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RECIPIENT OF THE
EMERALD AWARD



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NEWSLETTER OF THE COCHRANE ECOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

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ECOLOGICAL
INSTITUTE, A
REGISTERED
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[WHAT DOES THE
COCHRANE ECO-
LOGICAL INSTI-
TUTE, CEI, DO?](#)

[RESCUE, CARE
FOR, AND RE-
LEASE WILDLIFE](#)

[BREED ENDAN-
GERED SPECIES
FOR REINTRODUC-
TION](#)

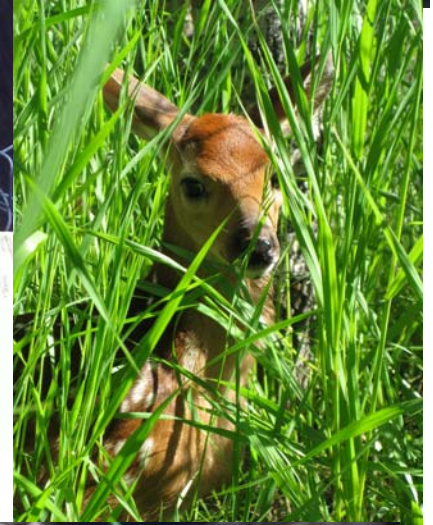
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[WE CAN'T DO ANY
OF IT WITHOUT
YOU ALL](#)

[THANK YOU](#)

Please **DONATE**



**SOME OF THE
WILDLIFE
RESCUED BY
CEI IN 2012!**



Do you know HOW we are helping wildlife?



Just telephone (403) 851 2050 if your dog would like to stay at for HAPPY TAILS RETREAT!



CATS also stay at Happy Tails in their own separate CAT COUNTRY COTTAGE

WEBSITE

www.

happytailsretreat.com

Or talk to Mike by telephone at

(403) 851 2050

WHAT DOES THE COCHRANE ECOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, CEI, DO?

Our Mandate is: *“The Cochrane Ecological Institute- Cochrane Wildlife Reserve Society is devoted to the preservation of biodiversity through the conservation and breeding of endangered indigenous species, environmental impact evaluation, ecosystem restoration through the breeding and reintroduction of extirpated fauna, rescue and rehabilitation and release of injured and orphaned wildlife, public education and field research, and the monitoring of habitat and species through the development of non intrusive survey methods.”* so that is what we do...and we have been doing it since 1971! The CEI has been going so long people forget we're here, so here is a reminder!

OUR PROGRAMMES: *ecosystem restoration through the reintroduction of extirpated*

flora and fauna, SWIFT FOX: Swift foxes, *Vulpes velox*, are the smallest of North America's foxes and are found only on the Great Plains of North America. They are far too small to kill chickens, they eat mice, seeds, berries, insects, they are wholly beneficial



Along with the buffalo, plains grizzly, plains wolf, swift foxes were once common throughout the tall and mixed grass prairies and along the eastern foothills of the Rockies. But by 1930 Swift fox were extinct in Canada and the northern prairie States of the USA.

Miles, Beryl and Clio Smeeton founded the CEI in 1971 with the specific purpose of breeding endangered indigenous animals for reintroduction back onto their historic range: Ecosystem restoration through reintroduc-

tion. This had never been done before. Because of the CEI's initiative in establishing a swift fox captive breeding programme (1971) the existence of this swift fox colony pushed the Federal & Provincial governments into implementing a Swift fox Reintroduction Programme (1984-1997) in Canada which was the first of its kind. CEI was approached by the Blackfeet for a swift fox reintroduction in the USA (1997-2003) the Blackfeet-CEI Swift Fox Reintroduction, also a First, followed by the Blood Tribe CEI Swift fox Reintroduction (Kainaii Siinopaa Reintroduction) 2002-2005, Swift foxes are now found on the Canadian prairies once more. Swift fox are only back on the northern prairies of Canada and the USA because they were put back there; from being extinct, they were reintroduced. It is the most successful programme and the only successful reintroduction of a canid (dog-like species) in the world. BUT there are still not many of them running free on the northern prairies, as they have an estimated population of only 1,140 individuals on both sides of the Canada-USA Border. This tiny population might have been a self sustaining one, but only if the animals were strictly protected. Unfortunately, their survival success has worked against them. The swift foxes have proven by surviving, breeding and successfully rearing their young in the wild, that it is possible to successfully reintroduce and extirpated (extinct in it's range) species. It is up to Canada and the USA to protect the swift fox now, and sadly that is not happening. Montana reopened the swift fox trapping season in 2010 and Canada, by changing their status to Threatened, has removed the small protection that an Endangered Listing gave Swift fox under the Species At Risk Act. **If you care, please write to your MLA and your MP**



HOW BIG IS A SWIFT FOX?

