

CBSG NEWS



Vol 20 No. 1 January 2009

From the Chairman

We are very pleased to present in this CBSG News a summary of our 2008 Annual Meeting that occurred last October in Adelaide, Australia. Every CBSG meeting seems to be even better than the one before, and this year certainly continued that trend. Partly, that was a result of the wonderful job that our local hosts have done for us, but it also is a result of CBSG as an organization being even better each year. It would be easy to make the mistake of thinking that CBSG is just the core office staff, or the staff plus the regional network convenors, because they all work so hard to coordinate the activities of CBSG. Yet the IUCN/SSC Conservation Breeding Specialist Group is the entirety of its membership around the world, and the work we do for conservation would not be possible without the collaboration of our many partners. So, if CBSG is better every year, it must be that you are better – doing more together for wildlife conservation.

I won't try to summarize everything of importance that occurred in the 2008 Annual Meeting, but it is notable and commendable that the Amphibian Ark moved forward, not only celebrating the Year of the Frog but also challenging us to do more and developing a plan to move beyond the Year of the Frog into effective and sustained efforts for amphibians. There were also important presentations and discussions on climate change, in which we recognized that we need to explicitly consider climate change in all of our work in species conservation. We all have to be activists, helping to get everyone to be part of a movement for the changes that are needed.

Inside...

Proceedings from the 2008 CBSG Annual Meeting

Working Group Reports

Amphibian Conservation.....	3
Conservation Medicine & Ecohealth.....	3
Mass Collaboration Tools.....	4
Climate Change & Conservation Response.....	4
Conservation & Welfare.....	5
Field Project Prioritization.....	5
Indian Zoo Conservation.....	6
Asian Zoos.....	6
<i>Ex Situ</i> Population Management Tools	7
Conservation Planning Processes.....	7

Regional Network Updates

CBSG Brasil.....	8
CBSG Europe.....	8
CBSG Japan.....	9
CBSG Mexico.....	9
CBSG South Asia.....	10

2008 CBSG Annual Meeting Participants.....	11
CBSG Donors.....	12
2008 Ulysses S. Seal Award.....	13



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



It was especially nice to announce in Adelaide the formation of CBSG Australasia as our newest regional network. I know that they will – and already have started to – increase the effectiveness, reach, and creativity of CBSG there and around the world. Included in this *CBSG News* are brief updates on the activities of several of our national and regional networks. These networks have become leaders in conservation within their regions, and increasingly they assist also each other and the global CBSG network.

We also made progress in Adelaide on exploring new tools for collaboration, issues in conservation medicine, integrating considerations of conservation and welfare, new approaches to species conservation planning, and a number of other topics that were addressed either within working groups or just in the hallways and during coffee breaks.



It was also a pleasure to present the 2008 Ulysses S. Seal Award for Innovation in Conservation to Sally R. Walker. The award recognized her invaluable contributions to conservation in South Asia, where she created new networks and groups that encourage communication and collaboration between conservation professionals, and worked to educate and connect everyone from field researchers to schoolteachers, giving them the tools they need to work toward effective conservation throughout the region.

We thank Chris West and his staff at the Adelaide Zoo for hosting our 2008 meeting. We had a great meeting, but it wasn't all just talk, and the outcomes of CBSG are not just virtual, electronic, or on paper. As we heard from a number of people, CBSG is having real, positive conservation impact. We heard about the long-term and huge impact of the Papua New Guinea tree kangaroo workshop – which is a great example of what CBSG can do in Australasia. In the plenary sessions and in the Steering Committee meeting, we also heard the success stories of the Amphibian Ark, and about saving a frog species in Mexico that was once thought to have been extinct. We heard about conservation projects in Sweden for the white-backed woodpecker, and the creative use of bat roosts to spread the seeds that promote forest regeneration.

We look forward to continuing to work together on the difficult challenges of species conservation, and we look forward to seeing you at our next annual meeting in St. Louis, where we will share more stories, ideas and solutions.

