



Business and Finance Committee

DZCA Overview

July 2024



Introduction



Bert Vescolani

President and CEO of
Denver Zoo Conservation Alliance



AGENDA

- Overview of DZCA
- Past 5 Years
- Current Projects and Initiatives
- Future Goals and Visions
- Conclusion and Q&A



Overview of DZCA

Saving Wildlife Together

OUR MISSION

Inspiring Communities
to Save Wildlife
for Future Generations

OUR VISION

A World Where
Wildlife Thrives

DZCA by the Numbers

- 80-acre campus
- 2023 Numbers
 - 1.7 million visitors
 - 460 thousand visits by members



A Look Back

Achievements of
the Past Five Years



ANIMAL CARE & CONSERVATION
**Accreditation and
certifications**

ASSOCIATION OF **ZOOS &** **AQUARIUMS**



ANIMAL CARE & CONSERVATION

Notable Births, Rescues & Additions

Introduction of new species
and significant animal
additions.

2022



Jai

Gwen



Chickpea

Jasiri

BB

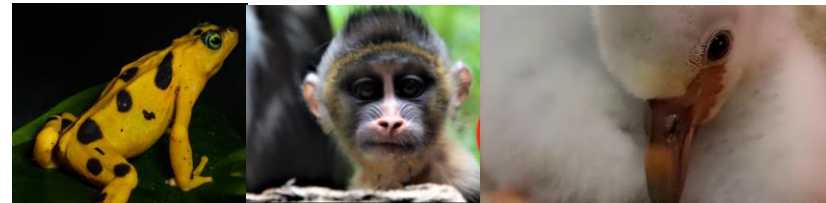
2019



Tatu

Wookie

2021



63 Froglets
Panamanian
Golden Frog

Akili

Denver, Diamond,
and Jonas

2023



Wicket

Siska

Rocket & Slinky

Zola

Marcus & Steppy

2020



Joona

Oskaar & Araali



Kylo

Betty

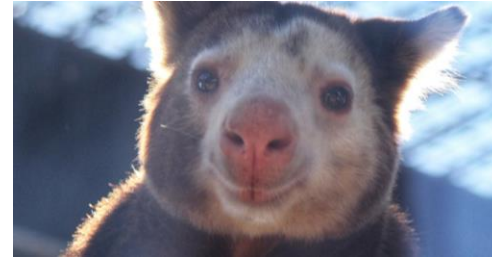
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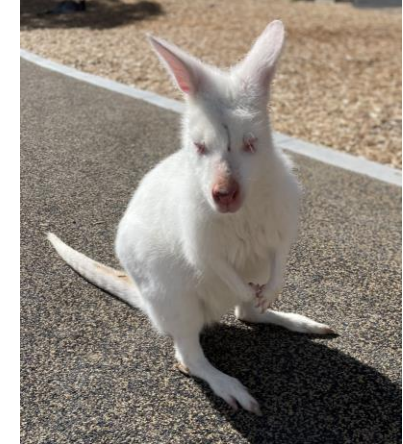
Tristan



ChloJo



Duncan



Marshmallow

Viktor

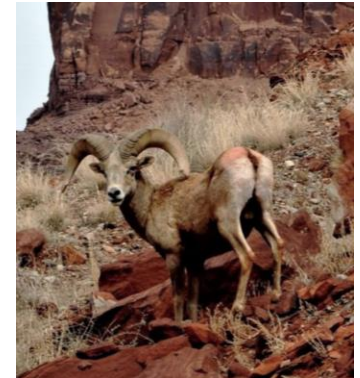


Pearl

ANIMAL CARE & CONSERVATION

Field Conservation

- South African Flamingo rescue
- Boreal toads bred at DZCA release
- Bighorn project with Navajo Nation
- Mount Blue Sky
- Women in Conservation Scholarships



Exhibits and Campus Improvements

- \$62 million in capital since 2019
 - \$23 million bond supported
 - \$39 million DZCA + Donor supported
- New habitats
 - Flamingos, Harmony Hill (Brown bear), Pinnacol African Penguin Point, Stingray Cove
- Zofnass Barclay Nature Trail
- Helen and Arther E. Johnson Animal Hospital
- Pathway improvements and new wayfinding signage



COMMUNITY ACCESS**A Few Stats**

- Covid 87-day closure
- Free Days (7) + SNAP Explorer Pass
 - 28% of guests
- My Denver Card
 - 4,948 guests
- Five by Five Program
 - 4,060 guests
- Summer Safari Scholarships to 40 newcomer families
- Ronald McDonald House Residents
 - 1,367 guests



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & EDUCATION

Conservation Learning Programs & Community Nature Play

Expansion of Conservation Learning programs
and community nature play pop-ups

- 554 Nature Play Kits Distributed
- 1250 Nature Play Pocket Guides
- 117 Denver Zoo Memberships
- 726 Denver Zoo Tickets to participants
- 129 Adults & 362 Children Participants in Year-Long programming
- 75 Families engaged in Family Nature Clubs



