



2009

ZOOS AND AQUARIUMS
COMMITTING TO CONSERVATION



WELCOME TO THE 2009 ZOOS AND AQUARIUMS COMMITTING TO CONSERVATION CONFERENCE AND HOUSTON, TEXAS.

The first ZACC conference was hosted in 1995 by Ohio's Columbus Zoo. ZACC is a bi-annual event that promotes the role of zoos and aquariums in supporting conservation activities worldwide, both at their institutions and in the field. Conference participants include representatives from zoological institutions, international conservation organizations, local non-governmental organizations, government agencies, funding agencies and, most importantly, field biologists and conservationists. Bringing together individuals from different countries and disciplines, ZACC conferences help to build a stronger and more effective global network for wildlife and habitat conservation, and to establish direct links to zoos, aquariums, and their constituencies.

Our host hotel—**The Hotel Derek**—offers a world of sleek design and customized comfort with a touch of Texas flair. Nestled in the heart of the city's Uptown Galleria area, we hope you enjoy your stay at one of Houston's finest accommodations.

On Friday night, The Hotel Derek will play host to our conference icebreaker, an opportunity for attendees to catch up with their colleagues and unwind from the days opening sessions.

On Monday afternoon, we will take you to the Houston Zoo for a full day of activities and special events. The Houston Zoo—founded in 1922 and one of the city's major recreational destinations—is proud to be the host institution for this important event. The 55-acre zoo is home to more than 3,500 animals representing more than 500 species and receives over 1.6 million guests each year.

**ENJOY THE CONFERENCE,
ENJOY THE ZOO
AND ENJOY TEXAS!**



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PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

THE MISSION OF THE ZOOS AND AQUARIUMS COMMITTING TO CONSERVATION

conference is to promote and encourage the greater commitment and involvement of zoos and aquariums in support of in situ conservation efforts whether on a local, regional and/or international level. The biennial conference should continue to focus on how best to provide partnership opportunities between field researchers and zoos and aquariums; provide a useful and positive networking atmosphere; and instill a feeling of inspiration to the participants. In the last few years many zoos have begun to focus on their respective zoo's conservation commitment, but there are still many institutions that have yet to embrace this philosophy. This conference is a starting point for discussion, exchange of information and also a chance to be inspired by our colleagues from the field. Ultimately, our goal is to have no further need for this conference, as all zoos and aquariums will be supporting in situ efforts.



Sponsored by Shell Oil Company

01.22.09 Pre-Conference Workshop

8:30 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

How to Create Your Institution's Conservation Program:
A Practical Guide to Implementation

01.23.09 Keynote Speaker and Opening Session

8:00 A.M.

Conservation Marketplace opens in exhibit hall

10:00 A.M.

Icebreaker at Hotel Derek

6:00 – 8:30 P.M.

01.24.09 Keynote Speaker and session begins

8:00 A.M.

01.25.09 Keynote Speaker and session begins

8:00 A.M.

Roundtable for Creating Future
Conservation Leaders

6:00 – 7:00 P.M.

01.26.09 Special Morning Session

7:30 – 8:45 A.M.

People, Projects and Poverty: The Human Element in Conservation

Sessions begin

8:45 A.M.

ZOO DAY

12:35 P.M. Zoo Day Shuttles begin

1:00 P.M. **Zoo Day Lunch** Provided by Molina's Cantina

1:00 – 4:30 P.M. Zoo Day

3:30 – 6:45 P.M. Silent Auction Event (*Natural Encounters Building*)

4:45 P.M. Conservation Awards Presentation (*Brown Education Center*)

5:00 P.M. Conservation Awards Presentation (*Brown Education Center*)

5:30 P.M. **Zoo Day Dinner** Provided by P.F. Chang's, (*Brown Education Center*)

6:45 P.M. **SILENT AUCTION ENDS**

7:30 P.M. Shuttle back to Hotel Derek

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

01.22.09

- 8:45 A.M.–3:00 P.M. Pre-Conference Workshop: *How to Create Your Institution's Conservation Program: A Practical Guide to Implementation*. Seating is limited through pre-registration only.
- 12:00–4:00 P.M. Registration and check-in (Hotel Derek)

