



Fundamental Welfare Requirements

*for Wild Animals under Human
Care*

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Scope

Cognition is the mental process of perception, processing information and learning (Lee et al, 2008; Proctor, 2012) and is linked, but not inseparably, to sentience capacity which is the ability to feel and experience emotions, both positive and negative (Boyle, 2009; Proctor 2012). Therefore, it has been suggested that cognitive ability should not be the sole determinant of the degree of welfare protection an animal is afforded (Proctor, 2012). Yet, understanding an individual's cognitive capacities, along with knowledge of the animal's different emotional states, can help assess its welfare (Lee et al, 2008) and increasing our knowledge of sentience in the different species is critical for improving general attitudes towards animal welfare and how animals are treated and looked after (Proctor, 2012). Improved awareness to and appreciation of the range of emotions the different species of animals may experience and their sentience is important to drive advances in husbandry and animal management techniques in order to ensure good animal welfare.

Vertebrate species are generally accepted as sentient beings (Boyle, 2009; Proctor 2012) and this is reflected in the level of welfare protection afforded to them through current legislation, although specific invertebrate species have also been given legal protection in some countries. For example, cephalopods have been afforded legal welfare protection in certain countries, largely as a result of their advanced cognitive abilities (Horvath et al, 2013). Recent research that examined similarities in the behaviours between invertebrates and vertebrates suggests that some invertebrates have the capacity for nociception, and also may be able to experience the emotion of pain, as well as stress, and if an animal can experience pain and stress, which are negative experiences, then it may too have the ability to suffer (Horvath et al, 2013). Some invertebrates, such as bees and octopuses, may also display a level of cognitive ability (Horvath et al, 2013). Therefore, increasing the knowledge and understanding of pain perception, sentience and cognition in the many different species of invertebrates, as well as vertebrates, is important to further reinforce the need to ensure that husbandry provisions are made for all captive animals that provide for appropriate biological and physical function and also sufficiently promote positive experiences and minimise negative states, which will ultimately improve and support their good welfare.

The Five Freedoms (FAWC 1979) are internationally well-known. They act as a foundation, defining and underpinning fundamental animal welfare standards and considerations and were originally produced by the UK Farm Animal Welfare Council following the 1965 UK Report of the Technical Committee to enquire into the welfare of animals kept under intensive livestock husbandry systems, to assess welfare in farming situations. However, they can be applied to animals in other circumstances and are a useful method of evaluating animal welfare. The Five Freedoms are:

- Freedom from hunger and thirst
- Freedom from discomfort
- Freedom from pain, injury or disease
- Freedom to express normal behaviour
- Freedom from fear and distress

Yet, whilst past focuses may have been on negative experiences and minimising distress, the advancement of recent scientific concepts has led to the consideration of positive factors and the development of various positive welfare measures, encouraging the management of animals to promote positive experiences and mental states, whilst also ensuring the provision of their basic husbandry needs, in order to provide for good welfare (Green and Mellor, 2011; Maple and Perdue, 2013; Mellor, 2013). The model of the Five Domains of Potential Welfare Compromise (the 'Five Domains'), which has evolved since its original development (Mellor and Reid 1994, cited in Mellor, 2013, p5), illustrates how compromises in an animal's *nutrition, environment, health and behaviour* can all impact upon its *mental state* and hence how each of these *five domains* may overlap and have combined effects on the overall welfare status of an individual animal (Mellor, 2013). The 'Five Domains' concept thus serves to offer a fresh, useful framework for the broad assessment of animal welfare, addressing the need to consider physiological and behavioural indicators of animal well-being, in association with the type of mental experiences an animal may have (Mellor, 2013; Portas, 2013).

In the Five Domains model, the four physical or functional domains (nutrition, environment, health and behaviour) are concerned with biological function, or physical well-being, whereas the fifth domain, the mental state, considers the 'affective state' or psychological well-being, and represents the animal's overall subjective feelings and experiences and hence this fifth domain is a key element of animal welfare. An animal may experience positive or negative emotional states and it is the balance between these subjective experiences that can influence an individual animal's 'quality of life' (Green and Mellor, 2011; Mellor 2013), with the phrase 'quality of life' generally being considered synonymously with 'animal welfare status' (Mellor and Stafford, 2008). A positive affective state arising from the presence of positive experiences and sensations, with the avoidance of, or minimal, negative experiences, is therefore important to ensure good animal welfare and this can be achieved when the physical (nutritional, environmental, health and behavioural) as well as psychological needs are addressed (Green and Mellor, 2011; Mellor, 2011; Mellor 2013; Portas 2013). However, an individual's mental state and hence its welfare can vary from one point in time to the next, aligned with the different sensations it may experience during its lifetime, which may be positive or negative, can change (Mellor 2013; Portas 2013). Thus, it is the complex interactions between each of the five domains that, in combination, may determine an animal's overall welfare status, as illustrated by the 'Five Domains' model (Figure 1).

With this in mind, implementing management techniques and standards that promote positive physical and mental health for every species accommodated within zoological institutions, whilst also minimising unpleasant experiences for the animal, is fundamental to the care of wild animals in captivity. This can be accomplished by, for example, providing appropriate nutrition to meet the animal's biological needs which is presented in a manner to satisfy its feeding behavioural requirements, the provision of environmental choices, access to conspecifics (as appropriate) and access to a complex, variable and stimulating environment, in addition to the continued provision of high standards of both husbandry and veterinary care. In some countries animal welfare legislation is developing and evolving to address the concept of a 'duty of care' to animals, ensuring people who are responsible for animals take appropriate steps to meet the animals' needs and requirements and promote good welfare through positive animal management.

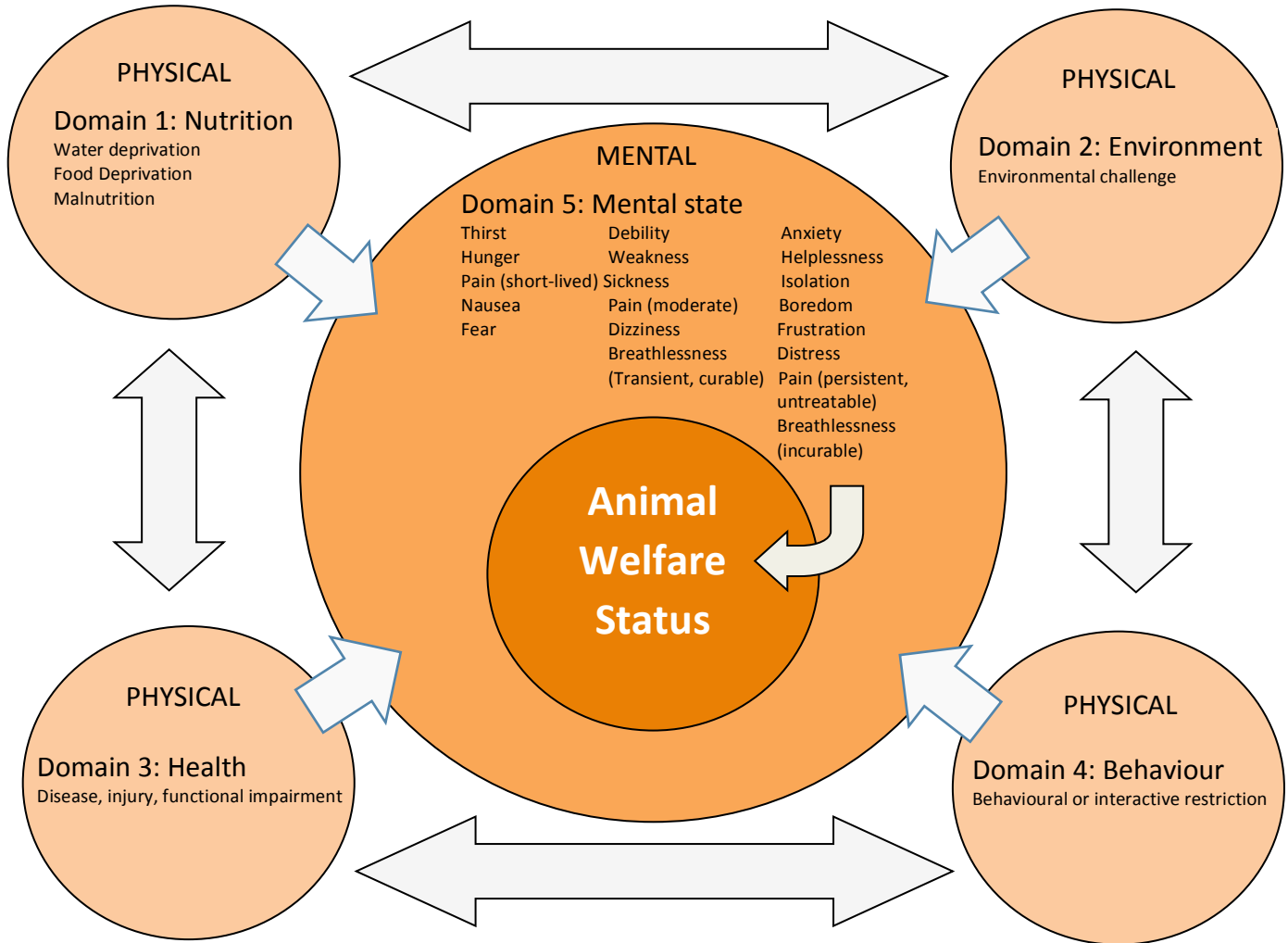


Figure 1: The Five Domains of potential welfare compromise which illustrate that the overall welfare status of an animal arises as a result of combined interactions between the animal's environment, its nutrition, its health status and its behavioural and mental status. (Interpreted and adapted from Mellor et al 2009 and Mellor, 2013).

This document specifies the primary welfare requirements for the maintenance of wild animals dependent upon the provision of daily care by humans and the format adopted relates to the concept of the 'Five Domains'. Listed statements are divided into "Requirements" and "Recommendations". Requirements are regarded as being mandatory and fundamental to animal wellbeing and clarify how something should be undertaken or provided. The recommendations build upon the requirements and provide additional information relevant to the requirements. Further supporting information describing the necessity for the listed requirements is provided.

This document aims to encourage the implementation of good standards of husbandry and management in order to safeguard the welfare of captive wild animals under human care. Specific requirements for certain taxonomic families will complement these fundamental husbandry requirements, along with associated supporting information.

Definitions and abbreviations

NOTE: The meaning of definitions is determined by context

acceptable

acceptable in terms of international norms

adequate

sufficient and suitable for the intended purpose

animal

any mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian, fish, invertebrate or other sentient organism that is not a plant or a fungus

aquaculture

the managed production either through intervention in the breeding process, or through stocking, feeding or predator control programmes, of aquatic animals

barrier

structure built to contain or prevent passage

- **containment barrier**
the primary barrier that in its effect confines the animal
- **safety barrier**
the barrier designed to keep humans at a safe distance from the animal enclosure and to prevent human / animal conflict

behavioural enrichment

is a concept which describes how the behavioural repertoires of animals under human care can be managed and enhanced for their wellbeing

biosecurity

is a means of reducing the risk of disease occurring or being transmitted to other animals

captivity

state wherein animals are kept in confinement by human beings, whereby the animals' day-to-day needs, welfare and wellbeing are subject to the provision of human intervention and care

cognition

the mental process of acquiring knowledge through the senses, experience, understanding and thought and which involves reasoning, perception, awareness, intuition and judgement.

commercial breeding centre

a facility where live animals are bred, produced or cultured for purely commercial purposes

commercial exhibit facility

a legal facility where living animals are exhibited to the public for exclusively commercial purposes

- **pet shop**

a mercantile facility for the retail sale of live animals and related goods or services

competent

capable of executing one's duties effectively

conspecific

an animal belonging to the same species as another

domesticated animal

an animal that has been genetically modified through selective breeding over many generations in order to serve various human objectives

domesticated pet

is a domesticated animal kept by humans for household/personal companionship and pleasure

environmental enrichment

is a concept which describes how the environments of animals under human care can be managed for their wellbeing

epidemiology

the investigation of disease as it affects groups of animals

exotic pet

an animal kept by humans that is not fully domesticated and that belongs to a species not indigenous to the geographical area where it is kept, but which is kept by humans for household/personal companionship and pleasure

euthanasia

the humane, painless and distress-free termination of an animal's life where it is considered to be in the best interest of the individual animal concerned, using a method which produces concurrent loss of consciousness and central nervous system functioning

feral animal

a domestic animal that is living in a wild state which has poor habituation to, and fear of, humans. Placing such an animal into a typical household situation would as such, have detrimental effects on its wellbeing.

justifiable

supportable by argument

longevity

the length or duration of life

management authority

Senior Personnel within the facility responsible for day-to-day management and administration

normal behaviour

behaviour that occurs at a frequency, duration and intensity within the range expressed by free-living wild conspecifics

private collection

a collection of animals without visiting public access, for the exclusive benefit to a private individual or individuals

rehabilitation centre

a permanently-sited facility without visiting public access, exclusively administered for the short term, temporary care of indigenous wild animals with the primary aim of their return to the wild

sanctuary

a permanently-sited facility exclusively administered for on-site, long term or lifelong, individual animal care. A sanctuary is a facility that rescues and provides care for animals that are in need of appropriate care, or have suffered abuse, injury or have been abandoned.

sentience

is the capacity to have subjective experiences and feel and perceive emotions such as pain and pleasure. It implies a level of conscious awareness and the ability to suffer.

species

a kind of animal that does not normally interbreed with individuals of another kind and includes any sub-species, cultivar, variety, geographic race, strain, hybrid or geographically separate population

specimen

any living or dead animal, egg, gamete, or propagules or part of an animal, capable of propagation or reproduction or in any way transferring genetic traits; any derivative of any animal

suffering

an adverse mental state that negatively affects the welfare status of an animal and is associated with negative experiences such as pain, distress, extreme boredom, injury and disease.

suitable

appropriate for the intended purpose

taming

this is a process which involves changing a wild animal's behaviour, but not its genetic characteristics. Taming is different from domestication, which is a process that changes the genetics of the animal over a long period of time by selective breeding. Tamed wild animals do not lose their innate wild characteristics.

technical

according to principle; formal rather than practical and relating to, or employing the methodology of science

veterinarian

any person legally registered as a veterinarian with the appropriate legislative body in the country within which the institution is located.

welfare

the welfare of an individual animal is “its state as regards its attempts to cope with its environment” (Broom 1986, cited in Broom 2007, p103); welfare concerns the state of the animal, not the husbandry practices used to manage the animal or the care it receives. The welfare status of an individual animal takes into account the different sensations or emotions experienced by the animal, whether they be positive or negative. Therefore, an animal’s welfare state will be good when it experiences positive emotions that may result when the animal is in good health, can comfortably and safely rest, play and readily express a range of normal behaviours, and if it is not experiencing negative or unpleasant feelings such as fear, frustration, pain or distress. It involves a human responsibility to provide appropriate housing, veterinary treatment, behavioural management, nutrition, disease management, responsible care and use, humane handling and, when necessary, euthanasia/humane killing.

wellbeing

a state of harmony between the animal’s physical and psychological functioning

wild animal

a species of animal not domesticated in terms of this document and which retains its wild traits

zoo/aquarium

a permanently-sited facility primarily open to and administered for the visiting public, where living animals are maintained under predominantly ex situ circumstances.

- **bird park**
a facility specialising in the public exhibition of live birds
- **reptile park**
a facility specialising in the public exhibition of live reptiles

zoonosis

a disease that is communicable between vertebrate animals and man. (Zoonoses – plural).

HUSBANDRY AND WELFARE

A positive mental state can occur when the animal's physical needs including nutritional, behavioural, health and environmental needs (i.e. the four physical domains) are met, resulting in a positive state of animal welfare. Therefore, safeguarding the welfare of animals is dependent upon adequately providing for an animal's essential needs, including the appropriate provision of food and water, the provision of an appropriate environment with suitable shelter and accommodation, the prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment of injury or ill health, the ability to display normal patterns of behaviour and movement, and the minimisation of negative experiences, as depicted by the Five Domains of Potential Welfare Compromise (Mellor, 2013), throughout the animal's lifetime. Furthermore, good animal husbandry depends upon reliable information and knowledge about animal needs, physiological, behavioural and psychological, which will vary between different species, in order to maintain good animal health and welfare; there is a critical need to know and understand the natural biology of each animal species and their fundamental physiological requirements during all stages of their life, growth and development, as well as their natural behaviours, so as to prevent the occurrence of conditions that may be detrimental to animal welfare.

