

EAZA Update on Ukrainian Zoos

Amsterdam, 12 April 2022: The situation for Ukrainian zoos continues to be extremely challenging. At the time of writing, EAZA is still in good contact with our Candidate for Membership institutions, and with other zoos via the Ukrainian Zoo Association.

Contrary to recent media reports, no animals have been euthanised at Feldman Ecopark, near to Kharkiv, despite a massive increase in military activity in the immediate region. Both Feldman and XII months Zoo near Kyiv have been relocating some animals to various Ukrainian institutions. This process is still ongoing whenever possible, but some animals remain on site as this requires complicated and risky logistics. EAZA is working to gain an accurate inventory of all the animals from these zoos to ensure that appropriate support can be given to those caring for them.

We have also received an update from Askania Nova Reserve in Kherson Oblast, an area under Russian occupation, and home to herds of significantly endangered species such as the Przewalski's horse. EAZA is working to provide assistance to the facility, but opportunities are limited and the risk to staff and animals remains high; for the moment however, animal populations at the reserve appear to be receiving good care despite the continued occupation.

We continue to receive funding requests and coordinate efforts to distribute monies from the Fund according to the <u>Funding Protocols</u> which will provide immediate and long-term assistance to colleagues in Ukraine.

As of yesterday, 11 April, the EAZA Ukraine Zoos Emergency Fund has raised €1,082,336, thanks to the extraordinary support of more than 10,100 individual and 100 institutional donors. The list of donors is available here. Thank you all!

The situation is rapidly evolving, and we aim to provide up-to-date information via Member mailings, on our website and social media channels on a regular basis.