

IUCN SSC CBSG meeting, Adelaide 2008 — Best yet !



Notes from CBSG SSC IUCN central office

Members of CBSG who had attended the conference this year at Adelaide received a round email from the CBSG office expressing what most attendees felt, that is it was "one of our most productive meetings". The quality of every working group report was exceptional. It wasn't all work as a great time was had by all in a beautiful seaside town. We had a great time with WAZA colleagues where, at the goodbye-CBSG-hello-WAZA & IZE icebreaker. CBSG proudly presented the Ulie Seal Award for Innovation in Conservation. Many thanks to our host, Director of Adelaide Zoo, Chris West.

2008 CBSG Steering Committee Meeting: The CBSG Steering Committee is normally conducted the day before the first day of CBSG which was 16 October 2008 from 9 am - 4 pm this year. The Adelaide Zoo hosted the Steering Committee, laying on a nice lunch and a pleasant zoo environment.

Meeting Notes

Present were Brad Andrews, Anne Baker, Evan Blumer, Jeffrey Bonner, Onnie Byers, Amy Camacho, Frands Carlsen, Mark Craig, Gerald Dick, Lesley Dickie, Nate Flesness, Jo Gipps, Heribert Hofer, Kazuyoshi Itoh, Bob Lacy, Kristin Leus, Lena Linden, Phil Miller, George Rabb, Lee Simmons, Miranda Stevenson, Yasumasa Tomita, Kathy Traylor, Holzer, Kris Vehrs, Sally Walker, Chris West, and Kevin Zippel

After the usual welcome and introductions Bob Lacy and Onnie Byers covered CBSG Updates. Those most of interest and importance to CBSG South Asia will be summarised here.

- Bob Lacy congratulated Dr. Simon Stuart, on his election as Chair of SSC, the new SSC Chair, and hoped he would be able to attend future CBSG Steering Committee meetings.
- Bob also recognised Lesley Dickie on her new post as Director of the European Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

Bob and Onnie introduced the 2007 Annual Report crediting Virginia Lindgren and Linda Malek for production and printing to Lee Simmons of the Omaha Zoo. CBSG South Asia is happy to note that it has found a place with a success story in every issue of

the report since last 3-4 years. This year our success story dealt with CBSG South Asia's catalysis of close collaboration between the Conservation Breeding Specialist Group, South Asia and the Reintroduction Specialist Group, South Asia, promoting right reintroductions and conducting joint meetings annually before the South Asian Zoo Association annual conference. See the set up for this story on the next page, and in living colour on the CBSG Website, www.cbsg.org.

Sustainability

CBSG is a responsible organisation ... it has been living up to its commitment to reduce our environmental footprint, offsetting carbon emissions here at the Conference by payments. CBSG has reduced their use of paper considerably by using 100% post consumer waste paper when printing is essential. This year the Annual Report was printed in such a way saved 1.36 trees, 579 gallons of wastewater flow and 965,600 BTUs energy. The CBSG Briefing Book was assembled and uploaded on the website in advance of the meeting so thousands of pages of paper and air cargo energy were saved.

A new regional CBSG network — CBSG Australasia

The 9th CBSG Regional Network: CBSG Australasia has been formed and is being hosted by Auckland Zoo. The Network will focus on the development of tools for: 1) mass collaboration, 2) population management, and 3) disease risk assessment and management. In addition, CBSG Australasia will make it a priority to explore partnerships in the region (initially with the regional Association ARAZPA).

B. CBSG/WAZA Amphibian Initiative Update

AArk activities update (Kevin Zippel):

- Amphibians have fared poorly in last year
- Thirty percent are on the IUCN Red List and a new study of background extinction rates indicate current rates are 25,000x - 45,000x any other seen
- Habitat loss remains the greatest threat, but disease and climate change are major threats that cannot be mitigated currently
- AArk Population Management Advisory Group formed, met, guidelines published
- Publication of IZY amphibian issue with several articles by AArk staff
- Threatened Amphibians of the World book is now available
- Year of the Frog Campaign (Lesley Dickie).

