

Many factors determine an elephant's quality of life in captivity This chart will help to understand the best option for Bamboo and Chai

Quality of life factor	Oklahoma City Zoo	PAWS
Space	2.6 acre cow/calf yard for 6 elephants. If Bamboo and Chai cannot integrate they'll be on .5 acre.	15 acres with space to expand as elephants join them. Have space to avoid elephants they don't like.
Forever home	NO. Bamboo and Chai could be moved, especially if either doesn't integrate with existing elephants.	Yes. Once at PAWS, they live there forever.
Climate	Cold climate. Prolonged barn lockup.	Mild California climate
Use of bullhook. Electric fencing	Restricted contact. Means the bullhook or electric prod could be used. Extensive use of electric fencing.	Protected contact. Bullhook or any device used to inflict pain is never used. No electric fencing.
Complexity of environment	Static, flat, dull, small. Elephants live in artificial hardscape.	Open, wooded hillside. Elephants immersed in nature.
Number of elephants	2 adult, 2 calf females, 1 male. WPZ has acknowledged that Bamboo is aggressive to calves and doesn't have skills to integrate into a herd.	Bamboo and Chai to start. PAWS has welcomed 13 elephants over 11 years. More will come.
Live trees for natural elephant behavior	Live trees are outside of electrified fencing.	Wooded tract of land including treed hillside.
Substrate – main cause of death in zoo elephants is Arthritis and joint disease	Flat, hard compacted ground due to elephants standing in a small area. Forced to be sedentary.	Soft ground, varied elevation. Lots of room to exercise for good health and improved mobility.
ТВ	Rex, at OCZ, has tested positive for TB antibodies and could develop active TB. There is no space to quarantine if he should develop an active case of TB.	No elephants have active TB. Bamboo and Chai would be within sound distance but not integrated with elephants who have been exposed to TB.
Schedule	Elephants' life dictated by zoo's schedule.	Elephants allowed to do what they want, when they want.
Hydrotherapy	Not to our knowledge	Yes
Vet care Monitoring	Yes. Unaware of 24/7 monitoring of elephants.	Dr. Jackie Gai, PAWS' vet, studied under renowned Dr. Murray Fowler at UC Davis. 24/7 monitoring.