

Mariah Cropley, Lifestyle Contributor

Mariah is an intern of IDEXX's Pet Health Network team.

On one of the coldest weeks of February in Alaska, Madera, a completely blind 11-year-old [Labrador Retriever](#) was returned home after two weeks in cold temperatures dropping as low as 40 degrees below zero, according to [Fox News](#).

Madera went blind from an autoimmune disease and wandered away after being let out to go to the bathroom; her guardian, Ed Davis, explained that she normally returns back inside right after. Davis said, "My best hope was to find a frozen dog."

Madera was found a half-mile from home by cyclist Constantine Khrulev, after hearing a whine from the dog. It's assumed that Madera whined after she heard the bell from his bike. Khrulev was offered a reward of \$100 dollars but told Davis to instead donate the money to the [Fairbanks Animal Shelter](#), touched by this gesture Davis increased the amount to \$250.

Madera returned back to her owner healthy, but had lost 14 pounds while out on her own.

We are so glad you are home safe and sound, Madera!