



Jeff Baughman
Field Conservation Coordinator
Co-Chair AZA BFF SAFE and Managed Care Subcommittee



SAFE Managed Care Goals

- ~150-170 BFF kits annually for reintroduction
- 90 kits annually for managed care
- Work with AZA's PMC to maximize genetic diversity
- Improve wellness and welfare of black-footed ferrets in our care
- Increase chances of survival in the wild once released



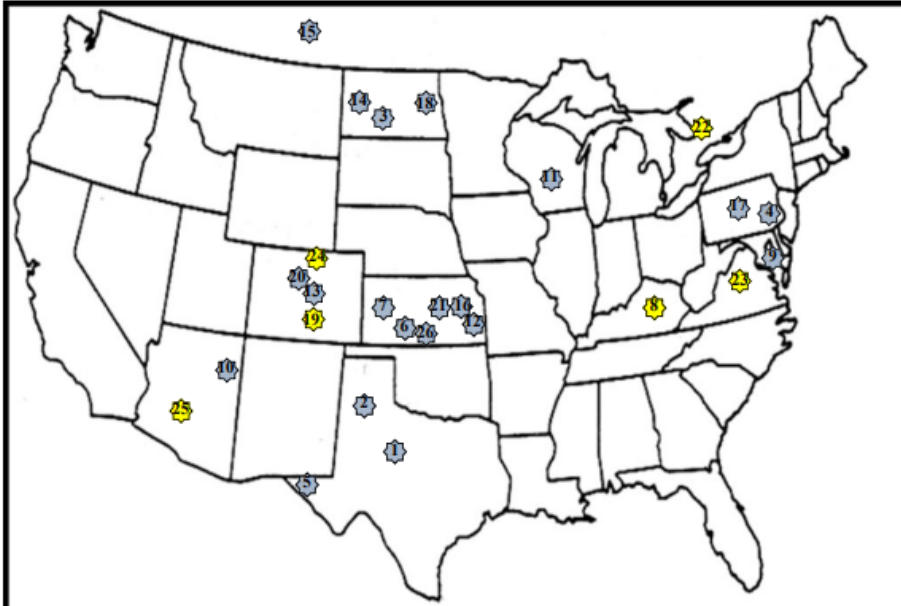
Photo credits: Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Pens at the USFWS NBFFCC

Collaboration

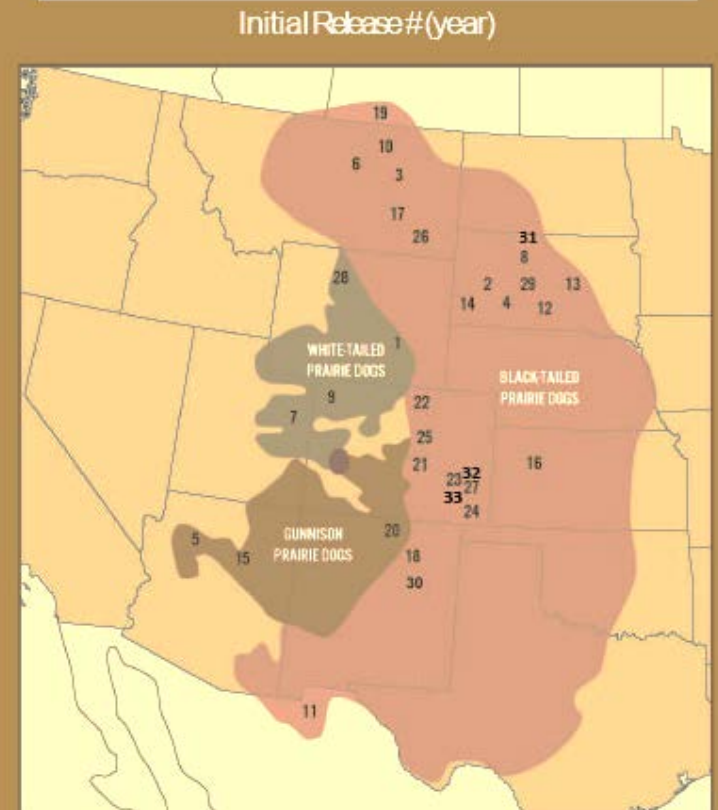
Public/Stakeholder Engagement Objective

Objective	Recovery Plan Relevance
Increase partnerships and communication among the BFF SAFE, display facilities and field partners to strengthen collaborations and efforts made towards BFF recovery	"6.3 of 2013 Recovery Plan (Support site-specific ferret reintroduction efforts and develop an outreach plan to stakeholders that support ferret recovery)"

