As an orphaned baby ocelot, little “Fifi” stole our hearts and filled the Zoo with happiness daily, as all of our animals do. As she continues to grow and get stronger, she is also outgrowing her small holding area. Therefore, we started planning for her future at the Zoo, and, thankfully there is an ideal space with ideal company just for her!

Just a little over a year ago, a kind man brought to the Zoo a young male ocelot from Boston Village in the Belize District. He boldly took the chained and emaciated spotted feline from someone trying to sell him illegally. We named him Boston for where he came from, and, having a gentle temperament, we feel that he and Fifi will be very happy sharing a space together at the Belize Zoo.

So, yes, we have joyous plans for the New Year bringing together two young ocelots having lost their chance for a life in the wild to live a happy and enriched life while representing their species.

Ocelots were once considered endangered due to the high demand for their beautiful spotted
coats; it would take over 100 ocelot coats to make a single human-sized fur coat in the fashion industry. Thankfully, they are now completely protected by law, and wisdom and ethics have prevailed to reduce the demand for wildcat fur.