



BEAR TAG

AZA MID-YEAR
SPRING 2022



Officers

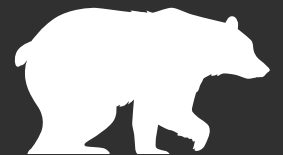
Chair: Travis Vineyard [2023], Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, tgvc@cleveandmetroparks.com
Vice Chair: Gary Lunsford [2023], Milwaukee Zoo, Gary.Lunsford@milwaukeecountywi.gov
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Secretary: Sandy Huang Falconer, San Francisco Zoo and Gardens, sandyf@sfzoo.org
Treasurer: Liz Larsen, Utah's Hogle Zoo, llarsen@hoglezoo.org

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Ronda Schwetz [2022], Henry Vilas Zoo, Schwetz@countyofdane.com
Eric Albers [2022], Akron Zoo, eralbers@akronzoo.org
Devon Sabo [2022], Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, devon.sabo@columbuszoo.org
Angela Gibson [2024], Oakland Zoo, agibson@oaklandzoo.org
Rachel Sides [2024], Oklahoma City Zoo, rsides@okczoo.org
John Ward [2024], Fort Worth Zoo, jward@fortworthzoo.org
Betsie Meister [2024], Detroit Zoological Society, emeister@dzs.org
Anne Nichols [2023 - nv], Brookfield Zoo, Anne.Nichols@CZS.org
Erin Curry [2023 - nv], Cincinnati Zoo, erin.curry@cincinnatiatizoo.org
Christine Anne [2023 - nv], Woodland Park Zoo, christine.anne@zoo.org



**43% of AZA facilities
hold at least one
species of bear.**





Brown Bear

72.57
in
46 Institutions

Gail Karr
[gkarr@memphis
zoo.org](mailto:gkarr@memphiszoo.org)

North American Black Bear

44.53
in
46 Institutions

Ann Meyer
ameyer@audubon
institute.org



Zoo Park Partnerships

Julie Anton Randall

jantonrandall@wildlifeandparks.org

www.wildlifeandparks.org

“Bear Safe” Toolkit for Zoos Zoo-Park Partnerships





Polar Bear

23.25
in
19 Institutions

Allison Jungheim
[allison.jungheim@
ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:allison.jungheim@ci.stpaul.mn.us)

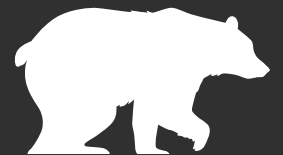
2022 POLAR BEAR RESEARCH MASTERPLAN

Polar Bear Research Council
Association of Zoos and Aquariums
Polar Bear Species Survival Plan



Amy Cutting
Oregon Zoo

Amy.Cutting@oregonzoo.org



OPEN

Energetic and health effects of protein overconsumption constrain dietary adaptation in an apex predator

Karyn D. Rode^{1✉}, Charles T. Robbins², Craig A. Stricker³, Brian D. Taras⁴ & Troy N. Tollefson⁵

Studies of predator feeding ecology commonly focus on energy intake. However, captive predators have been documented to selectively feed to optimize macronutrient intake. As many apex predators experience environmental changes that affect prey availability, limitations on selective feeding can affect energetics and health. We estimated the protein:fat ratio of diets consumed by wild polar bears using a novel isotope-based approach, measured protein:fat ratios selected by zoo polar bears offered dietary choice and examined potential energetic and health consequences of overconsuming protein. Dietary protein levels selected by wild and zoo polar bears were low and similar to selection observed in omnivorous brown bears, which reduced energy intake requirements by 70% compared with lean meat diets. Higher-protein diets fed to zoo polar bears during normal care were concurrent with high rates of mortality from kidney disease and liver cancer. Our results suggest that polar bears have low protein requirements and that limitations on selective consumption of marine mammal blubber consequent to climate change could meaningfully increase their energetic costs. Although bear protein requirements appear lower than those of other carnivores, the energetic and health consequences of protein overconsumption identified in this study have the potential to affect a wide range of taxa.





Sloth Bear

15.17
in
14 Institutions

Debbie Thompson
dthompson@littlerock.
gov









Andean Bear

19.12
in
17 Institutions

Sara Colandrea
colandreas@si.edu



Andean Bear SAFE

Andean Bear SAFE and the SSP:

SAFE will support SSP population sustainability
& bear care goals

SSP will support SAFE conservation &
engagement goals

Kym Gopp

kag@clevelandmetroparks.com



SAFE
SAVING ANIMALS
FROM EXTINCTION
ANDEAN BEAR

Produced and Bottled by:

Hill Top Berry Farm & Winery, L.C. 2800 Berry Hill Rd. Nellysford, VA 22958
(434) 361-1266 www.hilltopberrywine.com

Hill Top

Berry Farm & Winery

SALVAJE



AUTHENTIC
HONEY MEADS

Wildflower Honey Mead

GOVERNMENT WARNING: (1) ACCORDING TO THE SURGEON GENERAL, WOMEN SHOULD NOT DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DURING PREGNANCY BECAUSE OF THE RISK OF BIRTH DEFECTS. (2) CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IMPAIRS YOUR ABILITY TO DRIVE A CAR OR OPERATE MACHINERY, AND MAY CAUSE HEALTH PROBLEMS.

