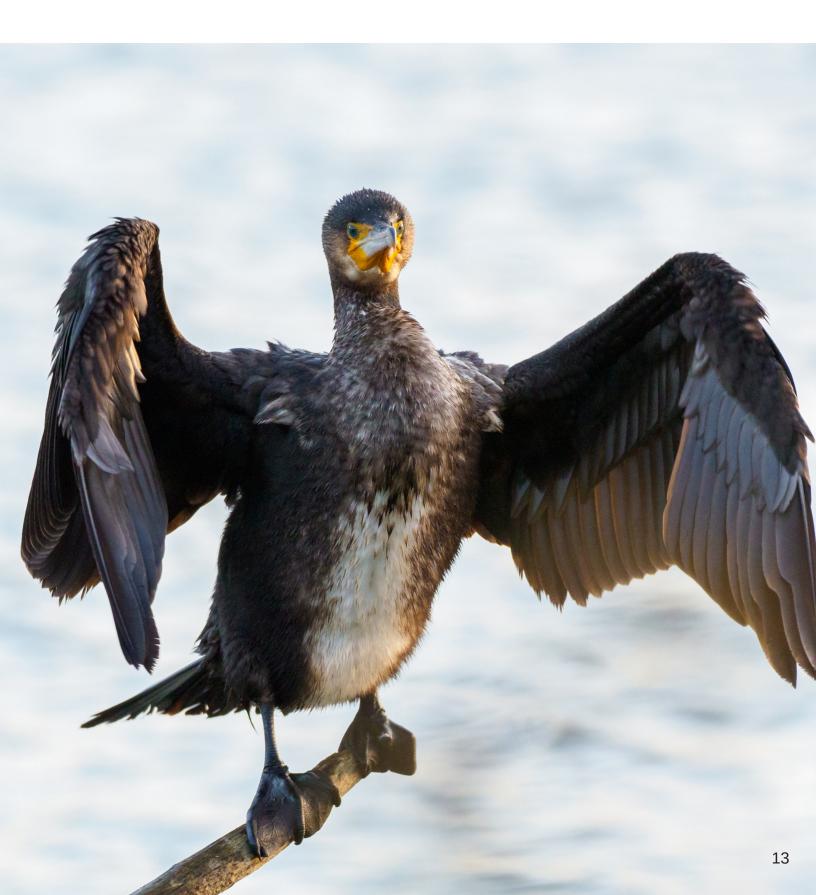
# Promoting Non-Lethal Alternatives to Wildlife Culls in British Columbia

In 2020, we reported the beginning of the immunocontraception program to reduce fertility in mule deer in Oak Bay, British Columbia, an idea Born Free USA helped to promote. The effort is a non-lethal alternative to lethal culling used when we first became involved, and the preliminary results are promising. Information we provided has so far prevented the culling of mule deer in Okotoks, Alberta, and Canada geese in Vernon, B.C.

We are also seeing success in reducing use of cyanide to kill Richardson's ground-squirrels in western Canada. The chemical is no longer manufactured, and our current efforts are directed toward remaining poisons used in wildlife "management" in Canada.

# **Educating the Public about Cormorants**

Born Free USA helped launch the beginning of a "Great Lakes Cormorants" website that seeks, through education, the arts, and entertainment, to "rebrand" the greatly vilified double-crested cormorant, now the only "game" bird in North America that can be hunted, in Ontario, without using the meat, and without controls against extirpation.





### Foundations and Government Support

Ahimsa Foundation American Anti-Vivisection Society Born Free Foundation **Burt Family Foundation Humane Society International** James A. "Buddy" Davidson Charitable Foundation Joselow Foundation Josephine Peiser Charitable Foundation Julius L. and Libbie B. Steinsapir Family Foundation Leuthold Family Foundation Michelson Found Animals Foundation National Anti-Vivisection Society The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation **USAID** 

