

# Steenbok ... 'ears what your savanna has been missing!

ASSOCIATION  
OF ZOOS &  
AQUARIUMS  
ANTELOPE AND  
GIRAFFE TAG



## MEASUREMENTS

**Length:** 2.5 feet

**Height:** 1.5-2 feet  
at shoulder

**Weight:** 20-29 lbs



Savanna



South & East Africa

IUCN  
LEAST  
CONCERN

>600,000  
in the wild

## Why exhibit steenbok?

- Participate in a new, rising program! This population (the only individuals from this genus outside of Africa) is young and may have an opportunity to import additional founders from South Africa with sufficient institutional interest.
- Woo your guests with "babies"! With this small antelope, it will look to guests like you always have cute baby antelope on display.
- Diversify existing African plains exhibits with minimal modification. The diminutive size of steenbok adds variety and interest, as well as context for discussing niches on educational signage and during tours.
- Showcase savannah adaptations with the large ears of this species. Interpretive opportunities can include comparisons with other species (e.g., bat-eared and fennec foxes) and the use of visual signals for communication.

## Stewardship Opportunities

*In situ* initiatives involving this species are currently being identified and reviewed by the TAG.

## Care and Husbandry

**Candidate Program:** 11.16.2 (29) in 4 AZA (+2 non-AZA) institutions (2019)

**Species coordinator:** Steve Metzler, San Diego Zoo Safari Park  
[smetzler@sandiegozoo.org](mailto:smetzler@sandiegozoo.org); (760) 473-6993

**Social nature:** Generally solitary in the wild, but often managed in small groups (up to six individuals) of one male and several females.

**Mixed species:** Mixes well with small antelope (e.g., duikers) and larger species like gazelles, gerenuk, waterbuck, and kudu. Successfully kept with birds such as vultures, cranes, and ground hornbills.

**Housing:** Tolerant of hot, dry, and humid conditions. Offer heat below 40°F. Flight distances for steenbok can be large; ample space and cover are strongly recommended.

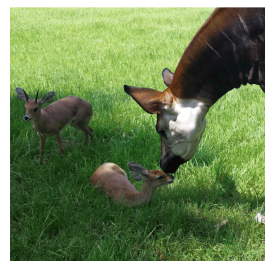
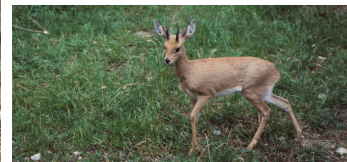
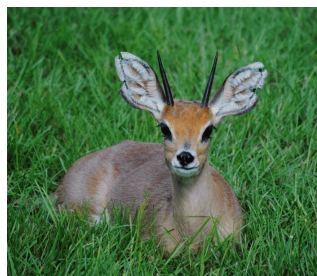
**Medical notes:** Generally hearty, but the fractious nature of parent-raised animals can lead to trauma and related injuries. Hand-rearing is recommended to make overall care and handling as adults easier.

**Special requirements:** Prolific breeders: offspring need to be separated from parents at ~6 months, requiring additional holding space.

**Keeper resources:** Cleaning is quick due to small size and use of latrine spots. Crate training minimizes risks during transport and restraint.

Please contact the TAG for full husbandry guidelines.

<http://www.azaungulates.org/>



Photos by M. Covey, B. Huffman, S. Metzler, & A. Roth. Published May 2019.