

Plan and manage animal conservation

Overview

This standard is about the planning and management of animal conservation.

This standard is about being able to plan programmes for conservation of animals in your care. This may be to protect native species or to conserve endangered animal species and may include restocking, relocation or a reintroduction programme.

This standard is for those with responsibility for planning and managing animal conservation.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. work professionally and ethically and within the limits of your authority, expertise, training, competence and experience
2. comply with the relevant animal health and welfare and animal-related legislation and associated codes of practice
3. confirm that the relevant environmental and health and safety policies and risk assessment requirements are put into practice across your area of responsibility
4. develop an animal conservation plan with clearly defined targets that meet identified needs
5. obtain and interpret information associated with the conservation of animals from the relevant sources
6. identify the relevant legal, ethical and welfare requirements and any requirements specific to the country
7. communicate the conservation plan to all those who will be involved in its implementation
8. confirm that all those involved in the implementation of the plan has the skills and knowledge required to carry out the activities
9. confirm that facilities, supplies, equipment and any other resources required, including staffing, are available for the successful implementation of the conservation plan
10. manage, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the conservation plan, taking action and making changes to the plan where required
11. maintain the health and safety of yourself and all those involved in the activity, and the welfare of the animals during the work
12. confirm that records are maintained and stored as required by the relevant legislation and organisational policy

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. your professional responsibilities and the need to maintain professional competence
2. your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, associated codes of practice and organisational policies
3. your responsibility under the relevant animal health and welfare and animal-related legislation and associated code of practice
4. the international legislation and practice concerning species conservation and welfare
5. how to develop a conservation plan based on the objectives and available resources
6. the relationship between animal welfare and conservation
7. how to weigh up the costs and benefits of the conservation plan in terms of animal welfare and conservation
8. the differences in terms of techniques and success of translocation, reintroduction, restocking and rehabilitation
9. the behaviour of animals and the species requirements including natural history and husbandry
10. the basic reasons for conservation i.e. ecological balance, human/animal responsibility, historical concept
11. the consequences of the failure of conservation, in terms of animal welfare, conservation programmes and conservation status of the species concerned
12. the scientific and environmental aims of conservation
13. how conservation projects may be constructed, put in place and managed
14. where and when to obtain professional advice and guidance when planning and managing animal conservation
15. the importance of briefing and maintaining communications with all those involved in the implementation of the conservation plan

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16. the types of problems that may arise and their effect on the conservation plan
17. the importance of reviewing and revising the conservation plan to ensure it continues to meet objectives
18. the meaning of ethical conservation
19. the purpose of regional and institutional collection and planning within animal conservation
20. the involvement of animal collections in the global co-ordination of conservation
21. the records and reports that need to be kept in relation to developing and managing the animal health and welfare plans and the importance of completing them in accordance with the relevant legislation and organisational policy

Glossary

Current animal welfare legislation:

- England and Wales, Animal Welfare Act
- Scotland, Animal Health and Welfare Act
- Northern Ireland, Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland)

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Developed by	Lantra
Version Number	2
Date Approved	30 Mar 2020
Indicative Review Date	30 Mar 2025
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating Organisation	Lantra
Original URN	LANAnC67
Relevant Occupations	Animal Care
Suite	Animal Care and Welfare
Keywords	animal; conservation; conservation programmes; reintroduce; restock