

Dr Jenny Gray Chief Executive Officer Zoos Victoria











LIFE WITH ANIMALS







WONDER





COMFORT





HOLIDAYS









WELFARE, EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE IS DRIVING FUTURE NEEDS



ANIMAL WELFARE

GAINING FOCUS

- Animal welfare means taking care, looking after, rehabilitating.
- Animal rights is gaining focus and momentum, meaning it is no longer seen as acceptable to keep animals outside of their natural environments for our pleasure.
- Extinction concerns us, and linked to an acknowledgement of own impact on the world.



EDUCATION

SHAPING THE FUTURE

- Zoos for entertainment/amusement alone hold no purpose ("we are expecting more").
- Education (particularly for children's development) is becoming a hygiene factor when selecting activities/attraction.
- Adults voice a need to understand their impact on the world, and help to shape its future.
- Educational experiences are considered to be immersive, hands on, and not just observational.



ESCAPE THE DIGITAL WORLD

- The infiltration of digital to many experiences means an "escape to nature" is different to the everyday, and desirable.
- Viewing animals in a way that is as natural as possible also enables animal welfare (happy animals, not performing), and education about their natural behaviours.



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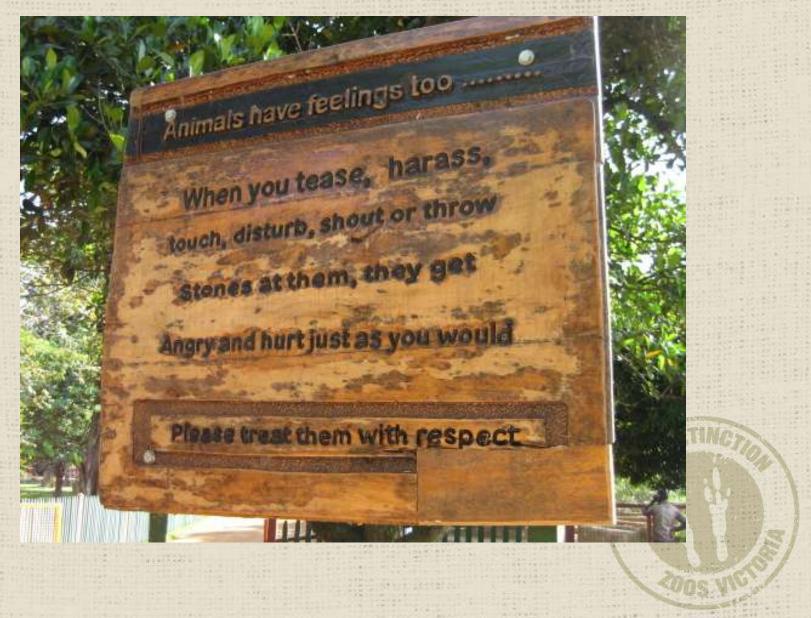


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ANIMAL WELFARE













It is wrong to cause unnecessary pain and suffering to animals.







