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Behind the scenes, our public relations staff made sure these cases caught the media’s attention, while our government affairs specialists helped direct public outrage to passing stronger animal protection laws. In turn, tougher policies and penalties spurred officials to tackle more abuses—and our rescue teams were on the road again.

This multipronged strategy is essential to creating lasting progress for animals—changes with the potential to affect many more lives than direct rescue efforts alone. But while we continue to confront animal suffering on a national and international stage, we never forget that behind every disaster and every headline, individual animals and communities rely on our ability to respond at a moment’s notice.

Rescue Snapshots

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Laws and Effect: The March 14 raid on the Little Bayou Club was Louisiana’s first cockfighting seizure since the state became the 50th to implement a ban on the blood sport in 2008. The ban was the result of a decade-long fight led by The HSUS—one of many we wage on behalf of animals in state legislatures around the nation.

**April**

April 4  
Don Ana County, N.M.  
Assisted with raids on seven alleged cockfighting operations.  
618 birds

April 21  
Alliance, Neb.  
Helped care for and place neglected horses.  
222 horses

May

May 16 / Lewis County, Tenn.  
Supplied the intelligence that led law enforcement to investigate a large-scale cockfighting enterprise; HSUS staff also provided support during the raid.  
200 birds

May 19 / Cazenovia, Wis.  
Helped seize dogs, horses, birds, farm animals, and other species from a hoarding situation.  
374 animals

May 21 / Yukon River area, Alaska  
Provided emergency shipments of food for sled dogs in flooded Alaskan villages.  
771 animals

May 26 / Kennewick, Wash.  
Assisted in the seizure, care, and placement of American Eskimo dogs from a puppy mill.  
386 dogs

November

Nov. 10 / Baltimore, Md.  
Helped rescue and relocate neglected cart horses and ponies.  
19 horses

Nov. 13 / Mountain View, Ark.  
Worked with local authorities to seize neglected horses.  
25 horses

Nov. 17 / Douglas County, Kan.  
Assisted law enforcement in the raid of an alleged cockfighting operation.  
169 birds

Nov. 17 / Quebec, Canada  
HSI, The HSUS’s international affiliate, helped rescue neglected sled dogs.  
72 dogs

Nov. 23 / Cannon County, Tenn.  
Helped provide emergency shelter and care for 84 horses, 8 dogs, 2 goats, and 14 chickens.  
108 animals

Nov. 24 / Sherman County, Kan.  
Assisted local law enforcement in a cockfighting raid.  
150 birds

December

Dec. 4  
Placer County, Calif.  
Assisted in the raid of an alleged cockfighting operation.  
63 birds

Dec. 4  
Washburn, Tenn.  
Helped rescue dogs from a suspected hoarding situation.  
17 dogs

June 1: Randolph County, Ala.  
Horses rescued in Nebraska in April run toward their new lives at our Texas sanctuary, Black Beauty Ranch.

—Sheriff Larry D. Taylor, Benton County, Wash.