

time of day provide a consistent challenge as well. For the past two years DAK has been undergoing growth and change. The largest project, the Safari Night Experience, has involved managing animals so that extensive construction could take place in the exhibit spaces overnight, adding additional keeper shifts to cover the extended hours, and most importantly, reevaluating current animal husbandry strategies to better suit the new hours. The shifting cue response has been an integral aspect of managing construction, guest satisfaction, and animal welfare. In previous DAK protocols, when the rhinos did not respond to shifting cues, they stayed out on the exhibit overnight and the exhibit was locked down, meaning that no work could occur. To help streamline the construction process and improve rhino cue response, a small group of keepers acted as advocates for the shifting behavior. A new mobile cue was chosen so that the rhinos could be cued from the barn or a truck. The new cue was paired with their grain in the barn before being moved out onto the exhibit, where it was paired with their hay drops from a truck. Finally, the cue was brought back to the barn where communication between the shifters and the truck keeper has been key. The ability to cue from the truck has been a helpful management tool to visually remind the rhinos to shift. On the rare occasion that rhinos choose not to respond and high priority work must take place on the exhibit space, a second and sometimes third cue attempt will take place, often from the truck. In conclusion, this presentation will highlight the changes and challenges involved with implementing a new guest experience. It will also examine how the extended hours and the new cueing strategy allowed for a new housing strategy to be implemented so that two separately managed crashes of rhinos could be alternated between being housed on exhibit and in the barn each day.

ARE YOU MY MOTHER?

Justin Smith, Fossil Rim Wildlife Center, justins@fossilrim.org

This presentation will be about the birth and hand rearing of 1.0 southern white rhino that was rejected by its mother. Specifically, my talk will focus on the reintegration of the rhino calf into Fossil Rim Wildlife Center's crash.

INTRODUCING MALE RHINOS FOR COMPANIONSHIP

Mandy Siegel, The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore, mandy.siegel@marylandzoo.org

Historically, the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore (MZiB) housed a pair of southern white rhinos. Our female, Daisy arrived in 1992 at the age of 24, followed by our male, Stubby in 1996 at the age of 4. Though unfortunately never successfully producing offspring, the two were very closely bonded. In April of 2016 Daisy was euthanized at the age of 48 due to worsening age-related mobility issues. The SSP was contacted with the hopes of acquiring a companion for Stubby. As Stubby adjusted to being the only rhino at MZiB, his daily activity budget changed, with a dramatic increase in stereotypic behavior. Knowing Stubby had always been sensitive to external stimuli, keepers monitored a number of factors in his environment; however, none were found to be compounding his stereotypic behavior. Subsequently, when the SSP allocated MZiB a four-year-old male, Jaharo, the decision was made to introduce him to Stubby for companionship. As of March 2017, construction of a "howdy" door has been completed for introducing the two males – all doors between pens and yards were previously completely solid. We are currently in the process of acclimating each male to the "howdy" door set up. The two males have been alternating time spent on exhibit and defecating in the same midden since the beginning of February. I expect to have detailed information about the full introduction process and how it has impacted the behavior of both individuals in plenty of time for the workshop in August.