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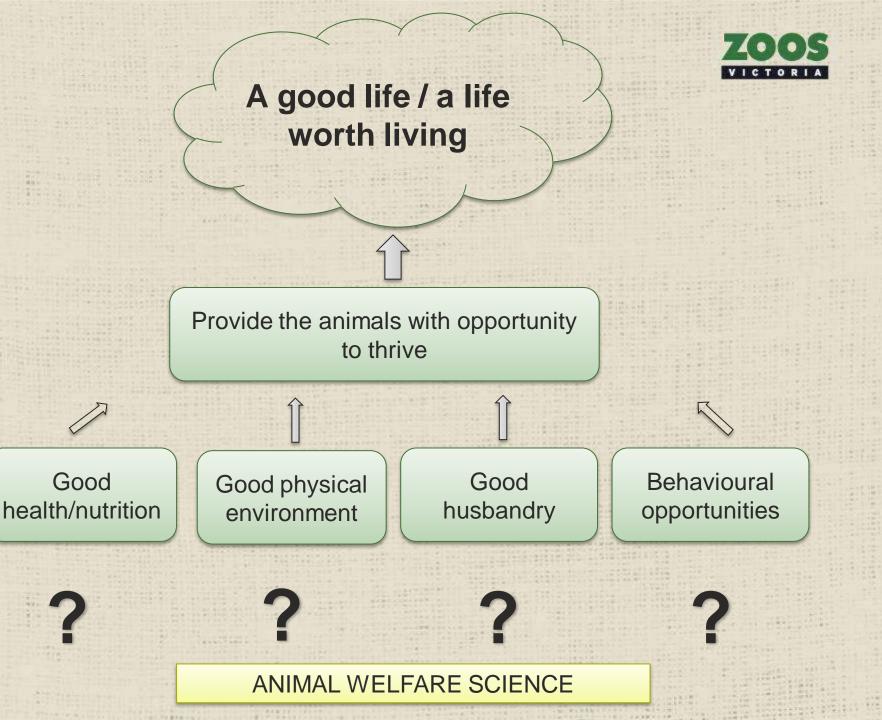
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RESCUE AND REHABILITATION







Good

LEARNING ABOUT ANIMALS







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EXTINCTION CONCERNS US



The question is, are we happy to suppose that our grandchildren may never be able to see an elephant except in a picture book?

-David Attenborough











FIGHTING EXTINCTION COMMITMENT

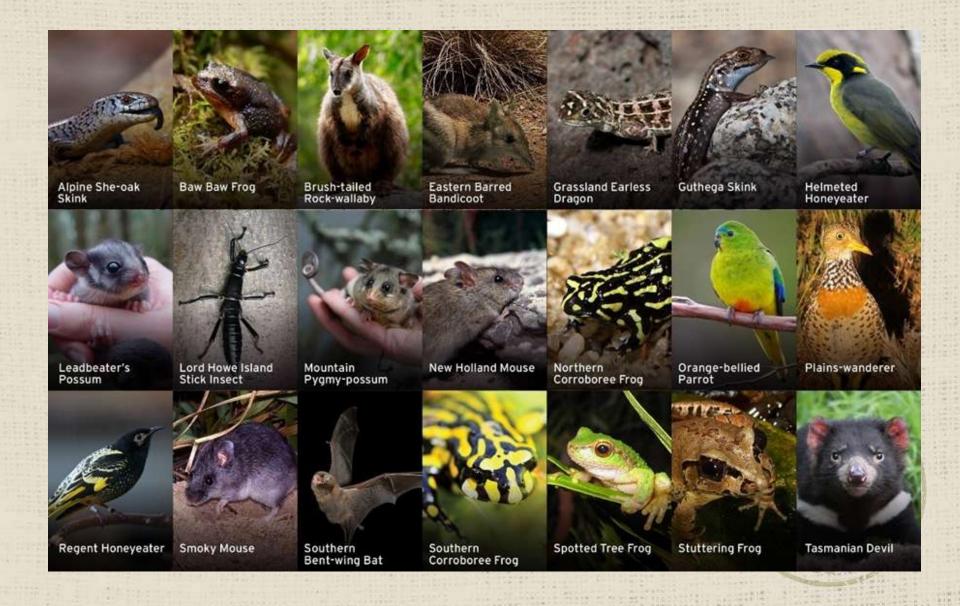


No Victorian, terrestrial, vertebrate species will go extinct on our watch.



