

CBSG NEWS



Vol 21 February 2010

In this issue of *CBSG News*, we are pleased to present a summary of our 2009 Annual Meeting in Saint Louis, Missouri, USA. Every CBSG meeting is unique, and this meeting, with over 90 participants from 20 countries, brought together a special combination of voices and experiences to address problems in conservation worldwide. Together we explored new collaborative tools for conservation, and made progress on issues facing species conservation planning, global warming, amphibian extinction, and the intensive management of populations for conservation. As always, the working groups produced important ideas and actions, but the discussions in hallways and during coffee breaks were also vital for exchanging ideas and building enthusiasm for new approaches in conservation.

We heard a renewed call to action on climate change from Paul Pearce Kelly, reminding us that we all have to be activists, helping to get everyone to be part of a movement for the changes that are needed to safeguard our coral reefs and countless other species and places around the globe. CBSG continued its commitment to reducing the carbon footprint of our meetings, and provided electronic briefing materials as well as carbon offsetting for our meeting participants. This newsletter and updates detailing the outcomes of this meeting are also entirely electronic, further shrinking our carbon footprint.

It was a great pleasure to present the 2009 Ulysses S. Seal Award for Innovation in Conservation to Lena Linden. The award recognized Lena's contributions to conservation through effective *in situ* and *ex situ* programs in Scandinavia, as well as the amazing work she has done with her own zoo, Nordens Ark. At the annual meeting,

Inside...

Proceedings from the 2009 CBSG Annual Meeting

Working Group Reports

<i>Ex Situ</i> Population Management Tools.....	3
Climate Change.....	3
Global Cheetah <i>Ex Situ</i> Planning.....	4
Elephants.....	4
Species Conservation Planning.....	5
Collaboration Among Asian Zoos.....	5
Mass Collaboration Tools.....	6
Field Project Prioritization.....	6
Draft Amphibian Resolution.....	7

Regional Network Updates

CBSG Australasia.....	8
CBSG Brasil.....	8
CBSG Indonesia.....	9
CBSG Japan.....	9
CBSG Mesoamerica.....	10
CBSG Mexico.....	10
CBSG South Asia.....	11
CBSG Southern Africa.....	11

2009 CBSG Annual Meeting Participants.....	12
CBSG Donors.....	13
2009 Ulysses S. Seal Award.....	14



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



there was a lively discussion about what zoos will need to be and do in the future to protect their futures as well as the future of the wildlife for which we work. Nordens Ark was appropriately identified as an example of the kind of conservation organization of which we need many more.

The discussions in Saint Louis covered topics that are critical (amphibians), big (elephants), fast-paced (cheetah management), hot (climate change), sexy (mate choice), far-reaching (collaboration among Asian zoos), current (mass collaboration tools), future (species conservation planning), and futuristic (metamodels). These discussions also helped to chart the course for ongoing work in CBSG, including a joint task force with WAZA on climate change, involvement with a new SSC Species Conservation Planning Sub-Committee, upcoming workshops on species conservation planning techniques and on the use of intensively managed populations for conservation, and a new initiative in the Species Survival Commission to develop guidelines on prioritization of species for conservation attention. We encourage you to join us at our next annual meeting, which will be held on 14-17 October 2010 in Cologne, Germany, where we will give updates on these initiatives and move ahead to address new issues.



We thank Jeffrey Bonner and the staff of the Saint Louis Zoo for hosting our 2009 meeting, and all of the meeting participants for their energy, enthusiasm and optimism as they faced tough problems in conservation. We look forward to continuing to work together on the many difficult challenges of species conservation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Lacy".

Robert Lacy, Chair



Working Group Summaries

Ex Situ Population Management Tools Working Group

Participants

Brad Andrews, Cheri Asa, Anne Baker, Jonathan Ballou, Karen Bauman, Evan Blumer, Amy Camacho, Luis Carrillo, Nancy Clum, William Conway, Bob Cook, Juan Cornejo, Adrienne Crosier, Gerald Dick, Lesley Dickie, Jackie Fallon, Lisa Faust, Nate Flesness, Greg Geise, Jack Grisham, Bengt Holst, Hidemasa Hori, Jamie Ivy, Bosook Kim, Bjarne Klausen, Robert Lacy, Kristin Leus, Lena Linden, Sarah Long, Yolanda Matamoros, Patty McGill, Kanako Nishimoto, Paul Pearce-Kelly, David Reed, Jorge Rodriguez, Kate Rodriguez Clark, Allison Rogers, Alex Rubel, Oliver Ryder, Christian Schmidt, Karin Schwartz, Lee Simmons, Edward Spevak, Brandie Smith, Kelley Snodgrass, Miranda Stevenson, Gloria Svampa-Garibaldi, Yasumasa Tomita, Kathy Traylor-Holzer, Eric Tsao, Kris Vehrs, Sally Walker, Dan Wharton, Jonathan Wilcken

Background

Recent assessments of *ex situ* population sustainability by several zoo associations has led to increasing concern regarding the apparent ineffectiveness of current population management efforts. This working group addressed the following question: Why are we not making effective use of intensively managed populations for conservation?