CBSG's Presence at the World Conservation Congress in Barcelona

- IUCN/SSC Election
- Simon Stuart elected SSC Chair and Yolán Friedmann of CBSG Southern Africa elected to IUCN Council
- Sanjay Molur of CBSG South Asia reported much interest and support in the CAMP-style assessment process and that CBSG's contribution is appreciated. Sanjay also was asked to give a Pavilion Presentation and also sit on the SSC panel for Red List discussion.
- Bob participated in the SSC Steering Committee Meeting
- WCPA/SSC Systematic Conservation Planning session (Bob presented species planning approach)
- Approaches to Species Conservation (WCS) – Bob, Pati Medici, Arnaud Desbiez, Yolán Friedmann, and Sanjay Molur
- Other zoo presence at WCC: Gerald Dick (WAZA), Gordon McGregor Reid, Bill Rapley, Jorg Adler, Jens-Ove Heckel, Brock Blevins (Omaha), and various people from Wildlife Conservation Society, Zoological Society of London, Chicago Zoological Society, and others.
- The World Conservation Congress marks the beginning of a new SSC quadrennium which means reauthorization Specialist Groups and reconstitution of SG of memberships. CBSG is in the process of deciding what the "membership" should be like.

CBSG membership discussion

CBSG is considering creation of two 'levels' of membership: Smaller number of official members (active contributors) and a broader communication network of collaborators. The function and composition of the Steering Committee is also being reviewed to make the Steering Committee (SC) a more effective group.

Future of CBSG discussion

Bob Lacy, CBSG Chair expressed concern that CBSG might drift away from its original *ex situ – in situ* linkage mandate as CBSG's current mission statement does not include a mention of "*ex situ*" as such. Discussions, meetings and a review of CBSG's work over the past three years revealed that more than 85% of CBSG activities had an explicit *ex situ* component and CBSG is, in fact, living up to the mandate to link *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation. This emphasis is not obvious in the wording of the organization's mission, however, which is an significant oversight as it could result in veering away from the Mission. Also assisting zoos is something of which CBSG is proud and wants to be recognized.

The CBSG staff drafted an internally agreed upon re-statement of CBSG purpose and re-wording of the mission for the Steering Committee's consideration. In the Steering Committee, while there was general consensus on CBSG's commitment to linking zoos and aquariums to conservation of species in wild habitats, there were a few in the group felt strongly that CBSG represents a wide range of stakeholders equally and

CONSERVATION BREEDING SPECIALIST GROUP

REFOCUSING REINTRODUCTION IN SOUTH ASIA



Reintroduction Facts

- Introduction of nonnative species into thriving habitats is a serious cause of extinction to local wildlife, but the improper release of native animals can have the same impact.
- Systematic and scientific breeding of *ex situ* populations would reduce the pressure to release surplus animals into the wild.
- RSG first drafted its IUCN Guidelines for Reintroduction in 1995. Many countries and unions, including the EU, have adopted these guidelines as formal policy for reintroduction projects.

"CBSG and RSG complement each other, and having both under one roof in South Asia is very useful. Using CBSG's tools for managing groups, strategic planning, and conflict resolution, zoos learn how the Reintroduction Guidelines can enhance the wellbeing of individuals to be released, the animals occupying the release site, and the habitat itself." – Primal Soree, Program Officer, IUCN/SSC Reintroduction Specialist Group

The Situation

Reintroduction ideally leads to sustainable wild populations of animals in appropriate habitats. However, when reintroduction is used inappropriately to solve problems unconnected to or only loosely connected to conservation, the impact on the release area and local wildlife can be very destructive. Unfortunately, this misuse of the tools of reintroduction is not uncommon in many parts of the world, including South Asia. CBSG South Asia and the IUCN/SSC Reintroduction Specialist Group (RSG) are working together to address this serious conservation concern in this region.

