



Walking Tall

A small patch of land littered with garbage and rotting carcasses was once the place Stevie called home. Neglected and malnourished, with a brittle and patchy coat, the goat compensated for his badly overgrown hooves by hobbling on his front knees.

After a whistleblower reported the abuse, The HSUS helped the Douglas County Sheriff's Office remove Stevie and 28 other animals from the Sutherlin, Ore., property. Stevie's inquisitive demeanor endeared him to rescuers, who noticed that many baby goats on the farm looked suspiciously similar.

"Everyone fell in love with him," says HSUS Oregon state director Scott Beckstead. While other goats kept their distance, Stevie greeted rescuers affectionately, seemingly excited to be in the middle of things. "When you put your face down to him, he reaches out and nuzzles you," Beckstead says. "He has very soft, fuzzy lips, and he will smell you and start rubbing your cheeks with his face."

At the Saving Grace Pet Adoption Center, Stevie's thick hooves were trimmed. But he'd been walking on his knees for so long that his tendons had severely contracted and he still couldn't stand. With HSUS funds, veterinarian Gene Kang of Oregon's Parkway Animal Hospital performed surgery on Stevie's legs.

After convalescing at The HSUS's Duchess Sanctuary, Stevie was transferred to **Sanctuary One**. Though he lives with five other goats, he relishes the company of a potbellied pig named Rosie. "One night, he just decided he didn't want to go in his usual pen," says volunteer Jake Dacks. "He went into Rosie's pen, and they've been roommates ever since." —*Ruthanne Johnson*

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