

when harms caused by human activities are of moral concern? Although consensus and quantification may be difficult to achieve, we should not conclude that all levels of suffering are therefore acceptable.

- How direct a link with human behaviour should be demonstrated in order for it to generate concern?
- How do the affective states of individual animals map onto outcomes important to conservation, such as disease status or reproductive success?
- Can we identify principles that lead to morally defensible actions when it is necessary to severely compromise the welfare of some individuals in order to achieve goals such as the survival of a population?

Resolving such issues will require cross-disciplinary dialogue involving conservation biologists, animal welfare scientists, and those working on ethics, law and social issues.

### CONCLUSION

It is increasingly important to recognise the relevance of animal welfare when dealing with problems of wildlife conservation. The same human activities driving the current biodiversity crisis are compromising animals' welfare and these interlinked concerns attend the work of zoos and aquariums on conservation and saving wildlife species.

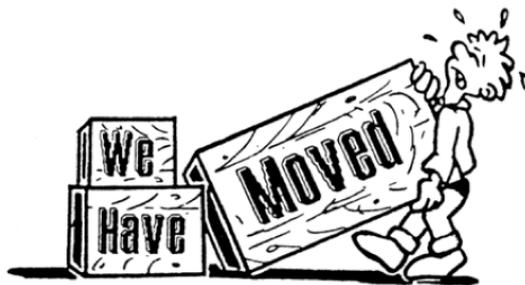
The welfare of wildlife species can be directly and indirectly assessed in increasingly sophisticated, scientifically validated ways. The fact that animal welfare is assessed on an individual basis, whereas some wider goals of wildlife conservation are measured on populations or species, does not necessarily make them incompatible.

Animal welfare and conservation scientists and advocates are increasingly recognising each other's work as complementary. Zoos and aquariums need to ensure that their conservation work in the field, and the work of their conservation partners, include strategies aimed at minimising welfare compromise.



Hannover Zoo, Germany, Atlas beetle larva

## Announcement



### We have moved ....

*Our New Address Is:*

#### **Zoo Outreach Organization (ZOO) / Wildlife Information & Liaison Development (WILD) Society**

12, Thiruvannamalai Nagar, Saravanampatti – Kalapatti Road, Saravanampatti, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu 641 035, India

**Ph:** +91 422 2665298, 2665450, 2665101, **Fax:** +91 422 2665472  
(Our telephone numbers remain unchanged but will only be activated next month)

#### **Temporary contact numbers:**

+9677822997 (Sanjay Molur); +9597703710 (Daniel); +9842222774 (Marimuthu); +9363104324 (Administration); +7092407494 (for JoTT)

**Email:** [zooreach@zooreach.org](mailto:zooreach@zooreach.org), [wild@zooreach.org](mailto:wild@zooreach.org)  
[www.zooreach.org](http://www.zooreach.org), [www.zoosprint.org](http://www.zoosprint.org), [www.southasiantaxa.org](http://www.southasiantaxa.org), [www.pterocount.org](http://www.pterocount.org),  
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