

# news

February  
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World Association of  
Zoos and Aquariums  
**WAZA** | *United for  
Conservation*<sup>®</sup>

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Gerald Dick

# Editorial

## Happy New Year to all WAZA members and friends!

*The New Year has just started and there are already many stunning news. For me personally the start into Christmas holidays was a quite fast and slippery one, physically, which resulted in my right upper arm broken. Slowly recovering, I hope to be back to normal soon. Finally, after more than a year of preparation, WAZA has got the funding for the "Decade on Biodiversity" project. Together with a small team of members, several tools will be developed in order to help raise public awareness and involvement of visitors as part of WAZA's support of the UN Decade on Biodiversity. Big thanks go to the Swiss MAVA foundation which is contributing the threefold amount of WAZA's financial input over the next three years. A big welcome goes to Tiago, our new staff member, who is now the responsible project manager. His brief welcome is included in the recent update section of this first News edition of 2013. We will inform about the progress of the project in the following editions of WAZA News, so you are all well informed and updated regularly. Thanks to the team of the WAZA branded project "Herpetodiversity Research in Vietnam" (project no. 07011) the scientists of Vietnam and the zoo in Cologne have described a new frog species, *Gracixalus waza*, a treefrog named after WAZA, recognizing the support of the WAZA community for amphibian conservation.*



© WAZA

Gerald Dick at Healsville Sanctuary, Australia.

*This edition of WAZA News is focusing on animal transport issues and the related international cooperation. As the exchange of animals for breeding purposes requires proper transport and preparation of formalities, the relevant international frameworks are of utmost importance. Following the discussions in Melbourne, at the occasion of this year's Australian Open, the tennis super star Roger Federer, a frequent visitor of zoos, said "I support good zoos, especially the ones in WAZA"; the related video message is on the WAZA website, thanks go to Melbourne zoo and Zoos Victoria for their support! Looking forward to an exciting WAZA year with a focus on biodiversity, animal welfare and some administrative improvements (such as modernization of bylaws) and Council elections.*

**Gerald Dick**

WAZA Executive Director ■

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## Imprint

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Jörg Junhold

# The President's Page



© WAZA

Jörg Junhold at Fundación Temaikén, Argentina.

The last weeks of the past year have been busy for me with travels to France, India and Ethiopia. I have also used visits which were connected to projects of Zoo Leipzig to represent WAZA's work.

The Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP) invited WAZA to join their Council meeting in November 2012 in Paris. GRASP was founded as a United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) initiative and is consisting of the 23 range states of great apes and numerous other organizations. The alliance wishes to have closer contacts to zoos and their associations in order to improve the *ex situ* – *in situ* link. WAZA was offered a permanent seat as observer in these meetings. Although the zoo associations and GRASP work on different levels I got the impression that combined forces may offer many opportunities for common future projects.

Also in November I visited Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa. The city administration plans to close its old small „lion zoo“ and establish a new zoological garden following modern standards of animal keeping and presentation. Next to the celebrations of the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the city I was invited to take part in the ground breaking ceremony for the new large lion exhibit which is the first step of this new zoo. State-of-the-art zoos are uncommon in many regions of Africa and therefore I like to congratulate the officials of Ethiopia's capital for their will to start this project which can serve as a model for other countries as well.

Our host of the annual conference 2014 will be New Delhi Zoo. I used the chance to visit this zoo and the Central Zoo Authority (CZA) in December 2012 to get an update on the ongoing preparations. Secondly a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Zoo Leipzig and CZA which aims to improve the cooperation between selected Indian zoos and Zoo Leipzig in animal keeping, breeding and conservation. A focus species for a first exchange of animals between the Indian and European Studbooks

is the Sloth bear. I am very happy about this development which draws Asian zoos closer into our community. I have also noticed that the planning of the conference in 2014 is progressing and I am very confident that New Delhi Zoo will be a phantastic host. I have again invited the Central Zoo Authority to stimulate the interest of Indian zoos to become members of WAZA. I really hope that I will have the chance to welcome some of them during the next Annual Conference.

Another important ongoing discussion for WAZA is the development of a WAZA Animal Welfare Strategy. You may remember the corresponding workshop during the last CBSG Annual Meeting and several discussions during the WAZA Annual Conference. Some progress was made through a working group led by Susan Hunt in her role as Chair of the Ethics and Animal Welfare Committee. This group tries to screen existing literature and set together the agenda of such a document. The World Zoo and Aquarium Conservation Strategy serves of course as a model for the Animal Welfare Strategy. A follow-up workshop is scheduled for April 2013 during the Council Midyear Meeting and the goal is to present a draft at the coming Annual Conference. I am strongly convinced that the zoos should take a lead in this topic because they are the experts for the theoretical and practical implementation. Such a strategy will help to secure our position against pressure from organizations which claim to fight for animal's rights but are no professionals in this field. ■



Thomas Ziegler<sup>1</sup> & Truong Quang Nguyen<sup>2</sup>

# *Gracixalus waza:* May We Introduce the WAZA Treefrog?

A recently Discovered Amphibian  
Species from Northern Vietnam  
and Named in Honour of WAZA



© Truong Quang Nguyen  
Habitat of the recently discovered WAZA treefrog.

To *in situ* engage for biodiversity protection, Cologne Zoo began in the year 1999 with nature conservation and research activities in Vietnam, one of the global hot spots of biodiversity. Beginning with a long term project in central Vietnam, Cologne Zoo, together with IEBR, meanwhile has extended these activities all over the country and since recently also in Laos (see pp. 111–130 in the current Southeast Asian focus issue of the "Zeitschrift des Kölner Zoos", Volume 55, Nr. 3/2012). Because we can only protect what is well known to us, biodiversity research followed by ecological studies is crucial for adequate conservation measures.

Our working group already has described 58 new vertebrate taxa in the past 13 years (1 shrew, 13 frogs, 16 snakes, and 28 lizards) in particular from Vietnam but since recently also from Laos. For some of the newly discovered species we could already implement ecological research, such as for *Tylotriton vietnamensis*, a salamander endemic to northern Vietnam. Amongst others, by means of species distribution modelling, new salamander populations are identified, which will be prerequisite for the creation of conservation corridors.

With nearly 200 species, Vietnam has one of the richest but still poorly understood amphibian faunas in the world. Many amphibian populations and species are facing declines. Thus, we also pay attention to the breeding of threatened or poorly known species in the Amphibian Station Hanoi / Melinh Station for Biodiversity, where 14 amphibian species could be successfully bred since 2007. We also conduct basic research concerning reproduction biology and the generally poorly known larval development. Still new species are regularly described from Vietnam.

Our most recent discovery took place in the nearly unexplored karst forests of northern Vietnam's Cao Bang Province, where we engage since 2011 in nature conservation based diversity research. The new tree frog species was named in honour of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA), for the long term support of *in situ* amphibian research and conservation as well as *ex situ* breeding approaches in Vietnam. The scientific description already appeared online in the Journal *Organisms, Diversity and Evolution* (A new species of *Gracixalus* (Amphibia: Anura: Rhacophoridae) from northern Vietnam. Nguyen, Le, Pham, Nguyen, Bonkowski & Ziegler: DOI 10.1007/s13127-012-0116-0). ■

**...Amphibian Station Hanoi / Melinh  
Station for Biodiversity, where  
14 amphibian species could be  
successfully bred since 2007...**

1 Cologne Zoo, Germany  
2 Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources, IEBR, Hanoi, Vietnam



© Truong Quang Nguyen  
WAZA treefrog  
(*Gracixalus waza*).



WAZA wishes to express its gratitude to the research team for the research and conservation work for amphibians and thanks for paying tribute to the world zoo and aquarium community!

Paul Pearce-Kelly – ZSL

# Zoo and Aquarium Community Action Is Vital for Saving Our Climate ?

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) meeting in Doha ended an extraordinary year of major environmental meetings. These included *Planet Under Pressure*, Rio 20, the World Conservation Congress and the Convention on Biological Biodiversity. Unfortunately, despite significant achievements in other areas, these landmark gatherings fell far short of their potential for addressing the urgent climate change threat developments. They also failed to recognise and advance the essential mitigation actions necessary for avoiding the unmanageable global warming and ocean acidification impact scenarios humanity is rapidly committing itself to.

Over the same period, a succession of leading science journal publications have detailed just how severe the climate change impacts already are and how near we are to major system level tipping points. This is perhaps most dramatically demonstrated by events recorded in the Arctic region which this year experienced the most extensive loss of summer sea ice in the period of accurate satellite measurements. Other publications detail extensive methane venting from defrosting ice lakes and permafrost. If left unchecked, the regional and global impact ramifications of these combined impacts could scarcely be more serious.

In relation to the above combination of increased threat and inadequate response it's heartening that our own community has provided an outstanding example of highlighting the urgent threat and the mitigation imperatives. Following up on its *Push the Button* initiative, IZE made climate change engagement a key focus of its biennial meeting at Chester Zoo. This included specialist talks, discussions on strengths and weaknesses of current exhibits and a dedicated workshop on how we might most effectively engage our hundreds of millions of visitors, especially in the vital area of influencing essential policy action. The value of unified messages and public action initiatives was highlighted. The threat acknowledgement and engagement challenge was also picked up at our annual CBSG and WAZA meetings, hosted by Melbourne Zoo.

To find out more:

<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s13127-012-0116-0>





© Paul Pearce-Kelly

Urgent public engagement is vital if coral reefs, other major natural systems and much of our built environments are to be saved; Great Barrier Reef.

A CBSG climate change working group agreed an ambitious task of incorporating system level climate change factors into Population Habitat and Viability Analysis (PHVA) evaluations and extending the PHVA approach to urban environments, including major cities. The working group also highlighted the urgency of determining the most effective methods for realising maximum public engagement to influence essential policy action. The threat recognition and essential policy response actions were also highlighted at the WAZA meeting which passed an emergency climate change and ocean acidification resolution ([www.waza.org/en/site/conservation/climate-change](http://www.waza.org/en/site/conservation/climate-change)) highlighting the Arctic developments and wider impact dangers as well as reiterating the urgent policy actions that world leaders must implement. It concludes with the following request to all members:

- Actively reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions wherever possible and, where it is not possible, to compensate for via best practice habitat support initiatives.
- Call on world leaders to avoid disastrous and unmanageable climate change and ocean acidification impacts by implementing the essential mitigation actions detailed in this emergency resolution for curtailing further growth of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and returning atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations to below 350 ppm while it is still possible to do so.
- Prioritise awareness raising and visitor engagement focus on these threat and response issues.

Given the near universal lack of public awareness, policy maker acknowledgement and action commitment, there is a vital need for our community to realise our tremendous potential for engaging our public to demand that the essential policy actions are taken in the fast closing window of opportunity remaining. We can still do this but only just.

In addition to the emergency resolution do be sure to check out our extensive and frequently updated reference tool. ■

To find out more:

[www.waza.org/en/site/conservation/climate-change](http://www.waza.org/en/site/conservation/climate-change)

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Fauna is currently undergoing testing and was showcased at the **WAZA 2012** conference in Melbourne.

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John E. Scanlon – CITES Secretary-General

# The CITES Virtual College:



Providing Life-long Learning 24 Hours a Day  
Seven Days a Week

Providing capacity building activities is a core element of the CITES Strategic Vision: 2008–2013 where CITES Parties and the CITES Secretariat are encouraged to *have adequate capacity-building programmes in place*. In addition, the *CITES Strategic Vision* calls for actions to ensure that *Sufficient resources are secured at the national/international levels to implement capacity-building programmes*<sup>1</sup>.

To meet the requests for such actions, the CITES Secretariat faced three separate, but inextricably linked, challenges. First, capacity building initiatives and activities had to reach a global, heterogeneous population in the three working languages of the Convention. Second, capacity building courses and materials had to be developed according to, and grounded in, real-life experiences – thereby offering learners the ability to map new information to their understanding of a problem. And third, such activities should promote the establishment of communities of practice or networks of experts to assist with the exchange of knowledge and information between and among Parties to CITES.

