

# CBSG NEWS



Vol 23 January 2012

## Moving Forward

I am writing this cover letter as the happy former Chair of CBSG! At our annual meeting last October in Prague, I officially handed the chair position over to Dr. Onnie Byers. I very much valued the opportunity to serve CBSG as Chair for the prior eight years, and I am proud of what we accomplished together for species conservation. I am also very pleased with important evolutionary steps within the CBSG organization itself. This includes adding to and strengthening our regional networks so that they skillfully handle much more conservation work than we could even contemplate doing if everything had to be managed through a single global office with its small staff.

We also partnered with WAZA and the SSC's Amphibian Specialist Group to create the Amphibian Ark, which rapidly became a powerful force to mobilize the people and organizations to save amphibian species that would otherwise be lost. We further developed and utilized our great staff, as well as our members. We restructured our advisory committees to make better use of the wealth of talent and experience that they are offering to CBSG. We have embarked upon a significant effort to make sure that intensively managed populations (whether in zoos and aquariums, other breeding centers, or wildlife reserves) are used as effectively as possible as part of comprehensive conservation strategies for species. I know that there are ways that CBSG can do even more, and I have confidence that Onnie will work with you to improve CBSG and make it more effective for species conservation. Already since October, there have been many, many times when I observed Onnie's leadership and felt very good about our decision to have her take the reins!

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[Click here for the current CBSG Schedule](#)



I won't become invisible in CBSG, although I may try to hide in my home office a bit more than in the past when it seemed that I was usually traveling to meetings and workshops. A major reason that I decided to step down as Chair was so that I could now devote more of my time to developing the tools needed to conserve species in a challenging and changing global landscape. And my personal strategic shift is working! With collaborators in CBSG and elsewhere, I have recently been able to make significant progress on enhancing software tools for species risk assessment (Vortex10, soon to be released) and population management (PMx), and I will be leading an international team of 25 people to develop and test meta-modeling methods to link diverse kinds of information for integrated species risk assessments and conservation plans. CBSG is already using these tools to assess the impacts of invasive species on endangered species, to project the threats due to wildlife disease, and to design meta-population management plans that integrate conservation of captive, semi-captive, and wild populations. I am very pleased that Onnie has asked me to be identified as a Science Advisor to CBSG, and I am delighted to keep working within CBSG in this role.



You should not be invisible in CBSG either. Let Onnie know how you want to contribute. If you are not sure how you fit into the CBSG, attend some CBSG meetings or workshops to see where your skills are needed. Or use the CBSG portal to make your interests known, ask for help from colleagues, or offer your ideas and assistance to others.

The CBSG staff, members, regional networks, donors, and partners are wonderful people to work with. My thanks to you all!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert C. Lacy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Robert C. Lacy

# Working Group Summaries

## Decade on Biodiversity Working Group

### Participants

David Ainsworth, Jean-Luc Berthier, Paul Boyle, James Cretney, Gerald Dick, Suzanne Gendron, Jenny Gray, Markus Gusset, Heribert Hofer, Susan Hunt, Arai Kazutoshi, Dennis Kelly, Eric Miller, Kanako Nishimoto, Frank Oberwemmer, Jackie Ogden, Paul Pearce-Kelly, Ivan Rehak, Eric Tsao, Sally Walker

### Summary

The project design of a supporting project for the zoo/aquarium community in order to implement the Decade on Biodiversity (with a focus on target 1: awareness raising) was discussed and further developed. Based on the WAZA briefing paper, the issues of cultural sensitivity and regional adaptability of a global approach were discussed. The group even got into messaging and developed a first set of indicators in order to measure the baseline and the project success thereafter. Overall this idea was seen as a major opportunity for the whole zoo and aquarium community.

### Next steps

Secure funding in order to develop the project further, get other partners involved as well (such as botanical gardens), get an overview of existing material, and develop a set of indicators in order to measure impact.

To read the full working group report, visit:

[http://www.cbbsg.org/cbbsg/content/files/Newsletter\\_\\_Vol\\_23\\_%28Jan\\_2012%29/1\\_decade\\_on\\_biodiversity\\_wg\\_\\_final.pdf](http://www.cbbsg.org/cbbsg/content/files/Newsletter__Vol_23_%28Jan_2012%29/1_decade_on_biodiversity_wg__final.pdf)

## Ex Situ Programs as Part of an Overall Species Conservation Strategy Working Group

### Participants

Cheri Asa, Eric Bairrão Ruivo, Anne Baker, Laura Bertola, Bishan Singh Bonal, Miriam Brandt, Andrea Fidgett, Pavla Hejcmanova, Bengt Holst, Hidemasa Hori, Zhigang Jiang, Mike Jordan, Karolína Koláčková, Phil McGowan, Phil Miller, Sanjay Molur, Stewart Muir, Robin Sawyer, Karin Schwartz, Christoph Schwitzer, Mark Stanley Price, Kathy Traylor-Holzer, William Van Lint, Lars Versteegen, Hirofumi Watabe, Jonathan Wilcken

### Summary

The purpose of the One Plan Approach: to integrate *ex situ* breeding and other Intensively Managed Populations (IMPs) across a continuum of management strategies into global species conservation planning.

With the decline of biodiversity at a critical level, it is imperative that the *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation communities work together for holistic conservation action planning. The One Plan Approach needs development with cooperation from all conservation stakeholders. This working group discussed the factors that have contributed to and hindered successful integration of *ex situ* and *in situ* conservation and worked on the development of a strategic plan to identify and prioritize future projects that the CBSG community could help with to forward the One Plan Approach for global species conservation.

