

# May 2019 - April 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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## Who We Are

**OUR MISSION** A leader in conservation, captive breeding and animal care, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo connects people with wildlife and wild places through experiences that inspire action.

### OUR VISION

Every Kid. Every Time. Goosebumps! Every kid, of any age, will have an experience for a lifetime with every visit.

### **OUR LEADERS**

With only a mission and vision to guide them, these are the people who volunteer their time to make sure the greatness of Cheyenne Mountain Zoo continues.

#### 2019 - 2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Officers

Hans Mueh. Chair Tia Ferguson, Vice Chair Vic Andrews, Treasurer Ann Naughton, Secretary Bob Chastain. President & CEO

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#### **Honorary Director**

Katherine H. Loo

## The Year's Highlights

#### ZOO BECOMES "WATER NEUTRAL"



Through a partnership with Trout Unlimited (TU), CMZoo became the first "water neutral" zoo in the world. Under the program, TU arranges for releases of water from storage reservoirs to augment river flows for the benefit of trout populations and the riverine environment. For water year 2020, which runs from Oct. 1, 2019 to Sept. 30, 2020, TU is releasing 51 acre-feet of water from storage to the Rio Grande River or its tributaries on the Zoo's behalf. The Zoo donated \$15,000 of conservation funds to Trout Unlimited to support these releases.

#### MAHALI'S MEDICAL PROCEDURE



Mahali, 16-year-old male giraffe, underwent a critical and risky procedure on January 30, 2020 to help alleviate pain he appeared to be having in his feet. After exhausting all conservative methods of treatment, the team decided it was in his best interest to anesthetize Mahali and address his issues more aggressively. Anesthetizing a giraffe is risky, so extensive care and preparation went into the procedure, which ended up being completed without any complications. We are seeing some clinical improvement as a result of those treatments. Mahali seems to be weight-bearing much more normally, which includes not shifting weight off his sore front feet as much and not lying down in the middle of the day.

### WOLF RESTORATION EFFORTS IN COLORADO'S WILD PLACES



**CMZoo took on** a new kind of conservation role in 2019, by supporting the Rocky Mountain Wolf Project (RMWP) to petition state government to let the public decide whether to restore gray wolves to their once-native wilds of Colorado. From August to November 2019, the team underwent signature collection training, set up information booths, launched a #WolfWednesday outreach series on social media, incorporated information about the ballot into keeper talks, conducted media interviews for public awareness and participated in roundtable discussions with constituents from each side of the issue. The team gathered 15,298 signatures, contributing to the RMWP's success in making the issue eligible for a public vote in November 2020.

#### LEOPARD AND TIGER BREEDING RECOMMENDATIONS



In late 2019, CMZoo accepted the risky responsibility to continue its efforts – and embark on new ones – to support Species Survival Plans (SSP) for Amur leopards and Amur tigers. This important work, led by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, contributes to the survival of these iconic species by managing the breeding of animals in human care. CMZoo Amur leopards, Anya and Anadyr (ana-DEER), and CMZoo Amur tiger Chewy and a new female, Savelii, who arrived in November 2019, have been selected by the SSP as pairs to breed.

#### AFRICAN PENGUINS MOVE INTO WATER'S EDGE: AFRICA



In April 2020, CMZoo welcomed 11 African penguins – the first residents of Water's Edge: Africa. They quickly acclimated to each other and to the indoor pool, and began building trust with keepers. The flock will eventually grow to 20 African penguins. These ambassadors for their endangered species will have opportunities to make special connections with guests, up-close and personal. In their one-of-a-kind outdoor beach area, penguins can approach guests without barriers, just like the wallabies do in Australia Walkabout.

#### MISSY'S 50TH BIRTHDAY



In June 2019, CMZoo invited the public to celebrate our oldest resident's 50th birthday. Our year-round sponsor, Children's Hospital Colorado, presented a well-attended birthday party for Missy, a female African elephant, who participated in special birthday enrichment activities, including receiving an elephantsized birthday cake. At 50, Missy has surpassed the median life expectancy for female African elephants living in zoos accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums by about 12 years, and is one of the oldest in the U.S. It's possible that she could continue to thrive for many more years. Missy is in good health, and is one of the fastest power-walkers in the herd. Her keepers describe her as, "patient but demanding, kind of like you'd expect a 'Golden Girl' to be."



