



**Felid Taxon Advisory Group
North American
Regional Collection Plan**

2006-2008

Website: www.felidtag.com

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Felid Taxon Advisory Group Regional Collection Plan

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**FELID TAXON ADVISORY GROUP (TAG)
REGIONAL COLLECTION PLAN
2006-2008**

INTRODUCTION

The North American Regional Collection Plan (RCP) was reviewed and updated during the 2006 Mid-Year Meeting of the Felid TAG held at the Denver Zoo. The following document is the result of two working groups convened during the meeting each of whom reviewed the 2003-2005 plan. In addition, input from the Felid TAG Steering Committee and Co-Chairs as well as the collective suggestions/comments by felid institutional representatives were taken into account. A few very minor changes were made from the 2003-2005 regional collection plan. These changes are primarily in the area of spaces allotted for individual species. As many of these species management programs are well established and require long term commitment to achieve success the TAG advocates infrequent changes to the RCP.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The TAG strongly encourages that the following recommendations be followed by all institutions displaying or planning to exhibit felids:

- It is imperative that institutions follow the RCP recommendations when planning for, acquiring, and breeding species/specimens;
- It is imperative that accredited institutions and approved non-member facilities participate in SSPs and strictly follow SSP recommendations;
- The SSP/PMP Coordinator or Studbook Keeper should be contacted regarding new acquisitions, dispositions, births, and deaths and when transfers occur.
- The TAG recognizes that for the long-term success of some of the small felid species, concerted, multi-institutional efforts and partnerships will be necessary for importing new founders;
- All holders of felids are urged to develop, implement, and monitor an aggressive environmental enrichment program for felids;
- Because disease, contraception, and diet/nutrition issues are high priority concerns, holders of felids are urged to monitor and cooperate with TAG-endorsed projects addressing these issues;
- Surplus animals should be transferred to other AZA-accredited or approved non-member participating institutions. Alternatively, animals sent to a non-AZA institution should be permanently sterilized before shipment, and the receiving facility should be inspected by the holding institution to assure adequate quality of care. *The AZA's acquisition/disposition guidelines should be followed for all animal placements.*
- At this time, managerial euthanasia of healthy animals is at the discretion of the holding institution. This is a method of last resort and should be used only after all other avenues have been exhausted. Medical euthanasia should be considered for life-threatening or quality of life reasons and on a case-by-case basis;
- Private ownership of wild felids as exotic pets is strongly opposed, as is the creation/propagation of exotic X domestic cat crosses (hybrids);
- Because successful genetic management and conservation of felid species is inextricably linked to scientific studies, the Felid TAG (1) recognizes the value of captive populations as a research resource and (2) strongly endorses collaborative, multidisciplinary research in these populations;
- Refer to the Felid TAG's web site: <http://www.felidtag.com> for information updates.

TAG DEFINITIONS

The Felid TAG *considered all* species for management in the family Felidae. These and subspecies with special status are listed in Table 1.

Wilson and Reeder published a major taxonomic work entitled "MAMMAL SPECIES OF THE WORLD: A TAXONOMIC AND GEOGRAPHIC REFERENCE" in 1993. This work redefines the relationship of many mammalian species and genera, including the felids. These authors' revisions have been accepted by CITES, and recent CITES publications of regulated wildlife place most small cats within new genera. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) in the publication "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife" have also adopted these taxonomic changes. Given the potential impact of these changes on all owners of felids, Table 1 also provides both old and new nomenclature, as well as present legal status under CITES regulations and U.S. law. Under CITES regulations, all felids are protected under Appendix II regulations, and only instances of Appendix I protection are listed below.

