**Escape Protocol**

**High Alert: “Code Red”- Chimpanzee or Tiger Escape**

The emergency code for a chimpanzee or tiger escape is “Code Red”. Any enclosure breaches for the chimp yards would be a “Code Red” as well.

When the code “Code Red” is heard over the radio, the following steps must be taken:

1) Staff personnel in the area, will stay on site a safe distance from the animal. Inside the kitchen, empty enclosure, or secure vehicle are safe places from which to observe.

2) Office staff or designated non Chemical Capture Team Member (CCTM) will call every area on property that does not have access to radios. This person will be the “go between” communicating during the emergency.

3) A trained CCTM will act as the “lead” to coordinate with everyone to make sure certain that all protocols are being followed. If the Director of Operations is at work, he will take on this responsibility. If he is not at work, the “lead” responsibility goes to the Vet Tech, Primate/Exotic Supervisor or the Director.

4) If the Veterinarian or Vet Tech is on property, they will assemble the tranquilizing drugs, rifles, and fill two darts. If they are not, the Exotic Supervisor will do so. Another CCTM will get a covered vehicle, pick up the tranquilizing equipment and team members, then meet at a safe place designated by the lead. 5) The office staff person will lock the front gate and make sure volunteers are accounted for in a safe area.

6) Maintenance Staff will get themselves and any work crews to a secure location.

**High Alert: “Code Orange” Non-human Primate (other than Chimpanzee)**

The emergency code for a non-human primate escape is “Code Orange”. Any enclosure breaches for the primate yards would be a “Code Orange” as well.

When the code “Code Orange” is heard over the radio, the following steps must be taken:

1) Staff personnel in the area, will stay on site a safe distance from the animal. Inside the kitchen, empty enclosure, or secure vehicle are safe places from which to observe.

2) Office staff or designated non Chemical Capture Team Member (CCTM) will call every area on property that does not have access to radios. This person will be the “go between” communicating during the emergency.

3) A trained CCTM will act as the “lead” to coordinate with everyone to make sure certain that all protocols are being followed. If the Director of Operations is at work, he will take on this responsibility. If he is not at work, the “lead” responsibility goes to the Vet Tech, Primate/Exotic Supervisor or the Director.

4) If the Veterinarian or Vet Tech is on property, they will assemble the tranquilizing drugs, rifles, and fill two darts. If they are not, the Exotic Specialist will do so. Another CCTM will get a covered vehicle, pick up the tranquilizing equipment and team members, then meet at a safe place designated by the lead. 5) The office staff person will lock the front gate and make sure volunteers are accounted for in a safe area.

6) Maintenance Staff will get themselves and any work crews to a secure location.

**Medium alert: “Code Yellow” All other native & exotic wildlife**

1. Clear the area of all volunteers and auxiliary personnel and radio a supervisor/manager to inform them of the situation. If you are alone, call for a staff member as a backup person. Do not call in the troops. You do not want many people around. Anyone approaching the situation should do so on foot – do not drive vehicles into the area. Most of all remain calm.
2. Always keep the animal in your sight. No matter what, do not take your eyes off him/her.
3. Remember that the animals are smarter, faster and they always have the upper hand. You will not be able to run down and catch anyone here. This is their home, and they want to be inside the enclosure with their friends and family. Most of the time, an escapee is looking for a way back inside. It is more stressful to them to be on the outside than inside. Give the animal an entrance back into the enclosure. Contain other residents in lockouts or houses, and open a door for the escapee. If he/she is heading away from the enclosure and it is obvious that he/she is not going to go back inside, we may resort to live trapping.
4. Nets and capture equipment should be near, but hidden from the animal, out of his/her sight, lying on the ground. A net is only used when an animal is coming at you – never in pursuit of him/her.
5. If you find yourself in a situation where you are in an enclosure with an animal, watch him/her. Know where he/she is, and do not turn and run away. Back away slowly, always aware of where the animal is located. If you are chased by the animal, make a lot of noise, scream and defend yourself with anything you can find, such as pepper spray, a rake or a branch.
6. Most of all use common sense and be in constant contact with your partner. Listen to your intuition. If you are in a dangerous situation or have a sense that the area you are about to enter could be dangerous, stop and remove yourself from that situation. Listen to yourself when something does not feel right.
7. You will never be asked to place yourself in a dangerous situation. If you feel that an assigned task cannot be done safely, talk to a manager.

Notes:

* If a Code is called because of a compromised fence, it is up to the individual on site to determine if he/she can keep the animal in view while maintaining a safe distance until a secure vehicle arrives on the scene.
* If an animal is on the move, it is up to the individual on the scene to determine if he/she can keep the animal in view while maintaining a safe distance. Safely attempt to deter an animal’s movement toward a property line. Do not approach or intimidate the escaped animal in any way. This will only drive them further away, go about your business as usual behavior, this is the best way to keep them near their enclosure.
* If you are out on the property away from any buildings when a Code is called, get on the radio and give your location. The lead will give you further instructions.
* During an emergency, everyone except the capture team will stay off the radio.
* When a Code is called and once you are in a secure location, do not leave until you are given the okay by management or a member of the capture team.
* Should an escape occur during a day or time when limited staff is on duty please call other members of the Chemical Capture Team according to Phone Tree listed below.

**Chemical Capture Team Member Roles**Lead

The person designated “lead” is the person in charge once an emergency code is called. The Lead carries the primary tranq rifle and is responsible for directing the other team members on where to go and what to do. He/She will alert all staff members once a situation is resolved with the “All Clear” radio transmission.

Vet Technician

The Vet Tech is responsible for loading darts and securing any medical equipment. He/She is responsible for all drugs and will complete drug records following an emergency. The Vet Tech uses a second vehicle and carries a second backup tranq rifle.

Assistant

The assistant(s) are the drivers. At least one and preferably two secure vehicles are to be used to monitor the escaped animals’ activity. The assistant will carry a fire arm and/or a third tranq rifle if needed.

Communication

The person assigned to communication is responsible for alerting all auxiliary buildings and personnel. Auxiliary buildings include: Visitor’s Center, Intern House, & Director’s House. The communication person assigns someone to shut and lock both gates to prevent the public from entering the property. If someone is off property, the communication role notifies them via cell phone not to enter the property. Once the “All Clear” signal is given by the Lead, the communication person is responsible for alerting all auxiliary buildings and personnel that the situation is safe.

**Chemical Capture Team Members:**

In the event of an escape during off hours, please call in order.

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I have read and understand the attached Escape Protocol and agree to follow these procedures.

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Name & Signature Date