IDENTIFYING MOTIVATIONAL FACTORS UNDERLYING STEREOTYPIC PACING IN A FEMALE SUN BEAR

(Helarctos malayanus)

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2005 Social Data
Social interactions varied among the bears; more agonistic between the two females whereas social interactions between Juwita and Blackie were primarily non-agonistic.

2006 Activity Budget

Juwita’s pacing declined in 2006 after housing changes were made.

Preliminary Conclusions:
All observed pacing bouts occurred at the rear of the exhibit between the two tunnels.

The motivational factors for the pacing behavior appear linked to the social composition within the exhibit during 2005, the high frequency of pacing associated with the male’s behavior and the high percentage of agonistic interactions between the females.

The favorable decline in stereotypic pacing during 2006 was the result of several housing changes which included separating the females and allowing Juwita and Blackie access to overnight areas when on exhibit.

Final conclusions forthcoming upon completion of data analysis.

References

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