



<b>Zoos South Australia Environmental Policies and Procedures</b>	
<b>ENV-POL-001</b>	<b>Environmental Management Policy</b>
Issue: 1.0	



**Policy Background**

Zoos South Australia's overarching tenet is 'Conservation, Recreation Education' and its operations are influenced by its responsibilities and obligations under the World Zoos and Aquariums Conservation Strategy (WZACS). This Environmental Management Policy is derived from the WZACS recommendations on Sustainability, which in turn references the Rio 'Earth Summit' of 1992, principles for sustainable development and 'Agenda 21'.

WZACS identifies the following guiding principles for sustainability:

1. use environmentally sound waste management,
2. be energy efficient,
3. use natural resources responsibly,
4. if you pollute, you pay,
5. put local consumption first,
6. contribute to equitable development,
7. apply the precautionary principle, and
8. encourage public awareness and participation.

WZACS further identifies four practices toward achieving sustainable management, being:

1. encouraging environmental interest groups within the organisation,
2. developing an environmental management system,
3. registration and accreditation to ISO 140001,
4. aiming for 'animal embassy' responsible tourism accreditation.

Further, WZACS recommends that all zoos and aquariums adopt measures and activities that help sustain natural resources, have a written environmental policy and undertake environmental audits, and lead by example in practices to achieve sustainability.

This policy is a response to these principles, identified sustainable practices and recommendations.

**Policy**

Zoos South Australia will work towards sustainability and reducing its 'ecological footprint'. It will use natural resources in a way that does not lead to their decline, thus meeting the needs of the present without compromising future generations. Zoos South Australia will lead by example by using green practices throughout its operations and by demonstrating methods by which visitors can adopt more sustainable lifestyles.

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<b>Owned by</b>	Simon Habel	<b>Job title</b>	Executive Director, Conservation Ark	<b>Date</b>	April 2010
<b>Created by</b>	Wayne Yorath	<b>Job title</b>	Environmental Officer	<b>Date</b>	April 2010
<b>Approved by</b>	Chris West	<b>Job title</b>	CEO – Zoos SA	<b>Date</b>	
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**Policy  
Guidelines**

Zoos South Australia will achieve this by:

- Complying with relevant legislation,
- Striving for continual improvement, including periodic review of this policy and actions undertaken and identified to achieve the strategies listed below that support each of the WZACS guiding principles,
- Continuing to support 'Green Teams' at each operational site to include staff and volunteers in environmental awareness, interest and active involvement,
- Working toward a documented Environment Management System.

ZSA strategies supporting the eight WZACS guiding principles are:

- 1 Use environmentally sound waste management:
  - Minimise the total production of waste
  - Manage separation of waste at source to encourage maximum re-use and recycling
  - Minimise the risk of polluting
  - Apply the three R's – reduce, reuse, recycle – wherever possible
- 2 Be energy efficient:
  - Maximise energy efficiency in all on-site and off-site operations
  - Try to reduce travel-related energy consumption
  - Efficiently maximise the use of energy which is produced and distributed, especially from renewable resources
- 3 Use natural resources responsibly:
  - Use products that embody the most efficient and least environmentally damaging use of renewable resources
  - Ensure that animal acquisitions and dispositions are not only sustainable environmentally but also ethically acceptable
- 4 If you pollute, you pay:
  - Support the general principle that the polluter should not pass on to others the cost of cleaning up pollution
  - Apply the principle in Zoos South Australia as a measure of good practice
- 5 Put local consumption first:
  - Maximise the proportion of goods and services that come from local providers with acceptable environmental practices
  - Reduce the environmental impact of transportation wherever feasible

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- 6 Contribute to equitable development – keeping in mind that sustainable development requires a reduction in the differences of living conditions across the world. ZSA will contribute by:
  - Conducting activities that contribute to this ideal
  - Supporting conservation projects that embody this general principal
  - Adjusting purchasing policies and practises to help
  
- 7 Apply the Precautionary Principle:
  - Obtain and analyse as much information as possible before making a decision
  - When in doubt, put in place measures to reduce environmental impact
  
- 8 Encourage public awareness and participation:
  - Use Zoos South Australia’s educational resources to help people understand why changes are important and what they can do personally to live in a more sustainable manner
  - Set an example for other businesses through earth friendly operations
  - Ensure that our interpretation plan for all sites delivers the message of sustainability.

**Review**

The CEO and Executive Director Conservation Ark are accountable and responsible for ensuring that these objectives are met.

The CEO, and Executive Director Conservation Ark, with advice from the Green Team will review the documents in accordance with the Policy & Procedure Review Schedule or at least every two years.

Chris West  
Responsible Officer:  
CEO Zoos SA

Wayne Yorath  
Environmental Officer

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