Prior to the acquisition of new species, a management review must be undertaken to thoroughly assess the suitability of the institution's accommodation for each species and to consider the institution's ability to provide the fundamental and appropriate environments necessary to meet all of the specific species' physiological, behavioural and psychological needs.

Requirements

Considering the zoo's resources, only animals that can be comfortably and suitably housed throughout their lifetime at the zoo should be brought into the collection.

Animal overcrowding can cause stress. The number of animals kept at the zoo must not be greater than the capacity of the zoo.

Suitable housing for all animals must:

1. appropriately address the cognitive abilities of the animals,
2. allow the animals to behave and exercise normally,
3. protect their health and safety, and
4. offer an interesting and stimulating environment.

The animal housing provided and husbandry practices must be based on knowledge of the animal's biology and behaviour in the wild.

The requirements for each species must be considered separately and each animal should be considered individually as their individual needs may vary from others of its species.

Physical Components

The four physical domains emphasize how compromises in an animal's nutrition, environment, health and behaviour may impact upon an animal's biological function and hence physical wellbeing. However, it is important to highlight that a single domain should not be viewed independently of the other four domains, since each domain may impact upon one another and it is the combined effects of the four physical domains that influence the psychological wellbeing or mental state of the animal (fifth domain) which determine the overall welfare status.

When regarding the welfare of captive wild animals, it is important to address an animal's fundamental nutritional, environmental, health, behavioural and psychological requirements, thereby working to promote positive experiences, together with avoiding or minimising negative experiences (Green and Mellor, 2011; Mellor, 2011; Mellor, 2013); good welfare can be achieved by meeting the physical and psychological needs of an animal throughout its entire lifetime.

Domain I: Nutrition

Feeding

A critical basic requirement of all animals to protect their health and welfare is the need for appropriate food and water. An appropriate, nutritionally balanced diet necessary to maintain good health and vitality and which meets their biological requirements must be provided daily, along with appropriate access to suitable water (CAWC, 2003). Insufficient or inappropriate food may lead to hunger and predispose to disease and ill health, compromising welfare. Thirst is a motivation that can occur for a variety of different reasons, including ill health (pathological thirst) or lack of access to water, and it can be a form of suffering (Gregory, 2004). Welfare compromise can result following water deprivation, food deprivation, or malnutrition. Food deprivation, or dehydration from fluid deprivation, can result in emotional states such as hunger, thirst, or exhaustion, thereby causing negative experiences and an adverse welfare state.

Yet, challenges in meeting the needs of specific captive wild animals can arise due to lack of detailed knowledge of their species-specific biology including information about their essential nutritional requirements (Portas, 2013). The nutritional requirements of animals may not only vary between different species, but also between individuals within a species, taking into account age, physical activity, sex, size and body condition, as well as physiological, reproductive and overall health status. All of these factors should be considered, but particularly the body condition of the animals, when determining the level of feeding; obesity can adversely affect an animal's health, hence overfeeding should be avoided. The social structures of individual groups of animals must also be considered in relation to the manner of food and drinking water presentation, ensuring that all individuals can sufficiently access food and water; various feeding sites may be necessary to avoid potential problems associated with competition from other individuals within the group (EAZA, 2008; Rees, 2011). To maintain good health and welfare, dietary supplementation must be carried out in circumstances where the environment or diet does not provide the required essential nutritional elements. Supplements must be stored and handled appropriately.

Encouraging the management of animals to promote positive psychological states, as well as good physical health, is fundamental since these components have interrelated effects on the overall welfare status of an individual animal (Mellor, 2013). Therefore, providing appropriate food to meet the biological needs of the animal, as well as presenting it in a way that satisfies the animal's species-specific natural feeding behavioural requirements and motivations, is also an important component of zoo animal nutrition management. Where possible, food and water shall be offered to each species in a way that stimulates their natural behaviour patterns, for instance arboreal (tree-living) species should be presented food off the ground.

Furthermore, food related enrichment strategies form an important part of enrichment programs. Many species in the wild may spend a large proportion of their daytime activity foraging and searching for food, with various species having evolved specific skills for this purpose. Also, young animals may learn foraging behaviour from the adults (Rees, 2011). Therefore, appropriate food must be presented in a manner to encourage natural feeding behaviours, as well as increased activity. For example, scatter feeds can encourage natural foraging activities in a number of different species. By encouraging increased activity, it may also help to reduce the risk of obesity amongst captive wild animal species.

The feeding of live vertebrate prey is considered inappropriate (NAWAC, 2005; Rees, 2011). Any existing local legislation regarding this matter must be strictly adhered to. On the contrary, the appropriate provision of live insects, such as crickets, as food items is important for encouraging natural feeding behaviours in some insectivorous species, for example lizards.

To protect animal health, unregulated feeding of the animals by visitors must not take place. Animal food should not be sold to visitors to discourage public feeding of the animals. Where feeding of specific animal species by visitors, for example some domestic farm species housed in touch paddocks within zoological institutions, has been approved by the Management Authority, only suitable food provided by the institution should be used and the feeding controlled to prevent over-feeding (NAWAC, 2005; EAZA, 2008; CAZA, 2008a; PAAZAB, 2010). Such permitted animal feeding must be strictly monitored and regulated, with the food supplied by the zoo for visitor feeding forming part of the individual animal's daily dietary allowance. Visitor feeding must be regularly reviewed by the institution's ethics and welfare committee and Management Authority.

Requirements

Fresh, clean drinking water of sufficient quantity shall be available to all animals at all times and in an appropriate manner, which also minimises the risk of contamination.

An appropriate good quality, nutritionally balanced diet, must be fed in sufficient quantities to keep the animal in good health. The diet should be suitable for the animal's species, age, size, body condition, activity level, and reproductive and health status.

Appropriate dietary supplements shall be used where the food or the environment does not provide the required essential nutritional elements.

Veterinary or other specialist advice in all aspects of animal nutrition shall be obtained and followed.
<p>All individuals must have sufficient access to food and potable water.</p> <p>Food and drinking water must be provided in a way that is appropriate for the species and which prevents contamination, dominance or competition from other animals in the social group, and allows sufficient access to both for all of the animals.</p>
All diets must be documented and where appropriate monitored. Feeding records must be daily maintained and shall provide information on the diet, feeding frequency and food intake of individual animals.
<p>The rotation of feeding times, the frequency of daily feeds and the variety of food types fed must be appropriate for the species.</p> <p>Food and drinking water shall be presented in a way that meets the animals' specific natural feeding behaviours and motivations.</p> <p>Feeding methods must be balanced in relation to a routine feeding programme and as a method of environmental enrichment.</p>
Food items must be sourced appropriately, be of adequate quality and must not be contaminated by herbicides, pesticides, lead shot, infectious disease agents or other chemicals or impurities that may adversely affect the animal.
The feeding of live vertebrate prey is considered inappropriate.
Feeding methods shall be safe for animals and personnel.
Unregulated feeding of the animals by visitors shall not occur.

Recommendations

Regular reviews of all diets should take place to ensure the nutritional requirements for every animal are being met.

Changes in the diet should only occur following veterinary or nutritionist advice and should be introduced gradually.

Suitable feeding protocols should be in place in case hand-rearing becomes necessary.

In cold climates, fresh clean water should be provided in an appropriate way to prevent it from freezing.

In situations where the feeding of animals by visitors is considered appropriate by the Management Authority, only suitable and approved food should be used and the practice managed to prevent over-feeding.

Food Hygiene

Strict hygiene standards and practices must be observed when preparing and storing food items and rigorous personnel hygiene standards must be practiced when preparing food to avoid compromising the health of the animals as well as the staff. Food must also be stored appropriately and adequately protected from damp, deterioration and contamination by pests to help protect the physical health and hence welfare of the animals. Where commercial diets are used, the manufacturer's recommendations for shelf-life and storage conditions must be adhered to in order to ensure the quality and nutritional value of the diet (Flecknell, 2002).

Requirements

The preparation and storage of food must be carried out hygienically in a specific, separate area that is only used for this purpose.

In the dedicated storage areas food must be protected from damp and contamination by pests (eg insects, birds, rodents).

Perishable foods shall be kept refrigerated, unless they are brought fresh and given to the animals on the same day, and the manufacturer's recommendations for shelf-life and storage conditions of commercial diets must be followed.

Food and drink containers must not be used for any other purpose.

Toxic substances shall not be kept in food storage or food preparation areas.

Personnel shall keep strict standards of personal hygiene and must follow good food hygiene practice.

Food and drink, and feeding and drinking receptacles, will be placed in positions that minimize the risks of contamination from soiling by the animals themselves, or by wild birds, rodents or other pests.

Food, water and drinking receptacles, where used, shall be regularly cleaned and appropriately disinfected and shall not contain any chemicals or impurities that may adversely affect the animal.

Self-feeders, and automated watering systems where used, shall be inspected at least once daily to ensure that they are working effectively and are not contaminated. Any faults or defects must be rectified immediately and an effective backup system must be in place.

Uneaten food shall be regularly removed, as appropriate, to maintain hygiene and shall be disposed of appropriately.

Recommendations

Drinking water should be replaced daily.

Domain 2: Environment

Confinement in a captive environment imposes a number of restrictions on the animals being accommodated, and if the captive environment is inappropriate for the species and does not provide for the individual animal's basic biological and psychological needs and requirements, poor welfare will result. For example, when cold temperatures are prolonged or severe, discomfort, debilitation and suffering can occur; in situations when the environmental temperature falls below a species' lower critical temperature, cold stress and hypothermia will result, the adverse effects of which can be compounded by starvation (Gregory, 2004). Hyperthermia and heat stress can also cause suffering, the negative effects of which can be exacerbated by pain or dehydration (Gregory, 2004). Thus, the provision of appropriate, species-specific environmental conditions and suitable husbandry and management practices is fundamental to ensure physical wellbeing, as well as a positive mental state and therefore psychological wellbeing, ultimately contributing to a positive welfare state.

Enclosure and Environmental Design

Husbandry systems must be designed to provide species-specific appropriate enclosures and environments with a sufficient amount and complexity of space, proper facilities, appropriate social interactions, and they must give the animals the opportunity to carry out their full range of normal behaviours and movements, especially those behaviours with a strong internal motivation and hence 'need' for expression (CAWC, 2003). For example, some birds require perches and sufficient suitable space to fly, whilst arboreal animals need accommodation to allow their fundamental desire to climb and move about high above the ground to be fulfilled. Therefore, a good knowledge and understanding of different species' biology, environmental requirements, natural habitats and normal behaviours is essential to adequately meet all of the physical, psychological and social needs and requirements of animals' throughout their lifetime, whilst they are in captivity, in order to promote good animal welfare. A barren, restricted environment imposes an unrewarding lifestyle and may cause abnormalities in an animal's physical health and development, and have detrimental behavioural and psychological effects (UFAW, 1988). Hence, the provision of appropriate environmental enrichment in captive animal husbandry and management to increase behavioural diversity and promote positive psychological experiences throughout the animal's life, also plays a very important role in ensuring high welfare standards and in protecting animal well-being. (SEE DOMAIN FOUR – BEHAVIOUR; ENVIRONMENTAL ENRICHMENT AND STIMULATION).

General design:

The design of animal accommodation must primarily address the needs and requirements of the specific species to be accommodated, which, along with high standards of husbandry and management, is critical to adequately safeguard animal welfare; a positive psychological state can occur when the animal's physical needs (i.e. the four physical domains) are met, resulting in a positive state of welfare. Enclosures must be designed for comfort and security and must be well maintained to protect animals from injury. Veterinary consultation on enclosure design may be helpful to ensure that materials safe for the animals are used and that the enclosure structure and facilities will not only provide an appropriate environment for the species to be accommodated, but that they will also be conducive for carrying out any necessary veterinary and other management procedures safely and securely (DEFRA, 2008). The shape and design of all aspects of an enclosure should also prevent subordinates from becoming trapped by more dominant individuals in corners, shelter areas or dead ends and should provide for a suitable refuge area where the animals can rest appropriately, away from public view and, if necessary, away from their group mates (WSPA, 2005; Rees, 2011). Circular enclosures can prevent vulnerable individuals from becoming trapped in corners (Rees, 2011). Where appropriate, enclosure design should also enable reasonable precautions and protection from the effects of natural disasters; areas of accessible high ground should be included in regions prone to flooding and, in regions where it is appropriate, adequate fire breaks should be maintained (DLGRD, 2003a).

Safety:

In addition to the safety of the animals, the safety of the staff and visitors is important in the overall design of animal enclosures. All barriers must be appropriate for the species accommodated within the enclosure, taking into consideration the natural physical capabilities and behaviours of the animal species, providing safety and security for the animals. For example, for enclosures containing animals that dig, fences should be buried an appropriate depth into the ground. Enclosure perimeters should be designed and built to be strong and secure, they should be free from damage or defects, and be maintained in good condition. Trees within or near animal enclosures must be regularly inspected and appropriate action taken, as necessary, to prevent and deter animals from escaping. Moats, both wet and dry, must be wide enough to prevent animals crossing them, but must also be designed to offer a quick and easy exit should any animal fall into them. Dry moats should contain a suitable soft substrate to prevent injury and harm to any animal that falls into them (WSPA, 2005). Glass and transparent barriers enable the visitors to view the animals, but can also have a negative effect on animal welfare by reducing the air flow and ventilation to the enclosure, resulting in poor thermal and humidity environmental control (WSPA, 2005). Enclosure doors and gates should be locked, have a double-door entry system and must open inwards to prevent an animal escape. Enclosures housing potentially dangerous captive wild animals must have an appropriate and secure containment area, with a sliding door that can be operated from outside of the enclosure, in which the animals can be safely kept during routine husbandry, maintenance or veterinary procedures. A perimeter fence surrounding the institution's enclosures and grounds will improve site security; a perimeter fence may not only help to prevent unauthorised personnel entry, it may help to discourage feral animals to enter thereby improving biosecurity, and in the event of an animal escape, a perimeter fence may help confine escaped animals within the institution's grounds.

Flooring:

The type of flooring and substrate provided in animal enclosures has an important impact upon animal welfare. Flooring surfaces inappropriate for the species can result in discomfort and physical harm. Hard surfaces such as concrete can be cold in cool weather and hot in warm weather and can cause difficulties in thermal regulation for those species housed on them (WSPA, 2005). Hard concrete surfaces also do not allow for the expression of natural behaviours such as foraging or digging. Wire floors can cause pain and discomfort to the feet of animals and make the provision of appropriate bedding and suitable regulation of the thermal environment difficult. The characteristics of the substrate used should be such that it helps improve the welfare state of an animal. For example, deep sand floors in elephant houses provide the elephants with opportunities to dust bathe indoors and forage, whilst also offering a comfortable surface for resting (Rees, 2011).

Size:

Adequate space (vertical as well as horizontal space) should be provided for all animals to allow for the performance of normal behaviours and movement, whilst providing the animals with a sense of security, thus promoting positive behavioural and psychological health. An enclosure of appropriate size for the number and type of animals to be accommodated is important when housing social groups of animals; enclosures must be of a suitable size and shape to allow for the escape of individuals from any conflict or aggression shown to them by conspecifics (Le Neindre et al, 2004). Different species have different behavioural tendencies, as well as different territory sizes (that can vary with food availability), and therefore they can have quite different space requirements. In some species of carnivore which have large home ranges, inappropriate enclosure sizes have had detrimental effects on animal welfare, including the development of stereotypies and high infant mortality rates (Clubb and Mason 2007). The territoriality of different species, in association with social behaviour, should be acknowledged in enclosure design, with suitable space and a suitable social structure being provided for highly territorial species to prevent competition (Rees, 2011). Enclosure size should be large and its area maximised through efficient and appropriate use of both horizontal and vertical space; climbing structures, raised platforms or perches, as appropriate for the species, can all be used to maximise available vertical space (NAWAC, 2005). It is the quality of the enclosure space, in conjunction with the availability of the species appropriate quantity of space that is very important in helping to ensure a positive state of animal welfare. (SEE DOMAIN FOUR - ENVIRONMENTAL ENRICHMENT AND STIMULATION).

Shelters and refuges:

The provision of appropriate shelter for different species is another fundamental aspect of captive wild animal husbandry. Consideration of the animal's biology and natural behaviours should be undertaken when determining the type of shelter that should be offered. For example, shelters should provide a comfortable resting place and may feature nest boxes, hollow trees, vegetation planting, underground dens or inside areas of enclosure accommodation, as appropriate for the species. Sufficient shelter areas that are appropriate for the species and the number of animals accommodated within the enclosure must be available at all times and must provide suitable protection from weather extremes. The provision of multiple shelters may be required. Nesting or denning areas should not only be protected from the weather and accessible at all times to the animals, but be away from public view and contain bedding that is appropriate for the species.

