



NAIA

Animal Policy Review

A publication of the National Animal Interest Alliance dedicated to analysis of legislation, regulations, and policies that affect animals and animal owners

Spring 2011

© 2011 NAIA

Global stray dog population is in crisis; US humane relocation is not an answer

By Patti Strand, NAIA founder and chairwoman

The scope of the stray dog problem in many parts of the world is unimaginable by American standards. Street and village dogs have always been part of the developing world's landscape, but exploding populations, increasing attacks on

citizens,(1) and spiraling rabies epidemics have transformed this issue from a third world problem to a global public health priority.

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that there are more than 200 million stray dogs worldwide and that every year, 55 thousand people die from rabies, while another 15 million receive post exposure treatment to avert the deadly disease. Ninety-five percent of these cases occur in Asia and Africa, and 99 percent of the fatalities are caused by dogs.(2)



Ag attacks continue: Radicals zero in on Washington State egg producers

Washington State egg producers are braced for a classic activist battle to force their industry out of the hands of farmers and scientists and into the hands of animal rights radicals. Determined to fight the onslaught, these farmers are prepared for a typical extremist campaign involving a mixture of legal and questionable tactics backed by a multi-million-dollar campaign chest.

National organizations Humane Society of the US and Farm Sanctuary — both groups that promote a vegan diet that eschews animal products — and state affiliate Washingtonians for Humane Farms plan



Continued on page 5

In Bali alone, the number of stray dogs is estimated at 500 thousand and a rabies epidemic underway since 2008 has already killed 78 people. Despite culling somewhere between 120 thousand and 200 thousand dogs, and vaccinating an estimated 262 thousand dogs, the epidemic rages on.

In the face of the continuing epidemic and shortages of human anti-rabies vaccines, the government has banned dogs from the streets altogether — perhaps the first at-large law imposed in this part of the world.(3 4)

The stray dog-driven rabies crisis in Bali is hardly unique: India culls as many as 100 thousand strays at a time,(5) while attacks by marauding packs of dogs in Baghdad have led to a reinstatement of the same eradication program that

Continued on page 4

Come to NAIA's 2011 Conference: "The Next Endangered Species: the animal rights war on domestic animals," November 12-13, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Details inside.

Contents

The global stray dog population crisis and humane relocation	Front page
Ag attacks continue: Radicals zero in on Washington State egg producers	Front page
Plight of abandoned and neglected horses grows without processing plants	Page 3
BLM seeks information about abandoned horse	Page 3
NAIA supports egg farmers	Page 5
Foreign organizations that export rescue dogs & US shelters & rescues that accept them	Page 6
PUPS bill resurfaces in US Congress	Page 7
FWS reaches settlement in wolf case	Page 7
NAIA 2011 Conference: The Next Endangered Species	Page 8
NAIA congratulates Dr. Marty Greer for Juris Doctor degree	Page 11

NAIA Animal Policy Review

Norma Bennett Woolf, editor

NAIA Animal Policy Review is published quarterly; All contents © 2011 NAIA



NAIA supports the responsible and humane use of animals for food, clothing, medical research, companionship, assistance, recreation, entertainment and education. For more information about NAIA and our mission to support responsible animal ownership, go to www.naiaonline.org and www.naiatrust.org

NAIA Board of Directors

Thomas L. Albert, Vice President, Government Relations, Feld Entertainment, Inc.

Lance H. Baumgard, PhD, Assoc. Professor, Nutrition & Physiology, Dept. of Animal Science, Iowa State Univ.

Sharon Beck, 4th generation cattle rancher & co-chair of the Wolf Task Force for the Oregon Cattlemen's Association.

Nancy C. Campbell, Purebred dogs, legislation, rescue, health & welfare

John T. Connolly, Respected AKC dog show judge, past president Boxer Club of America

Anne Edwards, Pedigreed cats & cat welfare

Marty Greer, DVM, JD, Canine reproduction & animal law, International Canine Semen Bank-Wisconsin

Gene Gregory, President & CEO, United Egg Producers

Donna Herzig, Attorney & advocate for responsible pet legislation

Larry S. Katz, PhD, Professor, Animal Sciences, Director, Rutgers Cooperative Extension - Rutgers Univ.