The Process

To change practices in the region, CBSG South Asia and RSG South Asia held joint annual meetings, in conjunction with the South Asian Zoo Association, to promote the principles of conservation breeding and the implementation of the IUCN reintroduction guidelines, which define best practices. These meetings are held in a different South Asian country each year, allowing a larger number of people to gather and discuss both conservation breeding and reintroduction issues.



The Results

CBSG South Asia and RSG South Asia target specific misunderstandings by applying CBSG tools and processes to real problems. At a recent meeting, a working group on human/leopard conflict found that CBSG conflict resolution tools opened new avenues for addressing many issues. In another working group, for tigers translocating large carnivores to nearby habitats found CBSG population management tools and RSG guidelines useful for prey base management in the new localities. Zoos that in the past have conducted improper reintroductions are now prepared to employ methods of planned breeding and population control and have the tools to conduct proper reintroduction procedures when necessary.

by singling out zoos and aquariums CBSG loses neutrality. In addition, there were a multitude of views around the specific working of the mission statement, but everyone agreed that mission includes linkage of conservation breeding institutions (such as zoos, aquariums, botanic gardens and others) and the *in situ* conservation community.

Working Group Formation

Three groups were formed to do some additional work on issues raised to this point in the meeting:

- Group 1. Rewording CBSG's mission statement
- Group 2. Proposal for changes to the governance and structure of the Steering Committee
- Group 3. Cutting edge ideas for the newly refocused purpose of CBSG: *in situ – ex situ* linkage.

Group 1 Proposed Mission Statement Revisions:

(This version has not been officially approved but the meaning will be essentially the same.)

CBSG's mission is to save threatened species by facilitating successful integration of conservation efforts worldwide. In this respect, CBSG's priority is to link institutions involved in ex situ¹ conservation (i.e., conservation breeding institutions, such as zoos, aquariums, botanic gardens and others) with other stakeholders to contribute more effectively to the conservation of species in wild habitats, through:

- creating and disseminating innovative and interdisciplinary methodologies to all conservation stakeholders
- delivering culturally sensitive and respectful facilitation, and
- empowering partnerships

and collaborations among those conserving species in conservation breeding institutions and in the wild, thereby transforming passion for wildlife into effective conservation.

Group 2. Changes to the governance and structure of the Steering Committee: Not included

Group 3. Linking Opportunities Working Group:

The group brainstormed ideas on how to promote linkages between *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation:

- Get more people from the *in situ* community to be an integral part of CBSG (annual meeting, steering committee, strategic associates, etc.) by making it more interesting/attractive to them
- Get better representation of CBSG at other conservation meetings (e.g., Society for Conservation Biology)
- Link some CBSG meetings with other conservation meetings
- Distribute the reports better to help linkage and help dissemination of results to both communities?
- Create a stimulating CBSG activity at regional zoo association meetings to guarantee a prominent and important presence there and show zoos different ways contribute to species conservation.
- Often, produce and disseminate conservation success stories for CBSG membership and regional zoo associations
- The zoo community has evolved towards contributing to *in situ* conservation but there is not yet a similar movement on the other side (i.e., the *in situ* community actively embracing *ex situ* conservation opportunities)
- CBSG can help facilitate this. And so on.

Mass Collaboration tools update: CBSG is working to harness the power of mass collaboration tools for conservation. The demand for these tools among CBSG's members and partners is overwhelming, and CBSG will lead the way. CBSG received a small grant from Taiwan to help progress this initiative, and have been testing the use of blog, wiki and My Site tools on the Microsoft SharePoint Portal platform. CBSG was asked by Holly Dublin to use mass collaboration tools to help SSC develop a statement on the value of species, with which over 200 people from around the world helped using mass collaboration tools. The statement was presented by Holly at the World Conservation Congress. At the CBSG Annual Meeting, CBSG would develop more conservation based experiments to test the suite of available tools. ISIS has generously provided space for CBSG and other conservation partners on their portal. The next major step is to use SharePoint Portal to develop a truly functional CBSG network.