The group identified the following strategies needed for more effective management

- Species prioritization and integrated global *ex situ* plans and goals into an overall conservation plan for the species
- Zoos with a different way of thinking and operating and/or something different than zoos (intensively managed population facilities)
- Assessment and tackling of all factors affecting viability (biological, technical, human)

To read the full working group presentation, visit

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/CBSG_News/2010_Newsletter/ex_situ_tools.pdf

Climate Change Working Group Report

Participants

Onnie Byers, Suzanne Boardman, Frands Carlsen, Bob Cook, James Cretney, Arnaud Desbiez, Gerald Dick, Suzanne Gendron, Jo Gipps, Heribert Hofer, Bosook Kim, Phil Miller, Paul Pearce-Kelly, George Rabb, David Reed, Rebecca Seal Soileau, Edward Spevak, Rebecca Spindler, Sally Walker

Working Group Recommendation to CBSG

Recognizing the possibly fatal climate change impacts on the Great Barrier Reef, the working group urges that CBSG provides all assistance possible to facilitate an urgent review of the reef's viability in the face of climate change and to explore best response options.

Working Group Recommendation to WAZA

Zoos and aquaria can make an invaluable contribution through their *ex situ* and *in situ* program work, research and support focus and above all their unique ability to directly engage with the public. On this last key area we urge that WAZA put in place as matter of urgency a climate change response strategy as detailed in the proposal for WAZA Council consideration.

To read the full working group report, visit

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/CBSG_News/2010_Newsletter/climate_change.pdf



Working Group Summaries

Global Cheetah *Ex Situ* Planning Working Group

Participants

Karen Bauman, Evan Blumer, Adrienne Crosier, Jackie Fallon, Greg Geise, Jack Grisham, Jamie Ivy, Sarah Long, Allison Rogers, Karin Schwartz, Kelley Snodgrass, Ed Spevak

Background

Global management of cheetah would be greatly enhanced by regional programs networking together to improve the management of the *ex situ* populations. This working group outlined strategies for cheetah conservation programs can work internationally for global cheetah population management.

Key Actions

- Update studbooks and management plans for each region
- Make global cheetah populations self-sustainable through increased breeding success
- Generate international husbandry manual
- Update disease management workshop

To read the full working group report, visit

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/CBSG_News/2010_Newsletter/cheetahs.pdf

Elephant Working Group

Participants

Ann Baker, Barbara Baker, Charlie Gray, Thomas Hildebrandt, Heribert Hofer, Arne Lawrenz, Peter Leimgruber, Eric Miller, Amos Morris, Heidi Riddle, Alex Rübel, Ollie Ryder, Dennis Schmitt, Lee Simmons, Brandie Smith, Miranda Stevenson, Pat Thomas, Kris Vehrs, Dan Wharton

Background

Elephant themed working groups were held at the annual CBSG meetings in 2004 and 2005. This year's working group reviewed suggestions from both of those groups, and discussed whether earlier recommendations had led to progress.

Immediate Action Items

- Circulate discussion notes and draft report among working group participants
- Take report to conservation committee or population management committee of WAZA and to South and SE Asian Zoo Networks, and African Zoo Networks
- Request conservation priorities from IUCN Elephant Specialist Groups
- Request Bob Lacy (Chair of CBSG and Head of the SSC Sub-committee on Strategic Species Conservation Planning) to coordinate Strategic Plan for Species Conservation for Asian elephants, then African elephants
- Ask IEF or ISIS to host elephant web portal
- Host and support more face-to-face meetings, and establish a business model for affordable meetings

To read the full working group report, visit

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/CBSG_News/2010_Newsletter/elephants.pdf



Working Group Summaries

Species Conservation Planning Working Group

Participants

Brad Andrews, Anne Baker, Jonathan Ballou, Onnie Byers, Amy Camacho, Frands Carlsen, Luis Carrillo, Nancy Clum, William Conway, Bob Cook, Arnaud Desbiez, Gerald Dick, Lesley Dickie, Maria Clara Dominguez, Lisa Faust, Nathan Flesness, Suzanne Gendron, Jo Gipps, Bengt Holst, Bosook Kim, Bob Lacy, Kristin Leus, Yolanda Matamoros, Patty McGill, David Reed, Carina Righi, Jorge Rodriguez, Kate Rodriguez-Clark, Christian Schmidt, Rebecca Soileau, Ed Spevak, Rebecca Spindler, Yasumasa Tomita, Eric Tsao, Sally Walker, Jonathan Wilcken

Background

The SSC is interested in revamping their conservation planning process to emphasise action and ultimate success for species persistence and function. A Species Conservation Strategic Planning task force has been established, Bob Lacy is the chair of this taskforce.