Patte Klecan, Pet care business & professions outreach

Kenneth A. Marden, Working dogs & canine sports

Paul Mundell, National Director of Canine Programs, Canine Companions for Independence

L. Gabriel Navar, PhD, Professor & Chairman, Dept. of Physiology, Co-Director, Hypertension & Renal Center of Excellence

Cindy Schonholtz, Director of Industry Outreach, Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association

John Richard Schrock, PhD, Professor of Biology & Director of Biology Education, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Emporia State University, Emporia, Kansas

Robert C. Speth, PhD, Professor of Pharmacology, Univ. of Mississippi, Fellow of the American Assoc. for the Advancement of Science

Sharon K. Steckler, Attorney & long time animal welfare advocate

Patti Strand, NAIA founder, purebred dog enthusiast, author & commentator on responsible pet ownership

Holly Stump, Biologist, purebred dogs, breed specific legislation, canine therapy work

Edward J. Walsh, PhD, Director, Developmental Auditory Physiology Laboratory, Boys Town National Research Hospital & Professor of Biomedical Sciences, Creighton University School of Medicine

Update

Plight of abandoned and neglected horses grows without processing plants

The Summer 2009 issue of *NAIA Animal Policy Review* reported on the closing of the last horse processing plants in the US and the resulting plight of unwanted horses in the country.⁽¹⁾ Since then, the situation has deteriorated further with both the perception and the reality reflecting a dire situation for these animals.

The website *Amillionhorses.com* chronicles the plight of horses caught between the proverbial rock and a hard place, horses deserted because owners can no longer feed them, horse rescues inundated with animals they cannot afford to care for, horses starving and sick and injured. A compilation of data and articles that chart the growing dilemma facing horses and horse owners, the site notes that the loss of processing plants, the rise in costs for horse care, and the economic crisis in the country have resulted in an increase in horse abuse, neglect, and abandonment.

“There are those who proclaim there is no such thing as an unwanted horse, that all horses are wanted. They refuse to accept the concept that someone might need to, or choose to, divest themselves of a horse. Yet horses of all ages, descriptions, and bloodlines continue to be turned loose in the mountains and deserts,” wrote Jeri L. Dobrowski of *Amillionhorses.com* in her updated summary of the situation.

More than 100,000 horses went to US processing plants in 2006, the last full year the plants were open. Today, even as economic hardships pressure horse owners and rescues alike, Mexico and Canada handle only some of that number. So where do the horses go? Well-meaning horse advocates advise owners to surrender unwanted horses to res-

“There are those who proclaim there is no such thing as an unwanted horse, that all horses are wanted. They refuse to accept the concept that someone might need to, or choose to, divest themselves of a horse. Yet horses of all ages, descriptions, and bloodlines continue to be turned loose in the mountains and deserts,” -- Jeri L. Dobrowski, webmaster, Amillionhorses.com, in her updated executive summary of the situation.

cues or sanctuaries, but these organizations are already overburdened with animals and hurting for donations. Horses entering these facilities are often starving, sick or injured and need long-term veterinary care. With monthly costs ranging from a few hundred to a few thousand dollars per animal, rescues can easily fall behind in paying for feed, foot care, and medical attention – the same circumstances that cause owners to surrender horses.

Dobrowski noted that without a central registry, no one knows how many rescue facilities there are. She said that some were filled to capacity as early as 2008 and that placements have declined since then. Some rescues are so overburdened and under-funded that they close their doors, leav-

Continued on page 9

BLM seeks information about abandoned horse

SILT, Colo. — The Bureau of Land Management is seeking information about a horse that was found abandoned on July 16, 2010, at Dry Rifle Creek, about two miles east of Rifle Gap Reservoir. The horse, a sorrel gelding in its mid-teens, was malnourished and had recent wounds on its neck that appeared to be from a mountain lion. The horse is now in foster care.



“It’s not only inhumane to abandon any animal on public lands – it’s also illegal,” said Steve Bennett, Colorado River Valley Field Manager. “Domestic horses are not adapted to living in this rugged terrain or for foraging for food in this area.”

The horse has a small white blaze on its face and some white streaking on its left hind leg. It loads into a trailer easily and stood well to have its hooves trimmed.

If you have information about this horse or how it came to be abandoned on BLM land, please contact the BLM Colorado River Valley Field Office, 970 876-9000.

Global stray dog population is in crisis; US humane relocation is not an answer

Continued from page 1

was operated under Saddam Hussein. Its goal: the culling of over one million stray dogs.(6 7 8)

In Bangkok(9) and many other Asian and African locales,(10 11) living with strays and rabies is just an accepted fact of life. An estimated 200 dogs per square kilometer occupy Bangkok, fouling sidewalks and streets, causing traffic accidents and serving as vectors for rabies and other diseases.(12) A nip on the ankle by a stray dog in any of these developing countries quickly jolts Western tourists into the life and death reality of the situation.(13)

Thankfully the stray dog overpopulation crisis has earned the attention of Western humanitarians and animal welfare organizations and businesses, and they're rallying to the cause. The World Health Organization is working aggressively, often partnering with NonGovernment Organizations (NGO's), to assure that the production and distribution of rabies vaccines and post-exposure treatment keeps up with demand.