01.23.09

- 7:00 A.M.–4:00 P.M. Registration and check-in (Hotel Derek)
- 8:00–8:20 A.M. Welcome and Opening Remarks: Houston Zoo
- 8:20–8:50 A.M. **Keynote Speaker: Carter Smith, Executive Director**
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- 9:00–9:20 A.M. David Shepherdson, Oregon Zoo
Recovering the Columbia Basin pygmy rabbit—it takes a warren
- 9:20–9:40 A.M. Terry Rossignol, USFWS
Attwater's Prairie Chicken—The Return of a Native
- 9:40–10:10 A.M. Break and Conservation Marketplace opens in vendor hall**
- 10:10–10:30 A.M. Stuart Wells, Phoenix Zoo
Coupled Systems Throughout the Sky Island Border Regions of Arizona/New Mexico
- 10:30–10:50 A.M. Louise Allen, Biology Department, Boston University
Under the Bridge: Bat bridges as models for integrating research, conservation and education
- 10:50–11:10 A.M. Estelle Sandhaus, Santa Barbara Zoo
A Pilot Year of Nest Guarding results in Maximizing Nesting Success in a Reintroduced Population of California Condors
- 11:10–11:30 A.M. Gordon Blankstein, Mountain View Conservation Centre
The Recovery of the Vancouver Island Marmot
- 11:30–11:50 A.M. Harriet Allen, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Partnering For Species Conservation in Washington and the Northwest
- 11:50 A.M.–1:05 P.M. Lunch**

- 1:05–1:25 P.M. Jeanne Marie Pittman, Johannesburg Zoo
Wattled Crane recovery Program: An Example of a Successful South African Conservation Partnership
- 1:25–1:45 P.M. Laurie Marker, Cheetah Conservation Fund
Namibian Cheetah Conservation—A Model for the Future
- 1:45–2:05 P.M. Rebecca Goldstone and Michael Stern, Kibale Wood Project
Zoo Funded Community Conservation: A Case Study from Uganda Focusing on Long-Term Sustainability
- 2:05–2:25 P.M. Samantha Russell, John Kamanga
Collaborative Community-Based research for Conservation in the Southern Rift Valley, Kenya.
- 2:25–2:45 P.M. Kakuta Hamisi, Maasai Association and Woodland Park Zoo
Wildlife and People: The Waterholes Project
- 2:45–3:15 P.M. Break**
- 3:15–3:30 P.M. Dr. Lauren Howard, Houston Zoo
Elephant Endotheliotropic Herpesvirus: Implication for captive management and a critical partnership for field research
- 3:30–3:50 P.M. Dr. Benoit Goossens: University of Cardiff-Wales
Conservation Management and Genetics of the Bornean Elephant in Sabah
- 3:50–4:10 P.M. Charles Foley, WCS Tanzania
Conservation easements as a tool to protect large ungulate migration routes in Tanzania
- 4:10–4:30 P.M. Hank Hammat, Elephant Care International
ECI Elephant TB Initiative project update and ZACC 2007
- 4:30–4:50 P.M. Jeanetta Selier, Mashatu Game Reserve
Research and Eco-tourism: Mutually Beneficial?
- 4:50–5:10 P.M. Andrea Turkalo, Wildlife Conservation Society
Central African Republic Dzanga Forest Elephant Study
- 6:15–8:30 P.M. Icebreaker at Hotel Derek



