

Support for another war torn zoo organised by CNN, WAZA, and other organisations and individuals. Tripoli zoo animals gets help.

Thanks to WAZA Executive Office for permitting us to reprint this article.

WAZA (Gland). 12 September 2011. Several organizations have joined hands in order to help the animals in the zoo of Tripoli after the hostilities in Libya.

David Jones, deputy-chair of the WAZA Ethics and Animal Welfare Committee and director of the North Carolina Zoo in the USA and adept of the region established contacts with Libya and linked up various organizations:

"Usually there are three phases in these situations. Urgent, then more chronic animal management needs and finally long term training and technical assistance. IFAW have already launched an appeal and we are acting on behalf of the AZA (Association of Zoos and Aquariums) and WAZA (World Association of Zoos and Aquariums) Till now IFAW and the Zoo consortium have already moved about \$20,000 to the Zoo Director for food purchases". Funds are coming in to the www.nczoo.com site. WAZA, AZA and BIAZA will be linked in and CNN will also create a link to this site. IFAW has opened an appeal and Four Paws have reported on their presence at the Zoo and are collecting funds as well. So between everyone, we should be able to raise sufficient resources.

According to Kim Phillips of Four Paws (Vier Pforten), the current status can be reported as follows:

1. There are over 700 animals, over 50 species. 23 turtles and one deer was stolen during the conflict.
2. The situation with the animals in need is much better.
3. The supply of food has improved and we will be purchasing food for one month for the animals at the zoo. .
4. VIER PFOTEN will set up a secured a feeding program tomorrow for one month.
5. The situation is still unsure, and it is not known how much longer this will continue. With the situation of the Government in transition it is unclear who will be responsible for the care of the zoo programme going forward. Currently no-one is responsible for the zoo.
6. The water problem has been resolved.
7. There is a dedicated team at the Tripoli zoo working with the animals. The team needs further training in working with the animals, especially the wild animals. They have not had opportunity for trading of knowledge



Fig. 1. Anwar, a male tiger with an open wound after he ate the top part of his tails rests in Tripoli Zoo, Libya, September 9, 2011.
© Mihai Vasile / Vier Pforten



Fig. 2 Dr. Gabriel Ignat (first from L to R), dr. Amir Khalil (third from L to R), and Dr. Abdulfatah M. Husni, Director of Tripoli Zoo (fourth from L to R) vaccinate lions in Tripoli Zoo, Libya, September 9, 2011.
© Mihai Vasile / Vier Pforten

with international partners at other zoos and any international organisations.

8. Enrichment: there is no enrichment for the animals. The zoo lacks a proper enrichment program for the animals. We will be starting an enrichment program at the zoo with the brown bears tomorrow.

9. Vaccinations: today we started with vaccinations of the big cats.

10. Tigers: we will undertake an operation of one of the tigers who has been chewing on its tail. There is

another tiger that is very ill and lethargic and we will examine it more closely.

11. Infrastructure: the zoo's infrastructure is good, was under renovation for many months. It is a British design and was being built by a Korean construction company. When the war broke out the construction company removed their workers.

12. Equipment: there is a severe lack of medical equipment and surgical equipment at the zoo. A darting gun, electro cardio gram, and anesthetic will

be immediately useful. But much is needed for the zoo. A full report of needs will come through to you in the next days. Anesthetic for wild animals is desperately needed, we have a small supply right now, but more is required.

Donate for animals at Tripoli Zoo

Give to Save the Animals at the Tripoli Zoo. In response to a request from the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), the North Carolina Zoo has agreed to lead the American zoo community's response to the emergency welfare needs of animals living in the Tripoli Zoo. The AZA asked Zoo Director David Jones to oversee these welfare operations because of his strong contacts with Middle Eastern zoo professionals and because of his historic leadership in getting food, water, shelter, veterinary care and other necessities to zoo animals trapped by the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. The NC Zoological Society, the 501(c)3, non-profit organization that manages charitable donations made to the North Carolina Zoo, will accept and distribute donations made to assist the Tripoli Zoo Animal Welfare effort. Donations to this fund will be restricted to projects that provide exclusively for the medical, nutritional, health, safety and welfare needs of animals living in the Tripoli Zoo.



Fig. 3 Dr. Gabriel Ignat (left) and Dr. Mohamed Abu Aza prepare the vaccines for the lions in Tripoli Zoo, Libya, September 9, 2011. © Mihai Vasile / Vier Pfoten



Finally, the hippos get out of the mud and waste into a pool with clean water. A full grown lion is not "bottle feeding" but taking a drink of bottle water from his human friend. And a giant tortoise luxuriates in the fresh greens, a necessity which has been a long time coming. Look up Tripoli Zoo on the web ... just type Tripoli Zoo in your search engine and see all the stories about the torments suffered by the animals and their rescue by WAZA, welfare organisations, zoos and individuals. Photos by IFAW.

