

More Black-footed ferrets released in Kansas



The sun was dropping in the west when the caravan assembled south of Russell Springs and followed landowner Larry Haverfield out to a place where nine Black-footed ferrets were released last Monday.

This is the third release of the endangered ferrets in Logan County as part of a reintroduction project being coordinated through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Kansas Audubon Society.

Christopher Ladino (left photo) an exchange student from Tula Valle, Columbia, helped coax one of the females into a prairie dog hole.

Landowners Bette and Larry Haverfield (below) watched the release and talked to Floyd Barnhardt (center) who

was one of the early people trying to help save the ferrets.

Some of the ferrets decided they did not like the particular hole picked for them and decided to stroll around to find another of their liking (right photo).

The curious little creatures who eat prairie dogs would pop back up to see what was going on, and watch the people who were watching them.

In one case when a ferret was dropped in a hole the resident prairie dog jumped out and ran to another hole.

Ron Klatske, of the Kansas Audubon Society (lower right) got down on the ground to shoot photos of the ferrets.

Photos by Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News



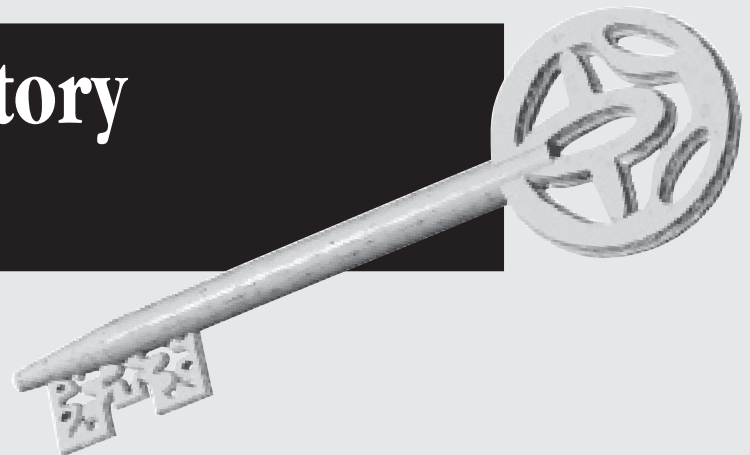
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