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CHLOE Female Snow Leopard

DOB 5/11/97

Chloe is an interesting combination: a very shy, but curious, snow leopard. She spends most of her days inside her air-conditioned den. However, even on hot days, she can be coaxed out for a tour by her favorite keepers as long as the guests keep quiet.

When she comes out, she keeps her eyes focused on the keeper and blocks out the tour guests. While not shameless for attention like her cougar neighbors, she seems to crave it nonetheless. At dinnertime she comes over and is more interested in "chuffing" at her feeder than in the food itself. In the evenings, both Chloe and Hercules will be outside. While her neighbor is much more showy and animated, she sits there majestically, unamused by his buffoonery.

Snow Leopards are extremely endangered. It's estimated there are only 4,000 – 7,000 left in the wild. In spite of their threatened status, an individual was able to purchase Chloe as a birthday gift for his wife. Chloe is just one example of the trade in exotic animals, a practice so rampant some experts say it rivals the illegal drug trade. Today, Chloe lives at Big Cat Rescue in a 1,200-square-foot habitat complete with air-conditioned den and rocky ledges. Although somewhat shy, when given ice cubes for enrichment, her curiosity takes over and she paws and plays in them like an overgrown kitten.



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Big Cat Rescue's Chlo...

<http://bigcatrescue.org/cats/captive/snowleopardschloe.htm>

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HERCULES Male Snow Leopard

DOB 6/97

The Species Survival Plan (SSP) is an organized effort of the AZA accredited zoos to propagate endangered species in captivity so that none are taken from the wild. Sometimes a particular gene pool will become unbalanced as some lines breed more successfully than others. This creates a "surplus" of an endangered species, meaning that there are too many with the same blood lines. These surplus cats are removed, temporarily, from the program until the other bloodlines catch up. Our Snow Leopards were surplus from the Species Survival Plan and that is why we are not breeding them. At Big Cat Rescue our philosophy is that NO wild animal should be bred for life in a cage.

Hercules came to Big Cat Rescue on 6/6/97, along with his mate Chloe. The Snow Leopard Lair is a "triplex" with over 1800 square feet of living space for each cat and a simulated snow covered rocky ledge wall that encloses their dens, which are air conditioned year round. The Snow Leopards are given only purified water as they would have had glacier run off in their native lands.

We are proud to be the second largest retailer of Snow Leopard Enterprise products, which is a clever program designed to save snow leopards in the wild. Find out more about how Big Cat Rescue is saving snow leopards in the wild [HERE](#)



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<http://www.bigcatrescue.org/cats/captive/snowleopardshercules.htm>