Privacy is important for some species that seem particularly disturbed by the presence of or exposure to visitors, resulting in increased levels of stress. Hence the appropriate provision of sufficient suitable areas for rest and seclusion from visitors, as well as visual barriers, can help to reduce any negative effects of visitor presence. Big enclosures that provide the animals with large distances between them and the members of the public may help reduce the visitor induced disturbance of some animals, such as rhinoceros (Forthman 1998, cited in Maple and Perdue, 2013, p155), and therefore can decrease any negative effects visitors may have on the well-being of the animals.

However, the ability for animals to move away from fellow group mates should also be provided for. The social dynamics of many groups of animals dictate that there are often dominant and subordinate individuals. It is important to provide subordinate animals with the opportunity to escape from potentially negative physical interactions with dominant individuals in the group and from visual contact with conspecifics (WSPA, 2005). Multiple shelters can help address the need to move away from the view of group mates, as can the provision of physical visual barriers, thereby reducing the possibility of stress and harm. The availability of suitable, sufficient vertical space can help arboreal primates escape aggressive conflicts with conspecifics, plus appropriately satisfy their vertical flight response and their need to climb when alarmed (Caws et al, 2008).

Environmental parameters:

Different animal species have evolved and adapted to live in particular climates, environments and species-specific thermal ranges and altitudes. Therefore, in addition to levels of humidity, light spectrums, levels of lighting and ventilation, as appropriate for their specific biological requirements, it is important that captive wild animals are provided with appropriate thermal environments according to their species-specific needs, at all times during their life, from newly born to elderly, in order to adequately safeguard their welfare. This reinforces the need to know and understand the natural biology of each species and their fundamental physiological requirements during all stages of their life, growth and development, as well as their natural behaviours, in order to avoid situations that may be detrimental to animal welfare.

Many species housed outside require the provision of some form of protection from the weather to minimise the risk of either cold stress or heat stress. High temperatures and humidity can be very difficult for captive wild mammals, in particular, to cope with so they must be given the opportunity to access shaded areas such as suitable shelters or burrows or areas where shade is provided by vegetation planting, or to wallows and pools, when the environmental heat load is very high (WSPA, 2005). The provision of a gradient of temperature across enclosures can assist captive animals with their thermoregulation.

Some species of animal, for example those whose natural habitats are humid tropical regions or dry deserts, will require high humidity and low humidity levels, respectively. Inappropriate humidity provision for species can lead to health issues, for example providing unsuitable environments of low humidity for reptiles originating from tropical climates can cause abnormal skin shedding (Rees, 2011). Therefore, the regular monitoring of both enclosure temperature and humidity is important to ensure that species-specific environmental requirements are met and hence animal health and welfare is protected.

Different species also may have different seasonal or photoperiod cycles. Equatorial regions often have no marked seasons and relatively constant hours of dark and light, but this situation changes in regions located at different latitudes, nearer the poles. This should be taken into account if animals from equatorial regions are moved to outdoor environments in institutions located in regions nearer the poles, as there may be welfare problems for young born in cold or wet seasons. For example, where animals whose natural habitats are tropical climates are kept in institutions in temperate climates, the provision of appropriate indoor housing for pregnant animals nearing the end of their gestation, or for housing neonates, may be necessary (Rees, 2011). Also, consideration should be given to animals whose behaviours are dependent on a photoperiod cycle if they are to be housed indoors, and appropriate provisions must be made. Photoperiod cycles can influence breeding behaviours and hibernation in specific species (Rees, 2011) and there will be behavioural restriction and hence poor welfare if appropriate photoperiods are not provided for these species.

The quality of light is also important for many species, such as reptiles. To ensure good health, reptiles need access to UV light and have a fundamental requirement for wavelengths of both UVA and UVB light, which are necessary for activity and vitamin D3 synthesis (Rees, 2011). Therefore, an appropriate gradient of UV light must be provided for captive reptiles, in addition to an appropriate temperature gradient and humidity.

Alongside the necessity to provide appropriate lighting for the different species, adequate and appropriate levels of lighting are necessary to enable regular, at least once a day, satisfactory observation and inspection of the animals, which is important for the prompt detection and appropriate reporting of any problems with the animals' physical or mental health and well-being. More frequent inspections of animals may be needed depending on the circumstances, for example if an animal is unwell, if there has been a change in the social group structure (such as the addition of a new individual) or if there has been a change in the animal's environment (NAWAC, 2005; CAZA, 2008a).

Appropriate ventilation is critically important in the husbandry of captive wild animals. Poor ventilation and hence poor air quality can result in thermal stress and ill health, seriously compromising animal welfare. Enclosure design, construction and maintenance must provide for sufficient, appropriate ventilation at all times.

Hygiene:

A high standard of hygiene is an important part of good animal husbandry, therefore the design and management of the accommodation and other husbandry practices such as food preparation should incorporate appropriate hygiene measures, whilst also ensuring that the environmental, physiological, behavioural and psychological needs of the animals are not compromised, taking into account different individual animal circumstances, such as health or reproductive status, as well as the fundamental enrichment of the environment. Contaminated bedding or stale food or water must not be allowed to build up and a safe, effective pest control programme must be implemented.

Social interactions:

Social animals should be kept in appropriate social groups, with group size, the social structure or composition of the group and stocking density being taken into account to safeguard welfare. Enclosures must provide opportunities for animals to escape any conspecific conflict situations in order to protect individuals from physical harm and safeguard their psychological well-being. Inappropriate over-crowding of an enclosure can lead to increased aggressive encounters between conspecifics, as well as competition for important resources such as food and water. Also, chronic social isolation in species that normally live in family groups, herds or flocks can lead to the development of pathological behaviours such as stereotypies (Gregory, 2004). Yet, the temporary separation of some animals from their conspecifics may be required in specific circumstances. For example, for females that are due to give birth, their separation from the group into individual appropriate accommodation may be necessary in order to reduce the risk of the newly born young being attacked by other members in the group (Rees, 2011).

When considering enclosure design and appropriate environmental provision, consideration must also be given to differing individual animal needs, as well as accommodating for the varying species-specific behavioural, biological and psychological needs. Within different species, individual differences in personalities and behaviours can occur, which can result in individual animals responding differently to varying aspects of their captive environment (Horvath et al, 2013). Therefore, attention must be paid to provide a species-specific, suitably safe, stimulating and variable environment in which the expression of inherent natural behaviours is encouraged, whilst also understanding that within a species, individuals will vary in their behaviours and responses.

Water environments:

The environment in an aquarium also requires careful management to safeguard the welfare of the animals within the aquarium. Water requirements will vary in accordance with the different species being accommodated. Features that need consideration include water temperature, water depth, the movement of water, light spectrum, volume of water in relation to the size and number of animals kept, and water chemistry (Rees, 2011). Water chemistry addresses aspects of the water such as pH, salinity, concentrations of oxygen, carbon dioxide and ammonia, nitrite and nitrate levels. It is important that all of these features should be maintained within the parameters appropriate for the species. Water quality should be frequently and regularly monitored so that if changes in the water quality occur, then they can be promptly rectified before they may have a negative effect on the health and welfare of the animals (NAWAC, 2005). Aquarium water must be free of harmful contaminants and must be filtered. Water can be filtered using a variety of different techniques, for example biological filtration, mechanical filtration, chemical filtration or ultraviolet light filtration (Rees, 2011). The design of aquarium enclosures must be appropriately strong and water-tight, be made of safe materials and be capable of being easily cleaned to maintain high standards of hygiene (NAWAC, 2005). In situations where water environments are provided outside, the water quality in pools must be protected from contamination from drainage water or excessive overflow from surrounding land or buildings (NAWAC, 2005). Aquaria must provide enclosures of suitable size, design, depth and volume for the species and number of individuals accommodated.

Appropriate social group composition is also fundamental for certain aquatic species, such as dolphins and whales (Marino and Frohoff, 2011). Animals, especially acoustic animals such as cetaceans, can be particularly disturbed by noise stimuli. Therefore careful consideration must be given to the noise level and other potentially inappropriate sensory stimulation within the captive environment (WDCS, 2011).

Requirements

The requirements of the species must dictate the design and management of the enclosures and the enclosures must provide resources consistent with the needs of the species'.

Animal enclosures shall be designed to meet the fundamental requirements of the animal throughout its lifetime, and such provisions shall be made to:

- Provide sufficient space (vertical as well as horizontal) to give opportunity for the animal to perform normal ranges and patterns of behaviours and exercise
- Offer protection from weather extremes
- Provide a comfortable area and suitable resting place
- Offer appropriate environmental choices, stimulation and variability
- Offer security and adequately protect against fear
- Be safe and not cause the animal any harm
- Enable effective cleaning, maintenance and animal management

Enclosure size, shape, layout and management must:

- Protect individuals from persistent and unresolved disputes with other animals within the group, or between different species in mixed exhibits, which may result in harm.
- Prevent individuals being overly dominated by other individuals within the group and provide enough opportunities for animals to avoid conflict or aggression from group mates.
- Prevent the accumulation and spread of infectious agents and parasites.
- Enable effective removal of waste and there must be good, safe drainage of waste water
- Provide opportunity for safe appropriate enclosure maintenance by personnel and husbandry practice, such as appropriate hygiene practices and veterinary interventions.

Sufficient appropriate shelter and refuge areas must be provided for all animals within an enclosure, which are freely accessible at all times.

Shelters must provide suitable protection against weather conditions. Refuges that allow animals to comfortably rest away from public view or group mates must be provided.

Different species or incompatible individuals must not be housed within such a distance that it will cause distress.

Social species shall be normally kept in compatible social groups. The group must consist of an appropriate number, age and sex ratio of animals. Overcrowding within enclosures must be avoided.

Individuals of such social groups must not be housed in isolation, except where it is necessary for veterinary purposes, or it is justified for other reasons (eg imminent birthing) and where such isolation will not jeopardise the individual's welfare. In situations where social animals are housed temporarily away from the group, it shall be in suitable accommodation and only for such a time that will allow their uncomplicated reintroduction back to their social group.

The temperature, ventilation, lighting (both lighting levels and spectral distribution), humidity and noise levels of enclosures shall always be suitable for the comfort and wellbeing of the species. As appropriate, suitable equipment for measuring environmental variables such as humidity and temperature shall be available and must be used correctly.

Where life support systems and environmental quality are dependent on external utilities (for example, water or electricity), adequate provisions must exist for their constant function, with adequate backup facilities in case of failure.

All external services and the backup system must be inspected daily and they must be suitably serviced and maintained.

Proper standards of hygiene in enclosures, facilities and treatment rooms shall be maintained. In particular,

- a) Consideration must be given to the management, monitoring and appropriate cleaning of enclosures and the equipment within them, to reduce the risk of potential harm and/or disease,
- b) suitable cleaning agents must be readily available, and the appropriate and safe means to apply them,
- c) personnel must be appropriately trained in the correct usage of suitable cleaning agents and disinfection protocols,
- d) personnel must use protective clothing and equipment as appropriate and in accordance with the institution's hygiene procedures,
- e) advice from a veterinarian or other competent person must be obtained and followed regarding the routine cleaning requirements of enclosures or other areas,
- f) if an infectious disease is identified in any animal, appropriate biosecurity protocols must be immediately implemented.

Enclosure and barrier design, construction and maintenance must be such to fully ensure the safety of the animals, personnel and visitors. In particular:

- a) barriers must be positioned to allow a reasonable flight/safety distance between visitors and contact with the enclosure;
- b) If a fault occurs in any part of a barrier or an enclosure that may result in harm, it must be promptly suitably repaired or replaced, or the animal must be relocated to other suitable accommodation.
- C). enclosure accommodation and fittings should be well maintained and inspected regularly to avoid potential injury to the animals;
- D) water-filled and dry moats used for the containment of animals must provide a means of escape back into the enclosure should animals fall into them;

- E) all natural materials (for example, plants and their products, such as seeds or fruit) and non-natural materials (for example, paint, chemicals, rubber, plastics, treated substrates and treated water) used within the enclosures must be non-toxic to the species held;
- F) The enclosure construction and design must be safe for the animal, predator proof and must consider the animals' natural behaviours so that animals cannot escape and so that animals are deterred from trying to escape;
- G) the perimeter boundary, including all access points, must be designed, constructed and maintained to discourage unauthorised entry and act to assist with the effective confinement of all animals within the institution.

Where appropriate, enclosure design shall provide adequate protection from the effects of natural disasters, such as flooding or fire.
Disaster plans for implementation in the event of a natural disaster should be produced by the Management Authority.

Animals in water environments must be provided with:

- a) Water of temperature, depth, light spectrum, and water chemistry (ie pH, salinity and oxygenation, concentrations of carbon dioxide and ammonia, nitrite and nitrate levels) that is appropriate for the species;
- b) Water that contains no harmful contaminants; and
- c) Enclosures of suitable design, depth and volume for the species and number of animals accommodated, which are constructed using materials safe for the animals, watertight, well maintained and which can be appropriately cleaned.

Water quality and temperature shall be maintained to meet the species requirements and must be regularly and frequently monitored and treated as appropriate.

As appropriate, suitable equipment for measuring water parameters and sufficient equipment to maintain the required water quality shall be available and must be used correctly by suitably trained personnel.

Institutions must employ trained staff who are suitably experienced and knowledgeable in the care of the species of animals housed within the institution.

Recommendations

Holding enclosures or pools that allow separation of groups of animals for treatments, feeding or the introduction of new animals should be provided and these should be designed to be of sufficient size to enable the animals to exercise appropriately without hindrance.

Enclosure design should incorporate species appropriate, living vegetation.

A compromise between environmental hygiene requirements and the biological requirements of the animal may be necessary.

Trees overhanging a perimeter fence should also be regularly inspected and trimmed to prevent any damage occurring to the fence through which an animal may escape.

Transportation and Movement of Animals

To safeguard animal welfare and minimise the risks of injury, ill health and negative psychological states during transportation, a good methodology for the same is essential. Factors that may impact upon an animal's physical and psychological well-being include handling techniques, the method and duration of transport, the availability of food and water during transportation and social grouping. In addition, differences may exist between different countries regarding animal transport legislation, for example with the recommended space requirements for the transport of different animal species. Therefore, it is necessary to ensure that the movement and transportation of animals conforms to and preferably exceeds, the requirements of all relevant regional, national and international legislation.

The methods used for handling captive wild animals for transportation purposes, as well as handling for some specific husbandry management practices, should minimise, as much as possible, the stress experienced by the animals and the potential for trauma. Hence, an understanding of natural animal behaviours is important when handling or moving animals. The health and safety of the animals and of the attending personnel must also be taken into account. Appropriate risk assessments should be carried out prior to handling captive wild animals and appropriate equipment and facilities should be available. Positive reinforcement training, as appropriate for the animal species and individual animal concerned, can help improve the safety of handling animals, whilst also minimising the requirement for physical and chemical restraint (SEE DOMAIN FOUR - ANIMAL TRAINING SECTION).

The transportation of captive wild animals may occur for a variety of reasons, for example, animal transfers between institutions which could involve international transportation, or transportation within an institution for veterinary reasons. However, the whole process of transportation, including capture, handling, loading and unloading, can be a stressful experience, particularly for captive wild animals, and can negatively affect an animal's physical and mental well-being, causing fear, distress and in some instances high mortality (Mench, 2004; NAWAC, 2011). For some specific species, such as cetaceans, the stress experienced by the animal during the handling and confinement associated with transportation can result in an increased risk of death during and following transportation

(WDCS, 2011). Therefore it is essential that the transportation of captive wild animals involves high standards of animal management and care.

Wild caught animals in particular may experience extreme stress and compromised welfare during capture, handling and transportation with resultant high mortality rates (EFSA, 2004).

