



## UNIVERSITIES FEDERATION FOR ANIMAL WELFARE

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### Media Release

#### From the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW)

8 October, 2007

For Immediate Release:

#### Awards for improving the welfare of wild animals

For over twenty years animal welfare charity the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW) has been rewarding organisations that improve the welfare of wild animals, and is now inviting applications for its 2008 Wild Animal Welfare Award.

The Award recognises innovations that are designed to alleviate or prevent human-induced harm to animals in the wild or to improve the welfare of captive wild animals. Up to two awards will be made, each of £1,000, to support further development of the recipient's interests in animal welfare. One will be made for the best innovation for the welfare of free-living wild animals and one for the best innovation for the welfare of captive wild animals. Applications for the 2008 awards are now invited from all those working with free-living or captive wild animals, for example in wildlife management and conservation, research, zoos and wildlife rehabilitation. Closing date for receipt of applications is 7 December 2007.

Winners of the UFAW Wild Animal Welfare Award in recent years have included the Game Conservancy Trust for its 'Mink Raft' – an innovation which eliminates harm to other species when trapping mink, voracious predators of the endangered water vole; Bristol Zoo Gardens for their development of a new welfare-friendly silicon flipper band for African penguins, used by field biologists for conservation purposes; and Chester Zoo for a study determining the beneficial effects of botanical visitor barriers on mandrill behaviour and welfare.

Chester Zoo was presented with their 2007 award during a ceremony in July which included TV veterinarian and wildlife presenter Steve Leonard.

UFAW is an internationally recognised scientific and educational animal welfare charity, promoting high standards of welfare for all animals with which humans interact – be they in zoos, on farms, in research, in the wild or companion animals.

Application forms for the Wild Animal Welfare Award 2008 are available at [www.ufaw.org.uk](http://www.ufaw.org.uk) or by emailing [scioff@ufaw.org.uk](mailto:scioff@ufaw.org.uk), or telephone 01582-831818 for further information.

-ENDS-



Photo attached. Suggested caption: 'Steve Leonard, TV vet and wildlife presenter, presents the UFAW 2007 Wild Animal Welfare Award to Dr Sonya Hill of Chester Zoo'

#### SCIENCE IN THE SERVICE OF ANIMAL WELFARE

Chief Executive and Scientific Director: James K Kirkwood BVSc PhD CBiol FIBiol MRCVS

Secretary: Donald C Davidson

Registered Charity No. 207996 (Registered in England) and Company Limited by Guarantee No. 579991



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### Note to Editors:

The Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW) is an internationally recognised, independent scientific and educational animal welfare charity. It works to improve knowledge and understanding of animals' needs in order to achieve high standards of welfare for farm, companion, research, captive wild animals and those with which we interact in the wild.

UFAW improves animal welfare worldwide through its programme of awards, grants and scholarships; by educational initiatives, especially at university and college level; by providing information in books, videos, reports and in its scientific journal *Animal Welfare*; by providing expert advice to governments and others, including for legislation and 'best practice' guidelines and codes; and by working with animal keepers, scientists, vets, lawyers and all those who care about animals.

This work relies on the support of members, subscribers and donors.

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