To read the full working group report, visit

[http://www.cbbsg.org/cbbsg/content/files/Newsletter\\_\\_Vol\\_23\\_%28Jan\\_2012%29/2\\_one\\_plan\\_ex\\_situ\\_\\_final.pdf](http://www.cbbsg.org/cbbsg/content/files/Newsletter__Vol_23_%28Jan_2012%29/2_one_plan_ex_situ__final.pdf)



# Working Group Summaries

## Conservation Success Stories: General Working Group

### Participants

Brad Andrews, Cheri Asa, Eric Bairrão Ruivo, Anne Baker, Laura Bertola, Bishan Singh Bonal, Miriam Brandt, Frands Carlsen, Dalia Amor Conde, John Corder, Abeda Dawood, Andrea Fidgett, Nate Flesness, Jo Gipps, Lewis Greene, Bengt Holst, Hidemasa Hori, Zhigang Jiang, Mike Jordan, Karolína Koláčková, Kristin Leus, Phil McGowan, Phil Miller, Sanjay Molur, Stewart Muir, Chelle Plassé, Robin Sawyer, Geer Scheres, Christian Schmidt, Karin Schwartz, Christoph Schwitzer, Lee Simmons, Mark Stanley Price, Gloria Svampa-Garibaldi, Kathy Traylor-Holzer, Yasumasa Tomita, William Van Lint, Lars Versteeg, Hirofumi Watabe, Jonathan Wilcken

### Summary

This working group mapped out further discussions for the process to collect Conservation Success Stories where *ex situ* populations contributed to the improvement in the status of *in situ* populations. Captive breeding has already prevented the extinction of several species and has been a key tool for the conservation of others; however, it is not considered or plays a minor role in most of the conservation policies of governments, NGOs and multilateral institutions. A comprehensive list of evidence-based examples of how zoos/aquariums are making a difference to the conservation of wild populations will assist in the development of the One Plan Approach for integrated efforts between the *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation communities. The working group identified categories of conservation approaches that should be included in the success story list and the levels of information that should be collected.

To read the full working group report, visit:

[http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter\\_\\_Vol\\_23\\_%28Jan\\_2012%29%2F2\\_one\\_plan\\_ex\\_situ\\_\\_final.pdf](http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter__Vol_23_%28Jan_2012%29%2F2_one_plan_ex_situ__final.pdf)

## Conservation Success Stories Sub-group

### Participants

Brad Andrews, Frands Carlsen, Dalia Amor Conde, John Corder, Abeda Dawood, Nate Flesness, Jo Gipps, Lewis Greene, Kristin Leus, Chelle Plassé, Geer Scheres, Christian Schmidt, Lee Simmons, Gloria Svampa-Garibaldi, Yasumasa Tomita, William Van Lint

### Summary

The goal of this session was based on the definitions gathered in the previous one to plan a process to gather the most authoritative list of cases where *ex situ* actions played a major role in the conservation of a species. The previous session we identified six possible definitions of success. However this group decided that a better way to explain and gather those stories was to name them “Case Stories” instead of “Success Stories”, because a conservation action does not end with the reintroduction of a species in the wild, or by saving a species from extinction (in captivity). Every conservation action is an ongoing process that can have success and failure case stories. However, an authoritative list will be a useful tool. The discussion focused on two cases and reduced the list to five final conservation cases.

To read the full working group report, visit

[http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter\\_\\_Vol\\_23\\_%28Jan\\_2012%29%2F2\\_one\\_plan\\_ex\\_situ\\_\\_final.pdf](http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter__Vol_23_%28Jan_2012%29%2F2_one_plan_ex_situ__final.pdf)



# Working Group Summaries

## Intensively Managed Populations Working Groups

### Background

As the status of biodiversity continues to deteriorate, increasingly intensive conservation actions are likely to be needed to help curb the tide. A new term has grown among conservationists: Intensively Managed Populations, or IMPs. These are populations that are dependent on human care at the individual and population level for their persistence.

In December 2010, CBSG convened an international workshop at the San Diego Zoo, attended by 45 professionals from the zoo and aquarium world, CBSG, ISIS, the Amphibian Ark, academia, field biologists and a representative from Botanic Gardens Conservation International. The IMP workshop participants identified more than 100 recommended actions to help ensure that intensive population management by zoos and aquaria contributes to conservation.

This group discussed the need to

- Change the current paradigm so that zoos and aquariums contribute effectively to species conservation, as a core purpose rather than something they do only occasionally, as resources permit.
- Improve the viability and success of long-term IMP programs, ensuring that each managed species has a precise role and management plan.
- Incorporate IMPs into holistic species conservation strategies and increase collaboration with conservation partners.
- Improve success by optimally utilizing populations along a management continuum, including alternative IMP approaches and expanding inter-regional management efforts.

A number of the more concrete initiatives to work towards these goals were identified. Progress has been made on several of the needed activities, but much remains to be done to achieve the broad purpose of zoos and aquariums being, and being acknowledged as, effective conservation partners in the context of integrated conservation strategies that include intensive population management. This group examined the challenges facing Intensively Managed Populations as a whole, as well as the specific needs of the zoo/aquarium and *ex situ* community.

### IMP Paradigm Shift Working Groups

A primary goal identified at the IMP workshop in San Diego was for the world zoo and aquarium communities to be, and also to be acknowledged as, effective conservation partners in integrated conservation strategies that include intensive population management. This working group reviewed the challenges identified in San Diego in achieving the paradigm shift necessary to realize this goal. These challenges were clustered into two themes (internal and external), and the group split into two to address them. The internal working group discussed improving communication and understanding among zoos to promote effective conservation, while the external working group identified ways to integrate the *ex situ* and *in situ* conservation communities.

