



Community Cat Management

Trap, Neuter, Return, Manage

Washoe County T,N,R,M

- ❑ Trap, Neuter, Return, Manage Programs begin in earnest in Washoe County in 1999 - over 1,800 feral cats euthanized every year
- ❑ Over 30,000 feral cats have been spay/neutered
- ❑ 2012 – citing TNR directly, the coalition of animal organizations and WCRAS receive the 2012 Maddie's Fund Community Lifesaving Award
- ❑ TNR fully funded by NHS and Community Cats – no public funds

Washoe County Lifesaving

Decreased animals
losing their lives in
Washoe County
shelters

2007: 52% decrease

2,700 fewer
dogs & cats lost their
lives in 2007 than
2006.

2008: 10% decrease

2009: 27% decrease

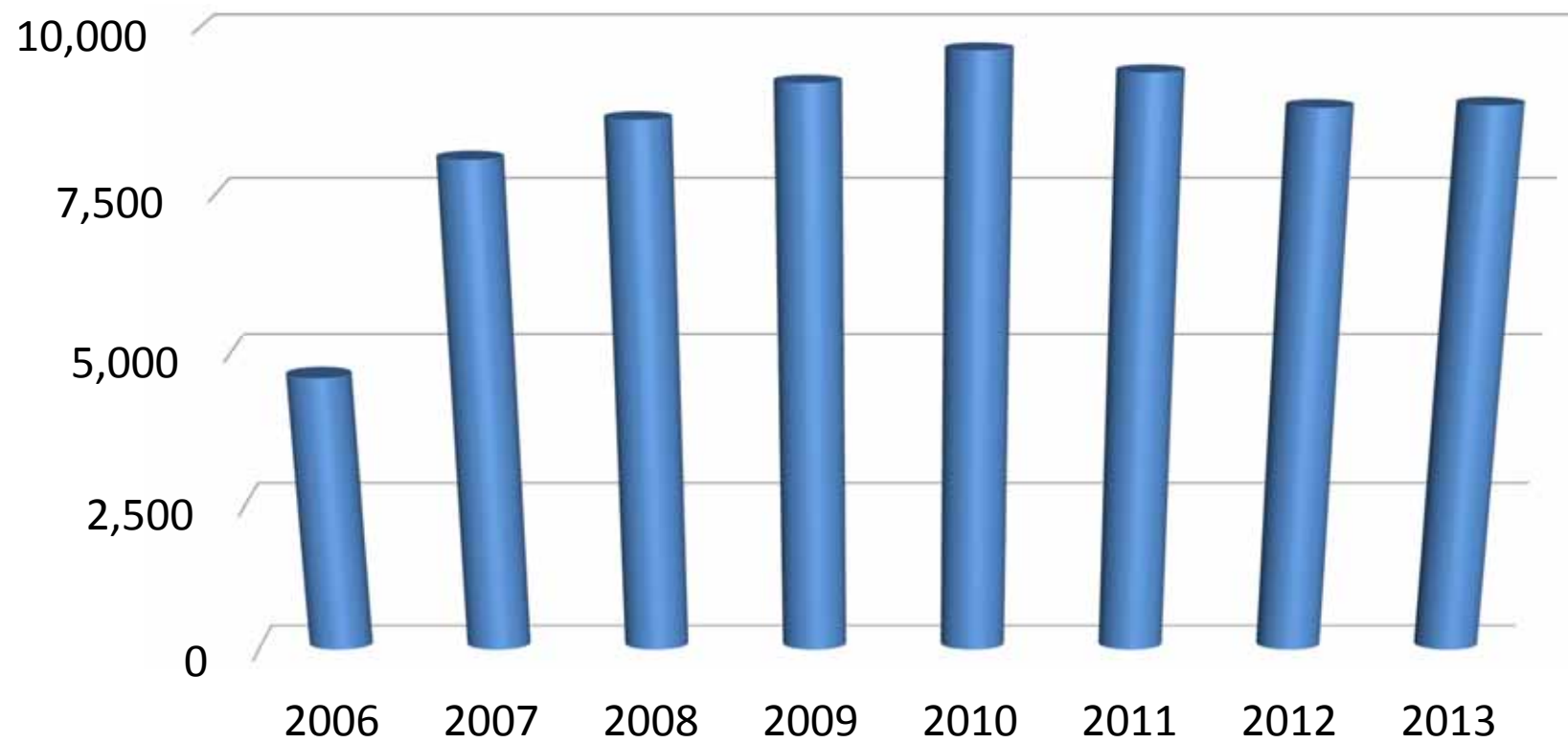
2010: 12% decrease

2011: no change

2012: 16% decrease



NHS Adoptions



93%

Washoe County's Live
Release Rate



Free-Roaming Cat Dynamics

✦ Ownership status

- Owned
- Unowned

✦ Lifestyle

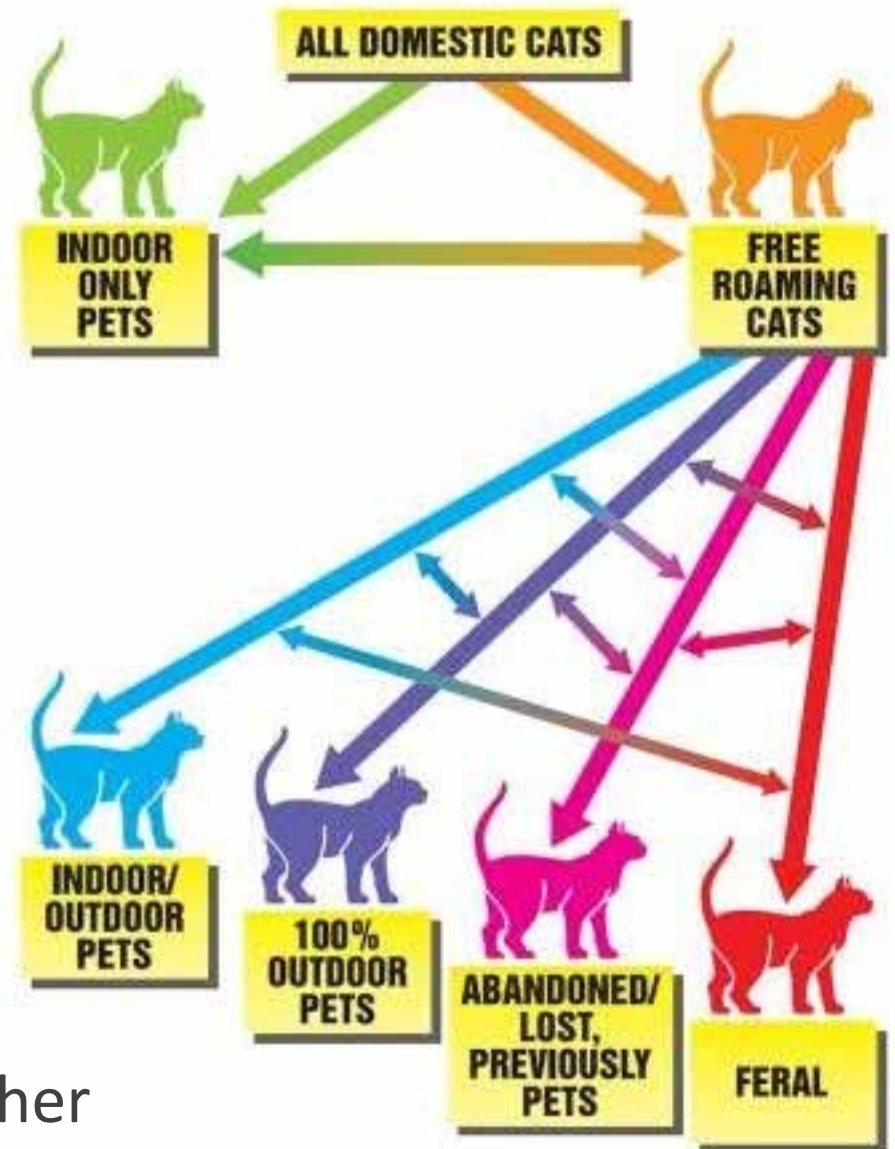
- Indoor only
- Free-roaming outdoor
- Free-roaming unowned

