

American Association of Zoo Keepers (AAZK)

Representative: Patty Pearthree

Interests

The American Association of Zoo Keepers (AAZK) is interested in providing financial support to Ujung Kulon in order to allow for the protection of Javan rhinos in the wild. We rely on the staff of Ujung Kulon and Adopt-A-Park Program to inform us of the priority needs at the park and then we cover as many of these needs as our funds allow.

Objectives

AAZK strives to have 100% of monies raised through BFR (Bowling For Rhinos) used directly in the field on top priority projects that save rhinos and their habitat.

Intentions

This is a long term commitment that we intend to support as long as the funds are still needed and used properly.

Activities

AAZK began raising funds to support Ujung Kulon in 1994. \$5,000 US was sent to Ujung Kulon in 1994, \$6,475 in 1995, \$20,600 in 1996 and \$49,250 in 1997. This was a total of \$81,325 US funds.

These funds have been used to:

- * Purchase hand held radios for park guards (1994 funds)
- * Paid for a well, pump and water tower at the Karangranjang guard post (1995 funds)
- * Completion of a new patrol boat (1996 funds)
- * Plans are being finalized for the use of 1997 funds but part of these funds will be used to purchase more radios.

Resources (financial / technical)

AAZK raises funds through a National "Bowl-a-thon" held in 50-60 locations throughout the US and Canada March- July of each year. This raises \$100-150,000 annually. AAZK supports 3 parks. The first \$100,000 goes to the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy in Kenya. Any amount raised above \$100,000 each year is split between Ujung Kulon and Bukit Barisan Selatan National Park in Sumatra (through the IRF). Funds are raised during one season and then are sent to respective locations during the following year. This means funds raised during the 1997 Bowl-a-thon may not be distributed to Ujung Kulon and Bukit Barisan until as late as March of 1998.

AAZK can provide parks with personnel to care for rhino in semi- captive situations if the need arises.

Needs

AAZK has signed Memorandums of Understanding with The Adopt-A-Park Program. We provide financial assistance as long as AAZK is provided with the proof that these funds are being spent as specified. AAZK would like to be provided with slides to show progress of projects to the Association at National meetings held each September / October.