To read the full working group report, visit

[http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter\\_\\_Vol\\_23\\_%28Jan\\_2012%29%5\\_imp\\_paradigm\\_shift\\_wg\\_final.pdf](http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter__Vol_23_%28Jan_2012%29%5_imp_paradigm_shift_wg_final.pdf)



# Working Group Summaries

## IMP Tools and Processes Working Group

### Participants

Cheryl Asa, Laura Bertola, Jean-Luc Bethier, Dalia Amor Conde, Pavla Heschanova, Kevin Johnson, Mike Jordan, Karolina Koláčková, Bob Lacy, Kristin Leus, J. Moluz, Phil Miller, Mark Pilgrim, Frank Oberwemmer, Robin Sawyer, Lee Simmons, Gloria Svampa-Garibaldi, Karin Schwartz, Eric Tsao, Kathy Traylor-Holzer, William van Lint, Lars Versteege

**Background:** Based on the challenges, goals and open actions identified at the workshop on intensively managed populations held in San Diego in 2010, this working group discussed issues related to tools and processes needed for more effective intensive population management. The group chose to focus on two priority issues: 1) species assessment and prioritization; and 2) building capacity of IMP experts.

Two types of tools are needed in considering species for intensive management. Assessment tools help determine which species would benefit from an IMP/*ex situ* program, while prioritization tools prioritize species for intensive management given limited resources. The assessment and prioritization process should be consistent and inclusive, not done in isolation.

The group also discussed the paucity of advanced population management experts to develop new tools and management strategies and advise species programs. We need to engage a broader community for added expertise and nurture the next generation of IMP experts.

**Action:** Establish an ongoing working group (Kevin Johnson, Chair) to explore test cases for conservation needs assessments (based on AArk tool), explicitly including an *ex situ* component. Requests from both the *in situ* and *ex situ* communities should be accepted, and facilitation, training, advice and documentation should be provided.

**Action:** Organize an international symposium to bring together IMP-related expertise from various communities to exchange ideas and advance the science (Kristin Leus, organizer). Use the Leus et al. paper in International Zoo Yearbook as a basis for the symposium, as it addresses the most important issues to solve/work on (i.e., group management, metapopulation management, and adaptation to captivity).

To read the full working group report, visit

[http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter\\_\\_Vol\\_23\\_%28Jan\\_2012%29%2F6\\_imp\\_tools\\_and\\_processes\\_final.pdf](http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter__Vol_23_%28Jan_2012%29%2F6_imp_tools_and_processes_final.pdf)

## MetaModel Software Demonstration and Discussion Group

### Participants

Frands Carlsen, Nate Flesness, Jo Gipps, Lewis Greene, Bob Lacy, Mark Stanley Price, Lee Simmons, Eric Tsao, Lars Versteege, Robert Wiese

**Summary:** The group walked through a brief demonstration of the MetaModel Manager software, with an example of a three-species model. There was great discussion of the general process and mechanism of metamodel development and use for conservation planning.

Some needs for further work with the metamodel tools were identified, including further software development and development of expertise among programmers and users of the software.



## Working Group Summaries

### Revision of IUCN Technical Guidelines on the Management of *Ex Situ* Populations for Conservation Working Group

#### Participants

Cheri Asa, Anne Baker, Jean-Luc Berthier, Bishan Singh Bonal, Onnie Byers, Bryan Carroll, Bob Cook, Bengt Holst, Kevin Johnson, Mike Jordan, Dennis Kelly, Kristin Leus, Phil McGowan, Eric Miller, Kanako Nishimoto, Mark Pilgrim, George Rabb, Kathy Traylor-Holzer, William van Lint, Jonathan Wilcken

#### Background

The current IUCN *Technical Guidelines on the Management of Ex Situ Populations for Conservation* do not provide sufficient clear guidance on if and when *ex situ* activities are a beneficial component of an overall conservation strategy for a taxon and, in some cases, can even lead to contradictory interpretations. A working group was convened during last year's CBSG Annual Meeting in Cologne in order to explore revision ideas. Main results of the working group included the identification of five main steps in the decision-making process on whether *ex situ* conservation should be included in the overall strategy for a taxon. A formal proposal for revision of the guidelines was submitted to and approved by the SSC steering committee in December 2011, and CBSG was requested to coordinate this process. A drafting team was formed, and the first draft of the proposed revisions was presented during the working group session at this year's annual meeting for feedback and input.

#### [View the 2010 Working Group Report \(Cologne\)](#)

To read the full working group report, visit

[http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter\\_\\_Vol\\_23\\_%28Jan\\_2012%29%2F7\\_ex\\_situ\\_guidelines\\_\\_final.pdf](http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter__Vol_23_%28Jan_2012%29%2F7_ex_situ_guidelines__final.pdf)



# Working Group Summaries

## Developing WAZA's Case for United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat Observer Representation Working Group

### Participants

Paul Boyle, Dalia Amor Conde, Adeba Dawood, Andrea Fidgett, Suzanne Gendron, Jenny Gray, Markus Gusset, Paul Pearce-Kelly, Phil Miller, Sanjay Molur, Jackie Ogden, Gordon McGregor Reid, Robin Sawyer, Yasumasa Tomita, Hirotsumi Watabe

### Summary

Participants worked through 12 statements demonstrating how WAZA is qualified in matters covered by the Convention and thus has a strong case for gaining UN-FCCC Observer Status. Specific named examples are sought to support each statement, wherever possible from many regions and a champion identified to gather the details necessary.

