

AWI
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ABOUT THE COVER

White rhinos tend to be creatures of habit. This individual drank at the same waterhole at around 3:30 every afternoon. Photographer Nigel Dennis (africaimagery.com) would park close to the waterhole at 3pm and not have long to wait before the rhino put in an appearance. On hot days the rhino would often wallow in the muddy margins of the pool—a useful way to get rid of ticks and other skin parasites and, of course, cool off. Five species of rhinoceros survive perilously across the globe: in Asia, the Javan rhino, Sumatran rhino, and Indian rhino have an estimated combined population of fewer than 3,000 animals; in Africa, white and black rhinos remain only slightly less critical. Historically, rhinos have been under great pressure from poaching for the trade in their parts, especially their valuable horns, which are ground into a fine powder and used in traditional Asian medicines. Rhino horn is also used as a decorative dagger handle, produced for centuries in Yemen and elsewhere.

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Hawksbill Sea Turtles Granted a Reprieve CITES Takes Center Stage in Chile

Just a few months before the start of the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), AWI has learned that one critically endangered species already has been granted a vital reprieve.

Averting a contentious debate, Cuba decided to withdraw its proposal to trade in hawksbill shell internationally. A similar proposal was defeated at the last meeting in Nairobi in 2000. This year Cuba was asking permission to sell 7,800 kilograms of hawksbill sea turtle shell for use in making jewelry and ornaments. Cuba ran into heavy opposition from both its neighbors and sea turtle experts alarmed at the 80% crash in hawksbill populations over just three generations. Cuba's assertion that the turtles in question were a separate Cuban population was also questioned. DNA tests show that the turtles migrate from at least eleven other Caribbean countries where they are considered highly threatened.

Numerous other questions remain for the 158 nations that are Parties to CITES as they convene from November 3–15, 2002 in Santiago, Chile. Over 50 proposals will be considered during the meeting examining the status of various wild species and whether or not those animals and plants should be allowed in international commercial trade. The exceedingly intense, often vitriolic discussions will range from highly charismatic species such as whales, elephants, and sharks to slightly more obscure animals including a number of freshwater turtles and tortoises, lizards, butterflies, and birds.

Species are categorized by CITES on three appendices: Appendix I includes species whose parts and products are banned in international commercial trade due to the danger of extinction; Appendix II includes species who are subject to a regulated international commercial trade to prevent them from becoming threatened with extinction; and Appendix III includes species who individual Parties determine need monitoring to prevent overexploitation.

In all cases, Parties to the Convention must remember to act in the best interest of the species when determining protection levels—use the “precautionary principle.” On pages 4 to 9 of this issue of the *AWI Quarterly* we have outlined some of the looming issues in greater detail. 🐾



Animal Welfare Institute

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Michael D. Schindlinger

The yellow-headed parrot symbolizes the decline of wild bird species. (See story page 6.)



Ursula Keuper-Bennett/turtles.org

Sea turtles: ancient, beautiful, and threatened. New convention meets to save them. (See story page 9.)



Jen Rinick/AWI

One of the rescued goats surveys the wide open expanse of Ooh-Mah-Nee Farm. (See story page 16.)

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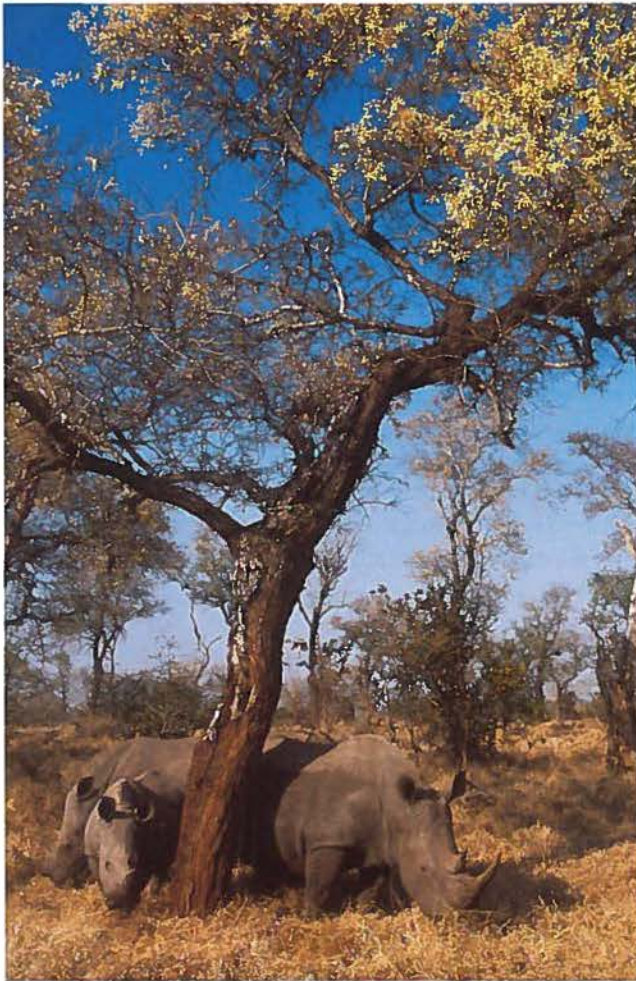
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Nigel Dennis/africanimagery.com

Worldwide, rhinos find little protective cover from the trade in their horns and destruction of their habitat.

Vigilance Needed to Save the Rhino

Rhinoceros populations across the globe hover at alarmingly low levels as rhino poaching continues worldwide. Rhinos are shot, snared, burned to death, speared, poisoned, or electrocuted. Concerted global action is vital to ensure the long-term viability of all five species of rhino: the Sumatran, Javan, Indian, black, and white. All five are endangered.

In South Africa, white rhinos are captured live for sale to game reserves where they are auctioned off and hunted as trophies in “canned hunts.” These hunts provide an easy kill for unsportsmanlike hunters who kill animals that

may be caged, tethered or drugged and generally have no means of escape. Tens of thousands of dollars are paid for a single rhino kill. Black rhinos in Zimbabwe and Kenya have been butchered for their horns, which fetch huge sums on the black market in Asia. One use is in traditional Asian medicines. T.J. Tsarong’s *Handbook of Traditional Tibetan Drugs* includes a prescription for “Ghya-rhoo,” which includes “horn of rhino.” Taken daily with hot water, this remedy promotes proper blood flow and alleviates pain in the kidneys and lower intestines. Rhino horn is also used as ornamental handles for daggers, particularly in Yemen. In Vietnam, illegal killing of the Javan rhino to supply these markets has led to a wild population numbering fewer than ten animals. In all of Indonesia, the number is only slightly better at about 50.

Habitat destruction is also a significant mitigating factor in the rhinos’ demise. According to a new report by Elizabeth Kemf and Nico van Strien, “Every landscape where the Asian rhino clings precariously to survival is suffering from the pressures of agricultural clearance, logging, encroachment by people in search of land, and commercial plantations for oil palm, wood pulp, coffee, rubber, cashew and cocoa.”