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & EDUCATION

Conservation Learning Access

- More than 34,000 children and adults participated in Conservation Learning
- 3,300 received needs-based scholarship
 - Attended camp, school program, etc.
- 60 teachers participate in professional development programs
- 2,700 children joined school break camps
- Autism Certification



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & EDUCATION

Collaboration with Local Organizations

- Black Birders Event each year since 2021
- SCFD Organization performances & Collaborations (2021)
 - Cleo Parker Robinson, Colorado Symphony, Colorado Ballet, Mexican Cultural Center, Dia del Nino
- Quill the porcupine's quills donated to indigenous artists
- Asian American and Pacific Islander+ Festival
- Veterans free tours + free admission during Military Appreciation week



INTO THE GREAT WILD OPEN

Comprehensive Campaign

- Campaign Public Launch 2023
 - Raised \$245,000 in 30 days through matching fund
- Force of Nature Gala (\$500K) honoring Eddie Robinson
- \$1 million in community support during covid
- Flock Party launched in 2020



Current Projects and Initiatives



INTO THE GREAT WILD OPEN

Comprehensive Campaign

- \$75M Comprehensive Fundraising Campaign
- Since 2019 raised \$65,091,042
- 49,467 gifts
- 19,970 unique donors
- Doubled annual fundraising amount
- Fundraising Pillars
 - Open Arms: Access + Education
 - Open Hearts: Animal Care + Capital Projects
 - Open Spaces: Conservation + Sustainability

80% OF THE WAY
TO OUR
\$75M GOAL



SALEM

A Cassowary from Australia, these impressive birds are cousins to emus and stand over 5 ft tall!



BILLY

Born in Dublin, it's only fitting that genetics gifted Billy with a cute, pink-freckled face. This energetic 15-year-old loves to play with his fellow bachelors!

Brand Refresh

Why did we refresh our brand?

- To better align its branding with the mission, vision, values and goals of the organization, especially if those have transitioned over time.
- Our goals with our new brand are to:
 - **AMPLIFY** the heart of our mission and vision
 - **ATTRACT** and **EMPOWER** new conservation allies, including guests, members, donors, communities and the general public
 - **FOCUS** on the future of wildlife conservation and the future of DZCA



CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

In-Progress & Recently Completed

- Down Under Opening—\$7 million project
- Sea Lions—\$15.7 million project
- Entry Ramp – \$900,000
- Adult Changing Rooms
- Automatic Doors for access



Construction & Infrastructure

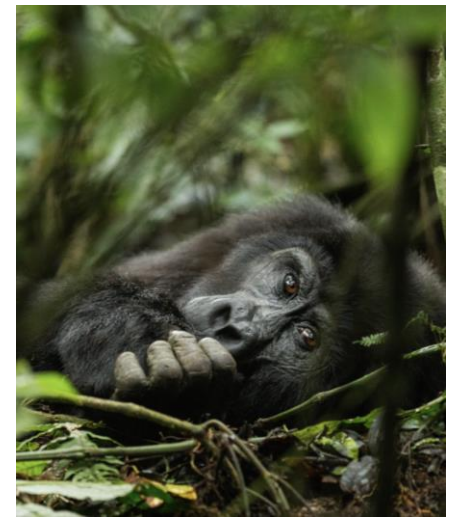
- Goals for enhancing visitor experience and animal habitats
 - New guest barrier design
- Investments and Improvements
 - New ticketing system, HRIS implementation
- Facility Condition Assessment and campus capital projects totaling approximately \$50 million
- City Assessment indicates \$22.5 million needed annually to support deferred maintenance and current needs.