The statements are:

- Many WAZA members and/or their projects are in areas where impacts of climate are most evident, and WAZA members experience a wide diversity of different climates.
- Engage in zoo, public and school group communications/advocacy on: general climate change issues, impacts on biodiversity, and role in mitigation.
- Provide practical demonstrations for the public, educational and wider groups on alternative [non-carbon] energy options and associated sustainability initiatives.
- Serve as repositories, conduits and forums for reliable, best science-based information and training resources on climate change for staff, public, schools and policy makers.
- Organize and deliver large scale awareness raising initiatives and marketing campaigns related to climate change mitigation, signature petitions, etc. to inform debates and help to influence governmental and intergovernmental policy.
- Conduct scientific/veterinary research on (or associated with) terrestrial and aquatic impacts of climate change.
- Conduct bio-surveillance at home and abroad.
- Provide well-informed views on climate change issues and lobby for beneficial change.
- Use our local, national and regional network potential to host, encourage and support a range of climate change-focused biological record initiatives (e.g., serving as species record centers).
- Rescue and provide temporary refuge for a wide range of animal and plant species negatively impacted by climate change.
- Manage and breed animals *ex situ* in the long-term with a view to restocking in the wild.
- Engage in habitat restoration projects.

To read the full working group report, visit

[http://www.cbbsg.org/cbbsg/content/files/Newsletter\\_\\_Vol\\_23\\_%28Jan\\_2012%29/8\\_waza\\_climate\\_change\\_final.pdf](http://www.cbbsg.org/cbbsg/content/files/Newsletter__Vol_23_%28Jan_2012%29/8_waza_climate_change_final.pdf)



# CBSG Network News

## CBSG Australasia

### Recent Workshops

- Kiwi Captive Management Planning
- Mass Collaboration Tools Assessment
- Disease Risk Analysis Workshop

### Highlighted Activities

CBSG Australasia was launched at the Adelaide CBSG Annual Meeting in 2008. In addition to localizing delivery of CBSG workshops, the network has the following priorities: development of disease risk assessment and management tools, the uptake of virtual tools for mass collaboration, and the new generation of population management tools.

The vision of the Disease Risk Analysis workshop was to develop and promote an open access set of processes and tools, endorsed by IUCN, which address disease threats to biodiversity conservation. The mission supports the vision of ensuring healthy ecosystems through better decision making.

Participants built on previous CBSG workshops that culminated in the publication of *Animal Movements and Disease Risk: A Workbook* published in 2002. The framework and broad content of a new *Guide to Wildlife Disease Risk Analysis* was developed and further refined at the workshop in April 2011.

CBSG Australasia Co-convenor Richard Jakob-Hoff is now leading an editorial team in completing the Guide. The team includes representatives of CBSG Australasia, CBSG, University of Minnesota, Richard Kock Royal Veterinary College/Wildlife Health Specialist Group, and New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Contributing writers include experts in a broad range of disciplines, including veterinary science, epidemiology, ecology, simulation modelling, group facilitation and others. A deadline for publication has been set for April, 2012.

For a more detailed update on CBSG Australasia activities, visit:

[http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter\\_\\_Vol\\_23\\_%28Jan\\_2012%29/australasia.pdf](http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter__Vol_23_%28Jan_2012%29/australasia.pdf)

## CBSG Brasil

### Recent Workshops

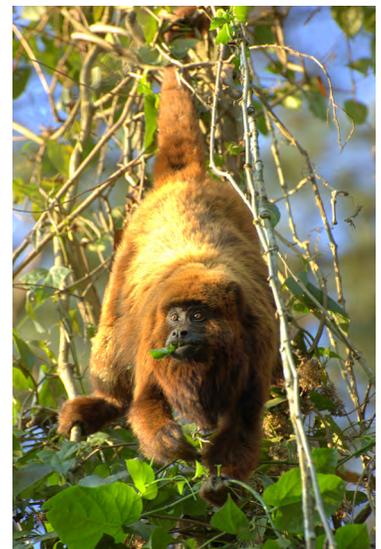
- Conservation Decision Making Course
- IUCN/SSC Species Conservation Planning Sub-Committee Meeting

### Highlighted Activity

CBSG Brasil is planning a PVA workshop in Puerto Iguazú, Misiones, Argentina, on the brown howler monkey (*Alouatta guariba ssp.*). Since early 2005, a small group of biologists of the NGO Centro de Investigaciones del Bosque Atlántico (CeIBA) and of the Instituto de Biología Subtropical (IBS – sede Iguazú, Facultad de Ciencias Forestales, Univ. Nacional de Misiones) has undertaken comparative studies on distribution, behavior and ecology of the small Argentinean population of brown howler monkey (*Alouatta guariba ssp. clamitans*) and the sympatric congener black and gold howlers (*Alouatta caraya*) in the Province of Misiones, in northeastern Argentina. In 2008 and 2009, severe yellow fever epidemics struck and decimated populations of both species, driving the already small population of brown howlers to the verge of extinction in Misiones. This situation makes conservation action urgent. In order to establish conservation priorities for this species and its habitat in Argentina, it has become critical to assess the current brown howler population status, the main threats, and the potential management of alternatives that are most likely to be effective with the objective of preserving the species.

