

YEMENI LEOPARD RECOVERY PROGRAM



Photo by Dr. Jane Edmonds, BCEAW

WORKING TOWARDS AN
EXPANDING POPULATION
OF
WILD ARABIAN LEOPARDS
IN YEMEN

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world.

Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

- Margaret Mead

The Yemeni Leopard Recovery Program (YLRP) is a volunteer effort that was conceived on August 5, 2007. The program has achieved tremendous results in a short period of time with a minimum of expense. Many of our accomplishments have been done in the context of Sana'a International School by the student members of the Arabian Leopard Club (ALC). Maintaining 'ownership' of the program with children involves them in an effective and empowering real-life conservation initiative that has very positive implications for Yemen's Arabian Leopards *and* the student conservationists. Given that these young volunteers include future leaders from many countries, their present commitment to this cause should lead to a brighter future for the wildlife of our embattled planet.

The Arabian Leopard (*Panthera pardus nimr*)



Photo by Andrew Spalton

The Arabian Leopard is:

- Yemen's official National Animal
- The rarest of all large cat taxa (fewer than 200 wild individuals and 60 captives exist)
- Found in less than 5% of its former range
- The smallest of all leopard subspecies with a maximum weight for males of 35 kg (80 lbs). Females average between 20 and 25 kg.

- The most genetically distinct of all leopard subspecies (38 loci differences vs. 14 for other subspecies)
- The largest and most powerful predator on the Arabian Peninsula
- An indicator of a healthy ecosystem
- In imminent danger of extinction due to widespread continuing persecution
- Harmless to humans if unmolested
- In desperate need of the help that YLRP can provide with your support



Yemeni Leopard Recovery Program

P.O. Box 2002

Sana'a

Republic of Yemen

Phone: +967 1 412 435

Fax: +967 1 370 193

Mobile: +967 733916928

email: ylrp@yemenileopard.org

web: <http://yemenileopard.org>

YLRP Goals

1. Publish and distribute "Vanishing Spots: The Arabian Leopard" and other publications
2. Conduct Leopard Surveys in promising habitat
3. Follow up reliable reports of wild leopards
3. Complete construction of the YLRP website
4. Write more articles and give more lectures
5. Lobby for more real protection of wild leopards
6. Keep working until we achieve our goal

What Does YLRP Need?

Sponsorship for:

- Publication and Distribution of "Vanishing Spots"
- Future Leopard Surveys
- Purchase of Survey Equipment (Remote still and video cameras, GPS units, etc.)
- Publicity of YLRP and the Arabian Leopard
- Complete restoration of the project vehicle

How Can you help YLRP?

- Buy our products
- Volunteer your time
- Publicize the YLRP mission
- Donate money



What Has YLRP Already Accomplished?

1. Successfully lobbied for the adoption of the Arabian Leopard as Yemen's National Animal.
2. Initiated institution-building at Sana'a Zoo.
3. Initiated negotiations for the development of "Wada'a Leopard Sanctuary".
4. Redecorated the Sana'a Zoo Awareness Center and donated DVDs for public showing.
5. Commissioned "Vanishing Spots: The Arabian Leopard" by children's author and folklorist Carolyn Han for free distribution to Yemeni schoolchildren.
6. Conducted Leopard Surveys in Wada'a and Shaharah.
7. Facilitated registration of the Yemen Animal Welfare Foundation.
8. Networked extensively with conservationists worldwide.
9. Raised Awareness Through:
 - 1st Annual Walk to Save the Arabian Leopard on Nov. 11, 2007
 - Published articles and/or been written about in Yemen Times, Yemen Observer, Yemen Today, Wildlife Middle East News, Gulf News, and on the web.
 - Discussed the issue with Yemeni VIPs
 - Given lectures in Yemen and abroad.
 - Website under construction.



Friends of YLRP *

Yemen Ministry for Water and the Environment Yemen Republican Guard • Yemen Ministry of Tourism • Yemen Ministry of Tourism Promotion Board • Yemen Animal Welfare Foundation • Sana'a Zoo, Yemen • Yemen Ornithological Society • Sana'a University, Yemen • Al Rowaishan Investment and Development Co. Ltd., Yemen • Breeding Centre for Endangered Arabian Wildlife, UAE • Rare Conservation • Sana'a International School, Yemen • Quality Schools International, USA • WWF Pakistan • Zoological Society of London, UK • Black Isle Books • Yemen Biological Society • Minden Pictures • Millennium Relief and Development Services • Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Arabia (ABBA) • IUCN Cat Specialist Group • Print Art • Yemen Society for the Protection of Wildlife • Jumeirah English Speaking School, UAE • Yemen Observer • Dubai Kennel and Cattery, UAE • Arwa Mineral Water Co • Wildlife Middle East News, UAE •



*The listed organizations are just some of those that have contributed to the success of YLRP or otherwise support and/or endorse our program.

Won't you Join them?

Please make donation cheques payable to:

Sana'a International School

and send to David Stanton, YLRP, P.O. Box 2002, Sana'a, Yemen