



**“Sharing Our Environment”
The 2009 AZAD Regional Conference at the Phoenix Zoo
April 24 – 26, 2009**

Call for Papers

We look forward to welcoming you to The Phoenix Zoo and our beautiful desert environment in April 2009. As the Southwestern United States continues to grow in population, human activity and growth has disrupted our desert environments, once rich in various plant and animal species. Balancing urban sprawl and preserving the diversity of life in nature is a huge challenge that faces us in the Southwest. The black-footed ferret, once thought to be extinct, is being reintroduced to its original range in Arizona. What can we do during the Year of Frog to help save the Ramsey Canyon Leopard Frogs that are found only in Arizona? Imagine hiking and encountering North America’s native parrot, the Thick-Billed Parrot, which once made its home in Arizona.

We are interested in the following topics relating to “Sharing Our Environment:”

- How can docents/volunteers educate our visitors and help them appreciate the need to share our environment through various animal exhibits or special presentations?
- What unique Species Survival Programs have your institution created to help our environment, and how have your docents/volunteers participated in these programs?
- How has the role of docents/volunteers evolved at your facility and what special conservation efforts/programs does your docent program present?

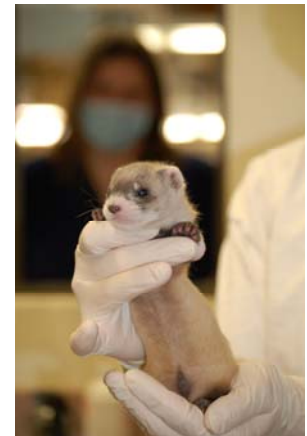
Presentation Details:

- The presentation should support the conference theme. We are looking for presentations on how other zoo or docent programs are handling the issue of balancing urban sprawl and species survival.
- We suggest 30 minutes for the presentation and a 15 minute question and answer period.

Abstracts Due: September 30, 2008
Presenters Notified October 31, 2008
Presentations Due: February 28, 2009

Abstract Proposal Details:

- One typed page maximum
- Presentation title and detailed description
- Audio-Visual Requirements
- Presenter name(s) and institution affiliation(s)
- Daytime phone number
- Email address, if available



Please email in Microsoft Word format to markshewitt@cox.net. You can also mail to:
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