For a more detailed update on CBSG Brasil activities, visit:

[http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter\\_\\_Vol\\_23\\_%28Jan\\_2012%29/brasil.pdf](http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter__Vol_23_%28Jan_2012%29/brasil.pdf)



# CBSG Network News

## CBSG Europe

### Recent Workshops

- Western Chimpanzee PHVA
- *Ex situ* Conservation Programs for Wild Species in Europe (in collaboration with Kew Gardens and EAZA)
- Building Capacity for Studbook Keeping and *Ex situ* Population Management for Key Indonesian Species



### Highlighted Activity

CBSG Europe conducted a PHVA workshop for the Western Chimpanzee in Freetown, Sierra Leone. The main goal of the workshop was to gather and discuss all available information on chimpanzees in Sierra Leone, and to use this information to identify the primary issues affecting chimpanzee viability and establish conservation priorities and management strategies for the western chimpanzee in Sierra Leone. The workshop incorporated elements of the SCS handbook approach into the “traditional” PHVA format, including others a visioning exercise leading to a final vision statement, and efforts on structured decision making. Several members of the Primate Specialist Group participated in the workshop as well as Chris Ransom from the Hippo Specialist Subgroup. The expected outcome of this workshop is a realistic Conservation Action Plan for the western chimpanzee in Sierra Leone, including short- and long-term goals, as well as prioritized action steps for both in-situ and ex-situ conservation efforts.

For a more detailed update on CBSG Europe activities, visit:

[http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter\\_\\_Vol\\_23\\_%28Jan\\_2012%29/europe.pdf](http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter__Vol_23_%28Jan_2012%29/europe.pdf)

## CBSG Japan

### Recent Workshop

- Amphibian Conservation Needs Assessment Workshop

### Highlighted Activity

CBSG Japan held an Amphibian Conservation Needs Assessment workshop in January 2011 with the cooperation of AArk, and Asa Zoo, to review the need for *ex situ* conservation and prioritize Japanese species. Participants discussed and reviewed the current situation of each amphibian species (24 *Caudata* and 38 *Anura*), categorized them based on AArk format assessment, and examined the adequacy of the *ex situ* conservation programs.



CBSG Japan marked its 15th anniversary this year. The network has held several activities, including CAMP and PHVA workshops under the support by CBSG Headquarters. We are exploring ways to structure CBSG Japan to work more actively. We hope to learn from other regional networks and enhance the relationship with them to cooperate for the further development of CBSG.

For a more detailed update on CBSG Japan activities, visit:

[http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter\\_\\_Vol\\_23\\_%28Jan\\_2012%29/europe.pdf](http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter__Vol_23_%28Jan_2012%29/europe.pdf)

## CBSG Network News

### CBSG Mesoamerica

#### Recent Workshops

- Lake Titicaca Frog Conservation Workshop
- Caribbean Manatee PHVA

#### Highlighted Activity

A PHVA workshop on Caribbean manatees (*Trichechus manatus*) was held at Simon Bolívar Zoo, San José, Costa Rica on 20-24 June. Thirty-three participants from seven countries within the species' range, representing 23 organizations, universities and governments, met to analyze the status of the populations of this species at its current distribution range. Four working groups were constituted and their participants discussed the problems of the populations from the point of view of habitat conservation, public politics and education, research, and population biology. These groups proposed a conservation strategy for the species and gave recommendations for its conservation. The report from this workshop will be published soon.



CBSG Mesoamerica has several upcoming workshops planned for 2012, including an amphibian husbandry course and an amphibian conservation strategy workshop.

For a more detailed update on CBSG Mesoamerica activities, visit:

[http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter\\_\\_Vol\\_23\\_%28Jan\\_2012%29/mesoamerica.pdf](http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter__Vol_23_%28Jan_2012%29/mesoamerica.pdf)

### CBSG México

#### Recent Workshops

- Argentinean Amphibian Conservation Needs Workshop
- Northern Jaguar PVA and PHVA Workshops
- Amphibian Biology and Management Training Course – Argentina

#### Highlighted Activities

Jaguars were almost extirpated from the US decades ago, but recently some isolated individuals have been seen crossing the border from México to the US. The US government through the USFWS has the mission of developing a recovery plan for the northern jaguar. As the northern jaguar population occurs in México, it was obvious that only cross-border conservation approach was needed to achieve that goal. USFWS invited CBSG to design and facilitate this workshop and CBSG México was invited to assist. Thirty-one people from 25 institutions attended this bilingual workshop.



In order to focus efforts for amphibian conservation in Argentina, AArk along with ALPZA organized a workshop to identify the conservation needs for all amphibian species in Argentina. CBSG México assisted in facilitating this workshop, and also conducted training for amphibian conservation professionals from the south region of South America. The main objectives were to teach sound techniques to raise, breed and maintain amphibians, and to develop conservation projects managing captive amphibian populations. CBSG México helped in organizing and developing the course content and facilitated the course.

For a more detailed update on CBSG México activities, visit:

[http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter\\_\\_Vol\\_23\\_%28Jan\\_2012%29/mexico.pdf](http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter__Vol_23_%28Jan_2012%29/mexico.pdf)

## CBSG Network News

### CBSG South Asia

#### Recent Workshops

- Red Panda PHVA, Nepal
- Wildlife Conservation and Wildlife Welfare Workshop
- Western Ghats Freshwater Biodiversity Assessments
- Asian Lepidoptera Conservation Symposium and Training
- Western Ghats Reptile CAMP Workshop
- Human-Elephant Coexistence in Coimbatore and Thailand
- Conservation and Educator Skills Training Programs on Bears



#### Highlighted Activities

Using the CAMP process, ZOO and CBSG South Asia conducted two Western Ghats Freshwater Biodiversity Assessment Evaluation Workshops in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India sponsored by CEPT, Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) via IUCN. Out of 1200 species, 490 Western Ghats freshwater ecosystem species (fishes, molluscs, odonates and aquatic plants) were assessed during the workshop, and 450 species were assessed during the second assessment workshop.

