



## Conservation Policy

### Foreword

The National Zoological Society of Wales, Welsh Mountain Zoo is committed to conserving the natural world and to educating and inspiring our visitors to do the same. The Zoo recognises and supports the BIAZA supported definition of conservation;

*Conservation is an action leading to healthy and resilient wildlife populations and natural ecosystems. These outcomes underpin the sustainability of the global environment and human societies and are achieved through direct interventions to manage populations, habitats and landscapes; promoting behaviour change at all levels of society through engagement and advocacy; and research and knowledge sharing to build conservation capacity.*

The Welsh Mountain Zoo will work within this definition of conservation through participation in the population management of threatened species, conservation research, conservation education and capacity building, managing habitats, promoting public awareness, behaviour change and engagement in sustainability issues.

This policy is supported by the Zoos Sustainability and Environmental Policy, Conservation Education Policy and Research Policy.

### Conservation Breeding

The Welsh Mountain Zoo will actively participate with EAZA EEP and ESB species management programmes, working towards (maintaining) healthy populations of healthy animals within EAZA collections or beyond.

Further to this, the Zoo will work with regional and monitored species coordinators and stakeholders in the captive breeding of threatened native species for wild release, in line with the IUCN Reintroduction Guidelines.

### Conservation Education

The Welsh Mountain Zoo, aims to provide unique and high-quality inspirational learning opportunities, to raise awareness, increase respect and knowledge about wildlife and local, regional and global conservation and sustainability issues, and thus to engage and connect people of all ages with the natural world.

The Zoos Conservation Education Policy and Conservation Education Plan provide further detail on how this will be actioned and delivered.



## **Research**

Zoos are uniquely positioned to carry out research on a wide range of topics, including biological sciences, conservation, animal welfare, social sciences, education

The Welsh Mountain Zoo is committed to providing a venue for research on a wide range of topics including biological sciences, conservation, animal welfare, social sciences, education and environmental sustainability, where research is in line with zoo licensing requirements, BIAZA and EAZA research guidelines and the EAZA research strategy.

The Zoos Research Policy provides further detail on how this will be actioned and delivered

## **In-situ Support, Conservation of Wild Animals and Habitats**

The Welsh Mountain Zoo is committed to providing both financial support and staff time and resources to the in-situ conservation of threatened species and habitats, both globally and locally.

## **Environmental Responsibility**

The Welsh Mountain Zoo is committed to undertaking and continuing the process of monitoring and adapting aspects of the Zoos operations with a view to continually improving the environmental performance of the Charity through minimising the impact of our operations on the environment.

The Zoos Sustainability and Environmental Policy provides further detail on how this will be actioned and delivered.