## **BanditA**



It seems like each time I adopt from Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado, it is the middle of winter. On top of that, something interesting happens during the trip, usually associated with the weather. this trip would be no exception. I spotted Bandit on the website, and quickly noticed how handsome he is. His description said that he needed a home, where the owners are home most of the time, due to medical issues. Our home fit that description, so I contacted them right away. The adoption was arranged quickly, but almost didn't happen because of the need for a new set of tires on my car.

To adopt from DRCI, I drive from southeastern Montana and typically meet the foster parent in Douglas, WY. So on Saturday, February 25th, I got up before sunrise to get ready and start the trip. I made it to Douglas just a few minutes after the arranged time. Foster Mom Karen was already there. Before meeting Bandit, we decided to have some lunch and discuss him a bit. We had great Mexican food.

I got to meet Bandit right afterward, and fell in love with the skinny guy. As Karen said, it was obvious he is a very sensitive guy. We got him safely harnessed in the

car, and I had to start heading north again. We only made it to Gillette, when I was getting pretty pooped, so we got a room at Motel 6. It was a very cold day and the wind always blows there. After taking care of Bandit's needs, I realized that the room was cold. I turned up the heat, and nothing happened. The motel had a one extra blanket policy, so Bandit and I curled up together and kept each other warm.

The next morning we finished driving home. When we arrived, it was a bit of chaos as Bandit and our other Dalmatian, Pepper, and Pug, Jesse, got excited. There was one very minor skirmish. Bandit was very timid for the first several days, especially since our house is pretty noisy. However, he seemed to fit in almost immediately, but was very scared of the surround sound stereo in my living room. Pepper was a bit mad with me for about a month and a half, but now she has accepted Bandit into the pack.

You can tell how much Bandit likes it here. He's also become more vocal as he has settled in. He is very smart and picked up on our language very quickly. He loves the daily off-leash walks we take by the river. I was hoping he and Pepper would play together, but so far they just like to sleep and walk, and eat together. Bandit is no longer the skinny guy and is holding steady between 50-51 pounds. The vet says his health is great. I couldn't be happier than having these two spot monsters sleeping with me each night.

Thank you Dalmatian Rescue!

Kelly T. Miles City, MT