One of the most effective NGO's working on the stray dog issue in the developing world is a group of veterinarians and volunteers called Veterinarians Without Borders.(14) They can be found in many of the poorest countries of the world helping impoverished communities develop safe and healthy food supplies and eliminating some of the most dangerous diseases. Neutering and vaccinating stray dogs against rabies is an important part of their work today.

At the same time, animal shelters and dog rescue groups are springing up throughout Asia, Eurasia, the Middle East, parts of Latin America and the Caribbean. Some jurisdictions, notably Shanghai and Singapore(15) have built pounds to hold strays, while in other locales, private citizens have formed humane societies and loose-knit groups of volunteers to care for rescued dogs.

These are all good signs. But when Western activists contemplate solutions for the stray dog crisis in the developing world, they need to keep in mind the differences between third world problems and the ones we've experienced here. Pet ownership is less common in developing countries; third world strays are seldom dogs that simply wandered off an owner's property. Instead, they are often semi-feral dogs living at the outskirts of human communities, eking out an existence by feeding on human garbage. So vast are the differences between the developing world and the US today, one must reach back to images of American cities in the 1800s for comparison: an age when horses were still the primary mode of transportation, when domestic ani-

mals of all species often ran free, and garbage collection hadn't yet begun.

The eradication measures employed by third world countries — poisoning and shooting strays — spark sensational



headlines and searing criticism in the West, but where people are still struggling to provide food and shelter for their families, where canine rabies is an epidemic, and where there are shortages of rabies vaccine and post exposure treatment, animal control is still a matter of human survival.(16)

Bringing the problem home

Starting with many of the same eradication measures currently being employed in third world countries, it took the US nearly a century and a half to get its surplus dog problem under control; indeed, it has only been during the last 10 years that the demand for dogs has become equal to or greater than the supply in many parts of the country. In fact, what the US has today is a dog distribution problem, not a dog overpopulation problem — a situation that has led to a practice labeled humane relocation.(17)

In some parts of the USA today, demand for dogs so far outstrips supply that the public — bolstered by state-of-the-art advertising campaigns for rescued dogs — are willing, even anxious, to adopt dogs with severe behavioral and medical problems. Where healthy, well-tempered, adoptable dogs were once euthanized by the millions for lack of shelter space, Americans today are lining up to pay large sums of money to adopt problem dogs; ones that are blind, deaf, missing limbs or suffer from serious behavioral issues or chronic diseases. Organizations that began their work when there was still a serious surplus dog problem in the US are now bringing in dogs from any place they can find them and asking their kind-hearted donors to fund costly surgeries to correct heart defects and other problems so that the dogs they've rescued can be saved.(18)

Other groups import maimed dogs for adoption into the US from great distances, even foreign countries where street dogs are plentiful.(19) A recent shipment of 222 dogs from

Continued on page 6

Ag attacks continue: Radicals zero in on Washington State egg producers

Continued from page 1

to use the state's initiative process to ban conventional hen housing practices. Along with this legal avenue for changing state law, the groups have undercover videos taken by infiltrators who violated animal welfare guidelines at hen houses in other states in order to show the egg industry in the worst possible light.(1)

Coupled with these tactics are a state-of-the-art multi-million dollar mass media blitz peppered with rhetoric designed to vilify farmers and others who do not agree with the HSUS definition of "humane" and to convince voters that only the HSUS and its allies care about hen welfare.

Washington State has seven egg producers who house a total of 6.5 million hens. About 95 percent of those hens are housed in traditional cages slated for elimination by the initiative that would also ban the in-state sale of eggs produced by hens kept in cages in other states and countries.(2) Such a ban has the potential to destroy the state's egg industry and, as illustrated by the meteoric rise in egg prices in European countries that outlawed conventional cages, to double or triple the cost of eggs to consumers.(3)

Washington egg producers are not the first that have felt the wrath of these animal rights radicals. HSUS spearheaded passage of Proposition 2(4) in California in 2008, and egg

producers there are struggling to upgrade their facilities to meet the 2015 enactment date of the law. JS West, a family-owned and operated farming business, houses 1.8 million hens in that state. In June 2010, the company opened the nation's first enriched hen confinement facility, a type of housing supported by the American Humane Association,(5) animal handling expert Temple Grandin,(6) and the American Veterinary Medical Association. However, HSUS insists that the law allows only cageless confinement.

Hen housing

There are now three types of hen housing: conventional cage, cage free and colony. Conventional cages account for about 95 percent of US egg production. Enriched colony systems provide hens much larger living quarters, accommodate more hens and provide roosts, nest boxes and scratching areas so the hens can indulge in natural behaviors. There's also a gamut of cage-free housing, including floor pens with or without outdoor access and aviaries with tiers of roosting and nesting areas.