The CITES Virtual College <https://eva.unia.es/cites/>

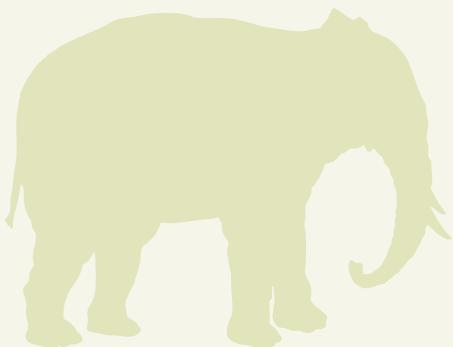
Part of the solution to providing capacity building actions for CITES Parties came through the use of cutting edge information and communication technologies to establish a CITES Virtual College<sup>2</sup>, a web-based facility available 24 hours a day seven days a week and offering interactive courses, train the trainers materials and full-text reading resources and publications in the three working languages of the Convention: English, French and Spanish. The development of the College was made possible through generous funding by the European Commission and is hosted at the International University of Andalusia in Baeza, Spain.

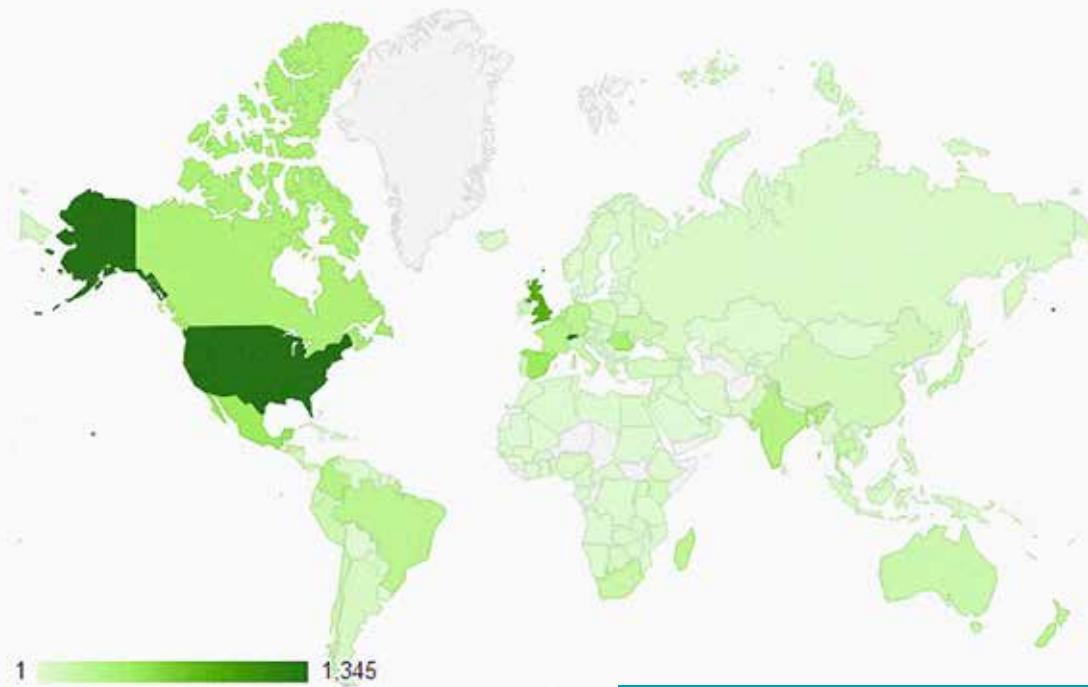
Often, when organizing workshops or meetings, Parties have used the College to introduce participants to issues related to CITES or to training materials by requiring completion of relevant courses prior to workshop participation. This has had the effect of optimizing available time for discussions on more substantive issues, thereby maximizing investments made in the organization of the meeting.

The courses were developed using real-life examples and are based on the experience of those involved in day-to-day CITES work. This situates the materials and courses in the real life experiences and needs of users, and provides the means for contextualized learning to occur. Given that those using the College are mostly associated with CITES Authorities and Customs officials, such contextualization increased the popularity of the College and its use throughout the CITES community.

1 [www.cites.org/eng/res/14/14-02.php](http://www.cites.org/eng/res/14/14-02.php)

2 <https://eva.unia.es/cites/>





Visits to the CITES Virtual College up to 27 November 2012

For example, during a special course held from 14 March to 23 May 2012 at the National Institute Development Administration, in Bangkok, the Royal Thai Customs Officers used training materials available through the CITES Virtual College to enhance their capacity in dealing with the challenges posed by illegal trade in wildlife<sup>3</sup>. Management Authorities in South America and Asia have complemented their introductory training materials and face-to-face workshops with resources in the College to introduce new staff to CITES and CITES-related issues.

The College also provides users with opportunities to establish or join existing networks of experts or communities of practice. Such communities offer opportunities for members to engage in life-long learning activities, exchange knowledge and experience, and create opportunities to sustain expertise in their departments and organizations.

Opportunities to develop networks and communities of practice received a boost through a partnership established with the International University of Andalusia. That is, students enrolled in the UNIA's Master's programme on *Management, Access and Conservation of Species in Trade: the International Framework* will be required to complete an on-line phase to the course, which will provide students with 16 credits towards achievement of a degree. This will ensure the continued use of the Virtual College by CITES authorities, which traditionally constitute the largest group of students in the Master's programme. It will also better link the existing network created by students enrolled in the university with users of the College.

Currently, the College offers three interactive courses: *Introduction to CITES and non-detriment findings*, *Training course for enforcement officers and information module for prosecutors and the judiciary*, and *Introduction to CITES for Customs*. Due to the subject matter of the *Training course for enforcement officers and information module for prosecutors and the judiciary* and its accompanying reading materials, enrolment is restricted to CITES Authorities, enforcement and Customs officials, and other officials involved in the enforcement of wildlife laws and regulations. The other two courses offer open enrollment.

At the time of writing, the CITES College had been accessed by 12,712 visitors from 178 countries and territories representing 91 different language groups. It has had almost global reach and use (see map above), including increasing usage in least developed areas, Madagascar being a case in point with 238 users enrolled as of 27 November 2012.

▼ To find out more:

<https://eva.unia.es/cites/>

[www.cites.org/eng/cop/index.php](http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/index.php)

3 [www.cites.org/eng/news/sundry/2012/20120503\\_vc\\_thailand.php](http://www.cites.org/eng/news/sundry/2012/20120503_vc_thailand.php)



To find out more:

<http://cites.org/eng/cop/index.php>

The first course developed focused on non-detriment findings (NDFs) and met the needs identified by Parties in developing regions participating in a capacity building project funded by the European Commission, *Strengthening the CITES implementation capacity of developing countries to ensure sustainable wildlife management and non-detrimental trade*<sup>4</sup>.

The course assists CITES officials in more effectively fulfilling the obligations under CITES. On completion of the course, users should have a basic understanding of the obligations under the Convention and its procedures, especially what is usually called a non-detriment finding (NDF). Many researchers and observers of the Convention have called NDFs the heart of CITES and one of its very unique characteristics.

Much information of value to those applying or interested in the Convention is available through this course. In addition to CITES-specific information such as how to use CITES permits and certificates and the CITES Appendices, members of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) would also find information, readings and exercises and quizzes on topics covering disposal of illegally traded, confiscated and accumulated specimens, introduction to risk assessment methodology, and similar processes in other Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), among many other topics.

The *Training course for enforcement officers and information module for prosecutors and the judiciary* aims to introduce the Convention and enforcement-related issues to officers and Custom officials involved in dealing with CITES specimens, as well as other government and police officials involved in enforcement of wildlife laws and regulations. Some issues covered include CITES legislation, ethics in wildlife law enforcement, seizures and follow-up, and handling CITES species among many other topics.

The Course also covers current issues that have gained prominence, such as guidelines of transport and zoonotic diseases. For example, guidance is given to the *Guidelines for transport and preparation for shipment of live wild animals and plants* which were adopted by the Parties to CITES at its second meeting (San José, 1979). It also describes CITES Resolution Conf. 10.21 (Rev. CoP14)<sup>5</sup>, on *Transport of live animals*, where Parties recommended that the *Live Animals Regulations* drafted by International Air Transport Association be deemed to meet the CITES Guidelines in respect of air transport, and that the *Regulations* should be used as a reference to indicate suitable conditions for carriage by means other than air.

The most recent course *Introduction to CITES for Customs* was launched to assist Customs officials to better understand the Convention and deal with specimens of CITES-listed species at border crossings. Members of WAZA may be interested in the sections dealing with physical inspection of species, health and safety issues and care for animals and plants.

All the courses are contextualized with the knowledge and experience of CITES officials in the field, and contain critical thinking exercises complemented by further readings and quizzes. Moreover, it is not necessary to follow the course in linear form; users of the College can drill down to the level of expertise required or information of interest.

The College also contains a Reference Centre with readings available in full-text. Case studies, reports, official documents, theses on CITES and identification materials are freely available. Another section of the College provides train the trainer materials developed by the Secretariat. These materials have been translated into Portuguese by the CITES Management Authority of Portugal. The College is also being translated into Chinese through the generous contributions of the Management Authority of China.

In conclusion, the CITES Virtual College provides an effective resource to build sustainable, cost-effective and targeted capacity to Parties that wish to enhance their ability to more effectively implement the Convention. It is able to reach a global diverse audience 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It provides courses and materials that are contextualized to real-life experiences and knowledge. And it offers users the opportunity to join or establish networks of experts or communities of practice.

New courses are planned, including one to assist Parties in developing and implementing CITES electronic permitting systems and Single Window environments. The support received for the further development of the College is reflected by offers from Parties to translate materials and use courses for national training of staff responsible for the implementation of CITES. The College has become a key element in efforts by the CITES Secretariat to enhance national capacities and to sustain knowledge and expertise among members of its community. ■

- 4 A description of the project is available on the document on capacity building submit at the 62<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the CITES Standing Committee: [www.cites.org/eng/com/SC/62/E62-19.pdf](http://www.cites.org/eng/com/SC/62/E62-19.pdf)
- 5 [www.cites.org/eng/res/10/10-21R14.php](http://www.cites.org/eng/res/10/10-21R14.php)

Andreas Kaufmann – GoWild, WAZA rep on LAPB

# The LAPB Advisory Panel – a chance and an obligation!

IATA's Live Animal Regulations (LAR) are the global standard for air transportation of live animals, and they will most likely become the basis for all modes of transport of CITES-listed species following the CITES Conference of the Parties in March 2013.

The Live Animals and Perishables Board (LAPB) of the International Air Transportation Association (IATA) is comprised of 12 airline representatives that meet twice a year to revise, improve and update the LAR that is published annually in English, French and Spanish.

Expertise on animal welfare, animal behavior, scientific progress and commercial trade requirements are inter alia provided by the LAPB's Animal Care Team and Advisory Panel.

WAZA has been elected to join the Advisory Panel in 2012. And that's good! Who else would be more qualified to provide expertise on the biological and welfare needs of wild animals in transit than the unifying organization of the global zoo and aquarium community. Zoos and aquaria have a unique history of hands on experience in the care for wildlife. For decades zoos and aquaria have been moving animals domestically and internationally to contribute to *in* and *ex situ* conservation, for breeding purposes to save endangered species, for animal welfare reasons, protection and reintroduction into the wild. IATA welcomes comments, proposals for improvement and editorial suggestions from interested parties, organizations and stakeholders involved in the humane transportation of live animals. In order to analyse, evaluate and assess such proposals, the LAPB has put in place a procedure and created a template to follow. Each proposal should be supported with facts and data which could include scientific studies, field tests, or observational data. All information should be unbiased, objective, and statistically sound, i. e. through an adequate sample size of studied or observed animals over a significant period for valid results.

But animals are not exclusive to the zoo and aquarium world, and the ramifications imposed have to be taken into consideration. Consultations involving stakeholders, groups, and organizations are very important to be successful. It is important to be aware of regional differences in best practices, along with varying legal and practical requirements. Implications have to be anticipated before submitting a proposal to the LAPB. Failing to reconcile may lead to other groups' opposition and a decision on the proposal being deferred or ultimately rejected by the LAPB. To avoid conflicts in the future and acknowledging that different groups are already working together through the Advisory Panel the LAPB has slightly amended its procedure. Following its most recent meeting held in Geneva in October 2012 all proposals for changes to the LAR will undergo an initial screening by the Animal Care Team and the Advisory Panel. Both panels can then assist the applicant and help with the proposal submission in the required way and ensure a quick and efficient process that best serves the industry. Needless to say that, being aware of all these facts and the procedure, it is of utmost importance that the zoos and aquaria of the world speak with one voice. Being a member of the LAPB Advisory Panel offers WAZA a unique chance to shape the future of animal transportation! It also implies responsibility and obligations. So share your knowledge and expertise and contribute for the benefit of animals in transit! ■

***...it is of utmost importance  
that the zoos and aquaria  
of the world speak with  
one voice...***

Andrea Gruber – IATA



# Transportation of Live Animals by Air: IATA Standards



© Thomas Voracek

Elephant transportation from Vienna Zoo.



