

supported with CHF 3,152 (=2,600 USD). Project 06005 received 2,484 CHF (=2,000 USD).

Funding was made available by Chester Zoo for subsidising an Amphibian issue of the WAZA Magazine, which hopefully will appear in 2007.

#### **Amphibian Ark Page on [www.waza.org](http://www.waza.org)**

Amphibian Ark pages were created in the Conservation Campaigns Section (in English and German), containing an article calling for action, links to press releases, branded projects, and the amphibian section of the Virtual Zoo, and the download of an article in WAZA's journal *Der Zoologische Garten* (pdf).

End September, a direct link from the homepage to the Conservation Campaigns Section was made (through a *Litoria* picture). The difference in visitation was striking, although overall numbers are low in comparison to the Virtual Zoo, Zoos and Aquariums of the World, Conservation Projects, or WZACS.

#### **Amphibians on Virtual Zoo - [www.waza.org](http://www.waza.org)**

Virtual Zoo was opened in June 2006 with 265 species, of which only 8 were amphibians. In September, we started preparing the second phase, which originally was intended to comprise 190 species including 17 amphibians, bringing the total of amphibian species to 25. As a matter of fact, the second phase will become larger. In particular we expect the amphibian collection to grow to about 40 species. In addition we have photographic material on another ca. 50 species although not enough for presenting these species in the zoo. As of January 10, the following species data sheets were online:

1. *Ambystoma mexicanum* (Axolotl)
2. *Ambystoma tigrinum* (Tiger salamander)
3. *Atelopus zeteki* (Golden Frog)
4. *Bufo alvarius* (Colorado River Toad)
5. *Bufo bufo* (Common Toad)
6. *Bufo calamita* (Natterjack Toad)
7. *Bufo marinus* (Cane Toad)
8. *Bufo viridis* (Green Toad)
9. *Cryptobranchus alleganiensis* (Hellbender)
10. *Dendrobates auratus* (Green Poison Frog)
11. *Dendrobates azureus* (Blue Poison frog)
12. *Dendrobates pumilio* (Strawberry Poison Frog)
13. *Dyscophus antongilii* (Tomato Frog)
14. *Peltophryne lemur* (Puerto Rican Crested Toad)
15. *Rana taipehensis* (Taipei Frog)
16. *Salamandra atra* (Alpine salamander)
17. *Salamandra salamandra* (Fire salamander)
18. *Triturus alpestris* (Alpine newt)
19. *Typhlonectes natans* (Rio Cauca caecilian)

For species in bold fonts, there is a WAZA-branded project, which is linked to the species sheet and vice versa. In the case of nine species, there are also links to exhibits presented at [www.zoolex.org](http://www.zoolex.org).

## **AMPHIBIAN ARK ACTIVITY REPORT** from the CBSG office

**Kevin Zippel, CBSG/WAZA Amphibian \Program Officer** [Kevin@AmphibianArk.org](mailto:Kevin@AmphibianArk.org)

February Report



#### **General updates from the amphibian community**

- chytrid arrived in Japan and Cuba
- Amphibian Research Centre posts info on containers <http://frogs.org.au/arc/container.php>
- ASG launches new website <http://www.amphibians.org/>
- Sabin Award for Amphibian Conservation [http://www.amphibians.org/latest\\_news.php](http://www.amphibians.org/latest_news.php)

#### **CURRENT**

##### **AArk Coordination**

- planning AArk pre-Steering Committee organizational meeting in Atlanta 15-16 February (agenda, draft plans for conservation, publicity, fundraising, and press release)
- reviewing 50 applications for new AArk officer positions, talking to referees, etc.; Communications & Development Officer hired (see below), Taxon Officer still under discussion, and Training Officer delayed ~1 month until remaining pledges are collected
- working with Treewalkers International to help organize US private sector, planning to bring in diverse representation from global private sector; trying to bring in TSA to advise
- talking to Bill Zeigler (TSA, IUCN TFWTSG & CSG) on organizational strategies
- working on articles geared toward other specific communities to increase capacity: with Max Nickerson targeting natural history museums through The Natural Science Collections Alliance's *Alliance Gazette*, with Ron Gagliardo targeting botanical gardens through the American Public Garden Association's *The Public Garden*, with Joe Mendelson targeting academic labs through SSAR's *Herp Review*

##### **Taxon Survival Efforts**

- preparing for spray toad PHVA; working with LKEMP on contract and issues paper; keepers at Toledo and Bronx working on husbandry manual and facility recommendations
- working with Don Church & Mike Hoffman (CI/IUCN) to filter GAA data and allow *ex situ* community to determine which of the 443 EW/CR taxa really require *ex situ* intervention; this list should be available within days
- discussing with Houston Zoo possibility for a national recovery strategy meeting in Panama
- Project Golden Frog reinventing itself now that our focal species is going extinct; future funds will likely be offered as grants to other investigators working with other *Atelopus* species