CBSG's Mid-year Steering Committee Meeting is scheduled for 16-17 March 2009 at Al Ain Zoo in the United Arab Emirates.

¹ *Ex situ* conservation is defined as "the conservation of components of biological diversity outside their natural habitats" (IUCN Technical Guidelines on the Management of Ex-situ populations for Conservation).

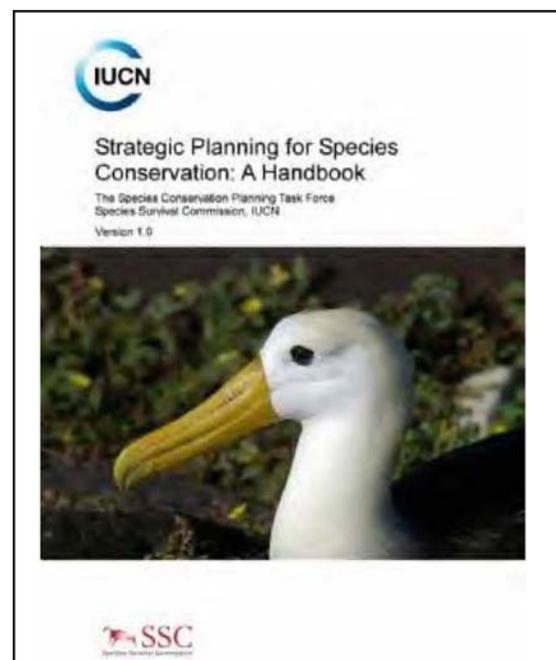
Strategic Planning for Species Conservation

To promote best practices in efforts to save species and overall biodiversity, the IUCN/SSC formed a Species Conservation Planning Task Force.

The CBSG contributed significantly to the work of the task force, and CBSG PHVA workshop processes are one set of tools that are described in a new document on when and how to prepare Species Conservation Strategies, including developing a Vision and Goals, setting Objectives, and how to address those Objectives through specific Actions.

That document is completed, and is now available online at the CBSG website www.cbsg.org on the home page.

There is much more also on the CBSG website. Do yourself a conservation favour and check it out. www.cbsg.org



CBSG Working Groups

The highlight of CBSG meetings are the Working Groups which cover always a variety of rich topics :

- **Climate Change**
- **Amphibians**
- **Evaluation & Prioritization**
- **Conservation Planning**
- **Mass Collaboration Tools**
- **Conservation Medicine**
- **Ex Situ Management Tools**
- **Field Project Prioritization**
- **Indian Zoos Conservation Breeding Pgm**
- **Conservation and Welfare: the need to audit**
- **Asian Zoos**

We don't have space to review all of these fascinating Working Groups or the many other reports and presentations. Instead, the two most relevant to our readership have been included, e.g. the Indian Zoos Working Group and the CBSG South Asia Report. A full Report of the Working Groups will come out shortly in the CBSG Newsletter which will be available on the excellent CBSG Website: www.cbsg.org.

Indian Zoos Conservation Breeding WG

The working group was initiated by B.R. Sharma and Sally Walker who were present. Other members of the group were Jansen Manasang, Ivan Rehak, Nate Flesness, Kathy Traylor-Holzer, Kristin Leus. Kathy Traylor Holzer was facilitator of the working group and Kristin was recorder.

B.R. Sharma briefly reviewed the seminal meeting of last February which many international zoo persons as well as all Indian zoo directors attended. At the meeting several resource persons gave presentations on different aspects of conservation breeding and population management being practiced by modern zoos. In the meeting it was announced by B.R. Sharma that Central Zoo Authority had prioritized 64 birds, mammals and reptiles for conservation breeding and requested the assistance of the foreign delegates in improving the Indian programmes. All participants joined taxon based working groups and discussed a bit about how each species should be managed and framed recommendations which were read out on the final day of the meeting.