A targeted response by the global community can save the rhino. The United States plays its part through the 1994 Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act, which provides funds to various projects around the world. The fund established under this law has made recent grants for field equipment to a nongovernmental organization working to monitor the black rhino in one region of Namibia, for a genetic study of Javan rhino dung, for aerial monitoring systems for black rhinos in South Africa’s Great Fish River Reserve, and for anti-poaching camps in India’s national parks and reserves. Between 1999 and 2000, six African countries received \$420,170 for projects related to black and white rhinos. In those same years, nine Asian countries received over half a million dollars as well for projects related to the three Asian rhinoceros species.

The U.S. cannot do it alone, of course. The 158 Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) must continue to play a role in recommending actions designed to assess accurately rhino population levels and incidents of poaching and illegal trade in rhino parts and products made from them. For now, CITES Parties should promote the continued and vigorous implementation of a 1994 Resolution on *Conservation of Rhinoceros in Asia and Africa*, which urged the passage of domestic legislation to reduce the trade in rhino products and vigilant law enforcement to prevent poaching and apprehend offenders. Rhino conservation deserves special attention and targeted action since the rhino represents one of the most clear-cut examples of illegal trade driving a species to extinction. 🐾

It's Still a Bear Market

Wild bears, notably in Asia and North America, are slaughtered for their gallbladders and paws, the carcasses left behind since they are of no great value to the poachers who peddle these animal parts on the black market. In Asia, bears are crammed into barren cages barely big enough for their furry bodies, only to be entombed for life while their bile seeps into a pan below. The trade in bear parts is a cruel commerce that is horrible for the individual animals and dangerous for the bear species targeted to supply this lucrative market.

Two new reports highlight the ongoing threat that Asian demand for bear parts and products poses to the species across the globe. The Singapore-based Animal Concerns Research and Education Society (ACRES), in collaboration with the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA), did an in-depth examination of *The Trade in Bear Gall Bladder and Bile Products in Singapore*.

The ACRES investigators selected 68 traditional medicine shops in Singapore and found that 50, or 74%, of them illegally sold bear gallbladders or bile products. These products included intact gallbladders, bile crystals, pills made from bile, bear bile powder, and claws. Many of these shopkeepers knew they were selling an illegal product. Imported bear parts and products were claimed to have been from Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, India, and Nepal.

Similar dire news of the availability and commercialization of bear products comes out of Japan where the Japan Wildlife Conservation Society (JWCS), also supported by WSPA, has published *Japan's Illegal Trade in Bear Products: A Threat to Bears Worldwide*. The JWCS team notes that bear bile as a medicine in Japan dates as far back as the Heian era at the end of the eighth century. JWCS researchers

found that of 128 traditional medicine pharmacies surveyed, 98, or 77%, dealt in some form of bear parts. They found a diverse pricing structure in which the more expensive bear gallbladder comes from Japan, Tibet, and China and can sell for as much as \$83 per gram. Less expensive products include polar bear galls and come from China and Russia.

JWCS concludes that Southeast Asia, Russia, North America, and the Himalayan region are the main supply sources for bear parts in Japan and “that there is a significant international illegal trade in bear gall and bile.”

This snapshot of the illicit global commerce in bear parts paints a grim picture indeed. Demand remains high and seems to be increasing; suppliers continue to make large profits by fulfilling the market demand; and governments across the globe are either unwilling to crack down on this trade in earnest or lack sufficient financial resources to combat the trade successfully through a strong wildlife law enforcement presence.

International cooperation is vital. Parties to CITES have spoken out on the conservation of bears already when they passed a Resolution on the subject in 1997. The Resolution wisely calls for all nations to enact legislation to control the illegal bear parts trade and ensure that penalties are sufficiently strong to deter the trade. CITES also

has tried repeatedly to get Parties to provide information on bear populations as well as levels of poaching and illegal trade. CITES must stand firm on the issue of bear conservation. Parties still should be urged to mount a legal assault against the profiteers who drive the killing of bears for their parts—both in the wild and in cages. Without this concerted effort, the only question will be: “Which bear species will go extinct first?” 🐾



An iron corset used to restrain bears during bile extraction lies on a cold concrete floor in front of entombed bear cages.



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Blue-headed macaws are smuggled into the European pet trade.

Parrot Smuggling Still a Global Problem

BY ANN MICHELS,
SPECIES SURVIVAL NETWORK

Each year, thousands of parrots are taken from the wild to be sold as pets in the Americas, Asia, and Europe. CITES Parties, including range states and consumer countries, now have the opportunity to give the highest level of international protection from trade (listing in Appendix I of the Convention) to four parrot species: the yellow-headed Amazon parrot (*Amazona oratrix*), yellow-naped Amazon parrot (*Amazona aurocollaris*), blue-headed macaw (*Ara couloni*), and the Cape parrot (*Poicephalus robustus*).

Though the United States has prohibited imports of wild parrots since 1992 under the U.S. Wild Bird Conservation Act, illegal imports continue over the U.S.-Mexico border. Because of their ability to mimic human speech, the yellow-headed Amazon and the yellow-naped Amazon are commonly

smuggled species. An Appendix I listing will further enhance U.S. enforcement efforts. Federal sentencing guidelines allow penalties to be increased dramatically when species listed in Appendix I (rather than Appendix II) are traded illegally.

The yellow-headed Amazon parrot, native to Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico, has suffered the greatest decline of any bird in the Americas—over 90% since the 1970s with the majority of the decline (68%) in the last ten years. The yellow-naped Amazon, which is native to Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua is the parrot species most commonly smuggled into the U.S. Trade is having a devastating effect on wild populations. In one field study of the species in Guatemala, 100% of the chicks were taken from their nests for the illegal trade. Nicaragua continues to export 600 birds each year legally. Nicaraguan researchers estimate that up to four times as many are captured in the wild each year to compensate for mor-

talities and to supply internal markets. Listing in Appendix I effectively would ban this international trade.

Other parrot species being proposed for listing in Appendix I at the meeting include the blue-headed macaw and the Cape parrot. Little is known of the rare blue-headed macaw in the wild and few individuals exist in captivity. The species has a very restricted distribution in Bolivia, Peru, and Brazil. Demand for this species, especially in Europe, is increasing. For example, at least 50 birds were smuggled to the Czech Republic in the 1990s.

The Cape parrot is a small parrot native to South Africa. It is estimated that less than 400 individuals remain in the wild. Researchers are taking great efforts to protect the remaining birds, but the species is in demand from “specialty collectors” because of its rarity. An Appendix I listing will help South Africa in its efforts by enacting an international ban on trade.

CITES Parties should act without delay to protect each of these species from the pressures of international commercial trade. Without decisive action each of these birds could suffer irreparably from over-exploitation. 🐾



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The yellow-naped parrot is over-exploited for global trade.

Japan Remains Determined to Kill Whales

In a predictable move that would bring CITES directly into conflict with the International Whaling Commission (IWC), Japan has proposed that most of the northern hemisphere population of Minke whales (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*) and the western North Pacific population of Bryde's whales (*Balaenoptera edeni*) be down-listed from Appendix I to Appendix II, enabling international trade under certain conditions.

Norway presently kills around 400 Minke whales a year under a reservation to the IWC moratorium on commercial whaling. It has just begun selling the meat to Iceland and would like to sell to Japan. Japan is increasing its "scientific whaling" kill of Minke whales in the North Pacific this year from 100 to 150.

