

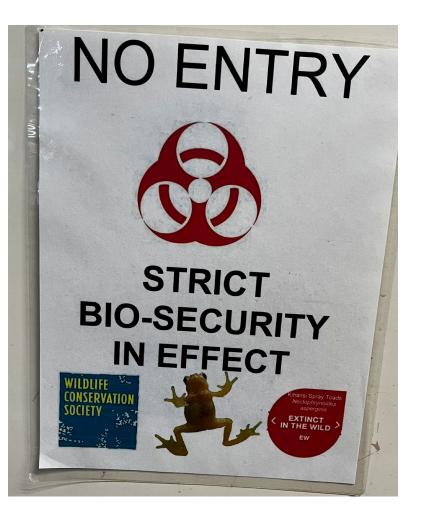
Bio-Security Practices at the Bronx Zoo

Kevin Torregrosa Curator of Herpetology, Bronx Zoo 2024

Bio-Security

A set of management and physical measures designed to reduce the risk of introduction, establishment, and spread of animal diseases, infections or infestations to, from and within an animal population.

- The World Health Organization for Animal Health





Bio-Security at the Bronx Zoo

Protect the Collection

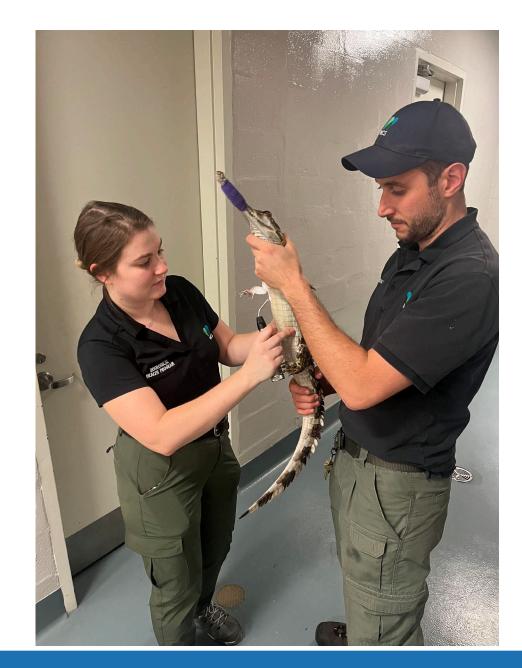
In-Situ Conservation





Protect the Collection

- Pre-shipment disease screening
 - Taxa/species specific testing
 - Fecal screening for parasites
 - Blood analysis
 - Radiographs
- Quarantine
 - Minimum of 30 days in quarantine
 - Additional disease screening
 - 3 additional fecal screenings





In-Situ Conservation

Kihansi Spray Toads Nectophrynoides asperginis

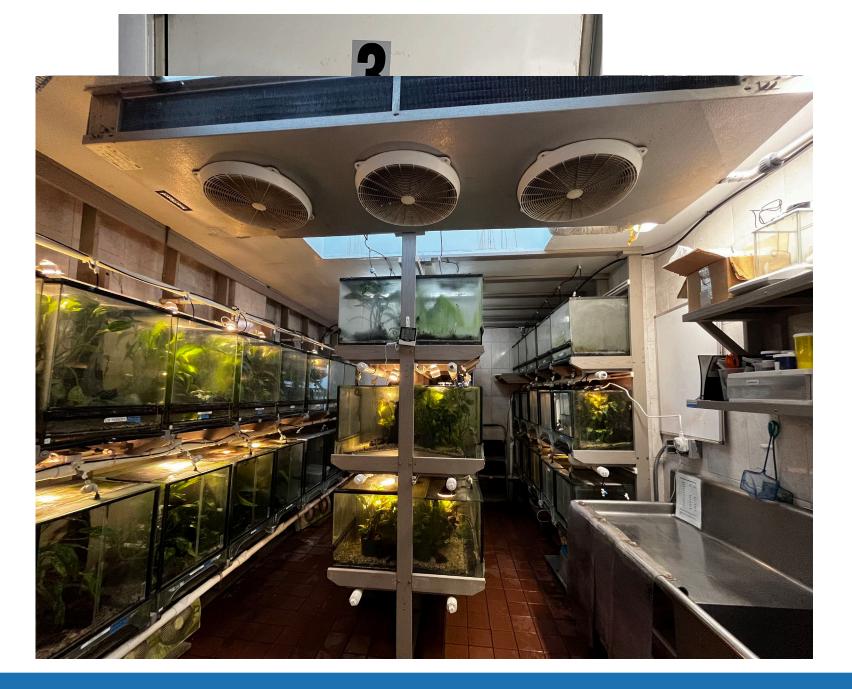
Rote Island Snake-necked Turtles *Chelodina mccordi*

Eastern Hellbenders Cryptobranchus alleganiensis

Bog Turtles (In development) Glyptemys muhlenbergii



Isolation







Dedicated staff









Challenges

- Staffing
 - Multiple bio-secure rooms
 - The entire collection needs care
 - Minimum staffing policies
- Logistics
 - Facilities in the same building
 - Facilities spread around the zoo
 - Animal healthcare in isolation
- Emergent diseases
 - Insufficient testing available
 - Poorly understood
- Permits
 - Timing of acquiring export permits
- Shipping
 - Ensuring bio-security throughout the export





Conclusion

The goal is healthy populations by reducing risk

Limit the chances of introduction, establishment, and spread of diseases

Sometimes zoo-raised animals are the last hope for restoring wild populations







We Stand for Wildlife[™]

