

Nationwide Search for Families of Microchipped Cats

Best Friends Animal Society hopes to find families of cats rescued from institutional hoarding in Pahrump, Nev.

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Seven cats rescued from a hoarding situation in Pahrump, Nev., were once family pets. Best Friends Animal Society discovered that the cats were microchipped, but efforts to find the owners of these cats have so far proved unsuccessful.

Nye County Animal Control asked Best Friends to help care for 400-plus cats seized at a facility in Pahrump, Nev. Since July, staff and volunteers have provided food, veterinary care and human attention to the cats. As each cat is examined by a veterinarian, it is scanned for an existing microchip.

Seven cats so far have microchips, with owner information indicating the cats once lived with families in Las Vegas, Henderson and Reno. One cat, Kevin, was reported missing four years ago from Las Vegas. Contact information for all the cats is out-of-date, and now Best Friends hopes others around the country can help find these cats' families.

"The fact that we have not been able to return these lonely cats to their families yet illustrates why it is so important to not only have your pets microchipped, but to keep the registration current, especially if one of your pets is missing," said Sherry Woodard, Best Friends animal behaviorist. "These kitties would be curled up on the bed right now if we had been able to find their families."

If you are missing a microchipped cat from the greater Las Vegas area, please contact Best Friends staff member Whitney Jones at (435) 644-3965, ext. 4424, or e-mail her at whitneyj@bestfriends.org. For more information about the microchipped cats and the 400 other cats in Pahrump, visit the Best Friends Animal Society website.