

Special Issue

Human Influences on the Behaviour and Welfare of Zoo Animals

Message from the Guest Editor

There is a substantial body of evidence on the profound effects of human-animal interactions on the behaviour and stress physiology of farm animals. Surprisingly, less research has been conducted on the human-animal relationship in other animal use settings in which there is substantial human contact, such as zoos. There is developing literature on the effects of human interactions on zoo animals. The most robust evidence is that contact with visitors in the visitor viewing area may be perceived as negative, neutral or even positive, depending on the species, the visitor behaviour and characteristics of the animal enclosure that may affect how the animal perceives human visitors. There is limited evidence that both close encounters in which visitors can feed or touch animals, and the keeper-zoo animal relationship may affect zoo animal behaviour and welfare. The aim of this Special Issue is to present recent research and reviews on the implications of human-zoo animal interactions on zoo animal behaviour and welfare, with the aim of stimulating interest, understanding and exploration of this important subject.

Guest Editor

Prof. Paul Hemsworth

Animal Welfare Science Centre, University of Melbourne, Parkville, VIC 3010, Australia

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Animals
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
animals@mdpi.com

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Animals is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2011. *Animals* adheres to rigorous peerreview and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues in the many varied disciplines that involve animals, with a focus on animal science, animal welfare and animal ethics. *Animals* is covered in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) in Web of Science, with the latest Impact Factor: 2.7 (2024, ranks 15/86 (Q1) in 'Agriculture, Dairy & Animal Science'; 21/170 (Q1) in 'Veterinary Sciences'), 5-Year Impact Factor: 3.2.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Clive J. C. Phillips

1. Institute of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Sciences, Estonian University of Life Sciences, Kreutzwaldi 1, 51014 Tartu, Estonia
2. Curtin University Sustainability Policy (CUSP) Institute, Kent St., Bentley 6102, Australia

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