© Thomas Voracek

Loading of giant pandas from  
Vienna to China.



© Thomas Voracek

Loading Indian rhinos for the  
Vienna Zoo in Nepal.

Animals have been transported by air since the early 1930's. In today's modern world, carriage of live animals by air is considered the most humane and expedient method of transportation over long distances.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) is the industry's global trade association and represents some 240 airlines comprising 84% of global air traffic. Its mission is to represent, lead and serve the air transport industry. Over 60 years, IATA has developed the commercial standards that have built a global industry. IATA ensures that both safety and animal welfare are addressed in all regulatory issues pertaining to transportation of live animals by air. In Cargo, IATA takes a supply chain approach to all its initiatives, with an aim to benefit all parties (airlines, forwarders, governments, customs and shippers). IATA delivers standards and solutions to ensure a safe and harmonized air transport system. IATA's vision for cargo is to foster a safe, secure, reliable, efficient and profitable air cargo supply chain. Air Cargo is an essential link in the supply chain ensuring continual access to quality and choice but it cannot work on its own.

The Governance within IATA's structure that regulates the transport of Live Animals is the Live Animals and Perishables Board (LAPB). The LAPB is a dedicated group of 12 airline members whose responsibility is to set the standards for the transportation of live animals contained in the Live Animals Regulations (LAR).

IATA's Live Animals Regulations (LAR) is the worldwide standard for transporting live animals by commercial airlines. Whether it is a pet, an animal transported for zoological or agricultural purposes or for any other reason, the objective of the LAR is to ensure all animals are transported safely and humanely by air.

Key inputs to the airline industry on issues such as animal welfare, identification, and animal behavior based on modern science are provided by a panel of experts namely the IATA Advisory Panel composed of government agencies involved in the regulation of animal transportation and non-governmental organizations with an interest in animal transportation issues. The Advisory Panel has the aim of promoting good animal care and welfare by keeping the Live Animals Regulations updated as well as advising to LAPB regarding animal care and regulatory oversight.

Andreas Kaufmann – Board  
of Directors, ATA

## Animal

# Transportation Association (ATA)



The Advisory Panel consists of 5 members appointed by the LAPB with the aim to provide input to the LAPB on agenda items and to propose matters for LAPB discussion and/or action. The newly elected member to the Advisory Panel is the World Associations of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA). WAZA is represented by Mr. Andreas Kaufmann who has already been actively participating and contributing to the LAPB work in the past years. The valuable expertise of WAZA will join the other members of Advisory Panel, namely the Animal Transportation Association (ATA), Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA), Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC) and World Organization for Animal Health (OIE).

In addition the LAPB and the Advisory Panel can count on the expertise of the IATA Animal Care Team, which is composed of animal experts and whose aim is to promote good animal care and welfare by keeping the Live Animals Regulations updated as well as to provide answers to questions regarding animal care coming from air carriers and the industry.

IATA is working closely with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and supporting the CITES Transport Working Group, which has been working on the new CITES guidelines for non-air transport of wild animals and plants. The LAPB will be considering incorporating these new guidelines into the IATA LAR, which would therefore become the reference for all modes of transport.

The dedicated groups and experts play an important role in the cooperative effort to foster animal transportation welfare and safety as well as establishing and implementing one standard for all and applicable worldwide.

With the intention to continuously address the most current and efficient practices, the LAR is updated yearly. The LAPB is currently working with its experts on simplifying the way bird containers are presented in the LAR with the aim to reduce the number of bird containers. For example the Container Requirement (CR) related to Penguin Species was the first CR that was reviewed under this new structure. Besides, the new edition of the LAR proposes a review and updated container requirements for cetaceans and tortoises/turtles, seahorses, polar bears, and other species.

IATA is working with the industry for the industry therefore initiatives are carried out in close cooperation with the appropriate stakeholders of the industry. This is only the start and will be followed by continuous development of standards setting to perpetuate IATA's vision to be the force for value creation and innovation driving a safe, secure and sustainable air transport industry that connects and enriches our world.

For more information, please visit the Cargo Live Animals section available on the IATA website using the following link: [www.iata.org](http://www.iata.org) and come and join the Live Animals track at the next IATA World Cargo Symposium 2013 in Doha, Qatar on March 12<sup>th</sup>–14<sup>th</sup>, 2013, [www.iata.org/wcs](http://www.iata.org/wcs). ■

Today, the transportation of both domestic and wild animals is an everyday occurrence. Parks and zoos transport a wide variety of animals from around the world and rely on air and surface transportation to move animals between institutions, for breeding programs, rescue, reintroduction into the wild.

The Animal Air Transportation Association (AATA) was organized in 1976 in response to the concerns of industry leaders, government officials, and humane association representatives. In 1989, the name of AATA was changed to "The Animal Transportation Association" to emphasize that sea, air and land transport are of equal importance in the safe and humane transport of animals worldwide.

ATA provides an important opportunity for individuals, businesses, organisations and groups involved in any phase of animal transportation to become part of an international effort to find solutions to a variety of problems related to the transport of animals. At the same time, members are linked to information, resources, contacts and key developments in the field that can help them provide better services and conditions for animals in transit.



▼  
To find out more:  
[www.iata.org](http://www.iata.org)

▼  
To find out more:  
[www.animaltransportationassociation.org](http://www.animaltransportationassociation.org)



ATA provides a means for making research needs known, encouraging research, and disseminating findings. The organisation further encourages uniform and effective international regulations and humane handling of live animals.

The safe and humane transport of animals cannot be separated from animal health issues relating to export certification, nor from the manner in which animals are cared for following transport. The ATA therefore supports continued discussions and negotiation between exporting and importing countries toward the establishment of practical export testing protocols as well as an increased emphasis on providing appropriate technical assistance to the importers to ensure proper care and treatment of animals following shipment.

### Education and Resources

ATA hold their Annual Meeting each spring. It offers the optimal networking opportunity for professionals involved with Animal Transportation. This 3-day event brings together over 100 professionals from around the world to share experiences, swap contacts and with the end goal of improving animal welfare.

ATA strives to hold at least 6 webinars each year based on topical issues, general interest, or specific animals. Members are entitled to participate in each, free of charge.

ATA serves as the voice for animal transporters through industry leaders and related professional organisations, from international organisations (such as CITES, IATA, and OIE) to all levels of government (ministries, border authorities, customs, etc.). ATA's weekly electronic newsletter "Migrations" provides the latest information on ATA events, members benefits, industry news, and much more.

### Animal Attendant Program

ATA launched the world's first Zoological Animal Attendant program in 2008, which was the result of a long process involving many years of development.

This assessment program for the competence of professional animal handlers is concerned only with assessment. Neither the ATA nor NPTC provide any training. It is expected that all applicants for assessment will have had, not only several years hands-on experience with the animals concerned, but will have also received training and experience in transporting those animals by air.

The ATA Animal Attendant Program which has been established with the National Proficiency Tests Council (NPTC), qualifies as proof of competency which is compulsory for animal handlers to be recognized under EU legislation, by IATA, and by certain airlines. Applicants must have a minimum of three years experience with the species concerned, and will need to show evidence of at least 10 flights accompanying various zoological animals within the past three years.

ATA's members comprise the entire spectrum of those concerned with the transportation of animals including Airlines, Truckers & Shipping Firms; Government Agencies throughout the world; Universities & Research Organizations; Breeders; Importers/Exporters; Veterinarians;... and Zoos! ■

***...zoos transport a wide variety of animals from around the world and rely on air and surface transportation to move animals between institutions...***

Claire Beastall – TRAFFIC Southeast Asia

# Transport of Wildlife

Almost all zoos have a storage area, littered with a variety of crates and boxes, many bearing text requiring that they be returned to the facility from which they came. The vast majority of these comply with the Live Animal Regulations (LAR), produced by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and adopted by CITES as the minimum conditions necessary for the air transport of endangered species. CITES recognises that animals should be prepared and shipped in a manner which minimises risk of injury, damage to health, or cruel treatment.

Every year, thousands of wild animals from a huge variety of species are transported across the world. A rare few travel openly in a blaze of publicity by the smoothest of methods, their route and documentation painstakingly organised. For many however, the situation is vastly different, with countless individuals and businesses moving wildlife across the world with little regard for regulation or welfare.

In 2010, customs officials at Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi International Airport were puzzled when an X-ray showed something moving inside one passenger's bag. It was found to contain a heavily drugged tiger cub, lying next to a cuddly toy tiger, apparently included in an attempt to confuse the officers. The cub survived its ordeal, but it is quite likely that the animal would have died had the officers missed it.



© Ha Tinh Forest Protection Department Vietnam  
Tiger cub in wire cage.

Sadly this is not an isolated case. In a 14 month period up to March this year, enforcement officers at that same airport found over 1,000 animals in 11 separate incidents. Many involved species native to Thailand; such as Asian brown tortoises and Bearded dragons, but most, including American paddlefish, Indian Gharial and the Ceram mangrove monitor are found elsewhere. In August they found around a single suitcase containing around 900 juvenile Indian Star Tortoises stuffed inside six pillowcases. These cases all took place at the same airport, but the story is similar elsewhere in Southeast Asia.

In October 2012, officials in Thailand searched a truck en route to neighbouring Laos and found 16 Tiger cubs hidden in small plastic crates. Just one month earlier, four Tiger cubs were found in a car along with 119 pangolins in central Viet Nam. These were being transported in small wire cages, of the type most often used locally to transport chickens or other domestic livestock to market.

For air transport, CITES applies IATA's LAR, available in each of the Convention's official languages (English, French and Spanish) costing over US\$ 200. For transport of live CITES-listed species by modes other than air, there is a separate set of guidelines which are free to download from the CITES website. Produced in 1981, these are, in comparison with IATA's LAR, fairly general and are now being revised. CITES permits and certificates are only valid if the appropriate guidelines are followed. This makes a connection between law enforcement and welfare in transit.

The publication of new guidelines to cover the transport of wildlife by air, sea and land will be most welcome. These will be used, not just by exporters, but also by those responsible for checking shipments moving over borders across the world. To be truly effective in improving the lot of transported wildlife and assisting enforcement agencies around the world, it is important that these are made freely available and accessible to everyone who needs them. ■



© Wildlife Checkpoint, Suvarnabhumi Airport  
Tiger cub in suitcase.

Gerald Dick – WAZA Executive Office

# Frankfurt Animal Lounge, A Unique Institution

Transporting animals is a big business worldwide, but most of the animals shipped around the world are not zoo/aquarium related. In 2011 for instance over 82 million ornamental fish (3000 tons), 5 million poultry, 136,000 amphibians and about 14,000–15,000 pets (cats and dogs) were cleared at Frankfurt airport. The number of import, export and transit can vary considerably.

In February 2013 the Frankfurt animal lounge celebrates its 5th Anniversary, a unique institution, with 75 permanent staff including more than 20 vets, 42 stables for big animals (mainly horses), 39 dog kennels, special areas for cats, birds and 18 individually manageable climate chambers. On

impressive 4,000 square meters the sectors for import, export and transfer of animals are clearly separated. The animal lounge operates all year round with no closing times. Although operated by Lufthansa, the lounge services all airlines flying via Frankfurt. During the stay at Frankfurt airport, the best possible treatment for the animals shall be secured. In this respect it is important to have all transport related issues well prepared. The Director of the Competence Center Animals and Perishables, Mr Axel Heitmann, mentions inter alia the following crucial issues: the cages, crates or boxes must be as defined in the IATA live animals regulations, all documents must be correct and complete and with the animal (attached to the relevant box)

and cooperation with professional forwarders must be secured. He also added that apparently often transport costs are not foreseen in the budgets of zoos which can lead to delays or improper organisation of transports. Sometimes animals arrive in too small boxes, then staff members take the challenge and enlarge boxes, as was the case recently with an anteater.

The number of transports in relation to international breeding programmes of zoos had only some recent highlights: Alpakas which came from Calgary to Switzerland, a hippo from Breslau to Singapore and giant otters from Paris to Stockholm. ■

Frankfurt animal lounge with the whole handling area being inside.