Objectives

- Explore mechanisms by which CBSG's conservation planning processes can be improved by integration with the SCSP process
- Think about Jan/Feb 2010 CBSG workshop design and goals
- Determine the implications for application of tools to the question of population stability (both intensively and extensively managed populations)

To read the full working group presentation, visit

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/CBSG_News/2010_Newsletter/species_conservation_planning.pdf

Collaboration Among Asian Zoos Working Group

Participants

Nancy Clum, Robert Cook, Gerald Dick, Nate Flesness, Hidemasa Hori, Bosook Kim, Kanako Nishimoto, David Reed, Christian Schmidt, Yasumasa Tomita, Kathy Traylor-Holzer, Eric Tsao, Sally Walker

Background

This working group was a continuation of a working group convened at last year's 2008 CBSG annual meeting in Adelaide. The original purpose of the working group was to discuss issues relevant to zoos across the various countries and zoo associations in Asia and to promote collaboration among these institutions and associations.

Goals

- Identify the priority species for Asian zoos. To work toward this goal, the group needs to compile a list of priority species and existing studbooks and managed programs for all of the national and regional zoo associations within Asia.
- Identify at least one project for a jointly-held priority species to serve as a model to encourage communication, participation and collaboration.

To read the full working group report, visit

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/CBSG_News/2010_Newsletter/asian_zoos.pdf





Working Group Summaries

Indian Zoo Conservation Working Group

Participants

Nate Flesness, Fanny Lai, Kristin Leus, Jansen Manansang, Ivan Rehak, Brij Raj Sharma, Kathy Traylor-Holzer, Sally Walker

Background

This group was convened to follow up on previous CBSG working groups on the topic of conservation breeding in Indian zoos, as well as a conference on India's Conservation Breeding Initiative held in February 2008. B.R. Sharma provided an overview of the current status of conservation breeding efforts in Indian zoos, and the group considered some of the steps that could benefit from CBSG's assistance.

Key Actions

- ISIS will run three sessions of animal records and ARKS training in December 2008 through January 2009, inviting animal records keepers and zoo directors. Once organizations begin sending data to ISIS, technical guidance can be provided and ISIS will give technical coordinators real data as a start for their studbooks.
- Consider having PHVA-style planning meetings that describe the process and data needs. These planning meetings could handle several species at a time. We can then also assess whether a classic PHVA is what is needed, or an adapted version or another type of workshop.
- There will be a first meeting of *in situ* and *ex situ* managers on amphibian crisis and need for *ex situ* management in January 2009 in Mysore, and the CBSG South Asia Amphibian CAMP report could be used for this meeting.

To read the full working group report, visit

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/2008_Annual_Meeting_WG_Reports/indian_zoos.pdf

Asian Zoos Working Group

Participants

Nate Flesness, Bart Hiddinga, Kazuyoshi Itoh, Kazushi Kuwabara, Fanny Lai, Kristin Leus, Jansen Manansang, Mitsuko Masui, Akemi Narita, Ivan Rehak, Brij Raj Sharma, Eric Tsao, Kathy Traylor-Holzer, Sally Walker

Background

This working group convened to discuss the key issues impacting the ability of Asian zoos to effectively manage their collections and contribute positively to conservation. Identified priorities are to increase cooperation and communication in the region and to promote good husbandry and animal management practices.

Key Actions

- Encourage regional zoo associations in Asia to invite representatives from the other regional programs and from ISIS and CBSG to their annual regional meetings.
- Initiate a discussion group to identify priority species and programs for the region, improve cooperation and information sharing, and identify training needs and opportunities.
- Identify the priority species across Asian regional zoo associations/countries, and promote the compilation of high quality animal records and studbook data for these species.
- Improve standards, practices and expertise in substandard zoos, taking advantage of intra-regional opportunities for cooperation, information sharing and training.

To read the full working group report, visit

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/2008_Annual_Meeting_WG_Reports/asian_zoo.pdf



Working Group Summaries

Amphibian Working Group

The Amphibian Working Group created the following draft resolution which was presented at the WAZA conference.

Draft Resolution

The Amphibian extinction crisis represents the greatest species conservation challenge in the history of humanity. Between 1/3rd and 1/2 of the 6,000 known amphibian species are threatened with extinction. The conservation community has responded with the ACAP that outlines a plan to identify, halt and reverse the amphibian extinction crisis.

The evolution of the response has fostered a number of robust initiatives by a diverse group of stakeholders. While much has been accomplished, the members of CBSG and WAZA believe it is time to strengthen the organizational structure to optimize the achievement of shared goals. We therefore request that the SSC of the IUCN consider the enhancement of the governance structure that integrates and coordinates the diverse stakeholders under one inclusive decision making body. We also believe there are additional benefits to be gained by an integrated structure at the implementation level where form follows function.