A Conservation and Assessment Management Plan workshop was also conducted at the Karl Kubel Institute, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India, sponsored fully by CEPF, Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund. Organized by ZOO and CBSG South Asia along with the IUCN, the workshop assessed 245 reptile species from Western Ghats. There were 40 participants, mostly field biologists from the Western Ghats.

For a more detailed update on CBSG South Asia activities, visit:

[http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter\\_\\_Vol\\_23\\_%28Jan\\_2012%29/southern\\_africa.pdf](http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter__Vol_23_%28Jan_2012%29/southern_africa.pdf)

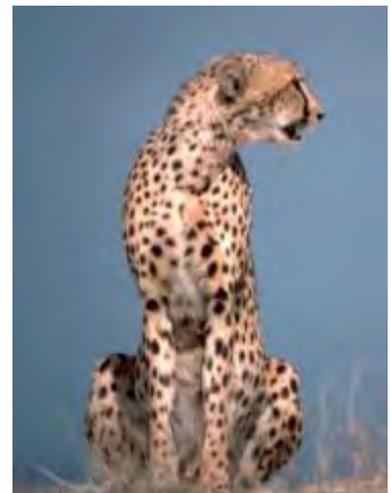
### CBSG Southern Africa

#### Recent Workshops

- Southern Ground Hornbill African Preservation Programme (APP)
- Cape Vulture APP meetings
- Implementing the Range-wide Conservation Strategy for Cheetah Meeting

#### Highlighted Activities

CBSG Southern Africa's official office moved to its new host, the National Zoological Gardens of South Africa (NZG). The NZG comprises two Biodiversity Conservation Centres in Limpopo and North-west Provinces as well as the zoo in Pretoria, where the CBSG office is now based.



The 'Implementing the Range-Wide Conservation Strategy for Cheetah' meeting produced a recommendation to develop reintroduction guidelines for cheetahs and wild dogs; CBSG, in collaboration with the Reintroduction Specialist Group, is assisting in developing these two sets of guidelines and editing the final documents.

Informal discussions have been held towards the conservation of Cape parrots and roan antelope. Both these initiatives may develop further with the assistance of the CBSG Southern Africa.

For a more detailed update on CBSG Southern Africa activities, visit:

[http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter\\_\\_Vol\\_23\\_%28Jan\\_2012%29/southern\\_africa.pdf](http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/Newsletter__Vol_23_%28Jan_2012%29/southern_africa.pdf)