✦ Socialization status

- Friendly
- Unsocialized

✦ Continuum

- Move from one lifestyle to another



Traditional Management



- Community Cats/Free Roaming (FRC)
Cats are unsocialized animals. They are not candidates for adoption
- Community Cats/FRC produce the majority of kittens entering the sheltering system
- Trap and Kill has universally failed.
Ineffectual use of taxpayer dollars

Trap and Kill



- Totally, universally and without exception ineffectual
- Does not curtail population growth - can lead to increases in population. 20% growth annually
- Enormously expensive at the taxpayers expense
- Unacceptable to the public - up to 27% of the public feed FRC
- SIMPLY DOES NOT WORK

Data and experience have led to a shift in Animal Control

“The cost for picking up and simply euthanizing and disposing of animals is horrendous, in both the philosophical and the economic sense.”

—Mark Kumpf, President, National Animal Control Association, 2010



TRAP NEUTER RETURN MANAGE



Trap, Neuter, Return, Manage



- ❑ Humanely trapped
- ❑ Evaluated by a veterinarian
- ❑ Spay/Neutered
- ❑ Vaccinated
- ❑ Ear-Tipped
- ❑ Returned to their original habitat and managed
- ❑ Monitoring, GIS Tracking

Benefits of TNRM

- ❑ Reduces WCRAS intake (and eliminates unnecessary euthanasia)
- ❑ Cheaper, paid for privately rather than by taxpayers
- ❑ Protects public health, animal health
http://www.cdc.gov/rabies/location/usa/surveillance/human_rabies.html
- ❑ Decreases nuisance complaints
- ❑ Stabilizes and then reduces FRC populations
 - ❑ UF - 11 year study. Cats decreased by 66%, no new kittens born after the first 4 years
 - ❑ Rome, study found colonies decreased by 16%-32% over 10 years.
- ❑ Managing to extinction
- ❑ Vacuum effect
- ❑ Reduces roaming, yowling, fighting, spraying, mating behaviors
- ❑ Only effective, efficacy-substantiated method of FRC reduction
- ❑ Tracking of owned, unowned, FRC, and populations hot spots. GIS resources



TNR Successes

Jacksonville, Florida: Feral Freedom

Jacksonville reported:

