

Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG), met with government authorities, who indicated their willingness to implement the recommendations of the workshop. From a report to *CBSG News* 1995, 6(1): 23, by Yolanda Matamoros, ALPZA-AMAZOO.

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## BRISTOL ZOO AND ITS COMMITMENT TO CEBIDS

Bristol Zoo has been exhibiting primates since it opened in 1836. At the present time, the cebid collection comprises 2.2 black howlers (*Alouatta caraya*), 2.2 long-haired spider monkeys (*Ateles belzebuth belzebuth*), 3.9 squirrel monkeys (*Saimiri sciureus*) and 3.1 white-faced sakis (*Pithecia pithecia*). Other primate groups are represented in the Zoo and include two species of lemur, three species of callitrichids and five species of Old World monkeys.

As well as exhibiting the above cebids, the zoo demonstrates its commitment to their captive management in other ways. The UK Taxonomic Advisory Group (TAG) subgroup for cebids is chaired by Siân Waters. This group is subordinate to the European subgroup which is chaired by Bert de Boer of Apenheul Zoo in the Netherlands. Siân Waters took over the leadership of the cebid group in 1994, but prior to that Neil Bemment of Paignton Zoo, UK, ran it and much work was accomplished by him. For example, Neil Bemment began a programme to karyotype the British population of spider monkeys, which is now well underway. This work will now be extended to the rest of Europe. Plans for the future include investigating the possibility of initiating breeding programmes for more endangered cebid species, bearing in mind the recommendations of the forthcoming Global Captive Action Plan for primates.

The zoo other contributions involve two breeding programmes for cebid species. One is a European Breeding Programme (EEP) for the white-faced saki, with Siân Waters as the Species Co-ordinator and the other is a European studbook for black howlers compiled by Darren Webster, Bristol Zoo.

Two editions of the European black howler studbook have been published (Webster, 1995, 1996). Black howlers have a small founder base of 16 (7.9) in Europe, and only Twycross Zoo, UK, has had success with sustained breeding. We plan to carry out a husbandry survey for black howlers in Europe and an exchange of potential founder males has already taken place between Bristol and Apenheul. Between them both zoos hold 6 (2.4) potential founders.

The first European studbook for white-faced sakis will

be published in 1996. Many zoos are interested in exhibiting the species and there is even an EEP participant in South Africa. Although the white-faced saki is not an endangered species an EEP was deemed necessary because the species is the only representative of its genus in any numbers in captivity in Europe. A species committee has been elected and comprises representatives from all over Europe. Husbandry guidelines will be formulated in the future, although some information on management is available in Waters (1995).

Although the long-haired spider monkeys are the only species exhibited at Bristol Zoo which are classed as vulnerable in the wild, we feel it important to exhibit cebids which are not endangered to improve techniques and as a way to inform the public about primate biology and the threats faced by more endangered species in South America.

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## References

- Waters, S. S. 1995. A review of social parameters which influence breeding in white-faced saki *Pithecia pithecia* in captivity. *Int. Zoo. Yb.* 34:147-153.
- Webster, D. A. 1995. *European Studbook for Black Howlers (Alouatta caraya)*. No. 1. Bristol Zoo Gardens, UK.
- Webster, D. A. 1996. *European Studbook for Black Howlers (Alouatta caraya)*. No. 2. Bristol Zoo Gardens, UK.

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## THE MAMIRAUÁ SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT RESERVE: A NEW CATEGORY OF PROTECTED AREA IN THE BRAZILIAN AMAZON

On the 12th July 1996, the Governor of the Brazilian state of Amazonas, Amazonino Mendes, signed the law approved by the State Assembly to transform the 1,124,000 ha Mamirauá Ecological Station, located 600 km upriver from Manaus on the Rio Solimões, into Brazil's first Sustainable Development Reserve. This action, following four years of work by the Sociedade Civil Mamirauá and the local communities in and around the reserve, legitimizes a unique participatory approach to biodiversity conservation, research and management, and provides the legal framework for the creation of similar reserves throughout the Amazon.

The transformation of Mamirauá into a sustainable development reserve removes the conflicts caused by