



EAST BAY ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

CONSERVATION & EDUCATION  
OAKLAND ZOO  
**2015** ANNUAL REPORT



Photo: Reuben Maness, sun bear

*Our mission is to inspire respect for and stewardship of the natural world, while providing a quality visitor experience.*

OAKLAND ZOO • EAST BAY ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY



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*Cover photo: Terry Vanderheiden, White-handed gibbon*

*Inside cover photo: Leslie Cohelan, African elephants*



Photo: E. Dugan, white handed gibbon

## WHITE HANDED GIBBON

Our grape-loving white-handed gibbon, Gladys, joined our male resident, Nikko (seen on the cover), in 2012. While Gladys tends to be more reserved than her mate, they can often be seen swinging gracefully through the marvelous Chinese elm trees in their habitat.

# A Message From the CEO and Board Chairs



Dear Friends,

We are excited to have this opportunity to tell you it has been a genuine groundbreaking year at the Oakland Zoo! We began construction on California Trail, and when it opens in 2018, “Your Zoo” will be double in size. Our new animals – from grizzly bears to bison – will help us inspire visitors to appreciate and care for California’s natural heritage.

**Oakland Zoo President and CEO, Joel J. Parrott, DVM. East Bay Zoological Society Board of Trustees Co-Chairs, Sebastian DiGrande and Meredith Walsh**

For everyone who has supported the Zoo and helped us reach this important moment, we say “Thank You!”

In addition to the excitement of groundbreaking, we had a successful year serving a record 747,907 guests, inspiring them to take action to save wildlife. Our Education Department delivered their conservation-themed programs to 157,050 students, inspiring respect for and stewardship of the natural world. Our Conservation Department raised over \$184,000 for the Zoo’s conservation partners around the world, extending our conservation mission to effective groups working in the wild.

We also thank our dedicated and hard-working staff, our committed Board of Trustees, Foundation Board, and the many faithful docents, volunteers and contributors who help us care for our animals and connect our visitors of all ages to nature. We cannot say thank you too many times! Your generosity and work make this “Your Zoo”, and strengthens our ability to give back to the community by providing a quality visitor experience to everyone who visits the Zoo.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of Joel J. Parrott, Sebastian DiGrande, and Meredith Walsh.

Joel J. Parrott, DVM  
President and CEO  
Oakland Zoo

Sebastian DiGrande  
Board of Trustees  
Co-Chair

Meredith Walsh  
Board of Trustees  
Co-Chair

# CAMPAIGN FOR CALIFORNIA TRAIL



## CONSTRUCTION BEGINS



In September 2015, Oakland Zoo and Overaa Construction broke ground on the new California Trail exhibit. Getting to this point has involved extensive collaboration with the City of Oakland and State of California, decades of planning by the Zoo's Board of Trustees and staff leadership, and significant donations from our friends in the community. When California Trail opens in 2018, it will be celebrated as one of the most treasured destinations in the Bay Area.

## Now is a Great Time to Join the Campaign!

We are in the home stretch of the fundraising campaign to build California Trail, and invite all our friends throughout the Bay Area to be part of this transformational project. Your gifts ensure the development of dynamic living environments for the animals and quality care for the rest of their lives, help to create jobs for local residents, and support unique learning opportunities for Bay Area youth. Together, we can inspire a lifelong commitment to protect and care for our state's native wildlife.



[visit californiatrail.org](http://californiatrail.org) to learn more



Photo: Grottesdehan, Grizzly bear

## CALIFORNIA TRAIL INHABITANTS

Experience black bears, gray wolves, bison, and grizzly bears that once freely roamed the California landscape.

# Commitment to Quality Animal Care

## SAVING CRITICALLY ENDANGERED CONDORS



Oakland Zoo had another successful year providing lifesaving care to wild **California condors** suffering from deadly lead poisoning. As scavengers, condors sometimes ingest lead bullet fragments in game carcasses left by hunters. If treated in time, they can make a full recovery as did the five condors that were treated here before being released back to Big Sur and Pinnacles National Park.

## RESCUING ANIMALS IN NEED



Photo: Keith Ammons, casque-headed iguana

After receiving an emergency call from U.S. Fish and Wildlife inspectors at the Port of San Francisco, Oakland Zoo stepped in to care for upwards of 60 confiscated hatchling lizards and turtles. Keepers spent countless hours and resources providing immediate supportive treatments. Many of the rehabilitated animals have been adopted by other zoos, while the rest have joined our permanent collection.