The use of conventional cages for hen housing developed in the 1940s as rural populations moved to suburban and urban areas where keeping small flocks of chickens for

Continued on page 8

NAIA supports egg farmers

NAIA joins farmers in their quest to balance animal welfare with scientific findings, business needs and property rights considerations. We recognize that the spectrum of safe, cost-effective, and humane farming practices that have emerged from cooperation between farmers and agricultural researchers have improved hen health and well-being while improving egg quality and keeping prices low.

On the flip side, we oppose efforts to impose changes in farming practices by legislative or voter fiat and especially condemn campaigns that use distortion, misinformation, and half-truths to scam voters and imply that farmers who use current methods are supporting or condoning abuse.

The NAIA opposition statement for California's Proposition 2 said: "At both NAIA and NAIA Trust*, we always examine the facts and formulate our positions based on the best information and science available and the interests of both animals and the people who care for them. While the expressed goals of Proposition 2 are laudable, our research indicates that the housing methods targeted for elimination under Proposition 2 protect hens from disease and injury and no studies suggest that passing Proposition 2 would result in an overall improvement of their care, well being and protection. ... Our role becomes increasingly important when well-funded, Washington DC- based special interest groups like the Humane Society of the United States get behind issues like Proposition 2. They target vulnerable urban audiences with world state-of-the-art propaganda, focusing on all the problems that bolster their case and omitting the facts that would enable their audience to make an informed decision."



*NAIA Trust (www.naiatrust.org) provides information about animals and animal husbandry, animals in education and entertainment, scientific advances in animal and human medicine, wildlife management, hunting and fishing and pet ownership.

Global stray dog population is in crisis; US humane relocation is not an answer

Continued from page 4

Puerto Rico illustrates how multi-faceted, ill-conceived and widespread the practice of importing street dogs into mainland USA has become.(20) Although dogs are regularly shipped into the Northeastern states from Puerto Rico, this particular shipment, arranged by the Puerto Rico Animal Welfare Society, was motivated by the opportunity to win a \$100 thousand grant. The ASPCA offered the prize to the organization with the largest adoption participation in an event called Second Chance for Love adopt-a-thon. The dogs involved in this venture were headed to one of the many participating pet supply stores that use rescue dogs as a loss leader to attract shoppers. After being airlifted to Florida for a layover, though, more than 100 of the dogs broke with parvovirus and distemper, 107 of them eventually dying. As it turned out, many of the dogs in the shipment were infested with hook worms, round worms and coccidia, and although the dogs were supposed to be four months old and healthy to participate in the contest, some were only four weeks old and shockingly, had already been altered. None of these dogs ever made it out of Florida. Instead, they remained there and received veterinary treatments valued at \$185 thousand and were adopted out through local shelters.

Canine strain rabies in indigenous US dogs was offi-

cially pronounced eradicated in 2006 by the Centers for Disease Control, but since then a number of rabid dogs have been imported, nearly all rescue dogs from countries with ongoing rabies epidemics. These dogs have come from a variety of locales including Puerto Rico, Thailand, India, and others described in official CDC publications.(21)

The rescue programs engaged in this practice have very

appealing names that sound like they were created by advertising professionals, names such as Operation Baghdad Pups. Perhaps the positive image confuses the issue and blunts the critical thinking this totally irresponsible practice should evoke. Indeed, this group



has continued shipping dogs to the United States and following the infected shipment, the group expressed their concern in a press release saying they hoped the rabid puppy doesn't tarnish their image.(22)

Pretending that rescuing dogs from developing countries with ongoing rabies epidemics is helping solve problems is not only shortsighted, it's dangerous. At best it rep-

Continued on page 10

A short list of foreign organizations that export rescue dogs and US shelters and rescues that accept them

All Sato Rescue, www.allساتورسكع.ورگ and blog <http://streetdogblog.com> Puerto Rican Street dog rescue. Scroll to the video on blog about the Puerto Rican dog rescue; Humane Society of Broward County, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, a shelter that accepts dogs for adoption from Puerto Rico;

Golden Retriever Club of Greater Los Angeles Rescue, <http://www.grcglarescue.org>, a US rescue that imports dogs from Taiwan for adoption in the US.

Danbury Animal Welfare Society (DAWS), www.daws.org, Danbury, CT, a US shelter that accepts dogs for adoption from Puerto Rico;

Thailand's Soi Cats and Dogs Bangkok, <http://www.scadbangkok.org/adoption/adoption-faqس.ورگ> Thailand dog and cat rescue that ships dogs to the US.

Pet Animal Welfare Society (PAWS), www.pawsct.org/index.php, Norwalk, CT, a US shelter that accepts dogs for adoption from Puerto Rico.

Independent Labrador Retriever Rescue of Socal, California, <http://www.indilabrescue.org>, a California Labrador Retriever Rescue that rescues and places dogs imported from Taiwan.