Sincerely,

Robert Lacy, PhD



Working Group Summaries

Amphibian Conservation Working Group

Participants

Jeff Bonner, Kevin Johnson, Kazushi Kuwabara, Ivan Rehak, Kris Vehrs, Sally Walker, Kevin Zippel

Background

The challenge facing the AArk conservation breeding program is to create breeding programs for the maximum number of species, at the lowest possible cost, in the shortest amount of time and with the maximum probability of success. This group convened to create a decision tree that can be used to align conservation breeding priorities with the resources of conservation breeding organizations.

Key Actions

- Identify key species by country and analyze each country's potential using the decision tree, to be completed before the AArk mid-year meeting in 2009.
- Major stakeholders will participate in the review and initiate implementation immediately after the mid-year meeting.

To read the full working group presentation, visit

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

Conservation Medicine and EcoHealth Working Group

Participants

Nicole Anderson, Evan Blumer, Wayne Boardman, Maria Finnigan, Susan Hunt, Richard Jakob-Hoff, Phil Miller, Clifford Nxomani

Background

New disciplines have emerged in response to human impacts on a range of habitats resulting in progressive biological impoverishment, emerging infectious diseases, global climate change and pathogen and chemical pollution. A recent example is the *Gyps* vulture die-off in the Indian subcontinent due to diclofenac poisoning. This group convened to discuss the ways in which CBSG and others could incorporate these new disciplines and tools in their conservation work.

Key Actions

- Recommend to WAZA that zoos encourage their veterinary staff to adopt the collaborative, integrative approach of Conservation Medicine and provide their skills to PHVAs, particularly those with a significant disease component.
- That, as Conservation Medicine develops, CBSG becomes a repository of best practice methodology – a source of information of what works, and what doesn't work.
- That CBSG consider ways in which its mass collaboration tools, disease risk assessment tools and collaborative processes can be deployed to further develop and promote the practice of Conservation Medicine.

To read the full working group report, visit

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



Working Group Summaries

Mass Collaboration Tools for Conservation Working Group

Participants

Evan Blumer, Onnie Byers, Frands Carlsen, Kevin Johnson, Maria Finnigan, Wendy Foster, Jo Gipps, Fanny Lai, George Rabb, Hideyuki Takahashi, Yasumasa Tomita, Eric Tsao, Sally Walker, Jonathan Wilcken

Background

In discussion, participants outlined areas in which they believed that mass collaboration tools could benefit conservation efforts, including developing interactive and effective means of communicating and collaborating regionally and internationally on issues including species management, workshop follow-up, and the global amphibian crisis.

Key Actions

- Kevin Johnson will expand the existing ZIMS website and establish passwords for all users.
- All members of this working group will promote the initiative, and the steering group will write an introduction/promotion document.
- Pursue the identified case studies using a variety of existing tools.

To read the full working group report, visit

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

Climate Change Impacts and Conservation Response Working Group

Participants

Chris Banks, Barry Brook, Onnie Byers, Mark Craig, Bert Harris, Heribert Hofer, Bjarne Klausen, Kazushi Kuwabara, Andrew Lowe, Phil Miller, Paul Pearce-Kelly, Rebecca Spindler, Peter Stroud, Simon Tonge, Sally Walker, Chris West, Kevin Zippel