© WAZA



Ad for the Frankfurt animal lounge.

© Lufthansa



©WAZA

A box has to be enlarged to fit a large dog.

© WAZA

Dog shipment on its way to Afghanistan, left to right: Axel Heitmann, Sandra Wedel, Kay Wissenbach.

# Gillian Hoysted

## Fighting Extinction in an HR Department?

WAZA Interview

Gillian Hoysted is the Director of Human Resources at Zoos Victoria, Australia. She became Director Human Resources in July 2012 after nine years with Museum Victoria as Manager Human Resources and then Director Corporate Services. She has worked in HR roles in the education and mining sectors around Australia and was a policy adviser on rural and environmental issues in the Victorian Premier's department. Her first job was a librarian at the State Library of Victoria – so her work history is extremely varied. She says: "I'm extremely proud to have worked in three of Victoria's great public institutions which have celebrated their 150th birthday."

**WAZA:** Could you describe the human resources department at Zoos Victoria (how many employees are you looking after etc...) and its role?

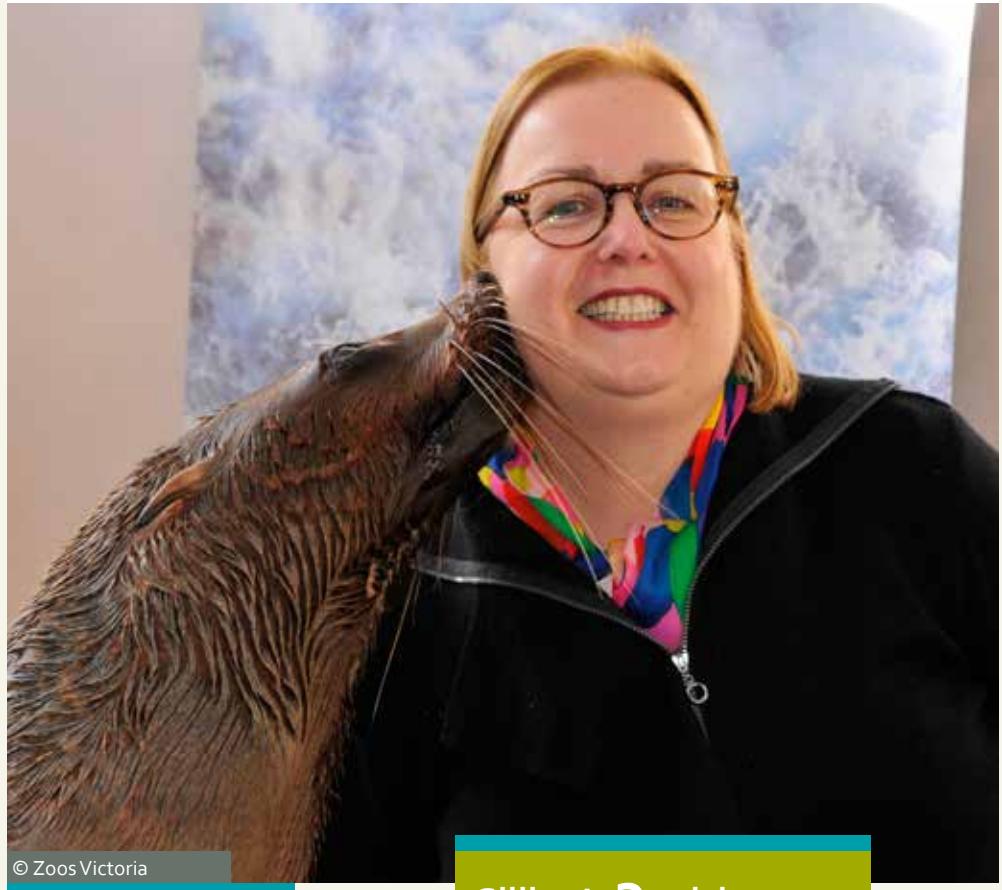
**Gillian:** The HR Department is a team of six professionals that serve our three campuses – Melbourne Zoo, Healesville Sanctuary and Werribee Open Range Zoo that have a total headcount of 566 staff. Our focus is on developing the capabilities of staff to enable everyone to do the best job they can, and to do it safely, and by doing this to ensure we become a world-leading zoo-based conservation organisation. We also make sure everyone gets paid!

**What is your everyday work as the Director of Human Resources?**

My job has great variety which I love. I could be advising another Director on the development of their team, coaching a manager about how to handle a conversation about performance, negotiating an issue about terms and conditions of employment, developing a safety management system, or training the HR staff in changes to equal opportunity legislation; and every day I'm trying to learn more about the work that each of our staff do.

**Are human resources in a zoo very different from human resources in any other sector? Could you explain us why?**

My experience at Zoos Victoria is very similar to that at Museum Victoria and I think the common thread is people who are passionate about what they do. This makes the role of HR simultaneously easier and more complex. It's easier to motivate staff around the strategic vision, but it can be harder to change the way work is done as staff may have limited direct knowledge about alternative work practices and avenues for innovation.



© Zoos Victoria  
Gillian Hoysted and Silva.

**What is your favorite part in your job?**

I really enjoy working with staff and managers to solve problems. Bringing a fresh perspective to identifying what the real problem is and then using questions to develop a shared understanding of the best solution. I also enjoy developing the HR staff and seeing them do things they didn't know they could.

**What are the biggest challenges you have to face in your mission?**

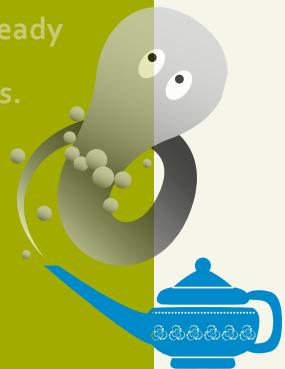
Zoos Victoria is working to change the behaviour of our visitors so they join us in fighting extinction. My biggest challenge is also in changing behaviour – of our staff in relation to safety. My experience in the mining

### Gillian's 3 wishes for the Zoo Genie

The Zoo Genie is ready to answer 3 wishes.

Talk to him...

1. That no more species become extinct.
2. That the world's population stops increasing.
3. That the Zoo Genie is actually a she!





© Zoos Victoria

Gillian Hoysted and Timmy.

industry was one where unsafe behaviour was not tolerated – but rarely occurred because everyone knew the consequences could be dire. Our zoos are staffed by passionate people who will do whatever it takes to ensure the welfare of animals and a great experience for our visitors. What I want them to do is whatever it takes, as long as it's safe.

Another big challenge is leadership development. As with other technical/professional organisations, the best technician may not make the best manager or leader, so I'm looking at how we create opportunities for people with leadership potential to develop that in a systematic way, as well as having opportunities to broaden their technical/professional practice.

**Are you working very closely with any other department in the zoo? If yes which ones?**

I'm working with our keeping, horticulture and works departments on improving our safety management systems. We have some great experience and practice across the organisation and we're now finding ways to share this.

I've also had the opportunity to work with our elephant keepers as we commence a change process. Being able to learn from a team of experienced practitioners about a species and how we care for them has been a privilege – and is really one of the great side benefits of working in such a special organisation.

**What are, according to you, the main qualities to be a human resources director in a zoo?**

A strategic approach focused on improving the organisation; someone who will listen and is flexible; integrity is key – people need to know they can trust you; and courage to make decisions – even though you'll make the occasional mistake – and resilience to get back out there and have another try.

**In many sectors we are facing the loss of expertise and knowledge, do you have some recipes on how to secure conservation, welfare and zoo know how in our institutions?**

An approach I've used before and which has been successful is phased retirement. I encourage managers to have regular conversations with staff about their retirement plans so we are not taken by surprise. When an experienced employee is considering retirement we discuss a 6–12 month period of part-time work and at the same time recruit a relatively inexperienced replacement who is then mentored during this period. This approach can be cost neutral and will add significant value to the organisation.

I've also used interviews/oral histories to record the key experiences of someone who is leaving which can then provide guidance for those who continue in the work area. Sometimes it can also be appropriate to invite the retiree to join a pool of casual workers. ■

***...Our zoos are staffed by passionate people who will do whatever it takes to ensure the welfare of animals and a great experience for our visitors...***

Andrea Caiozzi – ALPZA

# Latin America Celebrates Successes

## of Zoos and Aquariums in Conservation and Animal Welfare at 2012 Annual ALPZA Conference



© ALPZA

Group photo of the 2012 ALPZA congress.

Why not celebrate our achievements? Why not recognize our successes? The efforts carried out by zoos and aquariums in Latin America in favour of conservation, deserve this and much more, so... to celebrate has been said! *Piñatas*, streamers, friends, and above all, experience and knowledge of specialists in the zoo and aquarium community... Everything was ready for the start of the party.

Africam Safari at Puebla, Mexico, was the host and venue for joint meetings of the XIX Congress of ALPZA (Latin American Association of Zoos and Aquariums), the 29th Congress of AZCARM (Mexican Association of Zoos and Aquariums), and the International Symposium for *ex-situ* Breeding and Conservation of Cracids.

More than 200 participants and 50 speakers, and a friendly team of organizers, made this Congress a great experience, opened with a plenary session by Jörg Junhold, President of WAZA. Attendees were delighted by plenary talks, workshops and scientific

presentations right next to the Giraffe Valley of the zoo, where they could take a break watching these graceful animals walk around their enclosure. The event was an excellent opportunity for colleagues and friends from 16 different countries to share the latest knowledge and techniques in the field of zoos and aquariums.

The Congress workshops included: Certification of Conservation Programmes, Environmental education *Nature Start*, Basic techniques of pathology, Production of live food for aquariums, Most common diseases in reptiles, Sexing of birds, Animal training, as well as specialized talks where professionals from different fields found opportunities for training and exchange of ideas.

During a lovely night at the Metropolitan Park of Puebla, the ALPZA and AZCARM awards ceremony was carried out, where the ALPZA Certification Programme of Conservation Projects was officially launched, awarding the *Saguinus leucopus* con-

servation project in Colombia, and the Andean Condor conservation project in Argentina. The purpose of this certification programme is to reward conservation projects with high impact on their region, in order to serve as a reference for similar projects and to inform the world community about the ALPZA certified projects – also WAZA branded, showing our high commitment to conservation.

Also, back-the-scenes visits were organized for attendees to learn more about the operation of Africam Safari, which included the following departments and areas: Nutrition, Graphic design and scenography, Education for conservation, Equipment of emergency response, Reproduction of birds, Compost, Butterfly pavilion and more.

Other important events that took place were the ALPZA and AZCARM General Assemblies, in which the strategic plans of each association are evaluated and the future goals for the coming years are set with the main aim to promote the contribution of zoos and aquariums to welfare of our animals and the conservation of biodiversity.

In addition, during the Congress Africam Safari Puebla celebrated its 40th year anniversary. And to celebrate it, our hosts offered a dinner where the Camacho family expressed their happiness to see their dream come true and their gratitude to see so many friends gathered together.

Our next XX ALPZA Congress will be held in the cosmopolitan and modern city of São Paulo, Brazil, 9-14 of June, 2013, hosted by São Paulo Zoo. We look forward for meet all of you there! ■

Lorena Sánchez – Santiago de Chile

Olga Santacana – AIZA

# Book Reviews

## Bienvenidos al zoo de los próximos 100 años

By **Mónica Talamás Sarli**

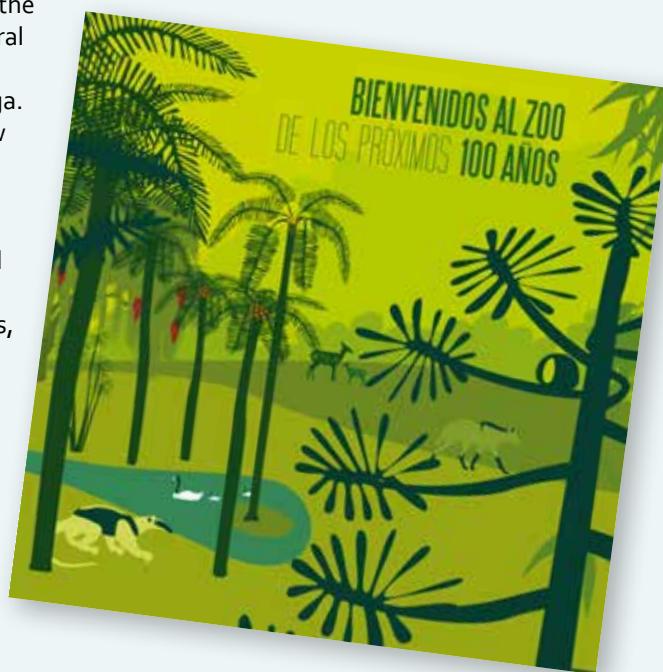
Fondo Editorial "Montevideo Capital Iberoamericana de la Cultura" Intendencia de Montevideo, 2012, 95pp  
ISBN 978-9974-600-85-0

The recent creation of the Sistema Departamental de Zoológicos de Montevideo, Uruguay, (Zoological Departmental System of Montevideo), is the perfect frame to show us the past, present, and future of zoos in this city, allowing us to understand the history of Montevideo and the characters that were key to the development of zoos. All of this presented through beautiful photographs and illustrations, integrated into the text in an educational and entertaining way.