## NEW ARRIVALS

### BIRTHS

#### Birds

2 Fischer's lovebirds

#### Invertebrates

80 Giant African millipedes

34 Rhinoceros katydids

#### Mammals

2 Hamadryas baboons

1 Wallaroo

#### Reptiles

3 Blue spiny lizards

3 Brown anoles

13 Chuckwallas

2 Green anoles

9 Spotted turtles

### ACQUISITIONS

#### Birds

1 Hadada ibis

2 Red-tailed hawks

4 White-faced whistling ducks

#### Invertebrates

2 Asian forest scorpions

2 Chilean rose tarantulas

34 Giant thorny walking sticks

100 Honeypot ants

4 Rhinoceros katydids

#### Mammals

2 Four-toed hedgehogs

#### Reptiles

1 Black tree monitor

2 Brown anoles

1 Desert tortoise

3 Gila monsters

1 Mali spiny tailed lizard

### REHABILITATED

5 California condors

### RESCUED

4 American geckos

2 Casque-headed iguanas

4 East African mud turtles

2 Golden tailed geckos

25 Inland bearded dragons

5 Princely mastigures

8 Spiny-tailed geckos

7 Wellington's spiny tailed geckos

2 William's spiny tailed geckos



Photo: Steve Goodall, Hamadryas baboons

### SWEET SURPRISES

Oakland Zoo's hamadryas baboon troop delighted us with not one but two adorable arrivals this spring. Baby Kabili (pictured) was born to her mother, Krista, on March 14th and Mazi was born to his mother, Maud, April 1st. Amazingly, these bundles of joy made five babies born to male, Martijn and his harem in just two years.

# Conservation Action For Wildlife Around The World

The population of California's native **Mountain Yellow-Legged Frog** has decreased by more than 90% in the past decade due to chytrid, a skin fungus that causes changes in the frogs' skin which can lead to deadly results. Urgent intervention & needed to keep two populations in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks from disappearing forever. Oakland Zoo partnered with the National Park Service and San Francisco Zoo to acquire both tadpoles and adult frogs and used a breakthrough bioaugmentation bath treatment to immunize them against chytrid. When the tadpoles grow into healthy juveniles, better equipped to survive predators, they along with the treated adults will be released back into their remote habitats.

