



UNIVERSITIES FEDERATION FOR ANIMAL WELFARE

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Charity Launches Wild Animal Welfare Award **28th October 2004**

People working with free-living and captive wild animals are invited to apply for awards of up to £1000 thanks to a scheme run by a leading welfare charity.

The competition is being run by the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare. It is aimed at those working in wildlife management and conservation, research and wildlife rehabilitation. Projects could, for example, include improvements in zoos, work on humane pest control or handling techniques.

The UFAW Wild Animal Welfare Award 2005 recognises innovations relevant to improving the welfare of captive wild animals or alleviating human-induced harm to animals living in the wild.

Dr James Kirkwood of UFAW says: "It's easy enough to make changes to animals' circumstances but it's not always so simple to be sure that these changes actually benefit the animals. Applicants will need to show that their innovation benefits the animal from its point of view."

If judges deem applications are good enough, UFAW would give two awards of £1000 each. One would be for the best innovation for the welfare of captive wild animals in the UK and the second for the best innovation for the welfare of free-living wild animals in the UK.

Application forms are available from Katherine Parkes at scioff@ufaw.org.uk. The deadline for completed forms is 10th December 2004.

The winner for 2004 was Jonathan Reynolds of The Game Conservancy Trust who designed a raft which detects mink allowing them to be caught. They are voracious predators of the endangered water vole.

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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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Notes to Editors

The Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (www.ufaw.org.uk) is an internationally recognised, independent, scientific and educational charity. It promotes high standards of welfare for all animals including wild, captive, farm, laboratory animals and pets. It depends on members and supporters for all funding. UFAW improves animal welfare worldwide through its programme of awards, grants and scholarship schemes; by public education especially at university and college level; by providing information in books, videos, articles, technical reports and in its quarterly scientific journal *Animal Welfare*; by providing expert advice to government departments including the drafting of legislation and guidelines, and by working with animal keepers, scientists, vets, lawyers and all those who care about animals.

“Improvements in the care of animals are not now likely to come of their own accord, merely by wishing them: there must be research and it is in sponsoring research of this kind, making its results widely known, that UFAW performs one of its most valuable services.” (Sir Peter Medawar, CBE, FRS, 8th May 1957 – Nobel Laureate (1960), Chairman of the UFAW Scientific Advisory Committee 1951-1962)

Contact: Dr James Kirkwood, Chief Executive & Scientific Director or Kate Davey, PR & Fundraising Officer, on 01582-831818 (mobile: 07843-090497)

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