

**Sacramento Zoo Breaks Records in 2015**

It may be a cold winter, but the Zoo is feeling the warmth of a great year

**WHAT'S  
HAPPENING:**

It may be chilly outside, but the Sacramento Zoo is enveloped in the warmth of a great year. In 2015 the Zoo saw high attendance numbers, recognition for 36 years of continuous accreditation by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums and provided a record-setting amount of support to animal conservation programs locally and globally. Visit the Zoo today and help us continue to break records in 2016.



Thanks to the support of the community, the Sacramento Zoo celebrated some notable milestones in 2015. The non-profit Sacramento Zoological Society took over management of the zoo from the City of Sacramento in 1997, and at 555,475 visitors in 2015 the zoo surpassed previous attendance record under society management of 540,514 visitors in 2013. The Zoo also received a Quarter Century Award from the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, recognizing the Sacramento Zoo's continuous accreditation for 36 years. On top of that, in 2015 visitors helped the Sacramento Zoo increase its commitment to animal conservation in the wild locally and globally providing over \$150,000 to more than three dozen animal conservation programs.

"The Sacramento Zoo has been a longstanding jewel of the community since it opened in 1927," said Zoo Director/CEO Kyle Burks. "I am proud of what we have accomplished and look forward to the exciting things to come as we plan for the future of our great Zoo."

The Quarter Century Award, given to the Sacramento Zoo by the Association of Zoo's and aquariums (AZA) recognizes zoos and aquariums that have been AZA-accredited continuously for 25 years or more. The Sacramento Zoo was accredited for the first time in 1979. In order to be accredited, the Zoo undergoes a thorough mandatory review every five years to ensure it has and will continue to meet rising standards in animal care, veterinary

programs, conservation, education, business practices and safety. The accreditation process includes a detailed application made by the zoo and rigorous on-site inspection by a team of trained zoo and aquarium professionals to observe all aspects of the institution's operation, including animal care; keeper training; safety for visitors, staff and animals; educational programs; conservation efforts; veterinary programs; financial stability; risk management; visitor services; and other areas. Fewer than 10 percent of the approximately 2,800 animal exhibitors licensed by the USDA are AZA-accredited. AZA zoos and aquariums provide \$160 million in support of conservation projects every year and draw 181 million visitors annually—attendance greater than the NFL, NHL and MLB combined.

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*Sacramento Zoo – Wildly Inspiring!*

Open since 1927, the Sacramento Zoo is home to more than 500 native, rare and endangered animals and is one of more than 200 accredited institutions of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. Located near the corner of Land Park Drive and Sutterville Road in William Land Park, the Zoo is wholly managed by the non-profit Sacramento Zoological Society. This Sacramento treasure inspires conservation awareness through education and recreation. Open daily from 10 am to 5 pm with last admission at 4 pm. General admission is \$11.75; children ages 2-11 are \$7.75 and one and under are admitted free. Parking is free throughout the park or ride Regional Transit bus #6. For information, call 916.808.5888 or visit [saczoo.org](http://saczoo.org).

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