

## **MEDIA CONTACT:**

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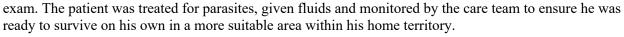
## Rehabilitated Mountain Lion Returns to Wild in Santa Ana Mountains

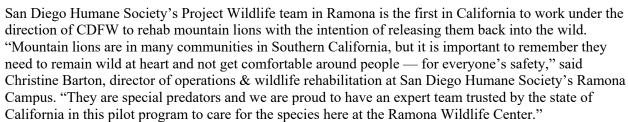
Juvenile male without mom roamed residential areas in Mission Viejo before capture.

Ramona — A juvenile mountain lion who spent two weeks at San Diego Humane Society's Ramona Wildlife Center under the care of the organization's Project Wildlife team, was released back into the wild by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) late Thursday, July 29, 2021.

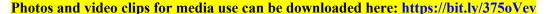
The 1-year-old sub-adult male lion arrived on July 13, 2021 after being captured by the CDFW in coordination with Mission Viejo Animal Services in Mission Viejo. There had been repeated reports of sightings in the Orange County neighborhood, leading wildlife officials to capture the mountain lion and bring him to San Diego Humane Society's Ramona Wildlife Center for evaluation.

There, the Project Wildlife veterinary team performed a full exam under sedation that included lab work, X-rays and a dental





San Diego Humane Society's Project Wildlife is the primary resource for wild animal rehabilitation and conservation education in San Diego County. Each year, SDHS gives nearly 13,000 injured, orphaned and sick wild animals a second chance. In 2020, SDHS announced a new Ramona Campus, where they specialize in caring for native apex predators and birds of prey, including hawks, owls, eagles, coyotes, bears, bobcats and, under special pilot authorization, mountain lions.



**Suggested Tweet:** A juvenile mountain lion who spent 2 weeks at @sdhumane's Ramona Wildlife Center under the care of the #ProjectWildlife team, has been released back into the wild in the Santa Ana mountains. The lion was captured and released by @CaliforniaDFW.

## **About San Diego Humane Society**

San Diego Humane Society's scope of social responsibility goes beyond adopting animals. We offer programs that strengthen the human-animal bond, prevent cruelty and neglect, provide medical care, educate the community and serve as a safety net for all pet families. Serving San Diego County since 1880, San Diego Humane Society has campuses in El Cajon, Escondido, Oceanside, Ramona and San Diego. For more information, please visit <a href="mailto:sdhumane.org">sdhumane.org</a>.