Nashville Zoo Position Description
MAMMAL DEPARTMENT
Area Supervisor Hoofstock

Position: Area Supervisor Hoofstock
Department: Mammal
Supervisor: Mammal Curator

Description: The Hoofstock Department collection currently includes Masai Giraffe, White Rhino, Baird’s Tapir, Okapi, Southern Pudu, Red River Hog, Yellow Backed Duiker, Springbok, Zebra, Bontebok, Ostrich, Eland, and Eastern Bongo. We are currently designing a 40 acre Africa expansion that will include a multi-acre mixed species Savannah Exhibit that will more than double our current collection.

Employee will serve as the Area Supervisor of the Hoofstock Department at the Nashville Zoo at Grassmere. Primary responsibility is to supervise keeper staff and participate in the general care of assigned collection animals; maintain exhibits, perform light exhibit construction; operate zoo vehicles; maintain integrity of existing graphics and exhibits. Employee will be responsible for ensuring that all supplies and needs for their areas (ordering feed products, acquisition of tools and cleaning supplies etc.) are ordered by them or informing the appropriate staff member of the need. Employee will generate appropriate work requests; supervise and coach assigned staff; remain a positive role model for the keeper staff/keeper associate setting the example in their daily work. Area supervisors are working supervisors and are required to know all aspects of the day-to-day activities of their assigned areas. They are expected to fill in for keepers on a regular basis. He/She must be proficient in conflict resolution when dealing with staff as well as the general public. Employee will be responsible for educating the public on the Hoofstock Department’s animal collection and providing a friendly, safe and clean atmosphere for families to enjoy the Nashville Zoo.

Duties and Responsibilities:
Animal Husbandry
• Feed collection animals
• Oversee husbandry of collection animals
• Monitor assigned animals closely with regard to general appearance, diet consumption levels, and behavior.
• Maintain all appropriate records
• Record daily observations pertaining to the health and behavior of Hoofstock Department animals on a Daily Report to be submitted to the Curator
• Clean animal exhibits, and service areas
• Participate in capturing, incapacitating, and moving animals
• Assists Veterinarian staff in the treatment of collection animals
• Provide exhibit security and take appropriate actions to prevent vandalism and maltreatment of animals and facilities by the public.
• Participate and train subordinates in basic animal conditioning techniques

Managerial Responsibilities
• Serve as an IR for all animals in their care and work closely with related SSPs and TAGs
• Create and uphold all animal area SOPs and safety documents
• Scheduling, hiring and evaluating of all keepers, interns and volunteers
• Actively involved in the planning of new exhibits and current exhibit modifications
• Active role in creating collection plans and conservation messaging for the animals in their care
• Serve as Animal Care MOD
Maintenance
- Clean and disinfect utensils, work tools, and containers
- Maintain plant life in and around enclosures
- Perform minor or routine maintenance of enclosures and report all other maintenance needs to supervisors
- Operate a variety of light and medium equipment

Public Education
- Coordinate daily keeper talks designed to educate the public on the Hoofstock Department’s animal collection
- Respond to questions from the public concerning the animals and exhibits
- Model the Zoo’s image and code of professional ethics in words and actions at all times

Skills:
- Thorough knowledge of:
  - Animal behavior
  - Care, feeding, and handling of Exotic Hoofstock
  - Safety practices around exotic animals
  - Animal biology or zoology or other related field
  - Techniques for restraining and capturing exotic and domestic animals
  - Zoo policies and procedures
  - Personnel management
  - Animal conditioning

- Capable of:
  - Completely performing the responsibilities outlined in the “Duties and Responsibilities” section
  - Monitoring animal behavior and appearance
  - Operating motorized vehicles and equipment; applicant must possess a valid driver’s license
  - Taking and following work instructions
  - Working in a team oriented atmosphere
  - Effectively communicating with coworkers and supervisors
  - Interacting and communicating with the general public in an appropriate manner
  - Supervising, training, and mentoring assigned staff
  - Making unbiased and non-judgmental decisions when dealing with subordinates

Physical Requirements:
Must be able to work outside year-round under typical Tennessee weather conditions and temperatures for extended periods of time. Must be able to work in uneven terrain with exposure to varying weather conditions, dust, and allergens. Must be able to move about on slippery surfaces, handle toxic and hazardous materials and work in cramped and confined spaces. Must be able to lift and carry materials up to 75 pounds.

Education:
- Must have a BS in zoology, animal biology, animal husbandry or related field and at least six years of work experience at a zoological facility or any equivalent combination of training and experience, which provides the required work skills, knowledge, and abilities.
- Must have previous supervisory experience.

Background Check:
Applicants for this position are required to submit to a criminal background check and pass a drug test.

Nashville Zoo is an EEO Institution and a Drug Free Workplace.