



Human Influences on the Behaviour and Welfare of Zoo Animals

Guest Editor:

Prof. Paul Hemsworth

Animal Welfare Science Centre,
University of Melbourne,
Parkville, VIC 3010, Australia

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Message from the Guest Editor

There is a substantial body of evidence on the profound effects of human-animal interactions on the behaviour and stress physiology of farm animals. Surprisingly, less research has been conducted on the human-animal relationship in other animal use settings in which there is substantial human contact, such as zoos. There is developing literature on the effects of human interactions on zoo animals. The most robust evidence is that contact with visitors in the visitor viewing area may be perceived as negative, neutral or even positive, depending on the species, the visitor behaviour and characteristics of the animal enclosure that may affect how the animal perceives human visitors. There is limited evidence that both close encounters in which visitors can feed or touch animals, and the keeper-zoo animal relationship may affect zoo animal behaviour and welfare.

The aim of this Special Issue is to present recent research and reviews on the implications of human-zoo animal interactions on zoo animal behaviour and welfare, with the aim of stimulating interest, understanding and exploration of this important subject.





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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Clive J. C. Phillips

1. Institute of Veterinary Medicine
and Animal Sciences, Estonian
University of Life Sciences,
Kreutzwaldi 1, 51014 Tartu,
Estonia

2. Curtin University Sustainability
Policy (CUSP) Institute, Kent St.,
Bentley 6102, Australia

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Contact Us

Animals Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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