

# symposium

AT THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON



20 and 21 November 2008 ALL DAY | [www.zsl.org/science/scientific-meetings](http://www.zsl.org/science/scientific-meetings) | all tickets in advance

## HALTING THE GLOBAL DECLINE IN AMPHIBIANS: RESEARCH AND PRACTICE

organised by Lesley Dickie, Kevin Zippel and Jennifer Pramuk

The 2004 Global Amphibian Assessment concluded that amphibians are at greater risk of extinction than either mammals or birds, with a third of all extant and currently described species listed as Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable, and 43% of all amphibian species in decline.

This situation is attributed to habitat loss and alteration, unsustainable trade, invasive species, climate change and disease, particularly the chytridiomycosis fungus, which is a cause of high or complete mortality of populations even in pristine habitats. However, no single factor is responsible for the scale of decline and a combination of threats may be working in synergy.

This symposium will bring together researchers and conservation practitioners to discuss current threats and present potential solutions to this biodiversity crisis.

Speakers will assess the current knowledge of amphibian declines worldwide and detail the methodology employed both *in situ* and *ex situ* to combat losses. The 2008 'Year of the Frog', a global campaign catalyzing required funding and stimulating government and public action, will also be described.

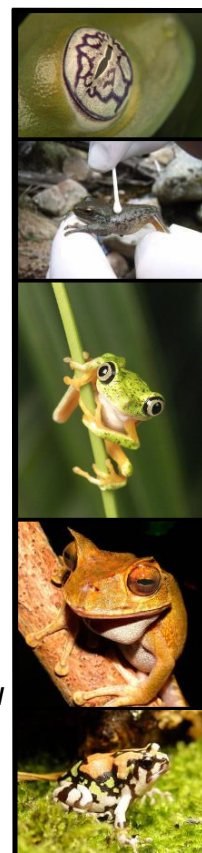


Image credits from top: Ron Holt, Courtesy Atlanta Botanical Garden; Michael McFadden; Ron Holt, Courtesy Atlanta Botanical Garden; George Sunter, ZSL; Richard Gibson

### List of Contributors

David F. <b>Attenborough</b>	Andrew A. <b>Cunningham</b>	Andrew R. <b>Gray</b>	Helen M. R. <b>Meredith</b>
Jon <b>Bielby</b>	Lesley A. <b>Dickie</b>	Richard A. <b>Griffiths</b>	Robin D. <b>Moore</b>
Jeffrey P. <b>Bonner</b>	Matthew C. <b>Fisher</b>	Tyrone B. <b>Hayes</b>	Frances <b>Orton</b>
Robert K. <b>Browne</b>	Gerardo <b>García</b>	Kevin <b>Johnson</b>	Jennifer B. <b>Pramuk</b>
Kevin <b>Buley</b>	Trenton W. J. <b>Garner</b>	Michael <b>Lau</b>	Gordon McGregor <b>Reid</b>
Angus I. <b>Carpenter</b>	Richard <b>Gibson</b>	Rhiannon E. <b>Lloyd</b>	Anton <b>Seimon</b>
Don R. <b>Church</b>	Brian <b>Gratwicke</b>	Joseph R. <b>Mendelson III</b>	Kevin C. <b>Zippel</b>

### Sponsors



Additional sponsorship to be confirmed

# HALTING THE GLOBAL DECLINE IN AMPHIBIANS: RESEARCH AND PRACTICE THURSDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2008

Programme updates available from [www.zsl.org/science/scientific-meetings](http://www.zsl.org/science/scientific-meetings)

- 8.30 Registration opens  
9.00 Welcome from Ralph Armond, Director General, ZSL
- 

## **SESSION I: MAJOR DETERMINANTS OF AMPHIBIAN DECLINES**

**Chair: Lesley Dickie (EAZA, The Netherlands)**

---

- 9.10 **Habitat loss, fragmentation and alteration**  
*Don Church (Conservation International, USA)*
- 9.40 **Global amphibian trade: overview to trade networks**  
*Angus Carpenter (University of East Anglia, UK)*
- 10.10 **Keynote Address: A world without amphibians**  
*Sir David Attenborough FRS*
- 10.40 **POSTER SESSION (TEA/COFFEE)**
- 11.10 **Infectious disease threats to amphibians**  
*Andrew Cunningham (Institute of Zoology, ZSL, UK)*
- 11.40 **Species susceptibility to disease-related declines**  
*Jon Bielby (Conservation Programmes, ZSL, UK)*
- 12.10 **Pesticides and stress: contributors to amphibian disease and declines**  
*Frances Orton (Brunel University, UK) and Tyrone B. Hayes (University of California, Berkeley, USA)*
- 12.40 **LUNCH**
- 13.40 **The role of climate change vs climatic variability in amphibian decline**  
*Anton Seimon (Latin America and Caribbean Program, Wildlife Conservation Society, USA)*
- 14.10 **Reconciling the roles of disease and climate change in amphibian declines**  
*Andrew Gray (Manchester Museum, University of Manchester, UK)*
- 