✦ Net savings: 2007–2010

- \$160,000
- 13,000 lives

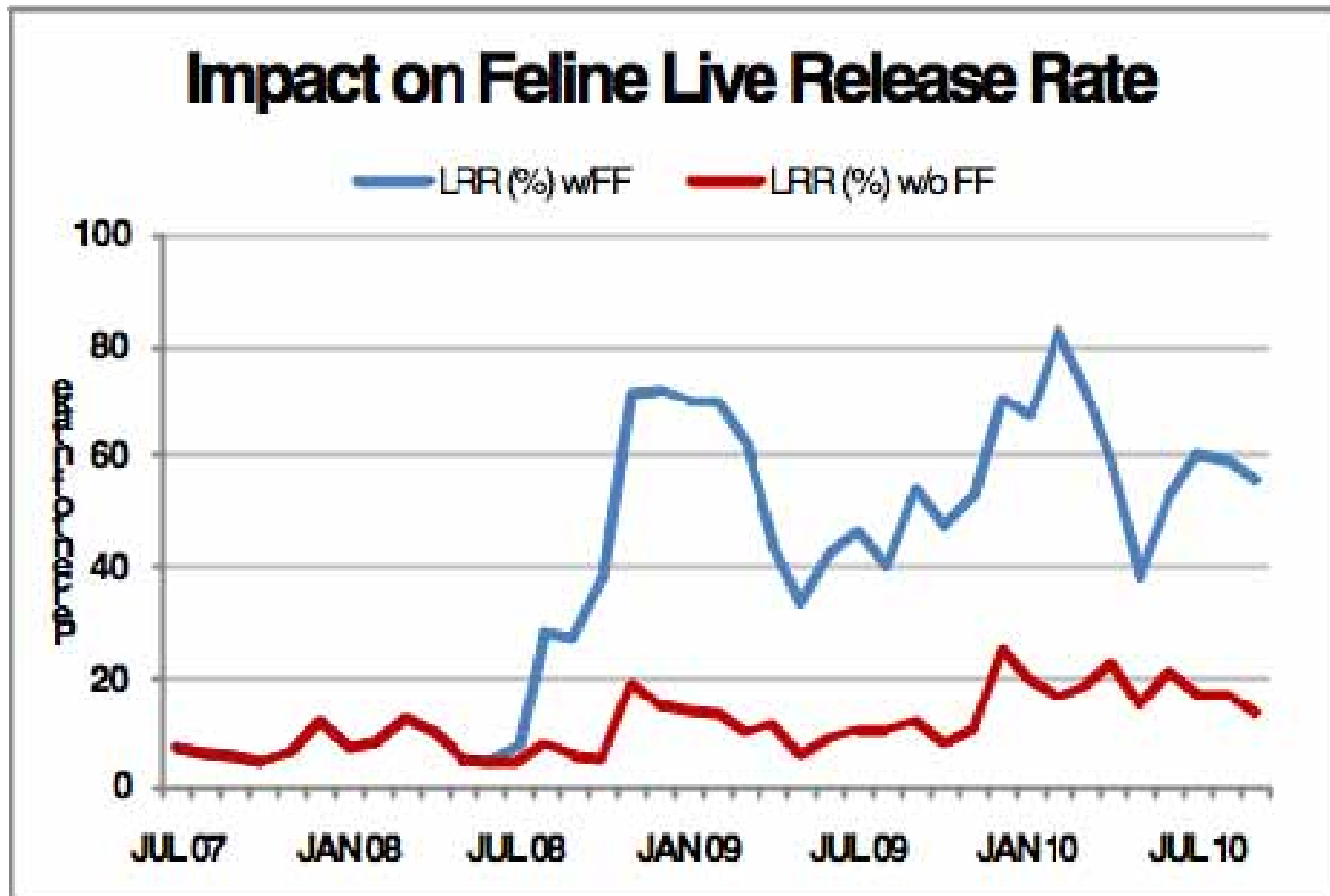
✦ Decrease in feline nuisance complaints

✦ 31% decrease in feline shelter admissions

- FY06–07: 13,455
- FY09–10: 10,302



Jacksonville: Feral Freedom



Salt Lake City: Feral Fix

- ✦ Feral Fix program (launched in 2008) reported:
 - 2008–2010: SLC improved its save rate by 40.4%
Result: Overall cost savings of more than \$65,000
 - 2008–2010: Utah save rate only improved 4.7%
- ✦ In 2010, SLC realized a 21.8% decrease in shelter cat intake from 2009
- ✦ No increase in feline nuisance complaints

Other Examples

(as Reported by Some Organizations)

- ✦ Maricopa County, Arizona:
cost per cat
 - \$61 to trap, hold and euthanize
 - \$23 to TNR
- ✦ Indianapolis, Indiana: cost per cat
 - \$130 to trap, hold and euthanize (national average)
 - \$20 to TNR (IndyFeral)



Utah Community Cat Act

§11-46-303



- ✦ Gives Utah cities the freedom to release cats immediately for TNR
- ✦ Community cats are eligible for release prior to the 5-day hold period

Financial Reality



- The cost of national wide eradication (impossible) and estimated at 16 billion dollars
- The cost of national TNR under 2 billion dollars
- National average for housing and euthanizing one cat \$250
- Estimates place WC's FRC population anywhere from 25,000 to over 90,000

Cats ARE NOT the primary threat to birds or wildlife

- “By far the largest threat to birds is loss and/or degradation of habitat”*
 - Humane Development
 - Agriculture
- Chemical Toxins
- Direct Human Interaction
 - Hunting
 - Trapping

*Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Threats to Native Birds:

<http://www.birds.cornell.edu/AllAboutBirds/conservation/planning/threats>

NHS provides deterrents

- NHS provides non-lethal, proactive strategies for deterrent
- Allows for citizens to deter cats from unwanted areas
- Free, effective, without TNRM there are no resources

Human Interactions



- Unsocialized cats avoid people, like most animals that exist in nature. They are not a risk
- Vaccinated - thus public health is protected by TNR whereas it is not in Trap and Kill.
- Liability results from negligence
- Population is reduced. Lack of action could be considered negligence
- TRNM