Table 1. Nomenclature and Conservation Status of Felid Species*

New name	Old or other names	CITES	FWS Status**
Subfamily Acinonychinae			
<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i> Cheetah		I	E
Subfamily Felinae			
<i>Caracal caracal</i> caracal	<i>Felis</i> or <i>Lynx caracal</i>	I (Asian pop. only)	
<i>Catopuma badia</i> bay cat	<i>Felis badia</i>		
<i>Catopuma. temminckii</i> Temminck's or Asian golden cat	<i>Felis temminckii</i>	I	E
<i>Felis bieti</i> Chinese desert cat			
<i>Felis chaus</i> jungle cat			
<i>Felis margarita</i> sand cat			
<i>Felis margarita scheffeli</i> Pakistan sand cat			E
<i>Felis nigripes</i> black-footed cat		I	E
<i>Felis sylvestris</i> (includes <i>Felis catus</i> , <i>ornata</i> , <i>lybica</i>) European, African Indian wild cat			
<i>Herpailurus yaguarondi</i> jaguarundi	<i>Felis yagouarondi</i>	I	(North and Central American pop. only)
<i>H. y. cacomitli</i> gulf coast jaguarundi	<i>Felis y. cacomitli</i>		E

New name	Old or other names	CITES	FWS Status**
<i>Herpailurus yaguarondi fossata</i> Guatemalan jaguarundi	<i>F. y. fossata</i>		E
<i>H. y. panamensis</i> Panamanian jaguarundi	<i>F. y. panamensis</i>		E
<i>H. y. tolteca</i> Sinaloan jaguarundi	<i>F. y. tolteca</i>		E
<i>Leopardus pardalis</i> ocelot (Not covered by CBW permits)	<i>Felis pardalis</i>	I	E
<i>Leopardus tigrinus</i> tiger cat, tigrina or oncilla	<i>Felis tigrinus</i>	I	E
<i>Leopardus wiedii</i> margay (Not covered by CBW permits)	<i>Felis wiedii</i>	I	E
<i>Leptailurus serval</i> serval	<i>Felis serval</i>		
<i>L. s. constantina</i> Barbary serval	<i>F. s. constantina</i>		E (Extinct?)
<i>Lynx canadensis</i> Canadian lynx	<i>Felis canadensis,</i> <i>Lynx lynx canadensis</i>		T
<i>Lynx lynx</i> Eurasian lynx	<i>Felis lynx</i>		
<i>Lynx pardalis</i> Spanish lynx	<i>Felis</i> or <i>Lynx lynx pardalis</i>	I	E
<i>Lynx rufus</i> bobcat	<i>Felis rufus</i>		
<i>L. r. escuinapae</i> Mexican bobcat	<i>F. r. escuinapae</i>		E
<i>Oncifelis colocolo</i> pampas cat	<i>Felis colocolo</i>		
<i>Oncifelis geoffroyi</i> Geoffroy's cat	<i>Felis geoffroyi</i>	I	
<i>Oncifelis guigna</i> kodkod	<i>Felis guigna</i>		
<i>Oreailurus jacobitus</i> Andean mountain cat	<i>Felis jacobita</i>	I	E
<i>Otocolobus manul</i> Pallas' cat	<i>Felis manul</i>		

New name	Old or other names	CITES	FWS Status**
<i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i> leopard cat	<i>Felis bengalensis</i>		
<i>P. b. bengalensis</i> leopard cat	<i>F. b. bengalensis</i> (Indian, Thai, Bangladesh pop. as I)	I	E
<i>P. b. iriomotensis</i> Iriomote cat	<i>Felis</i> or <i>Mayailurus iriomotensis</i>		E
<i>Prionailurus planiceps</i> flat-headed cat	<i>Felis planiceps</i>	I	E
<i>Prionailurus rubiginosus</i> rusty-spotted cat	<i>Felis rubiginosus</i>	I	(Indian pop. only)
<i>Prionailurus viverrinus</i> fishing cat	<i>Felis viverrinus</i>		
<i>Profelis aurata</i> African golden cat	<i>Felis aurata</i>		
<i>Puma concolor</i> puma, mountain lion	<i>Felis concolor</i> (Free-living pop. in FL only)		T
<i>P. c. coryi</i> Florida panther	<i>F. c. coryi</i>	I	E
<i>P. c. costaricensis</i> Costa Rican or Central American puma	<i>F. c. costaricensis</i>	I	E
<i>Puma concolor cougar</i> Eastern cougar or puma	<i>F. c. cougar</i>	I	E
Subfamily Pantherinae			
<i>Neofelis nebulosa</i> clouded leopard		I	E
<i>Panthera leo</i> lion			
<i>P. l. persica</i> Asian or Indian lion		I	E
<i>Panthera onca</i> jaguar (Not covered by CBW Permits)		I	E
<i>Panthera pardus</i> leopard		I	(Southern African pop. as T) E, T

