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Bobcat rescued from highway

by Ginger Delgado, News2

September 23, 2008

LITTLETON (KWGN) It's not often you see a bobcat crossing a highway, but that's exactly what happened early Tuesday morning in Littleton and it proved deadly for one of them.

Two baby bobcats were hit by a car around 8:45 a.m. on C-470 near Morrison Road. The surviving cat, which broke two of its legs, is being treated at Deer Creek Animal Hospital.

When News2 arrived at the hospital, the baby bobcat was being prepped for surgery. She was heavily sedated under full anesthesia. Dr. Dan Brod, the hospital's veterinarian said, "She has fractured both of her hind legs and our plan is to go in surgically and put stainless steel surgical plates with screws in both of her femurs."

The cat was injured after crossing the busy highway with her sibling, who didn't make it. Animal control officers helped with the rescue and took her to the hospital.

One of the attending nurses said, "We do a decent amount of wildlife here, but this is definitely the first time we've seen a bobcat!"

Dr. Brod estimated the cat's age at 6 to 8 months, the point where she was likely ready to start out on her own. He said even though her x-rays looked severe, her injuries were not critical. "The plan is to do surgery today and then late tonight or tomorrow morning she'll be transferred to an animal rehabilitator, where she'll continue to recuperate for 6 to 8 weeks and at that point, she'll be sent back into the wild.

The Denver Post

C-470 bobcat saved by a whisker

[By Kieran Nicholson](#)

Sept. 24, 2008



Deer Creek Animal Hospital technicians Stephanie Ward, left, and Angie Larson work on a bobcat Tuesday. (Photos by RJ Sangosti, The Denver Post)

Lakewood Animal Control officer Jaime Johnston had never seen a bobcat in 10 years on the job, but Tuesday, she rescued one after it probably had been hit by highway traffic.

A second bobcat was killed on the same stretch of C-470 just north of Morrison Road.

At first, Johnston saw only one cat after the 8:25 a.m. calls, in the northbound lanes huddled against a concrete median and just a few feet from traffic whizzing by.

"We thought it was dead, but it started kind of dragging itself along the median," Johnston said.

The cat wanted nothing to do with its rescuers, but a sheriff's animal control officer got a catch pole around the cat's neck and they got it into Johnston's truck.

"She was very feisty, very alert,"



An X-ray shows the two broken back legs of a bobcat who underwent surgery Tuesday after being rescued along C-470.

Johnston said. "She was doing what she was supposed to be doing, trying to protect herself."

A state trooper found the second cat on the other side of the barrier

Authorities aren't sure when the animals were struck.

The surviving bobcat, an 8-month-old female weighing about 20 pounds, was taken to Deer Creek Animal Hospital, where it underwent surgery for two broken back legs.

It probably will be taken to an animal rehabilitation specialist in Larkspur to recover, said Saul Rosenthal, a hospital spokesman.

Bobcats are found statewide, said Jennifer Churchill, a Colorado Division of Wildlife spokeswoman.

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Injured bobcat saved from road

It suffers broken legs; sibling dies on side of C-470

Bill Scanlon and Alan Gathright, Rocky Mountain News

Sept. 24, 2008

A baby bobcat had surgery on two broken legs Tuesday afternoon after she was rescued from the busy highway C-470 Tuesday morning.

She is about seven months old and her sibling died on the highway.

The animals were hit on the road about a mile north of the Morrison exit.

An alert passer-by spotted the pair of animals against a concrete barrier about 7:30 a.m., said Chana Guy, a Jefferson County animal control supervisor.

Lakewood police and Lakewood Animal Control helped Jefferson County with the rescue and the transport to Deer Creek Animal Hospital.

The cub, which weighs about 10 to 15 pounds, has fractures of the thigh bone of both hind legs, according to veterinarians at Deer Creek.

There are no signs of internal injuries.

She'll recover at the hospital overnight and this morning is scheduled to be transferred to a wild animal rehabilitation center in Larkspur.

The ultimate goal is to return the young cub to the wild once it heals.

There was no sign of a mother bobcat at the scene, but that doesn't mean that she wasn't close by until the animals were hit, presumably by a passing automobile.

"Calls came into our dispatch center that it was a cat (that was hit)," Guy said. "We didn't expect to find a bobcat when we got there."



