



For Immediate Release

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Humane Society Rehabilitates Starving Dogs

La Plata County Humane Society

Durango, CO (October 19, 2017) On, September 5th, La Plata County Animal Protection Officers (APO) seized 8 dogs from a home in rural La Plata County. The dogs, mainly Labrador Retrievers also included a Malamute and one smaller, mixed breed were in various stages of neglect and all near death when they were taken from the home. After an initial investigation, APO Officers gave the dogs' caretaker one week to get them some food and the care they needed. But after the time period it was obvious the dogs were still suffering and were seized and transported to La Plata County Humane Society (LPCHS).

Upon intake, one of the dogs, Bella, a small statured black lab mix weighed in at only 17 pounds. Now after 6 weeks in the care of LPCHS, she is at a comfortable 45 pounds and ready to start enjoying life, probably for the first time.

"This was a clear case of abuse and severe neglect," says Chris Nelson, Director of Animal Services. "If our Animal Protection Officers had not intervened, they all would have been dead within a matter of days."

The dogs have lived at LPCHS for the six weeks while the court case progressed. They were under veterinarian supervision, named, loved and walked by the staff until custody was granted by the court and the dogs were at a healthy weight. "So often we see dogs and cats in these kinds of horrible conditions, getting an opportunity to watch and be a part of these dogs' rehab have been inspiring to us all," says Nelson.

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