# MOOSC ... because, sometimes, size matters!





**M**EASUREMENTS

Length: 8-10 feet Height: 6-7 feet at shoulder

Weight: 650-1300 lbs





North America + Eurasia

**IUCN** LEAST CONCERN

Widespread the wild

## Why exhibit moose?

- · Generate attention and national pride with this large and charismatic native species
- · Help visitors recognize the defining characteristics of deer - including the presence of antlers - with the largest cervid in the world.
- · Obtain impressive biofacts for educational purposes annually: males shed their massive palmated antlers every winter.
- Reinforce the impacts of climate change and promote solutions with this impacted species.
- · Expand your zoogeographic possibilities: moose are also found throughout Eurasia, providing flexible display options even in zoogeographic exhibit arrangements
- · Keep your moose comfortable by providing a pond for them to wade and submerge in - and watch the crowds amass to watch them.

# **Stewardship Opportunities**

Minnesota: moose habitat protection

nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/minnesota/

## **Care and Husbandry**

**RED SSP:** 15.33 (48) in 13 AZA institutions (2018)

Species coordinator: Currently vacant. Contact TAG Chair for more info. Michelle Hatwood, mhatwood@auduboninstitute.org

Social nature: Generally solitary in the wild. Multiple females can often be housed together; breeding pairs can cohabitate (seasondependent) if compatible, but options are needed for separation.

Mixed species: Successfully housed with waterfowl and cranes. Moose have been kept with other hoofstock in very large enclosures.

Housing: Unaffected by extreme cold, but very sensitive to heat and humidity (require cooling options). Barriers should be 8 feet high and of substantial construction, especially if housing bulls.

Medical notes: Malnutrition has been a major concern in the past, although new diets have improved this (see below). Watch for flies/maggots when males shed velvet from antlers.

Special requirements: Specialized "moose chow" (milled by several manufacturers) is required, along with as much browse as possible. Exhibit water features are recommended.

Keeper resources: Standard workload. Moose are usually worked in protected contact, but can be readily trained for many behaviors.

Please contact the TAG for full husbandry guidelines.

http://www.azaungulates.org/













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