New name	Old or other names	CITES	FWS Status**
<i>Panthera tigris</i> tiger		I	E
<i>Pardofelis marmorata</i> marbled cat	<i>Felis marmorata</i>	I	E
<i>Uncia uncia</i> snow leopard	<i>Panthera uncia</i>	I	E

* from Shoemaker, 1998

** E = Endangered, T = Threatened

SPACE ANALYSIS

Kimberly Davidson (Utah's Hogle Zoo) assessed space availability for holding felids via a mail and phone survey conducted in Spring 2003. Davidson requested the following information from all AZA holders of felids:

Assessment of Current Space

- Current number of animals (i.e., m.f.u in collection);
- Current number of displays (i.e., number of displays dedicated to species/subspecies of felids);
- Current number of holding spaces (i.e., number of spaces that can be used for holding felids on a long-term basis; not shift pens or night houses used regularly to facilitate upkeep of display);

Assessment of Space over the next 1 to 2 Years

- Anticipated change in number of animals over next 1 to 2 years (i.e., anticipated or desired changes in species/subspecies through breeding, acquisition, recovery, or removal from the collection);
- Anticipated change in number of displays over the next 1 to 2 years (i.e., the number of anticipated displays lost or gained for each species);
- Anticipated change in number of holding spaces over the next 1 to 2 years (i.e., number of anticipated holding spaces either lost or gained for each species);

Assessment of Space over the next 5 Years

- Anticipated change in number of animals over next 5 years (i.e., anticipated or desired changes in species/subspecies through breeding, acquisition, recovery, or removal from collection);
- Anticipated change in number of displays over the next 5 years (i.e., number of anticipated displays lost or gained for each species);
- Anticipated change in number of holding spaces over the next 5 years: (i.e., the number of anticipated holding spaces either lost or gained for each species);

Because cage space differs significantly amongst large *felids* (i.e., *Acinonyx*, *Puma*, and Subfamily *Pantherinae*) and small *felids* (the remaining taxa), available cage space was assessed separately for large and small felids. A total of 145 of the 158 AZA institutions responded to the survey (92% return rate). Current AZA space for large felids was assessed at 1742 spaces (582 exhibit, 1160 holding) with a 5-year projection of 1,700 spaces. Current AZA space for small felids was assessed at 585 spaces (248 exhibit, 337 holding). The 5-year projection for available space was 700 spaces. For the 2006-2008 update the available space numbers of 1,700 for large felids was utilized and 700 spaces for smaller species was utilized.

In addition to information on existing “zoo” space (i.e., AZA accredited institutions) defined above, “private” spaces (non-AZA institutions and private collections) for small felids also were considered. We determined small felid spaces in the private sector from existing studbook and ISIS data. We estimated that 150 spaces in the private sector currently are allocated for commonly held species (bobcat, lynx [except Canadian lynx], caracal, leopard cat, and serval). We suspect that these are highly conservative estimates. An additional 166 small felid individuals also are held in the private sector representing 14 species (ocelot, fishing cat, Pallas’ cat, Canadian lynx, jaguarundi, tigrina, sand cat, black-footed cat, Geoffroy’s cat, margay, Temminck’s golden cat, rusty-spotted cat, wild cat, jungle cat). The majority of the 166 spaces are at the following institutions: S.O.S. Care, Inc. (Pat Quillen), Exotic Feline Breeding Compound (Joe Maynard); Mountain View Farms Conservation & Breeding Center (Gordon Blankstein), and Hexagon Farms (Bill and Penny Andrews).