Tujoh, a 25-year-old male Bornean orangutan, and his primary training, Amy Tuchmann, made CMZoo husbandry training history in late 2019 by successfully completing a voluntary electrocardiogram (EKG). As Tujoh ages, his care team is finding ways to take advantage of new technologies to diagnose medical issues common in great apes, like cardiovascular disease. New pocket-sized diagnostic equipment is a welcome advancement for 340-pound Tujoh, who places two index fingers onto quarter-sized metal discs that take the reading. It only took him a month to learn how to successfully complete the test.



In 2019, Electric Safari was voted Third Best Zoo Lights in USA Today's 10Best Readers' Choice contest. This is the highest ranking the event has ever received, and the fourth year running that Electric Safari has ranked in the top ten Best Zoo Lights in the nation.



e

No. of Concession, Name



## New Zoo Family Members



TWO-TOED SLOTH May 2019 | Bean

### **ZOO BIRTHS**



RETICULATED GIRAFFE July 2019 | Viv



HOWLER MONKEY February 2020 | Riley



MOUNTAIN LION May 2019 | Adira, Sitka



AMUR TIGER November 2019 | Savelii

### **ZOO ADDITIONS**



VIRGINIA OPPOSUM July 2019 | Hutch



ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOAT November 2019 | Lena



RETICULATED GIRAFFE September 2019 | Panya



AFRICAN PENGUIN April 2020 | Alex, Biggs, Captain, Darby, Napoleon, Pearl, Percy, Pomona, Rudo, Rufaro, Safara

### Conservation



#### PALM OIL | July 2019

CMZoo's sustainable palm oil team had a big international presence over the last year. Members of the team traveled to Indonesia to train staff at Taman Safari on starting their own palm oil program and also traveled to Malaysia to attend the International Congress for Conservation Biology. Members also traveled to Canada's Accredited Zoos and Aquariums conference to present on CMZoo's palm oil program. Finally, a team member attended the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil's (RSPO) annual conference in Thailand to represent CMZoo in the RSPO's proceedings.

### FIELD PROJECTS



#### GIRAFFE November 2019

CMZoo staff traveled to Uganda to help transport 15 critically endangered Nubian

giraffe to a safer home within Uganda. As part of this project, CMZoo vet staff helped to collect important medical data for an ongoing study to help giraffe in their natural habitat and those in human care.



#### MOUNTAIN TAPIR December 2019

Four CMZoo staff traveled to Ecuador to satellite collar four mountain tapir. These



collars will provide important ecological data that will help inform future conservation efforts for this species. They also visited two schools in the vicinity of this important mountain tapir habitat in order to form meaningful connections with the local community and to share their knowledge and enthusiasm for this species.



#### VULPRO | Ongoing

VulPro's rescue and rehabilitation of African vultures was in full swing this year with the rescue of 70 vultures and the release of 29 back into the wild. To help bolster the declining wild populations of critically endangered vultures, VulPro's captive breeding facility produced 11 Cape and two African white-backed vulture chicks. The chicks have been fitted with bands and tracking devices and are preparing for their release in 2020.



#### BLACK FOOTED FERRET & WYOMING TOAD | Ongoing

Two ferret litters were born in the 2019 breeding season. A total of 6 kits and 7 adults raised by CMZoo staff were released into their natural habitat in Fall 2019. In May 2019, CMZoo staff released 196 "headstarted" toads into their native habitat in Wyoming. Some of these toads were outfitted with radio transmitters in order to track their movements and learn more about how to improve post-release survival. An additional 3,579 tadpoles were released in this same area.



### QUARTERS FOR CONSERVATION

During the 2019-2020 fiscal year, \$483,710 was raised for field conservation. Each guest received three tokens (worth 25¢ each) to help support the conservation legacy projects of their choice. Cheyenne Mountain Zoo has contributed \$2,989,725 towards field conservation legacy projects since starting to collect tokens in 2008. Q4C is a clear example of how each Zoo visit helps support wildlife.