Background

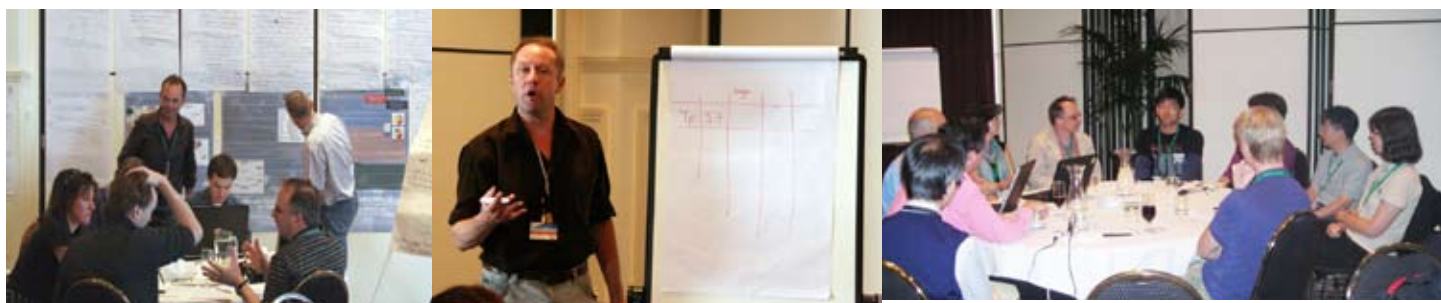
This working group was convened as part of ongoing CBSG efforts to respond to the uniquely pervasive threat that global climate change presents. Addressing this challenge has become even more of an imperative with the acknowledgement that change effects on the ground are presenting far sooner than models have predicted. The conservation community's response to this reality needs to be all the more urgent and effective.

Key Actions

- 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. The recent review initiative detailed in the Royal Society's report *Climate change and the fate of the Amazon* is a guide for how such a review might be realized.
- 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 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/2008_Annual_Meeting_WG_Reports/climate_change.pdf



Working Group Summaries

Conservation and Welfare Working Group

Participants

Brad Andrews, Anne Baker, Wayne Boardman, Peter Clark, Lesley Dickie, Susan Hunt, Richard Jakob-Hoff, Lena Linden, Will Meikle, Clifford Nxomani, Haruo Otsu, Graeme Phipps, Claire Pipe, Sergey Popov, Saman Senanayake, Brij Raj Sharma, Miranda Stevenson, Kris Vehrs, Olivia Walter, Chris West, Sherman Wong

Background

This group examined issues of animal welfare in captivity, including environmental influences, animal use and management, and methods of measurement and monitoring that could be used by zoos to determine the condition of animals in their care.

Key Actions

- Pull together regions to work on husbandry guidelines and welfare audit processes.
- Create a framework to promote good welfare, including a checklist of actions for zoos to ensure best practices.
- Develop a process that can identify potential problem areas and collect quantitative data on those species/ individuals involved.

To read the full working group presentation, visit

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

Evaluation and Prioritization: Thinking and Application and Field Project Prioritization Workshop Working Group

Participants

Nicole Anderson, Anne Baker, Chris Banks, Onnie Byers, Amy Camacho, Frands Carlsen, Peter Clark, Gerald Dick, Lesley Dickie, Jo Gipps, Wendy Foster, Tomohiko Iwata, Bjarne Klausen, Lena Maria Linden, William Meikle, Graeme Phipps, Claire Pipe, Hugh Possingham, Martin Smrcek, Rebecca Spindler, Miranda Stevenson, David Taggart, Yasumasa Tomita, Olivia Walter, Chris West, Sherman Wong

Background

Several workshops have been conducted to assist zoos and aquariums in identifying and prioritizing field conservation projects on the basis of conservation need and opportunity for significant impact. From these workshops, a tool has been developed for Field Project Prioritization. This working group discussed the first test of that tool, and revised the FPP to make the selection process transparent, and improve reporting and measurability of impact.

Key Actions

- Disseminate the revised FPP tool for review and input.
- Create a web-based FPP tool to accompany the global field projects database, and enable the FPP tool and the database to feed information into each other.
- Encourage all regional zoo associations to contribute, and regularly update, information in the database.