Given the current AZA small felid spaces (n = 585) and a selected subset of the current “private” small felid spaces (n = 166), we used a total of 751 spaces in developing the RCP for Small Felids.

SPECIES SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Spaces for large and small cat species were assessed separately because the cage space utilized by the respective groups differ.

- Captive programs for all species of large felids, lion, tiger (3 species), leopard, puma, jaguar, snow leopard, cheetah and clouded leopard, are supported by the TAG. Most species are threatened officially and all have educational and conservation links to their regions of origin regardless of their overall abundance in nature. Husbandry requirements for most species of large felids are well established, founder sizes are usually adequate or potentially available from other regions and all play important roles in exhibits that are zoogeographically themed.
- Small felids are more problematic because of the high degree of regulation that prevents acquisition of many species. Husbandry and veterinary challenges have also been presented by many species in developing long-term propagation programs, some species rarely breeding regardless of the expertise available. Even species unregulated

by U.S. and international law other than Appendix II regulations of CITES are often unavailable from other regions or range countries. Range country zoos rarely propagate small cats. Based on the realities impacting small cat acquisition and long term maintenance, only those species meeting all the following criteria are supported by the Felid TAG within its Regional Collection Plan.

2. Existence of Captive Population within North America: Priority was given to species that are already established in North America. Acceptance under this category included:

- Whether the population is genetically and demographically viable - Many species of small cats have been maintained in the past, most specimens having been imported casually by the pet trade or otherwise acquired without consideration of long-term needs - Many of these species are now represented by very small populations of aged, genetically impoverished individuals that cannot be replaced from other regions;
- Whether the husbandry requirements needed for propagation can be met - As individuals, most species of felids are easy to maintain but reproductive success among species has varied widely. Species for which reproductive husbandry knowledge is at hand, in conjunction with considerations of their legal status and range country availability, will receive highest priority.

3. Capture/importation Feasible: Regardless of the size of the extant population in North America, acceptance under this category includes the following considerations:

- Whether unrelated "founders" can be obtained from captive breeding programs in other regions or range country zoos;
- Whether unrelated founders can be legally obtained from wild sources in range countries;
- When either of the above options appear feasible, are they likely to produce multiple numbers of unrelated individuals, or is the transaction merely likely to produce a single individual or closely related pair of young that is not likely to be duplicated in the future?

4. Zoogeographic Needs: Previously many zoos housed felids in stand-alone "cat houses." Increasingly, zoos are now exhibiting felids in conjunction with other species in zoogeographically-themed exhibit complexes: North America, South America, Africa, and Asia. Given that present need, coupled with the above considerations, the following species, by region, are supported in the RCP. Zoos possessing other species not included in the RCP are directed to replace them at their earliest convenience.

- **North America:** Canadian lynx. Only one other species, bobcat, is native to this region and it lacks any conservation needs.
- **South America:** Ocelot. Other species are absent from and unavailable to North American institutions: kodkod and mountain cat. Five species of Neotropical felids are present in extremely low, aged, genetically impoverished numbers: Geoffroy's cat, pampas cat, margay, jaguarundi and tigrina. New founders for all species would have to be imported in substantial numbers to initiate a new program but legal barriers virtually eliminate importation of Geoffroy's cat, margay, jaguarundi and tigrina. Husbandry techniques are only available for propagating Geoffroy's cats.