Good Sense = Good Policy



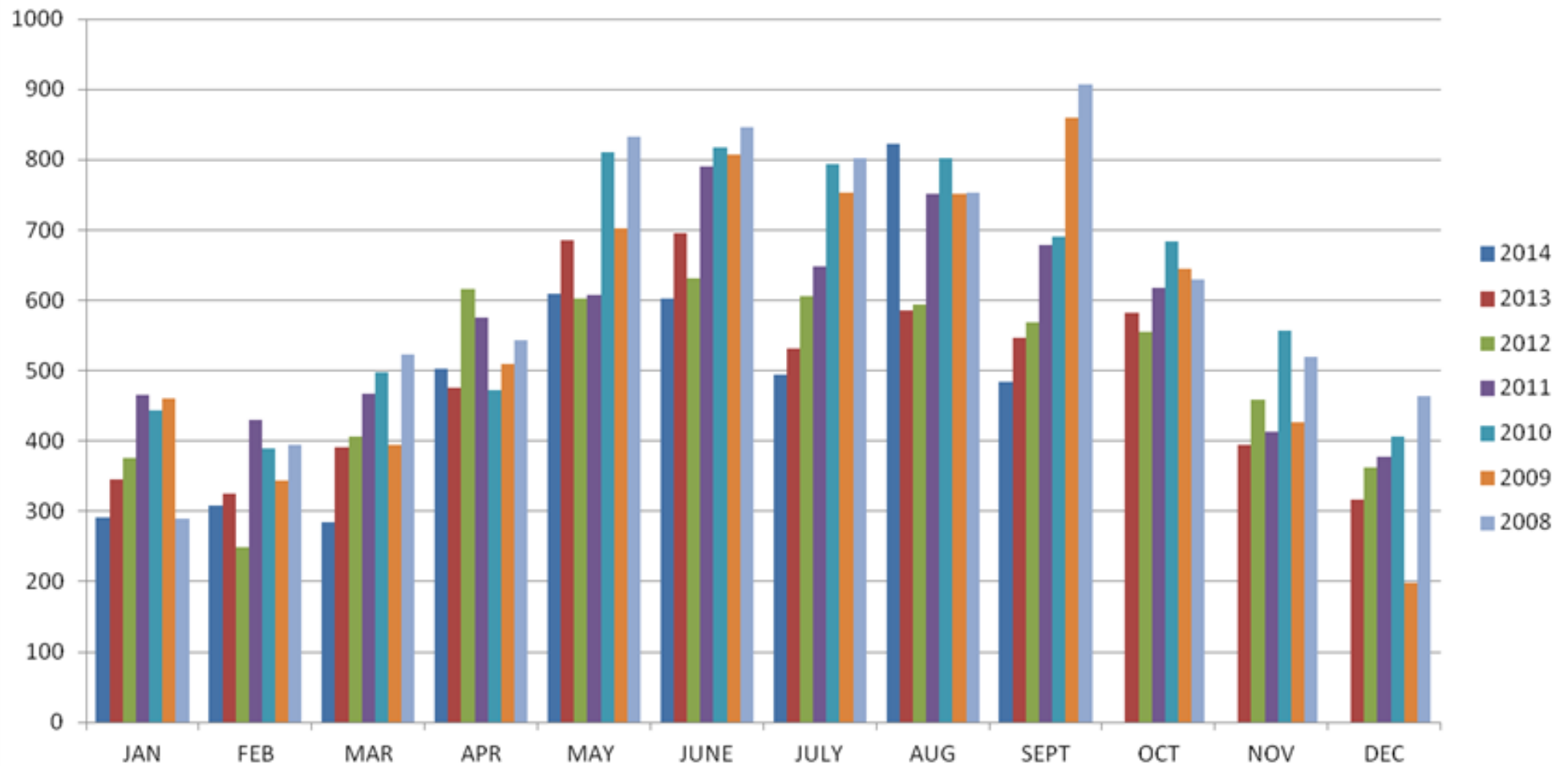
- Humane treatment of animals is a public concern. Harris Interactive poll found 80% of Americans believe TNR is more humane than Trap and Kill
- TNR is the only effective method of population control and population reduction
- Using population estimators based upon the number of households in WC (185,305) and the average cost to trap and kill (\$250) it would cost WC taxpayers \$23,163,125
- This would require one big roundup, cats don't stop reproducing. 1 cat, 4-6 kittens per litter, 2 litters per year. 1 cat = 10 kittens per year.
- 90,000 cats x 10 per year = catastrophe

