Happy Spring PrideRock family! A lot has happened on the refuge in the last few months. Our residents had fun in the snow during the crazy winter weather we had in Texas, and we welcomed a new wolf dog to our pack. We’ve also experienced sadness recently with the loss of our beloved Keisha and Bagherra. But with sadness, comes growth, and we hope to be able to take in new residents here at PrideRock now that extra space has opened up. If you or someone you know has taken in a wild animal as a pet or know of a big cat who needs a new home, we’ve got the room.

With that in mind, please enjoy this edition of our Spring newsletter full of our latest happenings here at PrideRock and ways to help give back!
In February, Texas was slammed with winter weather. We did experience some power outages during the winter storm, but needless to say, our residents LOVED the snow. It’s more than we have seen in a long time and our fur balls kept busy pouncing in the snow, attacking meat snowmen and keeping warm in bundles of hay.

Also, shoutout to PrideRock’s team of interns, volunteers, and staff for working extra hard in the cold to keep these animals warm and happy!
We’re excited to announce that we have a new wolf dog that has joined our pack here at PrideRock. Meet Bear! He’s a young, big and beautiful boy that we already adore. Bear came to us after a young couple here in North Texas learned that caring for a wolf dog is a lot of work, especially for someone as rambunctious as him.

Shortly after joining us, we discovered Bear had heartworms and with the help of our donors, we were able to get him the treatment he needs! Bear is doing much better, loving his new home and we’re happy to have him!

We’re excited to announce that we’ve partnered with a fellow Texas small biz, Rustic Ember. These hand poured soy candles smell wonderfully and we’re thrilled to have created a “PrideRock Wildlife candle” to their mix. When you buy one of these candles, 30% will go back to PrideRock.

Shop the PrideRock candle at Rustic Ember today!
As we talked about, my first week in Texas was during that intense winter storm. In fact, I completed the last large portion of my driving here when the storm had already begun, and Corey was a little concerned that I might be crazy, haha. That first week was intense because on several days it was only Corey, Julia, and myself available for getting everything done, as it was hard for anyone else to make it into work. It was a lot to take in, as I had to learn on the fly and as we did everything we could to keep the animals hydrated and fed, all while trying to decipher what was normal routine and what was purely circumstantial. It was an experience like I had never had to that point, and I know it caused a lot of people various stresses and trouble, but if I had to pick out a positive I would say that it showed people here that I was not going to be easily scared off, and I am willing to be uncomfortable for the animal's well-being.

There are not many places that you can work with tigers, lions, bears, bobcats, hyenas, dogs and wolf dogs, all in the same day. And as someone who has worked with canines before, it has been a great chance to continue building that skillset while getting to build others.

I have also enjoyed the amount of responsibility and autonomy I have been given here. I appreciate that I am able to put the skills I have been learning to use, and be a part of decision making processes regarding animal care. I feel it gives me a better chance to experience what actually working in this field is like than some other internships might.

And of course, as someone who lives on site, my favorite part has to be the evening sounds. There is something magical about seeing the setting sun and hearing a hyena's noises start a lion roar, which starts a wolf howl.
In February, we lost our fierce lioness, Keisha. This has been a hard loss to swallow, especially because we welcomed Keisha as a cub 30 years ago. Keisha lived a good, long life for a lion. (Outside of captivity lions live 10-14 years.)

However, it doesn’t make it easy to lose one of your fur babies. Keisha was our “little tank” because she was so strong and stout. She made her presence known and it was very apparent that Keisha was the boss here at PrideRock. We will miss you, Keisha, but hope that you are living your best life across the rainbow bridge.

Bagherra came to us with Kumal about 10 years ago after their time working in the entertainment business. Bagherra was a sweet boy with a fun personality. We’re thankful he was able to live out the rest of his life in a relaxed environment, which was well-deserved.

Unfortunately, in February of 2021, Bagherra suffered a stroke and crossed the rainbow bridge. While he lived a very long life for a Tiger at 20-years-old, it’s never easy to say goodbye to our fur babies. RIP sweet boy.

We earned our 2021 GuideStar Platinum Seal!

Our organization earned a 2021 Platinum Seal of Transparency! If you’re curious to dig deeper into PrideRock, GuideStar will let you dive in and see our strategy, metrics, and achievements.
As we continue to turn to online shopping more than ever during this pandemic, think about PrideRock next time you shop on Amazon. Be sure to add us as your Amazon Smile Non-Profit. With every purchase you make, Amazon will make a donation to PrideRock Wildlife Refuge. Thank you in advance!

ADD US ON AMAZON

UP TO 50% OFF ITEMS

Have you stopped by our gift shop lately? We are currently running a sale with some items up to 50% off. Looking for a new hat for hitting the lake or pool this summer?

Check out our new PrideRock hats! All proceeds from the gift shop items go directly back to our residents!

SHOP OUR GIFT SHOP

PRIDEROCK WILDLIFE REFUGE - SPRING 2021
Unlike other wildlife refuges, PrideRock is a private facility. We don’t profit off of ticket sales, live animal encounters, or concessions because we are not open to the public. Specifically, because we believe that our animals deserve to live out the rest of their lives in peace. However, we are still a non-profit that relies on donors like you to keep PrideRock running smoothly and more importantly in perfect shape for our residents.

Do you want to get involved to help our cause but aren’t exactly sure how? Check out this list of 8 Ways To Give Back To The Residents At PrideRock.

A HUGE thank you to everyone who bid on our PrideRock paintings in February. We raised a total of $2,890 on our 6 paintings we had up for auction. Didn’t win a painting? No worries, our next auction will be slated for July 2021! Stay tuned!