Don’t Let it Loose!

Pets Gone Wild
Many of our common household pets originate from places outside of California. When released into the wild, pets can significantly disrupt our environment. This makes them an invasive species.

Whether it be competing for food or introducing diseases to ecosystems, pets can make the life of a native species tough. Imagine a stranger coming into your house and eating all your food!

Find Your Pet a Loving Home
Before adding a new addition to your family, make sure you’re ready to care for your pet. Sometimes things can change and that’s okay, but please don’t release your pet into the wild. If you decide that rehoming your pet is the best option for you, here are some appropriate ways to do so:

- Return your pet to the original owner, pet store, wildlife shelter, or a humane society
- Donate your pet to a public place such as a local school or aquarium
- Give your pet to friends or family

Next time you or someone you know can no longer take care of a pet, think about all these alternatives and don’t let it loose. For more information visit wildlife.ca.gov/DLIL.