To read the full working group report, visit

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/2008_Annual_Meeting_WG_Reports/fpp.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 Maysore, 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

Ex Situ Population Management Tools

Participants

Nikki Anderson, Lindell Andrews, Kevin Evans, Nate Flesness, Bart Hiddinga, Kazuyoshi Itoh, Tomohiko Iwata, Bob Lacy, Fanny Lai, Caroline Lees, Kristin Leus, Jansen Manansang, Martin Phillips, Sergey Popov, Lee Simmons, Gert Skipper, Martin Smrcek, Karin Schwartz, David Taggart, Kathy Traylor-Holzer, Eric Tsao, Ros Wilkins

Background

Current *ex situ* population management methods, tools, and goals do not address all of the challenges limiting effective conservation breeding, including biological, technical and management-related issues. This working group was convened to initiate a long-term discussion of the key issues facing population managers, the need for new tools, strategies and research to address these issues, and the role that CBSG might play in this process.

Key Actions

- Continue discussion of these issues electronically and in future meetings, particularly for those issues that require significantly more time and broader participation to address properly.
- Support the development of new tools (e.g., those to be provided by PMx and ZIMS) that address the technical issues of population management identified by the working group.
- Promote collaboration among those individuals interested in exploring mate choice issues as related to population management, possibly through the use of mass collaboration tools.
- Compile information on who is investigating breeding success rates and factors related to success, including what information is being collected and how it is being used.
- Promote studbook data clean-up and validation in training courses and possibly via WAZA for international studbooks.

To read the full working group report, visit

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

Conservation Planning Processes Working Group

Participants

Brad Andrews, Anne Baker, Heribert Hofer, Susan Hunt, Robert Lacy, Phil Miller, Clifford Nxomani, Graeme Phipps, George Rabb, Yasumasa Tomita, Jonathan Wilcken, Ros Wilkins

Background

This working group discussed CBSG's association with an SSC task force charged to review the performance of Action Plans and look at ways to improve their outcomes. The SSC task force has produced a new document: *Strategic Planning for Species Conservation* to assist SSC groups in action planning. This working group considered ways CBSG can assist with the process of action planning for species conservation.

Key Actions

- CBSG should take the lead in training for the SCS process, especially via the CBSG Regional Networks.
- CBSG is the ideal group to promote and implement SCS goals, and should move forward with this immediately, rather than waiting for direction from the SSC.
- Several CBSG workshops currently in planning could be used to apply the Task Force's SCS approach.

To read the full working group report, visit

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



CBSG Network News

CBSG Brasil

Recent Workshops

- Giraffe PHVA, Niamey, Niger
- Population Viability Analysis for Endangered Brazilian Primates

In 2008, CBSG Brasil continued its close partnerships with CBSG Europe (see below), and the IUCN/SSC Tapir Specialist Group.

CBSG Brasil worked to facilitate the Tapir Specialist Group's Action Plan Implementation Taskforce meeting, and a Strategic Planning meeting that will guide and drive the work of the Tapir Specialist Group over the next three years. These meetings were the result of years of work to conduct PHVA workshops on all four tapir species, which led to detailed conservation plans for each species.

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

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/2008_Annual_Meeting_WG_Reports/cbsg_brasil_2008.pdf



CBSG Europe

Recent Workshop

- Giraffe PHVA, Niamey, Niger

In 2008, CBSG Europe and CBSG Brasil worked together to lead a PHVA on the last population of West-African giraffes in Niger in the Sahel region of Africa. Kristin Leus from CBSG Europe and Arnaud Desbiez from CBSG Brasil were invited by the "Programme Régional Parc W" of ECOPAS (Ecosystèmes Protégés en Afrique Soudano-Sahélienne) and the Government of Niger to facilitate the PHVA and build a Vortex computer simulation model.

In the 19th century the West African giraffe subspecies (*Giraffa camelopardalis peralta*) still inhabited a large part of the Sahel region from Senegal to Lake Chad. Currently the last surviving representatives live in the Kouré region of Niger which is not classified as a protected area and contains roughly 30 villages with a human population of more than 45,000 inhabitants. Various governmental and non-governmental organizations have already succeeded to bring back the subspecies from an all-time low of less than 50 individuals in 1996, to currently about 200 individuals. The PHVA was one of the final steps in an ongoing process of developing a long-term conservation strategy for the giraffe in Niger.