ALCOHOL 12% BY VOLUME CONTAINS SULFITES 500mL

www.chipotle.com



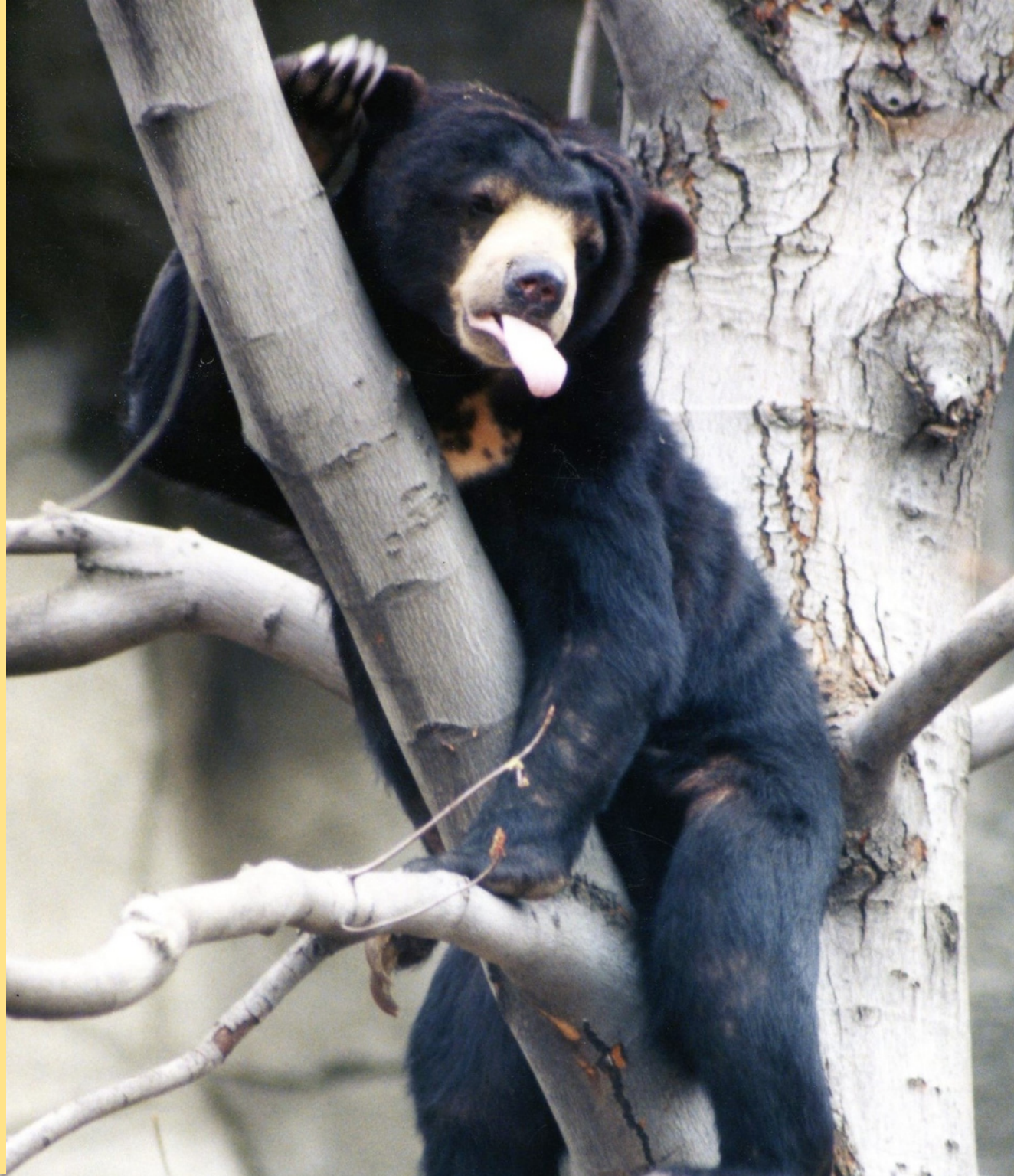
www.hilltopberrywine.com/wines-meats



Sun Bear

8.8
in
13 Institutions

Mindy Babitz
babitzm@si.edu





SUN BEARS:

