



THE SCIENCE AND CONSERVATION
CENTER INTERNATIONAL

2025

ANNUAL REPORT



SCC

SCIENCE & CONSERVATION CENTER
INTERNATIONAL



THE SCIENCE AND CONSERVATION CENTER INTERNATIONAL

Annual Report: January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025

2025 Highlights: 3

Program Impact: 4

Research: 6

Outreach: 7

Financials: 8

2026 Plans: 9



Message from the Director

2025 was, by any standards, a turbulent year across the conservation and nonprofit sectors. Changes in federal agency staffing, funding, and priorities kept us on our toes as we strove to adjust and adapt. At the SCC, we were fortunate to be able to remain steady during an otherwise unsteady year. We benefitted from our fiscally conservative practices of past years and were able to maintain momentum and perform well despite the political headwinds.

The SCC's programs marched on in 2025. The PZP laboratory operated in full production mode, trainings occurred as needed, and the pursuit of PZP-22 carries on but with a longer timeframe. Our team continues to collaborate at the management level for advancements in fertility control programming and research.



As always, I am honored to work among a network of conservationists seeking humane and science-based solutions for wildlife. I'm proud of the unique resource we are among the conservation community. My gratitude goes out to our partners and supporters who continue to walk this path with us.

Kimberly Frank
Executive Director

Our Mission



The mission of the SCC is to develop and apply wildlife fertility control as an alternative to lethal or stressful management controls. We are committed to proactive, science-based methods of wildlife management that balance populations with habitat capacities.

The Team

Staff

Kimberly Frank
Executive Director

Dr. Melissa Esser
Science Liaison

Holly Sessoms
Development Coordinator

Kayla Grams
Senior Biologist

Anna Hoover
Laboratory Technician



Board of Directors

Dr. Claire Oakley
President

Celeste Carlisle
Secretary & Treasurer

Chris Dimmock
Past President

Jessica Hart

David Irion

Jack Nickels

Dr. Allen Rutberg

Melanie Schwarz

2025 Partners



Ambrose Veterinary Clinic
American Wild Horse
Conservation
Animal Protection of NM
Audubon Nature Institute
Audubon Zoo AHCC
Baton Rouge Zoo
Binder Park Zoo
Blank Park Zoo
Buffalo Zoological Gardens
Bureau of Land Management
Busch Gardens Tampa
Calgary Zoo
Cape Lookout National Seashore
Cape May County Zoo
Dallas Zoo
Denver Zoo
Detroit Zoological Parks
Eckerd College
Freeport-McMoran Audubon
Center

Friends of the Mustangs
Great Plains Zoo
Indianapolis Zoo
Jacksonville Zoo
Kentucky Horse Council
Kentucky Humane Society
Los Angeles Zoo
Mesker Park Zoo
Minnesota Zoo
Mt. Taylor Mustangs
Northeastern Wisconsin Zoo
Northwest Trek
Oregon Zoo Vet Hospital
Parc Zoologique de Paris
Pima Maricopa
Pine Nut Wild Horse
Advocates
Pueblo Zoo
Queens Zoo
Racine Zoo

Red River Zoo
Reid Park Zoo
Return to Freedom
Saint Louis Zoo
San Diego Zoo Safari Park
San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance
Sand Wash Advocate Team
Sky Mountain Wild Horse
Sanctuary
Solato Wildlife Center
Toledo Zoo
Tulsa Zoo
Weyerhaeuser Lower Columbia
Timberlands
Wild Horses of America Foundation
Wildlife Conservation Society
Wildlife Safari
Woodland Park Zoo
Yellow River Wildlife Sanctuary
Zoo Miami