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

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/2008_Annual_Meeting_WG_Reports/cbsg_europe_2008.pdf



CBSG Network News

CBSG Japan

Recent Workshops

- Red-headed Wood Pigeon PHVA, Chi-Chi Jima, Japan
- *Ex Situ* Population Management Training Courses, Osaka and Tokyo, Japan
- Asian Elephant Health Care Training Course

The Critically Endangered red-headed wood pigeon is endemic to the Ogasawara islands, and the wild population is estimated at only 40 birds. One of the primary threats to this species is introduced feral cats, but conservation work is also limited by insufficient communication and knowledge of the species, and a lack of success in breeding the pigeons in captivity.

At the invitation of the Japanese Ministry of Environment, Phil Miller and Kathy Traylor-Holzer from the United States joined CBSG Japan staff and CBSG Member Jonathan Ballou to lead this workshop. The participants set goals to improve *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation, and to help reduce threats to the pigeons from the local community.

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

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/2008_Annual_Meeting_WG_Reports/cbsg_japan_2008.pdf



CBSG Mexico

Recent Workshops

- Ocelot Translocation Partners Meeting
- First National Congress for the Preservation of Aruba's Wildlife
- Vortex Training Course, Bogota, Colombia

Publications

- Conservación y manejo del Jaguar en México: estudios de caso y perspectivas.

CBSG México has focused its efforts on responding to the amphibian extinction crisis facing the conservation community. In the last year, CBSG México staff has taught a course on Amphibian Biology and Management in Venezuela and facilitated Amphibian Prioritization Workshops in four countries in central America. These prioritization workshops are the first step in bringing critical species into captive management programs, and will be followed by efforts to secure government support in each country and match species with institutions that are capable of managing their conservation.



CBSG Mexico has also remained involved in education efforts in the region, conducting presentations at universities, schools and at regional zoo and aquarium association activities.

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

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/2008_Annual_Meeting_WG_Reports/cbsg_mexico_2008.pdf

CBSG Network News

CBSG South Asia

Recent Workshops

- Field Techniques Training for Small Mammals, Nepal
- Amphibian Biodiversity Conservation Training Course
- CBSG South Asia/Reintroduction Specialist Group South Asia Joint Meeting

Publications

- Guide to South Asian Primates for Teachers and Students of All Ages

CBSG South Asia continued its tradition of education for conservation in the past year, conducting training workshops for teachers, field researchers, wildlife reserve staff, and other conservation professionals across several countries. These programs reach hundreds of participants every year, teaching them how to raise awareness about important conservation issues in the region. These programs also help create networks of professionals in each field, who later communicate and assist one another in their conservation and educational activities.

CBSG South Asia is also continuing its tradition of cooperation with the Reintroduction Specialist Group in South Asia, and holding joint yearly meetings to focus on improving conservation efforts throughout the region. In 2008, the joint meeting was held in Ahmedabad, India, in conjunction with the South Asian Zoo Association's Annual Conference, bringing together participants from the zoos and governments of several South Asian countries.

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

http://www.cbsg.org/cbsg/content/files/2008_Annual_Meeting_WG_Reports/cbsgsouthasia_2008.pdf



2008 CBSG Annual Meeting Participants

Adelaide University

Barry Brook
Bert Harris
Andrew Lowe

Africam Safari/CBSG Mexico

Amy Camacho

Al Ain Wildlife Park & Resort

Mark Craig

Amphibian Ark/CBSG

Kevin Zippel

ARAZPA

Kevin Johnson
Martin Phillips
Ros Wilkins

Auckland Zoological Park

Richard Jakob-Hoff
Jonathan Wilcken

AZA

Kristin Vehrs

BIAZA

Miranda Stevenson
Olivia Walter

Bristol Zoo Gardens

Jo Gipps

Busch Entertainment Corporation

Brad Andrews

CBSG

Onnie Byers
Robert Lacy
Phil Miller
Kathy Traylor-Holzer

CBSG Australasia

Caroline Lees

Central Zoo Authority

Brij Raj Sharma

Chicago Zoological Society

George Rabb
Karin Schwartz

Copenhagen Zoo/CBSG

Frands Carlsen
Kristin Leus

EAZA

Bart Hiddinga
Lesley Dickie



Famad Network Communications

Olufemi Famadewa

Flinders University

Nicole Anderson

Hiroshima City Asa Zoological Park

Kazushi Kuwabara
Haruo Otsu

International Species Information System (ISIS)

