

Appendix B

HSUS Statement on Free-Roaming Cats

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) believes that every community has a legal and ethical responsibility to address problems associated with free-roaming domestic cats.

Free-roaming cats—owned cats allowed to go outside as well as stray and feral cats—often are hit by cars or fall victim to disease, starvation, poisons, attacks by other animals, or mistreatment by humans. Free-roaming cats also prey on small mammals, songbirds, and other wildlife; spread zoonotic diseases such as rabies; defecate on other people’s property; and cause car accidents, among other problems.

When developing approaches to address problems associated with free-roaming cats, animal care and control agencies, policy makers, public health officials, veterinarians, cat owners, and the public should recognize the following:

- **CATS BELONG IN HOMES.** All cats deserve loving, permanent homes with responsible caregivers who keep the cats safely confined and meet their special needs. Long-term solutions developed to respond to cat-related conflicts should foster the responsible caretaking of cats.
- **CATS ELUDE SIMPLE CATEGORIZATIONS.** Free-roaming cats are often referred to as either stray or feral, but these designations do not reflect the many types of outdoor cats. Free-roaming cats can be owned cats who are allowed to roam; owned cats who have become lost; previously owned cats who have been abandoned and no longer have a home; quasi-owned cats who roam freely and are fed by several residents in an area but “owned” by none of them; and so-called working cats who serve as “mousers.” Almost every community also has feral cats, unsocialized cats who may be one or more generations removed from a home environment and who may subsist in a colony of similar cats living on the fringes of human existence. Because cats exhibit varying degrees of sociability, even an animal care and control professional may not immediately be able to tell the difference between a feral cat and a frightened indoor-only cat who has escaped and become lost.

- **CATS ARE NOT ADEQUATELY PROTECTED BY LAWS.** Domestic cats have been the nation's most popular pet since the mid-1980s, and more than 60 million now live in U.S. households. But laws and policies developed to protect and control cats have not kept pace with their status as America's preferred pet. Few communities, for example, register or license cats or require that they be confined or supervised when outdoors. Fewer still regulate feral cats.

Comprehensive Cat Control Programs

Historically, communities have responded to cat-related conflicts by using methods that rarely provide long-term solutions. For example, traditional programs to reduce feral cat populations include either live-trapping and euthanizing cats or live-trapping, sterilizing, and releasing cats so that they cannot reproduce. Neither approach, however, provides a long-term solution unless carried out in conjunction with a comprehensive cat control program. Moreover, these approaches are labor- and cost-intensive and may alienate feral cat caregivers or residents not willing to tolerate free-roaming cats in their neighborhoods.

The HSUS believes that communities must develop, implement, regularly evaluate, and update comprehensive laws, policies, and education programs about cats and cat care. These must be pragmatic approaches designed to reduce cats' suffering and also respond to cat-related conflicts, yet remain acceptable to people in the community.

Local governments must adequately fund animal care and control programs and enforce cat control ordinances, using general revenues as well as monies collected through licensing and user fees. Sufficient funds must be allocated to implement prevention programs; hire and train staff; construct or renovate animal-holding facilities; and purchase and maintain equipment to handle, house, and care for cats.

The HSUS believes that community cat care and control programs should include the following:

- **Mandatory registration or licensing of cats.** If a fee is charged, it should be higher for unsterilized cats than sterilized cats (a concept termed "differential licensing").
- **Mandatory identification of cats.** In addition to requiring that cats wear collars and tags, communities should consider implementing a back-up, permanent identification system such as microchips.
- **Mandatory rabies vaccinations for all cats more than three months of age.**
- **Mandatory sterilization of all cats adopted from public and private animal shelters and rescue groups.**
- **Mandatory sterilization of all free-roaming cats.**
- **A mandatory minimum shelter holding period for stray cats consistent with that established for stray dogs.** This policy should allow for euthanasia of suffering animals prior to completion of the holding period.

- Adequate and appropriate shelter holding space, staffing, and other resources necessary to hold stray felines for the mandatory minimum holding period.
- An ongoing public-education program that promotes responsible cat care.
- Subsidized sterilization services to encourage cat owners to sterilize their animals.