CBSG Network News

CBSG Australasia

Recent Workshops

- Kakapo Disease Risk Assessment
- Maui's Dolphin PVA Scoping Assessment
- Conservation Planning for Mala

The CBSG Australasia network was launched at the 2008 CBSG Annual Meeting, and has established itself as a non-profit entity in New Zealand. The co-convenors of this new network are Caroline Lees and Richard Jakob-Hoff. In it's first year, CBSG Australasia has led several workshops, including disease risk assessments for kakapo and Tasmanian devils, and conservation planning for mala, an endangered wallaby native to central Australia.

The mala, *Lagorchestes hirsutus*, is a small, central Australian wallaby which became Extinct on mainland Australia following the expansion of European settlement into the area. The last wild colony was extinguished by a wildfire in 1992. A colony is located on Trimouille Island, Western Australia as a consequence of a translocation from the Tanami Desert to that site in 1999. As a result of other translocations, five captive and semi-captive populations also exist at mainland sites. This workshop is being carried out using web-based fora and tools and will be CBSG Australasia's first virtual workshop.

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

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/CBSG_News/2010_Newsletter/australasia.pdf

CBSG Brasil

Upcoming Workshop

- Lear's Macaw PHVA

Unfortunately since the last annual meeting CBSG Brasil convener Arnaud Desbiez suffered some serious health problems, which limited the number of activities this network participated in this year. However, they shared exciting news from different fronts and have many activities planned for 2010.

The CBSG Brasil team has been invited to participate in several of the IUCN/SSC Specialist Groups. Between the three of them they are members of 6 Specialist Groups: Deer, Iguana, Peccary, Primate, Tapir and Wildlife Health.

The Lear's Macaw is a rare Brazilian parrot with a highly restricted range. For over a century after it had been described, the whereabouts of the wild population was unknown. It was eventually rediscovered in 1978. The Lear's Macaw lives in stands of Licuri palm (*Syagrus coronata*), the nuts of which form a prominent part of its diet. This habitat, while never plentiful, is currently estimated to be around 1.6% of its original cover. Various conservation organizations along with local ranchers and other independent organizations are working to help conserve the species.

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

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/CBSG_News/2010_Newsletter/brasil.pdf



CBSG Network News

CBSG Indonesia

Recent Workshops

- National Workshop on the Anoa and Babirusa
- Amphibian Prioritization Workshop

CBSG Indonesia supported two major events which directly support threatened species endemic to their region.

The National Workshop on the Anoa and Babirusa species was held in the city of Manado located on the Indonesian island of Sulawesi where these species can be found. The goal of the meeting was to establish an ongoing strategy for protecting these two threatened species on a national level. Having hosted the PHVA's for these species 13 years ago at Taman Safari Indonesia, CBSG Indonesia presented to workshop attendees the challenges which confront the Anoa and Babirusa populations.

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

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/CBSG_News/2010_Newsletter/indonesia.pdf

CBSG Japan

Recent Workshop

- Asian Elephant Husbandry Management Training Course

During 2009, CBSG Japan worked in partnership with Japanese zoos to mitigate the issues these zoos can have in keeping elephants. Specifically, many zoos are found in urban areas and often lack sufficient space; there is a trend to avoid keeping males because they can be aggressive; elephant reproduction is not high; and infant mortality is high.

To address some of these issues, CBSG Japan and Chiang Mai University Veterinary Medicine Faculty in Thailand, have held training courses on elephant reproduction in Japanese institutions since 2003. Since 2003, 50 people from 22 zoos, 67 students from 11 schools, and 21 people from other institutions have attended these training courses.

These activities have resulted in academic collaboration between Azabu University and Chiang Mai University. Also, successful Asian elephant reproduction has increased in Japanese zoos.

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

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/CBSG_News/2010_Newsletter/japan.pdf



CBSG Network News

CBSG Mesoamerica

Recent Workshops

- Green Macaw PHVA
- Mangrove Finch PHVA
- Costa Rican Jaguar PHVA

During 2009, CBSG Mesoamerica conducted three PHVA workshops, wrote grant proposals, designed, organized and facilitated other workshops, participated as a part of larger CBSG the modeling team, and worked on the final reports and recommendations for several workshops.

Different groups of researchers are studying jaguar populations in Costa Rica and, in order to know each other and the work that they are doing and to share results and experiences, CBSG Mesoamerica and several partners organized a PHVA workshop for this species.

This workshop was financed by VOLCAFE Ltda., a coffee export company based in England, which announced that they were going to produce a gourmet coffee named Jaguar Coffee, and a percentage of its profit will be dedicated to finance the implementation of the strategy that was developed during the workshop.

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

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/CBSG_News/2010_Newsletter/mesoamerica.pdf

CBSG México

Recent Workshops

- Patagonian Chilean Conure PHVA
- Conserving Chiapas' Amphibians Workshop

CBSG Mexico has continued its work in amphibian conservation, as well as working for the conservation of other taxa in the region. Their efforts have led to regional plans for amphibian conservation, and new work and cooperation in parrot conservation in central America.