Trap capture prior to transportation may cause stress in a captive wild animal. Yet, the stress associated with this procedure may be reduced by attempting to habituate the animal to the trap prior to capture, by leaving the trap open with food inside it in the animal's enclosure. Habituation to other means of capture for transportation may also be possible, for example some animals may be trained using positive reinforcement over a sufficient period of time to enter a crate (Melino, 2010). This 'crate training' can reduce the risk of animal injury and the level of stress experienced by the animal during transportation (Linhart et al, 2008). Covers placed over crates and traps can also help decrease animal stress and reduce drafts, but care must be taken to ensure that the accommodation is always appropriately ventilated. Appropriate sufficient ventilation must be available at all times, when the transport vehicle is moving as well as when it is stationary, because heat stress can be a significant problem for animals during their transportation (EFSA, 2004). Excessive noise and vibration are further adverse sensations that an animal may experience during transportation contributing to the stress of the experience, but it may be possible to habituate the animal, prior to its transport, to some of the noises transportation may produce (Rees, 2011). Also, when transporting camels, for example, sand can be used to cover loading ramps to minimise the noise produced by the ramps and hence help to reduce the level of negative disturbance the camel may experience on loading (DLGRD, 2003b). Loading and unloading facilities including ramps should be appropriate for the species, in relation to design, dimensions, the non-slip floor surface and degree of slope, and must be well maintained so as not to cause injury to the animal (NAWAC, 2011).

All accommodation used for the transportation of animals must be secure to prevent an animal escape, whilst containers and crates must additionally be secured to prevent movement during transport and hence reduce the risk of the animal experiencing physical or psychological harm. Accommodation, facilities and equipment must be appropriate for the species and must be well maintained to reduce the risk of injury to the animal, reduce stress and ensure the safety of the animal (NAWAC, 2011). Animal transport accommodation must allow the animal, as appropriate for the species, to travel in a natural body posture when laying down, sitting or standing and enable the animal to maintain its body temperature within a normal range for that species (EFSA, 2004; NAWAC, 2011). Consideration must also be given to the internal design of the transport container, which should be appropriate for the species being transported, for example perches are needed for some birds (EFSA, 2004). Non slip accommodation flooring should be correct for the species and, as appropriate, suitable absorbent bedding should be provided on container floors. Appropriate bedding can absorb urine and faeces, whilst also providing comfort on hard floors and a means of protection from adverse weather (NAWAC, 2011). However, the provision of suitable bedding material must be in compliance with national legislation; some countries do not allow some specific materials, such as straw, to be imported (CITES, 2004).

If appropriate for the species concerned, animals may be transported in suitable compatible groups (for example animals reared together) in accommodation of appropriate size, taking into account the number of individuals involved. It is important to ensure that the individuals are familiar with one another before transport to help avoid potential problems with aggression during transport (EFSA, 2004). Behaviours may be heightened as a result of the stress of transportation and where

there is also possible close confinement with conspecifics. Animals of very different ages, weights or sizes should not be mixed together for transport (NAWAC, 2011) and, as appropriate, mature males and females should be separated from one another (AATA 2000, cited in EFSA, 2004). The specific needs and requirements of young animals of certain species must also be taken into account for their transportation (DEFRA, 2011).

To further reduce the risks of adversely affecting an animal's welfare during transportation, it is important to ensure that only animals in good health that are deemed by the institution's veterinarian as fit to travel are transported and, if appropriate, suitably competent and experienced personnel should accompany the animal during transportation to help monitor and observe the animal and ensure its welfare is protected. Stress associated with transportation can negatively affect an animal's physical and mental health status by compromising the animal's immune system, therefore increasing the individual animal's susceptibility to illness during and after transportation. Hence, methods, that are appropriate for the species being transported, of safely and securely monitoring or inspecting the animals for signs of distress, illness, injury or fatigue, that involve minimal disturbance to the animal should be available, along with suitable contingency plans to take any necessary appropriate action. Inadequate levels of dissolved oxygen in the water can be a major problem during the transport of fish (EFSA, 2004). Therefore, water quality in containers holding aquatic species must be monitored and the concentrations of oxygen, carbon dioxide and ammonia, as well as pH, temperature and salinity must be maintained within the parameters appropriate for the species (NAWAC, 2011).

All personnel handling and transporting captive wild animals must be competent in captive wild animal care and the measures necessary to safeguard the welfare and security of the animals being transported, and there must be a sufficient number of suitably experienced personnel involved at every stage of the transport (EFSA, 2004; NAWAC, 2011).

Long distance transport can negatively impact upon an animal's physical and psychological well-being (Appleby et al, 2008) and affect an animal's overall stress levels which may predispose it to illness during and after transportation. Long journey times will also increase the likelihood of fatigue occurring in the transported animals, predisposing them to injury and physical harm. Hence, to promote good animal welfare and where it is avoidable, long distance transport of captive wild animals should not occur and journey distances should be kept as short as possible. Animals must also only be kept confined in their appropriate transport containers whilst they are in transit, or during the preparation period immediately prior to transit (Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, 2013). In situations where animals are being moved within the institution, for example from one enclosure to another, animals should be confined in their transport containers for the least period of time possible, to a maximum of one hour (Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, 2013). Time from boxing into their appropriate transport containers to arrival at the destination must be minimised.

The transportation method as well as the duration of transport can additionally impact upon the welfare of the animal. For example, the transport vehicle used should be designed and maintained so that it is suitable for comfortably and safely transporting the appropriately contained animals over the anticipated terrain, (NAWAC, 2011) whether it be the road, air or sea; the vehicle should provide, as much as is reasonable, protection from excessive motion or vibrations throughout the duration of the journey, in addition to providing protection from weather extremes.

A transport or journey plan must be put in place, detailing water, feed, space, ventilation and suitable rest requirements, as appropriate for the species, thereby ensuring that the individual

needs of the animal can be addressed. Journey distances should be kept as short as possible, with appropriate rest periods for the animals, as necessary. Contingency plans to safeguard animal welfare and avoid suffering in the occurrence of unexpected circumstances including unplanned delays and adverse weather conditions must be made, with appropriate action being taken in the event of such an occurrence (NAWAC, 2011).

IATA (International Air Transport Association) publishes minimum requirements for the safe transportation of animals internationally and these guidelines and regulations should be followed, whilst also giving consideration to individual animal needs and species specific space requirements with regards transportation.

Requirements
The transportation and movement of animals should conform to all applicable regional, national and international legislation, norms, standards and guidelines.
The conditions and facilities as required by IATA for the transportation of animals internationally shall be used as minimum guidelines.
All necessary travel documentation, health certificates and permits must be complete and readily available for inspection, as appropriate, to avoid any delays in the transportation.
A transport plan must be in place. The transport plan must include documented contingency plans to counter the effects of unplanned delays in transport, especially where such delays might subject the animals to excessive heat, cold, thirst or hunger.
Emergency protocols to safeguard animal welfare during transportation should also be produced.
All animals must be appropriately inspected by a veterinarian prior to transportation to ensure that all animals are fit to travel. The restraint and handling techniques used must be appropriate for the species, and safe for both the animal and the handler.
A sufficient number of competent and experienced personnel shall be involved at every stage of animal transportation to ensure the security, health and welfare of the animals during transport.

Transport accommodation and facilities shall:

- a) be free of projections, fittings or structures that might injure the animal
- b) be secure and appropriate in design and structure for the species of animal, age and number of animals being transported
- c) have suitable ventilation of appropriate airflow
- d) provide species appropriate environmental conditions
- e) provide flooring that, where appropriate, gives secure footing for the animals

As appropriate to the species and the circumstances, and in compliance with national and international legislation regarding imports, suitable bedding or absorbent material should be provided on transport cage floors.

Where groups of naturally social animals are transported, the group must be of compatible individuals and the transport accommodation must be of sufficient size. Animals of very different ages, weights or sizes shall not be mixed together for transport.

Journey times must be kept to a minimum. Where it is avoidable, long distance transport of captive wild animals should not occur.
Provisions should be made for minimising or avoiding delays during transportation.

Animals shall only be kept confined in their transport containers whilst they are in transit or during the preparation period immediately prior to transit; time from boxing to arrival at the destination must be kept to a minimum.

Animal records shall accompany all animal transfers. As a minimum requirement, the records shall provide the recipient with sufficient information to adequately accommodate, feed and treat (if applicable) any animal being transferred.

Recommendations

The transport of any animal has the potential to cause that animal stress. If the stress is severe, appropriate steps should be taken (such as the use of tranquillizers) to reduce the level of stress as much as possible.

The outside of each individual container accommodating animals should have appropriate information about the animals being transported, including the species, the number of individuals, any special handling requirements, whether the animal is categorised as dangerous, and appropriate feeding and watering information. Contact details for both the sending and the receiving institution should be available.

Animal Transactions

Monitoring and regulation in the capture, transport and trade of wild animals is necessary to safeguard the health and welfare of captive wild animals during this process, and also to reduce the possible threats to the viability of the wild populations of animals. Appropriate documentation detailing transactions helps to ensure auditable welfare standards are upheld, in addition to confirming adherence to all necessary legislation; all animal transactions must comply with all applicable regional, national and international legislation which is important to adequately protect animal welfare, as well as the sustainability of wild animal populations.

Furthermore, wild animals may undergo translocation nationally and internationally during transactions between institutions, therefore it is important to ensure that the environment and climate to which animals are being moved meets the animals' specific requirements (physiological and behavioural) and can satisfy the individual's psychological needs in order to avoid compromising their welfare; welfare will be poor if the animal is not acclimatised to the environment to which it is being moved and if the environment is unable to meet its species-specific needs. Animals should not be transferred between institutions if they are not in good health or not fit to travel. Equally, in order to protect the future welfare of the animals being transferred between institutions, it is important to ensure that animals are only passed to institutions that can appropriately manage and accommodate the species of animal they will be receiving, that the recipient institution has personnel suitably experienced in the husbandry and care of that animal, and that the recipient institution has an appropriate philosophy regarding the management and care of their animals and animal welfare (WAZA, 2003a; BIAZA, 2012b).

Attention must also be paid to minimise the risk of disease transfer between institutions during animal transactions. (SEE DOMAIN THREE - ANIMAL HEALTH AND VETERINARY CARE SECTION). The appropriate veterinary examination of animals to be transferred should be undertaken within a suitable time frame before transportation and again immediately prior to transportation to ensure that the animals are in good health. A quarantine period of a time frame appropriate for the species of newly acquired animal on arrival at an institution should be implemented, which, along with the maintenance of a high standard of biosecurity, is important to safeguard the health and welfare of the existing animals on site. Appropriate medical records for animal acquisitions should be given to

the receiving institution, along with any relevant history of disease in the animals accommodated at the sending institution.

Source of animals:

Animal acquisition from the wild is discouraged. Although an increasing number of wild animal species are being bred in captivity enabling the sourcing of wild animal acquisitions from those born in captivity, animals such as marine fish, birds and reptiles are still being captured and brought into captivity from the wild (CAWC, 2003). Animal acquisitions must comply with all relevant legislation and it is important that an ethical review process is in place. Animals should only be sourced from the wild if there are data to show that there would be no negative effects on the wild species population or its habitat (DEFRA, 2008) and principally, the welfare of the individual animal must be considered and be of primary concern; a thorough evaluation of the potential benefits and potential welfare costs to the individual animal should occur before any animal is taken from the wild, especially if its husbandry requirements are not fully understood (CAWC, 2003). Also, there is the risk of harm to the individual animal during wild capture and the following transportation of the animal, the risk of exposure to infection as a result of stress induced lowering of the immune system, as well as the potential of exposure to infectious agents that the animals have not previously encountered, thereby potentially seriously compromising the welfare of the individual animal (CAWC, 2003).

However, the continued survival of a wild species at imminent risk of extinction may justify wild capture for captive breeding programmes with the aim of future reintroduction back to the wild (CAWC, 2008b; DEFRA, 2008), but this must be subject to a thorough ethical review and must comply with all applicable legislation. The Marine Aquarium Council (MAC) has developed a MAC Certification scheme, with audited welfare and environmental standards, to help regulate the ornamental marine fish trade and quality assurance schemes such as this can help to promote positive animal welfare standards for wild caught animals, whilst also addressing conservation aims and promoting ecological sustainability. National certified programmes also exist for some freshwater fish and terrestrial invertebrates for acquisition from approved sustainable wild sources (BIAZA, 2012b).

Details regarding the source of an acquired animal must be provided, in addition to appropriate individual animal records of health, nutrition, reproductive status and behavioural characteristics (SEE MISCELLANEOUS - RECORD KEEPING SECTION).

Animal management:

The number of animals held within zoological institutions needs regulation, for example, in order to ensure that the animals are all appropriately accommodated and to avoid the problems associated with overcrowding, or to address captive wild animal conservation breeding programme requirements. This animal management can result in the transactions of animals between institutions. Additionally, in order to maintain a genetically diverse and healthy species population within an institution and minimise the risk of inbreeding, the control of breeding may be necessary which may be achieved in a number of ways including contraception, surgical sterilisation, keeping the two sexes separate, or the movement of individual animals to another institution (Rees, 2011). However, the affect that these various methods of breeding control may have on an animal's physical and psychological health and hence welfare, must be considered. For example, in certain

species, single sex groups do not represent a natural social grouping and hence adverse behaviours may result, such as increased aggression (Rees, 2011), and contraception may have side effects in addition to adverse effects on behaviour, whilst the ability to reproduce and raise young may be considered as a natural animal behaviour (BIAZA, 2012b). Yet, maintaining an optimum group size and sex ratio is important as it can have positive effects on mental health and animal well-being (Lewandowski, 2003).

Animal acquisition and animal transfer to different institutions can negatively affect animal welfare in variety of ways, for example, through the potential for social group disruption when individual social animals are separated from their social groups or introduced into new social groups; by separation from a familiar environment or established home range, with following introduction into a new enclosure environment; or by introduction to a variety of novel experiences and unfamiliar circumstances through the transportation procedures (NAWAC, 2005) (SEE ANIMAL TRANSPORTATION). Therefore, prior to any animal acquisitions or transactions, an assessment and ethical review by the management authority should be undertaken to ensure that animal welfare is the primary concern for the need for such movements, and that when such a transfer is undertaken, appropriate measures are put in place to ensure the welfare of the animal being transferred, for example highly social animals should be acquired or transferred in appropriate groups or pairs (NAWAC, 2005).

Requirements
Management must consider the necessity of all animal transactions. Where possible, alternative options should be studied if there is any possibility that animal welfare may be compromised. The movement of animals shall only occur when it can be shown to be in the best interests of the species, individual animal or social group to which that animal belongs.
Animal acquisition from the wild is discouraged.
A disease risk analysis must be undertaken by the veterinarian of the institution acquiring an animal.
Records must be retained of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) animal origins, with dates and details of entry into the collection and the source b) disposal from the collection and, if applicable, to whom
The institution must ensure that the animals leaving the collection are only passed to institutions with the appropriate facilities, resources and expertise to achieve comparable welfare standards.

Recommendations

Animal acquisition from the wild should only be considered following appropriate ethical assessments in terms of conservation benefit, positive individual animal welfare outcomes and the undertaking of a thorough individual animal welfare benefit/cost analysis.

A regular review of all animal acquisitions to and transactions from the institution should be undertaken to assess and ensure appropriate welfare requirements compliance in all transactions.

Domain 3: Health

Animal Health and Veterinary Care

Prompt veterinary diagnosis and treatment are critical to minimise the impacts of pain, injury and disease. When disease occurs in multiple individuals in a group of animals, particularly if it occurs over a prolonged time frame, consideration must be given to the husbandry system and standards (DEFRA, 2008), as well as the nature of the disease, whether it be infectious or non-infectious, and its epidemiology.

Within institutions that do not have a resident veterinarian, it may be necessary for the visiting veterinarian to instruct a suitably competent member of personnel who has received appropriate training and experience, for example a veterinary nurse, to undertake the administration of certain treatments, (DEFRA, 2008). Effective and clear communication between the veterinarian and institution personnel is important and veterinary treatment must only be performed by appropriately trained personnel following specific veterinary instruction and under veterinary supervision; institutional personnel should not undertake the veterinary treatment of or medicate any animal within the institution without full veterinary consultation (DEFRA, 2008). The management, use and storage of all veterinary drugs must be in accordance with relevant local legislation.

In association with and complementing good veterinary provisions and husbandry techniques should be good stockmanship. Irrespective of the husbandry system in place, a competent, observant and knowledgeable stockman is crucial to protect and maintain the health and welfare of captive animals. A keeper knowledge of species' biology and hence basic physical and behavioural needs and requirements is necessary, alongside a knowledge of the normal range of displayed behaviours in different species and their preferences, as well as an understanding that different age groups of animals may react or show pain in different ways (Gregory, 2004). This level of knowledge and understanding is vital in underpinning the standard of husbandry offered to captive animals and in the recognition of behaviours that may indicate pain or suffering. Animals must therefore be frequently, regularly and routinely observed and inspected by personnel and abnormalities in health or behaviour promptly and appropriately reported to the relevant personnel. In situations where there are episodes of animal ill health or injury, if there has been recent mixing or the introduction of individual animals or groups of animals, if there has been a change in animal management

practice, or if there are adverse weather conditions, more frequent checks of the animals may be required, as appropriate for the circumstances.

