

Cold, exhausted dog found in Copper Mountain bathroom

Blair Shiff, KUSA 1:17 p.m. MST December 5, 2014



(Photo: Summit County Sheriff's Office)

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SUMMIT COUNTY - A scary story now has a happy ending thanks to a community that helped to capture a skittish dog.

On Oct. 15th, Animal Control received a call for help as a Vizsla named Zip escaped during transit to a breed rescue group in the Front Range. The skittish dog remained at large for 13 days running between Bill's Ranch and Copper Mountain.

Animal Control Officers persistently tried to capture Zip using all the tools of their trade including a live trap and a net gun. Although many of the attempts to catch the dog came close, the nervy and frightened Zip was able to avoid capture.

Members of the public, Copper Mountain Security staff, and volunteers from Colorado Wyoming Vizsla Rescue Group all joined Animal Control in the effort to catch poor Zip. As the nightly temperatures dropped and the snow started to fall, Zip's condition deteriorated as she became thinner and more exhausted each time she was sighted.

Finally, Zip made her way into a bathroom in one of the buildings at Copper Mountain. When Animal Control arrived on scene, Zip was found hiding in one of the stalls.

She was removed from the stall and carefully handed off to the CWVRG volunteer who transported her to a foster home in the Front Range.

Lisa Hoxie, a CWVRG volunteer, emailed an update that Zip was adjusting to her foster family well, had gained weight, and is becoming more trusting of humans.

"Of all the places on earth that Zip could have been lost, Frisco was definitely the best place," Shawna Wells of CWVRG said. "There were so many residents who were instrumental in our search effort - so many to call with daily sightings, some willing to place a trap under their window or on their property, and so many calling concerned for her safety - it truly felt like a community coming together to help us find her."

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