The south east of México is one of the richest areas of amphibian diversity in the world. The government of the State of Chiapas, worried about the conservation of this amphibian diversity, organized a workshop to identify problems and solutions needed to preserve Chiapas' amphibians. CBSG México was invited, because of their experience facilitating similar workshops, to share information and plans from the Mexican Amphibian Prioritization Workshop. A draft plan for the conservation of Chiapas' amphibians both *in situ* and *ex situ* was developed by the participants and is currently under review.

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

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/CBSG_News/2010_Newsletter/mexico.pdf



CBSG Network News

CBSG South Asia

Recent Workshops

CBSG South Asia has continued to spread its message of conservation through education throughout the region. Network staff has conducted training on human and elephant co-existence, as well as working for freshwater biodiversity in the region. They have developed culturally appropriate training materials to help local people understand the issues facing sloth bears and elephants, with great success.

The elephant education programs developed by CBSG South Asia work to mitigate the conflicts that arise as humans move into elephant habitat. The network and its partners conduct workshops that educate local people about the value of elephants as well as their behavior patterns and needs. Participants in these training workshops are already putting their training into practice, and additional training workshops are scheduled throughout the range of Indian elephants.

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

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/CBSG_News/2010_Newsletter/south_asia.pdf

CBSG Southern Africa

Recent Workshops

- Lion Bovine Tuberculosis Workshop
- South African Cheetah PHVA

CBSG Southern Africa has continued to work with local partners and the Endangered Wildlife Trust to preserve species in the region. In the past year, workshops on African lion tuberculosis, and a South African Cheetah PHVA have addressed conservation concerns facing large cats in the region.

Cheetahs live in different environmental conditions in South Africa, and these correlate to different populations with their own demographic characteristics, threats and management strategies. These include cheetahs living in protected populations, those ranging unrestricted across private lands, and those living in small fenced private reserves. The cheetah conservation community lacks the tools to effectively manage and conserve cheetahs in the unique conditions presented in South Africa. To address this need, a PHVA workshop was held to begin developing an effective metapopulation management strategy for cheetahs in South Africa. The PHVA served as a precursor to a National Conservation Action Planning Workshop for cheetah and wild dogs held in June 2009. Twenty people attended the workshop, which included cheetah experts from three cheetah range countries.

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

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/CBSG_News/2010_Newsletter/south_asia.pdf



2009 CBSG Annual Meeting Participants

Africam Safari/CBSG Mexico

Amy Camacho
Luis Carrilo

African Lion Safari

Charlie Gray

Auckland Zoological Park

Jonathan Wilcken

British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums

Miranda Stevenson

Bristol Zoo Gardens

Jo Gipps

CBSG

Onnie Byers
Robert Lacy
Virginia Lindgren
Phil Miller
Rebecca Soileau
Elizabeth Townsend
Kathy Traylor-Holzer

