

Dr. William F. Swanson

Director, Animal Research

Dr. William F. Swanson is Director of Animal Research at the Center for Conservation and Research of Endangered Wildlife (CREW), based at the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden. As one of the world's experts on cat reproduction, Bill Swanson provides supervision and advice to staff working in the Animal Conservation Division of CREW, while continuing with his own groundbreaking research on small cat species.



His educational background includes a B.S. in Zoology from the University of Texas, a D.V.M. from Texas A&M University and a Ph.D. in Animal Science from Louisiana State University. Following graduate school, Dr. Swanson completed a two-year post-doctoral fellowship at the Smithsonian's National Zoological Park in Washington, D.C. and was employed for three years as a gamete biologist at the National Zoo's Conservation & Research Center. On August 1, 1997, he assumed his current position at the Cincinnati Zoo. For the past eleven years, his research efforts have been focused primarily on investigating the reproductive physiology of domestic cats and endangered wild cat species.

“My passion is the conservation of the world's small-sized felids, an incredibly diverse group of species that have been horribly neglected in most science and conservation circles,” Dr. Swanson says. “I believe that the research that we conduct at CREW and our training programs for scientific colleagues in developing countries, where many of these small cats are found, are critically important if these species are to survive into the future.”

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