# 2011 CBSG Annual Meeting Participants

## **African Association of Zoos and Aquaria**

Dave Morgan

## **Allwetterzoo Münster**

Jörg Adler

## **Amphibian Ark**

Kevin Johnson

## **Association of Zoos & Aquariums**

Paul Boyle

## **Auckland Zoo**

Jonathan Wilcken

## **Beauval Zoo**

Eric Bairrão  
Ruivo

## **Bristol Zoo Gardens**

Bryan Carroll  
Christoph  
Schwitzer

## **CBSG**

Onnie Byers  
Jo Gipps  
Philip Miller  
Kathy Traylor-  
Holzer

## **Central Zoo Authority**

Bishan Singh  
Bonal

## **Česká Zemědělská Univerzita v Praze**

Pavla  
Hejčmanová  
Karolína  
Koláčková

## **Chester Zoo**

Andrea Fidgett  
Mark Pilgrim  
Gordon McGregor  
Reid

## **Chicago Zoological Society**

Robert Lacy  
George Rabb  
Frank Zeigler

## **Chinese Academy of Sciences**

Zhigang Jiang

## **City Museum of Zoology of Rome**

Gloria Svampa-  
Garibaldi

## **Columbus Zoo and Aquarium**

Lewis Greene

## **Conservation Centers for Species Survival**

Robin Sawyer

## **Copenhagen Zoo**

Frands Carlsen  
Bengt Holst  
Kristin Leus

## **Disney's Animal Kingdom**

Chelle Plasse

## **European Association of Zoos and Aquaria**

Lesley Dickie  
William van Lint

## **Fota Wildlife Park**

Sean McKeown

## **Frankfurt Zoo**

Christian Schmidt

## **George Mason University**

Karin Schwartz

## **Leiden University**

Laura Bertola

## **ISIS**

Nate Flesness

## **Japanese Association of Zoos and Aquariums**

Kazutoshi Arai  
Kanakano Nishimoto

## **Leibniz-Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research**

Miriam Brandt  
Heribert Hofer

## **Marwell Wildlife**

James Cretney

## **Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research**

Dalia Amor Conde

## **Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle**

Jean-Luc Berthier

## **Mvog Besti Zoological Gardens**

Moise Kouamou

## **National Zoological Gardens of South Africa**

Abeda Dawood  
Mike Jordan

## **Newquay Zoo**

Stewart Muir

## **Nordens Ark**

Lena Lindén

## **Ocean Park Hong Kong**

Suzanne Gendron

## **Omaha Zoo Foundation**

Lee Simmons

## **Perth Zoo**

Susan Hunt

## **Poznan University of Life Sciences**

Jan Smielowski

## **Prague Zoo**

Ivan Rehak

## **Safaripark Beekse Bergen**

Lars Versteeg

## **Saint Louis Zoo**

Cheryl Asa  
Eric Miller

## **San Diego Zoo Global**

Robert Wiese

## **SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment**

Brad Andrews

## **Smithsonian National Zoo**

Dennis Kelly

## **Taipei Zoo**

Eric Tsao

## **Tokyo Zoological Park Society**

Hori Hidemasa  
Yasumasa Tomita  
Hirofumi Watabe

## **Toledo Zoo**

Anne Baker

## **University of Oxford, Wildlife Conservation Research Unit**

Mark Stanley-  
Price

## **Walt Disney Parks & Resorts**

Jackie Ogden

## **World Association of Zoos and Aquaria**

Gerald Dick  
Markus Gusset

## **Wildlife Conservation Society**

Robert Cook

## **World Pheasant Association**

John Corder  
Philip McGowan

## **Zoo Leipzig**

Frank  
Oberwemmer

## **Zoo Outreach Organisation**

Sanjay Molur  
Sally R. Walker

## **Zoological Society of London**

Paul Pearce-Kelly

## **Zoos Victoria**

Jenny Gray

## **Zoo Zurich**

Alex Ruebel

David Ainsworth  
Geer Scheres  
J. Moluz

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Laurie Bingaman Lackey  
Linda Malek  
Marwell Wildlife  
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Fort Wayne Children's Zoo  
Fota Wildlife Park  
Givskud Zoo  
International Animal Exchange, Inc.  
Kansas City Zoo  
Los Angeles Zoo  
Nordens Ark  
Ocean Park Conservation Foundation  
Palm Beach Zoo at Dreher Park  
Parco Natura Viva – Garda Zoological Park  
Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium  
Prudence P. Perry  
Ringling Bros., Barnum & Bailey  
Rotterdam Zoo  
Royal Zoological Society of Scotland – Edinburgh Zoo  
San Antonio Zoo

Seoul Zoo  
Skansen Akvariet  
Swedish Association of Zoological Parks & Aquaria  
Taipei Zoo  
The Living Desert  
Thrigby Hall Wildlife Gardens  
Utah's Hogle Zoo  
Woodland Park Zoo  
Zoo Frankfurt  
Zoo Madrid – Parques Reunidos  
Zoological Society of Wales – Welsh Mountain Zoo  
Zoologischer Garten Rostock  
Zoos South Australia

## \$500 and above

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Friends of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo  
GaiaPark – Kerkrade Zoo  
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Katey & Mike Pelican  
Knuthenborg Safaripark  
Lisbon Zoo  
Little Rock Zoo  
Odense Zoo  
Oregon Zoo  
Ouwehands Dierenpark  
Riverbanks Zoo & Garden  
Topeka Zoo  
Wellington Zoo  
Wildlife World Zoo & Aquarium  
Zoo de la Palmyre

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Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum  
Bramble Park Zoo

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Ed Asper  
International Centre for Birds of Prey  
Lee Richardson Zoo  
Lincoln Park Zoo  
Mark Barone  
Mohawk Fine Papers  
Racine Zoological Gardens  
Roger Williams Park Zoo  
Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure  
Sacramento Zoo  
Susie Byers & Family  
Tautphaus Park Zoo  
Tokyo Zoological Park Society

## \$100 and above

African Safari – France  
Aquarium of the Bay  
Chahinkapa Zoo  
Darmstadt Zoo  
Lion Country Safari  
Miami Metrozoo  
Safari de Peaugres  
Steinhart Aquarium  
Steven J. Olson  
Touroparc – France

## \$50 and above

Alameda Park Zoo  
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## \$15 and above

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## 2011 Ulysses S. Seal Award

### Presented to Bill Conway by CBSG Chairman Robert Lacy

*CBSG was honored to present this award to Bill Conway. Below is Robert Lacy's presentation speech.*

"Ulysses S. Seal's great passion and talent was his creative thinking about how new science could be most effectively applied to solving the problems of wildlife conservation. His contributions were amplified many times over by his further ability to recognize, encourage, and utilize others who also were making such innovative contributions. The CBSG has chosen to honor Ulie by creating the Ulysses S. Seal Award for Innovation in Conservation. Nominations are solicited not just from the CBSG membership, but from the SSC and others.

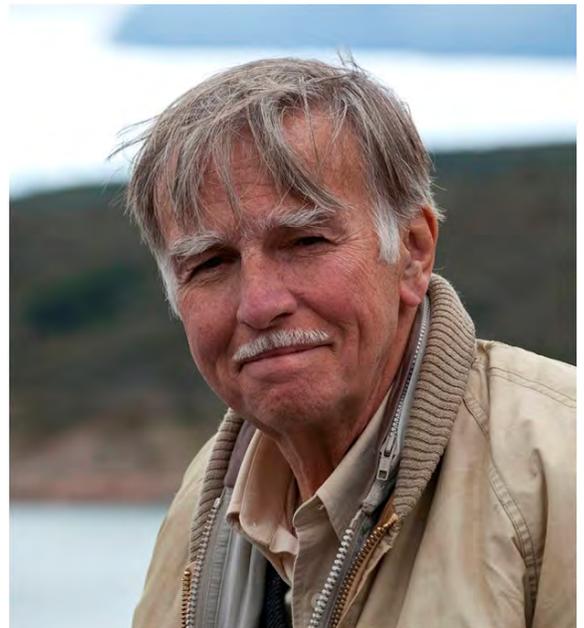
The CBSG Nominating Committee reviewed nominations and made the unanimous recommendation that the 2011 USS Award for Innovation in Conservation be given to Dr. William Conway. This recommendation was approved with great enthusiasm by the CBSG Strategic Committee, with a mean of 2 (a maximum of 7) exclamation points being added to their affirmative responses! Even those who did not use exclamation points to add emphasis to their vote were no less enthusiastic in their support, with one person noting: "There is no more worthy recipient on earth."

