

DET Community Service Program Wildlife Conservation Action



Overview

What is Wildlife Conservation Action (WCA)?

Wildlife Conservation is a fund that supports conservation in the wild. **100% of all funds** donated to Perth Zoo's WCA go to the actual projects.



Perth Zoo has identified a number of key species where we can make a significant contribution to conservation efforts in the wild. These include Native species such as the Numbat, Western Swamp Tortoise and Frogs. Exotic species include the Sumatran Orang-utan, Elephant and Tiger. These are found in the Bukit Tigapuluh National Park where a Perth Zoo born Orang-utan was released in 2006. Papua New Guinea Tree Kangaroos, Silvery Gibbons, African Painted Dogs and Sun bears are other exotic species supported by WCA.

Funds raised in support of these species go directly to projects such habitat protection, anti-poaching patrol units, wildlife monitoring and education. For example \$10 can provide food for one week for a rescued Orang-utan, \$200 can help buy an anti-snare and radio collar for an African Painted Dog and \$500 can build a research hut in New Guinea.

Perth Zoo's Involvement with the Community Service Program

The Department of Education and Training's Community Service Program requires students to undertake a minimum of 20 hours of community service during Year 10 and 11. Since the program began in 2007, we have received many requests for on-site work experience and volunteering opportunities. Unfortunately Perth Zoo is unable to accommodate on-site work experience for secondary school students.

In response to this, Perth Zoo has established two unique opportunities (School Fodder Gardens and WCA Fundraising) for students to contribute to Perth Zoo, while fulfilling the requirements for the Community Service Program.

WCA at my School

Aside from raising funds to support vital on-the-ground conservation work, your school's involvement in WCA will also increase awareness of conservation and environmental issues.

Each school is able to tailor their program according to their needs. The program could be run across the whole school or in small groups (e.g. special interest groups or special curriculum programs). It could be run as a short- or long-term project. It would be ideally suited to being integrated into the school curriculum, although it would still work well as a stand-alone program.



How to get started

Step 1: Decide on the species that your students would like to fundraise for and complete the downloadable registration form (www.perthzoo.wa.gov.au/Documents/PDF/CSP_WCA_School_Registration_Form.pdf). This provides essential information to Zoo Staff who will be liaising with you.

Step 2: Following receipt of your registration form, a Zoo Staff member will contact you in order to provide any assistance we can. This may come in the form of suggesting providing information about the animal/s you have chosen to fundraise for. Perth Zoo will also provide you with a Wildlife Conservation Action promotional pack which includes posters, flyers, brochures, badges and donation tins.

Step 3: Decide on what fundraising activity your group of students are going to undertake, how this is going to be promoted and when this is going to take place. Please read the online Student/Teacher Fundraising Information pages – these include many ideas and other things to consider.

Step 4: Optional Step - Visit the Zoo

This is a fantastic opportunity to provide the real life context for your students hard work. Student's are invited to participate in the Zoo Education Program 'SOS – Save our Species' which investigates why many animals are on the brink of extinction and the conservation action underway to protect them. A significant proportion of this time can also be dedicated to the animal/s that your students are fundraising for. Contact the Zoo Education Office to make a booking on 9474 0365.

Step 5. Acknowledgement

Please contact the Zoo Education Officer who has been liaising with you regarding organising formal acknowledgement of your student's efforts by the Zoo. This will include a formal letter and certificate. This may be once the student/s have completed 20 hours of service (including WCA fundraising). A visit to your school by a Zoo staff member to present these to your students may also be able to be arranged.

Step 6,7,8... This program can be ongoing!

Once your students have had a successful fundraising campaign – this can provide a template for future fundraising events or activities for different species or causes.



Wildlife Conservation Action

More Information?

For further enquiries please contact:

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