Trap-Remove-Evaluate Programs

The HSUS recognizes that, in many instances, free-roaming cats must be live-trapped and, after completion of the mandatory holding period, evaluated for adoption or euthanasia. The HSUS believes that any individual or group that initiates a trap-remove-evaluate program should:

- Before trapping, place trapping-notification signs in the area and distribute informational leaflets to residents to give owners of outdoor cats a reasonable amount of time to safely confine their cats. Signs and leaflets should also educate readers about abandonment laws and restrictions on feeding unowned cats.
- Schedule several days for live-trapping and follow humane trapping guidelines. Ensure that traps are checked frequently (ideally every two to three hours, at a minimum every eight hours) so that captured animals may be transported quickly.
- Carefully evaluate captured cats to ascertain whether they are owned or possible candidates for adoption. Give them a “calm-down” period to help distinguish between cats who are simply frightened or stressed and those who are truly unsocialized.
- Survey the area regularly to ensure that all cats have been captured. Retrap if necessary.

TTVAR-M Programs

In recent years, traditional trap, sterilize, and release programs have been supplanted by more responsibly managed programs that trap, test, vaccinate, alter, release, and monitor (TTVAR-M) free-roaming cats. The goal of any TTVAR-M program should be to stabilize and eventually eliminate the colony through attrition. If a community’s animal care and control agency or other group chooses to participate in TTVAR-M programs in cooperation with feral cat caregivers, it should:

- Make sure that feral cat colony maintenance programs are consistent with cat-related laws such as mandatory shelter holding periods for stray animals and ordinances prohibiting cats from roaming at large.
- Register caregivers who are willing to devote the time and resources necessary to fulfill program goals. In cooperation with caregivers, develop uniform guidelines covering colony care and maintenance, spaying and neutering, health monitoring, census-taking, and related topics.
- Assess each area to determine whether a colony can be safely maintained. For example, colonies should not be maintained near roads with heavy traf-

- fic or in areas with extreme weather conditions and insufficient shelter.
- Assess the impact of feral cats on local wildlife populations before deciding whether to return the animals to an area. Cat colonies should never be maintained on lands managed for wildlife (such as wildlife sanctuaries).
 - Secure the permission of landowners and residents to maintain feral cat populations on their property.
 - Assess the carrying capacity of each area to determine how many cats can be released. Carrying capacity should be based on the number of colony members, the number of caregivers, the size and nature of the area, and the available resources.
 - Before trapping, place trapping-notification signs in the area and distribute informational leaflets to residents to give owners of outdoor cats a reasonable amount of time to safely confine their cats. Signs and leaflets should also educate readers about abandonment laws and restrictions on feeding unowned cats.
 - Schedule several days for live-trapping and follow humane trapping guidelines. Ensure that traps are checked frequently (ideally every two to three hours, at a minimum every eight hours) so that captured animals can be transported quickly.
 - Carefully evaluate captured cats to determine whether they are appropriate candidates for re-admission into the colony. Socialized cats should be removed from the colony and, if possible, placed for adoption.
 - Test trapped cats for fatal infectious diseases such as feline leukemia (FeLV) and feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV). Remove from the colony any cats who test positive for FeLV, FIV, or any other chronic or debilitating disease.
 - Prior to release, vaccinate cats against rabies and other common diseases or viruses for which vaccinations are available.
 - Sterilize cats prior to release.
 - Permanently identify animals prior to release using a microchip and/or a visible means of identification such as ear-tipping or tattooing.
 - Immediately trap any new cats who enter a colony and assess them for placement or release.

Appendix C

Volume Feral Cat Trapping Primer

*By Dave Pauli, Director, The Humane Society of the United States
Northern Rockies Regional Office*

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Tips and Checklist

Live-trapping socialized cats can be easy. You set a trap and bait it; the cat enters, and it is caught. But when you have to catch a colony of feral cats, you may need some extra tips and techniques. It is especially important to remember that improperly set live traps can become death traps. This feral cat capture primer covers the essential elements to a successful volume live-trapping project. These elements include but are not limited to

I. Trap Quantity and Quality

A large number of clean, prepared live traps of varying sizes and functions (single door, double door, colony).

II. Bait Acceptance, Variety, and Selection

Either a good prebaiting program or a number of known, highly acceptable baits.

III. Trap Rotation and Management

An efficient presentation and trap rotation program that maximizes the effectiveness of the traps/bait during the first forty-eight hours.

Each of these essential elements has numerous subcategories. As a primer for training volunteer trappers, this document will attempt to cover only the basic elements.