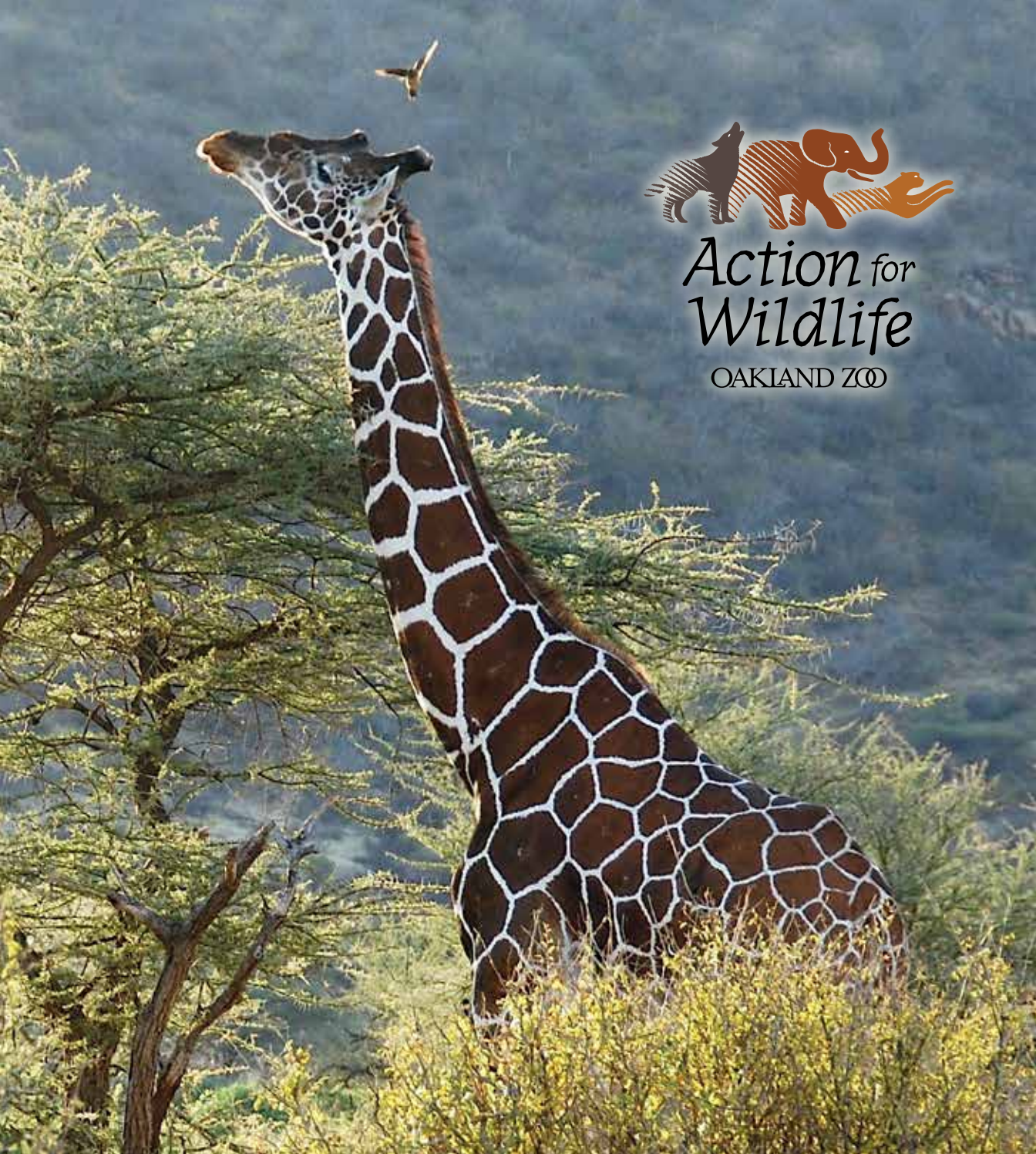
## ACTION FOR AMPHIBIANS



## ACTION FOR ELEPHANTS



Oakland Zoo has long championed the ethical treatment of captive elephants and conservation of wild populations. The first zoo to use protected contact to manage elephants, Oakland Zoo's leadership led the Association of Zoos and Aquariums to require accredited zoos to adopt protected contact and stop using restraints like bullhooks and chains. This year Zoo staff spent countless hours advocating for bans of bullhooks in all animal management. Shortly after the ban passed in Oakland, Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey announced the retirement of its elephant acts. The Zoo now works with **96 Elephants** to reduce elephant poaching with worldwide bans on ivory sales. In 2015 California passed a near complete ban on ivory sales in the state, one of the largest ivory markets in the U.S.



# Action for Wildlife

OAKLAND ZOO

## PROTECTING ENDANGERED WILDLIFE FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

The survival and protection of endangered and threatened species of wildlife and their habitats is an urgent global matter. At Oakland Zoo we are committed to Take Action for Wildlife through on-site efforts as well as supporting critical field work all over the world. The **Reticulated Giraffe Program**, one of our 25 conservation partners, is a revolutionary collaboration between the Kenya Wildlife Service and Queen's University Belfast that uses innovative conservation strategies and works closely with local communities to protect and sustain the less than 10,000 reticulated giraffes that remain in the wild today.

# Educating to Inspire

## INSPIRING RESPECT FOR THE NATURAL WORLD



Oakland Zoo's Education Department offers over 35 different programs that are rooted in providing exciting, hands-on experiences in environmental and conservation science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Our goal is to prepare students to be responsible stewards of the earth, making sound decisions in the future that consider the interconnectedness and interdependence of all living things. This year, we proudly served 157,050 young people and their families who participated in ZooSchool, ZooMobiles, Wildlife Assembly, ZooKids, family and community programs, outdoor overnights, and ZooCamp.

## MEETING THE EDUCATION NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY



At Oakland Zoo we are highly committed to ensuring that all students have access to our STEM-related education programs and are introduced to exciting career pathways for which they might not otherwise be exposed. Our Zoo-to-Community program, established in 2006, enables the Zoo to provide our classes and programs free-of-charge to students attending Title I schools and other institutions serving under-resourced Bay Area neighborhoods. This year, we proudly served over 10,000 youth and their families through this initiative, made possible by the generous support of our valued individual donors, foundations and corporate sponsors.



## CONNECTING STUDENTS TO THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF ANIMALS

“To create awareness about, foster a sense of responsibility for, and take action to further the preservation of wildlife and habitats” is the foundation upon which our 35 hands-on education programs and classes are built.