This is the fourth CITES meeting in a row where Japan has presented these two whale down-listing proposals. They were rejected at the three previous meetings. With strong opposition by the Secretariat of CITES, it is expected that they will fail again.

Japan wants to evade the current moratorium on commercial whaling within the IWC by circumventing the rule through another forum. To its credit, CITES has seen the ploy for what it is and has refused to take the bait, despite a lot of thundering rhetoric. Instead, CITES has held that it is the IWC that has the principal responsibility for whales and whaling, and that the trade in whale meat from species protected by the IWC moratorium on commercial whaling should be prohibited.

The current estimates of northern hemisphere populations of Minke whales include approximately 25,000 in the Sea of Okhotsk; 112,000 in the Northeast Atlantic; and 28,000 in the Central North Atlantic.

Bryde's (pronounced brutus) whales are not as well known but are considered a depleted species, having been hunted relentlessly by commercial whalers prior to the IWC moratorium. Japan has been killing 93 Bryde's whales a year over the last two years as part of its "scientific whaling" in the North Pacific and selling the

meat domestically. One concern is that this species of whale tends to accrue in population very slowly, with each female producing, at best, one calf every two years.

Part of the argument within CITES concerns the "Revised Management Scheme" (RMS) that is working its way slowly through the IWC. The RMS is a calculation intended to include all available information about whales and produce a number of individuals that can die at the point of a harpoon each year without collapsing the population. Many groups, such as AWI, and the strongest whale-defending nations, such as Australia, want no RMS at all because it is merely a plot to pave the way for the resumption of commercial whaling. Japan is arguing for a very lax RMS, with the weakest possible international oversight on anti-cheating controls such as DNA databases, which track the geographical origin and species of whale meat sold.

Japan complains that the moratorium on commercial whaling was to last only until a new killing scheme (the RMS) was completed, and that CITES should take the reins because the IWC is broken. But a careful reading of the moratorium on commercial whaling the IWC adopted in 1982 shows that a comprehensive assessment was to be conducted on the *effects of the moratorium* in order to demonstrate whether any of the depleted whale populations have responded to less killing. This assessment has not been done. 🐾



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Sardines fly into the air as a Bryde's whale and common dolphins lunge through a baitball during the "Sardine Run" in South Africa.



Adam M. Roberts/AWI

This rare big-headed turtle (Platysternon megacephalum) at a rescue center in Vietnam was spared the Asian food market.

Overconsumption of Turtles Contributes to Their Demise

BY DR. TERESA TELECKY,
HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED
STATES

They have survived for more than 200 million years on Earth, but what can be done to help freshwater turtles and tortoises make it through another century? CITES Parties have been considering this question for the past few years. Since July 1999, CITES has been examining one of the main threats to the continued existence of Asian tortoises and freshwater turtles: the international trade for food and medicines.

Every year, thousands of tons of live turtles collected throughout Southeast Asia are shipped to China where they are eaten. Caught on fishing lines, dragged out of streams, and dumped on

top of one another into boxes with no food or water, the turtles are transported by truck over land for hundreds of miles to reach their destinations. The turtles are kept alive because consumers want meat and other tissues that are "fresh."

Turtles have been consumed for centuries in China. Until recently, China's markets featured native species, but with increasing domestic wealth, more people can afford to purchase turtles. This growing demand has already caused populations of China's turtles to become depleted in the wild. Now, the markets no longer consist only of species found in China, but contain animals from all over Asia and, increasingly, even North America. Trappers who supply this Asian market are vacuuming up turtles from increasingly distant lands, moving on to other areas when one area becomes depleted.

Turtles and tortoises are particularly susceptible to over-exploitation because they are slow-growing, have delayed sexual maturity, and have low survival of eggs and young. The trade focuses on the larger, sexually mature animals who are the source of future turtle generations.

For some of the species in trade, nothing is known about their wild populations. Tragically, some species have been discovered for the first time in live animal markets in China, yet never described in the wild. Others, such as the roofed turtles of India, have already decreased by 90% in just the last decade.

CITES' efforts culminated in a technical workshop on trade in freshwater turtles and tortoises in Asia, which was held in China in March 2002. The workshop was attended by representatives from twelve Asian countries, including all the main countries involved in the trade. The workshop resulted in the development of a large number of recommendations about how to better control trade by improving the way in which policies and laws address the trade in freshwater turtles and tortoises and enhancing enforcement of existing laws; improving conservation and management measures directed at the species; and ensuring adequate training of and assistance to government officials responsible for implementing and enforcing laws and policies. The workshop also recommended that twelve species of Asian freshwater turtles and tortoises be listed on CITES Appendix II.

The results of the workshop, as well as proposals to list these species, will be considered at the Santiago meeting. Turtles use their shells for protection; now CITES Parties have an opportunity to add another layer of protection to the big-headed turtle, Annam pond turtle, Yellow-headed temple turtle, and many others. Without additional international protection, the world's plate may be wiped clean of these precious turtle treasures. 🐢

Green Turtle Farm Seeks Registration as Captive Breeder

Bucking the international trend toward increasing protection for sea turtles and infuriating their own citizens, the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is petitioning CITES to register one Cayman Island turtle farm as an approved captive breeding facility for green turtles (*Chelonia mydas*), thus enabling legal export and international sale of green turtle shells, despite the green turtle's Appendix I listing under CITES. A similar proposal to CITES failed in 1985.

The Cayman Turtle Farm (CTF) started out in 1968 with 208 wild caught turtles and 500,000 eggs taken from five different countries of the Caribbean. From the beginning, the CTF was a commercial operation, producing turtle carapaces (dorsal shells), oil, meat, and cosmetics. The business almost folded in 1978 when the U.S. banned the importation of all turtle products. But right up to the present, the farm has sold shells and trinkets to tourists, with helpful instructions from the staff on avoiding U.S. customs agents. Besides learning how to smuggle endangered species, the avid tourist can also, according to the farm's

current web site, sample turtle soup and sandwiches in its snack bar.

In a recent dramatization of the grim reality of this park, one of our colleagues received a letter from a woman who just returned from a Carnival Cruise tour that visited the Cayman Turtle Farm. She wrote: "It is horrible! The cruise line led us to believe that it was an endangered species program which released the turtles back into the sea but it was definitely not that. They

only release between 10-15% of those turtles according to our guide. The rest are processed for meat, shells, etc. The conditions they are kept in are terrible, just big dirty tanks and the turtles are all trying to climb over each other to get out. It made me sick."

Readers wishing to contact Carnival Cruise Lines to object to this tourist destination can write to: 3655 Northwest 97th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33178-2428. 🐾



Peter Bennett and Ursula Keuper-Bennett/turtles.org

At Cayman Turtle Farm, green turtles live packed cheek-to-jowl.

Captures Tip the Balance for the Black Sea Dolphins

Widely exploited for meat and oil for decades, the Black Sea subspecies of bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus ponticus*) has been proposed for increased protection by the former Soviet state of Georgia. Changing the dolphins' CITES listing as requested from Appendix II to Appendix I would ban all commercial trade.

