Happy November! We’ve had quite the busy autumn at the refuge. The last few months have been centered around North Texas Giving Day festivities, fun fall enrichment and getting ready for the winter. We have welcomed new residents to PrideRock and experienced heartbreak with the huge loss of Leo, in which we are still mourning.

As we approach Thanksgiving, we wanted to take a moment to let our supporters and donors know how grateful we are for each one of you. By raising awareness and donating to our mission, you have helped give our residents a place to call a forever home. As we move into this giving season, we wanted to first thank you for your contributions you have made so far, but also ask once more for your financial support on Giving Tuesday and our holiday toy drive before we wrap up this year.
North Texas Giving Day was an absolute success! We met our goal of $30,000 (AND MORE) and we couldn’t have done it without you! A huge thank you to the 95 people who donated; we raised $42,220 during the 18 hours of North Texas Giving Day!

Your generous support makes a meaningful difference in our animals' lives and future animals in need of a forever home. The money raised will be put toward facility improvements and a new meat haul trailer.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to see just how we'll put your donation to work. We'd also love to hear about your donation experience with PrideRock. Please leave us a review below!

Thank you again!

Kayla McCain
Marketing Director
We are absolutely devastated to share that we lost Leo in early September. If you've been following us for the last decade, you know that Leo is the heart and soul of PrideRock. Shortly after Labor Day weekend, Leo was acting unwell, and at 24-years-old, we sadly knew it was his time to cross the rainbow bridge. It never gets easier to lose one of our residents, but with Leo, it’s been especially hard.

Leo was a unique and rare type of lion due to the fact that he was of Barbary decent. His mane was majestic, beautiful and large. He was an extremely friendly and affectionate lion who stole the hearts of our staff and volunteers. Leo came to us in 2013 with his mate Cleo (who passed in 2017) and were the refuge’s two lovebirds. They’d spend their days washing each others faces and taking care of one another. It was evident he missed Cleo after she passed, but Leo continued to be the king of PrideRock. In the mornings you could hear Leo’s magnificent roar for miles and the vibrations could be felt deep into your chest. At times you would even find Leo and Diego having a sing off - a sound that can’t be forgotten.

Words can’t describe the pain we are feeling from his loss, but we are happy to know that he is finally reunited with Cleo. We sure felt lucky to be able to experience a lion like Leo. RIP sweet boy.
A haunted house magically appeared in Eli’s enclosure, and he wasn’t about having ghosts and ghouls share his space! If you need someone to eliminate ghosts in your house, give Eli a call.

Fun fact – our animals LOVE pumpkins. Every fall season we are lucky enough that we receive truck loads full of pumpkins from local donors which makes for a great day out at PrideRock.
We’re excited to announce that we have a new tiger resident that joined PrideRock.

Meet Waylon! A 13-year-old tiger that was living on a private-ranch near San Antonio. The owners were selling their property and Waylon needed a forever home. This big boy had a nice and large enclosure on the ranch and, thanks to donor support, is now calling one of our newly built enclosures his home.

He’s neighboring Duna and Ellie Mae and Tarzan and Masala, who are all very curious about their new neighbor. Needless to say, Waylon is ALL tiger and has been letting our staff know who is boss with loud chuffs and growls. We can’t wait to get to know this boy better. Stay tuned for more updates on Waylon!

DID YOU KNOW??

In late November and early December, black bears head to their dens to sleep away the winter, or hibernate. Their body temperature and heart rate are lowered, and their breathing slows down while they live off the huge amounts of body fat they stored up during the summer and fall. This way, they don’t have to leave their dens and hunt for food in the bitter cold.
Giving Tuesday is just around the corner, and this year we are looking to raise $10,000. We’ve had a few unexpected costs come up recently for which we could use your support! In order for us to properly store our cats’ meat, we need a walk-in freezer that works in tip-top shape. Unfortunately, ours recently bit the dust leaving us no choice but to replace it.

We’d really appreciate your donations this Giving Tuesday to help us purchase a new freezer. For those who donate on Tuesday, November 29th, you will be entered into a raffle to win a PrideRock animal painting. (Artists include: Big Mike, Waylon and Rowdy.)

The more you donate, the more entries you will receive! We will be randomly selecting 3 winners on Thursday, December 1st.

DONATE TO WIN

$100 – 1 Entry
$250 – 5 Entries
$500+ 10 Entries
We recently went to each animal’s enclosure and asked what they wanted from “Santa Claws” (a.k.a. our donors) this holiday season. Like any sweet baby during this time of year, the one common thing we heard was “new toys.”

That’s right, our PrideRock residents are in desperate need of new toys. Large paws, claws and fangs can only allow for an indestructible ball to stay “indestructible” for so long. And with toys that are meant to withstand big cat playtime, they run a hefty price tag. This holiday season we are asking for YOUR help to give our fur babies a wonderful Christmas.

That’s why for the first time ever, we’re introducing the PrideRock “Secret Santa Claws - Toy Drive.”

Take a look at our resident’s wish list and make their Christmas dreams come true!
We’re thrilled to have received the 2022 Greatnonprofits award! At PrideRock, everything is done with the animals in mind, so to be recognized is a true gift. This is achieved by stories submitted by the public to GreatNonprofits about the work that we do here at PrideRock Wildlife Refuge.

We’ve held this status since 2017 and are especially thankful to our supporters, volunteers and fans that took the time to write a review about their work at the refuge.

**BEST "WILDLIFE CENTER" IN TERRELL, TX**

We did it again! Thank you to all of those who voted and the city of Terrell for voting PrideRock Wildlife Refuge as “The Best Wildlife Center” in Terrell, TX. We’re so honored to be recognized in our local community for doing what we love doing every day. We take pride in helping and showing our animals the love they desperately deserve.

Now Accepting Summer Intern Applications!

Internships are for a period of three months and a non-paid position. We are always looking for enthusiastic individuals who are dedicated to educating themselves about big cats while maintaining very strict safety protocols.

We strive to help interns gain experience and knowledge about big cats in captivity. Job duties will include daily care and diet preparation, cleaning, light maintenance, and some behavioral target training.

**APPLY NOW**