Northeast Animal Shelter, www.northeastanimalshelter.org, Salem, Massachusetts, a US shelter that accepts dogs for adoption from Puerto Rico.

Tail Tails Beagle Rescue and Blog <http://thebark.com/print/2909?page=show>, Falmouth, Maine , a rescue that imports dogs from Puerto Rico.

Sterling Animal Shelter, www.sterlingshelter.org, Sterling, Massachusetts, a US shelter that accepts dogs for adoption from Puerto Rico.

PUPS bill resurfaces in Congress

Seeking once again to close a loophole in the federal Animal Welfare Act, Representative Jim Gerlach (R-PA) introduced HR 835 — also known as the Puppy Uniform Protection and Safety (PUPS) Act — into the US Congress.

However, as written, HR 835 fails to meet its noble goal to protect puppies. Far from providing the government with the tools necessary to upgrade or close substandard kennels, it merely casts a wide net over all owners or co-owners of intact female dogs. In doing so, it promotes the anti-breeding agenda of activists who raise funds by showing horrific photos and insinuating that breeders will raise dogs in squalor if they are not federally inspected.

When passed more than 30 years ago, the AWA regulated commercial kennels that sold puppies through wholesale channels, away from scrutiny by puppy buyers. The regulations did not require retailers to disclose the source of their puppies or provide the means for the US Department of Agriculture to locate and deal with kennels that dodge licensing.

Today, many commercial operators avoid federal licensing by selling puppies directly to buyers via the Internet and other advertising, subverting the purpose of providing oversight at kennels that are not open to buyers. However,

instead of simply adding these commercial operators to the AWA, the PUPS bill targets all breeders who use these sales outlets without concern for whether the puppies were produced in commercial kennels, far from oversight by potential buyers, or in the living rooms of show and performance dog breeders where buyers can visit litters and see conditions. As such, it is a dream bill for the anti-breeding crowd and a nightmare for the vast majority of breeders who raise dogs in adequate, good, or excellent conditions.

NAIA has long believed that USDA is handicapped by the loopholes in current law and believes that commercial intent — the raising of puppies for the primary purpose of making a profit — should determine whether a kennel is federally licensed and that oversight of small breeding kennels should be left to local and state authorities. We do not oppose the use of a number of puppies sold annually as evidence that a kennel is commercial. We contend that only a small number of licensed kennels are substandard and that most deficient kennels are operating outside the law. We therefore continue to recommend a regulatory scheme that encourages breeders to upgrade their operations, allows USDA to enforce the regulations against kennels that duck licensing, and puts the bad apples out of business.

Update: USFWS reaches settlement in wolf case

The US Fish and Wildlife Service has reached a settlement with 10 of the 14 plaintiffs in the lawsuit challenging delisting of wolves in the northern Rocky Mountains.

The suit was filed after the department approved wolf management plans in two states — Montana and Idaho — and sent Wyoming's plan back to the drawing board. Plaintiffs claimed that the Endangered Species Act does not allow delisting of a population in a portion of its range, and the judge agreed.

The wolves were transplanted from Canada to the three states in the mid-1990s. The animals have been prolific; the FWS goal of 30 breeding pairs and 300 wolves was surpassed long ago, and in 2010, FWS estimated that the population had reached 1651 wolves and 111 breeding pairs.* The animals have also established small populations in Oregon and Washington State, where they remain endangered. FWS will work with officials in those states to deal with management problems that may arise.

The agreement, which must be approved by the court, includes a plan to temporarily return wolf management to Montana and Idaho while working on a plan to delist the species throughout its range. FWS will manage wolves in Wyoming until that state submits an acceptable plan to protect wolves

in the state. When a Wyoming plan is approved, FWS will publish a proposed rule to designate and delist a Northern Rocky Mountain Distinct Population Segment of the species. That proposal will be based on the “best scientific and commercial data available,” according to the FWS.

The settling plaintiffs have agreed not to challenge any final rule prior to March 31, 2016, or to petition for listing of any wolf population in the Northern Rocky Mountain population segment. FWS will continue to study the wolves and collect population data for at least five years, and within four years of approval by the court, to seek an independent scientific assessment to assure the wolves are being managed in a sustainable fashion.

Plaintiffs agreeing to the settlement include Sierra Club, Defenders of Wildlife, Greater Yellowstone Coalition, National Resources Defense Council and six others. The Humane Society of the US and three others did not sign on.



* For more on wolf reintroduction and the problems caused for ranchers and hunters, see “Ranchers, hunters, activists argue over wolves in court,” *NAIA Animal Policy Review*, Spring-Summer 2010.