01.24.09

- 7:00 A.M.–4:00 P.M. Registration and check-in (Hotel Derek)
- 8:00–8:30 A.M. **Keynote Speaker: Charles Knowles**
Wildlife Conservation Network
- 8:30–8:50 A.M. Rosamira Guillen, Proyecto Titi
Working with Local Communities in Colombia to Promote Cotton-top Tamarin Conservation Effort
- 8:50–9:10 A.M. Gay Reinartz, Milwaukee Zoo
Bonobo and Congo Biodiversity Initiative
- 9:10–9:30 A.M. Kristen Lukas, Cleveland MetroParks Zoo
The Big Bang (for the Buck) Theory: Introducing the Ape Tag Conservation Initiative
- 9:30–9:50 A.M. Dr. Ed Louis, Henry Doorly Zoo
Madagascar: Planting the Seed
- 9:50–10:15 A.M. Break**
- 10:15–10:35 A.M. Thomas Breuer, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology
The Mbeli Bai Gorilla Study and Club Ebobo: Conservation Research and Environmental Education in Northern Congo
- 10:35–10:55 A.M. Doug Cress, PASA
Developing Future Conservation Heroes
- 10:55–11:15 A.M. Dr. Hotlin Ompusunggu, Health in Harmony
Using Healthcare Incentives to Promote Conservation of Bornean Orangutans
- 11:15–11:40 A.M. Chris Ransom, Zoological Society of London
Mikongo Conservation Centre: a responsible approach to conservation through ecotourism in Gabon
- 11:40 A.M.–12:00 P.M. Kelly Boyer, Iowa State University
Neighboring Apes: ensuring a future for the chimpanzees of Fongoli, Senegal
- 12:00 P.M.–1:00 P.M. Lunch**
- 1:00–1:20 P.M. Dr. Susan Ellis, Executive Director International Rhino Foundation
Out of Harm's Way: Helping Rhinos Survive Through Translocation
- 1:20–1:40 P.M. Dr. Christian Walzer, International Takhi Group
Success—the Next 50 years for Przewalski's Horse in the Gobi Region of Mongolia
- 1:40–2:00 P.M. Rodney Jackson, Snow Leopard Conservancy
Building Sustainable Community Stewardship Programs for Snow Leopards
- 2:00–2:20 P.M. Mary Wykstra, Cheetah Conservation Fund Kenya
National Distribution of Cheetah in Kenya: Halting the Decline
- 2:20–2:40 P.M. Siew Te Wong, Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre
Hope for the Bornean Sun Bear
- 2:40–3:00 P.M. John Newby, Sahara Conservation Fund
From Addax to Zorilla: Conserving Saharan Wildlife
- 3:00–3:25 P.M. Break**
- 3:25–3:45 P.M. Robert Lacy, Chair IUCN CBSG
Strategic Planning for Species Conservation: New Guidelines from the IUCN Species Survival Commission
- 3:45–4:05 P.M. Charudutt Mishra, Snow Leopard Trust
Snow Leopard, Conflicts and Conservation
- 4:05–4:25 P.M. Colum Muccio, ARCAS-Guatemala
Macaws Without Borders
- 4:25–4:45 P.M. Sara Hallager, Smithsonian's National Zoological Park
Reintroduction of the red-necked ostrich into Niger
- 4:45–5:05 P.M. Alejandro Parades
Water resources conservation in the Quijos river watershed, Ecuador using mountain tapir as a flagship species
- 5:05–5:25 P.M. Valerie Peckham, Philadelphia Zoo
Carbon Offsetting: New Territory for Zoos and for Wildlife





01.25.09

- 7:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. Registration and check-in (Hotel Derek)
- 8:00–8:30 A.M. **Keynote Speaker: Lesley Dickie, Executive Director, EAZA**
The role of a zoo and aquarium association in promoting conservation: when to lead and when to follow?
- 8:30–8:50 A.M. Althea Guinsberg, Johannesburg Zoo
Johannesburg Zoo Amphibian Conservation Project
- 8:50–9:10 A.M. Stuart Wells, Phoenix Zoo
Evolution of a Multi-agency Partnership to Conserve the Chiricahua Leopard Frog
- 9:10–9:30 A.M. Jean Brennan, Defenders of Wildlife
Addressing Wildlife Adaptation to Climate Change through a Collaborative Partnership: How Amphibian Monitoring can Pave the Way for Biodiversity Conservation at Large
- 9:30–9:50 A.M. Paul Crump, Houston Zoo
The Last, and Next, Decade of Amphibian Conservation in Panama
- 9:50–10:20 A.M. Break**
- 10:20–10:40 A.M. Robin Moore
Conservation International Amphibian Program
- 10:40–11:00 A.M. Carol Rizkala, Disney's Animal Kingdom
Partnering to save a species: The Amphibian Project Team experience
- 11:00–11:20 A.M. Louis Perrotti, Roger Williams Park Zoo
Establishing Invertebrate Colonies in Response to the Global Amphibian Crisis, Partnerships in Conservation
- 11:20–11:45 A.M. Shelly Grow, AZA
Outcomes of AZA's Regional Year of the Frog Campaign and Outlook for Sustaining Momentum
- 11:45 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. Lunch**

