

Have any of the animals here ever been domesticated?

The short answer is, sort of, no.

If you go far enough back into history (thousands of years or more) humans, animals and plants all had separate existences. Then one day, an ancient dog found a camp used by some ancient humans; instead of being afraid of one another, they were intrigued. For some unknown reason/s, the dog stayed at the camp and the human/s did not chase it away.

That was, likely, our first domesticated animal. Since then we have domesticated many animals: dogs, cats, cattle, birds and fish. We have also domesticated many plants: fruit trees, grains, vegetables and ornamental flowers.

Open space is home to dogs (the coyote), cats (bobcats and mountain lions), cattle (deer, ok not really cattle), birds (turkeys, pheasants and ducks), and fish (perch and bass). We even have wild plants that can be eaten or used in some way (cattails, acorns, buckeye, blackberries, mule ear and salsify to name a few).

Similar plants and animals to those in open space were domesticated centuries ago; however, the ones in open space today are still very much wild.