Certainly, this book reveals how zoos have evolved from mere animal exhibits, to centers dedicated to the conservation of species, highly committed to the environment. The story begins with the histories of the three zoos that merged as the Zoological Departmental System: Villa Dolores, Lecocq Park and the Museum of Natural History Dámaso Antonio Larrañaga. Emphasizing how advanced these institutions were for their time, with its nocturnal visits, innovative enclosure designs, and educational

programs. It explains why Montevideo needs zoos and why it is necessary that these come together in a single major effort. Furthermore, it shows how this new system of parks will integrate entertainment, education, research and conservation, also achieving a greater optimization of resources, ensuring the welfare of captive animals. Finally, it invites to ask ourselves, what kind of zoos we want for the future.

This book shows in a simple and attractive way, how zoos in South America and all over the world have developed over the time, in order to enhance the relationship between man and nature, together with the environment. The book is primarily addressed to Spanish speaking public (written in Spanish). However, this is not an impediment to appreciate its value, since its colorful designs and illustrations facilitate the understanding of the text, making it especially attractive to children, who will have fun cutting and pasting animals in the zoo of the future, included in the last section of the book "Bienvenidos al futuro" (Welcome to the future). ■



## The Zoological Park, a new ally for biodiversity Guide for the application of law 31/2003\* on the conservation of wild fauna in zoological parks.

By **Myriam Rodríguez-Guerra and Federico Guillén Salazar**

Bastet Conservation (English edition coordinator) in collaboration with the authors, and the Biodiversity Foundation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environment of Spain, Madrid/Valencia, 2012, 123pp  
ISBN: 84-695-5469-7

Although this book is focusing on zoo relevant legislation of the European Union and its implementation in Spain, the spirit behind the publication, the supporting collaborators and the aspiration beyond regulations makes it interesting for a wider audience.

The EU Zoo's Directive related to the keeping of wild animals in zoos (Directive 1999/22/EC) was the first European Union legislation to regulate the zoological parks activity in Europe. This new Directive gives to the zoos the clear mission to be true allies in the conservation of biodiversity, and establishes that all European States shall bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this. The transposition of this Directive into the Spanish national legislation (Law 31/2003) was also the first Spanish legislation regulating the activity of zoological parks, situating their activities in the field of the protection of wild fauna and conservation of biodiversity.

Since the first years of the implementation of the new Law, the Spanish Minister of Environment realised that for its correct application, it was necessary to ensure proper knowledge not only by the zoological parks,

The book can be downloaded at:

<http://zoo.montevideo.gub.uy/publicaciones/el-zoo-de-los-proximos-100-anos>

[http://zoo.montevideo.gub.uy/sites/zoo.montevideo.gub.uy/files/articulos/descargas/zoo\\_de\\_los\\_proximos\\_100\\_anos.pdf](http://zoo.montevideo.gub.uy/sites/zoo.montevideo.gub.uy/files/articulos/descargas/zoo_de_los_proximos_100_anos.pdf)

# » Book Reviews

but also by public administrations, private sector, students, educators, association, visiting public, etc... and to achieve this goal in 2008, the Ministry published the document "The zoological park, a new ally for biodiversity. A guide for the application of Law 31/2003 on the conservation of wild fauna in zoological parks", in collaboration with AIZA (Iberian Association of Zoos and Aquaria) and Eurogroup for Animals.

The aim of this document was to inform on how to properly apply the Spanish Zoos Law and explain how zoos, in a general way, should conduct their activities. The guide was written in a very comprehensive language to facilitate an easy understanding of the legislative and technical aspects of the Spanish zoos law, and was structured in six chapters, each one to responds to a question:

- Why a law on conservation in zoological parks?
- What constitutes a zoological park?
- How should they conduct their activity?
- Who is involved?
- When is the deadline for compliance?
- Where to find more information?

Since its publication the guide became a document of reference valid for all people interested in the subject. Despite the specific references to the Spanish Law and the transposition of the European Directive, the most part of the content of the guide is useful for any professional or student, as well as for a general audience with an interest in animal welfare and environmental protection.

Three years after the initial publication, the interest for the guide is still enormous, and for that reason in 2012 the Spanish Ministry of Environment decided to prepare a new edition in English, to fulfil the demand of certain sectors, who consider that the guide is valuable not just within Europe, but also in countries where the function of zoos has not even been specifically legislated.

This important publication is part of a range of collaborations between AIZA and the Spanish Ministry of Environment signed in 2007. ■

## For The Love of Wild Places Finding Adventure and Beauty in Nature

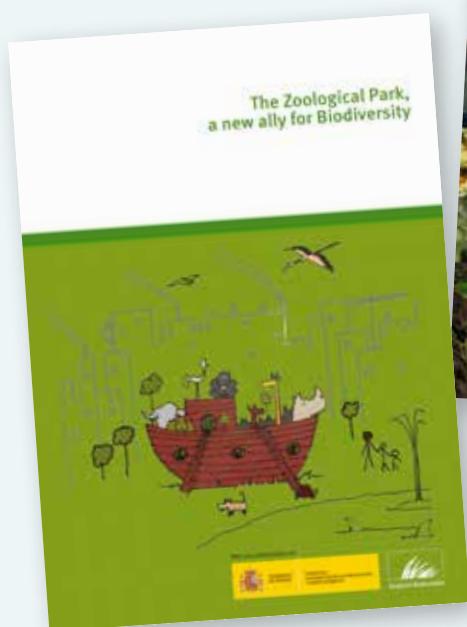
By Greg Dimijian,  
photographs by Greg  
and Mary Beth Dimijian

Brown Books Publishing Group,  
Dallas, Texas, USA, 2013, 176 pp  
ISBN: 978-16154-0887

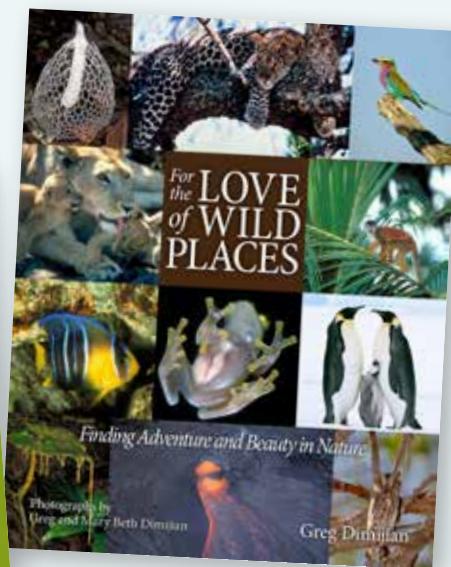
The uncountable wildlife spectacles that Greg and Mary Beth have witnessed and photographed cry out for pages on which they can share them with others, before the expanding human population has eliminated the opportunity for future generations to enjoy them.

It seems as "The Love of Wild Places" was an illustrated natural guide to IUCN's "Love Not Loss" educational campaign. At least unintentionally it is. A very personal journey of the authors guides the reader to fantastic places, like the Serengeti, the Okavango delta, tropical rain forests, volcanoes, coral reefs and the Southern ocean. But, is it just another nice book? Well, it is certainly a lovely book, but unites stunning photos, very personal and authentic impressions and lovely stories to read. On top of all this book conveys the emotion of love to nature and wild places with an enormous diversity. And interestingly, the author, Greg Dimijian is Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas. He teaches an annual course in behavioural ecology at the medical school and together with Mary Beth they have worked with researchers and field biologists around the world to understand and photograph our natural heritage. In the book you can feel the passion and possibly the professional background helped to psychologically create a fantastic and appealing book.

If you want to see a cheetah wearing a hat, read about Arenal's volcanic eruption, illustrated by the one and only photo, see a quetzal out and inside his nest, an arrow crab in free-fall and many other amazing things, then this is the book you should have. ■



The book can be downloaded at:  
[www.bastetconservation.org/en/zoos.html](http://www.bastetconservation.org/en/zoos.html)



The book can be ordered at:  
[www.brownbooks.com](http://www.brownbooks.com)

WAZA Executive Office

# Announcements



## 2013 Zoos and Aquariums: Committing to Conservation (ZACC) conference

**8–12 July, 2013, Des Moines, Iowa**  
ZACC, the biennial international conference that promotes networking amongst zoo personnel and field researchers resulting in partnerships that benefit both field sites as well as zoos is being hosted by Blank Park Zoo, USA. Full registration is \$ 225 and will include many meals and the Icebreaker (Cash Bar). In addition, \$ 25 from each registration will be allocated to the ZACC Conservation Fund. Those dollars will then be combined and awarded to a field project during the conference. To register please see [www.blankparkzoo.com](http://www.blankparkzoo.com) or see [www.zaccconference.com](http://www.zaccconference.com) for frequent updates. ■

## Turning the Tide Published in German

Due to the support of VZP (Verband Deutschsprachiger Zoopädagogen) and the technical advice of Aquazoo Düsseldorf and Kölner Zoo, the Global Aquarium Strategy for Conservation and Sustainability, "Turning The Tide" is now available in its abridged German translation, "Trendwende, Eine Globale Strategie der Aquarien für Naturschutz und Nachhaltigkeit". Special thanks go to Lothar Philips, supported by Elmar Finke and Thomas Ziegler, Herzlichen Dank! The document is available on the WAZA website together with five other language versions (Conservation/Conservation Strategies). ■



## WAZA, ICOM and BGCI at CBD COP 11

The 11<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 11) took place from 8–19 October 2012 in Hyderabad, India. The major final outcome of the meeting was probably that the world's governments have agreed to increase funding in support of actions to halt the rate of loss of biodiversity. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity said: "These results, coming in a period of economic crisis, demonstrate that the world is committed to implementing the CBD. We see that governments are moving forward in implementation and seeing biodiversity as an opportunity to

be realized more than a problem to be solved." WAZA was represented by executive director Gerald Dick who participated in the "Decade task force" and informed about existing and planned activities of the zoo and aquarium community. In a special session WAZA together with BGCI (Botanical Gardens International), represented by Suzanne Sharrock, Director of Global Programmes and ICOM (International Council of Museums), represented by Maité Delmas of Paris' Natural History Museum's international delegation presented activities of the three big member organisations and it was agreed to intensify future cooperation. ■

## Arabian Zoo and Aquarium Association AZAA to be Established

At a workshop which was held at the invitation of Al Ain Zoo, UAE (11–14 December 2012) the delegates agreed that a regional Arabian Zoo and Aquarium Association should be established. The formal agreement states that this new organisation will communicate, collaborate and cooperate with its members the strengths and opportunities they all share. They want to share information about animal collections for the benefit

of these animals. On return to the respective countries delegates promised to engage with their national institutions on a regular basis.

Al Ain Zoo is willing to provide office space and staff time to coordinate communication within the region and to establish a working group of members to move forward in the establishment of this new Association. ■

Delegates of the first regional zoos and aquariums meeting, Al Ain, UAE.

© WAZA



The Marketing Conference Is Back!

Save The Date!

## WAZA MARKETING CONFERENCE 2014

Due to unforeseen circumstances the WAZA Marketing conference that was planned to take place in May 2103 is postponed to **May 2014**:

The 8<sup>th</sup> International Zoo and Aquarium Marketing Conference will be hosted by Bristol Zoo Gardens, in partnership with regional associations EAZA and BIAZA, from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> of May 2014.