- 1:00–1:20 P.M. Jeff Flocken, IFAW
Emerging Wildlife Conservation Leaders
- 1:20–1:40 P.M. Jeffrey Whiting, Artists for Conservation
The Art of Conservation
- 1:40–2:00 P.M. Thane Maynard, Cincinnati Zoo
National Public Radio
- 2:00–2:20 P.M. Jamie Ford, Student Conservation Association
Building capacity in your organization
- 2:20–2:40 P.M. Thushan Kapurusinghe, Turtle Conservation Project Sri Lanka
Community Based Ecosystem Conservation Approach: A new concept used for Sea Turtle Conservation in Sri Lanka
- 2:40–3:05 P.M. Break**
- 3:05–3:25 P.M. Eric Ronay, Eco-Cell
Answer the Call of the Wild
- 3:25–3:45 P.M. Mark Bent, SunNight Solar
The Gift of Light
- 3:45–4:05 P.M. Julie Childers Henry, Patrick O'Callaghan, Wild Carbon Project
Wild Carbon: Changing the Climate for Wildlife Conservation
- 4:05–4:25 P.M. Dr. Marc Ancrenaz, Hutan
Wildlife and Habitat Conservation Banking
- 4:25–4:45 P.M. Francine Madden, Human Wildlife Conflict Collaboration
Human-Wildlife Conflict: A Case for Global Collaboration
- 4:45–5:05 P.M. Angela Burkhalter Sea World Busch Gardens
Earthwatch: Fund in the Field
- 6:00–7:00 P.M. Lisa Dabek, Jeff Flocken, Rebecca Rose, Beth Armstrong
Roundtable for Creating Future Conservation Leaders

- 7:30–8:45 A.M. **Roundtable Session:** Tammie Bettinger, Beth Armstrong, Charlene Jendry, Anne Savage
People Projects and Poverty: The Human Element in Conservation
- 8:45–9:15 A.M. **Moderated Session:** Terry Blumer, Woodland Park Zoo, Delfi Messenger, Jacksonville Zoo
Vetting Conservation Commerce: the good, the bad and the ugly
- 9:20–9:40 A.M. TBA
- 9:40–10:00 A.M. Patricia Medici, IUCN Tapir Specialist Group
Scientific Tourism: Contributing to the Financial Sustainability of the Lowland Tapir Conservation Initiative in Brazil
- 10:00–10:20 A.M. Roger Wilkinson, Chester Zoo Mauritius
Wildlife Foundation Passerine Program
- 10:20–10:40 A.M. Break**
- 10:40–11:00 A.M. Brad Nahill, Ocean Revolution
See Turtles: Promoting Sea Turtle Protection Through Conservation Tourism
- 11:00–11:20 A.M. Charlie Welch, Madagascar Fauna Group
The Madagascar Fauna Group–20 Years of Conservation Work
- 11:20–11:40 A.M. Eric Bairrão Ruivo, ZooParc de Beauval
*The Silvery Brown Tamarin (*Saguinus leucopus*) Conservation Project*
- 11:40 A.M.–12:00 P.M. Frank Rietkirk, Apenheul Primate Park
*Yellow-tailed Woolly Monkey *Lagothrix flavicauda**
- 1:00–1:20 P.M. **ZOO DAY**
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7:30 P.M. Shuttle back to Hotel Derek

Conservation Marketplace

Open 10:00 A.M. Friday January 23rd through
11:00 A.M. Monday January 26th

GIVE THE GIFT OF LIGHT



You can help light the lives of people in developing countries by purchasing a new Solar Powered BOGO Flashlight from the Houston Zoo.

BOGO means Buy One Give One. When you buy a BOGO Light, the Houston Zoo will purchase a BOGO Light for someone in need in the developing world. One-third of the world's population makes a difficult choice every night: use a dangerous and expensive kerosene lantern for light, or live through the night in utter darkness. If the available choice is less dangerous (for example, candles or single-use-battery flashlights), it is no less expensive or harmful for the environment. Every night, two billion people face a decision that negatively impacts their health, income, education, and security.