I. Trap Quantity and Quality

Buy the highest quality traps available. Tomahawk, TruCatch, and Minnesota Plastic Trap are proven brands. Avoid inexpensive consumer brands because they will cost more in the long run.

Process and prepare the traps by

- a)** Washing to remove factory oils and odors.
- b)** Rubbing with a hand to locate burrs and sharp edges; clip or file down any found.
- c)** Dry firing and adjusting pan tension (the procedure varies depending upon make and model).
- d)** Painting or camouflaging traps, especially the bottom frame.
- e)** Marking, tagging, or otherwise identifying the traps.

Prepare and bring a variety of sizes and shapes. For example, for feral cat work, I will place a squirrel-size trap inside a cat-size trap, then place that inside a raccoon-size trap. The result: three good cat traps in the space of one. (Squirrel traps, when properly baited and set, make great cat traps because the cat cannot lunge in them and cause nose or face rubs.) Bring double-door traps for blind sets and “crawl-unders” and round traps for culverts. Also bring odd-sized traps such as dog or turtle traps. You will probably encounter a situation or a particular animal that requires that odd-sized trap. The new plastic traps are also very nice. (Do not use solid sheet metal traps. They can become death traps during even moderate temperatures.)

Have at least one trap for every three target animals (one for each is better) because you will want to saturate the site and catch the majority of animals before “trap/bait” shyness syndrome sets in.

Leave damaged and bent traps with protruding wires or edges at home. Humane treatment of captured animals is a priority and any damaged trap will inflict injury.

II. Bait Acceptance, Variety, and Selection

For this discussion, “baits” include food baits, sight attractors, gland lures, curiosity lures, electronic baits, and worry toys.

Key points include

- All animals are individuals. Most colony cats will eat any cat food, but some will prefer fish baits, some will prefer liver baits, and some will be suspicious of anything new. Offer variety.
- Match your baiting strategy to the keenest sense of your target species. For canines, use baits attractive to their sense of smell. For felines, use sight attractors or electronic squeakers; for nocturnal animals, white baits (marshmallows/eggs) work well.
- Prebaiting will greatly increase your trapping success. Often prebaiting can be done by the property owner prior to your arrival. Be sure to remove all prebaits (and other food sources) 12–20 hours before you set out a trap line. In certain situations you may want to set out traps with the doors wired open for two to three days to allow the colony to feed freely in the traps. This will allow even the most timid feral cats to become comfortable with eating from within the traps. Using quality edible bait will assist you if you have to recapture any escaped or released cats.
- Prebaiting is best accomplished in two steps. The first step is to establish accepted feeding stations for cats. Select 10–30 spots (depending on

the size of the colony) that are protected from the weather, will accommodate the placement of a live trap, and will be relatively unbothered by people or dogs. When good sites are not available, you can construct them using half sheets of old plywood propped up against a building or bales of hay or straw stacked to form a tunnel. The second step is to remove or stop all other human food sources and then prebait the sites with dry food for several days. A few days before trapping begins, change the bait at the stations to canned salmon or cat food and clean the less popular stations. You can either wire open traps (preferred) during the “wet food” prebait or simply offer more attractive food.

Food baits must be fresh, edible, and attractive. A small amount of food should be placed at the front of the trap so that target animals get a taste of what is inside (or underneath) the trap. (Care should be taken not to handle the top or rear of the trap while wearing bait gloves.)

- Be creative with baits. Some of the most overlooked baits for cats are:
 - water
 - catnip, catnip oil
 - “used” kitty litter
 - cat toys
 - electronic “squeakers”
 - feathers
 - hamster litter
 - electric heating pad
- Baits can be highly species specific. Chicken eggs, marshmallows, peanut butter, catnip, fox urine, feathers, French fry trays, willow branches, gland lures, and essential oils can all be applied to attract (or repel) certain species. Fox urine, for example, can be a great “confidence builder” at a live trap for foxes, coyotes, or feral dogs. At the same time, it may repel rodents, skunks, or feral cats from entering some traps.

Some baits, such as beaver castor or peanut butter, have universal appeal; others, such as black walnut oil or catnip, will appeal to a very select group. You want to minimize non-target species catches, so use selective baits whenever possible.

- Baits do not always have to be visible. Liquid, buried, or camouflaged baits will help minimize non-target catches of birds, such as magpies. Baits buried under the trap pan will eliminate bait theft.
- Keep your baiting strategy simple. For the average feral cat colony (30–50 cats), I will use thirty traps and four baits. I apply my basic bait plan (see below) and then adjust it to the preferences of those cats.

