



## 1.3 Code of Ethics

The Code of Ethics is intended to maintain a high standard of conduct in members of the Zoo and Aquarium Association. Agreement to comply with the Code is a prerequisite to Individual and Institutional Membership in the Association. Institutional members must also agree to comply with the Code of Practice.

**AS A MEMBER OF THE ZOO AND AQUARIUM ASSOCIATION, I AGREE TO:**

### 1. Comply with the Code of Ethics

- 1.1 A member shall not violate the Code of Ethics; and,
- 1.2 A member shall not assist another to violate the Code of Ethics.

### 2. Disseminate fair and accurate professional information

- 2.1 A member shall not knowingly misinform the receiving party regarding records or other information relating to any animal, item or goods pertaining to the operations of a zoo or aquarium; and,
- 2.2 A member shall not alter records or facts pertaining to any animal or goods.

### 3. Adhere to all laws relating to the zoo and aquarium profession

- 3.1 A member shall not knowingly engage in activities contrary to local, state, federal or international laws as they relate to our profession; and,
- 3.2 A member shall comply with requirements of governmental agencies regulating animal welfare and animal transactions.

### 4. Maintain the integrity and competence of the zoo and aquarium profession

- 4.1 A member shall uphold the professional standards of the zoo and aquarium industry;
- 4.2 A member shall encourage and support professional standards of animal husbandry and animal welfare;
- 4.3 A member shall encourage and support the principles of species management;
- 4.4 A member shall encourage and support the recording and publication of advances in methodology of the profession; and,
- 4.5 A member shall only deal with organisations, institutions or individuals approved by the relevant local, national or international authorities.

Uphold the concepts and ideals of the Zoo and Aquarium Association as outlined in its Mission Statement which is:

*“To harness the collective resources of zoos and aquariums to help conserve biodiversity in the natural environment.”*

## 5. Purpose Statement

The Zoo and Aquarium Association supports collaboration amongst zoos and aquariums in Australasia to enhance efforts to:

- 5.1 Secure sustainable captive populations of threatened wildlife suitable for release into natural environments to re-establish, or improve viability of, wild populations;
- 5.2 Provide information and education about our natural environment and ways of protecting it by delivering formal education programs and presenting recreational environments that engage the public with positive wildlife experiences;
- 5.3 Provide funds and other resources to assist with efforts to conserve wildlife in natural environments;
- 5.4 Support research into our natural environment and ways of protecting it; and,
- 5.5 Encourage high standards of operation, conduct and ethics in zoos and aquariums.

## 6. Support the Purposes of the Association:

The Primary Purpose of the Association is to encourage and support the development of zoological parks and aquaria as resources for species conservation, public education and research.

To achieve this, the Association undertakes:

- 6.1 To enhance the efforts of its member zoos to contribute to the conservation of biodiversity through:
  - 6.1.1 Securing sustainable captive populations of threatened wildlife suitable for release into natural environments to re-establish, or improve the viability of, wild populations;
  - 6.1.2 Providing exemplary and engaging learning opportunities that connect people with nature and enable the community to take positive action;
  - 6.1.3 Supporting research into our natural environment and ways of protecting it; and,
  - 6.1.4 Establishing and maintaining a public fund to be called the Zoo and Aquarium Association Wildlife Conservation Fund for the specific purpose of supporting the environmental purposes of the Association.
- 6.2 To provide funds and other resources to assist with efforts to conserve wildlife in natural environments;
- 6.3 To encourage those entrusted with species at zoological parks and aquaria (“the profession”) to exercise all due care and diligence in the stewardship of species therein;
- 6.4 To facilitate effective communication and co-operation between the profession and its members and zoological parks and aquaria;
- 6.5 To give advice to, and co-operate with, agencies and institutions concerned with the conservation of the natural environment;
- 6.6 To provide appropriate advice to institutions with like purposes as the Association for the development of beneficial policies within Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Islands of the South Pacific (“the Region”);

- 6.7 To contribute to the development and operation of approved regional species management programs;
- 6.8 To encourage the development of high standards of management, conduct and ethics in zoological parks and aquaria, the profession, the members thereof and the members of the Association;
- 6.9 To encourage and assist the professional development of zoological parks and aquaria staff; and,
- 6.10 To promote zoological parks and aquaria as cultural institutions of high standing.

### Approval

This Policy was endorsed by the Zoo and Aquarium Association Board on April 2003.