Scientific Foundations of Zoos and Aquariums

In the modern era, zoos and aquariums fight species extinction, educate communities, and advance learning of animal behavior. This book features first-person stories and scientific reviews exploring the groundbreaking projects run by these institutions. Large-scale conservation initiatives that benefit multiple species are detailed in Part I, including critical habitat protection, evidence-based techniques to grow animal populations, and the design of community education projects. Part II documents how zoos use science to improve the health and welfare of animals in captivity and to make difficult management decisions. Part III saving species includes personal tales of efforts to preserve wild populations through rehabilitation, captive breeding, reintroduction, and public outreach. Part IV details several scientific discoveries about animals that would have been impossible without the support of zoos and aquariums. The book is for animal scientists, zoo professionals, educators, and researchers worldwide, as well as students of zookeeping and conservation.

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Scientific Foundations of Zoos and Aquariums

Their Role in Conservation and Research

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In Memoriam

During the development of this book the field of zoo/ aquarium research lost two guiding lights. Their work has shaped zoos and aquariums around the world and has touched everything discussed in this volume.

We are fortunate to be able to include the words of Michael Hutchins in this volume and have chosen to feature his contribution as our book's Introduction.

Conversely, this book will always seem just a bit incomplete without the words of Stan Kuczaj.

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> Perhaps it's odd to dedicate a book to a bunch of seals – particularly ones I only worked with for a day or two a week for just five years, and more than twenty years ago. But impact isn't always proportionate to time, and it seems just yesterday that I spent an entire lifetime in their company.

> For the gang at the New Jersey State Aquarium's Seal Shores, 1997–2002, without whom it never would have occurred to me to study marine mammals under human care.

For Kara, Kjya, Gunther, Luke, Mysti, Asia, Sirrus, and Squeegee. – ABK

For my parents, Nancy and Walter Bashaw, who dragged me to more zoos than I could count as a child and were still surprised when I built my career in one.

With love and thanks. – мјв

For my wife, Addie, who has shared the ups and downs of my dual career for more than fifty years; a toast to many more with gratitude and affection.

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