- **Africa:** Serval, caracal, black-footed cat, sand cat. All are present in satisfactory numbers (serval and caracal) or additionally available from range country sources (black-footed cat and sand cat). Golden cats are not present in North America and although common and easily kept, lack additional space in captive collections if adequate numbers were to be imported.
- **Asia:** Fishing cat, Pallas' cat. Both species are present in adequate numbers, and additional specimens are likely to be available from range-country zoos or by capture. Pallas' cat poses husbandry/medical problems but they are being researched now. Other species are:
 1. Absent from North American collections and not legally available from country locations (marbled cat, flat-headed cat and Spanish lynx).
 2. Present in North American institutions in the form of very small, aged, genetically impoverished remnant populations and not available for legal importation (Asian golden cat, mainland populations of leopard cat and rusty-spotted cat).
 3. Present in North America in very small and/or genetically impoverished remnant populations but relatively common in nature. Captive spaces are lacking should a source for additional animals be identified (jungle cat, unregulated races of leopard cat, and Eurasian lynx).
 4. Not present in North American collections and although federally or internationally regulated, would have to be imported in substantial numbers in order to support a new program (Chinese desert cat and bay cat).

Large Felids:

Table 2 summarizes the *target population and management objectives for* each species of large felid using the above criteria.

Table 2. Large Felids: Management programs, roles of captive management programs, and target populations.

Species	Management Program	Role in Captive Management	Target Population
Snow leopard	SSP	Flagship; education, research, zoogeographic	200
Cheetah	SSP	Flagship; education; research, zoogeographic	300
Sumatran tiger	SSP	Flagship; education, research, zoogeographic	150
Amur tiger	SSP	Flagship; education, research, zoogeographic	150
Jaguar	SSP	Flagship; education, research, zoogeographic	120
African lion	SSP	Flagship; education, research, zoogeographic	350
Clouded leopard	SSP	Flagship; education; research, zoogeographic	120
Amur leopard	PMP	Flagship; education, research, zoogeographic	150
Puma	PMP	Flagship; education; research, zoogeographic	130
Malayan tiger	SSP	Flagship; education, research, zoogeographic	150
Asian lion	POP	Flagship; education	0
Persian leopard	POP	Flagship; education	0
North Chinese leopard	POP	Flagship; education	0
Generic lions	POP	Flagship; education	0
Generic tigers	POP	Flagship; education	0
Generic leopards	POP	Flagship; education	0

* SSP = Species Survival Plan; PMP = Population Management Plan;
DERP = Display/Education/Research Population; POP = Phase Out Population

** Cheetah and clouded leopard populations have been deemed "research" populations to better understand management issues associated with inconsistent reproductive success.

Summary of Large Felid RCP Recommendations. On the basis of conservation, research, education and exhibit need for these eight large felid species, the overall target population is 1,760 individuals. Although large felids can compete with each other for limited cage space, the Felid TAG's position is that RCP goals can be met by encouraging members to consult with species coordinators before acquiring specimens or developing new exhibits. The goals also can be achieved through interaction with credible, non-AZA holders, whenever possible, and by not accepting donated individuals which consume valuable space without contributing to genetic management.

Small Felids: Table 3 summarizes *the target population and conservation programs for all* species of small felid.

Table 3. Small Felids: Management programs, roles of captive management programs, and target populations.

Species	Management Program*	Role in Captive Management	Target Population	Comments:
Ocelot	SSP	Flagship; education	150	SSP in place. Consortium importing founders.
Fishing cat	SSP	Flagship; education	100	Work towards acquisition of new founders
Pallas' cat	SSP	Flagship; education	80	SSP in place
Sand cat	SSP	Flagship; education	80	SSP in place Work towards acquisition of new founders
Black-footed cat	SSP	Flagship; education	80	SSP in place
Canada lynx	PMP	Flagship; education	80	PMP in place
Serval	PMP	Flagship; education; zoogeographic	80	PMP in place
Caracal	PMP	Flagship; education	80	PMP in place
Jaguarundi	POP	Flagship; education	0	Phase out population
Tigrina	POP	Flagship; education	0	Phase out population
Geoffroy's cat	POP	Flagship; education	0	
Bobcat	POP	Flagship; education; zoogeographic	0	Phase out population
Margay	POP	Flagship; education	0	Phase out population
Lynx <i>spp.</i>	POP	Flagship; education	0	Phase out population (except Canada lynx)
Temminck's golden	POP	Flagship; education	0	Phase out population
Pampas cat	POP	Flagship; education	0	Phase out population
Rusty-spotted cat	POP	Flagship; education	0	Phase out population
Wild cat (<i>sylvestris</i>)	POP	Flagship; education	0	Phase out population
Arabian wild cat	POP	Flagship; education	0	Phase out population
Jungle cat	POP	Flagship; education	0	Phase out population
Leopard cat	POP	Flagship; education	0	Phase out population
all other species		Not Rec.		0