2025 Highlights

- Sat on the Association of Zoos and Aquariums Reproductive Management Center Advisory Team
- Invited speaker: Montana Wilderness Society Conference
- Lead and trained the ZooMontana darting team
- Attended the BLM Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board meetings, Sacramento, CA
- Invited speakers: International Wild Equid Conference, Nanyuki, Kenya
- Contributed to the Colorado Wild Horse Working Group meetings
- Partnered with USGS to conduct statistical analysis of 20 years of wild horse contraception data
- Attended the International Urban Wildlife Conference, Atlanta, GA
- Hosted over 100 guests for presentations and tours at the SCC campus
- Continued repository for all FDA and EPA required records and data
- Attended The Wildlife Society Conference, Alberta, Canada
- Invited speaker: Pathways: Human Dimensions in Wildlife Conference, Estes Park, CO
- Collaborated with Humane World for Animals and the Environmental Protection Agency to advance PZP-22 registration
- Visited with hundreds of agricultural extension agents from across the US
- Presented to three local charitable and conservation organizations
- Hosted the first annual SCC Open House



Impact

PZP Program

4,200
PZP doses produced

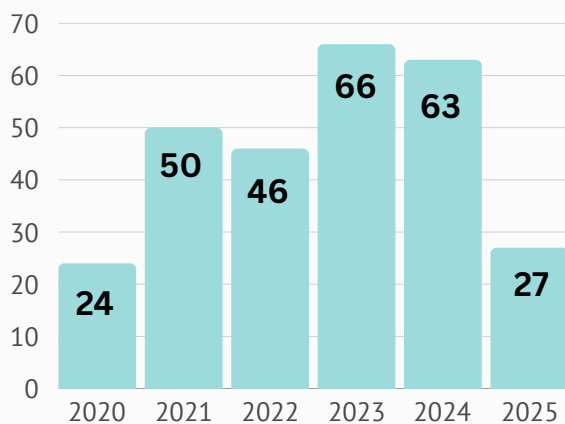
4,026
PZP doses shipped

- 3,734 Horses
- 291 Zoos
- 1 Research

PZP vaccine demand was down slightly in 2025 in response to federal budget and staffing uncertainty. However, as programs have stabilized and the government has reopened, orders began to rebound in the last quarter of the year. Approximately 2,000 doses are stockpiled to ensure availability under a variety of circumstances.

Training Program

Date	Attendees	Location
March 4-6	6	Billings, MT
May 6-8	3	Billings, MT
May 20-22	6	Stagecoach, NV
August 5-7	2	Billings, MT
August 26-28	10	Navajo Nation, AZ

