



PRESS RELEASE

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DEAD ANIMALS FOUND NEAR GROVER

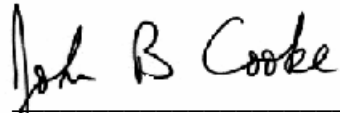
On December 2, 2007, the Weld County Sheriff's Office Animal Control Unit responded to the area of Weld County roads 83 and 124 on a report of animal neglect.

The officer reported finding several live and dead goats in a corral on the property. The living animals appeared to have minimal water and no food. The officer found the remains of two goats which appeared to have been eaten by another animal. In addition to the goats there were 5 dogs on the property. Some of the dogs were loose on the property and some were tied to structures near an unoccupied home. The dogs appeared to have no food and minimal water and the officer indicated the dogs appeared to be emaciated based on body condition scores. In addition, the officer noted there were no shelters available for the dogs. After continuing a search of the property the officer found several ducks and a turkey with little water and no food which were in fair condition. Two cats were also located on the property and received a body condition score of 3. The officer returned to the property with food for the animals and observed a llama which had not been seen earlier.

The scale which the officer uses is from 1 to 9. A condition of 1 indicates a severely emaciated animal where a scale of 9 indicates a severely obese animal.

On December 3, 2007, Weld County Sheriff's Office Animal Control Officers returned to the property and removed live and dead animals from the property. In total 46 live animals were removed including goats, chickens, ducks, dogs, cats, a llama, a turkey, and a guinea hen. The animals were taken to a local livestock auction or a veterinarian. A total of 58 dead animals including goats, chickens, and rabbits were also removed from the property.

The property owner was contacted and the investigation is continuing.



John B. Cooke – Sheriff