Even after hunting dolphins for food was banned in the former USSR, Bulgaria, and Romania in the 1960s and in Turkey in the early 1980s, the

dolphins continued to suffer as incidental victims in fisheries from diseases spread by increasing pollution and immune deficiencies and through the occasional intentional roundup and slaughter. Add to these threats the extensive development of coastal areas and the depletion of the prey species of the dolphins, we see a population unable to tolerate the pressure that came along over the last ten years from aquariums and amusement parks taking live specimens for public display. Out of 120 individuals known to have

been captured and sold internationally, 52 are known to be dead. This number doesn't include the additional 25-50 caught yearly to supply the oceanaria in countries surrounding the Black Sea.

Recognizing the threat of these ongoing captures, an international treaty organization of the region (Agreement on the Conservation of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Areas—ACCOBAMS) has backed the increased CITES protection as a way to curtail the international traffic in the dolphins. AWI wholeheartedly agrees. 🐾

BY ADAM M. ROBERTS



Born Free Foundation

Current rates of habitat loss may eliminate orangutans from Southeast Asia within 30 years.

“Their Plight is Desperate”

“It becomes a moral responsibility to save these amazing beings from extinction,” asserted Dr. Jane Goodall at the WSSD. “Their plight is desperate.”

This call to action came at the launch of a new phase in the United Nations Environment Programme’s (UNEP) Great Apes Survival Project (GRASP), designed in part to assess the root causes of increasing population declines among great apes.

Gorillas, chimpanzees, bonobos, and orangutans—the “great apes”—are at perilous risk from environmentally destructive activities such as logging and mining and the systematic slaughter for their flesh. As UNEP Executive Director Klaus Toepfer noted, “Uncontrolled road construction in these areas is fragmenting and destroying the great apes’ last homes and making it easier for poachers to slaughter them for meat and their young more valuable to capture for the illegal pet trade.” The greatest conservation crisis facing primates in Central Africa today is the bushmeat trade, according to Dr. Goodall.

GRASP is preparing a World Atlas of Great Apes to show distribution information and threat analyses for these animals. GRASP representatives also will continue to hold workshops in specific primate range states and meet with mining company representatives to discuss their impact on the environment. 🐾

More than one billion people—one-sixth the total world population—live in extreme poverty (earning less than one dollar a day). Roughly 900 million of these impoverished people live in rural areas depending on the natural land for their meager livelihoods. More than one billion people have no access to safe drinking water and twice as many have no adequate sanitation services. More than 50% of the world’s wetlands have been drained. Roughly one third of the coral reefs globally have been destroyed. Around one third of the earth’s human population has no electricity. To solve these overwhelming geopolitical crises, more than 20,000 delegates from 191 governments across the globe and tens of thousands of nongovernmental organization participants considered five core issues during the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD): water, energy, health, agriculture, and biodiversity.

The WSSD took place from August 26 through September 4, 2002 in Sandton, an upscale suburb of Johannesburg, South Africa. In an ironic twist, local authorities swept away the homeless, the beggars, the destitute from the area, so that delegates could discuss global poverty without seeing the very disturbing face of that horrible indigence which they confronted.

The Johannesburg deliberations followed ten years after the Rio Earth Summit, the promise of which arguably was not realized because of the absence of a concrete, coherent plan of action. The documents that evolved from Rio, notably Agenda 21 and the Convention on Biological Diversity, were important blueprints, but the road forward was not yet built—that was the task of the WSSD.

Animal protection issues only surfaced superficially throughout the conference, notably with respect to agriculture and biodiversity, although animal welfare and endangered species conservation are inextricably linked to global sustainability. As Pedro Sanchez of the Millennium Development Goals Hunger Task Force noted, “Nobody can be an environmentalist with an empty stomach.”

The path of sustainable agriculture is in small scale family farming operations, which have thrived for centuries, not the industrialized agribusiness operations which destroy the environment, the family farm culture, and the family farmers themselves. Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, 1987 laureate of the World Food Prize, told me that he sees “corporate farms displacing peasant farming,” and that “huge trans-nationals destroy the local community.” Local community farming amounts to a “micro-enterprise” in which the means of production and the products and profits are enjoyed by the local people. Dr. Swaminathan asserted, “World trade policy is designed to kill micro-enterprises.”

Sound agricultural policy is based on sound land policies that respect natural ecosystems and inhabitants. Biodiversity

for the Future?

in these ecosystems is being lost at an astounding rate, and the conservation of endangered places and endangered species is vital to the healthy functioning of the planet. Some governments have already shown the bold political will to protect their slice of the natural world. The President of Costa Rica noted in his plenary remarks that 27% of his nation is set aside already as protected areas. The President of the West African nation of Gabon followed this wise lead by pledging to create a system of 30,000 square kilometers (about ten percent of the country) as protected areas, which he plans to translate into sustainable tourism opportunities. More sound commitments such as these are needed to ensure the long-term viability of the forests, mountains, and other vital natural habitats for wildlife.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair questioned whether the world's leaders possessed the political will to make the adjustments necessary to save the planet. In the end, delegates agreed to some 150 paragraphs of implementation items toward sustainable development and poverty alleviation. They agreed to halve the number of people who suffer from hunger and live in extreme poverty as well as the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water by 2015; significantly improve the lives of the 100 million people living in slums by 2020; restore depleted fish stocks "on an urgent basis" but by no later than 2015; and significantly reduce the current rate of biodiversity loss by 2010.

Some targets bring much potential. The implementation plan supports family farming by promoting "the conservation and sustainable use and management of traditional and indigenous agricultural systems and strengthen[ing] indigenous models of agricultural production." Part of the biodiversity protection measures include promotion of tourism "including non-consumptive and eco-tourism," both of which can bring revenues to local communities in an environmentally friendly way. Doing so, according to the Plan of Implementation, would "improve the protection of the environment, natural resources and cultural heritage."

The WSSD was full of paradoxes. Wealthy white westerners ate fancy hors d'oeuvres in the foyer before settling in for a talk cosponsored by the World Food Program about the hundreds of millions of rural people living in poverty. Delegates and observers drank purified bottled water while discussing the fact that over a billion humans lack safe drinking water and are at risk from waterborne diseases.

In the end, South African President Thabo Mbeki noted that "We are prisoners of the immediate." We lack the ability to determine long-term solutions for global ills. He wondered aloud why the accumulation of such enormous global wealth also produces such great human suffering. The next decade will reveal whether the delegates to the WSSD's biggest achievement was hiding poverty from the world in one city for two weeks, or setting a course toward eliminating poverty and protecting the natural world for generations to come. 🐾



Poplar Spring Animal Sanctuary

Small scale animal agriculture benefits local people without the hazards of intensive animal factories.

Localizing Animal Agriculture

During the WSSD, AWI's Adam Roberts participated in a presentation on "The Livestock Revolution: Problems for the Environment, Development, Human Health and the Animals," describing our work to promote humane husbandry standards for pigs in order to raise the animals in a compassionate and environmentally friendly way. He also detailed our work to prevent agribusiness giant Smithfield Foods from infiltrating countries such as Poland, which cling perilously to the last remaining vestiges of their family farming way of life.