## **SESSION II: IN SITU AND EX SITU RESPONSES: METHODOLOGY AND PRACTICE**

**Chair: Don Church (Conservation International, USA)**

---

- 14.40 **Introducing the Amphibian Conservation Action Plan: priorities and challenges to implementation**  
*Robin Moore (Conservation International, USA)*
- 15.10 **What zoos and you can do: captive breeding efforts around the world**  
*Jennifer Pramuk (Wildlife Conservation Society, USA)*
- 15.40 **POSTER SESSION (TEA/COFFEE)**
- 16.10 **Amphibians on the EDGE: combining phylogeny and threat**  
*Helen Meredith (Conservation Programmes, ZSL, UK)*
- 16.40 **Romer's tree frog conservation – a successful case of research, rescue, captive breeding and translocation**  
*Michael Lau (Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden, Hong Kong SAR)*
- 17.10 **End of Day One**
- 19.00 **SYMPOSIUM DINNER** – tickets to be booked in advance
- 

**MEALS & REFRESHMENTS** Coffee and tea will be served during breaks and a sandwich lunch is provided for all. A dinner will be held on Thursday evening; tickets cost an extra £40 each and must be purchased by 7 November 2008. Please advise any special dietary requirements on registration form.

**HALTING THE GLOBAL DECLINE IN AMPHIBIANS: RESEARCH AND PRACTICE  
FRIDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2008**

Programme updates available from [www.zsl.org/science/scientific-meetings](http://www.zsl.org/science/scientific-meetings)

---

**SESSION III: DEVELOPING THE ARK RESPONSE**

**Chair: Gordon McGregor Reid (WAZA and North of England Zoological Society, UK)**

---

- 9.00 **Launching the Ark: concept, role and function**  
*Kevin Zippel (Amphibian Ark, USA)*
- 9.30 **So many species, so little time: which species to work with first?**  
*Kevin Johnson (Amphibian Ark and ARAZPA, Australia)*
- 10.00 **Taking the Ark on the road: building capacity where it counts**  
*Richard Gibson (Amphibian Ark and North of England Zoological Society, UK)*
- 10.30 **POSTER SESSION (TEA/COFFEE)**
- 11.00 **Conservation research for amphibians**  
*Robert K. Browne (Amphibian Ark and Antwerp Zoo, Belgium)*
- 11.30 **Containers for conservation: the effectiveness of stand alone bio-secure units**  
*Gerardo García (Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, Jersey) and Kevin Buley (North of England Zoological Society, UK)*
- 12.00 **The reality of reintroduction: opportunities and constraints**  
*Richard Griffiths (Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology, University of Kent, UK)*
- 12.30 **LUNCH**
- 

**SESSION IV: DEVELOPING TECHNOLOGIES AND RESPONSES IN THE FACE OF A CRISIS**

**Chair: Richard Griffiths (DICE, University of Kent, UK)**

---

- 13.30 **Assisted reproductive techniques and cryobanking for amphibian conservation, hope and reality**  
*Rhiannon E. Lloyd (Institute of Zoology, ZSL, UK)*
- 14.00 **Mitigating *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* in the wild: where are we now and where are we going?**  
*Trent Garner (Institute of Zoology, ZSL, UK)*
- 14.30 **Global mapping and spatial epidemiology of *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis***  
*Matthew Fisher (Imperial College of London, UK)*
- 15.00 **POSTER SESSION (TEA/COFFEE)**
- 

**SESSION V: WILL THE WORLD TAKE NOTICE? THE YEAR OF THE FROG AND GENERATING PUBLIC/POLITICAL AWARENESS**

**Chair: Jennifer Pramuk (Wildlife Conservation Society, USA)**

---

- 15.30 **The 2008 Year of the Frog: raising awareness in a charismatic mega-fauna obsessed public**  
*Lesley Dickie (EAZA, The Netherlands)*
- 16.00 **Garnering political support**  
*Jeffrey Bonner (St Louis Zoo, USA)*
- 16.30 **Amphibian survival alliance: the future of global amphibian conservation?**  
*Brian Gratwicke (Smithsonian National Zoological Park, USA)*
- 

**SESSION VI: SUMMARY**

**Chair: Gordon McGregor Reid (WAZA and North of England Zoological Society, UK)**

---

- 17.00 **Perspectives and outputs: views, thoughts and conclusions - five minutes each from four speakers**
- 17.20 **Closing remarks** *Gordon McGregor Reid (WAZA and North of England Zoological Society, UK)*
- 17.30 **End of Symposium**

## LOCATION



The Zoological Society of London's Meeting Rooms are next to its Main Offices, on the Outer Circle, Regent's Park. Cars may be parked in the London Zoo visitors' car park – please contact Joy Hayward (below) to arrange a special parking rate for the symposium. The nearest public transport is by the 274 bus (to the Zoo), or by Underground (to Camden Town).