Nathan Flesness

Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research

Heribert Hofer

Marine World Umino-Nakamichi

Tomohiko Iwata

Moscow Zoo

Sergey Popov

National Zoological Gardens of South Africa

Clifford Nxomani

Nordens Ark

Lena Maria Linden

Odense Zoo

Bjarne Klausen

Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo

Lee Simmons

Perth Zoo

Maria Finnigan
Susan Hunt

Peter Stroud Services

Peter Stroud

Prague Zoo

Ivan Rehak

Provincial Environmental Authority

Saman Senanayake

Richmond College of TAFE

Graeme Phipps

San Diego Zoo

Robert Wiese

South West Environmental Parks

Simon Tonge

Saint Louis Zoo

Jeffrey Bonner

Taipei Zoo

Eric Tsao

Taman Safari Indonesia/CBSG

Jansen Manansang
Sherman Wong

Taronga Conservation Society Australia

William Meikle
Rebecca Spindler

The Toledo Zoo

Anne Baker

The University of Queensland

Hugh Possingham

The Wilds

Evan Blumer

Tokyo Zoological Park Society

Hideyuki Takahashi
Yasumasa Tomita

Twycross Zoo

Claire Pipe

Ueno Zoological Gardens

Kazuyoshi Itoh

WAZA

Gerald Dick

Wildlife Reserves Singapore

Fanny Lai

Yokohama Zoological Gardens

Mitsuko Masui
Akemi Narita

ZOO Dvur Kralove Czech Republic

Martin Smrcek

Zoo Outreach Organisation/CBSG

Sally Walker

Zoological Gardens of Wrocław

Radoslaw Ratajszczak

Zoological Society of London

Paul Pearce-Kelly

Zoos South Australia

Wayne Boardman
Peter Clark
Wendy Foster
David Taggart
Christopher West

Zoos Victoria

Chris Banks

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 Zoo
Australian Regional Association of Zoological Parks and Aquaria
Cleveland Zoological Society
Linda Malek
Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium
Toledo Zoo

\$1,000 and above

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
British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums
Calgary Zoological Society
Central Zoo Authority, India
Chester Zoo
Cincinnati Zoo
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 Zoo
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
Madrid Zoo-Parques Reunidos
Marwell Zoological Park
Milwaukee County Zoo
Nancy & Pete Killilea
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
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 Zoos & 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 Zürich
Zoological Society of Wales – Welsh Mountain Zoo
Zoologischer Garten Köln
Zoologischer Garten Rostock
Zoos South Australia

\$500 and above

Aalborg Zoo
Akron Zoological Park
Banham Zoo and Sanctuary
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
Friends of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo
Givskud Zoo
Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens
Katey & Mike Pelican
Kerzner International North America, Inc.
Knuthenborg Park & Safari
Lincoln Park Zoo
Lisbon Zoo
Little Rock Zoo
Nordens Ark
Odense Zoo
Oregon Zoo
Ouwehands Dierenpark
Riverbanks Zoological Park
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
Edward & Marie Plotka
Lee Richardson Zoo
Mark Barone
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
International Centre for Birds of Prey
Lincoln Children's Zoo
Lion Country Safari, Inc.
Miami Metrozoo
Safari de Peaugres – France
Steinhart Aquarium
Steven J. Olson

\$50 and above

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

New and Increasing CBSG Donors

Contributions from our donors make the work of CBSG possible. We would like to recognize and welcome our 3 new donors, and thank the 32 donors who have recently increased their contributions.