Live Black-footed Ferret Displays and Managed Care Facilities
 2024



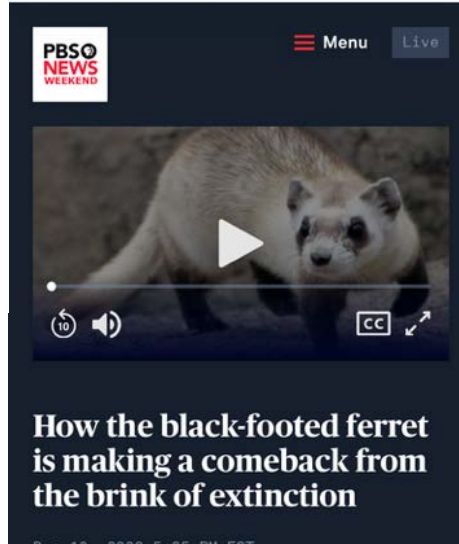
Black-footed Ferret Reintroduction Sites 2023



Community Engagement

Communication/Public Awareness Objective

Objective	Recovery Plan Relevance
Develop and implement effective BFF and prairie ecosystem conservation educational messaging and create a toolkit that can be used to increase public awareness of the BFF recovery program	"6.3 of 2013 Recovery Plan (Support site-specific ferret reintroduction efforts and develop an outreach plan to stakeholders that support ferret recovery)"



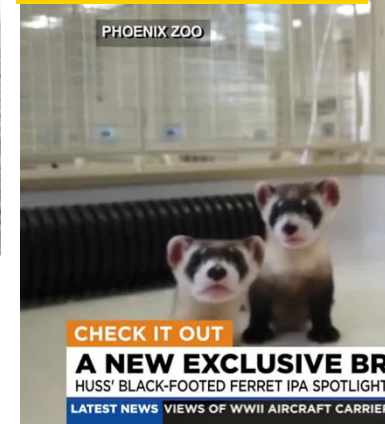
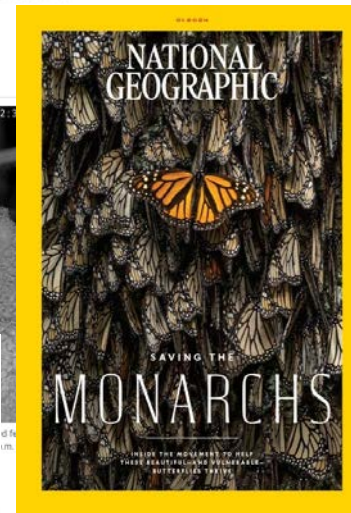
Louisville Zoo releasing 22 baby ferrets into the wild

Share | Updated: 1:36 PM EDT Oct 10, 2020

WLKY Digital Team



SOURCE: Louisville Zoo



Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute

The Kits Can Be Viewed on the Live Black-Footed Ferret Webcam

May 19, 2021 • News Release



TEACHER ACTIVITY GUIDE



Grassland Ecosystems & Black-footed Ferrets



Endangered Species



Mutual of Omaha's Wild Ki...

Posts About Videos More

Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom Dec 19, 2023

Another species among the first to be protected under the Endangered Species Act was the black-footed ferret. Thought to be extinct, it...



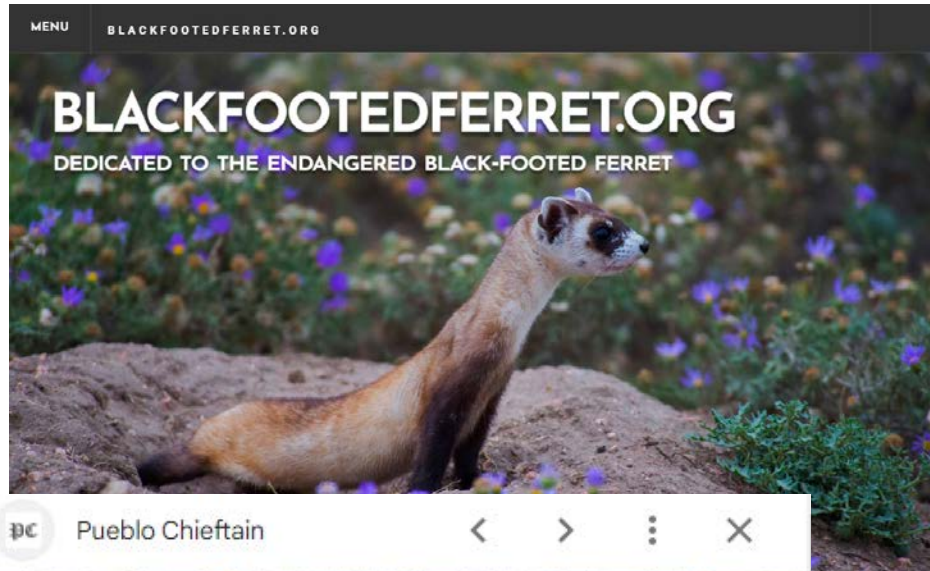
mutualofomaha.com
Return of the Black-Footed Ferret | Wildlife Recovery