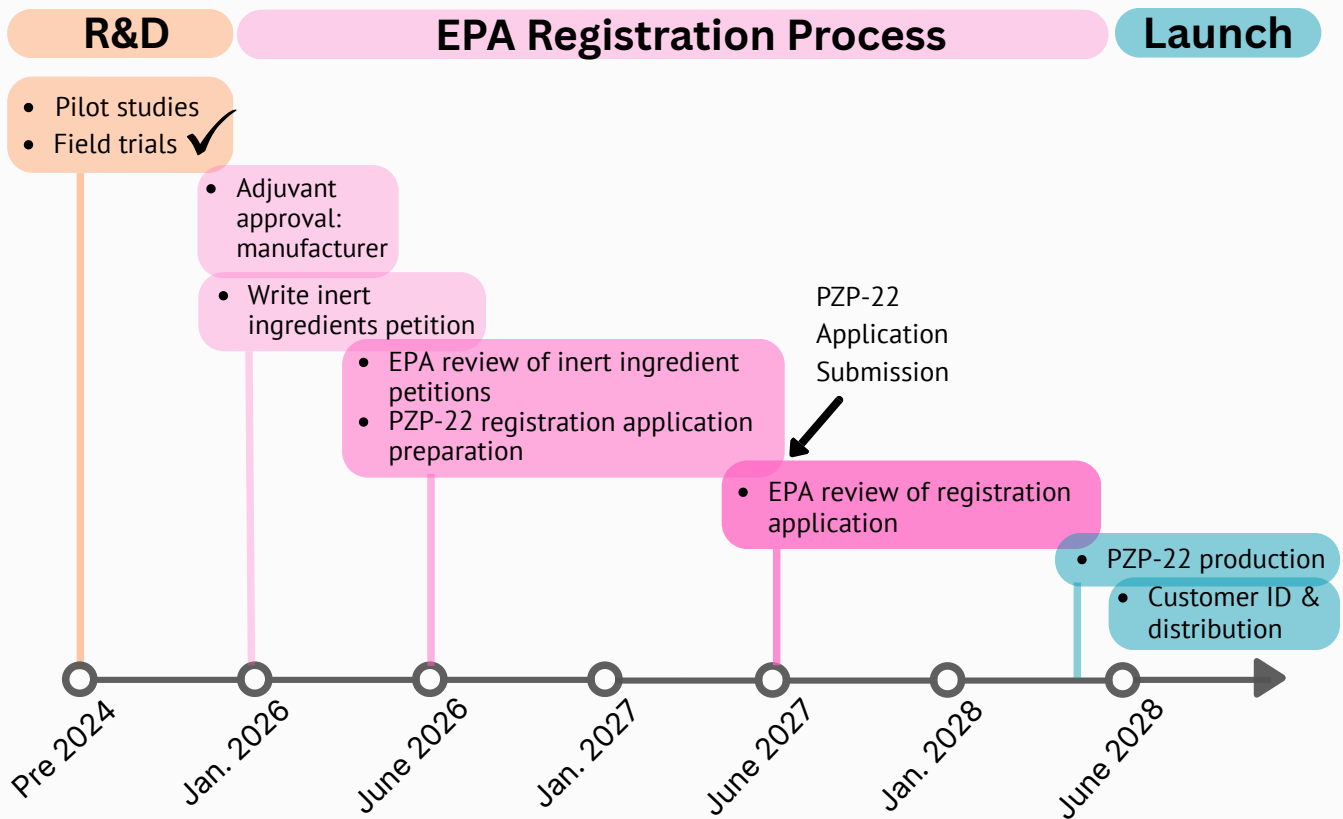


2020-2025 PZP Training Certifications

Training numbers are down in 2025 likely a result of federal funding uncertainty and pauses to programs during the government shutdown. Additionally, strong training numbers of recent years indicates that groups and agency partners may be adequately certified for the time being. As new volunteers and/or staff are acquired by our partners, and subject to federal funding for fertility control programs, we expect training numbers to increase once again.

PZP-22 Program

In 2024, the SCC hired Dr. Melissa Esser to manage federal registration of our long-acting vaccine, PZP-22. PZP-22 must be registered with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to be used in federally managed wildlife. Due to significant staffing changes at the EPA and to additional ingredient approval processes, the timeline for registration has extended from one year to approximately two and a half years. The anticipated registration date of PZP-22 is spring of 2028. **Please note that the timeframe is subject to change.**



The SCC is working closely with Humane World for Animals and the EPA to register PZP-22. PZP-22 will provide a treatment option for approximately 30,000 wild horses currently too difficult or remote to treat on an annual basis.

Research, Publications, Presentations

- *A broader assessment: Porcine zona pellucida immunocontraception vaccine (ZonaStat-H) efficacy in seven free-roaming horse populations across the western United States.*
 - Kayla Grams (SCC) partnered with the USGS to conduct an on-going outcome analysis of PZP use by NGOs in seven wild horse herds. The analysis is examining PZP vaccine effect on reproduction, effects over time, and effects of horse's age on efficacy.
 - International Wild Equid Conference
- *A Pathway to Wild Horse Management with Limited Resources where Partnerships Make a Difference.*
 - Kayla Grams presentation on wild horse management collaborations resulting in successful wild horse management programs.
 - Pathways: Human Dimensions of Wildlife Conference
- *Managing wild horse herds with limited resources.*
 - Kimberly Frank presentation highlighting the NGO and agency partnerships utilizing PZP in wild horses that represent some of the best fertility control programs in the country.
 - International Wild Equid Conference
 - Montana Wildlife Society Conference
- *Non-lethal feral rabbit control.*
 - The SCC is partnering with Rocky Mountain College to assess PZP efficacy for managing feral rabbit populations. Managing feral rabbits may be essential to reduce the ecological impacts and population spread to new areas. The results of this research will have possible global applications.
 - Supported by the Yvonne Mansfield Animal Welfare Fund