..ecosystem restoration through the breeding and reintroduction of extirpated fauna

CEI's swift fox captive breeding colony, breeding swift foxes solely for reintroduction, is the longest established and only such colony in the world.



THANK YOU TO

So many people have helped us through the year ! Only a tiny fraction can be thanked in this little space, but we appreciate your help and your donations more than we can say; We could not do what we do without you! You are all **WONDERFUL**. Thank you to our volunteers, overseas and local. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the CEI through Canada-Helps or by sending the CEI a cheque, thank you to: Dennis Mahoney Trucking Ltd. Gérard Talbot, N. Sher, Tail Blazers, PetLife, Eden Conservation Trust, DatMedia, Dawn Locke, Catriona Matheson, Ed & Trina Jervis, Bonnie Isacsson, Candice Cook, Liana Tempamy , Cynthia Simmons , David & Diana Ballard, Philippe Widling Calgary Science School, Nancy Janes, Sally and Bear Quon, Harper Lee, P Ford, Janine Kerrigan, Courtney Funk, Deanne Ivany, Roger Radford, Pansy Queng, Elbow Valley School, Dan & Rita Gross, F. Wortman-



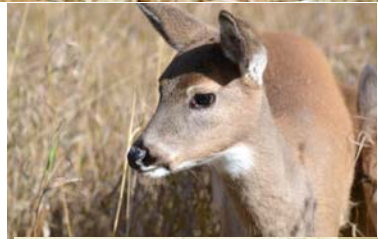
Waiting to get better



Waiting to grow up



Wild animals, adults and orphans, get injured or are orphaned as result of various kinds of human/wildlife conflict. The goal of the CEI's *rescue and rehabilitation and release of injured and orphaned wildlife* programme is to rescue them, rear them, and successfully return them to the wild in a suitable area. We have been doing this successfully since 1972! We never know what we are going to receive, so often it means building different enclosures to house different species. It also means keeping the orphans until they are old enough and have the proven skills to survive. In the case of some species this can take years! It means researching suitable release sites and release methodologies. Ours is a valid conservation goal, but one that our government does not fund. It is also very important to monitor their survival post-release so that we know we are doing a good job!



PLEASE HELP US BY DONATING TOWARDS THIS WORK!



The CEI is a registered Charity #0916387 – 54 and Alberta Society: 5050 75713 Please help wildlife by giving your financial support to the work we do! You can do this :by DO-



NATION on the internet (CanadaHelps) or by MAIL (CEI) P.O.Box 484, Cochrane T4C 1A7

Alberta's tax credit has increased by more than 60 per cent for total annual charitable donations over \$200. Including the federal tax credit, Albertans receive a 50 per cent non-refundable tax credit for every dollar donated over the \$200 threshold. This includes donations made on or after January 1, 2007.

<http://www.culture.alberta.ca/communityspirit/taxcredit.aspx>



The engine which supports the day to day work and expenses of the CEI is **HAPPY TAILS RETREAT**, our dog and cat (and turtle and rabbit) boarding facility. **HAPPY TAILS RETREAT** has two separate buildings, one for cats and one for dogs! For our **DOG** guests we have individual enclosures with outdoor/indoor access, in-floor heating and, as well, for social dogs, a large, 2 acre, fenced free play area. Dogs go for walks as well.

For **CATS**, we have 11 runs providing floor to ceiling vertical space and window views for the cats to enjoy. **MIKE CURTIS** is the kennel manager; you can reach him at info@happytailsretreat.com or by phone: **403 851 2050**.

REMEMBER, HAPPY TAILS IS WHERE BOARDING YOUR PET HELPS WILDLIFE!



Programmes 2012/13 cont.

and field research, and the monitoring of habitat and species through the development of non intrusive survey methods."



Evaluating the plant communities for the Kainai



WHALEFORCE: Since 1986 the CEI has been running an international cetacean survey (whales, dolphins, porpoises) and monitoring the health of the sea. To do this we need the participation of coastal and blue-water sailors to note down the cetaceans they see and send the information to us. So sailors, come aboard! If you have information or if you want to find out more E-mail us!

..development of non intrusive survey methods.. It is impossible to manage wildlife if no one knows what their population is or what habitat they require. In 2013 CEI plans on producing more ground-breaking developments in non-intrusive survey methods.

..environmental impact evaluation.. Not your usual Environmental Impact evaluation, but still an evaluation of equipment which might cause a potential impact on a wild species. In 2012 the CEI was approached by the government of the USA's Department of Wildland Resources (USDA) to partner them in a 2 year predator research project.



..public education Programmes **Lisa Dahlsiede and Dawn Locke** will be working together on the CEI's educational programmes, so please contact **Lisa** (lisaflaman@yahoo.ca) and **Dawn** (dawn.locke73@gmail.com) to set up your **Experiential Education** programme, for schools, interested community groups and others.