The pinioning of birds is a permanent, non-reversible mutilation involving damage to the muscles, tendons and bone of the wing that is carried out for management purposes to prevent flight. However, preventing a bird from expressing its natural flight behaviour when flight is its primary method of locomotion will negatively affect the psychological health and welfare of this animal (Maple and Perdue, 2013), and the procedure itself will also negatively impact upon the welfare of the animal. Therefore, the pinioning of birds should only be performed in exceptional circumstances and as a last resort, where the health and safety of the bird may be compromised and when there is no alternative form of animal management available. Where it is still practiced, regular ethical review by the Management Authority of the use of pinioning within the institution should be undertaken.

Preventative veterinary medicine:

In addition to the provision of readily available emergency veterinary treatment, a preventative veterinary medicine programme must be documented and put in place following appropriate veterinary consultation, which should include the monitoring of all of the animals accommodated within the institution, on an individual basis, as well as considering social group health (Rees, 2011; Portas, 2013). Preventative medicine programmes are essential for safeguarding captive animal health. Such programmes should consider the diseases that commonly occur in the country (DLGRD, 2003a) and incorporate health screening protocols including, for example, regular blood, urine and faecal examinations, vaccinations as appropriate and parasite control (Kohn, 1994; NAWAC, 2005). Regular advisory visits are recommended in situations where the institution does not have a resident veterinarian, in order that records may be reviewed and the implementation of the preventive veterinary medicine programme ensured (DEFRA, 2008). In addition to the statutory maintenance of detailed and accurate clinical veterinary records, a record of each veterinary advisory visit and any ensuing recommendations should be kept. Veterinary records are important tools for assessing individual animal welfare in the immediate moment and notably over periods of time by enabling the observation and interpretation of any trends in injuries or disease (Algers, 2004). Regular reviews by the Management Authority should be undertaken of husbandry and preventative veterinary care practices and protocols, along with ensuring that adequate biosecurity arrangements are in place to minimise disease risks (CAWC, 2003).

As a result of increases in the knowledge of zoo animal nutrition, management and veterinary care, geriatric health is becoming an increasingly commonplace issue that zoological institutions must address (Rees, 2011; Loomis, 2012; Portas, 2013). Diseases such as chronic arthritis and heart failure may be encountered (Loomis, 2012) and the provision of appropriate species-specific long-term accommodation for aged animals must be considered (Rees, 2011). Therefore, the issues concerning aged animals must be addressed within a veterinary health programme and regularly reviewed by the Management Authority, with veterinary consultation on an individual, case by case basis. Conversely, reduced longevity of wild animals in captivity is a problem in some species, for example elephants, (Clubb and Mason, 2002; Rees, 2011) and cetaceans (Marino and Frohoff, 2011), which highlights the need for the implementation of regular species-specific health screening protocols.

The post mortem examination of animals plays an important role in a preventative medicine programme and the surveillance of the health status of animals accommodated within zoological institutions (NAWAC, 2005; DEFRA, 2008). Therefore, the post mortem examination of animals that die in the collection should be undertaken and appropriate measures must be taken to ensure that these examinations are carried out by experienced personnel, using suitable facilities and relatively promptly after the death of the animal. Records of post mortem examinations and the resultant findings should be kept and maintained. All carcasses of animals and any tissue samples taken for laboratory examination must be stored and handled appropriately to minimise the risk of exposure of other animals in the zoological collection to any potential infectious diseases and to minimise the potential risk of the transmission of zoonoses to staff. The safe, hygienic and appropriate disposal of the bodies of all dead animals must be undertaken.

Biosecurity:

Quarantine regulations regarding the import of animals into different countries vary between each country, but the quarantine of new animal acquisitions on arrival at an institution is critical to safeguard the health and welfare of the existing animals on site. Quarantine helps to prevent the introduction and spread of disease to other animals in the institution and enables the examination of the new arrivals (Rees, 2011). In addition to their application in the management of animal acquisitions, quarantine facilities are also important for the isolation of sick or injured animals, as appropriate. Animals in quarantine should be appropriately examined to assess their health status before introduction/reintroduction to the institution. It is important that quarantine facilities are designed and constructed to facilitate the safe observation, handling and examination of animals and enable the maintenance of a high standard of husbandry and hygiene, as well as biosecurity. Quarantine areas should also provide appropriate species-specific space to enable the animals to express their normal behaviours and allow for suitable exercise opportunities.

A safe and effective pest control programme must also be developed and implemented since many different species of pest (for example, free-living rodents and invertebrates) are capable of transmitting a variety of diseases to captive animals. The deterrence of predators, such as feral cats and other free-living carnivores, must also be considered to prevent predation and the risk of the spread of disease (PAZAAB, 2010; Rees, 2011). Care must be exercised regarding the method of pest control and predator deterrent employed to minimise the risk to the captive wild animals accommodated within the institution. The issues concerning predator deterrent and pest control are important considerations in the design and maintenance of the secure perimeter fencing and individual animal enclosures.

Requirements

The level of veterinary facilities and care must be consistent with the overall welfare needs of the animals in the collection.

The Institution shall have a working arrangement with a veterinarian with appropriate expertise in the veterinary care of all of the species held at the Institution.

Effective communication and allocation of responsibilities between the veterinarian and institution personnel is very importance and each party must understand its ethical and legal responsibilities.

Proactive veterinary care must be clearly evident, including:

- routine clinical examinations of all the animals in the Zoo;
- documented treatment and preventative medication protocols of the Zoo;
- health monitoring of animals (eg disease screening, regular blood, urine or faecal examinations, endoparasite monitoring, etc), as indicated;
- safe and proper collection, preparation, handling and appropriate forwarding of diagnostic and other samples;
- training of zoo personnel in health and hygiene;
- ensuring that post-mortem examinations and any necessary laboratory investigations are carried out, including the submission of suitable samples for pathological analysis, whenever possible;
- supervision of quarantine premises and other tasks required by law, or as part of good zoo veterinary practice;
- nutrition and the development of diets;
- the establishment of written procedures to be followed in the event of the accidental use of dangerous drugs; and
- secure management of all medications, including appropriate documentation, control, storage, issuing, and destruction and disposal of such veterinary drugs in accordance with manufacturer's guidance and recommendations, and relevant local legislation.

Institutions must confirm that they, and a local hospital or their veterinarian, have ready access to antidotes to any potentially toxic drugs and veterinary products used at the institution. Appropriate records must be kept.

Where there are venomous animals kept at the Zoo, there must be a documented emergency protocol in place with appropriate access to anti-venom.

All animals must be inspected by personnel at least once daily, except in situations such as when:

- daily inspection may negatively affect the animal's welfare; or
- disturbance during the particular stage of the breeding cycle may be detrimental to animal welfare, (eg presence of new-born young or egg incubation); or
- there has been a change in the environment, the introduction of new individuals or where there has been a change in social group structure, which may necessitate more frequent inspections.

Animal care staff must be appropriately trained and competent in observing signs of good animal health and welfare, which include:

- the good physical condition of an animal;
- absence of disease, trauma, pain and distress;
- the performance and development of normal behaviours;
- normal levels of growth, development, reproduction and life expectancy;
- active interaction with the environment and the expression of a normal range of behaviours, including behaviours such as rest and play; and
- a bright, alert animal that reacts appropriately to new or unexpected stimuli.

Immediate appropriate action must be taken if an animal is injured or unwell, or if the animals are showing behaviours that may suggest poor welfare. Any signs of injury, poor health or abnormal behaviour shall be immediately reported and a veterinarian promptly consulted as necessary.

A suitably experienced senior member of personnel must be available at all times to take decisions regarding the euthanasia of animals. There must be provision for an effective method of euthanasia and standard protocols must be documented (see EUTHANASIA).

Mutilation procedures on any animal for cosmetic or behavioural purposes or to change the appearance of the animal should not be undertaken.

Curative and preventive veterinary medicine must be provided and appropriately documented.

Animal records must provide:

- an auditable record, kept by the animal care staff responsible for the animals, indicating changes to the diet, daily health checks, breeding behaviours, any unusual behaviour or activity, or other problems and the action taken;
- accurate veterinary records documenting clinical observations, laboratory procedures undertaken, the results of post-mortem examinations, details and dates of any treatment given (dosages, route and frequency of all medications used) and whether an individual or the whole group was medicated.

There must be a regular review by the relevant veterinary and curatorial personnel, of clinical, behavioural and pathological records and mortality. Husbandry and preventive veterinary practices must be reviewed as necessary.

Clinical waste and refuse must be regularly removed and disposed of in a manner approved by the local public authority and, when the animals are in quarantine, the State Veterinarian.

All animal carcasses must be handled appropriately to minimise the risk of exposure of other animals at the institution to potentially infectious diseases.

A safe and effective pest control programme must be established and, where necessary, the deterrence of predators must be carried out.

Health risks posed by the use of power-hoses on animal waste must be minimized. Measures must be taken to prevent the risk of exposure to staff and animals of fine particle aerosols that may be created during hose usage.

Animal care personnel must immediately report to the Management Authority if they become ill with any infection that they believe could be transmitted to, and adversely affect the health of, any animal within the Institution. Management must seek appropriate veterinary advice and any remedial action should be taken as necessary.

Where casualty wild animals are rehabilitated, the risk of introducing novel infectious diseases to free-living wild animals and animals of other species following the recovered casualty's release must be minimised by appropriate veterinary checks prior to release.

Recommendations

If feasible and practical, regular weighing of animals within the collection should be considered to assist in the early identification of any arising health issues and hence enable their prompt treatment, as appropriate.

Methods of inspecting animals with minimal disturbance should be considered, such as closed circuit television (CCTV) where daily physical inspection of a species is difficult.

A regular review of animal care staff's ability to observe abnormalities in health or behaviour should be undertaken and suitable opportunities provided for staff for training to further develop their abilities and skills.

Veterinary Facilities

Appropriate facilities must be readily available for the safe examination, diagnosis and treatment of animals (CAWC, 2003; DEFRA, 2008). Suitable and appropriate equipment for the safe capture, handling and examination of animals shall also be available. Where there is a resident veterinarian on site at the institution, basic diagnostic and surgical equipment and instruments shall be available.

Veterinary facilities for the routine or emergency treatment of animals should be designed and maintained to minimise the potential risk of the transmission of zoonoses between animals and staff, and personnel must be trained in appropriate cleaning and disinfection procedures and protocols. The maintenance of a high standard of biosecurity is essential to help protect the health and welfare of the animals within the institution.

Requirements
Facilities must be adequately equipped for the practical veterinary needs of the animal collection.
<p>A dedicated treatment room shall be provided on site be available at all times for the use for the routine examination and treatment of animals. The room should be of sufficient size, have washable floor and wall surfaces, and be hygienically maintained with adequate drainage. The minimum facilities shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) examination table; b) hot and cold running water; c) safe and secure storage of all pharmaceuticals; d) appropriate ambient temperature; e) suitable ventilation; f) good lighting; and g) electrical power
All pharmaceuticals and other veterinary products shall be kept appropriately secure with only authorised personnel having access. The veterinarian must regularly remove and appropriately dispose of expired drugs. Complete, accurate records of drug stock, usage and disposal must be kept.
All used, unwanted or contaminated veterinary material or equipment must be safely and appropriately disposed of in accordance with accepted international practice and in compliance with existing legislation. Facilities for the safe and appropriate handling and disposal of clinical waste must be available.
Specific accommodation must be available for the isolation and examination of new animal arrivals, and for the care of sick or injured animals.

Suitable facilities and equipment for capture, restraining, treating, and, if necessary, for the administration of general anaesthesia, for euthanasia and for the after-care of all of the species kept at the institution shall be available.

There must be strict hygiene practices and biosecurity where sick, injured, isolated or quarantined animals are kept. Protective clothing, equipment and utensils used by personnel only in the isolation area must be appropriately cleaned and stored in that area only.

Recommendations

Specific cold storage or freezer facilities should be available for the appropriate storage of animal carcasses that cannot undergo prompt post mortem examination. Where this is not possible, veterinary advice should be obtained.

Euthanasia

One of the fundamental requirements for good welfare is the maintenance of good health. This can be achieved through preventative medicine programmes, the prompt recognition of pain and illness in different species and the rapid diagnosis and treatment of injury and disease. However, in certain circumstances where welfare is gravely compromised due to poor physical or psychological health which cannot be adequately improved and it is determined to be in the best interest of the individual animal concerned, euthanasia may be necessary.

Institutions should have a documented protocol detailing situations in which euthanasia is appropriate and justifiable and this should be regularly reviewed by the institution's ethics committee (PAAZAB, 2010) and Management Authority. This document should also clearly state approved and acceptable standard operating practices. The discussion with staff directly involved with the animal in each individual proposed circumstance of euthanasia is important and must take place (BIAZA, 2012b).

Euthanasia must be carried out following appropriate, approved operating standards, and according to local legislation. Local customs and different cultural beliefs should also be considered provided that the parameters for the euthanasia or humane destruction of animals are not compromised. In all situations, the welfare of an animal and its quality of life should be the prime consideration (WAZA, 2003; Edwards, 2004; BIAZA, 2012b).

To ensure minimal pain, discomfort and stress for the animal, the euthanasia of an animal should be undertaken under veterinary supervision or by competent personnel with appropriate training and experience in the technique to be used (AVMA 2001; NAWAC 2005). Experience in the handling and appropriate restraint of the species is necessary to reduce the animal's stress and to ensure the safety of the operator (AVMA 2001; NAWAC 2005). Careful consideration must be given in each individual case to the manner and type of animal restraint required, in addition to the method of

euthanasia. Factors that should be taken into account include the species, location of the animal, presence of injury or disease, personnel experience and safety aspects (AVMA, 2001). Minimising animal stimulation by either sight, sound or touch can help to reduce stress and anxiety in animals. Distressed animals may vocalise which can cause agitation in other animals, hence other animals should not be present when an individual animal is to be euthanized (AVMA, 2001).

Euthanasia must result in the death of the animal as rapidly and as painlessly as possible (AVMA 2001; WAZA 2003; NAWAC 2005; BIAZA 2012b). Following euthanasia, it is important that the death of the animal is confirmed, taking into account the species of animal and the method of euthanasia, prior to the appropriate disposal of the animal (AVMA, 2001). An appropriate post mortem examination shall be undertaken.

A high standard of animal husbandry, management and care is vital to adequately protect the welfare of animals, hence it is important to strive to achieve and subsequently maintain this high standard. Yet in some cases, for example where physical resources and facilities may be limited, in order to prevent welfare compromise, humane animal destruction may be warranted, only as a final option and following thorough consideration and exhaustion of all other possibilities and where appropriate alternatives are not available (DEFRA 2008; BIAZA, 2012b; Maple and Purdue, 2013). In such situations, appropriate measures must be put in place to prevent the recurrence of such circumstances and hence prevent the need for repeated humane animal killing.

Requirements

Euthanasia must be carried out in compliance with regional and national legislation and in an acceptable way. Euthanasia must be undertaken in a distress free manner that involves a rapid and painless death.

There must be a written institution policy and standard procedure for the euthanasia of animals, which is regularly reviewed. These must show that:

- Veterinary advice and guidance regarding euthanasia and acceptable emergency methods of euthanasia has been obtained
- For all of the species kept at the institution, there are suitable facilities and equipment available for euthanasia, including for the emergency euthanasia of casualties. Such facilities and equipment must be securely kept and well maintained.
- A competent, suitably trained senior staff member, who has access to the necessary facilities and equipment, is contactable and available at all times.

All staff involved with the euthanasia of animals must be fully aware of acceptable euthanasia methods and must be appropriately trained and experienced in those methods.

Any animal restraint or handling that is necessary for the euthanasia of the animal to be carried out and the method of euthanasia must result in minimal stress to the animal.

It is unacceptable to give surplus or aged zoo animals to hunting ventures as a means of euthanasia and it must not take place.

Where the humane killing of animals (eg. mice, rats, rabbits and birds) is carried out to feed zoo animals, it must be carried out ethically and according to acceptable and recognised welfare standards.

Recommendations

Other animals should not be present when an individual animal is to be euthanized.