ISIS represented by Nate Flesness offered to compile holdings outside of India of the target species, so that international exchange or loans for the mutual benefit of the zoos and species. B.R. Sharma explained the system they have evolved of Coordinating zoo and Participating Zoos and how that would work. B.R. Sharma showed a copy of the Proceedings of this meeting and the recommendations. Kathy, group facilitator, suggested that the group might go over the recommendations and see if any could be forwarded by CBSG and by discussion of the group. This was

agreed by the group and they went through the recommendations one by one.

1. The national studbook cell people are going to the zoos to dig out the information with the zoo so that animal profiles can be compiled. All the above addresses recommendation number 2

2. The zoos will join ISIS and ZIMS

3. Health care is being reviewed and improved.

4. Founders are also being tested genetically (fingerprinting). Nate reminded that the images of the DNA fingerprinting should be safely archived so they can later go into ZIMS

5. The first meeting for Himalayan species will take place 6th November 2009 in Darjeeling Zoo.

6. Conservation breeding management plan. Important because staff transfers a lot and you need consistency. There will be a five year overall plan.

7. For some species identified for a conservation breeding programme, there is also a species recovery plan and then the breeding programme is part of the recovery plan. CBSG South Asia office will go through all the CAMP assessments for South Asia and see which species have not been assessed.

8. PHVA planning meetings that describe the process and data needs would be useful as it would clarify what data was absolutely required. These planning meetings could handle several species at a time. It can then be assessed if a classic PHVA is what is needed, or an adapted version or another type of workshop.

9. Vultures a good candidate for PHVA planning.

10. CZA to consider sponsoring Indian zoo staff (e.g. vets) to other zoo facilities outside India. ISIS to help communicate with AAZV possible sponsorship of above to take advantage of other zoo training programs (e.g. vet training at CRC medical records training).

11. Amphibians: There will be a first meeting of *in situ* and *ex situ* managers on amphibian crisis and need for *ex situ* management in Jan 09 in Mysore. Use the CBSG South Asia amphibian CAMP report for this. There is a very good group of field biologist that should cooperate with CZA. The zoos should start with common species to learn (as it requires a lot of expertise) and to teach people about amphibians and leave off capturing threatened species until expertise has been developed.

12. CZA is interested that the zoos become CBSG members in the name of the institution instead of individuals. There is a problem with government

regulations if the invitation to a meeting is in the name of the individual. WAZA would be a help with this because they accept institutional members and if the director attends WAZA it may not be so difficult to come a day or two early for CBSG.

CBSG South Asia Report

Every year at the CBSG Annual Meeting, the Regional Coordinators of (now) nine different regional or national networks are asked to prepare a presentation of 10-15 minutes which describes a favourite project which may or may not have been successful as yet but which embodies some of their network's style and effectiveness, and which they believe might make a lasting impression on their audience. For the last several years, every other year, CBSG South Asia has selected their most spectacular activity in aid of conservation of the highly threatened Hoolock Gibbon, *Hoolock hoolock*.

The Hoolock Gibbon project has been a collaborative endeavour of the Primate SG, South Asia, CBSG, South Asia, RSG, South Asia, IZE, South Asia, all of which Zoo Outreach Organisation (ZOO) and Wildlife Information Liaison Development (WILD) host and support. These activities have been supported largely by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Great Ape Conservation Program with other donors as partners (Thrigby Hall Wildlife Park, Margot Marsh Biodiversity Fund, Twycross Zoo, Columbus Zoo, Apenheul Primate Park etc.)

The Hoolock Gibbon is increasingly restricted to a few reasonable forests and a great many forest patches which do not deserve the name of forest anymore. ZOO and partners have watched and tried to help since before 2002. Given below is a list of the major activities conducted by ZOO and WILD on behalf of or in aid of Hoolock Gibbon.