Thank you!



New and Returning Donors

Conservatoire pour la Protection des Primates
Elaine Douglass
Zoo de la Palmyre

Increasing Donors

African Safari–France
Australian Regional Association of Zoological Parks and
Aquaria
Allwetterzoo Munster
Auckland Zoological Park
Brandywine Zoo
British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquaria
Calgary Zoological Society
Chester Zoo
Copenhagen Zoo
Detroit Zoological Society
Dickerson Park Zoo
Ed Asper
Givskud Zoo
Madrid Zoo — Parques Reunidos
Nancy & Pete Killilea
Nordens Ark
Ocean Park Conservation Foundation

Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo
Oregon Zoo
Paignton Zoo
Parco Natura Viva
Royal Zoological Society Antwerp
Saint Louis Zoo
Safari de Peaugres
Schonbrunner Tiergarten — Zoo Vienna
Steinhart Aquarium
Swedish Association of Zoos and Aquaria
Taupthaus Park Zoo
Thrigby Hall Wildlife Gardens
Topeka Zoological Park
Wassenaar Wildlife Breeding Centre
Wilhelma Zoo
Zoologischer Garten Koln
Zoologischer Garten Rostock
Zoo Zurich

2008 Ulysses S. Seal Award

Presented to Sally R. Walker by CBSG Chairman Robert Lacy

The Ulysses S. Seal Award for Innovation in Conservation is the only award that CBSG gives, and it is regarded very highly not only by CBSG, but also by the entire zoo and aquarium community and the IUCN Species Survival Commission. As usual, we received a number of nominations of outstanding candidates for the Award. The review committee noted that it was presented with some very high calibre candidates, making selection very difficult, but also indicating the esteem in which the U.S. Seal Award is held. At the end of its process of consultation, the committee recommended that the Ulysses S. Seal Award for 2008 should be awarded to Sally Walker. The CBSG Steering Committee subsequently expressed its unanimous endorsement of the selection.



It would be impossible to list all that Sally has done for conservation in India, in South Asia, and around the world. As one of her nominator's said, Sally has been "a catalyst for both individuals and organizations, national and international. There is hardly any taxa of either importance or 'neglect' that Sally has not championed with a direct conservation impact, and Sally has a rare knack of turning each of her obsessions of the season into an exceptional educational version that reaches out far and wide."

I have an admission to make: after the first workshop in which I worked closely with Sally, I wondered if I would ever want to work with this woman again. She just kept demanding things that were unreasonable—such as endless hours of presentations and teaching while I struggled with jet lag, lack of time to prepare adequately, and the ill health that generally hits Westerners who find themselves eating at little stalls on the streets of cities in India. And it didn't seem to bother her that we were trying to teach a workshop on computer tools but the electricity kept going off for an hour or so.

I still sometimes find Sally to be hard to work with. She is still demanding, but even more demanding of herself than others, and she is also a role model for me, for CBSG, and for many others. From Sally, I have learned that using cartoons and simple, funny illustrations to get across conservation messages is not talking down to our audiences. Rather, it shows that we understand that the stilted, arcane discourse of science can be silly, and disrespects people by not bothering to put messages into a common language that all would understand.



Sally has repeatedly modeled for us the importance and value of communicating using local languages, cultures, and examples. She created a regional version of the *World Zoo and Aquarium Conservation Strategy*, changing the illustrations and examples in it to be ones that would be more meaningful to people in her region. Sally understands networking and collaboration. She set up the Zoo Outreach Organisation (ZOO) and its flagship publications the *Zoos' Print Magazine* and *ZOO ZEN* in 1985, both of which have since gained an iconic standing not only in India but around the world. Sally showed us in CBSG the power of regional networks. She formed CBSG India, and later expanded it to become CBSG South Asia, to provide a mechanism by which our colleagues in that region can be much more involved in CBSG and conservation than they ever could have been if their connection to CBSG and IUCN was only through a global network with headquarters in the USA. Now there are nine such networks around the world. Sally then started the South Asian Zoo Association for Regional Cooperation, (SAZARC), to provide a way for the zoo leaders in South Asia to exchange expertise and together learn about making zoos into conservation organizations.