Ag attacks continue: Radicals zero in on Washington State egg producers

Continued from page 5

eggs and meat was not practical. At the same time, the growth of supermarket chains put pressure on egg producers to supply their customers. Cages helped eliminate problems with diseases, predators, and parasites; reduced labor costs; decreased behaviors such as feather-pecking and cannibalism within the flock; and made it easier to provide clean air and even temperatures and humidity in hen houses.

Radicals focus on the use of these cages for hen housing to sell their fraudulent argument that the industry must be forced to change housing systems. They follow these claims with proposals that take hen welfare decisions out of the hands of egg farmers and place it with politicians and voters who can be swayed by misinformation and emotional arguments planted and nurtured by HSUS and similar groups. However, egg producers haven't needed outside pressure groups to dictate policies; by using science and experience, they've been evaluating and upgrading their hen care practices and can tend to hen welfare while dealing with production and labor costs, industry standards, local regulations, hen health, pest and predator control, and manure management involved in providing a low-cost source of protein for consumers without interference from HSUS and its minions.(8)

As noted above, AHA, livestock expert Temple Grandin PhD, and AVMA all recommend enriched confinement that allows hens to indulge in natural behaviors as well as protect them from injury, disease, predators, and pests, and provide appropriate food, water, shelter, and a healthy environment. As a result, many producers are looking at installation of colony systems when they upgrade their facilities. However, although these systems meet most of the advantages of conventional cages and have the added benefit of allowing the hens to indulge in natural behaviors such as roosting, scratching and nesting, they may not meet the HSUS space-per-hen dictate.

When California egg producer JS West announced completion of the country's first enriched colony facility for laying hens last year, HSUS criticized them for failing to completely eliminate cages. West had invested more than \$3 million in the changes; before spending additional millions to upgrade the remainder of their hen houses, the company filed suit seeking clarification of the law's requirements.

"We need clear regulations for hen housing so our company and our industry knows exactly how much space to provide for egg-laying hens and what type of housing sys-

Continued on page 11



NAIA 2011 conference

"The Next Endangered Species:

the animal rights war on domestic animals,"

November 12-13, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.



The very future of purebred dogs and dog ownership in America is under attack. Through years of manipulative campaigns disparaging purebred dogs and dog breeding and a sheltering practice known as humane relocation, there are regions in the US that would face a critical shortage of dogs if not for their importation from distant states and even foreign countries. Despite growing evidence to the contrary, the public is far more likely to believe that there is a dog overpopulation problem than to recognize the systematic displacement of their traditional sources of dogs – or that some of their favorite breeds are already threatened.

This ongoing war on breeders and purebred dogs is but one of the many urgent topics that will be covered at the NAIA's 2011 Conference. Please join us as we take the first steps in regaining the public's appreciation of well-bred dogs and the people who raise them! Register before June for \$100 discount on the rate. Info at naia@involved.com.

Plight of abandoned, neglected horses grows

Continued from page 3

ing dozens or hundreds of animals in poor condition.

In spite of this evidence, animal rights groups rail against efforts to open horse processing plants in some states and continue to seek federal legislation that will ban interstate transport of horses to processing plants in Canada and Mexico. Groups like HSUS exploit the emotional connection that Americans have with horses as beautiful animals, as pets, and as part of the nation's history to drive its efforts to ban horse processing for food and the use of horses in rodeos and other sports. In effect, they shame people into donating money to "save horses" that they can use to lobby against solutions they don't like.

Unwanted Horse Coalition

Operating on the assumption that a problem should be identified before an effective solution can be designed and implemented, the Unwanted Horse Coalition of the American Horse Council conducted a survey of horse owners, rescuers, veterinarians, and other stakeholders with first-hand knowledge of the situation. In order to find out why people surrender horses, they also asked former horse owners to respond. They published the results as the *2009 Unwanted Horses Survey* in July that year. The survey drew upon nearly 30,000 responses and hundreds of additional comments. Chief among the findings

- ⊙ The economy took the brunt of the blame for a decision to sell or donate a horse.
- ⊙ Abuse and neglect of horses is on the rise.
- ⊙ Increased education for responsible horse purchases and ownership followed by increasing the ability of rescue organizations to care for horses, reopening processing plants, and more options for humane euthanasia were the preferred methods of reducing the number of unwanted horses.
- ⊙ Most rescue facilities are at or near maximum occupancy.
- ⊙ Laws restricting horse breeding or ownership or allocating federal dollars to expansion of retirement facilities scored lowest on the solution scale.

The survey summary is at <http://tinyurl.com/4hbrj3v>

Working towards solutions

Using its survey as a guide, the UHC coalition produces a range of educational materials focused on responsible

horse ownership, including options for placing a horse that becomes unwanted and questions to ask before buying a horse. One booklet helps organizations develop programs to help unwanted horses. It recommends using organization websites to highlight the problem and direct people to resources, appointing a coordinator to handle queries, spreading information at organization events, using networks of breeders and owners to find homes for displaced horses, creating funding mechanisms for care of retired horses, and asking breeders to use a tracking system to trace the horses they sell.

