



British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums

## **BIAZA Conservation Translocations Policy**

BIAZA members are increasingly directly involved in, or providing funding support for, conservation translocations. *For the purposes of this policy, conservation translocations are defined as the intentional movement and release of a living organism where the primary objective is a conservation benefit: this will usually comprise improving the conservation status of the focal species locally or globally, and/or restoring natural ecosystem functions or processes. Conservation translocations include: reintroduction, reinforcement, conservation introductions and ecological replacements.* When successful, these conservation translocations offer substantial reward and are to be celebrated as conservation success stories. However, conservation translocations are difficult, can require substantial resources and their chances of success are uncertain. Furthermore, they are highly visible conservation actions that attract the attention of a wide public audience. BIAZA encourages its members to embrace the power of conservation translocations but they **must** do so from a well-informed and well-justified standpoint. This will be achieved if all members adopt best practice in the implementation of conservation translocations, or ensure it is being followed in projects that are being provided financial support. Doing so will allow a greater chance of success whilst also not bringing the association into disrepute or damaging the association in any way.

### ***BIAZA Policy Statement***

BIAZA members **must** follow the **IUCN CTSG Guidelines for Reintroduction and Other Conservation Translocations** (IUCN, 2013) and/or those nationally accepted guidelines that supersede, or work in conjunction with, these. Within the UK this includes the **Scottish Code for Conservation Translocations** (National Species Reintroduction Forum, 2014). Currently, there is no equivalent in England, Ireland or Wales although the Scottish Code is highly worthwhile as a planning guide and England has recently begun development of an English Code for Conservation Translocations. For assistance with interpreting these guidelines please contact the BIAZA Reintroduction Advisory Group.

### Useful References:

IUCN. (2013). Guidelines for Reintroductions and Other Conservation Translocations.

<https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/2013-009.pdf>

The National Species Reintroduction Forum. (2014). Scottish Code for Conservation Translocations.

<https://www.nature.scot/scottish-code-conservation-translocations>