# Signature Zoo Events

## ZOOLIGHTS, 15 YEARS OF HOLIDAY TRADITION

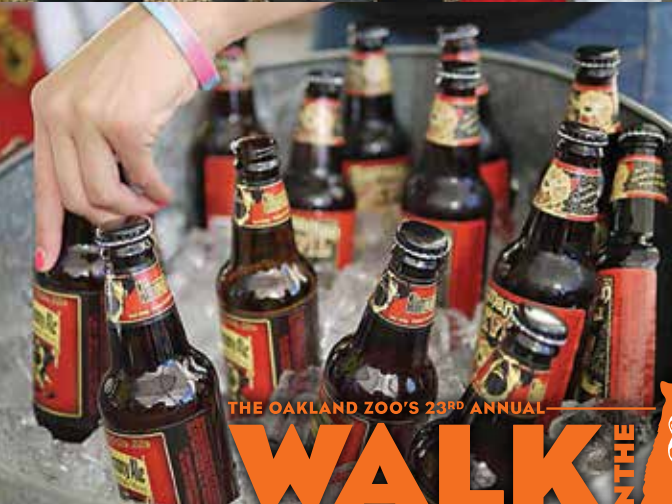


**ZooLights**, Oakland Zoo's holiday festival of lights, is the largest LED holiday light display in the Bay Area. The ZooLights tradition began in 1998, and has become a popular annual fundraiser. This magical winter festival features stunning light displays throughout the Zoo, a candy cane themed rides area and jolly rides on the Outback Express Adventure Train. It keeps getting bigger and better -- this year some 90,000 bulbs were strung out along the zoo's pathways, with hourly light shows in the big meadow, and over 29,000 visitors.

## CELEBRATING WORLD GIRAFFE DAY



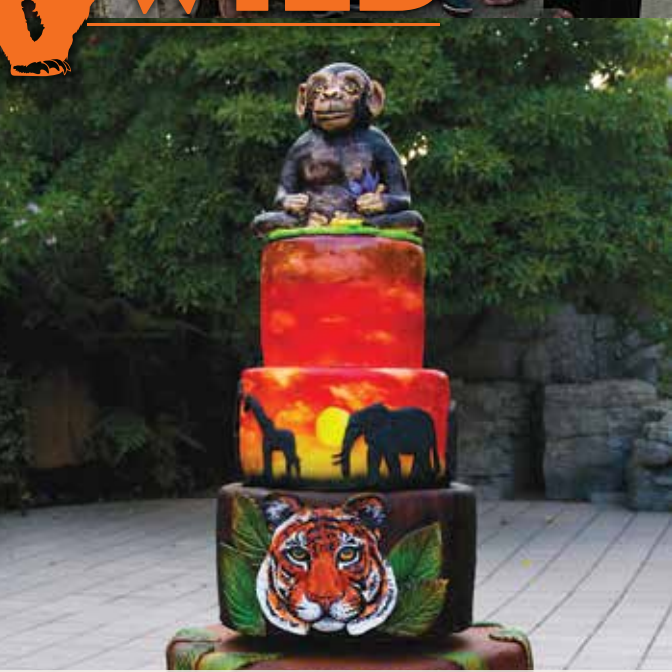
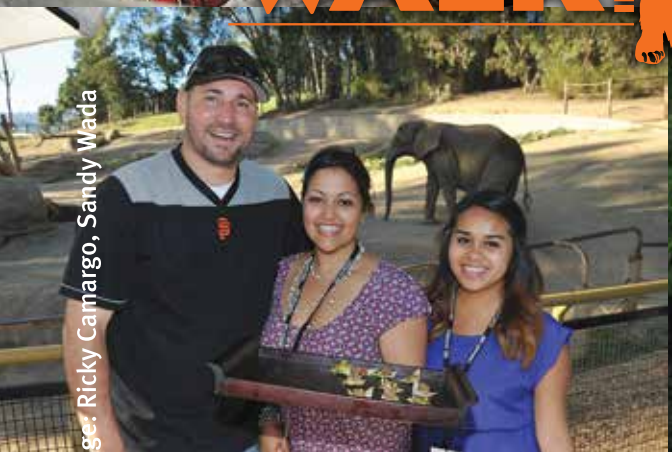
Oakland Zoo strives to promote conservation awareness and action in all that we do. This year we celebrated **World Giraffe Day** on Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>. On this special day, guests were invited to feed giraffes, meet zookeepers, and learn all about the long necked animals. All funds raised were donated directly to the Giraffe Conservation Foundation's "Operation Twiga" to support their efforts to save the endangered Rothschild's giraffes in the wild.