Domain 4: Behaviour

Behavioural or interactive restriction through confinement in barren environments, or where there is long-term social isolation, is associated with emotional unresponsiveness and can lead to extreme boredom, frustration and the development of abnormal behaviour patterns. Consequently, the provision of species appropriate complex and variable environments, space and resources that encourage exercise and enable the display of a range of natural behaviours, is important for both physical and mental health. Species appropriate environmental enrichment should also offer the animal the ability to make choices and hence exert a level of control over its environment; by encouraging decision-making, it allows the animals to express a preference and select the environmental conditions which they favour, thus promoting a positive psychological state and hence good welfare. Appropriate positive reinforcement training may be used to provide enrichment for captive wild animals and this should focus on and be used to encourage the display of natural behaviours.

Visitor presence can have both positive effects (PAAZAB, 2010; Maple and Perdue, 2013) and negative effects on the behaviour of some species of captive wild animals (Carrasco et al 2009; Rees 2011); the welfare of the animals must always be of primary importance and must be considered at all times.

Environmental Enrichment and Stimulation

It is vital that consideration is given to incorporate appropriate environmental enrichment into the overall design and construction of an animal's accommodation and captive environment, alongside providing appropriate facilities, so as to prevent the captive environment imposing restrictions in behaviour expression and to enable the animal to perform a full range of natural behaviours and movements, thereby meeting its psychological, as well as the physiological, needs. This is dependent upon accurate knowledge and understanding of the different species' biology and range of normal behaviours, although an ability to accurately interpret abnormalities in different species'

behaviour is also crucial in order to promptly react to and appropriately address any potential compromises of animal welfare.

Behaviours are often species-specific and a species' normal range of behaviour expressions will include some behaviours that occur as a result of a strong internal drive or motivation with an absolute need for the performance and undertaking of these particular types of behaviours in order to protect behavioural and mental health and prevent poor welfare (Pethrick and Rushden, 1997; CAWC, 2003). For example, an animal that is strongly motivated to nest build has a fundamental need to perform this behaviour and if restricted from doing so, serious welfare compromise will result. Furthermore, the natural behaviour tendencies of some wild species may increase their susceptibility to welfare compromises occurring in captivity. For example, in some species such as carnivores that have large natural home ranges, a high incidence of stereotypies and high neonatal mortality has been observed in their captive populations (Clubb and Mason 2007; Portas, 2013). Also, the intelligence or cognitive capacity of different species must be taken into account in the design and provision of appropriately enriching, complex captive environments, with species that are highly intelligent, such as primates, needing a high degree of mental stimulation and hence environmental complexity, to address their psychological needs and to prevent the development of abnormal behaviour patterns such as stereotypies. To improve the welfare of captive wild animals, careful attention must be paid to captive wild animal husbandry and management in order to provide a species specific, suitably stimulating and variable environment in which the expression of inherent natural behaviours is encouraged and choices about the animal's environment, and hence a level of control by the animal over its environment, are available.

Abnormal behaviours:

Many animals housed in barren, unrewarding environments with limited ability to express different natural movements and behaviours may not only develop abnormalities in their physical health (UFAW, 1988), but may also increase the performance of abnormal behaviours directed at either themselves, for example hair pulling and body scratching, or their surroundings, such as bar licking (Gregory, 2004; WSPA, 2005). The development of stereotypies, defined as abnormal behaviours that are repetitive, persistent, recurrent and apparently purposeless activities, and other abnormal behaviours, such as frantic activity levels or lethargy, all reflect compromises in animal welfare (CAWC, 2009) and may occur in animals for a wide variety of different reasons, often associated with inadequacies in their environment. For example, stereotypies can occur in animals that are emotionally numb, if animals are chronically frustrated with or chronically stressed as a result of their confined environment and the associated imposed restrictions, or as a means of coping in the absence of the opportunity to perform other natural behaviours (Pethrick and Rushden, 1997; Gregory, 2004; WSPA, 2005; Maple and Perdue, 2013). However, stereotypies may remain in an animal's range of behavioural expression as a result of their development in the past from previous experiences in the animal's lifetime and may not reflect the effect of present management or environmental conditions on welfare (Swaigood and Shepherdson, 2005; DEFRA, 2008; Rees, 2011; Maple and Perdue, 2013). Common stereotypies in captive wild animals include fence pacing, head weaving and body rocking. Fence pacing, for example, may occur due to space restriction, lack of a natural environment, confinement with an inability to escape or express roaming behaviours, or as a result of threats from conspecifics (Gregory, 2004).

Stereotypies may have species-specific characteristics, but the performance of any stereotypy is suggestive of a negative welfare state. Stereotypies can also cause physical injuries and harm as a result of the performance of the repetitive actions and abnormal behaviours, such as for example, chronic skin lesions caused by repeated escape attempts at enclosure boundaries (DEFRA 2008; Morgan *pers obs*). Stereotypies are rarely observed in non-captive wild animals (Rees, 2011). Yet, by giving animals the opportunity to show preferences and make choices within a complex environment, and enabling varied behavioural expression and ranges of movement, this may help to reduce the development of pathological behaviours.

Enrichment programmes:

Environmental enrichment is an important management technique to help increase the expression of normal behaviours in different species and reduce the development of stereotypies and abnormal behaviours (Carrasco et al, 2009). It can also provide the animal with a degree of choice about its environment and offer the animal preferred resources. Environmental enrichment is a dynamic process that involves the use of appropriate structures, enclosure furniture and husbandry procedures and techniques to create a stimulating and appropriately complex environment which increases the opportunity for, and encourages the performance of, species-specific natural behaviours, movements, exercise and exploration, resulting in an improved mental and physical state and ultimately improved animal welfare.

Before the implementation of environmental enrichment programmes, appropriate discussions between the animal keeper personnel and the Management Authority should be undertaken. Enrichment programmes may involve the use of the overall structural design of the enclosure, its furnishings and different management practices in order to provide novel stimulating experiences and to encourage the performance of natural behaviours such as foraging, exercise, resting and sleeping. For example, the enclosure design should be such that it incorporates the provision of structures that may mimic the natural environment such as pools, mature trees and suitable vegetation, rocks, ground cover and a varied landscape, as appropriate for the specific species being accommodated, in order to provide the opportunity for exploration, natural behaviour expression and movements. Enclosure furniture should be provided that is suitable for the species and may consist of a variety of different things, such as branches, logs, log piles, nest boxes, resting platforms, scratching posts, perches, cardboard boxes or climbing facilities, all of which may be used to encourage the performance of natural behaviours including exercise, nesting, climbing, foraging, play and exploration. Where pools are provided for species that require both a terrestrial and aqueous environment, animals must be given sufficient appropriate access and exit points and they must be able to easily move in and out of the pool (NAWAC, 2005) without hindrance from conspecifics.

Environmental security:

Physical barriers within enclosures can not only offer privacy, but also provide individual animals with the opportunity to escape or avoid conflict from other individuals in the social group (Swaigood and Shepherdson, 2005). The suitable use of vertical space should be considered during enclosure design to maximise the potential for exercise opportunities and the provision of a stimulating environment, as appropriate for the species, as well as offering the opportunity of

species appropriate refuge from conspecifics (Swaigood and Shepherdson, 2005; Caws et al 2008). For example, a suitable complex vertical space is important for arboreal apes for obtaining food, to explore, for nesting and sleeping, and also to enable escape from aggressive interactions from conspecifics (Maple and Perdue, 2013). Arboreal primates have a vertical flight response, climbing when they are alarmed, which emphasizes the fundamental requirement for the provision of appropriate and sufficient vertical space (Caws et al, 2008).

The social environment or social grouping of animals may also impact upon the welfare of individual animals. Complex social groups are important for naturally social species, such as primates and elephants, and can provide appropriate social stimulation, enrichment and companionship (Rees, 2011; Maple and Perdue, 2013). For animals that usually live in social groups, long-term isolation from conspecifics can have detrimental effects on animal welfare. For example, animals that live in family groups, herds or flocks gain security from the social contact with their conspecifics, providing the animals with a positive mental state, thus deprivation of this social contact can lead to negative states and hence decreased welfare (Gregory, 2004). Chronic social isolation or an absence of appropriate social partners can also increase the risk of the development of stereotypies, yet the effects of social isolation are species-specific as some animals lead a naturally solitary lifestyle for part of their lives (Gregory, 2004). Although animals with a solitary way of life, as well as those that live in monogamous pairs, also require adequate social complexity (Maple and Perdue, 2013).

Although species appropriate social environments can positively affect welfare, social groups can result in occasions of negative experiences for individual subordinate animals, especially if the enclosure restricts the opportunity to avoid or escape adverse behaviours from dominant group members (Laule, 2003). Social group sizes and structures must be appropriate for the species concerned. Aggression between conspecifics can be increased if there is inappropriate group composition (DEFRA, 2008) and changes in the existing social group composition, for example through the temporary removal of a group member or the introduction of a new born animal into the group, can result in conflict (Kohn, 1994). Furthermore, stress arising from sudden changes in the social environment has been documented to cause arteriosclerosis (heart disease) in some captive wild animal species (Gregory, 2004), negatively effecting animal health and hence welfare. Therefore, the behaviour and the severity, frequency and duration of any aggressive interactions between conspecifics in a group of animals, should be monitored and appropriate action taken, when necessary, to safeguard the welfare of individual animals within a social group.

Environmental challenges and novelty:

The greater the environmental complexity, the greater the potential for a wider variation in expressed natural behaviours, which in turn, can increase the degree of control an animal has over its environment through the variety of behavioural choices it can make (Maple and Perdue, 2013), resulting in improved welfare. Species-specific problem solving items, puzzle feeders or objects that require physical manipulation can encourage decision-making, provide environmental enrichment and increase exploration (Laule, 2003; Swaigood and Shepherdson, 2005).

However, the use of species appropriate furniture objects such as swings, cardboard boxes and other 'toys' should be suitably rotated to maintain variety and a change in the animal's environment. Although this should follow an appropriate length of time of the object being in the enclosure to

allow for acclimatisation by the animal to the object's presence, and hence minimise any stress experienced by the animal on the removal of the object (Fairhurst et al, 2011). The use of enrichment structures, furniture and techniques should be regularly recorded and monitored by keeper personnel to assess their continued novelty to the species and the individual animals and hence the positive welfare benefits of their use (PAAZAB, 2010; Rees, 2011).

The manner by which appropriate nutritional food is provided should additionally be incorporated into an enrichment programme, as many species are strongly motivated to explore their environment and in the wild can spend a large part of their daily routine foraging for food; offering food in a varied and appropriate way that satisfies the animal's species-specific natural feeding behavioural needs and motivations and encourages activity is important to prevent poor welfare, in addition to ensuring that the nutritional requirements of the animal are met. In some species, scatter feeding, for example, can provide the opportunity for foraging, as well as increased exercise opportunities, whereas the supply of appropriate vegetation for browsing can be enriching for grazing and browsing animals. However, social group dynamics should be considered when food is used as part of an enrichment programme, for example if feeding methods are used that enable dominant animals to exert control over the food, then the subordinate animals may subsequently suffer negative experiences (Rees, 2011).

Another management technique that can offer psychological enrichment to captive wild animals is the interaction of the animals with their keepers during positive reinforcement training (Laule, 2003; Swaisgood and Shepherdson 2005).

Environmental complexity:

Appropriate facilities and enrichment programmes must suitably provide for an animal's behavioural and psychological needs throughout all stages of its life and development (NAWAC, 2005). Species appropriate environmental enrichment programmes are essential to achieve the optimum level of environmental stimulation and behavioural variability, which is integral in safeguarding animal welfare in captive wild animals. Appropriate environmental enrichment can therefore improve the welfare of captive animals by increasing the expression of a range and variety of natural, species specific behaviours, movements and exercise; by increasing the quality of the provided space and thus increasing the positive and maximum use of the space provided; by increasing mental stimulation and providing learning opportunities through exploration and interaction with a complex and variable environment, and by increasing control over the environmental factors, which all can ultimately reduce the incidence of abnormal behaviours.

A lack of sensory stimulation arising from a lack of complexity in a captive animal's environment can negatively affect welfare, as can inappropriate sights, smells or sounds (Swaisgood 2007, cited in Maple and Perdue, 2013, p29). For example, inappropriate odours can occur during hygiene practices from the use of cleaning products (Swaisgood 2007, cited in Maple and Perdue, 2013, p29), although these inappropriate odours may be reduced by appropriate ventilation (Maple and Perdue, 2013). Unsuitable loud noise can also compromise animal welfare; crowd noise or noise created by steel structures in accommodation buildings can negatively impact upon elephant welfare (Maple and Perdue, 2013), whilst inappropriate mechanical noise in dolphinariums associated with the loud music that may accompany visitor show performances or from the captive environment (eg, from

pumps or filters) may negatively affect cetaceans (WDCS, 2011). Where applicable, inappropriate sights that may create negative states should also be avoided; some species of animal may suffer distress if housed in the presence of other certain species in neighbouring enclosures. For example, the housing of tigers in view of other tigers in nearby enclosures can have a negative effect on tiger wellbeing and may result in an increase in stereotypic pacing (Miller et al, 2008).

However, the provision of appropriate sounds, sights and smells, such as natural sounds and edible vegetation (Laule, 2003), can create a stimulating sensory environment for animals and have a positive effect on welfare; appropriate sound and odour enrichment has been observed to contribute to positive welfare states in captive wild animals such as gorillas and elephants (Rees, 2011). Ensuring the suitability of sensory information in the animals' environment, in addition to increasing in the complexity of the environment can help to improve welfare.

The provision of appropriate lighting is also important for some species to display natural behaviours and activity levels. For example, nocturnal species should be provided with appropriately reversed lighting in a nocturnal exhibit if activity is required during daytime hours (WSPA, 2005) to prevent sleep deprivation and behavioural restriction (NAWAC, 2005).

Multi-species exhibits:

Multi-species exhibits can create a stimulating environment for the animals involved through increased complex interactions, but there is the potential for negative effects, for example, aggressive interactions between individuals of the different species, or competition between the species for food (Rees, 2011). Therefore, the provision of sufficient species-specific space and appropriate opportunities for one species to escape from the other is important to reduce the risk of conflict between species in these exhibits. The territorial behaviours of the different species must also be considered. Accordingly, the interactions between individuals of the different species should be regularly monitored and assessed and appropriate action taken to separate the species if aggressive conflict resulting in a compromise in animal welfare occurs (PAAZAB, 2010). Consequently, thorough research should be undertaken with appropriate review by the Management Authority before a mixed-species exhibit is created to prevent any compromises in animal welfare.

Requirements

Enclosure design must provide:

- a) **Security:** Areas for seclusion and refuge (eg, a den, an elevated resting place, sufficient suitable enclosure space, a burrow, or nests with appropriate nesting materials) are important for animals to escape from public viewing, or from the attention of conspecifics. Naturally social animals can also feel secure in the presence of compatible conspecifics.
- b) **Complexity:** a suitably complex environment to encourage normal behaviours and increase exercise, behavioural diversity and stimulation must be provided. For example, some birds need access to sufficient suitable perches and enough space for flight. The animals must be able to display their natural response to the photoperiod.
- c) **Challenge:** Environmental choices must be provided. Enrichment programmes shall be used to encourage decision-making and allow animals to choose their preferred environmental conditions, giving them more control over their environment and daily lives.
- d) **Novelty:** a safe, variable environment shall be offered (eg rotation of enclosure furniture, enrichment tools, husbandry management regimes, etc), but the balance between environmental change and the husbandry routine must be appropriate to avoid stress.

An appropriate environmental enrichment programme must be developed and put in place for each species kept at the institution.

Before an enrichment programmes is put in place, it must be appropriately researched and planned. Once in place, it shall be suitably recorded, and assessed. Improvements or changes in the programmes shall be made where necessary.

Animal Training

Training should be founded on and used to encourage the display of natural behaviours. All training techniques should be thoroughly researched and regularly assessed to safeguard animal welfare and must not be harmful to the individual animals involved; the training of captive wild animals should only be undertaken after detailed appropriate research (Parry Jones, 1989) and consultation, with the ultimate aim of improving the well-being of the animals. Providing the opportunity for the expression of many aspects of different animals' natural behaviours is a fundamental physical and psychological need. Appropriate training can enrich the environments of animals and address psychological needs by facilitating both exercise and mental stimulation to reflect their intellectual and physical abilities and by giving the animals the opportunity to have a degree of control over their surroundings and environment (Scott, 1989; UFAW, 1990; PAAZAB, 2010). Appropriate training is also important to assist with the undertaking of routine husbandry and health management procedures that may be necessary in the care of captive wild animals (Kirkwood et al, 1989; BIAZA, 2012).

