

Special needs Catahoula (United States)



Location **California** https://www.genclassifieds.com/x-566700-z



Popeye is a beautiful 5 year old Catahoula male who is looking for a home that better suits his needs. Popeye was bit by a venomous spider in his shoulder region which left him with limited use of his right front limb due to nerve damage and cartilage loss. He walks with a limp, but the vets did not feel there was any reason to amputate since he uses the limb quite a lot for balance. The injury is progressive and as he gets older, we do expect some arthritis in his shoulder joints. The limb is also slowly beginning to atrophy since he doesn't use the muscles properly...he has learned to run as a tri-pod and doesn't bear as much weight on that leg. Swimming is supposed to be the perfect activity for him since it makes him to use the limb more...

Popeye has been living in a very busy household...I run a dog walking and boarding business out of my house and own 4 other dogs (and 2 cats). Popeye is great with dogs he knows well, but is uncomfortable when greeting new dogs...he'll often growl and raise his hackles/posturing. Our type of business means new dogs are always coming and going... We spend most of our days trail hiking the pack and poor Popeye gets left home alone a lot. When we do return to the house, we are often bringing in dogs he doesn't know well and didn't get to spend the day hiking with. This has become increasingly challenging. Popeye has never started a fight...he doesn't lunge or bark at other dogs, he's just happier not having to meet new dogs, so if he didn't live in a home with a revolving door of new dogs to deal with, he would be much more comfortable. He is submissive in our own personal pack, we believe the poor greetings he has with other dogs is due to his injury and him feeling vulnerable.

