



monkeyhaven
primate • rescue • centre

CONSERVATION STRATEGY 2026-2036

THE PRIMATE
RESCUE CENTRE

Monkey Haven is run by The Life Enrichment and Animal Fulfillment Foundation (The LEAF Foundation).

Registered Charity No. 1153254

OUR MISSION AND VISION

To foster public awareness and education on the conservation, protection, and enhancement of the natural environment, with a special focus on safeguarding rare and endangered species.

To promote compassionate and responsible human behavior toward animals by ensuring that those in need – whether due to illness, neglect, mistreatment, or poor living conditions – receive the care, protection, and security. To become a local attraction as a charity sanctuary to promote our message far and wide.

To educate and inspire people to care about, and ultimately help save, the species we share our planet with. We aim to make a significant impact on animal welfare and conservation, with a special focus on primates. As a charity and rescue center, we are committed to protecting wildlife and fostering a deeper connection between people and nature.

INTRODUCTION

Monkey Haven opened in April 2010 and became a registered charity in 2012, with a mission to raise public awareness about the impacts of the pet trade on both individual animals and broader conservation efforts.

In 2026, the center will celebrate its 16th year of contributions to rescuing animals in need, and in the past ten years has:

RESCUED 40 PRIMATES FROM THE PET TRADE

RESCUED AND SUCCESSFULLY REHABILITATED 92 BIRDS OF PREY

INSPIRED OVER 20,000 SCHOOL STUDENTS AND THEIR TEACHERS
ABOUT THE NATURAL WORLD

FACILITATED APPROXIMATELY 21,600 PUBLIC TALKS

WELCOMED NEARLY 0.5M VISITORS

The sanctuary's future activities will be guided by this Conservation Strategy 2026 – 2036 which is in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Collaborative working has been and will be key to the success to Monkey Haven's conservation strategy working with partners both local and international to create best practice in animal husbandry, welfare and conservation education.

OUR FIVE CONSERVATION GOALS

These goals have been created by our Animal Careers who are key in meeting our 10 year strategy.



GOAL ONE

Rescue and rehabilitate animals (primates) in need



GOAL TWO

Protecting and nurturing our UK ecosystems and wildlife



GOAL THREE

Enhance the value of animal establishments on society by influencing national policy



GOAL FOUR

Inspire positive change for the natural world



GOAL FIVE

Achieve environmental sustainability

Conservation Definition: "The protection, care, management and maintenance of ecosystems, habitats, wildlife species and populations, within or outside of their natural environments, in order to safeguard the natural conditions for their long-term permanence." (IUCN).



GOAL ONE

Rescue and rehabilitate animals (primates) in need







“BY 2036 WE WILL INCREASE OUR RESCUE CAPACITY BY CREATING HOMES FOR UP TO 15 PRIMATES BY FINISHING OUR ‘NEW BUILD’ AND CREATING A STATE OF THE ART ‘NEW WORLD MONKEY HOUSE TO AID THE FALLOUT FROM THE 2026 KEPT PRIMATE BILL”

Since 2024, Monkey Haven has cared for over 40 primates from the pet trade across more than 11 species, some supporting the maintenance of ex-situ populations of managed species, especially primates.

It contributes to conservation efforts, rescue, and the rehabilitation of animals that have been mistreated, abandoned, or kept as unsuitable pets. The aim is to provide a safe and nurturing environment for these animals to recover and thrive. Rescued primates from the illegal pet trade may be vulnerable on the IUCN Red List, making their rehabilitation essential, as it could lead to conservation breeding programs.

Conservation breeding programs aimed at increasing the populations of endangered species are an area in which Monkey Haven has been actively involved in the past. One example is the white-throated capuchin, a species that is rarely kept in captivity in the UK. Peppino, a male white-throated capuchin, was a victim of the illegal pet trade. He was found on a beach in Italy, where he had been used as a photo prop. Due to the importance of his genetics, he was incorporated into a breeding program to help reintroduce genetic diversity into the population. This process helps maintain genetic diversity and supports the survival of these species by acting as a “safety net,” which is crucial for long-term survival and adaptability.





Research and education are also influenced by breeding programs, as they facilitate studies on animal behavior, genetics, and health, providing valuable insights for conservation efforts. Additionally, these programs serve an educational purpose, raising public awareness about endangered species and conservation. Monkey Haven promotes sustainable practices through daily keeper talks on environmental issues, such as deforestation and the illegal pet trade, encouraging visitors to adopt sustainable habits.

Maintaining healthy ex-situ populations of managed species is not only about direct conservation work within Monkey Haven but also about reaching a wider audience through education and awareness. The sanctuary offers guided tours and educational programs for schools and groups to raise awareness about the challenges faced by primates in the wild and the importance of conservation efforts.