Bait	Percent of Traps
Host feed—generally dry cat food	35
Moist bait—canned fish/sardines	35
Specialty baits—kitty litter, catnip, water	15
No-bait, blind sets, trail sets, colony traps, family sets	15

Generally speaking, the baited sets are at the “core” or center of the colony. The specialty traps and blind sets are further away, along the cats’ natural travel routes.

- Most of the truly feral cats and adult tomcats will be caught in specialty traps. They come to the colony for socialization and breeding, not for free handouts. As an example, my most productive feral tomcat trap is a double-door Tomahawk, well bedded with thick natural ground covering over the wire floor and with a slight spritz of catnip or queen-in-heat litter from shelter litter boxes.
- Scent from captured cats can be an added “bait.” If one trap continues to catch cats, don’t move or wash it. If you catch a dominant spraying tomcat, either leave the trap as a tomcat trap or wash it.
- Family sets work great for beavers, raccoons, and feral cats—one captured baby or young animal is transferred to a humane holding cage, and that cage is geometrically surrounded by unbaited traps.
- For winter trapping, emphasize plastic traps and try using a heating pad or disposable hand warmers with gland scent or fresh rodent droppings (pet hamster or rat) as bait. The hand warmers give off a lifelike scent that is attractive in lower temperatures. The hand warmers also can be used with catnip oil.

III. Trap Rotation and Management

Volume trapping is a supervised activity. If possible, you should remove captured animals within minutes of being caught. Good supervision and removal will minimize stress to you and the cats, increase your success rate, and make the property owner happy. Here are some basic concepts:

- Have a small team. Two to four people can handle any cat colony. Minimize activity and noise: move slowly and talk softly. Don’t be shy about handing out a few treats to cats who watch you set your traps.
- Always bring plenty of hand towels and bath towels. The bath towels are used to cover the traps as they are being carried to the truck. Covering the traps calms the cats and minimizes nose rub or facial injuries. The hand towels can be used as a floor covering when you are forced to set traps on concrete.

I prefer a two-person team. When arriving at the colony, I stop at the perimeter and unload the specialty traps. I then take an hour or two to go around the perimeter and set traps along the travel paths to the colony. Trails, shelter belts, culverts, haystacks, and old outbuildings get my attention. I set blind sets, trail sets, crawl-unders, tom sets, and a few baited sets. When the team goes into the center of the colony, the feral cats will exit and be caught by these prepared sets before they become too wary or trap shy.

During this time my partner has *slowly* driven to the center of the colony, attempting to keep a written description of any cats observed. When entering the colony, my partner will slowly set the traps at the feeding stations and monitor them (too much activity will spook the colony). We try not to enter main buildings or areas that serve as dens until after I

have set the perimeter traps so that the first few hours are spent catching the more socialized cats. We also want to minimize cat vocalizations, so all trapped cats are quickly covered and removed to an indoor trap transfer site.

- Design your program to be humane: Do not trap during primary pregnancy/lactation periods or during periods of extreme weather. Wire or stake any live trap set near streams or ponds.
- Always insulate the bottom of your trap with dirt, dander, straw, hay, wool cloth, or some other natural covering. Most live traps are thermally conductive and cats are fairly tactile. You want to minimize their fear of stepping on the trap floor.
- During the first two to four hours, check your traps every 15–30 minutes. This quiet activity will actually increase the curiosity of the remaining cats. After the initial period, check every hour.
- Although effective, minimize the number of traps you leave set overnight. Long capture periods increase the occurrence of nose rubs and facial injuries. Never leave any trap set overnight if the temperature will fall to 40 degrees Fahrenheit or less. Covered traps, plastic traps, and hay bale sets that offer protection from weather and predators can be left overnight. I prefer to travel the trap line one hour before dawn to reset the traps. This also serves as an “eyeball” inventory to determine how many cats are still there.
- Most feral cat colonies can be effectively controlled within forty-eight hours—but you will never have a 100 percent capture rate. There always will be a few cats who are too wild or who are traveling. You can either accept this fact or spend a lot of additional time on one or two cats.
- Trap location and placement are crucial.
 - a)** Location can be used to minimize nontargets. Traps on picnic tables or in trees will catch cats but not skunks.
 - b)** Some cats will not enter ground-set traps. Traps on building roofs, nailed to rafters, or in trees will catch these cats.
 - c)** Never set traps on or near the cats’ community “toilet.” Cats (and most people) do not like to eat in their bathroom. Set the trails to the toilet instead.
- “Trap logic” is the most difficult concept to teach. Which traps should you move? How long do you leave a “nonproductive” trap? There are no hard and fast rules. I have left some nonproductive traps for three days, and one caught a dominant tomcat on the fourth day. In general, if it is a good clean set, leave it. I like to leave the 10–15 most productive traps at the same spot and leave 5–10 of my specialty traps for the wild cats. The rest I will move around and experiment with.
- Trap Setting: The proper setting of live traps is more artistic than scientific, but here are a few basics.
 - Have the trap stable and well bedded.
 - Place some edible bait in front and some bait under the trap.
 - Make the trap floor comfortable and enticing.