Many horse organizations also have taken responsibility for placing unwanted horses retired from their specific sports through matchmaking, funding, adoption, or direct care programs.

Horse processing

Horse processing plants were closed following a long, intense campaign by animal rights organizations that included withdrawal of USDA inspectors from the plants and an attempt to ban interstate transport of horses for processing. However, as noted above, respondents to the UHC survey placed opening of horse processing plants high on the list of desirable solutions for the dilemma, and lawmakers in some states have proposed bills to revive the industry.

United Organizations of the Horse, a coalition of horse-related groups, is adamant that resumption of horse processing is crucial to reducing the number of unwanted horses.

Legislatures in several states have opened the door to resumption of horse processing in various ways, and in 2009-10, several states passed resolutions asking the US Congress to reject HR 503, the HSUS-backed bill banning the transport of horses for meat.

As noted in our 2009 article, NAIA supports education for current and potential horse owners and breeders and urges lawmakers to reject the one-dimensional solution offered by a ban, continue to enforce the transport and slaughter regulations devised by USDA and industry stakeholders, and let states make their own decisions about allowing horse processing within their borders. For more information about the NAIA position, contact naia@involved.com or Cindy Schonholtz at cschonholtz@yahoo.com.



More and more horses like these face uncertain futures if owners are no longer able to afford food and veterinary care.

Global stray dog population is in crisis; US humane relocation is not an answer

Continued from page 6

resents a shallow form of sentimentality, not true kindness. At worst, importing street dogs is a cynical form of old fashioned greed on the part of the organizations and businesses that are trading in them. Judging by their IRS 990 forms, the shelters importing these dogs are making a handsome profit on them, retaining their traditional image as shelters and marketing their product as unregulated pet stores.

To actually improve animal welfare, NAIA recommends that rescuers put their resources into developing low cost spay-neuter and vaccination programs at the source of the problems instead of rescuing and sending street dogs to the US. If advertisements on the websites of Puerto Rican rescue groups aren't stretching the truth, they're spending as much as \$1800 to rehabilitate one street dog, more money than the average Puerto Rican household makes in one month.(23) There's something wrong with this picture.

Additionally, one reason that the import problem is mushrooming in the US is because our federal laws governing the import of dogs are out of date. NAIA continues to urge our lawmakers and administrators to strengthen these laws immediately.(24) Otherwise a preventable tragedy will occur. The incubation period for rabies is variable and can be quite lengthy, and the laws and quarantine requirements are not sufficient to prevent exposure. With large numbers of imported dogs from rabies endemic areas entering the US pet trade, weak federal import laws, and state and local laws that specifically exempt the traffickers from regulation because they are supposed to be operating as humane shelters, the public is vulnerable to this irresponsible activity.

Finally, it is sad that stray dogs ever have to be killed, but to attempt to apply American no-kill philosophy to parts of the world where dogs are suffering as well as threatening human life is unrealistic and harmful. We recommend to the reader, the words of Mahatma Gandhi on the subject:

"A roving dog without an owner is a danger to society and a swarm of them is a menace to its very existence... If we want to keep dogs in towns or villages in a decent manner no dog should be suffered to wander. There should be no stray dogs even as we have no stray cattle... But can we take individual charge of these roving dogs? Can we have a pinjrapole for them? If both these things are impossible then there seems to me no alternative except to kill them... it is an insult to the starving dog to throw a crumb at him. Roving dogs do not indicate compassion and civilization in society; they betray instead the ignorance and lethargy of its members... that means we should keep them and treat them with respect as we do our companions and not allow

them to roam about." — quoted from www.Karmayog.com

Notes

1. <http://blogs.forbes.com/michaelnoer/2011/01/25/reporter-dodges-packs-of-feral-dogs-while-testing-computer-equipment/>
2. <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs099/en/index.html>
3. <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2010/08/02/world/main6736299.shtml>
4. <http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/home/stray-dogs-to-become-pariahs-in-rabies-war/391101>
5. <http://www.azcentral.com/offbeat/articles/0306killingdogs06-on.html?&wired>
6. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/07/10/AR2010071002235.html>
7. <http://feraljundi.com/2010/06/12/iraq-baghdad-to-cull-a-million-stray-dogs/>
8. http://www.salon.com/news/feature/2010/07/12/ml_iraq_stray_dogs
9. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stray_dogs_in_Bangkok
10. <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2008/03/080306-AP-kashmir-kil.html>
11. <http://edition.cnn.com/2009/HEALTH/03/12/angola.rabies/index.html>
12. <http://www.digitaljournal.com/article/273918>
13. <http://stophavingaboringlife.com/dog-bite-in-bangkok-and-rabies-vaccines/>
14. <http://www.vetswithoutbordersus.org/>
15. <http://jaagruti.org/2010/08/30/rabies-and-street-dog-population-control-in-india-in-2010-problems-and-solutions/>
16. <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2008/03/080306-AP-kashmir-kil.html>
17. http://www.naiaonline.org/articles/archives/humane_insane.htm
18. <http://www.animalleague.org/support/support-rescue-medical-programs/help-me-heal/animals/reese.html?autologin=true>
19. <http://thebark.com/print/2909?page=show>
20. <http://www.prdailysun.com/?page=news.article&id=1286246678>
21. <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5739a3.htm>
22. <http://www.petfinder.com/pet-news/us-rabies-warning-linked-to-baghdad-pups.html>
23. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_U.S._states_by_income
24. <http://www.naiaonline.org/pdfs/proposedrulemaking-final4.pdf>

