Reproductive success among SSP herds has reached the capacity of some of the participating zoos. Transfers of animals to some of the more recently constituted breeding sites, such as Calgary, Front Royal, and Canyon Colorado, provides a temporary solution. Several institutions not currently housing Przewalski's horses have expressed interest in acquiring the species and, with the current population increase, it is likely that additional facilities will be receiving horses in the future.

Genetic and demographic issues concerning the management of the growing population have not been able to be adequately discussed in the limited time available to the members of the Propagation Group in the meetings scheduled prior to the AAZPA Annual Conferences. This year, the Asian Wild Horse Propagation Group will meet 3 days prior to the opening of the Annual Conference, on September 17, in order to have a full day for going over the institution-by-institution and animal-by-animal recommendations.

The Chicago Zoological Society has received 4 young stallions from the Minnesota Zoo, and they will soon be transferred from Brookfield Zoo to the Bell Ranch in northeastern New Mexico. A stallion-holding facility is being constructed there, and behavioral and ecological monitoring research activities will be supervised by Chicago Zoological Society staff.

In order to manage present and future inbreeding, as well as to increase the number of genetically effective males, a number of stallion transfers will be initiated in the near future. These transfers are likely to include transfers of males between SSP Participating Institutions, and between the SSP and non-SSP institutions (e.g., in Europe and Asia). Transfer of several mares will also be required in order to fulfill breeding loan obligations and increase the size of mare bands in some institutions.

Research activities have been undertaken in support of the SSP goals for this species by a number of investigators. Analysis of the Studbook of Equus przewalskii (one of the oldest studbooks in existence) is an ongoing exercise that is helping to identify the most useful computational approaches for monitoring the residual genetic variability possessed by animals in a captive breeding program. Analysis of blood types and protein electrophoretic markers for nearly 100 Przewalski's horses, most of which are in the SSP population, has been recently published (J. Hered. 78: 75-80, 1987).

Propagation Group

Oliver Ryder, San Diego Zoo - Species Coordinator

John Carnio, Metro Toronto Zoo
Michael Crotty, Los Angeles Zoo
Gary Clarke, Topeka Zoo
James Doherty, New York Zool. Park
Susan Hassad, Canyon Colorado Equid Sanct.
Heinz Heck, Catskill Game Farm
Nick Reindl, Minnesota Zoo
Ed Schmitt, Chicago Zool. Park
Greg Tarry, Calgary Zoo
Christen Wemmer, National Zoo
Charles Wilson, Memphis Zoo
John Wortman, Denver Zoo

Ex Officio Members

Dr. Jiri Volf, Prague Zoo-International Studbook Keeper
Dr. Emil Dolensek, New York Zoological Park

(O. Ryder, Ph.D.)

SUMATRAN RHINOCEROS

After several years of intensive negotiations, the Sumatran Rhino Trust has signed a 3-year agreement with the Indonesian government to implement a field operation and conservation project ultimately designed to establish Sumatran rhinos in a captive breeding program.

The agreement provides for an exchange of technical expertise and assistance for the captive breeding program in Indonesia, as well as the capture of 5 pairs of rhino to be brought to North America and 2 pairs to be placed in Indonesian zoos. The 5 pairs of rhino will be placed in a coordinated program involving the Cincinnati Zoological Society, the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association, the Miami Metrozoo Zoological Society, the New York Zoological Society, and the San Diego Zoological Society. The project will be handled in concert with the British program currently under implementation by the Howletts-Port Lympne Zoos.

The Indonesian operation will be managed by Francesco Nardelli for the Sumatran Rhino Trust, with the field operation managed by Anthony Parkinson. To this staff, we are pleased to announce that we are adding Dr. Ed Ramsay. In addition, the project will be coordinated through the IUCN Asian Rhino Specialist Group headed by Mohd. Khan, Chief of the Wildlife Department of Malaysia. The Malaysian government has also committed a pair of Sumatran rhinos from Peninsular Malaysia to be sent at a future date to add to the North American population. The Malaysia Wildlife Department is continuing a very extensive trapping program to add to their captive population.

In the captive program, presently, there are 1.4 rhinos located in the Malacca Zoo in Peninsular Malaysia, as well as a single female in the compound at Sungai Dusun. Howlett's has a single male in England, and the zoo in Jakarta has a pair. There is also a male in the field compound in Sumatra. One of the females captured in Peninsular Malaysia was pregnant and had a female offspring. Both mother and baby appear to be doing extremely well. All the activity has provided for better breeding potential in Jakarta and Malacca, as virtually all of the animals captured in Peninsular Malaysia were females, while those captured in Sumatra have been predominantly males. A trade was instituted between Malaysia and Indonesia providing an Indonesian male rhino for the Malacca Zoo, and a female from Malaysia was transferred to Jakarta.

It is hoped that the Sumatran rhino populations in captivity will eventually be based on 2 pairs in England, 6 pairs in North America, 4 pairs in Indonesia and at least 6 pairs in Peninsular Malaysia. The entire population will be managed on an international basis under the auspices of an AAZPA/SSP Program, as well as the IUCN SSC Asian Rhino and Captive Breeding Specialist Groups.

The Sumatran Rhino Trust project is a classic example of cooperation between North American zoos and countries of origin of endangered wildlife.

Propagation Group

Warren Thomas, Los Angeles Zoo - Species Coordinator

Wilbur Amand, Philadelphia Zoo
Doug Myers, San Diego Zoo & WAP
Bill Conway, New York Zool. Park
Ed Maruska, Cincinnati Zoo
George Rabb, Chicago Zool. Park
Michael Robinson, National Zoo
Ed Schmitt, AAZPA
Bill Zeigler, Miami Metrozoo

Special Adviser

Tom Foose, AAZPA Conservation Coordinator

(W. Thomas, DVM)

LION-TAILED MACAQUE

The last full meeting of the Lion-Tailed Macaque SSP Propagation Group was held at the AAZPA Annual Conference in Minneapolis in September of 1986. At that meeting, several projects were proposed to investigate methods of husbandry management which would be of assistance in the establishment of a masterplan for this species.