THE OAKLAND ZOO'S 23<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL

Saturday, June 27, 2015 5PM-10PM

# WALK IN THE WILD



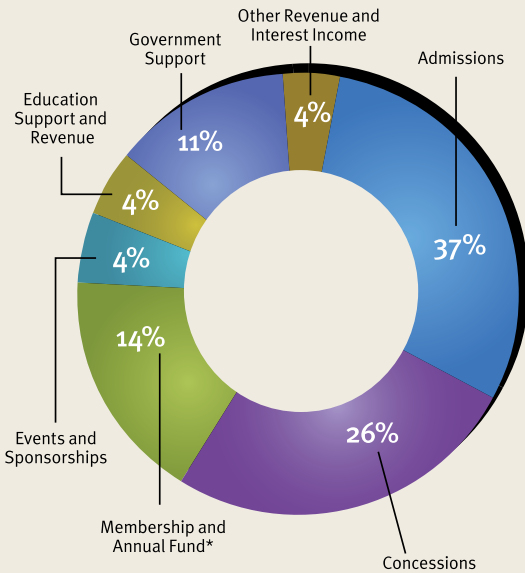
All photos this page: Ricky Camargo, Sandy Wada



**OAKLAND ZOO'S SIGNATURE ANNUAL EVENT, Walk in the Wild,** is among the Bay Area's premier fundraising affairs with 100+ restaurants, caterers, bakeries, wineries, and breweries onsite for an "Epicurean Escapade." The record-breaking \$255,000 raised in just one night provides vital support for animal care, conservation and education activities at the Zoo.

# Fiscal Year 2015 Zoo Financial Overview

## OPERATING SUPPORT AND REVENUE



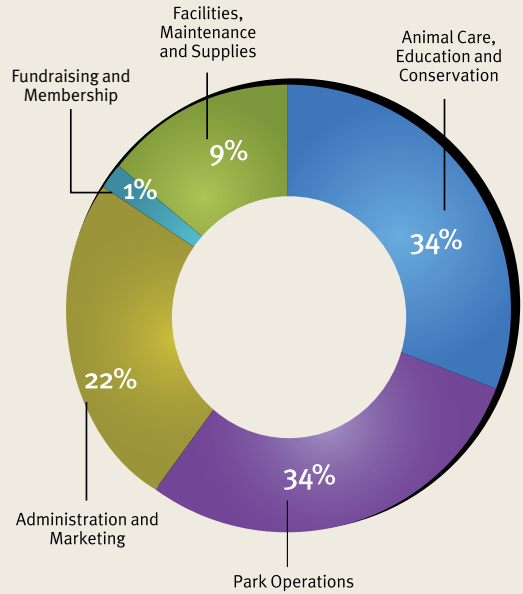
\*Includes bequests and other unrestricted gifts

Admissions.....	\$6,284,823
Concessions .....	4,387,591
Membership and Annual Fund* .....	2,466,393
Government Funding .....	1,829,582
Education Support and Revenue.....	762,486
Events and Sponsorships .....	602,238
Other Revenue and Interest Income.....	742,802

**Total Revenue .....** \$17,075,915

\* Includes bequests and other unrestricted gifts

## OPERATING AND PROGRAM EXPENSES



Animal Care, Education and Conservation.....	\$5,092,932
Park Operations.....	5,166,779
Administration and Marketing.....	3,242,216
Facilities, Maintenance and Supplies.....	1,409,543
Fundraising .....	112,144
Unrestricted Expenses Prior to Depreciation.....	\$15,023,614
Depreciation.....	\$ 2,238,666

**Total Expenses After Depreciation .....** \$17,262,280

# 2015

## THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

**747,907** ..... VISITORS

**26,640** MEMBER HOUSEHOLDS

**205,372** ..... VOTES  
MADE AT QUARTERS FOR CONSERVATION STATION

**29,162**.... ZOO LIGHTS VISITORS

**72,613** ..... KILOWATT HOURS  
OF ENERGY PRODUCED FROM SOLAR PANELS

**1,789** WALK IN THE WILD ATTENDEES

**692** ..... VOLUNTEERS

**76,521** ..... VOLUNTEER HOURS

**229** ..... EMPLOYEES



Photo: Colleen Renshaw, lion

### **IN MEMORIUM – SANDY THE LION**

Oakland Zoo is sad to report the recent loss of our majestic lioness, Sandy, who passed away at the age of 19. Sandy and her brother, Leonard, were rescued from the exotic pet trade by the Houston SPCA and came to live here at 6 months old. She will be greatly missed.

East Bay Zoological Society

CONSERVATION & EDUCATION

OAKLAND ZOO

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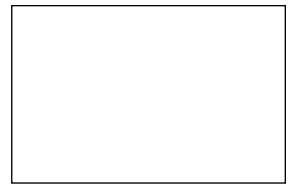


Photo: Leslie Cohelan, squirrel monkey

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