

### **Local bobcat rescued and released at Santa Barbara Wildlife Care Network**

On Saturday, October 23, Santa Barbara Wildlife Care Network staff discovered a sick bobcat on the back of their property at 1460 N. Fairview Ave. in Goleta. Staff, alongside SBWCN's veterinarian Dr. Avery Berkowitz, safely tranquilized the bobcat and brought him into care.

The bobcat was immediately taken into the center for a full exam. Dr. Berkowitz found that this adult male was underweight and suffering from mange, a skin disease that often affects mammals. The animal care team provided medication to treat the mange, fluids to get him hydrated, and plenty of nutritious food. SBWCN fixed up a special enclosure, complete with ramps, hiding spaces, and perching, for the bobcat to comfortably recover. After just seven days in care, his condition greatly improved and he was ready for release. The team successfully released him back out on the edge of the SBWCN property on Saturday, October 30. It only took him a few seconds to sprint out of the carrier and back out into the Goleta foothills.

Although bobcats are common residents of Santa Barbara County, they are an elusive species. Out of the 4,000+ animals SBWCN receives each year, typically only a few of them are bobcats.

### **About Santa Barbara Wildlife Care Network**

[Santa Barbara Wildlife Care Network](http://www.sbwcn.org) (SBWCN) is a nonprofit organization that was founded in 1988. For over 30 years, SBWCN has served to rescue, rehabilitate, and return to the wild sick, injured, orphaned, and oil-impaired wildlife in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties and to educate the public about living in harmony with wildlife. SBWCN takes care of over 4,000 patients per year, including small mammals, shorebirds, songbirds, raptors, and herptiles. The SBWCN Helpline is available everyday from 9 AM–5 PM for animal emergencies and wildlife advice: (805) 681-1080. Donations in support of this work can be made at [www.sbwcn.org](http://www.sbwcn.org).

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