"Biodiversity: Leadership by Zoos" will be the overall theme of this conference and 5 main topics will be developed:

1. Communicating biodiversity through new age technologies: explore the impact and potential of social media and virtual reality technology for zoos and aquariums.
2. Resourcing biodiversity conservation: delegates will be energised to open their minds to novel ways and concepts to deliver finance and attract a transforming visitor market, expanding into alternative market places and commercial ventures.
3. Promoting "biodiversity-friendly" behavioural change – are the right biodiversity messages being received and understood? We explore multiple forms of communication as processes for delivering complex messages.
4. Negative publicity damages biodiversity communication: bad zoos and aquariums do exist and incidents do occur at international zoos that trigger negative press and public debate on ethical issues. We consider how these scenarios may be compassionately and appropriately managed.
5. Leading biodiversity communication: are you structured to communicate biodiversity?

All information will be available soon on WAZA website. In the meantime, if you have any questions do not hesitate to contact Carole Lecointre:

[marketing@waza.org](mailto:marketing@waza.org)

Markus Gusset – WAZA Executive Office

# Global Species Management Plans: Whence and Whiter?

In preparation for the 2003 mid-year meeting of the then Committee for Inter-Regional Conservation Cooperation, its chair Jonathan Wilcken developed a visionary proposal for what he called Global Captive Management Programs. At the 58<sup>th</sup> WAZA Annual Conference on 20 November 2003 in San José (Costa Rica), a document on procedures and responsibilities for inter-regional *ex situ* management programmes was unanimously adopted by the plenary. This was the birth of what is today referred to as Global Species Management Plans (GSMPs), held under the auspices of the now called Committee for Population Management.

GSMPs are born out of growing concerns about the long-term sustainability of wild animal populations in human care. To fulfil the full suite of conservation roles required of animals in zoos and aquariums, they must be demographically robust and genetically representative of wild

counterparts. Many species will be able to sustain these characteristics for the foreseeable future only when cooperatively managed at a global level (see *WAZA Magazine 12: Towards Sustainable Population Management*). A GSMP involves the management of a particular taxon with a globally agreed set of goals, while building upon and respecting existing regional processes.

The first application to establish a GSMP, submitted for the southern ground hornbill (*Bucorvus leadbeateri*) by Tracy Rehse from the National Zoological Gardens of South Africa on 19 June 2007, was deferred. The application to establish a combined GSMP for African and Asian elephants (*Loxodonta africana* and *Elephas maximus*), submitted by Harald Schwammer from Vienna Zoo (Austria), was approved on 25 August 2007; however, this GSMP was discontinued on 17 July 2012.

Sumatran tigers have the longest still running GSMP.

© Kathy Traylor-Holzer



To find out more:

[www.waza.org/en/site/conservation/conservation-breeding-programmes/gsm](http://www.waza.org/en/site/conservation/conservation-breeding-programmes/gsm)

Angela R. Glatston – Convenor of the Red Panda GSMP,  
Rotterdam Zoo, The Netherlands

# Red Pandas Go Global – Officially!



The longest still running GSMP was approved for the Sumatran tiger (*Panthera tigris sumatrae*) on 18 October 2008, convened by Sarah Christie from the Zoological Society of London (UK) (see *WAZA News 2/2012*); the continuation of this GSMP was re-approved on 3 October 2012. Another GSMP was approved for the Javan gibbon (*Hylobates moloch*) on 5 October 2009, convened first by Leif Cocks and then Clare Campbell, both from Perth Zoo (Australia) (see *WAZA News 4/2010*); the continuation of this GSMP is currently under discussion.

Three additional GSMPs were approved on 3 October 2012: red panda (*Ailurus fulgens*) convened by Angela Glatston from Rotterdam Zoo (The Netherlands) (see this issue of the *WAZA News*); blue-crowned laughingthrush (*Dryonastes courtoisi*) convened by Mark Myers from Woodland Park Zoo (USA); and Amur tiger (*Panthera tigris altaica*) co-convened by Tara Harris from Minnesota Zoo (USA) and Tanya Arzhanova from Moscow Zoo (Russia). Applications to establish GSMPs for a number of other taxa are currently being developed.

It has taken some time for the concept of GSMPs to gain momentum within the world zoo and aquarium community: four years from establishing the concept to approving the first GSMP, with four working GSMPs another six years later. Nevertheless, the anticipated establishment of more and more GSMPs gives testimony to how important the judicious development of inter-regional collaboration has been over the last 10 years. The current shift from a regional to a global population management framework is a change as significant as the move from institutional to regional species management in the 1980's and 1990's. ■



Red pandas go global.

© Rob Doolgaard / Rotterdam Zoo

The concept of WAZA's Global Species Management Plans (GSMPs) was launched in 2003. Sadly, since that time, relatively few of these innovative programmes have actually been initiated. Indeed, only four GSMPs were active at the beginning of 2013. This is regrettable, as global population management may be the only way in which the long-term, captive survival of many species can be ensured. Luckily, there are several such programmes operating unofficially; they still exploit the benefits of global population management even though they currently do not have official recognition. Indeed, the red panda has been managed this way since the early 1990s. In order to facilitate the official recognition of these programmes, as well as to establish new GSMPs, WAZA organised a workshop in April 2011 to look at

the future of international studbooks and global population management. At this workshop, several species were recommended as pilot GSMPs.

As the first step in the GSMP process, a special red panda workshop was convened in Rotterdam Zoo (home of the red panda international studbook) in April 2012. This was attended by all the regional coordinators. Under the leadership of Kristin Leus (CBSG Europe), a working plan for the GSMP, a captive breeding master plan for the next six years (one red panda generation) and the formal application for GSMP status were all drafted. This latter was submitted to the WAZA Committee for Population Management and approved at the meeting in October 2012 – and so the red panda GSMP was born!

Markus Gusset – WAZA Executive Office

# Update on

## International Studbooks

It must be said that unofficial global management over the last 20 years has benefitted the red panda population. We now have a growing population that has retained much of its original genetic diversity. We have managed to organise inter-regional exchanges, supported breeding programmes in range states and generated links with field programmes. Nevertheless, we still see benefits in becoming a GSMP despite the extra work and bureaucracy that this brings. Official recognition will give the global programme a lot more clout. Potential advantages include:

- greater regional support for inter-regional transfers
- more sharing of ideas and experience
- increased uniformity of management
- stronger links with range state partners
- reduced legislative impediments to cross-border shipping
- additional commitment of resources; and especially
- greater prominence of the species

A GSMP does not imply the demise of regional population management. In the case of the red panda, the impact on regional autonomy is minimal. Global population management will continue as a loose cooperation between independent regional programmes that occasionally exchange animals to improve viability. GSMP status will only put this existing arrangement on a more formal footing.

This is just the first step in the red panda GSMP. We have many ideas and plans for its development and intend to keep you abreast of our progress. We hope that the red panda GSMP will become a model for other global programmes in the future so that many more species can benefit from worldwide population management. ■

There are currently 126 active international studbooks (ISBs), including 160 species or sub-species (10 ISBs cover more than one taxon). The following events regarding ISBs have occurred since 1 October 2012:

### ISBs archived

- On 3 October 2012, CPM decided to archive the ISB for the North China leopard (*Panthera pardus japonensis*).

### ISBs established

- None.

### Transfer of ISBs to new keepers

- On 3 October 2012, CPM approved the transfer of the Sumatran rhinoceros (*Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*) ISB to Frank Oberwemmer (Leipzig Zoo, Germany).
- On 8 October 2012, CPM approved the transfer of the lion-tailed macaque (*Macaca silenus*) ISB to Alex Sliwa (Cologne Zoo, Germany).

### Transfer of ISBs to new institutions

- None.

### Pending issues

- As of 31 December 2012, ISBs for the Edwards' pheasant (*Lophura edwardsi*) and Vietnamese pheasant (*Lophura hatinhensis*) are vacant. ■



© Andrew Walmsley

Javan slow loris in bamboo.

Anna Nekaris – Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, UK

# Little Fireface Project

WAZA Project 12008

Dr Anna Nekaris' Little Fireface Project is an exciting and innovative idea to save the slow loris from extinction through ecology, education and empowerment. Prof Nekaris' research on lorises is truly broad, ranging from behavioural ecology in zoos and in the wild; museum studies of their fur and bones; genetics; acoustics; taxonomy; conservation education; and now the Little Fireface team is conducting a novel study of their chemical ecology and how this really bizarre primate is one of the only mammals in the world that produces a biological venom. In January 2012 Prof Nekaris teamed up with ICON films and BBC2 Natural World to produce "The Jungle Gremlins of Java", an incredible documentary of the Javan slow loris (*Nycticebus javanicus*). The documentary explored the nature and ecological context of loris venom whilst at the same time producing an emotive film about its plight.

All species of Asian slow loris face the threat of extinction. Imperilled by the illegal pet trade and traditional medicine use, long-term data of loris trade, rescue and rehabilitation from Java reveal its impact. The popularity of the Javan slow loris as a pet had led it to be listed by IUCN as Endangered and twice included on Conservation International's "World's 25 Most Endangered Primates". Capture of wild lorises for trade is extensive and unregulated. Several thousand lorises are traded in Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam and Indonesia each year and slow lorises are frequently sold through Internet sites – many of which are in Eastern Europe, Malaysia, Singapore, China and Japan – and offer delivery to buyers worldwide. The threat of the pet trade to slow lorises was highlighted at a global level when a YouTube video of a pet pygmy slow loris being tickled went viral, achieving over 15 million hits by 2012. Thousands of people made positive comments on the video, fueling the demand for this little primate as a pet.

The Jungle Gremlins of Java documentary showed the darker side of the trade in lorises. Few animals survive this sickening trade; if the loris is lucky enough to make it to market then traders often "tame" lorises by pulling out their front teeth with pliers. This ensures their new owner will not be bitten and receive a dose of loris venom. In humans, and other loris conspecifics, a loris bite will fester taking weeks to heal with loss of fur and deep scarring. In extreme cases people have died from anaphylactic shock. Teeth removal is a barbaric practice that has a high risk of infection with few survivors. Rescued lorises that have had their teeth removed cannot be returned to the wild as their specialised diet of gum requires the use of their teeth to extract it from trees, and these highly social primates also use their front teeth to groom each other. Unable to feed themselves the lorises would certainly die.

Prof Nekaris hopes that her research will convince people that lorises do not make good pets. They are wild animals. All species of slow loris are threatened with extinction. Some are amongst the rarest primates on the planet. It is her hope that they can remain in the forest for as long as possible so we can learn much more about these most unique primates. ■

Javan slow loris bridging.

© Andrew Walmsley



Miroslav Bobek – Prague Zoo, Czech Republic

# Return of the Wild Horse

WAZA Project 12009

## Project

The Przewalski's horse became extinct in the wild at the turn of the 1960s and 1970s. Prague Zoo played a key role in the survival of the species in captivity and has always been concerned with the species' fate. Recently, Prague Zoo resumed its leading role by commencing a reintroduction programme for this species to its original homeland – Mongolia.

In 1959, when the survival of Przewalski's horses in the wild became doubtful, Prague Zoo hosted an international symposium with a noble goal – to appeal to relevant governments and institutions to take all measures necessary for the survival of the species in the wild. Since that year, Prague Zoo has been entrusted with keeping the international studbook for Przewalski's horses. Despite the effort and will of many zoologists, the species became extinct in the wild in 1969. From then on, its fate lay with the captive population.

After years of preparation, reintroduction of Przewalski's horses to Mongolia and China started under the management of Dutch, German and Swiss organisations. Until the 1990s, two reintroduction sites were established in China and two in Mongolia (Takhin Tal and Hustain Nuruu). A third Mongolian reintroduction site (Khomiin Tal Reserve) was established shortly after the turn of the millennium in 2004. Prague Zoo was involved in reintroduction activities by presenting four animals that were transported to the Takhin Tal (1998) and Hustain Nuruu (2000) regions. Reintroduction of animals from Europe, however, stopped in 2005. In 2007, the last intra-Mongolian transport of animals took place. Reintroductions from Europe became too demanding both finance-wise and administration-wise. Obstacles became too high to overcome, so no transport took place until 2011.



© Jana Ptačinská Jiráťová

Release of Przewalski's horses at Khomiin Tal in June 2011.

