



Stray Cats in Kirksville

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Who is Involved?

- The project is a collaboration between our symposium group of 11 people and the Adair County Humane Society.
- The shelter is overrun with cats and cannot take over a certain number, which leaves many other cats homeless, injured, or abandoned.

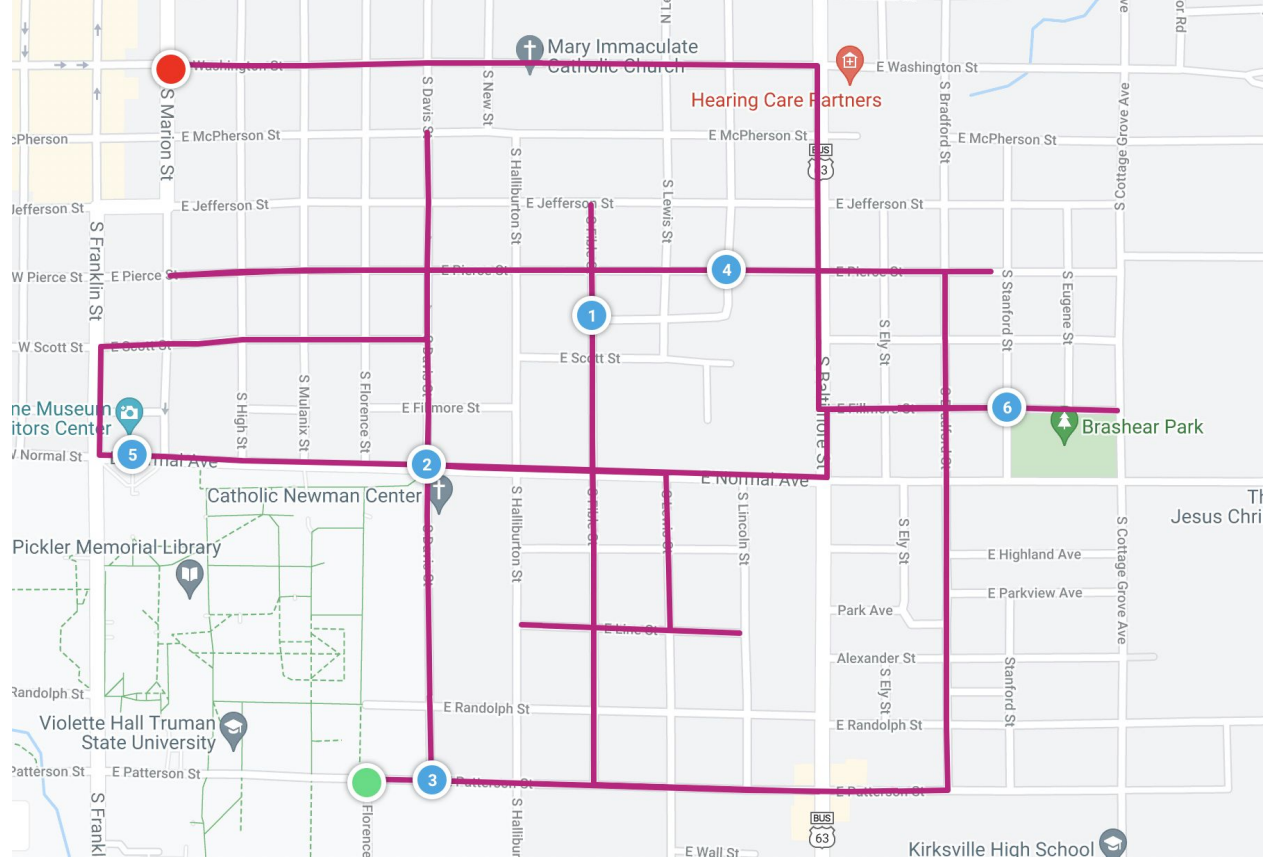


What is the Project?

- We set out to gather information about stray cats in and around the Truman campus.
- Information includes specific characteristics (such as appearance), location, sex, and urgency, which will be provided to animal control for spay, neuter, release (SNR) projects in Kirksville.
- Our group felt these were the most essential characteristics to document.

Where

- This is the map of the specific routes walked by the members of our group.
- Each group member was responsible for a specific street of their choosing.
- The routes were mainly tailored to the Northeast areas of our campus.



When

- Our individual walks started right after our first meeting on October 25th and ended on November 29th.
- Although we used class time on Mondays from 4:30-5:15 pm to walk, observation walking was not limited to that time and was encouraged to happen at any time to get more variability.

October 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

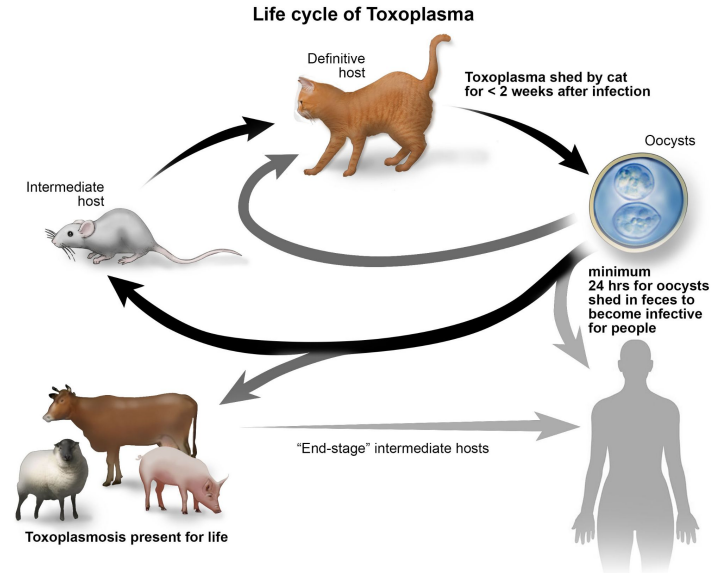
Monday, Oct 25th 2021

November 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Monday, Nov 29th 2021

Why is it Important?