### Training & Other Capacity Building

- compiling course descriptions from different organizations to create *ala carte* menu of topics for future training courses
- working with Cali Zoo staff on agenda and instructor arrangements for their Colombian amphibian management course; possible site visit to *ex situ* lab in Bogota; new C&D officer will attend this course
- organizing ABM 2007, new instructors, monographs, etc.; working with Brookfield to identify 3 Latin American students to support at the ABM course
- planning with Roberto Elias (Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia) a future Peruvian amphibian management course
- ongoing consultations on EVACC; sending Quito keeper to El Valle to train on food culture, Edgardo will be coming to ABM in Toledo
- ongoing consultations on developing programs at Brookfield Zoo
- planning chytrid information sessions for spring JAZA meeting
- WAZA announces joint effort with VDZ/DGHT to hold amphibian management course in Germany this summer.

### Communications/Development

- hired AArk Communications & Development Officer Lisette Pavajeau
- working with Robert Browne (Perth Zoo affiliate) to contribute chapters on 'Facilities & Associated Services' and 'Reproduction and Larval Rearing' to *ILAR Journal* Volume 48 Issue Number 3: Use of Amphibians in the Research, Laboratory, or Classroom Setting
- **automated PPT presentation on amphibians extinction crisis, and global response available for download and free use at [www.amphibianark.org/new/amphib.show.ppt](http://www.amphibianark.org/new/amphib.show.ppt) (password problems resolved)**
- putting finishing editorial touches, photos, etc. on *2 Threatened Amphibians of the World* essays
- working with Gordon Reid to co-edit an

amphibian section in volume 42 of *International Zoo Yearbook* for early 2008

- presented on AArk at Zoos and Aquariums Committing to Conservation (ZACC) conference in Houston 27 January

- answering dozens of email/phone queries regarding amphibian conservation, program development, press, proposal reviews, etc.

### UPCOMING

#### **AArk pre-Steering Committee meeting (Atlanta 15-16 February 2007)**

- review bylaws, staffing plan, conservation plan; establish financial plan; develop publicity and capital campaign plans

#### **Colombian Amphibian Biology & Management workshop (Cali 26 February - 3 March 2007)**

- help Cali Zoo staff lead workshop similar to AZA ABM course

#### **Save the Prairie Society talk (Brookfield 25 March 2007)**

- speak to group about amphibian extinction crisis and global response

#### **Nordens Ark Conservation Workshop (Hunnebostrand 26 March - 4 April 2007)**

- assist with 2-day amphibian portion of 5-6 day Research School in Conservation Biology for Ph.D. students on the role zoos can play in practical conservation

#### **Amphibian Biology & Management (Toledo 14-19 April 2007)**

- co-instruct course

#### **Kihansi Spray Toad PHVA (10-17 May? 2007)**

- help organize and execute PHVA

#### **JAZA meeting (Osaka & Tokyo 20-26 May 2007)**

- discuss national conservation response with respect to recent arrival of chytrid

#### **WAZA/VDZ/DGHT amphibian management course (Chemnitz 27 June - 1 July 2007)**

- instruct at amphibian management/conservation workshop

#### **CBSG Facilitation course (Omaha 31 July - August 2007)**

- learn facilitation skills CBSG-style.

## INTERNATIONAL ZOO YEARBOOK

### **Volume 42 (due to be published 2008)**

**Section 1:** AMPHIBIANS; **Guest Editors:** Kevin Zippel, CBSG/WAZA, and Gordon McGregor Reid, Chester Zoo

**Deadline for submissions:** 31 May 2007

### **Volume 43 (due to be published 2009)**

**Section 1:** SUSTAINABILITY OF ACTIVITIES IN ZOOS AND AQUARIUMS ; **Guest Editors:** Harry Schram, EAZA, and Lesley Dickie, ZSL; **Deadline for submissions:** 30 September 2007

### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

The *International Zoo Yearbook* is an international forum for the exchange of information on the role of zoos in the conservation of biodiversity, species and habitats. Investigative and data-collection work into the biology and behaviour of wild animals is increasingly dependent on coordinated effort and shared results between all institutions engaged in the study and preservation of wildlife.

The Editors are always actively seeking research papers, descriptive articles or reviews with quality content for publication in Section 2, *The Developing Zoo World*, and will be inviting contributions for special themed articles for Section 1 in future volumes. All work is peer reviewed and our authors and readers are international. Articles that have been fully peer-reviewed and copy-edited are published online through our **OnlineEarly** feature before the print edition of the *International Zoo Yearbook* is published. Potential authors should view our Author Guidelines at <http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/izy>

All enquiries about potential submissions should be directed to the Editor: [yearbook@zsl.org](mailto:yearbook@zsl.org)