Washoe County; A National Model



- ❑ 2012 safest place to be a dog or cat
- ❑ Combined efforts of NHS, Community Cats, FRONN, has yielded over 30,000 FRC spay and neutered.
- ❑ Prevented hundreds of thousands of FRC
- ❑ Invested \$1,050,000 in direct surgical costs (\$35/surgery) in FRC alteration
- ❑ NHS and Community Cats will invest over \$392,000 in FRC and Cat Management (cat specific funding)
- ❑ WC is experiencing a steady DECREASE in cat intake – 50% in kittens since 2012

Combined WCRAS and NHS Cat Intake



Sparks Investments



- ❑ NHS invest well over \$1,000,000 every year in Sparks alone.
- ❑ NHS invested \$212,000 in s/n surgeries in 89431 over the past year
- ❑ Washoe County has the highest adoption per capita rate in the nation
- ❑ NNHS and Reno/Sparks appear on numerous top ten lists.
- ❑ 67% of households contain a pet, this is a quality of life issue

Land Use



- ❑ Feral Cat housing is not a risk
- ❑ Colony Caretakers do have responsibilities
- ❑ NHS trains caretakers how to feed appropriately
- ❑ WCRAS will pick up deceased animals
- ❑ Free roaming cats are not illegal in WC – there are nuisance and trespassing ordinances in WC



NHS By the Numbers

- Founded in 1932 – Nevada’s first humane organization
- Over 8,000 Active Volunteers
- 90 Employees
- 2,516 Active Foster Homes
- Almost 9,000 Adoptions in 2014
- Over 75,000 Adoptions since 2007
- 20,000 calls every year to our Animal Resource Center

NHS Programs



- Animal Help Desk
- GI Dogs
- Angel Pets
- Seniors 4 Seniors
- Shining Stars
- Sex and the Kitty
- Year of the Cat
- Public Spay/Neuter
- Barn Cats
- Cat Action Team
- Emergency/Cruelty Response
- Emily's Fund
- Pet-i-Caid
- Blitz Programs

Over 15,000
animals will
walk through
the doors of
NHS this year
alone.



Molly and
Daffy



- Expanded high quality, low-cost public spay/neuter
- Targeted Spay/Neuter Efforts
- Expanded Outreach
- Increased veterinary offerings
- Behavior Modifications
- TNR
- Animal Help Desk → **Pets 4 Life**
- Rescue Groups

NHS' Economic Impact

Budget

- 2014 - \$4,150,000.00
- \$1,00,000 in grants annually
- Brought in almost \$4,100,000 in grants to Washoe County from Maddie's Fund alone
- In the past 2 years:
 - \$182,000.00 from PetCo Foundation
 - \$212,228.19 from PetSmart Charities
- \$380,000.00 annually from Mansfield
- Employs over 100 individuals
- Has 60,000 active donors
- Has a mailing list of almost 150,000 individual households
- Impacts almost 18,000 Washoe County households every year

One of the most decorated Charities in the Country

- 2012 Community Lifesaving Award
- BBB A+ Accredited Charity
- GuideStar Gold Charity
- Charity Navigator 5 Star Charity
- Rated A+ by Charity Watch
- Listed in Philanthropedia
- Top Ten Shelters in America

Big Funders

- PetSmart Charities
- Petco Foundation
- Animal Farm Foundation
- American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)
- John Snow Memorial Trust
- Carl and Virginia Mansfield Endowment
- Robert Z. Hawkins Foundation
- Bernice Barbour Foundation
- Lifestyle Homes Foundation
- S.L. Gimble Foundation



There is only one answer

There is no other effective way to manage the population, protect public health, reduce population, and prevent population explosion. Love them or hate FRC - TNR is the only option