CBSG/Amphibian Ark

Kevin Zippel

Centro De Ecologia-Instituto Venezolano De Investigaciones Cientificas

Kathryn Rodriguez-Clark

Cheetah Conservation Fund

Allison Rogers

Chester Zoo

Gordon McGregor Reid

Chicago Zoological Society

Alejandro Grajal
George Rabb
Karin Schwartz
Dan Wharton

Copenhagen Zoo/CBSG Europe

Frands Carlsen
Bengt Holst
Kristin Leus

European Association of Zoos and Aquaria

Lesley Dickie

Feld Entertainment

Dennis Schmitt

Forschungsverbund - IZW

Thomas Hildebrandt

Fossil Rim Wildlife Center

Kelley Snodgrass

Frankfurt Zoo

Christian Schmidt

Fundacion Ternaiken

Gabriel Aguado
Carina Righi

ISIS

Nate Flesness

Italian Association of Zoos and Aquaria - UIZA

Gloria Svampa

Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research

Heribert Hofer

Japanese Association of Zoos and Aquariums

Kanako Nishimoto

Kano Zoo

Musa Nuhu Kwalli

Lincoln Park Zoo

Lisa Faust
Sarah Long

Marwell Wildlife

James Cretney

Mvog Betsi Zoo

Kouamou Moise

Nordens Ark

Lena Linden

Odense Zoo

Bjarne Klausen

Omaha Zoo Foundation

Lee Simmons

Prague Zoo

Ivan Rehak

Riddle's Elephant and Wildlife Sanctuary

Heidi Riddle

Royal Zoological Society of Scotland/CBSG Brasil

Arnaud Desbiez

Saint Louis Zoo

Cheryl Asa
Karen Bauman
Jeffery Bonner
Jack Grisham
Eric Miller
Edward Spevak

Sahara Conservation Fund

John Newby

Sea World Parks & Entertainment

Brad Andrews

Simon Bolivar Zoo/CBSG Mesoamerica

Yolanda Matamoros
Jorge Rodriguez

Smithsonian's National Zoological Park

Jonathan Ballou
Adrienne Crosier
Peter Leimgruber
Brandie Smith

Taipei Zoo

Eric Tsao

Tama Zoological Park

Yasumasa Tomita

Taronga Zoo

Rebecca Spindler

The Toledo Zoo

Anne Baker

The Wilds

Evan Blumer

Twycross Zoo- East Midland Zoological Society

Suzanne Boardman

Ueno Zoological Gardens

Hidemasa Horii
Teruyuki Komiya

Unaffiliated

Patricia McGill

University of Louisville

David Reed

University of Mississippi

Wei Liao

WAZA

Gerald Dick

Wild Candid Survival & Research Center

Jackie Fallon

Wildlife Conservation Society

Nancy Clum
William Conway
Robert Cook
Patrick Thomas

Zoo Dvur Kralove

Pavel Moucha

Zoo Outreach Organisation/ CBSG South Asia

Sally Walker

Zoo Zurich

Alex Rübel

Zoological Society of London

David Field
Paul Pearce Kelly

Zoological Society of San Diego

Jamie Ivy
Oliver Ryder

Zoologico de Cali

Maria Clara Dominguez

CBSG Donors

\$50,000 and above



\$20,000 and above



\$15,000 and above



\$10,000 and above

Nan Schaffer
San Diego Zoo
White Oak Conservation Center

\$5,000 and above

Al Ain Wildlife Park & Resort
Australasian Regional Association of Zoological Parks and Aquaria
British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums
Chester Zoo
Cleveland Metroparks Zoo
Evenson Design Group
Forestry Bureau of the Council of Agriculture, Taipei
Linda Malek
Toledo Zoo

\$1,000 and above

Aalborg Zoo
African Safari Wildlife Park
Albuquerque Biological Park
Alice D. Andrews
Allwetterzoo Münster
Association of Zoos and Aquariums
Auckland Zoological Park
Audubon Zoo
Bristol Zoo Gardens
Calgary Zoological Society
Central Zoo Authority, India
Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden
Colchester Zoo
Conservatoire pour la Protection des Primates
Copenhagen Zoo
Cotswold Wildlife Park
Detroit Zoological Society
Dickerson Park Zoo
Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust

El Paso Zoo
Everland Zoological Gardens
Fort Wayne Children's Zoo
Fort Worth Zoo
Fota Wildlife Park
Gladys Porter Zoo
Hong Kong Zoological and Botanical Gardens
Japanese Association of Zoos and Aquariums
Kansas City Zoo
Laurie Bingaman Lackey
Los Angeles Zoo
Marwell Zoological Park
Milwaukee County Zoo
North Carolina Zoological Park
Ocean Park Conservation Foundation
Paignton Zoo
Palm Beach Zoo at Dreher Park
Parco Natura Viva
Perth Zoo
Philadelphia Zoo
Phoenix Zoo
Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium
Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium
Prudence P. Perry
Ringling Bros., Barnum & Bailey
Robert Lacy
Rotterdam Zoo
Royal Zoological Society Antwerp
Royal Zoological Society Scotland — Edinburgh Zoo
Saitama Children's Zoo
San Antonio Zoo
San Francisco Zoo
Schönbrunner Tiergarten — Zoo Vienna
Sedgwick County Zoo
Swedish Association of Zoological Parks & Aquaria
Taipei Zoo

The Living Desert
Thrigby Hall Wildlife Gardens
Twycross Zoo
Union of German Zoo Directors
Utah's Hogle Zoo
Wassenaar Wildlife Breeding Centre
Wilhelma Zoo
Woodland Park Zoo
Zoo Frankfurt
Zoo Madrid—Parques Reunidos
Zoo Zürich
Zoological Society of Wales — Welsh Mountain Zoo
Zoologischer Garten Köln
Zoologischer Garten Rostock
Zoos South Australia

\$500 and above

Akron Zoological Park
Banham Zoo
Edward & Marie Plotka
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
Friends of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo
Givskud Zoo
Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens
Katey & Mike Pelican
Kerzner International North America, Inc.
Knuthenborg Park & Safari
Lisbon Zoo
Nordens Ark
Odense Zoo
Oregon Zoo
Ouwehands Dierenpark
Riverbanks Zoological Park & Garden
Wellington Zoo
Wildlife World Zoo
Zoo de Granby
Zoo de la Palmyre

\$250 and above

Alice Springs Desert Park
Apenheul Zoo
Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum
Bramble Park Zoo
Brandywine Zoo
David Traylor Zoo of Emporia
Ed Asper
International Centre for Birds of Prey
Lee Richardson Zoo
Lincoln Park Zoo
Little Rock Zoo
Racine Zoological Gardens
Roger Williams Park Zoo
Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure
Sacramento Zoo
Tautphaus Park Zoo
Tokyo Zoological Park Society
Topeka Zoological Park