FIGHTING EXTINCTION 21





HELMETED HONEY EATERS



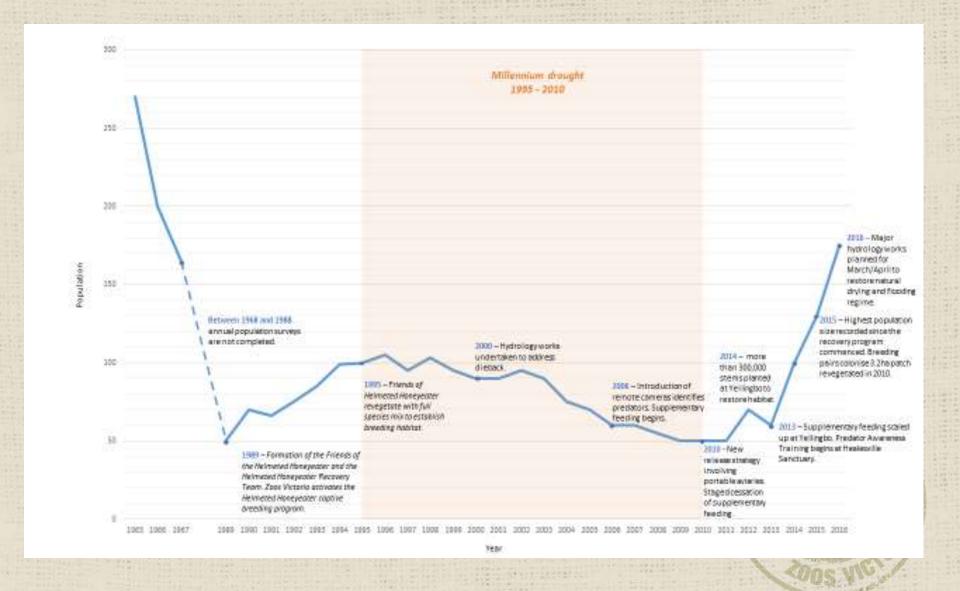














Parole violations Extraditions blocked

Board 'rewarding' crooks

John Streeter

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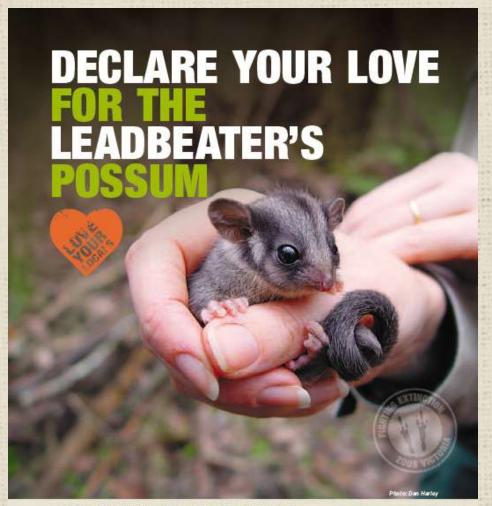
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EDUCATIONAL - BEHAVIOUR







LOVE YOUR LOCAL SPECIES AND JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST EXTINCTION.

The Leadbeater's Possum is a true local, living in small pockets of Victorian forest not far from Melbourne. Once thought to be extinct, this little possum was rediscovered in 1961 and is now Victoria's state emblem! Zoos Victoria is leading the way to save the Leadbeater's Possum.