The year 2011 marked a new stage in the reintroduction of Przewalski's horses to their original homeland. After long preparations, seeking of resources, addressing sponsors, choosing the most suitable animals and last but not least finding appropriate means of transport, Prague Zoo managed to organise an independent transport of four animals to Khomiin Tal Reserve. Prague Zoo solved the difficult task of finding an affordable yet appropriate means of transport by joining with the army of the Czech Republic who designated one of its transport aircrafts to carry out the task of transporting animals to Mongolia. Besides that, Prague Zoo managed to get all the necessary permits from the Mongolian authorities to land directly at the airport in Khovd, without the need of flying first to the capital Ulan Bator, reloading the animals to a different aircraft and then transporting them to their final destination – which was the common practice in previous transports. As Khovd lies in the western tip of Mongolia, animals were spared several unnecessary hours they would otherwise have spent in the aircraft flying first to the capital and then back to Khovd. The relative smoothness of the transport was immediately transformed into an unexpected success – the transported animals mated within few weeks after their arrival in Mongolia and 11 months later, in June 2012, two male foals were born.

The reintroduction of Przewalski's horses to Mongolia was highly appreciated by both the Mongolian and Czech public, which encouraged Prague Zoo to carry on with this activity. Inspired by the success of the previous year's transport, Prague Zoo decided to bring animals to the Gobi B Strictly Protected Area, which holds an enormously important population of the species that was, however, decimated in the severe winter of 2009/2010. The challenge of transport to Gobi B is enormous. The nearest airport in Bulgan soum is remote, basic and has only one unpaved runway. The number of permits needed to successfully land on such an airport is unimaginable. The skills needed to land on such a runway are exceptional. Nevertheless, as Prague Zoo fought its battle on the field of Czech and Mongolian administration, the Czech army trained its crew for landing in difficult conditions resembling the Bulgan airport. Their joint efforts resulted in the fact that four animals landed at Bulgan soum airport in July 2012. ■

Przewalski's horse mare  
with young born in June 2012.

© Marián Polák



Cesare Avesani Zaborra – Parco Natura Viva, Bussolengo, Italy

# Progetto Grifone

WAZA Project 12010

Over last two decades, a cross-border conservation project focused on the safeguard of the griffon vulture (*Gyps fulvus*) in the south-eastern Alps has been developed by a wide network of participants. In particular, the project is financed by the Italian autonomous region of Friuli Venezia Giulia and managed by the municipalities of Forgaria nel Friuli and Trasaghis. Moreover, it is supported by Parco Natura Viva – Garda Zoological Park, and benefits from the cooperation with the neighbouring National Park Hohe Tauern and the Istituto Nazionale per la Fauna Selvatica.

Griffon vultures, or “white-headed” vultures, are a very special feature of the bird assemblage of the south-eastern Alps. This is the only area in the entire Alps, and even in the whole of central Europe, where it is regularly possible to watch wild vultures. They are very sociable and take their rest at the same traditional, shared roosts year after year. Historical evidence of a wider home range including several nesting sites in the region of Friuli Venezia Giulia and, in addition, the usual presence of individuals presumably coming from the Balkan area that spent the summer in the Alps without breeding, represent the basis of the project.

The main scope is to ensure a future for the population of griffon vultures present in the Italian Alps, by reducing the mortality and enforcing the summering individuals to stay in safe areas with enough food and no risks, based on the interaction between this group and other European colonies carried out by attracting vultures coming from Croatia and the Balkans. This also provides a concrete contribution to the conservation of remaining populations of the northern Adriatic, which may rely on an area expansion with abundant



© Progetto Grifone  
Adult griffon vulture.



© Progetto Grifone  
Griffon vulture with satellite tracking device.

nutrients and less human threats and disturbance. In addition, another aim is the establishment of a sedentary nesting colony in the Nature Reserve of Lago di Cornino. On top of that, the project has also some objectives strictly related to the promotion of public awareness and the sustainable fruition of this area by eco-tourists.

The methodology is characterised by early releases of adults that have a lower propensity at migration and, on the contrary, tend to remain at the sites of release. Consequently, the vultures must rely on a constant availability of food, for which purpose the presence of a feeding point near the aviary is essential, regularly stocked by humans with carcasses of ungulates found in the area. Between captive breeding and reintroduction in the wild, the vultures are hosted in a large aviary for some months of acclimatisation. Then, before release, all the birds are marked with metal and coloured plastic rings.

In the first project years, approximately 70 griffon vultures have been released. The colony grew slowly over these years and currently there are about 100 birds in winter and 150 in summer. The colony includes about 30 breeding pairs. This is the only breeding colony recorded in the whole Alps. The other breeding colonies that are still extant in Europe can be found in the Iberian Peninsula, Sardinia, the Balkans and Crimea.

The network of European zoos can play a key role in the conservation and reintroduction of this species, because they have the opportunity to allow visitors to come in contact with the target species and, moreover, provide precious information on its biology and ecology. In conclusion, these zoos may improve public awareness about this species and related conservation efforts and initiatives, besides of supporting the project by providing juveniles and health care to released individuals. ■

Sian Waters – Barbary Macaque Conservation in the Rif, Tetouan, Morocco

# Barbary Macaque

WAZA Project 12011

## Conservation in the Rif

The Barbary macaque (*Macaca sylvanus*) is the only primate found north of the Sahara, and the only macaque found outside Asia. It has been found mummified in an Egyptian pyramid and petrified in Pompeii. This long association with people is now decimating the species in the wild due to increasing demand for infant macaques as pets in North Africa and the European mainland. The Barbary macaque is now an endangered species on the IUCN Red List.



© BMCRif

Schoolchildren and their monkey mural.

The association, Barbary Macaque Conservation in the Rif (BMCRif), has been working in Morocco since 2004. BMCRif works with local people who use Barbary macaque habitat for grazing their livestock. These shepherds are the key in BMCRif's field conservation strategy. Our contact with shepherds revealed that they did not value the macaques and, indeed, the younger ones spent time persecuting and killing them. However, as we built trust with this group, young boys from six villages stopped this persecution. Some now take fewer livestock guarding dogs into the forest, so they can control them better if they harass the macaques, and one shepherd actually rescued an infant macaque during an attack on a macaque group by dogs.

BMCRif has a very active education programme using interactive teaching methods to deliver a conservation message about the macaques and their forest habitat. In 2011, BMCRif's education team visited eight schools reaching more than 350 children. Another important aspect of our education programme is the annual BMCRif football tournament, which is keenly contested between villages. Before the qualifying games, the audience is treated to a short, but informative, chat about the Barbary macaques. As with all our education work, we have tremendous support from the Tetouan educational authorities, and the head teachers and teachers of the local schools. The tournament has succeeded in positively raising the profile of the macaque amongst the very group (young men and boys) who have been their main persecutors.

Domestic dogs are the main predator of Barbary macaques in Bouhachem and also prey on livestock in the forest. To encourage responsible dog ownership over the long term, we initiated a dog health programme in 2010. Rabies is endemic in the area and results in livestock and human fatalities. Dogs are the main vector, so BMCRif team members vaccinate them against rabies, medicate for internal parasites and provide dog collars. Over 300 dogs from five villages have been inoculated with more than 70% coverage, substantially reducing the risk of rabies being transmitted to the local human population and the macaques. Sterilising village dogs is our next step in this long-term strategy.

We also work with other NGOs in the fight against the illegal pet trade. We were involved in the writing of *The Journey of the Macaque Muna*, recounting the sad story (in four languages) of a wild infant macaque captured and sold as a pet. It is distributed with an information brochure during the annual straits campaign against the trade in Algeiras. BMCRif

*...as we built trust with this group, young boys from six villages stopped this persecution...*

Alexandra Zimmermann – Chester Zoo, UK

# Assam Haathi Project

WAZA Project 12012



© BMCRif

Juvenile male Barbary macaque.

uses the story in its lessons with good effect – some schoolchildren requested their school walls be painted with pictures of the macaques and the message “Don’t support the capture and commerce of wild animals”.

We continue to monitor the Bouhachem population and are beginning a survey of other populations in the north of Morocco. We will assess the possibility of developing habitat corridors between these smaller, fragmented populations. Some populations are also subject to capture and sale as pets and we will work in local schools and communities to eradicate this practice. Much more needs to be done to raise awareness about conservation in Morocco but the attendance of more than 2,000 Moroccans in three days at an educational exhibition about the macaques and BMCRif’s work points to the increasing popularity and success of BMCRif’s bottom-up approach. ■

The Assam Haathi Project is a community-based project that helps people in Assam (north-east India) live safely alongside wild elephants. Assam is one of the last remaining strongholds of the endangered Asian elephant (*Elephas maximus*). However, the expansion of agriculture and increasing demand for land is fragmenting elephant habitat, which is ultimately a serious threat to the survival of elephants. As a consequence, elephants increasingly venture into villages and agricultural areas, often resulting in damage to crops and buildings, or injuries to elephants and/or people. The severity of this conflict is such that local communities, who by culture usually respect all wildlife, have taken to poisoning elephants in desperate attempts to protect lives and livelihoods. This situation is unsustainable both for the survival of elephants and the livelihoods of local communities. The conflict needs to be redressed urgently so that rural communities re-gain their willingness to protect forests, biodiversity and contribute to regional conservation efforts.

Two conservation organisations, the UK-based Chester Zoo and Assam-based EcoSystems-India are working together to find ways to enable co-existence of elephants and people in Assam. The Assam Haathi Project has been funded by Chester Zoo and has received Darwin Initiative grants in 2007 and 2010. The project aim is to facilitate co-existence between elephants and people in Assam by reducing human-elephant conflict to a tolerable level and improving the prospects for these marginalised and disadvantaged communities. The specific objectives are:

1. To minimise incidences of human–elephant conflict so that there are fewer human and elephant injuries and deaths, and reduce the loss of income and property.
2. To increase the uptake of sustainable livelihood schemes by communities threatened by elephants in order to offset the risks of elephant damage and improve quality of life.
3. To help villagers, teachers and children become more aware of conservation issues and options for co-existing with elephants.
4. To improve our understanding of human-elephant conflict in Assam and contribute to long-term conservation planning in the area.

Elephant passing through a tea garden.

© Assam Haathi Project



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**Tiago A. Pinto-Pereira**

I'm delighted to have been named as **WAZA Decade Project Manager** where my role will be to manage and implement WAZA's project on the decade on biodiversity.

I'm a Portuguese national who studied in the United Kingdom (Ma Politics of Sustainable Development from Keele University). Since graduation I have worked exclusively with NGOs to promote sustainability around the world, with my most recent experiences being with IUCN and the Better Cotton Initiative.

I look forward to working with WAZA members to maximize the impact of the project and to ensure members' needs are met. ■



© Assam Haathi Project

Villager and house damaged by elephants.

Using a community-based approach, the project builds collaborative relationships with villages severely affected by elephant damage. In the first instance as an emergency measure, we develop mitigation methods for protecting crops and buildings. There is a range of mitigation tools (such as chilli fences, electric fences, spotlights, watchtowers) that may be used, usually in a combination and dependent on the village's situation. A long consultation period with the villagers ensures that communities are actively engaged in the planning and implementation stages. Most mitigation techniques use locally available and affordable materials (i.e. are not donor-dependent) so that neighbouring communities can copy these techniques without having to wait for a conservation project or local authority to assist them.

Once the relationship between the project and the village has been established and security restored, the project begins to discuss elephants in a different light. Using a variety of educational aids such as films, environmental games, posters, field visits and manuals, project staff discuss the importance of biodiversity, elephant behaviour and survival needs, and how to prevent elephants from becoming extinct. This aims to foster interest and a more positive attitude towards elephant and other wildlife conservation efforts.

In the project region many people live directly from their crops with little or no other sources of income; the communities in conflict with elephants often become trapped in a poverty cycle. Therefore, the Assam Haathi Project has recently started to support the cultivation of cash crops for additional income, which has been enthusiastically received. This will be developed into a structured livelihood programme to help communities start up small businesses to produce and sell cash crops, jute, handicrafts, incense, pickling, citronella and weaving. As a direct result of these capacity building activities, beneficiary communities will diversify income sources and improve livelihood security, thereby reducing poverty.

Human-elephant conflict in Assam is complex and pervasive. The Assam Haathi Project is successfully developing strategies to reduce the impact of the conflict and increase communities' tolerance towards the animals as a short-term measure. This then paves the way for vital long-term conservation solutions to be implemented, such as habitat restoration and protection, for the benefit of all biodiversity and generations to come. ■





World Association of  
Zoos and Aquariums  
**WAZA** | United for  
Conservation®

## 2013 ANNUAL CONFERENCE



### 68<sup>th</sup> WAZA Annual Conference and Technical Congress 2013 will take place at Disney's Animal Kingdom, USA, 13–17 October 2013.

