

Black Pine Animal Sanctuary

Animal Facts

Breed: COATIMUNDI

Names / Sex / Age:

Bandit M Unknown, but at least 8 years

Previous Home: Captured by animal control in Carmel, IN, then placed adopted from a pet store.

Native to: Southwestern U.S., Mexico, Central America, and south to Argentina and Paraguay.

Weight: Bandit weight 19 pounds.

Life Expectancy: 14 years.

Status: Not in danger.

Diet: insects, lizards, frogs, eggs, fruit.

Facts:

- Coatimundies, or coaties, are closely related to the North American raccoon
- They can live in various habitats including deserts, rainforests, grasslands, scrub forests, and deciduous forests
- Long tails aid them in balancing as they climb trees
- Coatis are active both day and night
- Coatis live in groups called "bands"
- Coatis are omnivores and eat insects, frogs, lizards, eggs, and fruit
- Their long, sensitive noses help them root for food
- Their legs are short, but powerful, and long claws can be dangerous to predators
- To aid them in coming down from trees, their ankles can reverse completely so they retain their grip while coming down head first.

Personal History:

Bandit was presumably someone's pet. Research revealed there is a private breeder who sells the animals into the exotic pet trade in central Indiana. Though no one is sure, he probably escaped his captive home, or was set free. He was safely captured by animal control officials in Indianapolis. He would not have survived the Indiana winter without proper shelter. Officials subsequently found a pet store in Kokomo willing to care for him. After they did their homework they determined it in his best interest not to sell him to become a pet again, and opted to ask Black Pine to give him refuge. Bandit came from the same pet store as Gus, the alligator.