



New collaboration between **AWCSG and Chester Zoo**

Chester Zoo has generously agreed to contribute to a part-time Specialist Group coordinator and core costs of the Group. A number of the Specialist Groups (SGs) in the IUCN SSC network have forged strong relationships with zoos through productive and effective collaborations providing mutual benefits. Chester Zoo and the IUCN SSC Asian Wild Cattle Specialist Group (AWCSG), have agreed, facilitated by the SSC Chair's Office, to develop such a relationship focusing on a shared interest and concern in the conservation of Asian wild cattle species. The aim of this collaboration will be to maximise the impact of both organisations in protecting Asian wild cattle and their habitats in situ, and also contribute to improving ex situ activities. Chester Zoo has been a leader in conservation breeding of Anoa, Babirusa and Banteng for many years and the opening of the Islands exhibit will provide even greater capacity to achieve the highest standards in breeding and education, as well as profile the Zoo's in situ activities. Also see www.chesterzoo.org. A Programme Officer will be based at Chester Zoo and work part time for AWCSG. They will be hugely valuable in making a substantial increase in the outputs of the group by helping with fundraising, managing membership, communications e.g., managing a web presence and any social media activities; and support to specific initiatives depending on their knowledge and experience.'