Learn more

1.6K

27 comments 162 shares

Community Engagement



Pueblo Depot is new home to 22 endangered black-footed ferrets

[Visit >](#)



CPW

Photo Credit: KRDO

Sept 26th is BFF Rediscovery Day

Trivia

Prairie Species Scavenger Hunt

All of these animals live on or near the prairies where Black Footed Ferrets can be found. We also have them here at the Zoo! How many can you find? Collect a sticker at each one.



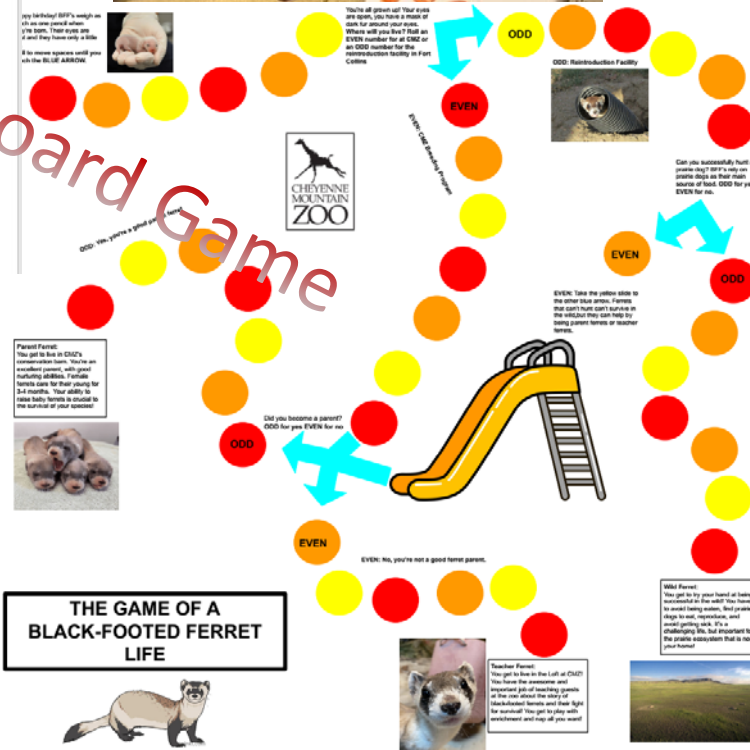
Once you have found them all, head back to the Loft or Scutes Family Gallery to receive your special Black Footed Ferret stamp of completion!

Enrichment with Display



Mask Making

Board Game



Tube Crawl



Prairie Jenga

Innovation

Conservation Objectives

Objective	Recovery Plan Relevance
Increase the number of ferrets available for the reintroduction program by increasing the whelping success rate to 60% at the majority of the BFF breeding facilities by 2026.	"1.5 of 2013 Recovery Plan (Implement breeding strategies to maintain genetic diversity in the captive population while providing suitable genetic and demographic stock for reintroduction programs)"