The discussion was met with great enthusiasm by audience members, including one South African farmer who noted that he recently acquired a small parcel of land, like many impoverished South Africans, and that he hopes to raise his animals on that land in accordance with AWI's humane principles.

Meanwhile, Compassion in World Farming (CIWF) released a new report on the detrimental impacts of animal agriculture, which offers case studies from a variety of countries including China, Pakistan, and Brazil. The report concludes that "Food security, the environment, food safety, human nutrition and animal welfare are all put at risk by the present continued support for industrial animal farming." The author, Leah Garces, urges policymakers to "turn away from industrial animal agriculture and support a more humane and sustainable form of food production."

According to CIWF, products from industrial animal agriculture in developing countries are often exported or cost more than most impoverished people can afford. Truly sustainable agriculture recognizes the need to embrace family farming and reject corporate agribusiness, whose costs are too great for the environment and the impoverished. 🐾



In the wild, orcas never leave their mothers; photo by Center for Whale Research.

Keiko's Long Journey to Freedom

Keiko, probably the most famous whale in the world, is in the headlines again. You know the story: ripped from his family in Iceland's waters at the age of two by the greedy marine circus industry, Keiko spent the next 17 years in prison-like concrete tanks in Canada and Mexico until he was fictionally freed in the hit movie "Free Willy."

In 1994, Earth Island Institute founded the Free Willy Keiko Foundation and the debilitated orca was flown to a specially-built recovery pool in Oregon in 1996. After years of care to get him back to health and vitality, in 1999 Keiko was flown to his home off the coast of Iceland. There he lived in a pen while being reintroduced to the open sea and pods of orcas that feed in the area each summer.

This July Keiko's guardians led him out to sea where he quickly bonded with several pods of orcas. By early August the whales were heading east with the herring schools. A small transmitter fixed to Keiko's back showed that he was swimming up to 90 miles a

day and diving deep to feed.

Apparently enjoying his freedom, Keiko kept swimming east all August—nearly 1,000 miles—until he arrived at the coast of Norway. There, one day, he came upon a small fishing boat heading into a fjord. Keiko followed. At the small town of Halså in central Norway, he was welcomed with open arms. Children swam with him. Thousands of Norwegians drove to the fjord to see the friendly whale. The press arrived in droves.

Some Norwegians were not so happy, however. The ruthless whalers who defy the international ban on commercial whaling don't want to see public sympathy for marine mammals. One whaler said Keiko should be turned into meatballs. But children across Norway and around the world sent out a cry to protect the whale. The Norwegian government, imagining a public relations disaster if Keiko was mistreated or killed, quickly imposed a 50-meter protective zone around Keiko and agreed to work with the Free Willy Keiko Foundation.

There are even some signs that the

Norwegian government understands the growing opposition to the captivity of whales, at least this whale. In a letter to Florida Senator Bob Graham opposing the Miami Seaquarium's bizarre request to go capture Keiko, the Norwegian ambassador to the U.S. wrote: "In principle we are skeptical to keeping huge animals like whales in captivity. In Norway there is no tradition for that. Also, we regard it as problematic in an animal welfare perspective to send the whale on the long voyage from Norway to Florida. At the moment the whale has a freedom that makes it possible for him to make choices. He is not in conditions that will stress him.

"However, we do not doubt that Keiko would get good support in Miami, but it would be a great step back to put him in an aquarium again.

"Finally, I would like to assure you that the people in Halså are now very much attached to Keiko, and would not like to see him depart."

So it appears that Keiko will winter off the Norwegian coast, swimming free at last. 🐾

Loving Whales to Death?

If you want to buy a sweatshirt with an orca whale on it, Friday Harbor, Washington is the place. Or an orca drink holder, wind chime, beer, hat, pair of socks, flag, blanket, wine glass, towel, pair of tennis shoes, or belly bag. Every summer the population of San Juan Island more than doubles with tourists coming with the hopes of glimpsing one of three resident families of orca whales. The orcas hunt for salmon up and down the Haro Straights, the deep passage alongside San Juan island.

Despite all of the attention, or perhaps because of it, the orcas are suffering. In the last six years the population has declined from one hundred to eighty, while the number of whale-watch companies that follow these whales has increased from twenty to

eighty. A new study by Dr. David Bain asserts that the boats are so numerous and so loud in critical frequencies that 90-95% of the whales' echolocation is blocked. A group called Orca Relief believes that this research provides the missing piece to the orcas' decline: boat noise makes it difficult for the orcas to find the fewer salmon available, forcing them to rely on their fat reserves, which are heavily contaminated with PCBs and other toxic chemicals.

Whale-watch operators are unhappy at being labeled villains. Many use their boats to promote the love of wildlife, offering what many groups such as ours have touted as one income-generating alternative to whaling. They ask, what about the big tankers that make far more

noise? What about lawns that dribble toxic herbicides every day into orca habitat? What about dams that block salmon runs and deforestation that silts them up?

AWI is working with those who have studied the whales the longest to outline a solution to the orca decline that the community can support. Besides pushing for a local ordinance banning the sale of the most harmful pesticides, we are asking that the whale-watch industry voluntarily limit their numbers, their reach and their hours, and to prohibit the especially noisy and polluting two stroke engines. Everyone agrees on just one thing—that there must be a way to save these magical whales so they can continue to exist in real life, not just as images of what once was. 🐾

Fishing Runs Afoul of Right Whales

The year 2002 has been a bad one for the North Atlantic right whale, the most endangered great whale living off the eastern seaboard of the United States and Canada. Once targeted as the "right" whale to kill because of its valuable oil and tendency to float once harpooned, this creature has suffered from frequent ship strikes and from becoming snarled in fishing gear. There are thought to be no more than 300 individuals in this population of whales.

Over the summer, at least eight right whales have become tangled in fishing nets. One was released recently with the help of a network established from Florida to the Bay of Fundy by the Center for Coastal Studies (CCS), but seven more remain. Five are considered in poor condition and little is known about the other two. They do not have locator beacons attached to the net-



Right whale #1424 was first spotted entangled off the Florida coast in February and last seen when this picture was taken in June.

ting they are dragging. These floating devices not only help to find the whales but sometimes provide just enough pull to peel the netting from them.

Snarled right whales are hard to rescue. According to Scott Landry, spokesman for the rescue team of CCS, the whales are very difficult to find, ranging over a thousand miles. Once

encountered by a team, the whales tend to be unwilling participants and can be aggressive.

In addition to these seven, three right whales have been found dead so far this year. Unless fishing techniques change in the vast waters inhabited by these ancient beings, their future appears bleak. 🐾

NMFS Gives Permission to Navy to Deploy Low Frequency Active Sonar

On July 14, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) granted the Navy its long sought exemption to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) moratorium on the harassment and killing of marine mammals. This "small take authorization" allows the Navy to deploy the intensely loud low frequency active sonar (LFA) and kill untold numbers of marine creatures without being prosecuted under the guise of protecting our shores from enemy submarines. The Navy's own Environmental Impact Statement, estimates the device could "take" over ten percent *per year* of certain populations of marine mammals, including blue whales.

