

**M.L. Bean Life Science Museum
Brigham Young University
Policy for the Acquisition of “Species of Concern”
Reviewed and Approved by Dean Rodney Brown 23 March 2009**

The M.L. Bean Life Science Museum of Brigham Young University is fully committed to the conservation and protection of the Earth’s biological diversity. The “Species of Concern” concept refers to taxa that, by international convention, have been threatened but now include sustainable and well managed populations or are now endangered and highly vulnerable to extinction. The museum promotes species conservation as a part of its research and education mission. With regards to “Species of Concern,” the museum adheres to the following policy points:

- *The museum will not accept or attempt to secure any species with:
 - o A CITES Appendix I classification,
 - o Population numbers below sustainable levels and in decline,
 - o Marginal or ineffective local support for conservation,
 - o Diminished habitat conditions, or
 - o Inadequate and/or inappropriate management plans.
- The museum will adhere to all laws (both U.S. and international) when seeking to acquire any “Species of Concern” with sustainable populations and established management plans.
- The museum will secure all requisite permits (U.S. and international) when seeking to acquire any “Species of Concern” with sustainable populations and established management plans.
- All decisions regarding the acquisition of “Species of Concern” must be reviewed by the museum gift committee in conjunction with a curator with expertise specifically related to the “Species of Concern.” (**Note:** The museum Executive Committee will provide oversight as needed.)
- A proposal recommending the acquisition of a specimen that meets the “Species of Concern” criteria as outlined above must contain the following information:
 - o Documentation as to how the specimen or some portion thereof will be used to support:
 - Museum-related research and
 - Museum-sponsored educational programs emphasizing species conservation.
 - o A description of all procedures and protocols related to collection of the specimen.
 - o Demonstration of full conformity to all laws along with a well defined plan to acquire all requisite permits.
 - o Documentation concerning:
 - Cost of requisite permits,
 - Source of funding for permit fees, and
 - How funds obtained from permit fees are used.
 - o Documentation that the proposed source for obtaining the specimen uses internationally approved wildlife management procedures and policies and currently has populations at sustainable numbers with a clear commitment to maintain intact, substantial habitat.

*Exceptions to this policy are limited to animals born in captivity (e.g., an established zoo) which die of natural causes or specimens properly secured from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.