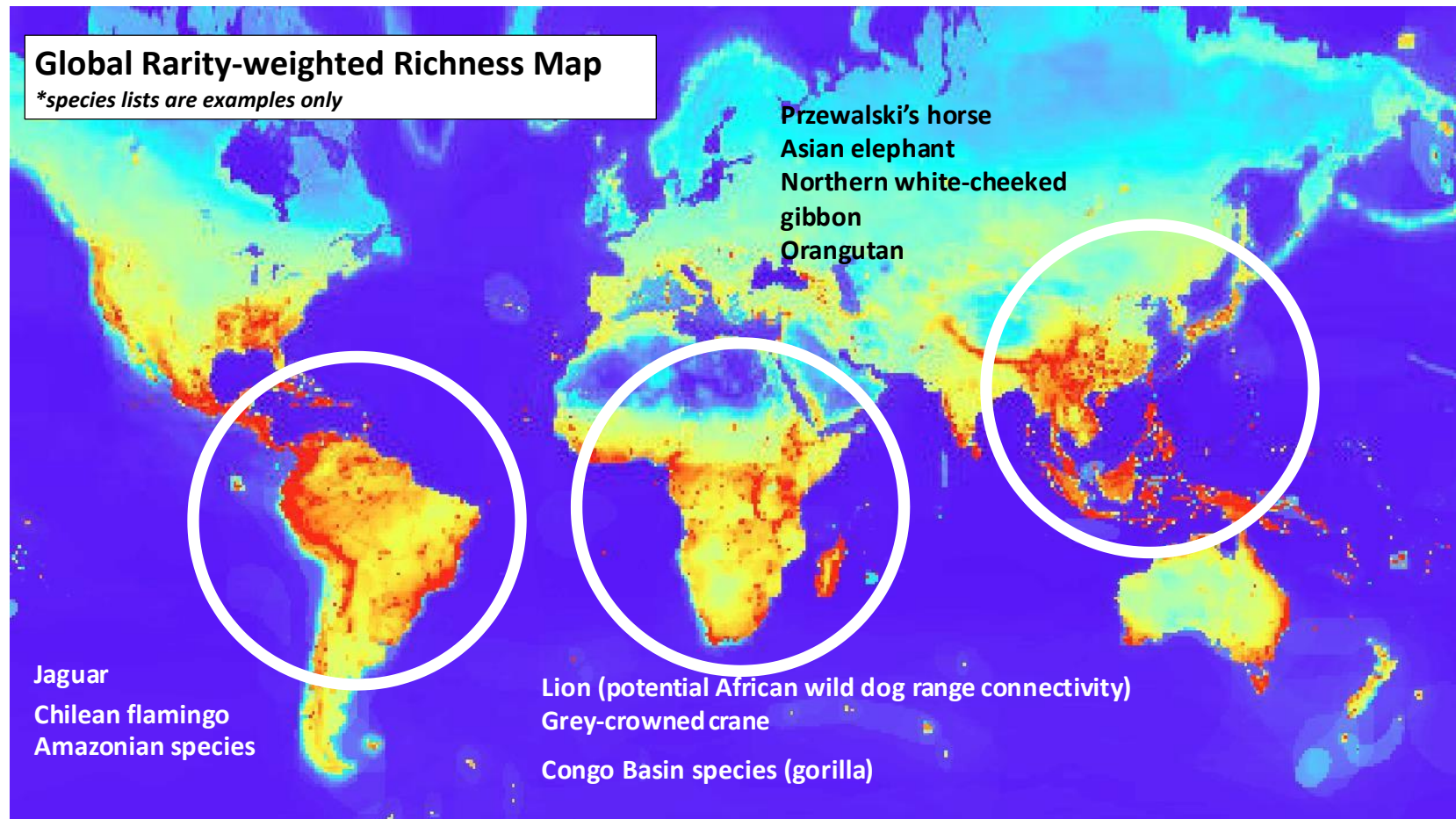
Field Conservation - International

Connection to wildlife in our care

- Peru: Lake Junin and Lake Titicaca Frogs, Chilean Flamingos
- Uganda: Conservation through Public Health
- Indonesia: Leuser Ecosystem
- Laos: Elephant Conservation Center



Field Conservation - International



Field Conservation- Colorado

Focused on: Jurisdictional Gaps

- Nearly endangered species
 - Boreal toads - American pika - bison
- Tribal conservation
 - Navajo Nation bighorn
- Interagency gaps
 - Wildlife crossings - Mount Blue Sky wildlife



Community Outreach & Connection

- Created Belonging Division in 2023
 - Elkin Alfred, Chief Belonging Officer
- Focus on Career Pathways
 - Internships
 - Apprenticeships
 - Upskilling & Reskilling
- Community Outreach & Engagement
 - Partnerships with organizations within DZCA neighborhood
 - SCFD organizations



Future Goals & Vision

Future Habitats

- Africa
- Latin America
- North America



Africa: Phases 1, 2, & 3



Lembke Family Preserve

- Providing conservation opportunities
- Relieving pressure from the campus with the goal of enhancing guest experience
- Details
 - 570 Acres
 - Weld County Colorado
- Zoo-Based Conservation
- Plans for 2024 and Beyond
 - Holding + Breeding
 - Research + Reintroduction



Sustainability & Environmental Impact

- **Historical Achievements:**
 - LEED Gold and Silver certifications
 - Conversion of Zoo Lights to LED
- **Future Focus:** Emphasis on long-term sustainability goals and future projects, highlighting DZCAs dedication to ongoing environmental improvements
- **Future Goals**
 - **90% Waste Reduction**
 - **50% Water Usage Reduction**
 - **25% Energy Reduction Goal**



Conclusion

Recap & Questions



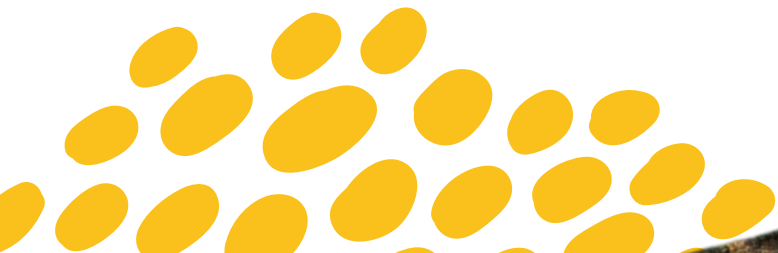
Conclusion

Summary

- Achievements
- Current projects
- Future vision

What's Next?

- Support and Collaboration



Questions?



Thank you!