Ag attacks continue: Radicals zero in on Washington State egg producers

Continued from page 8

tems will be legal,” said Jill Benson, a JS West vice president and family member, in a December press release about the lawsuit.(9) “We aren’t challenging the law but simply asking for the legal standards so we know how to comply.”

Although HSUS insists that the California law is not ambiguous, the organization filed more stringent petition language in Washington State that specifically bans the use of stacked cages of any type and forbids the sale of eggs produced in any facilities with stacked cages. If it gets to the November ballot and is approved by voters, the initiative will become law on January 1, 2018.

If it follows the pattern established in petition drives in California, Ohio, and Missouri(10), HSUS will pay people to collect signatures and concentrate signature gathering and advertising efforts in cities and suburbs where voters have little or no connection to farmers or understanding of farming as a business.

Notes

1. See “A look inside HSUS video” and “HSUS video fails personal test” by Rod Smith, *Feedstuffs Magazine*, December 11 & 22, 2010; “Smithfield vs HSUS – What About That Video?” by Chuck Jolley, *Cattlenetwork.com*, December 28, 2010; and “Audit of egg farm reveals very few problems” by Ken Anderson, *Brownfield Ag News*, May 3, 2010, <http://tinyurl.com/2dq22v4>.
2. Ballot language for initiative is at <http://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/initiatives/text/i1128.pdf>.
3. In 2009, Promar International, an agricultural consulting firm, compared egg prices in the US with prices in the European Union countries where conventional cage systems have been banned. The research showed prices for a dozen eggs ranging from \$2.79-\$5.81 in the EU compared to \$1.63 in the US.
4. See “Cracking California’s egg rules” by Jean Guerrero, *Wall Street Journal*, August 19, 2010, and “Join NAIA and NAIA Trust in opposing California Proposition 2,” http://www.naiaonline.org/NAIA_opposes_prop2.htm
5. “American Humane approves enriched colony hen housing as humane alternative to conventional cages,” <http://tinyurl.com/4e3aom7>
6. Dr. Grandin is a designer of livestock handling facilities and a Professor of Animal Science at Colorado State University. Her website is <http://www.grandin.com/>
7. Jennifer Fearing, California director for HSUS said in an organization press statement at <http://tinyurl.com/4m4d49s>: “A slightly modified cage system does not comply,” continued Fearing. “California egg producers should begin their efforts to move to cage-free systems to comply with Proposition 2 and to meet the wishes of

voters.”

8. “For more information about the egg industry, see “Egg producers balance hen health and food safety to bring low-cost protein to consumers” in the Winter 2009-10 issue of *NAIA Animal Policy Review*.
9. Leading egg farmer files lawsuit seeking Proposition 2 standards, PR Newswire, December 8, 2010: <http://tinyurl.com/4goh2f6>
10. According to campaign finance reports, HSUS spent \$2.1 million in its petition drive to change Missouri kennel licensing law, more than \$1.5 million on an aborted petition drive to dictate farming practices in Ohio, and more than \$2 million in the 2008 initiative to mandate changes in California’s livestock care laws.



Marty Greer DVM, JD, and Bahari, a service-dog-in-training for Canine Companions for Independence.

NAIA congratulates Dr. Marty Greer for Juris Doctor degree

NAIA is pleased to announce that board member Marty Greer DVM has received her law degree from Marquette University, making her Marty Greer DVM, JD.

Dr. Greer already has a long history as a veterinarian, farmer, animal trainer, and nutrition researcher. She operates a small animal clinic in Wisconsin and works extensively with clients who breed and compete with their dogs. Her passion for purebred dogs and dog breeders can be seen in her March 24 entry on the NAIA blog at <http://www.naia.typepad.com/>



National Animal Interest Alliance
111 SW 5th Avenue, Suite 2660
Portland, Oregon 97204-3621