exhibit. Native to Holland, the Dutch Belted cow, a dairy breed, was once a common sight on estates of 17th-century nobility. Adults stand about 4 feet high and weigh an average of 930 pounds, and are known for their black coat with a white band around the middle. P.T. Barnum imported the breed to the United States, which today serves as the only source of pure Dutch Belted genetics in the world. The American Livestock Breeds Conservancy lists these cattle as a critically rare breed, and there are currently only about 200 in the United States.

RHINO BIRTH IN COLUMBUS

The Columbus Zoo announced the birth of a male Eastern black rhinoceros on 2 January 2002. He and his 13-year-old mother Kulinda are on exhibit at the Zoo's Pachyderm Building. Kulinda is on loan from the Cincinnati Zoo and has been part of the Zoo's animal collection since April 1989. The infant's sire is Kijito, an eight-year-old rhino on loan since 1999 from the Chicago Zoological Park. The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium has housed rhinos since the 1940s and has been active in the AZA Black Rhinoceros Species Survival Plan (SSP) since its inception. The black rhino has suffered the greatest rate of decline of all rhino species, but is slowly recovering as a result of intense conservation efforts. Since 1 January 2000, there have been nine (4.5) captive births of the Eastern black rhino.

© Columbus Zoo

MILWAUKEE ANNOUNCES COTINGA BIRTH

© Milwaukee County Zoo

The Milwaukee County Zoo has bred and fledged a second spangled cotinga, an exotic rainforest bird species rare in zoo collections. The Zoo was the first in North America to breed this species. The new female chick, who joins a male born in April 2001, hatched on 22 August 2001 and was approximately four weeks old at fledging. The parents, a wild-caught pair from Surinam, have been at the Zoo since 1997 and 1998. Both chicks will be paired with unrelated individuals to further the captive breeding program for this species. Only eight North American zoos currently hold cotingas, whose natural habitat in the South American rainforest canopy is being threatened by human expansion.

SWIFT FOX RESTORATION IN CANADA

Over the past 19 years, Calgary Zoo has worked with a team of dedicated partners to bring the swift fox (*Vulpes velox*) back to Canadian prairies after the species was extirpated from Canada and Montana in the 1930s. Over the 2000-2001 winter, the Calgary Zoo coordinated and conducted the most extensive swift fox census to date covering nearly 18,000 square kilometers of prairie in Canada and Montana. The findings show a three-fold increase in the swift fox population in areas surveyed in the last census (1996-97) and a three-fold increase in the known distribution of swift foxes, which represents a statistically significant increase in population size. The expansion has occurred through recruitment of wild young, as 98.6% of the counted foxes were wild born. The most recent census also found a significant shift from a male-biased population to a female-biased population. Thus, the population increase is complimented by a per capita increase in reproductive potential. Census results show that the Canadian population has increased substantially over the past four years without supplementation from swift fox releases and that the Montana population, which drew its original founders from Canadian releases, is regionally well established. These encouraging findings suggest this may be the most successful reintroduction of a nationally extinct canid in the world.

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Despite increasing population numbers, the swift fox remains highly endangered on the Canadian prairies. Future work includes determining disease threats to Canadian swift foxes and sympatric canids, genetic analyses addressing genetic connectivity within the population, and a population viability analysis. For a printed version of the Canadian swift fox census findings, please contact *tiand@calgaryzoo.ab.ca*, or visit *www3.gov.ab.ca/srd/fw/riskspecies/*.

ENDEMIC ANGELFISH REARING IN HAWAII

The Waikiki Aquarium has succeeded in rearing the Hawaiian endemic masked angelfish (*Genicanthus personatus*) for the first time. Aquarium biologist Karen Brittain made a breakthrough when she discovered a new, living food source to sustain the larval angelfishes. The first ever aquarium-bred masked angelfish began metamorphosis after over 75 days in its planktonic larval stage.

© Waikiki Aquarium

The masked angelfish is native to the deeper reef slopes of the remote Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. As in most other angelfish, the parental masked angelfish collected at Midway Island in 1993 were all female. Spawning research on this species began when one of