- Cover and protect the trap when possible.
- Inspect, fine-tune, then dry fire (spring) the trap to make sure that everything works and that there are no door obstructions.
- **Record Keeping:** It is important to keep track of both traps and captured cats. Because we often set more than 100 live traps, we record the traps' positions using a global positioning system (GPS) so anyone can find them with a hand unit. We also use a trap-check form, which ensures that we do not forget to check every trap on the capture circuit. The capture form should also have a space to record information about the captured cats. If the cats are processed, either Tyvek, nylon collars, or some other marking system must be used.
- **Worry Toys:** Worry toys are mandatory for such species as raccoons. Worry toys are a safe item that gives the animal something to manipulate other than the trap. Cat worry toys can be balls, baits, or cat toys. They can be cardboard—like French fry containers, which are sight attractors—or plastic—like 35mm film canisters filled with applesauce. For cats, the best worry toys are catnip mice or film canisters filled with moist cat food. Both allow the cat to have something to “worry” and the canisters can provide moisture/food when chewed into. Never put metal cat food or sardine cans in a trap because they will cause tooth and foot injuries to the cats.
- **Clean-up:** After trapping a cat colony, most of my traps will go straight to the car wash. A few, however, may be pulled out and tagged as specialty traps. These would include those in which I had caught a dominant tomcat or a female in heat. I may save these traps “as is” if I expect to be trapping another colony within the next few weeks.

Summary

The main points to remember are to (1) have more traps than you'll need (you can borrow them from other agencies), (2) try to be smarter than your target, and (3) always minimize stress, handling, and capture time.

The most important steps of feral cat capture are completed in the 7–14 days prior to arriving at the colony. Planning and trap preparation are key elements. Consider going to the site a week before the event with a good spotlight to do an “eyeball inventory.” This will give you a better estimate of the number of cats that are actually in the colony (the property owner usually overestimates). Be sure to give all trapped cats a quiet place to calm down. Never judge a cat's disposition or adoptability based on observations made while the animal is in a trap. Have enough cages or foster homes to accommodate the animals caught. Have a veterinary plan, an animal care plan, and written protocols for all stages of the event. Consider all possibilities—such as handling skunks and other nontargets, cat scratches and bites, and cat injuries to face and feet. Finally, plan, plan, plan!

Appendix D

Feral Cat Colony Tracking System

This form will help you identify and track individual cats in your colony and chart the progress of your trap-neuter-return program. Please send us a copy of your completed form(s) to help us gather statistics on feral cat colonies; this information is vital to promoting the effectiveness of nonlethal control. Use the Trap-Neuter-Return procedures as recommended in Alley Cat Allies' fact sheets.

Use One Form Per Colony

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Caretakers' Names:

1) _____ Phone (____) _____

2) _____ Phone (____) _____

3) _____ Phone (____) _____

Name of Colony Location:

City & State: _____

Setting:

- Alley Apartments Offices
 Industrial Park Residential
 Other, describe: _____

Total number of cats in colony when management began:

_____ Adult Male	_____ Number of kittens homed
_____ Adult Female	_____ Number of tame cats removed
_____ Kittens	_____ Number of cats euthanized
_____ _____	_____ Number of cats remaining in managed colony

Year colony originally formed (if known): _____

Date current management plan was implemented: _____

Definition of *Management*: sterilize adult cats and tame and/or sterilize kittens

Has removal of this colony by euthanasia or relocation been attempted in the past? Yes No Date of removal attempt: _____

FelV/FIV Test used, if any: IDEXX In-house Combo SNAP IFA (FelV only)

Are all cats in the colony eartipped on the left ear? Yes No

If no, why not?