- Providing Animal Control with this information means that they will better be able to catch and spay/neuter these animals to reduce overpopulation and improve the quality of life for all animals in the area.
- Stray Cats have been found to be detrimental to native species, especially birds.
 - Stray Cats kill about one hundred million birds per year (Smithsonian, 2019).
 - Stray Cats have contributed to the extinction of 63 species of birds (abcbirds.org)
 - Since birds are a vital part of many stable ecosystems, the sharp decrease in population influences other animal and even plant species.
- In addition, Stray Cats have been linked to carrying dangerous diseases and parasites, which can spread to people, pets, and wildlife.
 - Hook and Heartworm, Rabies, Toxoplasmosis, and more



How (Methodology)

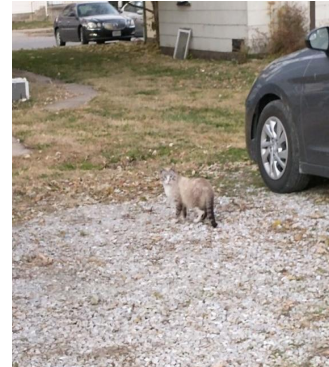
- Each individual in the group chose a different street to consistently walk on to observe for stray cats.
- We each took walks at different times of the day and if we saw a wandering cat, we recorded it in a shared Google Sheet. The Google Sheet consisted of the name of the person who found the cat, the description of the cat, where the cat was spotted, sex, and more.
- The Sheet is shown in the next slide, however, not all cats were finished being documented.

Methodology Cont.

Name:	Date:	Time:	Location?	Description of Cat
Meg Heveroh	October 26	5:32 PM	E Fible Street	Zebra like fur
Meg Heveroh	October 26	6:41 PM	E Fible Street	White cat with big black spots (cow-like)
Shadow		6:10 PM	Parking Lot Behind Ryle	Orange tabby and white cat; the white appears in a tuxedo pattern, with the white reaching up in a thick band around its neck
Shadow	11-08-21	12:40 PM	501 Washington Street; corner of Florence	Light ginger tabby; kind of fat. No white. Big, green(?) eyes and a short-ish muzzle.
Shadow	November 8	1:00 PM	201 S Davis Street	Black cat with pointy face, yellow eyes, and a pot belly. She has some white furs, especially around her neck, only visible when she is lying down
Shadow	November 8	2:00 PM	201 A Davis Street	Calico-tabby with yellow eyes; looks to be a healthy weight
Shadow	November 8	16:50	401 S Marion	Small, light grey, spotted tabby
Shadow	November 8	4:50 PM	See above	Silver and white classic tabby kitten., with yellow eyes
Shadow	November 8	4:50 PM	See above	Grey tabby kitten
Shadow	November 8	4:50 PM	See above	Black and white tuxedo kitten
Shadow	November 8	4:52 PM	Same as above; opposite side of street	Large black cat with yellow eyes
Shadow	November 8	5:01 PM	Very near the address listed below	Shorthair black cat. Small?
Shadow	November 8	4:57 PM	408 Florence Street	Large cream cat with banded tail
Shadow	November 8	4:57 PM	See above	Grey tabby cat with brown undercoat
Alexis	November 8	5:30 PM	W Normal Ave.	White with gray spots
Kylie S	November 8	5:30 PM	S Halliburton	White and grey
Emily Traube	November 8	6:15 PM	E Scott Ave	white with grey spots
Shadow	November 8	6:13 PM	On the quad	Grey tabby tuxedo (might be a dilute torbie? It was dark)
Emma H	Nov 8	6:45 PM	S Halliburton	black and white
Kylie S	November 9	12:00 PM	Fible	Brown and black
Savannah	November 11	3:30 PM	W Scottt	black with white under the neck
Shadow	October?		N side of Baldwin	Dark grey tabby
Shadow	November 16	4:40 PM	1408 S Halliburton St	Perfect model of a black-and-white tuxedo cat.
Shadow	November 16	4:50 PM	1409 S Lewis St	Small, grey spotted tabby (spots almost like a Bengal's) with green eyes. Chubby.
Shadow	November 16	5:00 PM	409 S Fible St	White van cat with grey spots around ears and on bridge of nose, and grey tail. Tiny eyes
Shadow	November 16	5:00 PM	409 S Fible St	Black cat with white chest star and socks
Shadow	November 16	17:00	409 S Fible St	White cat with large, grey tabby splotches

Methodology Cont.

- If possible, we took pictures of the cats at the time of the spotting.
- Attached below, are some of the pictures taken by some of the members of our group.



Narrative Report

To whom it may concern,

As a group, we set off on a mission to get an estimated number of stray cats around the Truman campus. We were planning on reporting to the Adair County Humane Society to inform them on the number we found. In order to do this, a group of 13 Truman students planned to individually take walks on a few chosen streets. As we encountered the cats, we took pictures of them and recorded some of their information on a shared Google Sheet so we could all track our progress. At the end of the 6 weeks, we recorded a total of 57 cat sightings. Some of these cats may be outdoor cats that have a home, but we could not be certain. Of the 57 cat sightings recorded, none could be identified to being neutered or spayed. Some even looked to have carried diseases or been pregnant but we tried to keep our distance in order to assure our safety, so we could not be completely sure.

These 57 cat sightings were documented in only a few hours throughout the week, and it's certain that with every one we saw, there were many more that were not.