Training can help reduce stress in captive wild animals, in addition to its role in environmental enrichment. Training animals can enable the undertaking of management procedures such as veterinary examinations or biological sample collection, without the need for physical or chemical

restraint, thereby facilitating the relaxed examination and treatment of the animal and reducing any stress the animal may experience during the procedures, whilst also improving safe handling (Kirkwood et al, 1989; Kohn, 1994; O'Brien, 2008; Maple and Perdue, 2013). Positive reinforcement training techniques have been successfully used to train various species to readily present or show different parts of their body for examination (Maple and Perdue, 2013). Consequently, by assisting with routine veterinary procedures, training can help improve the overall health and well-being of animals.

The welfare of the animal should always be the prime consideration during training sessions and the development of training programmes (Parry Jones, 1989). Poor training and handling methods will compromise an animal's welfare. The use of physical punishment in training may result in the development of undesirable behaviours such as aggression and increased anxiety (Waran et al 2002; Kane et al 2005) and is harmful to the individual animal, negatively affecting animal wellbeing. Training techniques and practices must not be used that may compromise an animal's normal physical or behavioural health, development, psychological well-being, or welfare (CAZA, 2008e; DAFF, 2009).

Animal-training methods should use positive reinforcement techniques. The use of positive reinforcement training involves rewarding the animal with something it enjoys, for example a food reward, for performing the desired behaviour. It is the voluntary cooperation of the animal during positive reinforcement training that offers the animal the opportunity to exercise more choice and control over its environment and can additionally increase the animal's psychological stimulation (Laule, 2003).

Patience, composure, kindness and the use of rewards are key principles for humane, effective and successful training (UFAW, 1990; Waran et al, 2002; DLGRD, 2003) and there should be the development of a positive, friendly relationship between the animal and the trainer (UFAW, 1990). The trainer should respect the animal, have a good understanding of the species' natural behaviours and biology and should also regard each animal individually during training so as to effectively monitor the individual's progress. Personnel must be competent in the undertaking of acceptable animal training practices and should receive appropriate regular tutoring in approved training techniques (Kohn, 1994; PAAZAB, 2010).

The nature of the relationship between keepers and animals may be enhanced by the keeper interacting with the animal through a barrier rather than via entry into the enclosure (Carlstead, 2009), which highlights the welfare benefits that can be achieved by using positive reinforcement training techniques in reducing the stress experienced by captive wild animals. It similarly further emphasizes the significance of positive reinforcement training methods in the management of captive wild species such as elephants (Maple and Perdue, 2013). Protected contact is a form of managing elephants using positive reinforcement training as the principle technique to modify behaviour and obtain the voluntary cooperation of the elephant in husbandry procedures; the keeper and animal are separated by an appropriate barrier and it is the development of a positive, friendly working relationship between the elephant and the keeper or trainer that is the key to its success.

All training methods, programmes and educational talks should be documented and approved by the Management Authority prior to their implementation and regularly assessed, in order to safeguard animal welfare. An appropriate ethical review should also be in place. Training policies should detail the philosophy of animal training, the application of all animal training programmes, be in accordance with any local legislation and should be regularly reviewed. Appropriate records should be kept detailing the objectives, goals and method of an animal training programme, as well as the actual undertaking and its progress (EAAM, 2009; PAAZAB, 2010).

Educational talks may incorporate trained animals and these public demonstrations should responsibly promote visitor understanding of natural animal behaviours and should always be a positive experience for the individual animals concerned. Animal demonstrations or presentations must not be detrimental to the physical health of the animals or result in negative mental experiences for the animals involved (NAWAC, 2005).

Requirements
<p>Training must not cause the animal any pain, injury or distress. Training methods must use positive reinforcement techniques. Negative reinforcement and punishment techniques should never form the basis of training and must be avoided. The deliberate infliction of injury or pain is unacceptable and should not be practised.</p>
<p>Training areas, equipment and facilities should be appropriate and well maintained.</p>
<p>Training techniques must be appropriate for the species and the individual animal, taking into account the differences in physical and mental capabilities that may occur between individual animals.</p>
<p>The duration of training sessions must be tailored to the individual animal's responses and condition. The animal must not be over-worked.</p>
<p>Personnel involved in animal training must be experienced and competent in carrying out acceptable animal training techniques.</p>
<p>Training techniques must be properly researched and all training methods and their aims shall be appropriately documented and approved by the Management Authority before being put into place. They shall also be recorded and regularly assessed.</p>

An appropriate ethical review process shall be established and used to examine animal training and display practices. Inappropriate and unethical practices should be identified and promptly stopped.

Recommendations

The use of appropriate barriers can enhance the relationship between the animal and the keeper during positive reinforcement training, encouraging the voluntary participation and cooperation of the animal in the training programme, whilst also giving the animal more choice over its environment.

Personnel involved in animal training should be regularly assessed in terms of their competence by the institution's Management Authority.

Accurate records relating to all aspects of an animal's training and display should be maintained, and should be regularly reviewed to ensure that there are no physical or behavioural problems.

Animal Contact

Visitor encounters with live animals, for example via touch pools, walk-through exhibits and hands-on education lessons, can offer informative and educational experiences for the public, but the welfare of the animals must be considered at all times and ensuring positive welfare is of paramount importance. Public and staff safety must also never be compromised. In all situations where contact with captive wild animals occurs, it must focus on educating visitors about natural animal behaviours, animal biology and conservation issues, and it must be strictly regulated and controlled to always adequately protect the welfare of the animals, as well as the health and safety of members of the public.

Walk-through exhibits may involve a number of different species including birds, bats, lemurs, marmosets, butterflies and lizards, whilst drive-through exhibits are a component of safari parks. In order to safeguard the welfare of the animals within these exhibits, it is important for visitors to understand the need to keep to the designated pathways/roads and not to feed, touch or interfere with the animals. Additional strict specific safety measures must be enforced for visitors to drive-through exhibits, including remaining in a secure vehicle at all times (EAZA, 2008) and local legislation specifically relating to drive-through exhibits must be adhered to. Children's petting zoos or touch paddocks may feature domestic farm animals and permit visitors to enter some of the enclosures and touch and feed the animals with authorised food provided by the institution. To protect the animals' health, only appropriate food supplied by the institution should be fed to permitted animals in touch paddocks and the consumption of food by visitors in any animal contact area must not be allowed. Walk-through and drive-through exhibits and petting areas must be

designed with appropriate barriers and double gated entrances and exits to prevent the animals escaping from the exhibit. Diving in zoos and aquaria and swim-through experiences are other situations where visitors may experience contact with captive wild animals. In all institutions where diving is carried out, a dive manual must be maintained, detailing, for example, standard operating diving procedures, diver conduct and risk assessments, and within which the welfare of the animals is a fundamental element of the operating practices (DEFRA, 2008).

In situations where visitors may encounter free-ranging animals via, for example, walk-through exhibits, swim-through or drive-through exhibits, or in circumstances where there is direct animal contact, such as touch pools, hands-on education or petting areas/touch paddocks, to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the animals and the visitors, it is necessary to have an appropriate member of personnel present at all times, with the numbers of personnel present being determined by the situation. Appropriate staff supervision and staffing levels of suitably experienced and competent personnel, taking into account the species of animal involved, are essential in all circumstances where there is contact with animals in order to protect the welfare of the animals (NAWAC, 2005; PAAZAB, 2010; BIAZA, 2012a). Appropriate documented emergency protocols must be instigated in the event of unauthorised visitors inside an animal enclosure (SEE MISCELLANEOUS - ESCAPES).

All staff involved in animal contact situations should be appropriately trained in animal handling, and must recognise signs of ill health, injury or disease and behaviours indicative of compromised animal welfare. Any abnormal animal behaviours or signs of ill health must be promptly and appropriately reported. If there is any indication that the health and welfare of an animal being used in a contact situation is compromised, then the episode of contact should stop immediately. Animals involved in contact situations with the public must have received appropriate training or be habituated to such interaction and must be under the direct control of an experienced keeper. Care should be taken by personnel when removing appropriate animals authorised for visitor hands-on contact experiences from their enclosures as the behaviour of all animals can become less predictable when they are in unusual surroundings or stressed and animals must always be accompanied by suitably competent personnel (EAZA, 2008; PAAZAB, 2010). However, animals should not be removed from environments and surroundings that are fundamental for their survival. For example, animals that are dependent on a water environment must not be removed from that environment otherwise poor welfare will result. All animal handling should be undertaken with the animal's welfare in mind and should not cause the animal any unnecessary discomfort, fear, distress or injury.

Personnel should be trained in and understand the importance of good hygiene practices and of minimising disease risks, in accordance with the institution's hygiene protocols. With all situations where there is contact with animals or objects touched by animals, hygiene is important and appropriate hand-washing facilities must be provided; staff and visitors should wash their hands before and after animal contact to reduce the risk of the animals being exposed to infection, as well as minimising the risk of exposure of members of the public and personnel to zoonotic infection. Hand-washing is particularly critical in contact situations that involve invertebrates; nicotine is fatal for many invertebrates, hence it is vital for people who smoke to adequately wash their hands before coming into contact with these animals (BIAZA, 2012a). With regards diving- or swim-through experiences, appropriate measures should be taken to minimise the spread of disease to animals in different tanks by divers, such as freshwater showers between diving in different marine tanks (DEFRA, 2008).

Individual records for all animals used in contact circumstances should be kept, including details of husbandry, health status (including deaths), behaviours and frequency of individual animal use in contact encounters with members of the public (BIAZA, 2012a). Records enable the monitoring of the effects of contact encounters on the well-being of the animals and the early identification of any problems and subsequent implementation of measures to rectify them. Mortalities of animals in contact areas or of those involved in contact experiences should be investigated by post mortem examination and appropriate disease screening undertaken (PAAZAB, 2010).

All contact between animals and visitors should be supervised and for restricted timeframes. Neonates and breeding animals should not be used in contact situations (BIAZA, 2012a). There should be sufficient rest periods away from direct visitor contact for the animals that are used in contact situations. This may be facilitated by appropriately rotating the individual animals that are used for contact and by ensuring that the frequency with which the animals are used for contact is appropriate (BIAZA, 2012a). All walk-through exhibits, touch pools and touch paddocks/children's petting areas should be of a suitable size and should have suitable refuge areas which the animals can access away from visitors. If touch pools allow direct contact, they should be continuously monitored by a competent member of staff and the animals should be appropriately rotated to help reduce stress (PAAZAB, 2010). Painful procedures, for example the removal of teeth, claws or stings, in order to make animals safer to handle, are unacceptable and must not be performed (PAAZAB, 2010; BIAZA, 2012a).

All events involving contact between the animals and public should be documented and approved by the Management Authority prior to their implementation and regularly assessed. An appropriate ethical review should also occur.

Visitor effects:

Although animal contact encounters can offer educational experiences for visitors, the effect of general visitor presence on captive wild animal well-being must also be considered. Visitor presence may create a positive or enriching experience for some animals (PAAZAB, 2010; Maple and Perdue, 2013), but the presence of the public around animal enclosures can also have an adverse effect on the behaviour and hence welfare, of some captive wild species, such as primates (Carrasco et al, 2009; Rees 2011). Disturbances in the group dynamics of chimpanzees and other primates have been documented during peak visitor numbers at their enclosures, with increased aggressive contact observed (Carrasco et al, 2009). Although by combining positive training techniques with social unstructured playing sessions in the management of captive primates, it may help to improve animal well-being and social group dynamics, and may result in a reduction in negative behaviours observed at times of visitor presence (Carrasco et al, 2009). It has also been suggested that large enclosures may help to reduce the detrimental effects of visitors on zoo animal behaviour, lessening animal disturbance from visitors suddenly appearing by increasing the distance between the animals and the visitors (Forthman 1998, cited in Maple and Perdue, 2013, p155). Furthermore, for animals that seem particularly disturbed by visitor presence, exposure to visitors and any associated negative effects can be reduced by obscuring view point windows (eg with camouflage netting), by providing sufficient appropriate areas within the enclosure for opportunities for seclusion and refuge from visitors, or by masking enclosure perimeters (Rees, 2011). The overall design of enclosures should also take into account minimising the negative effects of visitor presence on animals; lowering the

height of visitor viewpoints can reduce aggressive behaviours in arboreal primates when visitors are present (Chamove et al, 1988).

Requirements

Only contact which is neutral or of positive benefit to the animal is acceptable. The wellbeing of the animals must be regularly assessed.

Abnormal demands must not be made on animals (eg continuous petting) and animals must not be made to carry out displays that compromise their wellbeing.

Contact experiences and associated noise must not be distressing for the animals and suitable measures must be in place to prevent animals from being provoked or worried by visitors.

Animals involved in contact situations must have received appropriate training, be habituated to such interactions and must always be supervised and under the direct control of an experienced, competent animal keeper. Contact situations must consider and be appropriate for the individual animal's physical and mental capability.

Animal contact situations must always be strictly controlled and supervised by authorised personnel. Suitably experienced and competent personnel with appropriate training and knowledge must be present at all times in situations where there is animal contact.

If injury, ill health or abnormal behaviours are observed, they must be immediately reported and the animal must not be involved in animal contact, or the contact session immediately stopped.

The mutilation of any animal to make it safe for handling is unacceptable and must not be carried out.

All circumstances involving animal contact shall be recorded and approved by the Management Authority prior to their implementation and regularly monitored, reviewed and assessed. A documented policy statement on the use of animals for contact with the public should be produced and an appropriate regular ethical review process should be established.

Suitable measures to prevent the risk of disease transmission must be in place where there is animal contact.

Personnel and visitors shall appropriately wash their hands before and after animal contact.

Visitors must not feed the animals unless they have been permitted by the institution to do so. Unauthorised food must never be given to the animals.

Appropriate Legislation must be adhered to in order to ensure the health and safety of the animals, visitors and staff.

Animals destined for rehabilitation must not be used for public-animal contact.

Recommendations

All situations where the public and animals are in direct physical contact should be subject to regular annual risk assessment. Incidents including all bites and scratches should be appropriately recorded, detailing time, date and animal involved.

Freshwater showers between dives in different marine tanks will minimise the risk of the spread of disease where diving experiences are operating.

Mental Components

Good mental health and well-being is associated with the individual animal's biological and physical requirements (as represented by the four physical domains) can be accomplished when all of those needs are met, and positive welfare states can be achieved when the individual's psychological or mental needs (fifth domain), as well as the physical needs, are addressed (Green and Mellor, 2011; Mellor 2013; Portas 2013). Yet, animals may experience a different range of emotional and mental states according to their sentience and different cognitive capacities, and not only do animals vary in their sentience, which is their ability to experience positive states, such as happiness, and negative states, such as pain and fear (Broom, 2007), but sentient animals may experience different emotions from one point in time to the next. In addition, within a species, individual differences in personalities and behaviours may occur, which can result in individual animals responding differently to aspects of their captive environment (Horvath et al, 2013). Therefore, when considering the management of wild animals in captivity and how to best ensure that their psychological needs and requirements are met, it is important to take into account species' differing cognitive capacities and their sentience, in addition to the different individual animal traits, and these considerations must be undertaken throughout the animals' lifetime.

Domain 5: Mental State

An individual's mental state may be determined by the physical and biological health of the animal, the type of sensations it experiences, whether they be positive or negative, along with cognitive feedback from external environmental stimulation (Green and Mellor, 2011; Mellor, 2013), which, in turn, can affect the animal's overall welfare state. Suffering is a term referring to an unpleasant mental state and a level of cognition is necessary for mental suffering (Gregory, 2004), as well as sentience. With this in mind, taking into account the animal's cognitive capacity, there can be a large range of differing negative mental states that may lead to suffering and a poor state of welfare, including pain, frustration, fatigue, boredom, distress and loneliness (Gregory, 2004). Pain, can cause aggression, as can overcrowding, inappropriate social grouping and fear. Prolonged and extreme pain, fear or stress negatively affects the welfare of individual animals.

Pain is a sensory input that protects the body from damage and harm, but physical pain is an unpleasant sensation and can lead to suffering (Gregory, 2004). The ability to recognise the range of behaviours that may indicate pain in animals and the knowledge that different ages of animals may have different behavioural expressions of pain is fundamental in animal management and husbandry in order to appropriately offer relief of pain. Trauma and injuries may occur due a variety of different reasons, for example, from abnormal self-mutilation behaviours, aggressive conflicts with conspecifics, damage from rough surfaces in accommodation enclosures (eg poorly maintained flooring), or from poor handling during transport, and different types of trauma and injuries can cause different experiences of pain. Additionally, disease is a significant cause of suffering (Gregory, 2004) and there is often pain associated with the diseased area. The degree of suffering experienced as a result of disease depends on the nature of the particular disease; disease can negatively affect the mental state of an animal by causing a range of negative experiences, depending on the type of disease, such as breathlessness, fatigue, nausea and pain (Mellor, 2013), thereby resulting in poor animal welfare. Therefore, appropriate measures must be taken to ensure good physical health through the prompt detection and treatment of illness or injuries in order to minimise unpleasant sensations and hence safeguard positive welfare.