Veterinarian performing medical care:

_____ Phone (____) _____

Definition of *Homed*: Adopted into household.

Definition of *Relocated*: Placed in a new outside setting.

Please send a copy to: 1801 Belmont Road, NW Suite 201 Washington, DC 20009

Fax: (202) 667-3640 • www.alleycat.org

Name of Cat							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Color							
Markings							
Sex: M/F							
Age:							
Date Trapped & By Whom:							
Surgery: N=Neuter S=Spay							
Vaccinations: R=Rabies Tag Number D=Distemper							
Parasites: Ivermectin Strongid Other?							
Eartip: = (left ear)							
FeLV/ FIV Test: Pos/Neg (2nd test in 30-90 days?)							
Fostered By Whom & Notes:							
R=Returned H=Homed E=Euthanized O=Other, explain							
Notes on General Health:							

Appendix E

Materials from the Hawaiian Humane Society

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Feral Cat Colonies and Trap, Neuter, Return and Manage (TNRM)

What is TNRM?

Trap, Neuter, Return, and Manage (TNRM) is a strategy to help reduce a community's population of feral cats humanely. Through the attention of dedicated, responsible caretakers, the cats are fed, sterilized, and given veterinary care so they can be kept healthy while the colony grows smaller and is eventually eliminated through natural attrition.

What is the Hawaiian Humane Society's position on TNRM?

The Humane Society supports responsible TNRM as a method to control feral cats. While the Society believes that all cats deserve a home with an owner and is working toward that end, we recognize that Hawaii has a significant number of homeless cats. Many of these cats were once socialized but have since become feral. There are many strategies to address feral cat populations, one of which is TNRM.

TNRM can be an effective strategy when responsible cat colony caretakers maintain their colonies by

- obtaining the property owner's agreement,
- ensuring colonies are in a safe environment,
- locating colonies away from protected animals,
- sterilizing all members of the colony,
- removing kittens and newly abandoned, socialized cats,
- keeping records of cats in the colonies,

- providing necessary veterinary care and microchip identification,
- ensuring that feeding areas are free of rubbish, and
- otherwise maintaining the colony so it does not become a nuisance to others.

How does the Hawaiian Humane Society support TNRM?

Since 1993 the Hawaiian Humane Society has regularly provided free sterilization surgery for feral cats in colonies managed by a caretaker. These sterilizations are made possible by donations from Humane Society members—your neighbors. Caretakers commit to provide ongoing care for the cats and are encouraged to follow guidelines for responsible colony management. The Humane Society also provides humane cat traps at no charge and offers microchip identification for feral cats for just \$5.00.

How can you help?

Feeding cats in colonies isn't enough. If you are feeding stray or feral cats, please have them sterilized. Without this important step, you will soon have more mouths to feed and there will be more homeless cats in need. Call us at (808) 946-2187, ext. 285, to find out about borrowing traps and bringing cats in for surgery.

Stray cats may be lost cats. If you see a stray cat, it is important to realize that it may not be feral or abandoned—it may be someone's lost pet. If the cat is socialized enough for you to approach it or handle it, call us at (808) 946-2187, ext. 285, for advice on how you can help reunite the cat with its owner. Many cats now have microchip identification, which is not visible but can establish where the cat lives.

Care for your own cat(s). TNRM is helping reduce existing feral cat populations. To prevent new cats from adding to the problem we encourage you to

- Have all your own cats sterilized. Neuter Now is a low-cost program available to Oahu cat owners.
- Provide your cats with identification—collar and tag or microchip ID—even if they are indoor cats.
- Keep your cats safe by keeping them indoors, in a cattery, or within your yard using special cat fencing.
- Bring your cats to the Humane Society or another cat shelter if you can no longer keep them.

Additional information about TNRM is available from the Cat Friends organization at 686-2287.

Additional information on Hawaiian Humane Society programs and services is available at www.hawaiianhumane.org.

Neuter and Release Program for Cat Colony Caregivers

Hawaiian Humane Society Commitment

The Hawaiian Humane Society's goal is for every cat on Oahu to have a home and a responsible owner. As we work toward that goal, we recognize the need to help cats who are currently living in colonies throughout the island. We offer this program to cat caregivers so that by working together we can end the birth of unwanted litters, find permanent homes for unwanted adult cats, and eliminate the growth of populations of unwanted cats on our island.