* SSP = Species Survival Plan; PMP = Population Management Plan; DERP = Display/Education/Research Population; POP = Phase Out Population; Not Rec. = Not currently in AZA institutions nor does TAG recommend that species be brought into AZA program.

Summary of Small Felid RCP Recommendations. Overall, the RCP for small cats allows for a target population of 670 specimens for the eight recommended species. Admittedly, this is an ambitious goal, but achievable. We expect that the demographic and genetic goals of some species that are breeding well in zoos will grow which, in turn, will fill spaces of other species that may not be viable (even though endorsed by the TAG). The RCP is, in effect, a dynamic, working and likely ever-changing document with time. Total spaces available to small cats and the relative, recommended allocation of those spaces will be assessed at the Felid TAG 2000 mid-year meeting.

MANAGEMENT PROGRAM AND REPRESENTATION

All felid species were assigned to one of five management strategies:

- Species Survival Program Population (SSP): Studbooks will be maintained for the species. Species will have intensive management for long-term genetic and demographic viability. Participating institutions will be asked to sign a Memorandum of Participation (MOP). Compliance by participating institutions is expected. Coordinator with his/her management group will make breeding recommendations and develop a masterplan on a regular basis.
- Population Management Plan Population (PMP): Studbook will be maintained for the species. Species will be managed for genetic and demographic viability, although not as intensively as the SSP species. The long-term objective is to maintain a PMP population. PMP Coordinator encourages institutional compliance and offers breeding recommendations. No MOP, masterplan, or management group is required.
- Display/Education/Research Population (DERP): Species in this category are only held at a few institutions and are important display species for those institutions. No studbook is recommended, but individual animals will be tracked in a registry by the institutions holding the species.
- Phase Out Population: (POP): Species in this category are not recommended for breeding/acquisition.
- Phase In Population: (PIP): Species in this category are not currently in AZA institutions, but the TAG hopes or plans to import founders.
- Not Recommended (Not Rec.): Species in this category are not currently in AZA institutions, and the TAG recommends that the species not be brought into an AZA program.

Designated management programs for both large and small felids are presented in Tables 2 and 3 respectively.

ROLES IN CAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

Captive populations serve many functions, including as:

- Flagship species – purpose is to generate attention and support for field conservation;
- Educational species – species can be ambassadors illustrating unique adaptations or representing an animal from a habitat that is disappearing;

- Genetic reservoirs – purpose is long-term maintenance of genetic variation for reintroduction and/or supplementation of the wild population;
- Research populations – purpose is to learn about and establish species biology (especially on topics that cannot be studied in nature) and to determine appropriate husbandry techniques (e.g., enhance propagation, decrease disease/mortality);
- Zoogeographic species – many AZA institutions create zoogeographic exhibits (e.g., North American area, African area) and thus require appropriate species for that theme; specimens need to be available for those exhibits.

All felid species serve as “flagship” species (i.e., to generate attention and support for field conservation). All felids play a role in educating zoo visitors (i.e., felid species are ambassadors illustrating unique adaptations and representing animals from a habitat that is disappearing). The cheetah and clouded leopard populations have been deemed “research” populations to better understand basic biology and management issues associated with inconsistent reproductive success. There are currently no plans for using AZA populations in reintroduction programs. These and additional roles are listed for both large and small felids in Tables 2 and 3, respectively.