Stopping LFA has been a major AWI campaign since we organized swimmers to block its testing on calving and mating humpback whales off Hawaii in 1998. During the tests, the maximum level of sound used was 155 decibels. Even at this level, a human swimmer was injured and the whales left the area, prompting whale-watching businesses to sue for lost profit. The operational level of the deployed LFA is over ten million times louder than the test.

AWI held a press conference in April of 2000 to tell of Navy exercises the month before that killed seventeen individuals of five different species of whales and dolphins in the Bahamas. The Navy issued a denial it was responsible for the "acoustic event" that blew out the creatures' ears (CAT scans showed ear hemorrhages leading to brain hemorrhages). After a year of denial, the Navy finally admitted responsibility but blamed a mid-range active sonar it was using at the time. The main difference between mid and low range active sonar is that the low frequency sonar goes much farther with less loss of power.

Over the last few years, every legal avenue pursued in challenging this insane device has been sabotaged. We testified at public hearings held by NMFS in San Diego, CA and Silver Spring, MD that LFA is a violation of the harassment

New Military Exercises Cause Whale Strandings

In a tragic illustration of the danger presented by active sonars such as LFA, we just received news of yet another mass stranding of beaked whales, this time in the Canary Islands. As of September 24, 12 beaked whales of three species (*Ziphius cavirostris*, *Mesoplodon densirostris*, and *Mesoplodon europaeus*) have stranded on the islands of Lanzarote and Fuerteventura during a huge NATO exercise involving many ships and submarines. The Government of Canary Islands has asked NATO to stop all military maneuvers in the area. 🐋

ACTIVE SONAR'S WORLD TOUR

Whales Stranded by Military Exercises

1974	<i>Bonaire</i>	4	Cuvier's beaked whales
1985	<i>Canary Islands</i>	12	Goose-beaked whales
		1	Gervais' beaked whale
1986	<i>Canary Islands</i>	4	Goose-beaked whales
		1	Gervais' beaked whale
1988	<i>Canary Islands</i>	3	Goose-beaked whales
		1	Northern bottle-nosed whale
		2	Pygmy sperm whales
1989	<i>Canary Islands</i>	3	Gervais' beaked whales
		2	deBlainsville dense-beaked whales
		19	Goose-beaked whales
1996	<i>Greece</i>	12	Cuvier's beaked whales
2000	<i>Bahamas</i>	9	Cuvier's beaked whales
		3	deBlainsville dense-beaked whales
		1	Gervais' beaked whale
		2	Beaked whales of unknown species
		2	Minke whales
		1	Spotted dolphin
2001	<i>Florida</i>	2	Beaked whales of unknown species

LFA
Low Frequency Active Sonar
Coming Soon to an Ocean Near You
Unless You Stop It.

section of the MMPA. The military responded by trying to weaken the MMPA drastically by changing the definition of harassment.

We petitioned individual states to oppose this device under the Coastal Zone Management Act. California refused to give the Navy permission to use LFA in their waters. Maine first agreed then revoked permission. Now the Bush administration is challenging the Coastal Zone Management Act reauthorization in Congress.

When the Natural Resources Defense Council announced it was suing to stop LFA and other active sonar devices under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Bush Administration stated that NEPA does not apply beyond the three-mile territorial limit of the USA. NMFS was overruled in its assertion that this most basic environmental law extends to 200 miles from our coast.

The deployment of LFA may be the greatest violation of the precautionary principle ever concocted. The device has the potential to cause death in any ocean creature within reach with air passages—not only whales and dolphins but fish, fish eggs, larvae, and turtles. AWI was the first and only group to block use of this device physically. We will continue working on land and, if necessary, on the high seas, to protect ocean creatures from this unnecessary and catastrophic sonic bombardment. 🐋



Kartik Shanker and Meera Annaommen

Saving the crashing population of leatherback turtles presents the IAC with its first major challenge.

Nine Countries Meet to Save Sea Turtles

BY BEN WHITE

With a pace as deliberate as that of the creatures it is aiming to protect, the Inter-American Convention for the Conservation and Protection of Sea Turtles (IAC) was launched from August 6-8 in San José, Costa Rica. Eight countries in Latin America plus the United States met in the first conference of the parties. Even though these first days were filled with the mind-numbing tedium of the Articles of Procedure, which will govern the functioning of the body, the group's avowed agenda is ambitious. It aims to halt trade in sea turtle parts, protect their nesting beaches, and tackle the political dynamite of rampant overfishing with highly deleterious methods.

Itching to contribute to the meeting in some way, I worked with Todd Steiner of the Sea Turtle Restoration Project and his Costa Rican colleague Randall Arauz to present our own wish-list of projects that we believe

the IAC must address in order to turn the tide of the imminent demise of the sea turtles. Governmental associates at the meeting surprisingly warmly received our presentation (see sidebar).

Todd and Randall also worked with Costa Rica on the first resolution to be brought to the table. It calls for immediate crises measures to stop the crash of the leatherback turtle population in the Pacific Ocean. The largest nesting colony in the world, located in Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia, has almost totally collapsed, as have huge nesting colonies in Mexico and Costa Rica. Reasons for the collapse include rampant mortality from long-line and swordfish fisheries, the popularity of turtle eggs for human consumption, and the slaughter of nesting females on Mexican beaches.

The result of the meeting was a new turtle protection convention with countries promising to listen to activists and enact strong laws. We shall see now if they can move fast enough to catch the declining sea turtles. 🐢

NGO Recommendations to the New Sea Turtle Convention

The Parties to the convention should:

- Make decisions based solely on what will benefit sea turtles, regardless of the effects of these decisions on international trade.
- Amend the convention to allow decisions to be made by either simple majority or 2/3 majority instead of the present consensus requirement in order to avoid inaction when deadlocked.
- Support CITES in continuous opposition to all international trade in sea turtle products.
- Urge ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).
- Support a moratorium on pelagic long-line fishing in the Eastern Pacific.
- Begin on-board monitoring of long-line fisheries.
- Strengthen enforcement measures, including confiscation of pirate vessels.
- Begin unannounced inspections to verify TEDs (turtle excluder devices) compliance on shrimp vessels.
- Forbid the use of and traffic in leatherback turtle eggs.
- Identify the ten most important nesting sites for each species and ensure their protection.
- Identify critical marine habitats for each species.
- Control the discharge of intense levels of sound, ban military training exercises, oil exploration and drilling in critical habitats. 🐢



Photos by Jen Rinick/AWI

Two residents taking time to stop by one of the day's lectures.

Life on Ooh-Mah-Nee Farm

On one hundred acres of rolling farmland in western Pennsylvania, more than one thousand cows, sheep, goats, pigs, chickens, rabbits, and turkeys call Ooh-Mah-Nee Farm their home and have been doing so since its founding by Cayce Mell and Jason Tracy in 1995. On August 4, 2002, these residents,

most of whom were displaced, abused, and/or abandoned by the intensive animal factory industry, welcomed the public for the Farm's first open house.

The day began with the grand opening of the Humane Education Center, dedicated to enlightening each visitor to the brutal reality of intensive farming by offering informative

literature on the tragedy of laying hens condemned to life in small battery cages and the immense suffering of all farm animals in slaughterhouses. A viewing area for documentaries and other videos also allows the public a glimpse at the cruelty of the intensive farming industry.