Cat Caregiver Responsibilities

As cat caregivers, you agree to give these cats continuous care by feeding them daily and monitoring their general health on an ongoing basis. Every attempt should be made to socialize these cats and to find them permanent homes, move them into a cattery, or bring them to the Humane Society. After surgery or when lost and returned to you, cats are to be returned to their original location. If the cats are to be released on private property, permission from the land owner should be granted so the cats will not be trapped again and turned in to the Humane Society. New cats who appear in the colony should be trapped and sterilized as soon as possible.

Cat caregivers further agree that while on Hawaiian Humane Society premises, they will

- Abide by any and all Hawaiian Humane Society rules and policies.
- Refrain from entering any restricted area.
- Refrain from disrupting the normal course of Humane Society business, including, but not limited to, interference with Receiving Desk operations.

About the Program

- This program is limited to cat caregivers who are caring for a colony of feral cats.
- Sterilization surgery will be performed free of charge.
- Owned, household cats *will not be* allowed under this program.
- In addition to the surgery, cats will be ear-notched to identify them as being sterilized. Absorbable sutures will be used so it will not be necessary to bring the cat back for suture removal.
- Cats will be examined to determine whether they are healthy enough to undergo surgery. Cat caregivers will be notified immediately if cats show overwhelming signs of disease and are not good candidates for surgery. Euthanasia of these cats will be recommended.
- Cats need to be at least 3 lbs. or 3 months old.

- A maximum of two cats per caregiver. Arrangements can be made with adequate notice—at least two days in advance—for mass appointments by e-mailing us at hhs@hawaiiianhumane.org.
- Cat caregivers are required to sign a release prior to surgery.
- Cats *must* be brought to the Humane Society in humane animal traps. Humane animal traps make it safer to handle the cats and there is less likelihood of the cats injuring themselves or the handler. One cat per trap, please!
- All cats must be provided with one of the following identifications—collar with ID tag or microchip—to be purchased at the time of drop-off. Identification can be provided by the caregiver or purchased and applied at the Humane Society *only* when the cat is under anesthesia: collar/tag—\$2.00; microchip—\$5.00.
- If surgery is not performed on the same day, cats will be held overnight and caregivers will be notified. Please provide valid contact numbers.

To Schedule Surgery

- Surgery is performed seven days a week on a space available basis. Cats brought in between 6 A.M. and 8 A.M. will be sterilized the same day. Those brought in between 8 A.M. and 6 P.M. will be sterilized the following day. No surgeries are performed on holidays.
- It will no longer be necessary to make appointments for surgery.
- On the scheduled surgery date, bring cats in a humane trap to the Animal Receiving Department (on the mauka side of the building).
- You may pick up the cat the day of surgery between 5 A.M. and 9 P.M.
- To access Hawaiian Humane Society surgery schedules, please call (808) 946-2187, ext. 369. This has been designated as the Feral Cat Sterilization Helpline. Changes to schedules will also be noted on the Helpline.

Thank you for helping reduce the number of unwanted cats in our community.

(Rev. 5/01)

Neuter & Release Program Agreement For Cat Colony Caregivers

Name: _____ Date: _____

Day Phone: _____

Evening Phone: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Location of cat colony/colonies: _____

No. of cats currently in population: _____

How often do you visit the colony? _____

I am caring for these cats and agree to release them to their original location and provide basic care for them in the future. I understand that the following procedures will be performed on each cat:

- Castration or spay under injectable intramuscular anesthetic
- Ear-notching (R-female/L-male)
- Identification applied: _____ microchip _____ collar/tag
- After discussion and with prior approval by me, euthanasia if the cat is found to have severe debilitating disease

I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Hawaiian Humane Society and its officers, employees, and agents from and against any and all liability arising out of any service provided.

I further agree that while on Hawaiian Humane Society premises, I will abide by any and all Hawaiian Humane Society rules and policies; refrain from entering any restricted area; and refrain from disrupting the normal course of Humane Society business, including, but not limited to, interference with Receiving Desk operations.

Signature of Cat Colony Caregiver

Feral Cat Sterilization Program Agreement for Cat Colony Caretakers

Name: _____ Date: _____

Day Phone: _____

Evening Phone: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Specific location of cat colony/colonies: _____

Examples: Makiki, Kakaako Park, etc.

