Building Bridges... ...and Going to the Zoo

Inter-agency collaborations for helping native wildlife



Collaboration

"To achieve success, rehabilitators must work with each other and also with colleagues in other professions and with our governments. Related fields offer insights into our practices and procedures: including advances in veterinary medicine, emerging knowledge in conservation science, and challenges faced in species reintroductions. We can use the re-introduction guidelines created by the IUCN, partner with scientists on post release studies, discuss sticky problems with biologists, and work in concert with government to create wildlife protection policies. Each of these potential collaborations brings us closer to our goals."



Mission 101 Wildlife Rehabilitation

Wildlife rehabilitation centers have the primary mission of caring for sick, injured, and orphaned wildlife with the intent of releasing healthy individuals.

Goals:

NWRA

Release rehabilitated wildlife

Educate and assist citizens

Promote coexistence



Mission 101 Zoos and Aquariums

Achieving conservation through science, education, and engagement. Goals: Conservation Education

Welfare



Photo: Akron Zoo

A Shared Vision of a Healthy World

Photo: SeaWorld Orlando



Achieve together



Information sharing

Research collaborations

Improve conservation outcomes

Project objective

Animal Placement

Animal Placement

Suitable non-releasable wildlife can be excellent zoo acquisitions

Consider:

- Temperament
- Welfare
- Goals



Photos (clockwise from top right: Wildlife Conservation Society © Judith Wolfe, Maryland Zoo, SeaWorld Orlando

Quality of Life

Not every animal is appropriate for placement



Images: Raptor Center of Minnesota



Check IWRC placement page...

Are there several of that species already posted? In your region?

Check BRaZN

Paperwork

Regulatory Assessments Health records

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Project objective

Research

Research Collaboration



Keep Clear Records

Good records lead to good data Important for publishing Regulatory requirements

Project objective

Information Sharing

Husbandry, Nutrition, & Veterinary Sharing



- ~ Species Specialist ~Animal Care Manuals
- ~ Nutritionists
- ~ Experienced Wildlife Vets

National Zoo and City Wildlife



Endangered Wolf Center and Wildlife Rescue Center



Photo: Endangered Wolf Center © Michelle Steinmeyer

Project objective

Achieve Conservation Outcomes

Mexican Wolf Reintroduction

USFS, USDA, USFWS, AZ Game and Fish, White Mountain Apache Tribe, Wildlife Rescue Center, Endangered Wolf Center



Supporting International Wildlife

Oregon Zoo, Sabah Wildlife Department, and Wildlife Rescue Unit



Photo © Oregon Zoo

Triage, stabilize, soft release

Hawai'i Wildlife Center and Honolulu Zoo







Discussion

Suggestions to improve inter-agency relationships

We are stronger together

Research
Placement
Information sharing
✓ Improving conservation outcomes

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