## NOTES

**Attendance** Tickets must be booked in advance. **Full rate:** two days or part days £120; one day or part day £70. **Student/ZSL Member rate:** two days or part days £60; one day or part day £35. Registration deadline: 7 November 2008 (thereafter a fee of £10 will be charged on all registrations).

**Meals and refreshments** Coffee, tea and a buffet sandwich lunch will be served during breaks and are included in the ticket price. A dinner with the speakers will be held at the end of the first day; tickets cost £40 each and must be purchased no later than 7 November 2008. Please state if you have any special dietary requirements, including vegetarian.

**Posters** The organisers invite interested parties to submit abstracts for posters with research relating to the symposium topic. Abstracts of no more than 250 words can be emailed or posted (using enclosed form) to Joy Hayward (details below) by 27 October 2008 for consideration by the coordinators. Accepted poster presenters will be notified by 31 October 2008.

### Booking and enquiries

please contact:

Joy Hayward, Scientific Meetings Coordinator  
Zoological Society of London,  
Regent's Park (Outer Circle)  
London NW1 4RY, UK.

E: [joy.hayward@zsl.org](mailto:joy.hayward@zsl.org); T: +44 (0)20 7449 6227; F: +44 (0)20 7449 6411

[www.zsl.org/science/scientific-meetings/](http://www.zsl.org/science/scientific-meetings/)



# REGISTRATION FORM

## HALTING THE GLOBAL DECLINE IN AMPHIBIANS: RESEARCH AND PRACTICE

20 and 21 November 2008 in the Meeting Rooms, Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park (Outer Circle), London NW1 4RY, UK.

Symposium Attendance	Full rate	Member/Student rate
For two days or part days	£120	£60
For one day or part day	£70	£35

**Deadline for Registration** 7 November 2008 (there is a £10 fee on all late registrations).

Please return one form per delegate to Joy Hayward, Scientific Meetings Coordinator, ZSL London Zoo, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RY, UK, e-mail: joy.hayward@zsl.org or fax: +44 (0)20 7449 6411.

### REGISTRATION

Please register me for: TWO DAYS / THURSDAY / FRIDAY (please delete as applicable)

I AM / AM NOT\* a Member (Fellow/Friend) of The Zoological Society of London<sup>1</sup>

I AM / AM NOT\* a registered graduate/undergraduate student<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Please provide your ZSL Membership number .....

<sup>2</sup>Please provide a supporting statement from your course supervisor or a copy of your student card.

### 3-COURSE DINNER (THURSDAY EVENING)

I would like to book for dinner on Thursday 20 November: please send me.....dinner tickets (£40 each).  
Closing date for dinner bookings: 7 November 2008. Please list any special dietary requirements below.

### PAYMENT DETAILS

**Cheque** I enclose a cheque for £..... payable to: The Zoological Society of London.

Please note that cheques can only be accepted in Sterling drawn against a UK bank.

Direct payment by Euros or US\$ may also be possible; please contact Joy Hayward for information.

**Card** Please complete all details below and return by fax or by post:

Please debit my Visa / Mastercard (delete as appropriate)

Amount £.....  
Card Number ..... / ..... / ..... / .....  
Expiry Date ..... / .....  
Name on Card ..... (capital letters please)  
Signature of Card Holder ..... Date .....

If you would prefer to give card details over the telephone please call Joy Hayward on +44 (0)20 7449 6227.

### Your details

**Title:** ..... **First name:** ..... **Surname:** .....

**Organisation:** ..... **Position:** .....

**Name** (as you would like it to appear on your badge): .....

**Email:** ..... **Tel:** .....

**Special dietary requirements** (please specify, including vegetarian): .....

**Mailing address (to which ticket should be sent):** .....

**Delegate list:** We would like to make a list of delegates available to all attendees. Please indicate here if you **do not** want your information (name, organisation, email address) to be included [ ]

For more information, contact Joy Hayward: Tel: +44 (0)20 7449 6227; Email: joy.hayward@zsl.org

**Cancellations** must be received in writing five working days prior to the symposium and will be refunded less a £15.00 processing charge. We regret that no refunds will be possible for places cancelled after 13 November 2008. Substitutions may be made at any time without charge; please notify Joy Hayward of any change in attendee details.