

WAZA statement on breeding of species in zoos and aquariums

Breeding programmes in zoos and aquariums strive for as much genetic diversity over generations as possible. Ensuring genetic diversity is important for animal welfare as it contributes to animal health in individual animals and also inter-generationally. Well-managed breeding programmes must consider animal welfare, with zoos and aquariums making every effort to balance the ethical and welfare issues with the need to sustainably manage populations.

The conduct of breeding programmes should be part of broader long-term species management planning that considers whole-of-life care and high levels of animal welfare.

Caring for Wildlife: The World Zoo and Aquarium Animal Welfare Strategy