



## CINCINNATI ZOO & BOTANICAL GARDEN



### Saving Animals



The Zoo helps save endangered species through research, education, and habitat protection. Many of our efforts are coordinated by the Zoo's Center for Conservation and Research of Endangered Wildlife (CREW), which is dedicated to saving species with science. We also participate in Species Survival Plans (SSP) for many species we work to protect. Managed by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, an SSP helps to ensure the survival of a selected species through managed captive breeding, research, education, and conservation in the wild. Take this tour to meet some of the animals we are conserving.

#### 1) River Otter (Wolf Woods)

With otter populations in crisis worldwide, it is important to maintain a captive population as a research resource and genetic reserve. To facilitate captive breeding of river otters, CREW scientists are researching their reproductive biology.

#### 2) Mexican Wolf (Wolf Woods)

As a participant in the Mexican wolf SSP, the Zoo is working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Mexican Wolf Recovery Program to reintroduce wolves in Arizona and New Mexico.



#### 3) Blue and Gold Macaw (Wings of the World)

The Zoo is spearheading the reintroduction of blue and gold macaws to Trinidad, where they had been wiped out due to habitat loss and the pet trade. Community involvement and education are key components of the program's success.

#### 4) Indian Rhino (Flamingo Cove)

Natural breeding of Indian rhinos in captivity has proved difficult. As part of the Indian rhino SSP, CREW scientists are developing an artificial insemination procedure to assist breeding.



**5) Florida Manatee (Manatee Springs)**

As a partner with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Manatee Rescue, Rehabilitation, and Release program, the Zoo provides rehabilitation for manatees that require long-term care due to an injury or illness.



**6) Cheetah (Tiger Canyon)**

The Zoo is helping the cheetah win the race for survival. Raising awareness through the Cat Ambassador Program, partnering with the Cheetah Conservation Fund to conserve cheetahs in the wild, and participating in the Cheetah SSP as a regional breeding center are just a few ways the Zoo works to protect cheetahs.

**7) Brazilian Ocelot (Cat House)**

Supporting the Brazilian ocelot SSP, the Zoo is a member of the Brazilian Ocelot Consortium (BOC). The aim of the BOC is to establish a captive population in U.S. zoos as well as to educate the public and restore habitat in Brazil. To this purpose, CREW scientists have made great strides in developing assisted reproductive techniques such as in vitro fertilization and embryo transfer.

**8) Pallas' Cat (Cat House)**

CREW research has determined that Pallas' cats have a seasonal breeding cycle based on light exposure and are susceptible to the *Toxoplasma* parasite as kittens. This knowledge has improved reproductive success for the Pallas' cat SSP.



**9) Western Lowland Gorilla (Gorilla World)**

As part of the gorilla SSP, the Zoo is one of the top breeders of the western lowland gorilla in the world with more than 45 births. The Zoo also supports the Mbeli Bai Study, which investigates western lowland gorilla ecology in the Republic of Congo.

**10) Sumatran Rhino (Wildlife Canyon)**

As part of the Sumatran rhino SSP, the Zoo is leading efforts to save the rhino. Breakthrough research at the CREW resulted in the first Sumatran rhino calf bred and born in captivity in over a century, and two more calves have been born since. The Zoo also supports Rhino Protection Units that patrol the forests in Malaysia to combat poaching.