Assisted Reproductive Technologies

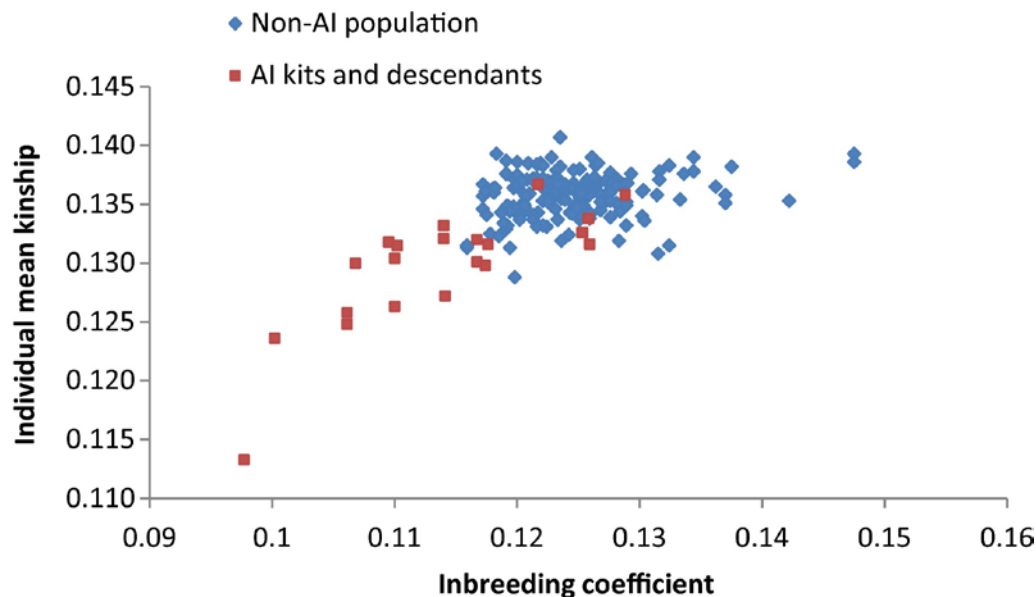
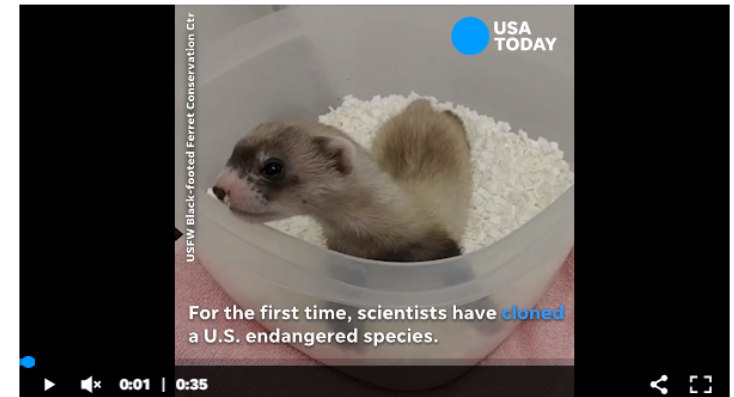


Photo Credit: ZSL Publications-Wisely

Scientists have cloned the first US endangered species: A black-footed ferret that died 30 years ago

Mead Gruver Associated Press

Published 7:38 a.m. ET Feb. 19, 2021 | Updated 9:33 a.m. ET Feb. 19, 2021



Endangered ferret cloned from animal that died decades ago

Elizabeth Ann was cloned from a black-footed ferret that died in 1988. Staff video, Wochit

Scientific Contributions

Scientist saves ferrets from extinction... with sperm

By [Greta Johnsen](#)

Aug 14, 2015, 4:50pm CT

 LISTEN



\$46,042

“Determining Mechanisms of How Diet Influences Fertility and Health in the Endangered Black-footed Ferret”

Home // NPR News



Saving The Native Prairie — One Black-Footed Ferret At A Time

December 01, 2013

By [Elizabeth Shogren](#)



Biologist Travis Livieri checks a briefly sedated ferret's health status inside an improvised trailer clinic. (Elizabeth Shogren/NPR)

\$18,385

“Understanding the ecology of tularemia in endangered in-situ black-footed ferrets and the prairie dog ecosystem”

Additional Research:

- Nutrition
- Genomics
- Biomedical Survey, Disease & Vaccine trials
- AZA 5 Year Program Review
- Field reintroduction, surveys and monitoring
- Bio-banking

Lasting Impact

Funding Objective

Funding Objective:	Recovery Plan Relevance
Increase annual AZA funding support for BFF recovery efforts, including funding for both the <i>in situ</i> and <i>ex situ</i> activities.	"6.4 of 2013 Recovery Plan (Consider funding needs for national and international ferret recovery)"

SAFE Species Program Goal

The goal of the Black-footed Ferret SAFE program is to recover the black-footed ferret (BFF) such that it no longer meets the Endangered Species Act's definition of endangered but is downlisted to threatened. To be able to downlist the BFF, the BFF SAFE program will support recovery of the BFF as outlined in the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Black-footed Ferret Recovery Plan through targeted conservation, public awareness, communication and funding actions.