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## EdVenture



Numbers at a Glance

NUMERICAL HIGHLIGHTS		2019-2020*	2018-2019	
ATTENDANCE NUMBERS	Zoo Attendance Membership Revenue	<b>744,219</b> 823,000** <b>\$2,689,328</b> \$3,091,000**	764,899 \$2,656,917	
DIGITAL MEDIA	Facebook Followers Instagram Followers Online Reviews Website Visits	186,095 54,900 5,055 1,314,094	169,000 42,000 5,181 1,762,096	
OTHER NOTABLE NUMBERS	Food & Gift Commissions Animal Artwork Revenue	\$1,440,775 \$1,558,000** \$8,364	\$1,458,310 \$11,245	
EDVENTURE PROGRAMMING	Logged Docent Hours Teen Participants	19,272 106	21,405 103	
ANIMAL FEEDING EXPERIENCE REVENUE	Elephant & Rhino Snack Time Giraffe Feeding Goat Nibbles	\$90,885 \$719,070 \$810,000** \$13,315	\$105,240 \$753,815 \$12,516	
<ul> <li>ALL FY 2019-2020 NUMBERS ABOVE WERE IMPACTED BY THE ZOOS COVID-19-RELATED CLOSURE DURING THE LAST DART OF THE FISCAL YEAR (MARCH 17-APRIL30, 2020).</li> <li>* PROJECTED NUMBERS, BEFORE COVID-19 CLOSURE: Safari</li> <li>\$356,760</li> <li>\$304,072</li> <li>EVENT NET REVENUE</li> <li>\$2019-20</li> <li>\$2018-19</li> </ul>				

12 CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN ZOO May 2019 - April 2020

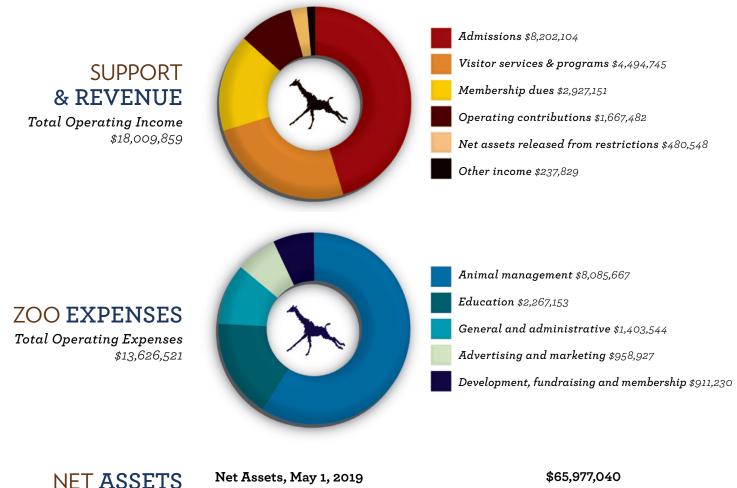




## **Financial Summary**

#### MAY 1, 2019 - APRIL 30, 2020

Cheyenne Mountain Zoo is one of very few AZA-accredited zoos that does not receive any tax support. The Zoo relies solely on donations, membership dues, admissions and grants for funding. Figures are from 2019-20 audited consolidated financial statements, which are available on the Zoo's website.



**Total Net Assets** \$69,881,751

Net Assets, May 1, 2019	\$65,977,040
Net Surplus from Operations	4,383,338
Insurance Proceeds Advanced, Net of Repairs	550,059
Net Assets Released for Capital Assets	1,192,189
Depreciation	(2,220,875)
Not Assots April 20, 2020	¢60 881 751

#### Net Assets, April 30, 2020

#### \$69,881,751

#### **COVID-19 CLOSURE**

In Spring 2020, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo experienced an unprecedented impact to its operations and finances. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Zoo was closed from March 17 through June 5, a nearly three-month closure to the public. Many of the figures documented in this annual report were impacted by this closure, including these financial numbers.

