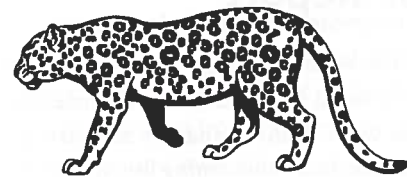


population designation relaxes the need to place primary emphasis on producing offspring based solely upon the genetic needs of the population.

Currently, the SSP is in the process of forming a research council to address issues in a variety of disciplines. In addition, a management group election will be held in the near future. A master planning session will then take place to establish a comprehensive research program that incorporates all institutions involved in the clouded leopard program. *Norah Fletchall, Clouded Leopard SSP Coordinator, John Ball Zoological Garden*



Tree Kangaroo Husbandry - Part One Videotape Now Available

A copy of the Tree Kangaroo SSP's (TK-SSP) keeper training videotape entitled "Tree Kangaroo Husbandry - part one" was recently mailed to all TK-SSP institutional representatives. This videotape is the first of a series being produced by the TK-SSP and covers the subjects of identification, housing, nutrition, health and shipping. The cover letter accompanying the videotape requested that it be viewed by everyone involved with the captive management of tree kangaroos.

Part two, "Behavior and Reproduction" and part three, "Joe Development" are currently in production. Until part two is completed, a "rough edit" on the subject of

pouch checking is available for short-term loan.

Copies of part one are available at a cost of \$15. Please make checks payable to the TK-SSP Husbandry Videotape Project and mail to the attention of Judie Steenberg, Woodland Park Zoo, 5500 Phinney Ave. North, Seattle, WA 98103.

Cincinnati Zoo's Sumatran Rhino is Pregnant

The Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden is proud to announce the pregnancy of its female Sumatran rhinoceros, Emi. This is the most outstanding event in the history of the Cincinnati Zoo and the most significant breeding of any large mammal in our century. There has not been a Sumatran rhino bred and born in captivity since a reported occurrence in 1889 in the

Calcutta Zoo (an occurrence that was the first rhino birth of any species to take place in captivity). The Sumatran rhino has become the most critically endangered of all rhino species, and even possible of all megavertebrates on earth.

Home to the only three Sumatran rhinos outside their native Southeast Asia, the Cincinnati Zoo has documented breeding activity resulting in the first confirmed pregnancy of a captive-bred Sumatran rhino in 108 years. Area Supervisor Steve Romo and Zoo Veterinarian Dr. Mark Campbell have been working with the diet and husbandry of these very valuable animals for the past 7 1/2 years in the hopes that mating would take place. However, as can be the case with larger captive animals, aggressive behavior can occur when male and female rhinos are introduced to each other for mating. If the female is not receptive, this aggressiveness could pose a threat to her well-being. This can be avoided if the female is only introduced to the male during estrus, when she is most likely to be receptive.

Detecting estrus in a Sumatran rhino is very difficult. In rhinos, it only lasts about 24 hours, compared with several days for horses, cats and dogs. With the help of Dr. Terri Roth and her CREW staff, a new ultrasound machine was used to visualize Emi's ovaries. By performing the rectal ultrasound procedure daily, CREW scientists watched as the follicles grew and ovulated, thus confirming that the female was showing reproductive activity.

Emi was then introduced to Ipuh, the Zoo's male Sumatran. Breeding activity was noted on two occasions and as a result, Emi has become pregnant. Because very little is known about the gestation period of these animals, tentative due date is thought to be January or February 1999.

The most primitive of all rhinoceros species, the Sumatran rhino is related to the woolly rhino that lived during the last Ice Age. Unfortunately, numbers have declined at least 50% in the last 10 years. With less than 400 Sumatran rhinos remaining in the

wild (in about 65 isolated pockets throughout Asia) and only 18 in captivity, the future of this animal is very bleak. Loss of habitat is a significant cause, but the poaching of the rhino, and especially the Sumatran, for its horn(s) has become the major problem. In the far east, people believe rhino horns have medicinal properties and in North Yemen, for example, ceremonial knives with handles made of rhino horn are seen to be a symbol of status and riches. In fact, on the Black Market, rhino horn has become more valuable per kilogram than gold. So in countries where weapons are easy to come by and poverty is commonplace, poaching one rhino for its horn can mean a family's survival for an entire year.

Because the few animals left in the wild are spread over such a large area, the groups are very small and must be closely managed so that they do not become inbred and die off. And the small captive population is closely managed as well, to help maintain gene pool diversity.