SunNight Solar's BOGO Light transforms the night by offering a new choice to people in need. Generating clean LED light from rechargeable solar-powered batteries, SunNight Solar's BOGO Light can go where other fuel-dependant lights can't: to a poor person in a small village located far away from an electricity grid. And the BOGO Light can do what other lights can't: change lives.

SunNight Solar's BOGO Light helps solve the problem of education in developing areas by providing safe light by which to study. This results not just in improved literacy and education, but also in health and safety, environmental impacts, empowerment of women, and family security. It will also reduce our dependency on batteries that ultimately end up in local landfills.

For every BOGO Light purchased, the Houston Zoo will donate one light to the villages and communities of our conservation partners in developing countries, including Madagascar, Botswana, Gabon, and Panama. In 2007, the Houston Zoo sent out more than 300 flashlights to families in these regions.

The gift of light can change lives; you can help us make that change, contact us at conservation@houstonzoo.org. Ask us how your institution can participate in this program.



VENDORS FOR ZOOS AND AQUARIUMS COMMITTING TO CONSERVATION (VZACC)

is a non-profit association of vendors established to organize vendors of zoos and aquariums interested in supporting in situ conservation. VZACC has its headquarters in Sonoma, California, and began its activities in March 2007.

VZACC GOALS

- Directly support field conservation with small grants
- To build and maintain this informational website as a resource for zoos and aquariums
- To annually produce a printed directory of participating vendors to be distributed to zoo and aquarium directors
- To organize and maintain a database of 'silent auction' contributors for zoo and aquarium fundraising events
- To create partnerships and 'co-sponsorships' with businesses in support of local zoo and aquarium in situ conservation funds.

Eques: Host and Sponsors of the VZACC Initiative

Combining the liveliness of fine art with the accuracy of scientific illustration, Eques has been creating stylish designs for people of all ages since 2004. Eques designs are applied to traditional tees, organic and fashion garments. They are an eco-friendly company and print exclusively with non-toxic water base inks, offering full service, award-winning garment printing: digital, screen, and embroidery with low minimum and reduced price-point options.

Eques' Laura and Samara King stepped into the world of zoo and aquarium conservation with a simple idea; bringing the sales power of vendors and purchasing power of zoos and aquariums together to help fund small conservation grants where they are most needed; on the ground in range countries. Small grants are used to pay salaries of indigenous people, create simple but effective educational materials, provide food for the research team while in the field and buy needed equipment for research.

By supporting VZACC and Eques, you are taking a simple idea and supporting programs where they are greatly needed. Visit www.vzacc.org and www.equesinc.com to participate.

Cellular Phone COLLECTION PROGRAM

CELL PHONES • PHONE BATTERIES • CHARGERS



The Houston Zoo's Conservation department is recycling your old cell phones, cell phone batteries and chargers. By doing so, you can help reduce the need to mine minerals in and around animal's natural habitats, including Mandrills.

Contact eric@eco-cell.org for more information

CONSERVATION MARKETPLACE

SunNight Solar
www.bogolight.com

Snow Leopard Trust
www.snowleopard.org

Virunga Artisans
www.virungaart.com

EquesInc
www.equesinc.com
www.vzacc.org

Proyecto Titi
www.proyectotiti.com

Elephant Care International
www.ElephantCare.org

Iganyana Arts
<http://painteddog.org>

Wildlife Friendly Enterprise Network
www.wildlifefriendly.org

Woodland Park Zoo Partners For Wildlife
www.zoo.org/conservation

Eco-Cell
www.eco-cell.org

Danau Girang Field Centre
www.cardiff.ac.uk/biosi/facilities/danaugirangfieldcentre/index.html

Clouded Leopard Project
www.cloudedleopard.org

SOS Leosco Collection Inc
pattyrose@allanhrose.com

GIFT BAGS

Proyecto Titi Gift Bags generously supported by Sea World Busch Gardens Conservation Fund

ZACC T-shirts

Service Systems Associates (SSA) Houston



SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SPONSORS

Zoos and Aquariums Committing to Conservation Conference



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