

LIVING

Former NFL cheerleader still shaking it — to help animals

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This former NFL cheerleader is showing some skin to save animals' hides.

Marlena Moreno, a former San Diego Charger Girl, spends her weekends dancing at a California nightclub to fund her travels to far-off locales as a wildlife conservationist.

"When I'm in the jungle with no makeup on, people don't expect me to be half-naked dancing at nightclubs," the 24-year-old brunette bombshell told Caters News Agency.

"And when I'm at home dancing, people tend to be surprised to find out I travel and spend months in the wilderness."

Moreno, who was featured in Sports Illustrated, ditched the Chargers' squad after visiting the South African jungle in 2012.

Since then, she has visited eight countries in Asia, Africa and South America, launching a documentary company that showcases the plights of endangered species.

Her upcoming travels include returning to Uganda this year to finish a project.

“The path I’ve been on over the last few years has allowed me to marry my love of wildlife and filming. It has changed my life,” Moreno said.

She said she always had a soft spot for animals, growing up on a California farm.

“I grew up on a farm in the countryside riding horses with tons of space and outdoors and around animals,” she said. “I never planned on dancing, it’s just something that happened.”



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