TARGET POPULATION

During the 2006 Mid-Year Meeting of the Felid TAG’s review of the RCP target populations were determined for each species held in AZA zoos. Targets were based upon the type of management program (e.g., SSP, PMP, DERP), the current number of individuals held in North America and the total amount of cage space available. Target populations for both large and small felids are in Tables 2 and 3, respectively. As discussed above, long-term, the amount of cage space allocated will need to be re-adjusted based upon breeding success, genetics, demography, potential for new founders, and new cage space. Table 4 lists those species of felids formally managed under a SSP/PMP/Studbook. For information on all other species, contact Norah Fletchall (norah.fletchall@kentcounty.org) or Bill Swanson (bill.swanson@cincinnati.org).

Table 4. All recommended captive management programs for felids and existing program managers

	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Management Program</u>
Gerry Brady	Potter Park Zoo	Studbook/SSP- Sumatran tiger
Nanette Bragin	Denver Zoo	Studbook-ocelot
Ken Kaemmerer	Dallas Zoo	SSP- ocelot
Steve Wing	Louisville Zoo	SSP-black footed cat
Barb Palmer	San Francisco Zoo	Studbook/PMP - caracal
Liz Harmon	Kansas City Zoo	Studbook – black-footed cat
Norah Fletchall	John Ball Zoo	Studbook/SSP - clouded leopard
Jack Grisham	Smithsonian's National Zoo	SSP-cheetah
Laurie Bingaman Lackey	ISIS	Studbook - cheetah
Martha Caron	Minnesota Zoo	Studbook/SSP – Pallas' cat
Sue Pfaff	Riverbanks Zoo	Studbook -lion
Lynda Curtis	Riverbanks Zoo	Studbook - fishing cat
Kara Akers	The Living Desert	Studbook/SSP -sand cat
Michelle Schireman	Oregon Zoo	Studbook/PMP -cougar
Martha Caron	Minnesota Zoo	Studbook /PMP-Amur leopard
Ron Tilson	Minnesota Zoo	SSP- Amur tiger
Kathy Traylor-Holzer	CBSG	Studbook - Amur tiger/Indochinese tiger
Lynn Tupa	Albuquerque Bio Park	Studbook - snow leopard
Tarren Wagener	Ft. Worth Zoo	SSP - lion
Stacey Johnson	LeHigh Valley Zoo	Studbook/SSP - jaguar
Vacant		SSP- snow leopard
Bonnie Breitbeil	Central Florida Zoo	Studbook/PMP - serval
Barb Snyder	John Ball Zoo	Studbook/PMP – Canada lynx
Mike Dulaney	Cincinnati Zoo	SSP – Indochinese tiger

SURPLUS POLICY

For those species managed by an SSP, the individual SSPs should be contacted in the context of all acquisitions, dispositions, and breeding recommendations.

Dr. Linda Munson is the Felid TAG's Advisor on Contraception. Institutions with concerns about contraception of felids should contact Dr. Munson (fax, 530-752-3349; email, lmunson@ucdavis.edu).

The AZA's acquisition/disposition guidelines should be followed for all animal placements. The Felid TAG recommends that surplus animals be transferred to other AZA-accredited institutions. Alternatively, the Felid TAG recommends that animals sent to a non-AZA institution (1) should be permanently sterilized before shipment and (2) the receiving facility be inspected by the holding institution to assure adequate quality of care. At this time, managerial euthanasia of healthy animals is at the discretion of the holding institution. The TAG recommends that this is a method of last resort and should be used only after all other avenues have been exhausted. Medical euthanasia should be considered for life-threatening or quality of life reasons and on a case-by-case basis.

POLICY ON PRIVATE OWNERSHIP OF FELIDS

The Felid TAG strongly opposes pet ownership of exotic (i.e., nondomesticated) felids. It also strongly opposes the creation/propagation of domestic X exotic cats (e.g., safari cat). However, we believe it is important to acknowledge the involvement of responsible individuals in the private sector that have made significant contributions to the management of rare and endangered felids. These individuals are not pet owners, but rather active participants in SSP and PMP programs. The Felid TAG suggests that each AZA institution determine the level of involvement (if any) with non-AZA facilities holding felids. The Felid TAG urges all holders of wild cats to register their animals with I.S.I.S.