## **Supporting our Cause**

Cheyenne Mountain Zoo is grateful to all of our patrons who support our vision of inspiring caring and stewardship of the natural world. As a self-funded facility, our donors and sponsors are critical to our success. Although all gifts are deeply appreciated, space precludes us from individually acknowledging all of our generous friends.

#### The following supporters contributed gifts of \$2,500 or more (cash or in-kind) from May 2019 to April 2020.

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Mr. Randy and Mrs. Audrey Woodard

Mr. Alan Wright and Mrs. Sue Hall-Wright

Mr. Ted and Mrs. Nina Wright

Mr. Rich and Mrs. Penny Young

\*Deceased

### **Vet Hospital Expansion Campaign Donors**

It takes a lot to care for the Zoo's hundreds of animals, from tarantulas to tigers. We're excited to continue our cutting-edge veterinary care with a new hospital expansion.

Gifts of \$2,500 or more to the Vet Hospital Expansion campaign are recognized below.

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Mr. Richard and Mrs. Joanie Mooney

Pepsi Cola Ms. Lovena Porter Dr. Theolyn Price Mr. Tom and Mrs. Patricia Radcliffe Ms. Sarah Roach Mr. Bill and Mrs. Gloria Robertson Mr. Wayne Rothbaum Mrs. Virginia Snow\* Mr. Robert and Mrs. Jane Sterritt Mr. Dave and Mrs. Kay Van Dykman Vectrus Systems Corporation

## 1926 Society

The following are members of the Zoo's 1926 Society, generous friends who have provided for the Zoo in their wills or estate plans. To learn more about planned giving at the Zoo, contact Kelley Parker at (719) 424-7810.

Ms. Julie Hall

Mr. Tuck and Mrs. Liz Aikin Anonymous Ms. Jacqueline Archer\* Ms. Jeanie Baratono Ms. Barbara Bates Mr. Joe Bernolfo Mr. Richard and Mrs. Charla Bertrand Dr. John and Mrs. Joanie Bishop Mr. Jim\* and Mrs. Janis Brewster Mr. Kent\* and Mrs. Ann Brosh Mr. Bruce and Mrs. Patty Cameron Col. Jo and Mrs. Cindi Carroll Mrs. Glenn Carson Ms. Karen Cooper Ms. Helen Cope\* Mr. Paul\* and Mrs. Anita\* Deery Ms. Barbara DeGrand and Ms. Margaret Garrett Mrs. Alice Dempster\* Mrs. Cherri Disque Mr. Howard and Mrs. Ruth Dutzi Mr. Myron Dye\* Dr. Mike Edmonds Col. Robert and Mrs. Gayle Emmons Ms. Susan Engfer Mr. James and Mrs. Lu Ann Fox Mrs. Betty Francis\* Mr. Dan Freeley Mr. Joel and Mrs. Tracey Gazibara Ms. Charlotte Greene Mr. Bill\* and Mrs. Dorothea Gruenerwald

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### **Capital Campaign Donors**

There's always something new at Cheyenne Mountain Zoo! And right now is a very special time – our centennial anniversary is coming up in 2026. As we embark on our next exciting capital project, we are grateful for our loyal donors who continue to support the growth of the Zoo and have been some of the first to contribute to our next capital campaign.

#### Gifts of \$2,500 or more to the next capital campaign are recognized below.

Anonymous Bain Family Foundation Mr. Dave and Mrs. Karen Benson Benson Foundation Mrs. Susie Burghart and Mr. Rich Tosches Andrea Waitt Carlton Family Foundation The Community Foundation of Louisville Mr. Preston and Mrs. Diane Cooper Mr. Robert and Mrs. Devora Detherage Alice Gist Dunaway Foundation Mr. Paul and Mrs. Peri Faricy Mr. Bill and Mrs. Susan Flis G.E. Johnson Foundation

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\*Deceased

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The following corporate sponsors recognize the mutually beneficial partnership that Cheyenne Mountain Zoo offers. For sponsorship opportunities, contact Jenny Koch at (719) 633-9925 x114.

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