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**(S.D.)- Five Rescued Bears From Ohio Come To SD Sanctuary**



By: Jeremy Anderson Posted at: 07/04/2013 03:50 PM

SPEARFISH, S.D. (AP) - Five bears rescued from a private owner in Ohio are getting a new home at the Spirit of the Hills Wildlife Sanctuary in the western South Dakota city of Spearfish.

The bears lived in small, cramped pens on a concrete pad in Prospect, Ohio.

Fred Erdman, president of the sanctuary board, says the U.S. Agriculture Department office in South Dakota asked the organization to take the bears. He says it wasn't hard to decide to take the bears.

Bobbi Brink, founder and director of San Diego's Lions Tigers and Bears, led the effort to relocate bears from private owners in Ohio. She says she happy that the bears will be able to enjoy nature for the first time at the Spearfish sanctuary.