



Alternative Approaches in the Assessment of Zoo and Aquarium Exhibits

Guest Editors:

Dr. Lisa Holmes

Chester Zoo, Upton-by-Chester,
Chester CH2 1EU, UK

Dr. James Waterman

Chester Zoo, Upton-by-Chester,
Chester CH2 1EU, UK

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

The assessment of animal welfare in zoos has rapidly evolved over the past two decades, moving from measures of basic animal needs, through to evaluating the impacts that husbandry routine and housing have on physical and psychological health. Modern zoos aim to design immersive animal exhibits not just for the zoo visitor experience, but to provide animals with an enriching and varied landscape to promote naturalistic behaviours across the 24 hour period. A number of enclosure assessment methods have been implemented over the years, yet many published reports omit the important implications of resource allocation on exhibit utilization.

The aim of this Special Issue is to provide an overview of the most recent trends in the evaluation of zoo exhibit and resource utilisation across a range of species. Submissions should focus on the practical applications of methods for use by animal managers to assess current facilities and provide an evidence base for enclosure modifications and future exhibit designs.

Dr. Lisa Holmes

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