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# **Wildlife Champions**

Fund 4 Habitats Tammy Halaburda Ann Henning

Tom R. and Patricia F. Hodges

Carolyn and James Key

Stacey Kivowitz

Louise Linton

Mary Love

Gary and Karen Martin

Sandra Moss

Zac Roggin

Dr. Waldemar W. Sadowinski Roger and Phyllis Sherman Cyrus and Joanne Spurlino

Vicki Ward

# Special Thanks to Interns and Volunteers

Ruth Montiel Arias Sasha Perry Jennifer Wells

# **Special Thanks to Webinar Participants**

Eric Bear Ralph Chami Jenny Desmond Yanquoi Z. Dolo Kate Gilman Williams

Faizel Ismail Ali Mahama

James Oppong

Jennifer Place

Ian Redmond OBE

Nick Romick

John Scanlon AO

Will Travers OBE

#### **Wildlife Protectors**

Patricia Ampfer

Judy Baker

Anna Bernhard

Susan Bradshaw

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Brady

Ellen Bunch

Renate Maria Buri

Peter Burv

Rhoda Christopher

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Egger

Solana and Maya Galen

Robert J. Garbacz

Linda Gibboney

Jody Gurin

Margaret Hassett

June Heilman

Janis & Alan Menken

Alydia Jardine

Carol Kauffman

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Erika Norwood

Mary OHearn

Leslie O'Loughlin

Geoffrey F Peters

Thomas Plant

Michael Ouintero

Sandra Rakestraw

Santos Ramirez

Stewart Winter and Joseph Saba

Debra Shearer

**Dorothea Smith** 

Michael and Jean Spence

Mary S. Takaichi

Gretchen Tatsch

Mrs. Ashton Tenney, Jr.

Ellyn Tosh

Carolyn Walker

Alana Willroth

Kelle Young

### **Born Free USA Board**

(As of December 2021)

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Brook Ashley – Board Vice-President

Jessica Nelson – Board Secretary

Christine Perry – Board Treasurer

Will Travers – Co-Founder and Board Member

Jane Lodato – Board Member

Michael Reyner – Board Member

Rebecca Torrey – Board Member

Mary Mitchell Trimble – Board Member

#### **Born Free USA Staff**

(As of December 2021)

Angela Grimes – Chief Executive Officer

Shelley Brend – Wildlife Enforcement Capacity Building Consultant

Nour Al-Hussayni – Primate Caregiver

Manisha Chaudhari – Accounting Clerk

Fritz Comden – Primate Caregiver

Kathryn Conway – Primate Sanctuary Manager

Charles Crump – Facilities Manager

Suzanne Emerson – Individual Giving Manager

Morgan Formicola – Primate Caregiver

Kathleen Johnson – Primate Sanctuary Veterinarian

Julie Kluck – Campaigns Associate

Alison Lamolinara – Primate Caregiver

Karen Lauria – Communications Director

Aurora Luongo – Africa Policy & Capacity Building Program Associate

Barry Kent MacKay - Canadian & Special Programs Director

Rebekah Mix – Sanctuary Veterinary Technician

Jennifer Place – Director of Government Relations

Holly Roberts – Primate Caregiver

Devan Schowe – Campaigns Associate

Alice Stroud – Africa Policy & Capacity Building Director

Rebecca Strunc – Development Assistant

Marius Talla – Wildlife Enforcement Capacity Building Consultant

Jacob Toben – Primate Caregiver

Melissa Tomlinson – Development Director

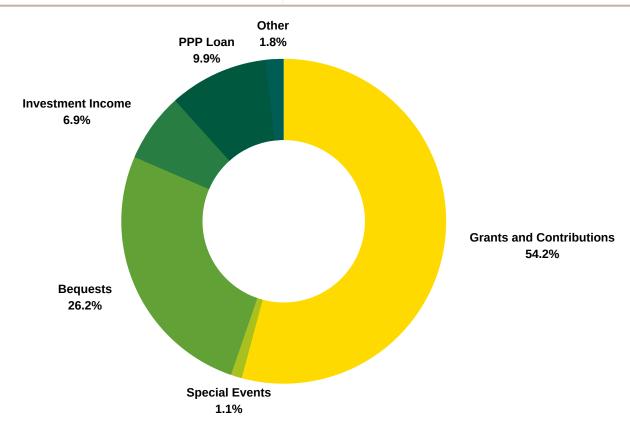
Elizabeth Tyson – Programs Director

Kyliegh Viano – Primate Caregiver





REVENUE SOURCES	AMOUNT
Grants & Contributions	\$990,955
Paycheck Protection Loan	\$180,248
Bequests	\$479,242
Investment Income	\$125,914
Special Events	\$20,114
Other	\$32,899
TOTAL REVENUE:	\$1,829,372



EXPENSES	AMOUNT
Education & Advocacy	\$766,994
Rescue & Care	\$929,166
General & Administrative	\$162,730
Fundraising	\$275,087
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$2,133,977