It is impossible to summarize in this short message all that makes Bill Conway such a notable recipient of this award, and almost as hard to be as eloquent as spokesperson for the CBSG and Ulie as Bill always has been for conservation. Given his stature in the world of zoos and wildlife conservation, it is interesting to note that Bill actually started his career in the world of zoos as a volunteer keeper in the reptile department at the St. Louis Zoo. He moved up through the ranks of keeper, curator, assistant to the director, and then General Director and President of the Wildlife Conservation Society until he retired in 1999. "Retired" is a relative term, and Bill has been no less active and influential in retirement – as evidenced in his ongoing field work in Argentina, his continued guidance to CBSG, and his unrelenting passion as a spokesperson for wildlife and for doing the right things for wildlife.

The list of professional committees and organizations he has led fill many pages, but several stand out in their relevancy to the work of the CBSG. He founded the AZA's SSP Committee and worked with Ulie Seal, Tom Foose, and others to get the AZA to embrace the responsibility for joint, scientific management of irreplaceable populations. Bill Conway also founded the AZA's Field Conservation Committee, helped to write its first Field Conservation Manual, and he led the profession toward recognizing that species conservation, even as practiced by zoos, must include integrated approaches that combine responsible management of assurance populations, protection of remaining wild populations, scientific study, and inspiration and education of the general public. Along these lines, he has recently challenged us to think about how isolated populations in the wild need the same kinds of careful management as the *ex situ* populations in our more obviously direct care.

In promoting collective, integrated, scientific conservation of populations, Bill also has been an early and ongoing champion of ISIS and shared data, and a passionate advocate for CBSG and shared work on the behalf of species. He serves as a Fellow of the Saint Louis WildCare Institute, an example of the use of the expertise within a zoo to achieve conservation also in the field, and he has provided excellent advice to many other conservation programs, either in a formal role as an advisor or just as a friendly and thoughtful message.

Bill Conway also never stopped thinking about how zoo exhibits could serve conservation as well as entertainment and recreation. His early signature paper "How to Exhibit a Bull Frog" is still a classic today. Bill recently wrote an update of that classic paper, in which he takes on the role of the devil to point out how much more than just exhibitory zoos could be doing to save species. He quotes the devil: "How is it that zoos spend so much effort on exhibits of animals vanishing in nature but so little to assure that they don't vanish—even in the zoo?" Fortunately for those of us with less imagination, Bill Conway has often identified the directions that we need to go to develop the approaches and methods to be sure that



species don't vanish on our watch. As a true leader in the multi-faceted field of zoo and conservation biology, Bill raised the bar many times over for all zoo professionals as to what we should and could accomplish whether it be in exhibit design, conservation education, field conservation, or the synergistic intertwining of all of these.

For the past five decades, Bill Conway has been publishing important papers that guided the way for zoos and aquariums to be effective in species conservation. Bill's insights were so far ahead of his time that many of his influential papers were presented even before there was a CBSG. He was a key collaborator with such other notable colleagues as George Rabb, Ulie Seal, Tom Foose, Nate Flesness, and many more. As one CBSG member noted: "In fact, it might be said that William Conway's revolutionary impact on zoos and their role in wildlife conservation paved the way for other innovative thinkers such as Dr. Ulysses S. Seal." I think that Ulie would agree that without a few key thinkers and dreamers like Bill Conway, Ulie's drive to implement conservation would not have found an accepting audience. Ulie would be very pleased that the award in his honor is being presented this year to William Conway.



Bill Conway has already been given every other conservation award, including:

- AZA's R. Marlin Perkins Award
- World Wildlife Fund Commander of the Order of the Golden Ark
- Society for Conservation Biology Distinguished Achievement Award
- American Association of Museums Medal for Distinguished Service to Museums
- WAZA's Heini Hediger Award
- Audubon Medal
- Henry Shaw Medal of the Missouri Botanical Garden
- IUCN SSC's highest award – Sir Peter Scott Award for Conservation Merit

He also has been awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science degree from Saint Lawrence University, Fordham University, and Trinity University.

All these awards and many others that Bill has received do not diminish the importance of the Seal Award to Bill, or the importance to us of presenting the award to Bill. The qualifications for the award state: The contributions of a nominee need not have been through work connected with the CBSG, but should reflect the CBSG values of creative thinking that results in improved conservation action. Bill has certainly had a huge impact – on zoos, on the SSC, bird conservation, exhibit design, field programs, developing science in zoos, and many more areas of conservation. But his biggest impact has been on all of his colleagues, either directly or indirectly, so it is absolutely appropriate that we present him with our highest award – the Ulysses S Seal Award for Innovation in Conservation. I know Bill is pleased and proud that we have chosen to honor him, but I also know one thing that we could do that would be an even greater honor to Bill – to push forward to defeat Bill's devil by making the investment not just of funds, but also of time, energy, creativity, and passion, necessary to protect species so that they don't vanish from zoos, from wildlife reserves, or – especially – from their wild habitats."

*CBSG News* is published by the Conservation Breeding Specialist Group, Species Survival Commission, IUCN, the International Union for Conservation of Nature. *CBSG News* is intended to inform CBSG members and other individuals concerned with the conservation of plants and animals, of the activities of CBSG in particular, and the conservation community in general. We are interested in exchanging newsletters and receiving notices of your meetings. Please send contributions or news items to:

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