To get involved visit: www.zoo.org.au/loveyourlocals



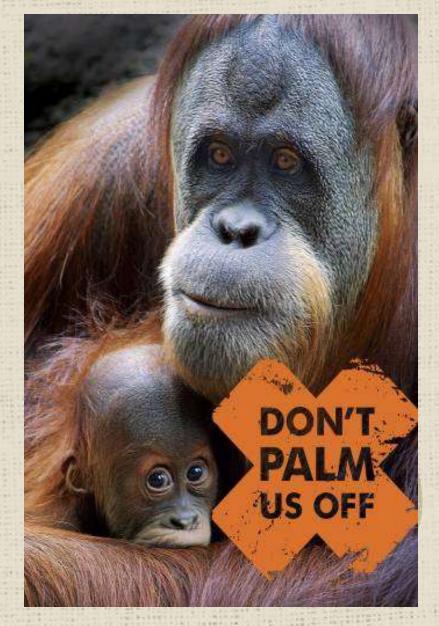










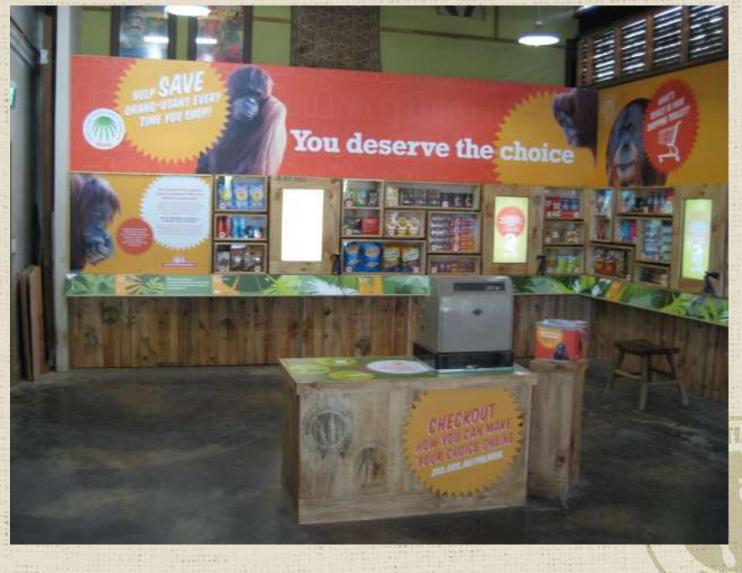






ZOOPER-MARKET





























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ANIMAL VISITOR INTERACTIONS



Close or direct contact with visitors:

- Handling
- Feeding
- Riding
- Walk with

Close or direct contact with staff:

Shows & performances



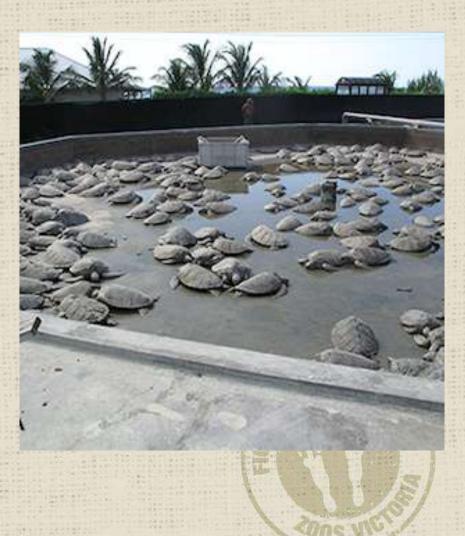
BUT ...



When carried out irresponsibly can have negative impacts on:

- Animal welfare
- Conservation
- Education
- Visitor enjoyment

Can undermine, bringing zoo & aquaria into disrepute







Practice Non-negotiables

- The feeding of live vertebrate animals to any animal
- Training techniques involving physical punishment, or practices that compromise the animal's physical or behavioural health, development or psychological well-being
- Animal demonstrations that are detrimental to the physical or psychological well-being of the animals
- Confinement in barren enclosures that severely restrict physical movement and compromise psychological wellbeing
- Mutilation procedures for cosmetic purposes or to make an animal safe for handling
- Unregulated feeding of the animals by visitors

OUTCOMES:

- ✓ Evidence based science demonstrates significant welfare compromise during these practices
- ✓ Engages and educations staff/visitors on institutional welfare commitment (WS9)
- ✓ Leads on innovative welfare positions within global community







IS THE ANIMAL EXPERIENCE HELPING?



A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise.

Aldo Leopold



WILDLIFE EXPERIENCES



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IMPLICATION: There is tension around technology in zoos of the future. While technology is seen as a way to enhance the visitor experience, there is also desire to escape and experience a more natural environment.





CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH NATURE





TO GROW COMPASSION





SO THEY BECOME PASSIONATE ADVOCATES







FIGHTING FOR A FUTURE RICH IN WILDLIFE







But perhaps our future is in their hands







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