

EAZA welcomes the IUCN SSC Position Statement on the role of botanic gardens, aquariums, and zoos in species conservation



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Today in San Diego, USA, the Species Survival Commission (SSC) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) released its [Position Statement on the role of botanic gardens, aquariums, and zoos in species conservation](#).

“As a longstanding member of IUCN and partner of SSC, EAZA welcomes this position statement. It clearly demonstrates the crucial and often unique roles of progressive zoos and aquariums in species conservation. EAZA strongly supports the emphasis put on collaboration across *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation activities to enable impactful conservation outcomes.” says Myfanwy Griffith, EAZA Executive Director.

The 400+ Members of EAZA from 47 countries form an important part of the international conservation community, across the roles highlighted in the position statement: applied genetic, behavioural and veterinary science, husbandry, wildlife reintroduction and translocation, research, education and community engagement, policy development, access to nature-based experiences and conservation funding.

We welcome IUCN's call for an integrated approach to species conservation, in the spirit of the One Plan Approach. This approach is a guiding principle of EAZA's joint population management mechanism – which enables our community to maintain healthy populations of healthy animals with positive welfare and maximise our contribution to species survival, in collaboration with *ex situ* and *in situ* partners.

Seconding Razan Al Mubarak, President of the IUCN, EAZA celebrates zoos, botanic gardens and aquariums “already playing a leading role in the science and practice of conservation, and invites others to reach their full potential, working alongside governments and key partners to collectively achieve IUCN's One Plan Approach”.

About EAZA (www.eaza.net)

Founded in 1992, the European Association of Zoos and Aquariums is the world's largest regional zoo and aquarium association. Driven by the vision “Progressive zoos and aquariums saving species together with you”, they enable collaboration of more than 400 Members (zoos and aquariums, national zoo federations and other organisations) in 47 countries, in the areas of: animal population management, animal care, conservation, education and research.

For media inquiries, please contact: press@eaza.net

About the IUCN Species Survival Commission (www.iucn.org/ssc)

With over 9,500 members in 186 territories, the Species Survival Commission (SSC) is the largest of IUCN's seven expert Commissions. SSC plays a pivotal role in enabling the IUCN to influence, encourage and assist societies to conserve biodiversity by building knowledge on the status and threats to species, providing advice, developing policies and guidelines, facilitating conservation planning, and catalysing conservation action.