Website for registration will be open and accessible by end of March. Early Bird Registration will be open until 31 May. Please do not miss it!

Accommodation can be directly booked at Disney's Yacht and Beach Club: <http://disneyworld.disney.go.com/resorts/beach-club-resort/>.

A special room rate of \$225 has been negotiated, please mention "WAZA Conference" when booking. Rooms will only be held until 13 September so PLEASE book before then, as rooms may then be unavailable.

The registration website will include additional information and FAQs. Specific information about theme parks, dining, nightlife, golf, recreation and guest programs can be obtained on [www.disneyconventionears.com](http://www.disneyconventionears.com).

The overall theme is **ONE World, ONE Plan, ONE Hope**

Contributions are especially sought for the following topics:

- Linking *ex situ* and *in situ* approaches to species management
- Global conservation planning – linking intensively managed and less intensively managed populations
- Zoo and aquarium roles in *in situ* conservation, including *in situ* conservation education
- Collection sustainability
- Telling the story of "One World, One Plan, One Hope:" innovative interpretation
- Interdisciplinary approaches to animal care, management and welfare

This year, based on last year's conference feedback, the technical congress will consist of fewer papers, will feature presentations clearly relating to the theme, and will focus on submissions that are broad in scope, rather than case studies. The application form is available at [www.waza.org](http://www.waza.org) on the home page. Please make sure that the application provides sufficient details regarding the proposed content of the presentation!

Deadline for submission: 31 May 2013.

### WAZA Membership as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012

Associations	24
Institutions	270
Affiliates	15
Corporates	16
Life and Honorary members	105

### New WAZA Members

- **Parc Pairi Daiza** | Belgium | as institutional member
- **Honolulu Zoo** | USA | as institutional member

### New Directors

- **Jan Westin** replaced **Lars Rehnman** at Universeum (Sweden) as of October 2012
- **Chris Kuhar** replaced **Steve Taylor** of Cleveland Metroparks Zoo (USA) as of 1 January 2013
- **Ulrich Schürer** of Wuppertal Zoo retired as of 31 December 2012
- **Per Kettil** of Borås Djurpark (Sweden) resigned on 1 September 2012
- **Magdalena Janiszewska** replaced **Ryszard Topola** of Łódź Zoo (Poland)
- **Torbjörn Bergvall** replaced **Helena Olsson** of Parken Zoo (Sweden)

### Future WAZA Conference Venues

- 2013 Disney's Animal Kingdom, USA (13–17 Oct 2013)
- 2014 New Delhi, India (9–13 Nov 2014)
- 2015 Al Ain, United Arab Emirates (11–15 Oct 2015)
- 2016 Africam Safari, Puebla, Mexico (9–13 Oct 2016)
- 2017 Barcelona, Spain (15–19 Oct 2017)

# Recent Updates

## Membership Application

Nominated as institutional member

### Zoo de Servion, Switzerland

- Sponsors: Marc Rosset (Tierpark Dählhölzli, Bern) and Caspar Bijleveld van Lexmond (Papiliorama Foundation)
- Founded: 1974
- Area: 5.5 ha
- Collection
  - Mammals: 33 species and 112 specimens
  - Birds: 25 species and 62 specimens
  - Fishes: 2 species and 20 specimens
- Staff: 7 permanent / 1 temporary
- Visitors: 150 000 paying
- Owned by: private
- Director: Mr. Roland Bulliard
- Member: EAZA (European Association of Zoos & Aquaria)
- Address: Zoo de Servion, Chemin du zoo 1, 1077 Servion, Switzerland

Situated on the edge of the Jorat forests in a relaxing and enchanting environment, the Zoo of Servion is entirely dedicated to the Northern wildlife, big cats and small primates. Thus, along a way with benches and shaded areas, you will discover a diverse and fascinating wildlife and this in all seasons.

Our zoological park is engaged in programs to preserve endangered species. In partnership with other zoos and associations which manage these programs and ensure the compatibility and health of the genetic heritage, we host Siberian tigers, snow leopards, Goeldi's marmosets and Sclater's lemurs.



© Mysore Zoo

Snow leopard (*Uncia uncia*).



© Mysore Zoo

Arctic wolf (*Canis lupus arctos*).

Promoting the human dimension and maintaining a family structure, we offer a quality service for more than just a zoo; the Zoo of Servion is also a place offering meetings and hospi-

tality. Thus, over the years, our zoo has become a destination for families and children. ■

To find out more:

[www.zoo-servion.ch](http://www.zoo-servion.ch)

# Recent Updates

## Membership Application

Nominated  
as institutional member

### Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens, Mysore, India

- Sponsors: Nandankanan Zoological Park, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India – Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling, India
- Founded: 1892
- Area: 63.47 ha including Zoo and Karanji Lake Nature Park
- Collection
  - Mammals: 56 species and 563 specimens
  - Birds: 87 species and 713 specimens
  - Reptiles: 25 species and 118 specimens
- Staff: 82 permanent, 93 temporary
- Visitors: paying 3 million, free entrance 15 000
- Owned by: Zoo Authority of Karnataka Zoological Society (Autonomous body)
- Director: Mr. B. P. Ravi
- Member: Central Zoo Authority, India
- Address: Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens, Indiranagar, Mysore-10, Karnataka, India

Sri Chamrajendra Zoological Gardens, popularly known as 'Mysore Zoo' is one of the oldest zoos in the country established by erstwhile Ruler of Mysore. It has the distinction of successful captive breeding of more than 150 species. The zoo also owns and manages the Karanji Lake, which is one of important emerging eco-tourist spots in the region.

Conservation education, captive breeding of endangered species, research, rescue and rehabilitation are important objectives of zoo. Mysore Zoo conducts various educational activities in order to convey the message of conservation of wildlife and its importance. Zoo displays native and exotic animal species in natural settings, providing conservation education and experience based tourism activities.



© Mysore Zoo  
Horned antelope  
or chousingha, (*Tetracerus quadricornis*).



© Mysore Zoo  
Zoo entrance gate.

There are large numbers of animals including exotics like gorilla, chimpanzee, zebra, giraffe, African rhino, marmoset, lemur, baboon, emu, and cassowary etc is housed. Even among the native fauna, there is a great diversity comprising felids, canides, bovines, deer, antelopes, primates, reptiles, birds, etc. All these beautiful and majestic animals can be seen in open natural enclosures. From the

beginning, enclosures for animals were made spacious and aesthetic such that even today, they are still quite suitable. The special feature of Mysore zoo is the meticulous planning & scientific management. ■

To find out more:  
[www.mysorezoo.info](http://www.mysorezoo.info)



# Recent Updates



## Membership Application

Nominated as institutional member

### Kristiansand Dyrepark, Norway

- Sponsors: Lena Linden (Nordens Ark) and Universeum AB (Jan Westin)
- Founded: 1964
- Area: 70 ha
- Collection
  - Mammals: 47 species and 369 specimens
  - Birds: 38 species and 219 specimens
  - Reptiles: 30 species and 67 specimens
  - Amphibians: 1 species and 11 specimens
  - Fishes: 25 species and 1 000 specimens
  - Invertebrates: 7 species and 150 specimens
- Staff: 95 permanent, 950 temporary
- Visitors: 800 000 paying, free entrance: 10 000
- Owned by: Privately, profit
- Director: Mr. Per Arnstein Aamot
- Members: European Association of Zoos and Aquaria, Swedish Association of Zoos and Aquaria
- Address: Kristiansand Dyreparken, Badelandet, Abra Havn, Kristiansand Dyrepark AS 4609 Kardemomme by, Norway

Kristiansand Dyrepark is a combined zoo and amusement park located in the very south of Norway, 11 km east of Kristiansand city. It is Norway's most frequently visited attraction covering an area of 70 hectares of nordic terrain. In Kristiansand Dyrepark, the animals have wide open spaces in which to roam – however, the visitors are still able to get up close to observe them.



© Kristiansand Dyrepark  
"Snow-lions".



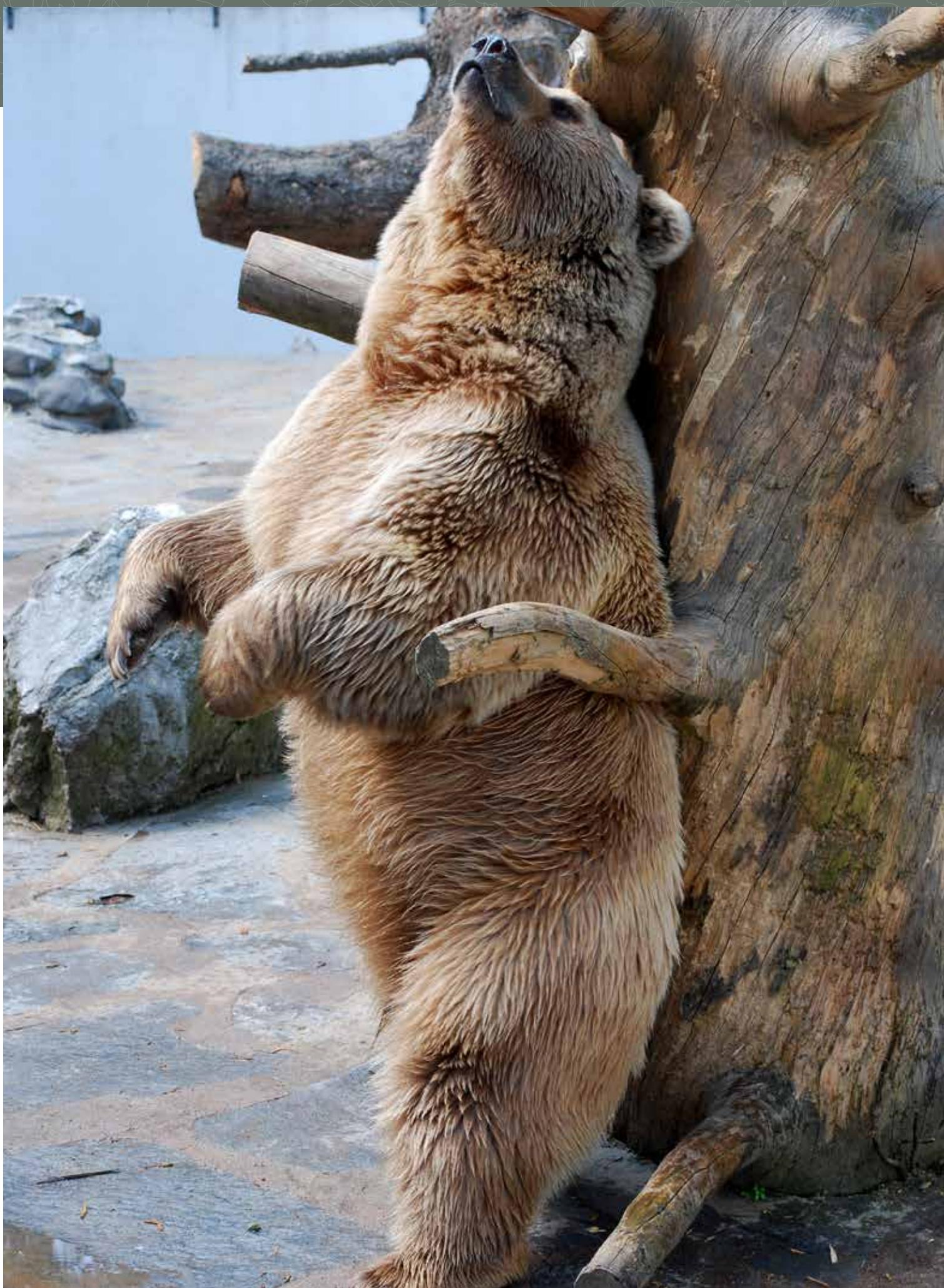
© Kristiansand Dyrepark  
Elk or moose (*Alces alces*).

The zoo is divided into the following themed areas: Africa, Asia, Jungle, Nordic Wilderness and a traditional Nordic farm. One of the specialties of this zoo is the Nordic Wilderness where European wolverines, wolves, lynxes, arctic foxes, otters and moose live in large natural forest enclosures.

Kristiansand Dyrepark is a partner in the Naboisho conservation project in Kenya. This project is a collaboration with several NGOs and 500 Masai families to protect a large area of land crucial to the Masai Mara ecosystem. ■

To find out more:

[www.dyreparken.no](http://www.dyreparken.no)





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