

Bone surgery for El Salvador's last male jaguar

March 21 2017



Greco, El Salvador's last male jaguar, undergoes surgery at the National Zoo

Vets in El Salvador's zoo carried out an operation Monday to clean up a bone infection in the country's last male jaguar, an 18-year-old named Greco.

The big cat was rescued by police six years ago from a circus. He was already suffering osteomyelitis—infection and inflammation of the

bone—to his front right leg through neglect.

The head of the zoological park in San Salvador, Virna Ortiz, said the operation to clean the leg's marrow, followed by chemotherapy, could only slow the infection but not cure the animal.

The procedure takes place every six weeks, and is complicated by the fact that the jaguar cannot be medicated constantly because its previous neglect in the circus left it with renal deficiency.

The park's biologist, Raul Miranda, said Greco and his female companion Flacucha were star attractions for visitors.

Their species is threatened with extinction across Latin America, and no others are believed to exist in El Salvador.



Greco the jaguar is treated for infection and inflammation of the bone at the

National Zoo in El Salvador

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