Thus, the importance of a Sumatran rhino calf is threefold. Captive breeding can help maintain diversity in the gene pool and provides a reservoir of new animals that could possibly be reintroduced into the wild. Second, this calf is the product of long and intensive

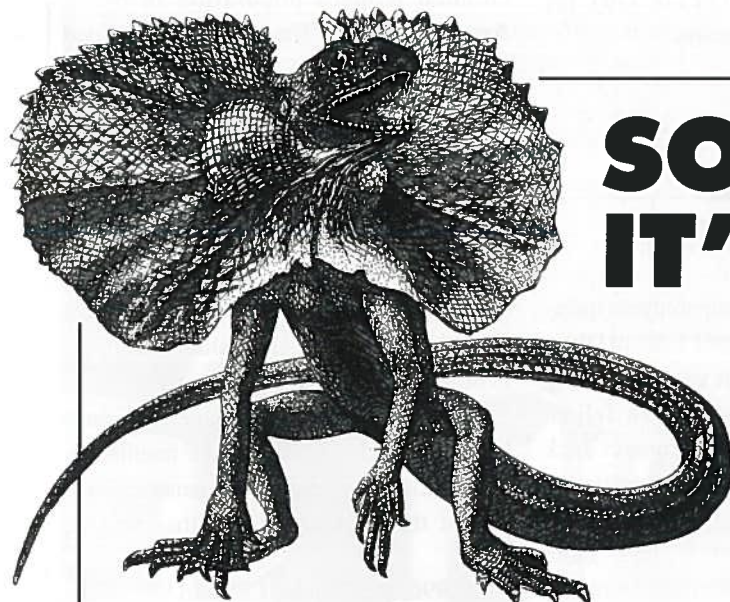
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management and research efforts, resulting in new knowledge that will hopefully contribute to the breeding of other rhinos in captivity, as well as help managers of wild populations. And finally, having a baby Sumatran rhino on exhibit at the Cincinnati Zoo will help us to educate all levels of society on the plight of this wonderful creature and hopefully attract support of programs to ensure its future in the wild.

have been added to the listing. A copy of this updated document is available to any readers with internet access. Due to the document's large size, it is only available by e-mail (as an attached file). Because this is a "living" document, updates, improvements and corrections are welcome. Contact Alan Shoemaker, Riverbanks Zoological Park, e-mail: ashoe@scsn.net.

Updated List of Animal Dealers Available

Five years ago a list of animal dealers and brokers commonly encountered by studbook keepers was prepared for the AZA Conservation Academy. A printed copy is included in the workbook that is distributed to all students in the studbook course. With the help of ISIS, mnemonics

Lion SSP Management Group Elected

The Lion SSP recently held a management group election. The results of that election along with the date of the term expiration are as follows:

Name	Institution	Term
Jack Grisham	Oklahoma City Zoo	2000
Greta McMillan	Knoxville Zoo	2000

Randy Rieches	San Diego WAP	2000
Jim Doherty	Bronx Zoo	1999
Debbie Olson	Indianapolis Zoo	1999
Alan Shoemaker	Riverbanks Zoo	1999
Steve Bircher	St. Louis Zoo	1998
Joe Christman	Disney's Animal Kingdom	1998
Daniel Hunt	Columbus Zoo	1998

Spectacled Bear SSP Management Group Elected

The Spectacled Bear SSP recently held a management group election. The results of that election along with the date of the term expiration are as follows:

Name	Institution	Term
Mike Flint	Reid Park Zoo	2000

Mark Reed	Sedgwick County Zoo	2000
Diana Weinhardt	Houston Zoo	2000
Mike Dee	Los Angeles Zoo	1999
Don Kuenzer	Cleveland Zoo	1999
Mike Sulak	San Francisco Zoo	1999
Donald Goff	Beardsley Zoo	1998
Gail Karr	Memphis Zoo & Aquarium	1998
Alan Shoemaker	Riverbanks Zoo	1998

White Rhinoceros SSP Management Group Elected

The White Rhinoceros SSP recently held a management group election. The results

of that election along with the date of the term expiration are as follows:

Name	Institution	Term
Evan Blumer	The Wilds	2000
Steve Shurter	White Oak Cons. Center	2000
Bruce Williams	Fossil Rim Wildlife Center	2000
William Foster	Louisville Zoo	1999
Larry Kilmar	Zool. Society of San Diego	1999
Diana Weinhardt	Houston Zoo	1999
Don Housman	McCombs Wildlife Ranch	1998
Ron Morris	North Carolina Zoo	1998
Jack Mortenson	Wildlife Safari	1998

Call for Articles

We are currently putting together the next issue of the Cheetah Newsletter published by Helena Fitch-Snyder for the Cheetah SSP. We are looking for articles on Cheetahs, new facilities, their management, research and veterinary concerns/problems. If you would like to submit an article on your Cheetah program, please send the article to:

Helena Fitch-Snyder, CRES, San Diego Zoo, P.O. Box 551, San Diego, CA 91221 or fax (619) 557-3959

We are looking forward to your submissions for the Newsletter. **The deadline for submissions is December 30, 1997.** Jack Grisham, *Species Coordinator, Cheetah SSP.*

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