

Stadt Nürnberg · Am Tiergarten 30 · 90480 Nürnberg 415 Stadt Nürnberg Tiergarten

## To whom it may concern:

Regarding aquatic mammal species, Nuremberg Zoo currently keeps 6 bottlenose dolphins, 18 Californian sea lions and 3 manatees. Because of controlled conditions and direct access to the animals, but also because there are still large gaps in our knowledge about many aspects of the animals' biology, we see research as a central task of our raison d'être as a zoo. Both in basic and applied research we see an immense potential which we can and should exploit in the zoo. Many projects are conceived and carried out by us at Nuremberg Zoo, but most are undertaken in cooperation with other institutions, e.g. universities.

Research is important to better understand the needs of our animals and consequently to create habitats that guarantee animal welfare. Research forms the basis for designing suitable animal enclosures that are not only best for the animals but also give the visitor a credible impression that we are doing everything we can to ensure that our animals are doing well. Research with our animals at the zoo has also helped us to know animals in the wild better and thus to protect them more efficiently and sustainably. Many research projects are also challenging and a beneficial change for the animals. But also, for the staff, research projects are not only exciting but also rewarding, as often some of their questions regarding animal husbandry find an answer in research.

Due to the consistently positive experiences, we can only warmly recommend any institution that keeps animals to enable research with their animals. Research lends credibility to the institution that facilitates it and should also be seen as a mandatory task. The fight against biodiversity loss requires facts and we zoos can be an important source of these missing facts. We as Nuremberg Zoo feel obliged to contribute knowledge and are also pleased to be able to make our contribution.

The last decades have shown us that visitors, staff and especially our animals benefit greatly when scientific research provides the basis for improving our animal husbandry.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lorenzo von Fersen Curator for Research and Conservation Nuremberg Zoo Forschung / Artenschutz Dr. Lorenzo von Fersen

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## Sprechzeiten:

Mo bis Do 8.30 - 15.30 Uhr Fr 8.30 - 12.30 Uhr oder nach Vereinbarung

## Öffentliche Verkehrsmittel::

Straßenbahn-Linie 5 Bus-Linie 65 Haltestelle Tiergarten S-Bahn-Linie 1 Haltestelle Mögeldorf weiter mit: Bus-Linie 65 oder Straßenbahn-Linie 5 Haltestelle Tiergarten

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