Visitors were invited to take self-guided tours that revealed many stories of the harsh lives these farm animals endured before coming to Ooh-Mah-Nee. Two of the most horrific are of the more than 600 Buckeye Egg Farm hens rescued from the Ohio factory by the staff of Ooh-Mah-Nee Farm in September 2000 (see *AWI Quarterly*, Winter 2001), and of the 25 cows headed to a slaughterhouse until a traffic accident involving their double-decker transport trailer led to their rescue, again by Ooh-Mah-Nee. A happier story is that of the friendly and intelligent Nubian goats, who were given to Ooh-Mah-Nee Farm by a retiring humane dairy farmer, and who will spend their remaining years roaming the pastures. Also on the tour is the new animal hospital, which in addition to veterinary care provides a heated and predator proof infirmary through the winter months—a novel comfort for most of its once-abused victims.

To learn more about Ooh-Mah-Nee Farm please visit www.oohmahneefarm.org. They welcome visitors, and the outstanding staff is available to speak to groups and at special events. 🐾



The animals can enjoy green wide-open spaces; visitors learn about the suffering inflicted by intensive farming.

Texas Attorney General's Opinion Results In Horse Slaughter Investigation

The last two U.S. horse slaughter facilities, both located in Texas, appear to be operating in violation of Texas law, according to an opinion issued by the Texas Attorney General, John Corny.

In 1949 the Texas Legislature amended the State's Agriculture Code (section 149.002), making it illegal to slaughter, possess, sell, and transport horsemeat for human consumption. Yet for 53 years the law has been ignored.

As part of its campaign to end horse slaughter for human consumption, the Animal Welfare Institute has been working with well-known Dallas Attorney Robert "Skip" Trimble on finding ways to have the State law enforced. The Texas Department of Agriculture had rejected any responsibility on the grounds the State law was superseded by federal law. Mr. Trimble did not accept that answer and with the leadership of State Representative Goolsby, the Texas Attorney General

was asked to issue an opinion on enforcement of the State law.

The Attorney General's opinion states that "a person who sells horse-meat as food for human consumption or who possesses horse-meat intending to sell it as food for human consumption commits a criminal offense." The Attorney General went on to write that "a person who transfers horse-meat to a person who intends to sell it as food for human consumption or who knows or reasonably should know that the person receiving the horse-meat intends to sell it as food for human consumption commits a criminal offense."

District attorneys in both Texas counties have begun to look into enforcing the law. Kaufman County D.A., Bill Conradt, said in the *Dallas Star-Telegram*, "We're working on an investigation and plan to file criminal charges." Both plants have desperately begun to spin the issue by trying to twist interpretation of the existing law.

The Belgium-owned slaughterhouses, known to have disliked each other in the past, have joined forces to file an injunction in the U.S. District Court hoping to stop the State law's enforcement. It would appear their legal question has no standing, but is more of a delaying tactic while they try to amend the State law in the January session of the Texas Legislature. Tarrant County D.A., Tim Curry, has said they would fight "vigorously" against the suit.

With the end in sight for America's two remaining horse slaughter facilities, the swift passage of the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act introduced by Congresswoman Connie Morella (R-MD) is even more important. While the two plants may be forced out of Texas, they could relocate somewhere else in the U.S., Canada, or Mexico. The Morella bill will prohibit this and ensure horses aren't simply shipped even greater distances across the borders for slaughter. 🐾

Farm Animal Health and Well-Being Paper Now Available

AWI's Farm Animal Economic Advisor Marlene Halverson wrote a Technical Working Paper (TWP) on Farm Animal Health and Well-Being for the State of Minnesota. She prepared her paper in consultation with seven international animal welfare scientists, and it is part of Minnesota's Generic Environmental Impact Statement

(GEIS) on animal agriculture. The State had contracted with a number of technical consultants including Marlene to prepare TWPs to bring together the latest scientific information and recommend ways to make animal agriculture more responsive to public concerns.

This 325 page paper, which was described in a veterinary newsletter

as a "substantive" critique, is available on Minnesota's website at [http://www.mnplan.state.mn.us/eqb/geis/TWP's/HalversonTWPAHealth&WB\(3\).pdf](http://www.mnplan.state.mn.us/eqb/geis/TWP's/HalversonTWPAHealth&WB(3).pdf).

A limited number of compact disc copies are also available upon request from the Animal Welfare Institute for \$10 to cover CD production, postage, and handling. 🐾

Bequests to AWI

If you would like to help assure the Animal Welfare Institute's future through a provision in your will, this general form of bequest is suggested:

I give, devise and bequeath to the Animal Welfare Institute, located in Washington, D.C., the sum of \$ _____ and/or (specifically described property).

Donations to AWI, a not-for-profit corporation exempt under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3), are tax deductible. We welcome any inquiries you may have. In cases where you have specific wishes about the disposition of your bequest, we suggest you discuss such provisions with your attorney.

Tail Docking Dairy Cattle

BY MARLENE HALVERSON

Tail docking of dairy cattle, or amputating half or more of the cow's tail, first became a routine practice among dairy farmers in New Zealand. Today, it is also practiced in Australia and Ireland and is becoming routine on an increasing number of North American dairy farms. The procedure is banned in the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

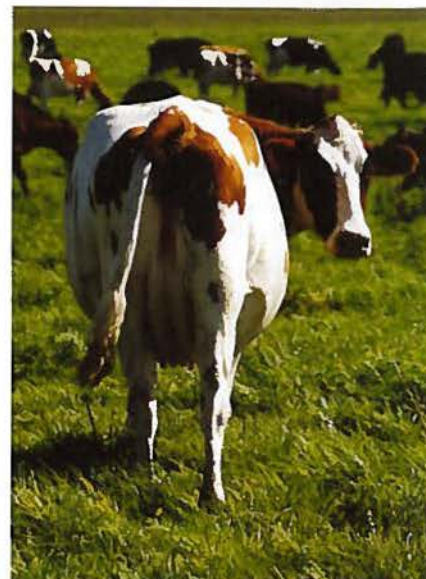
Tail docking is a mutilation and causes injury to the animal. Generally, it is performed on an unanesthetized animal. In one to two day old calves, a tourniquet may be applied to the tail before amputating with scissors. In some cases, heated scissors are used to cauterize the stump simultaneously with cutting. In 6-8 week old calves, an emasculator (used in crushing testicles during castration of male calves) is used to crush the tail, and then the tail may be cut off below the crushed area. In heifers and grown cattle, tail docking usually involves applying a tight rubber ring around the tail. The rubber ring reduces oxygen to the tail below the ring. The necrotic tail below the rubber ring may be amputated with pruning shears or it may be left to fall off. In addition to the acute pain inflicted at the time of docking, there is the potential for chronic pain due to neuroma (a tumor composed of nerve tissue that forms at the injury site) formation in the docked stump. Similarly, human amputees have described pain, itching, or discomfort in the limbs they no longer have; a condition referred to as "phantom limb."

Though it has been assumed that dirty tails can contaminate udders, increasing the incidence of mastitis (a painful disease of the udder) and reducing milk purity, research shows that areas of the body where cows become soiled with manure do not closely correspond with areas reached by intact tails.