Outreach



171%

Social media interactions



Newsletter launch

4 issues, 91 subscribers



Policy Campaign

5 federal representatives reached



112

Visitors, 5 tours



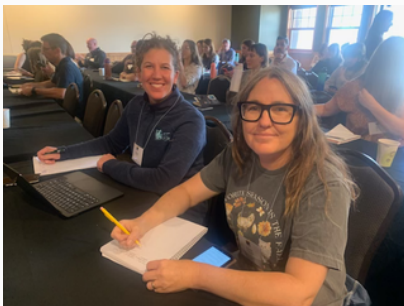
2 Events

700 interactions

The SCC's social media presence and outreach grew significantly in 2025. We maintain a message focused on fertility control science, collaborative relationships, and habitat protection through proactive management. We continue to reach out to managers and to legislators positioning ourselves as a resource for program and policy development. We adopted a tagline in 2025 to summarize our approach:

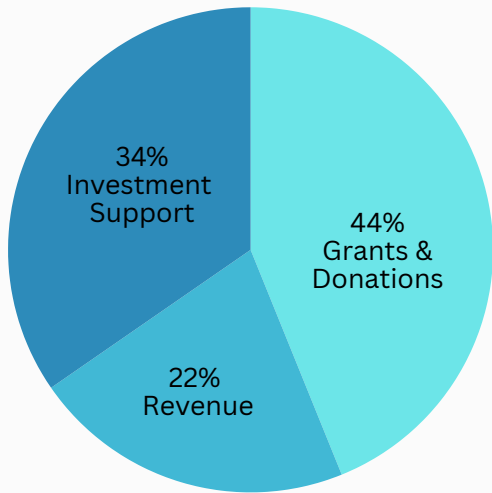


Science based conservation for a healthy wild ”



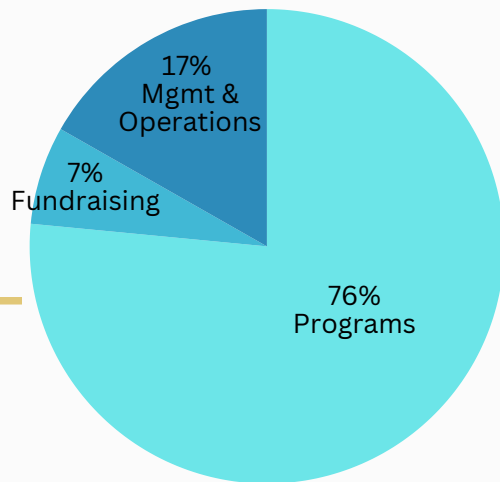
Financial Summary

Revenue & Income



Grants and Donations: \$251,631
Vaccine and Training Revenue: \$132,335
Investment Support: \$198,612

Expenses



Programs: \$445,795
Fundraising: \$39,070
Management & Operations: \$97,713

 **2025 Annual Budget: \$582,578**



2026 Plans & Strategy

In 2026 the SCC will continue to respond to evolving demands for PZP vaccines and training while increasing visibility at the federal policy and management levels. New endeavors in 2026 include:

- Partner with Blue Marble Strategy government affairs firm to promote the SCC as a science-based resource to Wild Horse and Burro Program policy makers.
- Continue pursuit of PZP-22 registration in partnership with Humane World for Animals and the EPA.
- Update PZP laboratory equipment to ensure production and storage capabilities.
- Partner with Rocky Vista University Veterinary College to provide student research opportunities.
- Deploy a Search Engine Optimization program to grow visibility and authority of the SCC website.
- Expand granting partnerships and donor programming.

2026 SCC On-Site Training Dates

March 3-5	April 7-9
May 12-14	June 2-4
July 7-9	August 4-6
September 1-3	October 6-8
November: Scheduled if there is enough interest	

Contact Information

The Science and Conservation Center
2100 S Shiloh Road
Billings, MT 59106

(406) 652.9718
contact @sccpzp.org



SCC

SCIENCE & CONSERVATION CENTER
INTERNATIONAL

www.sccpzp.org