Sally fostered South Asia networks of other IUCN specialist groups, such as the Reintroduction and Invertebrate Specialist Groups, and she constantly uses cross-linkages among these groups to address problems that cross fields. She never stops creating new groups when they are needed to address additional issues and help people to work together. She has created networks in South Asia for invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles, bats, rodents, and primates, and formed a South Asian Network of International Zoo Educators.





Using taxon networks, Sally has introduced many academics in India to the latest advances in science in their field. Sally wasn't trained as a scientist, but she understands the importance and use of science, careful and complete data collection, and systematic analysis. It is a tribute to Sally's scientific appeal that ZOO's various networks now contain over 1000 academics who are active in conservation action. Through workshops and taxon networks Sally has inspired a large number of wildlife biologists, several of whom wrote to me in support of her nomination for the award.

We know that Sally didn't do all of this herself—she had a lot of help, and sometimes even the bulk of the work was done by her colleagues in India and elsewhere—but these networks wouldn't have happened if she wasn't there. Using these groups, or just informally, she created communication networks that allowed people who had been working more or less in isolation to share their expertise and to learn from others.

Sally builds capacity: she rarely runs a workshop or meeting without taking advantage of having those people together to also run a short training course. She follows up on her workshops, doing all that she can to make sure that the efforts lead to progress in conservation. When a species conservation workshop reveals that there is little local knowledge about needed conservation methods, she immediately starts planning a training workshop on taxonomic methods, or field methods, or reintroductions, or whatever is needed. When the local community has little understanding of the situation, she develops teacher training workshops to give them tools to reach children. When key data on the species or its situation are lacking, she works to get funding for local scientists to get into the field to get the needed data. When the local scientists are found to be working in isolation, she sets up a directory and network for them to stay in touch after the initial meeting.

When we put out a call for zoos to help stop the loss of amphibians, Sally immediately went to work getting Indian zoos and schools and communities involved—even though she was personally highly skeptical about the initiative. She made teaching materials and India-appropriate versions of Year of the Frog materials, ran workshops, and got more signatures on her Year of the Frog petition from India than the rest of the world combined. When people said “Wow”, Sally's response was something like “wasn't this what we all were supposed to be doing?” And she was right.

Although it has been only five years since Ulie died and we have been giving out the Ulysses S. Seal Award, there have been a lot of new people coming into our community, and I know that some of you never knew Ulie. You hear wonderful, and sometimes amazing, things about him, but you didn't have any personal knowledge of him. Ulie was a remarkable man, and I know that no one could possibly replicate him, but I might be so bold as to suggest that if you want to get an idea of what kind of person Ulie was, think about Sally Walker.

Sally redirected her personal and professional life because she cares about people and animals. She just does things that need to be done without much concern about whether anyone else thinks it's feasible, or whether she might look foolish trying, or whether she might offend someone or get herself into trouble. She has an incredible amount of passion and energy for her work. When she sees a need, she creates an opportunity. Then she forms the organization or team to get it done, or she just does it herself if that is what it takes.

Sally uses people—such as when she brings me and Jon Ballou from the USA, Miranda Stevenson and Mike Jordan from the UK, Mickey Soorae from UAE, and recently Cecilia Kierulff from Brazil to India to teach workshops for her networks. But, like Ulie did, Sally uses people because she values them. Sally has transformed many organizations and many people, showing them how they can contribute to conservation.

As one of Sally's nominator's said, she is “one of the few who has changed the world”.



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@cbsg.org

Photo Credits

Richard Bodmer
Institute of Boninology
Kevin Johnson
Kristin Leus
Sanjay Molur
Robert Puschendorf
Lee Simmons
Kathy Traylor-Holzer
Sherman Wong



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