Global Status Review
& Conservation
Action Plan

2019-2028

Research Prospectus:

Priority topics for *ex situ*
sun bear conservation research

Edition: May 2020





Giant Panda

3.5.1
in
3 Institutions

Ronald Swaisgood
rsweisgood@san-diego-zoo.org



Asiatic Black Bear

4.3
in
4 Institutions

Travis Vineyard
tgvl@clevelandmetro
parks.com

2023 Bear TAG Husbandry Course

Hosted By: Detroit Zoological Gardens



Regional Collection Plan

2023





Brown Bear:
2015 = TAG Monitored
2023 ~ TAG Monitored
[EAZA ~ EEP]

American Black Bear:
2015 = TAG Monitored
2023 ~ TAG Monitored
[EAZA ~ Mon-T REPLw]



Species Predictions





Polar Bear:

2015 = Yellow SSP

2023 ~ Provisional SSP,
Consortium?

[EAZA ~ EEP]

Sloth Bear:

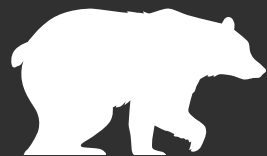
2015 = Red SSP

2023 ~ Provisional SSP,
Consortium?

[EAZA ~ EEP]



Species Predictions



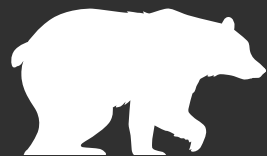


Andean Bear:
2015 = Red SSP
2023 ~ Provisional SSP,
Consortium?
[EAZA ~ EEP]

Sun Bear:
2015 = Phase Out
2023 ~ Phase Out, TAG
Monitored?
[EAZA ~ EEP]



Species Predictions





Giant Panda:

2015 = Green SSP

2023 ~ Externally
Managed, SAFE?

[EAZA ~ Mon-T Phase Out]

Asiatic Black Bear:

2015 = Phase Out

2023 ~ Phase Out

[EAZA ~ EEP]



Species Predictions



Marcel Alaze
Senior Curator
EEP coordinator sloth bear
alaze@allwetterzoo.de

RCP planning process
Education Group

Workshop polar bear ex-situ research activities
Brown bear situation Ukraine
LTMP for Andean bears / Polar bears



**ALLWETTERZOO
MÜNSTER**



Lisa Lidgus
Bear TAG Education Advisor
Saint Louis Zoo
lidgus@stlzoo.org

Project Update: Website!



BEAR TAXON ADVISORY GROUP (TAG)

A Resource for Bear Conservation

- [Who We Are](#)
- [Conservation](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

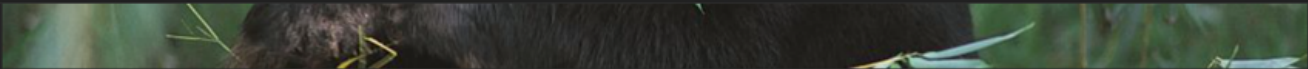


WHO WE ARE

[Edit](#)

MISSION STATEMENT

The Bear Taxon Advisory Group (TAG) supports bears around the



WHO WE ARE

Edit

MISSION STATEMENT

The Bear Taxon Advisory Group (TAG) supports bears around the world, through ex-situ activities, by developing sustainable population management programs, creating educational curriculum, supporting research, pioneering welfare standards, and advocating for bear conservation.

SUMMARY OF GOALS

Genetic and Demographic Management

The Bear TAG will attempt to maintain genetically and demographically healthy, well-managed captive populations of bears for public education and scientific study and to generate support for in-situ conservation.

Education

The Bear TAG will promote consistent educational messaging about bears and their plight in the wild.

Research and Conservation

The Bear TAG will maximize the conservation and research potential of captive bear populations by evaluating and prioritizing bear research projects involving the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) and



RESOURCES

Edit

Photo: Oakland Zoo

Interested in Black Bears for Your AZA Facility?

Care Manuals

Publications

Education Toolkits

Bear Awareness Week: Third week in May each year.

Polar Bear Day: February 27

Panda Day: March 16

Sun Bear Day: May 16

Andean Bear Day: July 21

Moon Bear Day: August 8

Sloth Bear Day: October 20

[Andean-Bear-Day-2021-Virtual-Toolkit-FINAL-1](#) **Download**

Andean-Bear-Day-2021-Virtual-Spanish **Download**

Trivia

In the past 100 years, how many bear species have not naturally ranged into the tropics?



Dave Garshelis - dgarshelis.bsg@gmail.com

