



California Wildlife Center

Patient of the Week

February 6, 2026

A Bobcat's Path to Recovery

At the beginning of the year, a young female bobcat was found on the side of the road in Los Angeles and brought to East Valley Animal Shelter. One of CWC's dedicated transport volunteers was able to safely drive the bobcat from the shelter to our facility for care.



Patient on cage rest.

Upon admittance, the patient received a thorough medical exam, which was no easy task as bobcats require specialized handling due to their feisty temperament. Our medical team discovered that the patient's right leg was dislocated and that she had a significant amount of blood in her urine, likely the result of severe trauma. Based on her injuries and where she was found, we suspect that she had been struck by a vehicle. She was immediately started on fluid therapy, antibiotics, and pain medication to address dehydration, infection risk, and discomfort.

The severity of the bobcat's injuries required specialized orthopedic surgery, best performed by veterinarians with extensive experience working with felines.

After significant coordination across agencies, the patient was transferred to Pasadena Humane Society where their veterinary team successfully repaired her injured leg.

Bobcats are medium-sized wildcats that are elusive, solitary, territorial, and primarily nocturnal hunters. They are skilled climbers and hunters and rely on full use of all four limbs to survive in the wild.



The Bobcat's mobility is improving.

With exceptional night vision and sensitive whiskers, bobcats navigate and assess their environment. They prefer rabbits as their prey but are opportunistic and will feast on rodents, small mammals, birds and even animals as large as fawns.

The bobcat's surgery was successful, and she has been transported back to CWC to continue her recovery. She is healing well, has a good appetite, and is already showing improved mobility. We are optimistic that she will continue to regain her strength and, one day, return to the wild.