However, animals can also experience positive emotions, including a sense of security, playfulness, calmness and contentment, which may result from good physical health and positive interactions with the environment and other animals and conspecifics (Mellor, 2011; Mellor, 2013).

A positive state of welfare may be achieved by ensuring that captive wild animals are appropriately provided with situations and environmental conditions that enable them to meet their physical and biological needs, with this accomplishment involving management practices that promote positive psychological well-being and prevent unpleasant or negative experiences, thereby avoiding or minimising suffering, throughout the animal's lifetime. For example, social grouping that is appropriate for the ages of the animals and the species can offer opportunities for play, companionship and a sense of security. Yet if specific circumstances in social groups are sub-optimally managed, such as when there is overcrowding or an unnatural ratio of males to females, individual animals may experience distress with a resultant adverse psychological state. If negative

emotions are severe or prolonged and the individual animal, because of its circumstances, cannot escape or avoid them, welfare will become poor (DEFRA, 2008).

Additionally, the use of environmental enrichment techniques to provide a more complex and stimulating environment can help prevent frustration and boredom (Duncan, 2004) with the quality of the environment being an important factor in reducing stress (Tribe, 2008; Rees, 2011). An increase in the expression of a range of natural behaviours, such as exploration, foraging and play, which can be associated with a suitably stimulating and variable environment can promote a positive mental state, ultimately improving the welfare status of the animal. Providing individual animals with choices and the ability to make decisions within their environments is also important for creating positive affective states.

Consequently, the core function of captive wild animal husbandry and management should be to promote positive experiences, to minimise stress and negative experiences, and to provide opportunity for natural behaviour and for making choices about their environment. Promoting positive, pleasurable experiences for the animals may also offset any unavoidable negative experiences (Duncan, 2004).

Welfare assessment:

As previously discussed, the 'Five Domains' concept offers a useful template for the general assessment of animal welfare, addressing the need to consider physiological and behavioural indicators of animal well-being, in association with the various mental states an animal may experience (Mellor, 2013; Portas, 2013). Yet, the assessment of animal welfare and an individual animal's affective state or psychological health provides challenges as it cannot be measured directly. Although assessment of the affective state of an animal can be performed indirectly via observations of its physical state and behaviour which may indicate the presence of positive or negative experiences or sensations (Gregory, 2004). Experienced observation and interpretation of species-specific behaviours is required. Therefore, assessments of animal welfare should involve reviewing animal based measures, as well as resource based measures. Animal based measures, which can provide guidance to the welfare state of the individual animal, are important for understanding and ultimately achieving good animal welfare and must therefore be taken into account when considering the overall welfare of captive wild animals, in addition to resource based measures that involve an assessment of the provisions of the animal's environment, such as appropriate nutrition, suitable shelter, etc, as depicted in the four physical domains (nutrition, health, environment and behaviour).

Animal based measures may incorporate a number of different assessment techniques which in general may involve behavioural measures, physiological measures, health assessments (injury occurrence, disease presence and mortalities) and animal group or population data analysis (Portas, 2013). However, each of these four animal based measures or assessment techniques should not be considered alone, since independently each one has limitations, where as if outcomes from more than one assessment method is used, a more reliable indication of an animal's welfare state may be achieved (Portas, 2013). For example, an individual animal may be in good physical health with normal physiological measures, yet its mental state and hence welfare may be poor if its fundamental need to burrow or nest, for instance, is not provided for. Population data is useful

when assessing the welfare of big groups of animals where it may be difficult to determine the identification of individuals.

Observing what behaviours different animals perform, the duration of the expressed behaviours and comparing these observations to the behaviours displayed by their wild counterparts has been used as a method to assess welfare (Kagan and Veasey, 2010). Behavioural measures of an individual's welfare can also include the observation of abnormal behaviours such as stereotypies, avoidance, over-grooming, self-harming, excessively low levels of activity, poor maternal care, or hyper-aggression (Draper and Harris, 2012). Yet, poor maternal care may occur for a variety of reasons; it can be associated with stress or occur as a result of ill health of the mother (DEFRA, 2008).

The performance of stereotypies is suggestive of a negative welfare state; they are considered indicators of poor animal welfare. Stereotypies may develop in animals for a variety of different reasons, but are often associated with suboptimal environmental provision, chronic social isolation and chronic stress or frustration as a result of the confined environment and its associated imposed restrictions (Pethrick and Rushden, 1997; Gregory, 2004; Maple and Perdue, 2013). Stereotypies can also cause physical injuries and harm as a result of the animal's repetitive actions and abnormal behaviours (SEE ENVIRONMENTAL ENRICHMENT AND STIMULATION). Although, their expression may be needed to help the animal to cope in its current environment and situation (DEFRA, 2008; Tribe, 2008). However, if the occurrence of stereotypies is used as an animal based measure of welfare, it should also be noted that stereotypies can reflect previous, historical experiences in the animal's lifetime and therefore may not represent the effect of present management or environmental conditions on welfare (Swaigood and Shepherdson, 2005; DEFRA, 2008; Rees, 2011; Maple and Perdue, 2013); where the observation of stereotypies is used as a welfare assessment method, other measures of welfare should also be used in conjunction with stereotypy observation to give a more reliable indication of an animal's welfare state.

Physiological measures may include heart rate, measures of stress hormones (corticosteroids such as cortisol) and other biological measures of physical health and stress, such as a change in body weight. Cortisol can be measured via blood samples, saliva, faeces or urine, although like other physiological measures such as heart rate, changes in cortisol level may not specifically relate to negative experiences, they may also indicate positive experiences by the animal and hence should be interpreted in association with the specific environmental circumstances and conditions at the time of sampling (DEFRA, 2008; Kagan and Veasey, 2010). Body weight changes may also occur due to a large number of different reasons, such as seasonal weight changes, changes associated with age or the presence of disease, and hence, alone, should not be used as a reliable measure of animal welfare.

It is important that the interpretation of all animal based assessments should be carefully considered with specific reference to the environmental and management conditions experienced by the animal at the time of observation or sampling.

Requirements

Management and husbandry practices must minimise unpleasant, negative emotions and experiences (eg pain, fear, etc), whilst promoting and encouraging positive emotions and experiences (eg, happiness, calmness, etc) for the animals.

Natural behaviours shall be encouraged. Important natural behavioural considerations for each species include:

- a) feeding behaviour;
- b) excretory and elimination behaviour;
- c) agonistic and aggression behaviour;
- d) sexual and reproductive behaviour;
- e) relaxation behaviour;
- f) comfort-seeking behaviour;
- g) investigatory or exploratory behaviour;
- h) mimicry and group behaviour;
- i) care-seeking behaviour;
- j) care-giving behaviour; and
- k) play behaviour

Enclosures must provide suitable sensory stimulation that is appropriate for the species within a suitably complex, variable and mentally challenging environment that allows for normal exercise and behaviour expression.

Negative experiences that may cause individual animals fear and distress must be avoided or minimised:

- a) Animal handling and restraint, when required, must be carried out with the necessary and appropriate care and consideration
- b) In situations where there is permitted direct physical contact between animals and visitors it must be of an appropriately restricted duration, supervised and must not negatively impact upon the animal's physical or mental health.
- c) Social animals that are normally maintained within a group, should they need to be temporarily accommodated away from their group mates, must not be separated for such a length of time that will cause problems when reintroduced to their group, unless under veterinary instruction.
- d) If individuals are showing signs of distress, appropriate measures must be promptly taken to correct the situation to promote positive experiences for the animals.

Ill health in individual animals must be promptly addressed to minimise negative experiences for the animal. For example:

- a) Any individual animal showing signs of poor health, injury or disease must be thoroughly assessed and promptly receive the necessary and appropriate veterinary treatment and care
- b) Veterinary consultation must be undertaken immediately in emergency situations and within at least 24 hours for non-emergency cases.

- c) Keeper staff must be competent in recognising signs of ill health, trauma, pain or stress in an animal
- d) Animals must be frequently and routinely observed by experienced and competent staff and any abnormalities in health or behaviour promptly and appropriately reported
- e) Enclosures where infectious animals have been accommodated must be appropriately cleaned and disinfected before re-use

Miscellaneous

Peripheral to the Five Domains, other elements that are important contributing factors that help to indirectly safeguard animal health and well-being include the maintenance of good animal records and the prevention of an animal escape, along with documented contingency plans for the appropriate management of the situation in the event of an animal escape.

Record Keeping

The maintenance of accurate and well documented records forms an important part of good animal husbandry and care, and in some jurisdictions it is a legal requirement for zoos to keep records (Rees, 2011). Records must be kept by such a method that enables quick and easy access to the information. Computerised records are especially constructive in that information may be easily incorporated into global zoo animal databases such as the International Species Inventory System (ISIS), but computerised records must be adequately and securely backed up.

Records detailing health, husbandry and behavioural observations enable the assessment and monitoring of patterns, whilst also providing a method of assessing animal welfare (CAWC, 2003; DEFRA, 2008; CAWC 2009). Health records, alongside recorded daily behavioural observations, can facilitate the interpretation of trends in disease and observed mental health and hence may be used as indicators of general welfare. Demographic or population data is also valuable for the assessment of welfare in substantial groups of animals (DEFRA, 2008). However, when considering individual animal welfare, the observations and records of individual animals should be interpreted collectively alongside the records of other individuals within the social grouping; enhancing the behaviour in one individual, can negatively affect the welfare of another individual in the group (Keeling et al, 2011, cited in Maple and Perdue, 2013, p38).

In addition to facilitating the monitoring of the health and welfare of both individuals and, particularly, groups of animals, records may also play a role in breeding management. Many institutions (both zoos and aquaria) actively participate in captive breeding programmes and whether the aim is to maintain genetic diversity of captive populations of species, or as part of a reintroduction programme, accurate records are vital (Kohn, 1994).

In order for accurate records to be kept, the identification of each individual animal is important. Individual animal identification of some species can occur via distinctive natural markings on or

appearance of the pelage, although where appropriate, most animals may be individually marked using a suitable marking system (Beausoleil et al, 2004; Mellor et al, 2004). Marks and marking systems should be used that have minimal adverse effects on the animal (Beausoleil et al, 2004; Mellor et al, 2004). Individual identification using the subcutaneous implantation of a unique microchip may be used, where appropriate for the species concerned. Where the permanent marking of animals using external marks or microchips is undertaken, it should only be performed by trained and competent personnel, using suitable equipment, under hygienic conditions (DEFRA, 2003). Marking systems for individuals of different species should be appropriate, easy to apply with negligible discomfort to the animal, and the mark itself (for example, the tag or microchip) should cause no long-term harm or irritation (Mellor et al, 2004). It is important that the health and natural behaviour of the animal is not compromised through its marking (Rees, 2011).

Requirements

Records must be kept and maintained of all individually recognisable animals and groups of animals in the institution. Where possible, animals must be suitably individually identified by a marking means that causes the animal no long-term harm and does not adversely affect natural behaviour.

Records must be kept by a method that enables quick and easy access to the information and which is secure. There shall be a secure, long-term archive system in place.

The records must provide the following information:

- a) identification to specific level and scientific name;
- b) whether captive-born or wild born. Identification of parents, where known, and previous locations the animal has been kept at, if any, must also be recorded;
- c) dates and details of entry into the collection and source, and disposal from the collection and if applicable, to whom;
- d) date, or estimated date of birth or hatching;
- e) sex (where known);
- f) any distinctive markings, including tattoos, freeze-brands, tags, rings or microchips;
- g) health records and clinical data, including details and dates of any treatment given and whether an individual or the whole group was medicated;
- h) behavioural and life history data;
- i) breeding records of each animal and of the group;
- j) date of death and results of any post-mortem examination and laboratory investigations;
- k) food, daily food intake and diets;
- l) details of any escapes, including damage or injury caused to the animal, or to persons or property, reason for escape and action taken to prevent reoccurrence of such an event; and
- m) additional species-specific information may need to be kept in accordance with applicable local legislation.

Accurate records of specific environmental parameters, as appropriate for the species, must be kept.

Recommendations

In addition to the individual animal records, an annual species stock list should be made, detailing entry into and exit out of the institution's collection.

Escapes

The prevention of the escape of captive wild animals from their enclosures is vital to safeguard the health and welfare of each individual animal accommodated within the enclosure, in addition to ensuring the safety of personnel and members of the public and to help protect the local biodiversity and the viability of local ecosystems. The escape of an animal from an enclosure may not only result in potentially serious injury to persons or damage to property, but has the probable consequence of the escaped animal itself being subject to significant injury and harm. Therefore it is imperative that sufficient thought and consideration is given to the security and appropriate design and maintenance of animal enclosures, as well as the institution's perimeter fencing. Both of these barriers must undertake a vital role in the prevention of the escape of an animal and hence both should be secure and be of appropriate height, strength and construction. Entries to all animal enclosures should be kept secure, to prevent animal escapes and to prevent the unauthorised access by members of the public.

The development of a suitable emergency protocol should an animal escape occur is essential, along with its regular review. Emergency protocols must also state the procedures that are to be taken in the event of an unauthorised person entering an enclosure. All staff personnel should be familiar with the protocol and understand its implementation, as well as the need for prompt and appropriate action in the event of an animal escape, with training and practise drills being periodically undertaken. In certain circumstances and situations, the humane destruction of the animal escapee may be necessary, hence the documented protocol should incorporate the necessity to have a capable and experienced member of staff with sufficient authority available at all times to take decisions regarding escaped animals. This emergency protocol must additionally address the requirements of local legislation; the notification of the local authority within the required time frame in accordance with any existing local legislation may be necessary in the event of an escape of a captive wild animal.

Environmental disasters and other catastrophes have the potential to severely compromise animal welfare by causing traumatic injury and harm to animals via direct effects or as a result of escapes, but climatic extremes may also have serious detrimental effects on animal welfare. Each species of animal is adapted to living within particular environmental conditions that include, for example, specific thermal ranges and humidity levels; severe changes in weather patterns will compromise

welfare by potentially exposing animals to, for example, heat stress or cold stress. Therefore, the effect of fire, extreme weather, natural disasters and other such like catastrophes must also be taken into account when devising an emergency protocol and it is critical to ensure that appropriate contingency measures to safeguard the welfare of the animals held at the institution are devised and ready for immediate implementation should such unpredictable events occur.

The welfare of an escaped animal free-roaming within the local natural environment may be compromised through physical injury and psychological harm occurring to the animal, but also through potential exposure of the animal to novel pathogens or diseases against which it may have little immunity, all of which will negatively affect the animal's health and welfare status. This is particularly true of a non-indigenous animal escapee as they may encounter pathogens found in the geographical environment within which the institution is located, or carried by indigenous animal species, to which they have had no previous exposure and to which they have not developed immunity (CAWC, 2003) with the risk of serious ill health and poor welfare. Therefore, every effort must be made to effect recovery of all escaped animals. If an animal escapee is recovered alive, the potential risk to the health and hence welfare of the other animals accommodated within the institution should be considered, with a period of quarantine for the escapee being enforced if deemed appropriate following veterinary consultation.

Requirements

There must be a written emergency protocol for managing animal escapes, or if unauthorised persons enter an enclosure, detailing the procedures that should be immediately carried out in such an event.

These procedures must be understood by all staff and periodically practised and assessed in an appropriate manner.

This protocol must comply with all relevant local and national legislation, be available to all members of personnel and be regularly reviewed and up-dated, as appropriate.

Every attempt must be made to recover all escaped animals, live or dead.

There shall be a written protocol for the possible destruction of the escapee, which shall ensure that a capable and experienced, senior member of staff is always available to make decisions regarding escaped animals.

Emergency protocols covering fire, extreme weather, natural disasters, and other such catastrophes must be developed in relation to managing an animal escape and implemented as appropriate, and suitable, effective contingency plans must be produced.

A record of all escapes shall be kept.

Consideration should be given to any danger that may arise in the event of an animal escaping from its enclosure, with regular review of risk assessments.

Recommendations

Local conservation authorities might require notification of the escape of non-domesticated animals, in accordance with local legislation.

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