The tail is an important tool for protecting the cow from flies. Research shows that docked cows spend considerably more time than intact cows in fly avoidance behavior and that inability to swat flies results in greater fly numbers on docked versus intact cows. Docked cows stand more than intact cows as fly numbers increase, possibly indicating that docked cows are uncomfortable, as cows tend to stand when they are uncomfortable because cows have a biological need to lie down 9-14 hours each day in order to ruminate efficiently and produce milk. Fly avoidance behavior can disturb rumination and milk production. Fly avoidance behaviors also disturb grazing. Research has further indicated that cows use tail postures in signaling to other cows. Without a tail, the cow is deprived of this method of communication.

Cows rely on the endowments nature has given them for survival and for well-being. We have choices they do not have when it comes to designing housing systems and tailoring husbandry practices. Our choices should embrace both the integrity and well-being of these animals. Tail docking is not a universal practice in the North American dairy industry yet, and some dairy farmers would never think of docking their cows' tails. For them, tails are indispensable parts of the cows' anatomy both practically and aesthetically.

Full article and citations to references used in this article are available at the AWI website: www.awionline.org/farm/taildockdairy. 🐾



Marlene Halverson/AWI

The purpose of the tail is to ensure a cow's well-being.



Marlene Halverson/AWI

Tail docking is both painful and debilitating.

The Garrett Files

At www.awionline.org/tg/tom.htm read Tom Garrett's ongoing evocative accounts of cruelty, environmental degradation, and corruption brought to Poland by Smithfield Foods as it seeks the notorious distinction of being Europe's largest pork producer. Also learn about the status of the Polish Animal Welfare Act (AWA) and additional work AWI is pursuing in Poland, such as an amendment to the AWA to stop the live transport of horses. 🐾

The New SPANA Story

Easing the burden of working animals abroad

By Bridget Bouch
SPANA 2000; ISBN 095064501X;
79 pages; \$7.00

In the early 1920s Kate Hosali and her daughter, Nina, traveled through remote regions in North Africa, and along the way they observed terrible treatment of working donkeys and mules. Many of the animals had severe wounds on their backs from carrying massive loads and some had cuts from ropes that dug into their flesh. Others had burns on their

sides or abdomens that were purposefully inflicted with red-hot irons as a traditional "cure" for ailment. Kate frequently stepped in to help the poor animals, victims of ignorance or outright cruelty.

The women carried the memories of what they had witnessed back with them to England determined to do something to help these hardworking donkeys and mules. Thus, the Society for the Protection of Animals in North Africa (SPANA) was established.



SPANA seeks to alleviate the suffering of working pack animals in North and West Africa and the Middle East, including the provision of free veterinary care to the pack animals upon whom the poor families in rural communities depend.

The New SPANA Story details the history of the organization, particularly the heroic work by the Hosali women, and SPANA's current diligent efforts on behalf of donkeys and mules. 🐾



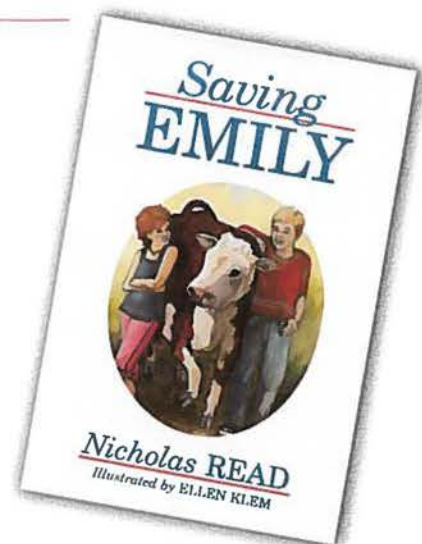
The quiet village of Sabalebougou, in Mali, is spurred into activity with the arrival of SPANA's mobile clinic. The veterinary team was amazed to see thousands of donkeys standing nose to tail.

Saving EMILY

By Nicholas Read
Illustrated by Ellen Klem
Prometheus Books, Publishers 2001;
ISBN 1573928976; 150 pages; \$14.00

Nicholas Read has focused his storytelling talents on farm animals for this book, which will appeal to readers age ten and older. *Saving Emily*, published last year, tells two separate tales, one of a 12-year-old boy named Chris and the other of a young heifer named Emily. The tales are all the more interesting because each is told from the main character's unique perspective.

We join Emily and Chris as each one faces hardships. Emily's seemingly bucolic life changes dramatically as she endures branding and separation from her mother; then she is hauled to a livestock market where she is sold to a feedlot operator to be fattened for slaughter. Meantime, Chris's mother, a divorcee, is remarrying, and Chris must move with his mother from the city and his friends to a very different way of life in the country. Emily and Chris learn important lessons about life as they learn more about themselves. The two characters finally meet near the end of the story when happenstance brings them together. 🐾



USDA's Primate Policy is Scuttled by Research Industry

Most primates used for experimentation are kept in solitary confinement in small, bare cages. This deplorable situation has continued despite a requirement in the 1985 amendments to the Animal Welfare Act for a "physical environment adequate to promote the psychological well-being of primates." Nearly 17 years have passed, however, research facilities still fail to comply with this legal mandate.

In 1991 the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) finalized regulations for enforcement of the law which state that primate facilities must develop environmental enhancement plans "in accordance with currently accepted professional standards." This vague language left USDA inspectors and the facilities they inspect in the dark about what must really be done for captive primates. The consequences have been weak enforcement by USDA and a minimalist approach to primate care by many facilities.

In 1996, acknowledging some of these problems, USDA developed a "Policy on Psychological Well-Being of Nonhuman Primates" based on an exhaustive review of the professional literature and feedback from veterinarians, primatologists and USDA inspectors. The draft was scrutinized by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Office of Management and Budget

(OMB), and requested modifications were made. The Draft Policy was published in the *Federal Register* on July 15, 1999, and after incorporating still further changes based on public and agency comments received, USDA again submitted the document to OMB.

As the policy neared completion, NIH, pressured by the research industry, raised numerous unwarranted objections. Like plugging a hole in a dam with one's left hand while hammering a new hole with one's right, NIH has persistently faulted some aspect of the policy to prevent its implementation. Now, the industry objective seems complete; the Policy is dead and with it the promise it held for improving the conditions for primates used in experimentation. The dam has burst. 🐾



Viktor Reinhardt/AWI

The typical caging system for laboratory primates is inhumane.

Coulston's Cruel Reign Comes to a Close

After an eight year campaign led by Eric Kleiman of In Defense of Animals, The Coulston Foundation, a notorious biomedical research facility and Animal Welfare Act violator has finally gone out of business. Facing an ever gloomier financial future and unable to provide the basic care to his primates, Coulston Foundation founder, Fred Coulston, handed over the title to his primate population of 266 chimpanzees and 61 monkeys to Dr. Carole Noon of the humane Center for Captive Chimpanzee Care. The Center (see Fall 2001 *AWI Quarterly*) currently houses 21 former "space" chimpanzees and 4 other chimpanzees at its Central Florida sanctuary. 🐾



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