Activities for Hoolock Gibbon over years

- 2002 Primate CAMP-Hoolock CR & EN
- 2005 PHVA for Hoolock Gibbon
- 2006 educator training workshops for all WHG states and countries
- 2006 Lobbied for Hoolock to go onto PSG's *World's 25 Most EN Primate Species List 2006-08*
- 2008 As above *2008-2010*
- 2008 Conducted Translocation Training for Hoolock Gibbon at Assam Forest Training School
- 2009 (Planned) Wild to Wild Hoolock Gibbon Translocation Protocols for Chief Wildlife Wardens of Hoolock Gibbon States.

Wild to Wild Translocation Training

The Translocation Training featured training techniques for moving animals, specifically primates and more specifically Hoolock Gibbons, from one wild locality to another, e.g. Wild to Wild Translocation. As there were no instance of Gibbons having been moved from wild to wild in the whole of Asia, ZOO had to go outside the region and find somebody who had done a successful translocation of a small to

medium primate from wild to wild ... several times. ZOO is particular about "wild to wild" as it need not involve lengthy period in captivity which go against the whole purpose of translocation. We did not want to repeat the mistake of wildlife rehab using animals that had become accustomed to captivity and possibly infected with pathogens from human care.

We found the perfect person, a lady who had translocated hundreds of Golden Lion Tamarins from dozens of threatened and/or decimated habitats to carefully selected localities, still in the range, or very much nearby. This was Dr. Cecilia Kierulff from Brazil.

Although as organisers we realised that it might be stretching a point a bit to have a trainer from the other side of the world, whose excellent experience was, nonetheless, with a very different primate (on the face of it) than Hoolock Gibbon. Any doubts vanished in the first few minutes of view Cecilia's presentations slides and trying to keep up with her as she described the minute details of how to plan and carry out a sensitive operation as wild to wild translocation. After two days of presentations by Cecilia, by David Chivers, Mike Jordan and Sanjay Molur we organised working groups to discuss the various steps required to organise wild to wild translocation for Hoolock Gibbon. These working groups covered crucial topics and action steps such as Capture of animals, Release techniques, Site selection, Pre-Release and Post Release preparation, Politics and Partnerships, Disease management, etc. These groups turned up much good information and enthusiasm, but in the final analysis, we realised that although we had a wonderful group of foresters and researchers who could and would do the planning and implementation of such an exercise, we did not have the decision makers with us.

So, we examined our budget and found that by pinching another component, we could get Cecilia back and run the workshop again, this time with the Chief Wildlife Wardens of Hoolock Gibbon states. This is planned for January 2009 and we have high hopes that the policy makers of the Forest Department will become as enthusiastic as the field biologists and foresters over the systematic techniques developed by a group of dedicated and excited people. Already word of our workshop has spread to other parts of Asia and we have had requests for our materials from the "pioneering" effort to create a profile and protocol for Wild to Wild Translocation of Gibbons. We gave them a lot of materials but the Protocols are under wraps until we have the workshop with the Chief Wildlife Wardens of North East India.

Other activities – in our report, in just ten minutes we briefly reviewed the following new activities:

- **COUNTDOWN 2010** - a project of the CBD Secretariat which we have joined in order to motivate our network members to give an extra push to some of their projects in order to say they had reduced the

loss of biodiversity in their region, country or locality in the coming two years. We brought out a Hoolock Gibbon calendar using this mechanism and also an Amphibian calendar. This programme will end in 2010.

Getting Along with Elephants

Another exciting programme, again funded by USFWS, is our educator training workshops which are mandated to cover four countries, with funds to cover a fifth and invitations from a sixth and seventh. Getting Along with Elephants stresses the importance of locals in areas affected by elephant visits learning and adopting small tricks and new habits which would preserve their lives and health. We stressed the principle of protecting their life, body and health which is worth more than compensation, or electric fences, etc. If human lose their life or legs in a stubborn battle with a giant, they can't do anything again yet many deaths are taking place which, on reflection, could have been avoided if victims and stopped to think before acting. Our programme advises being really smart and outsmarting the elephant by **not** crossing his path and getting in harm's way, as well as other interesting things !

