

Committee for Population Management

Jenny Gray

Aim: The WAZA Committee for Population Management (CPM) was established to advance relationships and collaborations in professionally managing species in zoos and aquariums globally.

Members: The Chairman (appointed by the President of WAZA), national and regional association members of WAZA and representation from the WAZA Executive Office, International Species Information System (ISIS), International Zoo Yearbook Office at the Zoological Society of London, IUCN SSC Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG) and Chairman of the WAZA Conservation & Sustainability Committee.

Chairman: Jenny Gray, CEO Zoos Victoria

Vice Chairmen: Candice Dorsey (AZA), Chris Hibbard (ZAA), Danny de Man (EAZA)

Key activities: CPM coordinates and administers International Studbooks (ISBs) and Global Species Management Plans (GSMPs).

Charleston Meeting

CPM met in Charleston during the AZA Mid-Year Meeting in April 2013. CPM considered the results of a number of data collection projects and developed a priority list of interventions to advance the calibre of International Studbooks.

TAG (Taxon Advisory Group) Chairs Meeting

In June 2014, CPM will be hosting a gathering organised by EAZA of as many TAG chairs as we can. This will give us a unique opportunity to plan for the sustainability of collections and conservation breeding globally.

International Studbook Keeper Survey

In April 2013, CPM undertook a survey of International Studbook Keepers. An amazing 120 International Studbook Keepers responded; only six of you missing out. Results:

- In updating your data sets, 90% contact institutions directly while 52% contact regional species coordinators or ISIS.
- 44% do most of the studbook duties at work, the rest of you are working from home and after hours.
- 55% have their studbook duties included in their formal job assessment.
- A major challenge is getting updates from other regions.

We will be working on increasing awareness with the zoo and aquarium hierarchy of the importance of studbook work and increasing recognitions for studbook keepers.

Role of Regional Associations

Regional associations place great value in the importance of International Studbooks as a tool to consider strategic planning options that support program sustainability. Regional associations understand that the quality of an International Studbook depends on the ability to gather information from multiple regions and give their commitment to help facilitate communications between International Studbook Keepers and individual regional efforts. Our goal is to ensure that you receive timely

responses and can bridge the diversity of culture and language that make up our WAZA community.

PMx Quality Assessment of International Studbooks

The Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute, in collaboration with ISIS, has developed a module in PMx to assess the quality of your studbook. To use this module simply update your version of PMx.

International Studbooks with the fewest data quality issues are those for the Congo peafowl, okapi, Pallas cat and western lowland gorilla. In terms of demographic and genetic status issues, 16 and eight species, respectively, are doing particularly well. Congratulations to these International Studbook Keepers.

Cleaning up data: Your region is tasked to work with you in cleaning up data and ensuring your International Studbook is as good as it can be. Please contact your regional representative on CPM to work on the data clean-up. We know that some studbooks are blessed with the good fortune of documenting a long-lived, well-documented population with lots of founders. However, the real gains will be working with the 'difficult' populations and building success.

ISIS Developments

In coming months ISIS is going to make all our lives a bit easier with a news feed that will tell you when any changes to your studbook species are entered into ISIS.

CPM Regional Contacts & Email

AZA (North America) Candice Dorsey, cdorsey@aza.org

EAZA (Europe), Danny de Man danny.de.man@eaza.net

JAZA (Japan), Kanako Tomisawa, kanako@jaza.jp

ZAA (Australasia) Claire Ford, claire@zooaquarium.org.au

If you would like to get these attractively brought out briefs regularly sent to your email, contact Jenny Gray JGray@zoo.org.au