Brian Lehmann / The Rocky

A young bobcat hit by a vehicle along C-470 near the Morrison Road exit rests after surgery to repair two broken legs at Deer Creek Animal Hospital in Jefferson County. Her sibling kitten was found dead beside the highway.



Brian Lehmann / The Rocky

An X-ray of the bobcat shows the broken bones it suffered. Veterinarian Dan Brod inserted pins and wires into the animal's left hind leg and a screw and pin in the right hind leg.

Bobcats at a glance

- * **Description:** Often mistaken for lynxes, the young can even be mistaken for mountain lions, even though the lions have much longer tails.
- * **Range:** Widely in North America, including all over Colorado.
- * **Habitat:** Most abundant in foothills, canyons, mesas and plateaus, where brush and woodland provide suitable habitat. Tend to avoid open prairies, tundra and wetlands.
- * **Diet:** Primarily rabbits; also mice, voles and birds.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS



- Jefferson County Animal Control

Bobcat killed, sister rescued on C-470

Baby bobcat undergoing surgery for two broken legs

BY ALAN GATHRIGHT

VAIL, CO COLORADO,

A baby bobcat is undergoing surgery for two broken legs this afternoon after she was rescued from the busy highway C-470 this morning.

She is about 7 months old and as cute as a button, despite her injuries.

Her sibling died on the highway.

An alert passerby spotted the pair against a concrete barrier about 7:30 this morning, said Chana Guy, a Jefferson County animal control supervisor.

Lakewood police and Lakewood Animal Control helped Jefferson County with the rescue and the transport to Deer Creek Animal Hospital.

The cub, which weighs about 10 to 15 pounds, about the same as an adult domestic cat, has fractures of the thigh bone of both hind legs, according to veterinarians at Deer Creek. There are no signs of internal injuries.

Guy said Deer Creek Animal Hospital "is just wonderful. They take animals for us all the time."

Dr. Dan Brod is leading the three-hour surgery, which involves resetting the bones, and in the case of one of the legs, inserting some metal plates.

She'll recover at the hospital overnight and in the morning be transferred to a wild animal rehabilitation center in Larkspur.

The ultimate goal is to return the young cub to the wild.

The animals were hit about a mile north of the Morrison exit.

There was no sign of a mother bobcat at the scene, but that doesn't mean that she wasn't close by until the animals were hit, presumably by a passing car.

"Calls came into our dispatch center that it was a cat," Guy said. "We didn't expect to find a bobcat when we got there."

Calls on wounded bobcats are extremely rare, less than one a year, Guy said.

There is open space on both sides of C-470 there, so the bobcats could have come from Dinosaur Ridge or from almost any direction, Guy said.

The Denver Post

Two bobcat kittens hit by traffic in Lakewood

By Kieran Nicholson

Article Last Updated: 09/23/2008 11:34:11 AM MDT



(Jefferson County Sheriff)

A pair of bobcat kittens were hit by a vehicle on a highway in Jefferson County this morning, with one cat killed and the other being rushed to an animal hospital.

The cats were hit at about 8:45 a.m. on C-470 near Morrison Road, said Steve Davis, a Lakewood Police Department spokesman.

The surviving cat is being treated at Deer Creek Animal Hospital, Davis said.

There have been no sightings or reports of the cats' mother in the area, Davis said.

The area where the accident happened is surrounded by open spaces, including Hayden Green Mountain Park and Bear Creek Lake Park.

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KMGH TV 7

Baby Bobcat Rescued After Companion Killed On C470

Animal Taken To Local Vet For Treatment

POSTED: 1:17 pm MDT September 23, 2008

MORRISON, Colo. -- A young bobcat was rescued by Jefferson County Animal Control after a companion was hit and killed on C470 Tuesday morning.

The first bobcat was found dead on the side of the busy highway, just north of Morrison Road. Animal control officers found the second one near the body of the first. One lane of C470 was shut down while officers captured the surviving bobcat.

The bobcat kitten was taken to Deer Creek Veterinary Clinic where it was checked and treated for its injuries. It will be rehabilitated and released into the wild when it is old enough to survive on its own.

Watch a report on this rescue and find out what happens to the bobcat, on 7NEWS at 10 p.m.