Sri Lankan Elephant projects approved

A PHVA for Sri Lankan Elephant immediately followed by the MIKE Standard Survey Training /Dung DNA in Sri Lanka has been approved and will take place sometime in 2009.

2008 Ten Tarantulas on IUCN Red List

One of CBSG South Asia's proudest moments was getting 14 Asian Tarantulas on the IUCN Red List. It is the first instant of Asian Tarantulas having been assessed, and it was done by ZOO Dy. Director, Sanjay Molur with help from taxon experts in our office and outside as well.

Freshwater Biodiversity Assessments

Finally, ZOO, WILD, CBSG South Asia with their expertise in doing things that CBSG does, was invited to organise two Freshwater Biodiversity Assessments in 2009 with the IUCN SSC Freshwater Biodiversity Program. The project for the Western Ghats will begin about June 09 and the one for Eastern Himalaya in the fall. These have been initiated by the Freshwater Biodiversity Unit, IUCN and Conservation International, with lead organisation ZOO/CBSG, South Asia.

Ulrie Seal Award for Innovation in Conservation 2008

By Sanjay Molur

Dr. Ulysses S. Seal, Chairman, CBSG, 1979-2003

Ulrie Seal adopted the task of saving global biodiversity using his combination of expertise in many fields -- endocrinology, pharmacology, nutrition, genetics, and computer modeling. Dr. Seal was a scientist for the Veteran's Administration Medical Centre, Minneapolis where he researched prostate cancer. He also lectured on forestry in a local university and became involved with wildlife research. This led him to zoos for comparative data and when he found this to be in short supply and quality, he created the International Species Information System which was accepted ultimately by 5000 of the world's zoos. ISIS is a central database providing electronic access to records, advice, expertise and easy access to other people in the field.

Sir Peter Scott, then Chair of IUCN's Species Survival Commission appointed Ulrie as chairman of the then Captive Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG) from 1979 to 2003 which is one of more than 100 such specialist groups in the Species Survival Commission of IUCN. Ulrie was a prolific researcher and writer, publishing more than 260 peer reviewed journal articles and 70 book chapters and reviews. Ulrie conducted more than 200 CBSG workshops in over 60 countries as Chair of CBSG. More than 6,000 participants were involved in these workshops. Seal was the recipient of many awards such as the AAZPA Marlin Perkins Award (1991), the Chicago Zoological Society's Presidents Award (1992), the Zoological Society of Antwerp's Gold Medal (1993), Emory University's Emory Medal (1993), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Great Lakes-

Big Rivers Region Silver Eagle Award (1994) the first Heini Hediger award of the IUDZG (1996), the SSC's Peter Scott Award for Conservation Merit (2002), the San Diego Zoo's Conservation Medal (2002), and the North of England Zoological Society's Gold Medal (2002).

Having researched cancer all his life, it was a cruel irony that both Ulrie and his beloved wife Maryalice had to do battle with the disease. Since Ulrie's death 2 awards have been created in his name, the Ulysses S. Seal Award for Innovation in Conservation of CBSG (2002), and the Ulrie Seal Award (2003) of SEAZA.

Ulysses S. Seal Award for Innovation in Conservation

Ulrie's passion was his innovations regarding the application of new science effectively to solving the problems of wildlife conservation. His achievements in this field were enhanced by his talent for finding, recognising, encouraging, and utilizing others with the potential to make such innovative contributions. Thus, Ulrie's memory is honoured by the annual Ulysses S. Seal Award for Innovation in Conservation.

It was decided that a nominee not necessarily be connected with the CBSG, but their achievements should reflect CBSG values of creative thinking and improved conservation action. In calling for nominations CBSG requires that nominators should describe how the person exemplifies innovation in the application of science to conservation. Nominees must be living individuals and nominators must address criteria of 1. Innovation, 2. Contribution to