\$100 and above

African Safari — France
Aquarium of the Bay
Chahinkapa Zoo
Lincoln Children's Zoo
Lion Country Safari, Inc.
Mark Barone
Miami Metrozoo
Safari de Peaugres — France
Steinhart Aquarium
Steven J. Olson
Touroparc — France

\$50 and above

Alameda Park Zoo
Darmstadt Zoo
Elaine Douglass
Miller Park Zoo
Oglebay's Good Children's Zoo
Stiftung Natur-und Artenschutz in den Tropen

2009 Ulysses S. Seal Award

Presented to Lena Maria Linden by CBSG Chairman Robert Lacy

The Ulysses S. Seal Award for Innovation in Conservation is the one award that is given each year by the Conservation Breeding Specialist Group of the IUCN Species Survival Commission. The award is regarded very highly not only by the CBSG but also by the entire zoo and aquarium community, and by the IUCN Species Survival Commission.

Dr. Ulysses S. Seal was the first Chairman of the CBSG, serving from 1979 to 2003. His 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.

Recipients of the Ulysses S. Seal Award stand out in the conservation community as people who best exemplify the spirit of innovation in the application of science to conservation. But, more than this, as Bill Conway suggested recently, the critical conservation point nowadays is not "how new science can be most effectively applied to wildlife conservation", but actually achieving conservation.

The recipient of the 2009 Ulysses S. Seal Award for Innovation in Conservation, Lena Maria Lindén, certainly meets this high standard and deserves our praise.

Lena is a relatively quiet person, so even those of us who know her usually do not know just how much she has accomplished, and how quickly she gets things done. Therefore, although I have always been impressed by Lena, I was still amazed when I started to read the descriptions of her accomplishments. I will provide you with just a sampling from the documentation we received in support of her nomination.

In 1986, while working toward her PhD at the University of Gothenburg, Lena was asked to conduct an investigation on the potential and possibility of a captive breeding centre for endangered species. The following year she made a preliminary study on the model of Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust and in 1988 created Nordens Ark, a Foundation for which she was appointed as Managing Director/CEO. She was in charge of construction work as well. Nordens Ark was opened in 1989 by the King of Sweden himself. A scant four years later the Swedish government declared Nordens Ark as a tool for Sweden to fulfill the Swedish commitment to the Convention on Biodiversity.

In 1996 Nordens Ark acquired Aby Manor and 383 hectares of land so that they could do more for conservation, in a context that was most meaningful to the local people and culture. In 1999 Lena Linden opened a farm for native rare breeds on that land. A few years later, she opened the first international research school and developed Nordens Ark as a research and field station attached to the University of Gothenburg. She was granted a professorship from the University of Gothenburg in 2004.

Lena established a Graduate School at Nordens Ark, as a collaborative project between the University, the Nordens Ark Foundation, and the Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning. Over the years since its establishment, the school has conducted many high quality training courses and workshops on conservation biology, biodiversity and conservation of threatened species, the amphibian crisis, ecosystem services, and environmental care.

In 2008, Lena completed and opened a Wetland exhibit with amphibians, reptiles, and birds. While many institutions are still wondering what they can do for amphibians, Nordens Ark already has a major exhibit, breeding programs, research, training programs, habitat restoration efforts, reintroduction programs, and has hosted meetings to bring people from universities, government, zoos, and the local communities together to help solve the problems facing Sweden's amphibians.

Lena also opened a large new breeding facility for Lesser White-fronted geese, and Nordens Ark has been given the





responsibility for establishing a new population of that species in the wild.

Thus, it seems that in creating and building Nordens Ark, Lena has done everything and has done it fast and has done it right! It is a beautiful zoo with fantastic exhibits, they manage breeding programs for locally endangered species, they run courses for people of all ages, they engage the society around them, and they work on all aspects of conservation from endangered species protection to habitat restoration to better land management.

And, with her extra time and energy, Lena has at the same time taken on the role of Treasurer of ISIS, is the CBSG representative on the Amphibian Ark Executive committee, and serves on advisory committees and boards for Swedish agencies and foundations and university programs.

I could go on and on with praises for Lena, but I will just conclude with a few more quotes from notes we received from nominators, the selection committee, and the CBSG Steering Committee:

“Lena has had a profound impact on conservation science, education, and *in situ* conservation programs in Sweden and the Nordic region. It is remarkable that she has done this by starting from scratch with few resources but her vision and the willpower and personal determination to make the impossible possible. She has combined extremely good communication and people skills with shear guts and determination to hold on to her vision and values.

“Lena is a bold leader. The philosophy, ethics, and discipline with which she manages her institution should be seen as a model for zoos around the world.

“I also want to mention Lena’s passion for animal welfare which imbues her work and personality. Lena herself is a pioneer in blending so many innovative, new, and difficult activities. Lena is “one of a kind” -- she is subtle and at the same time very strong.