Number of cats currently in population: _____

By signing below, you agree to the following:

I am caring for these cats and agree to release them to their original location and provide basic care for them in the future. I understand that the following procedures will be performed on each cat:

- Castration or spay under injectable intramuscular anesthetic
- Ear-notching (R=female/L=male)
- Identification applied: ____microchip ____collar/tag
- After discussion and with prior approval by me, euthanasia if the cat is found to have severe debilitating disease

I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Hawaiian Humane Society and its officers, employees, and agents from and against any and all liability arising out of any service provided.

I further agree that while on Hawaiian Humane Society premises, I will abide by any and all Hawaiian Humane Society rules and policies; refrain from entering any restricted area; and refrain from disrupting the normal course of Humane Society business, including, but not limited to, interference with Incoming Animals Department.

Signature of Cat Colony Caregiver

Date

Instructions For Setting Humane Animal Traps

Push top half of trap door in; using your other hand, pull up door raising both parts to the top of the trap. On the right hand side is a trip lever (hook). Pull it towards you latching the hook to the top of the trap to hold the door up. The trap is now set.

If the trip lever becomes bent, it may be straightened with a small wrench or pliers. The end of the trip lever should be slightly angled toward the front of the trap.

Place bait in the rear of the trap.

Bait Suggestions

- For cats, mongoose or rats, use any of the following: chicken parts, tuna, canned cat food, or meats.

Cats sometimes will not enter the trap because they do not like walking on the wire bottom. Try placing leaves or dirt over the floor of the trap, being careful not to block the quick release platform in the rear of the trap.

When baiting the trap, make a path of bait from the front of the trap through the door and set the bulk of bait in the rear of the trap. For difficult cats, try burying the bait under the trap (directly under the quick release platform) or tying a piece of meat to the floor in the rear of the trap.

- If still not successful, try feeding the cat several nights without the trap. Then set the trap as described above.

Animal Removal

Check the trap at least once daily. If an animal is caught, place the trap in a shaded area and arrange to have the animal brought to the shelter as soon as possible.

Once an animal is trapped, cover the cage as soon as possible with a towel to provide darkness. This will help stop the animal from continuing to attempt escape and possibly injuring its nose or paws.

The shelter is open 24 hours a day to drop off a trapped animal, or you may call for our pick-up services (\$10.00 fee) at (808) 946-2187, ext. 280.

If you want to release a trapped animal, slowly and carefully turn the trap on its side. Release the door lock by pushing in the top part of the door, then pull the entire door towards you and the door will open.

Please call our receiving department at (808) 946-2187, ext. 285, if you have any questions on the use of our humane traps.

Humane Animal Trap Use Agreement

Name: _____ Date: _____

Day Phone: _____

Evening Phone: (No pagers, please!) _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Social Security No.: _____

I agree to borrow and use the Hawaiian Humane Society's humane animal trap under the following terms and conditions:

1. This trap will be used only on premises owned or controlled by me and for trapping animals whose owners are unknown to me.
2. I will post a sign during the time that I have a trap set to warn my neighbors that a trap is in use and that their cats might be caught in this trap.
3. All trapped animals will be turned in to the Humane Society or returned to the owner if I am able to recognize the cat or if it carries identification that enables me to locate the owner.
4. The trap will not be set in such a way that the animals will be exposed to the hot sun, wind, or rain or would allow anyone to mistreat the trapped animals.
5. That the trap(s) will be returned within fourteen (14) days. If the trap(s) is not returned, I may be charged \$50.00 per trap.
6. Once an animal is trapped, I will cover the trap with a towel until the animal is returned to the owner or brought in to the Humane Society. I will not transport the animal in the trunk of my car as the animal may overheat.

I, the undersigned, assume any and all liability of lawsuits that may arise in connection with the trap's use. I hold said Humane Society and its officers, agents, and employees harmless from any action, suits, or claims that may arise.

Animals may be brought to the Humane Society 24 hours a day, seven days a week. As a service to the community, we will pick up stray cats and other owned animals. If you would like an animal to be picked up, please call (808) 946-2187, ext. 280 to schedule an appointment.

Signature _____ Date _____

We ask that the trap be returned by _____

Signature _____ Actual Return Date _____

Number of Traps: _____ Trap Number: _____