“The Nordens Ark track record of breeding and reintroducing to the wild is amazing: both in terms of the number of individuals but also the diversity of species. Lena’s commitment to reintroducing threatened species into existing or reclaimed habitat knows no bounds.

Finally, one committee member referred to Lena as the “quiet storm” and summed up by noting that “she is exactly the kind of person that Ulie focused on, assisted, guided, and ultimately was guided by.”

Fortunately for wildlife everywhere, Lena continues to guide and assist us all.

2009 Ulysses S. Seal Award

Recipient: Lena Maria Linden

I have lived with a dream all my life about a place where all the unknown ugly, strange and brownish animals should be the stars on the stage, and the last twenty years of my life I have tried to make that happen. With this award, I have gotten confirmation that this was a pretty good idea.

Ten years ago, Nordens Ark was standing at a crossroads. We wanted to take more endangered species onboard so we simply had to find more money... there seemed to be two options; to be more fun for visitors and get more income from the gate, or to find other sources to finance the desired growth. As a zoo far out in the countryside I found it more than difficult to increase the number of visitors, so I was very doubtful about that option, and tried to find other solutions.

That year I gave a paper at WAZA in Perth where I described the intersection where we were standing. I explained that the other option to increase the financial base could be to work in partnership with universities and research institutes. When I started to talk, Ulie Seal was walking out of the conference room but he stopped in the doorway and stayed there listening all the twenty minutes I was talking...I noticed that and felt very pleased that this busy man found it interesting to listen to my pondering about the future for Nordens Ark.

I got confirmation that I was on the right track a couple of weeks later when Ulie invited me to be member of the steering committee of CBSG. I was absolutely thrilled with excitement by this invitation, and decided to follow Ulie's advice to build the future finances for Nordens Ark on scientific ground and not on an unrealistic dream of an increased number of visitors.

Today, ten years later, we do still have the same number of visitors, but our income is three times bigger because we get a lot of money from sources that think that conservation is what a zoo should focus on. I think we have the most boring animal collection in the northern hemisphere but we are very committed to their survival. We are more proud to talk about how many birds, amphibians and mammals we have reintroduced into the wild, than how many visitors we have.

I have been fortunate through to have a board of trustees which has encouraged me to participate in the international zoo community, even in the years when we have been short of money. Why have they been so encouraging?

I think they have understood the value of the CBSG and WAZA conferences for me and for Nordens Ark. They have understood that the people I meet there are the source of inspiration for me to find the way forward for Nordens Ark. At these meetings, I have been encouraged in my work, learned to listen carefully to everybody in a meeting, gotten good advice, and been inspired by excellent talks at these meetings. There are so many people to thank, but I cannot mention them all here.

Coming back home after these conferences I have been more convinced than ever that the goal we are striving for has to be a healthy sustainable population in the wild – the zoo is only a tool for that! To keep animals in cages and enclosures only for the pleasure of humans is not acceptable in my little world. You have to have a good reason to limit the life and environment for a wild animal...and for me that reason is an honest and true contribution to conservation.

You have by this award encouraged me to go on being bold in the spirit of Ulie Seal, to work for conservation without knowing for certain if it will be successful or not, but to at least try to give the brown small unsexy animals a chance...

As you have understood from my talk I just steal ideas and thoughts from all of you so my final words will be a quote from the very special person who got the first Ulie Seal Award, Nate Flesness.

He said, and I think it mirrors my feelings so precisely:

"I hope I can one day do something to deserve this."



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:

CBSG News

Editor: Virginia Lindgren
CBSG
12101 Johnny Cake Ridge Road
Apple Valley, MN 55124-8151 USA
Phone: 001-952-997-9800
Fax: 001-952-9803
email: office@cbcg.org



Photo Credits

Virginia Lindgren
Karin Schwartz
Kathy Traylor-Holzer



CBSG Reports and Resources

Many CBSG documents, including Workshop Reports, Newsletters, Annual Reports and eUpdates are available in PDF format on our website: www.cbsg.org. We invite you to explore our site, and make use of the resources available there.

Staff

Chairman: Robert C. Lacy, PhD
Chairman 1979-2003: Ulysses S. Seal, PhD
Executive Director: Onnie Byers, PhD
Senior Program Officer: Philip Miller, PhD
Senior Program Officer: Kathy Traylor-Holzer, PhD
Amphibian Program Officer: Kevin Zippel, PhD
Administrative Assistant: Virginia Lindgren
Administrative Assistant: Elizabeth Townsend

Regional Network Convenors

CBSG Australasia, Caroline Lees and Richard Jakob-Hoff
CBSG Brasil, Arnaud Desbiez
CBSG Europe, Bengt Holst
CBSG Indonesia, Jansen Manansang
CBSG Japan, Hiroshi Hori
CBSG Mesoamerica, Yolanda Matamoros
CBSG México, Amy Camacho
CBSG South Asia, Sally Walker
CBSG Southern Africa, Yolan Friedmann