However, the new 2026 bill on animal licensing may have an impact on Monkey Haven, depending on the specific regulations. Stricter requirements regarding facility size and animal welfare standards could affect the sanctuary, especially given the increasing number of primates in need of rescue and care. While these regulations will bring positive changes, it leads to an increased demand to place primates.



GOAL TWO

**Protecting and nurturing our
UK ecosystems and wildlife**



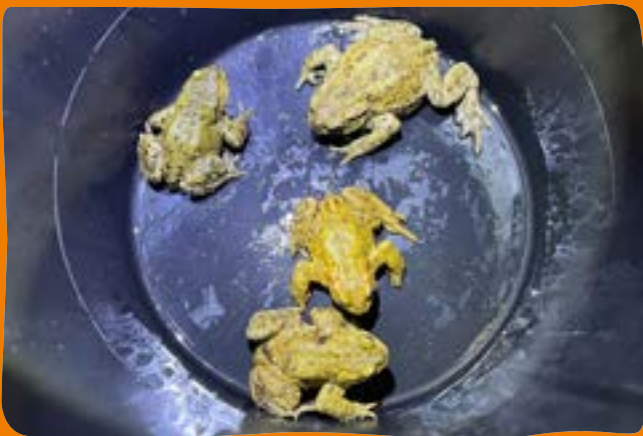




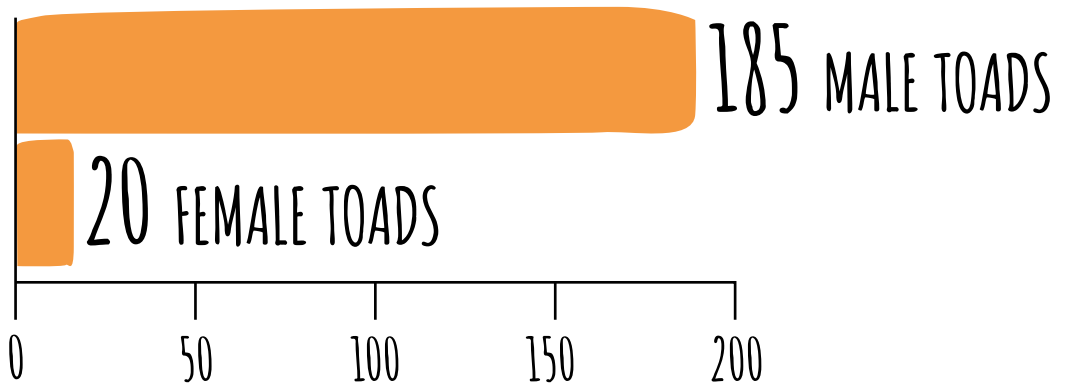
TOAD PATROL – PROTECTING TOAD CROSSINGS

The common toad is a protected species under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981. This is because it is estimated that 20 tonnes of unlucky toads are killed on the UK's roads every year. After spending months hibernating, the rise in temperature will cause a mass migration usually starting in February in warmer parts of the UK. While migrating back to their breeding ponds, thousands of toads will cross

a particular part of a road and males will often wait on the road trying to find females. It is the job of 'toad patrollers' to relocate them to safety before they get run over. Monkey Haven have patrolled one location since 2020, relocating 205 toads and in 2025. We now have a second site to monitor but our goal is "by 2035 we will have at least five toad crossings that we patrol and survey during breeding season".



TOADS
RESCUED
(BY SEX,
2020-2-24)



Over the years we have created spaces for wildlife to flourish on site at Monkey Haven such as bat boxes and bug hotels but we hope to enhance and incorporate much more. By 2035 we will have bee hives, wildlife gardens and a small pond on site". With so much wildlife already living in and around our grounds it is exciting for us to continue providing further

natural habitats. Many newts, toads, and frogs have been found around the sanctuary, some being discovered in the primates pools, so a dedicated pond for them would be a wonderful asset. Additionally having these spaces for visitors to see is essential for promoting our conservation efforts and hopefully will inspire families to do the same.

ADAPTING INFRASTRUCTURE TO BENEFIT WILDLIFE

"By 2035 we would like to work with the council to build wildlife bridges in key locations and install slow down signs at animal crossings". Wildlife bridges are becoming more common across the world, reconnecting animal routes that had been lost to major motorways. While often very large and costly projects it is more than possible to do it on a smaller scale for our country roads. For example although not a bridge, underground passages would have the same benefits and would be a cheaper option, giving animals a safe route to cross the road saving many lives. It is estimated that between 200,000 - 300,000 animals are killed on UK roads each year,



so slow down/animal crossing signs would make drivers more aware and give them more time to react to animals on the road. We could fundraise to cover the cost of some of these signs as well as work with the council to decide where these signs should be placed, talking to residents across the island to determine where the most animal casualties are.



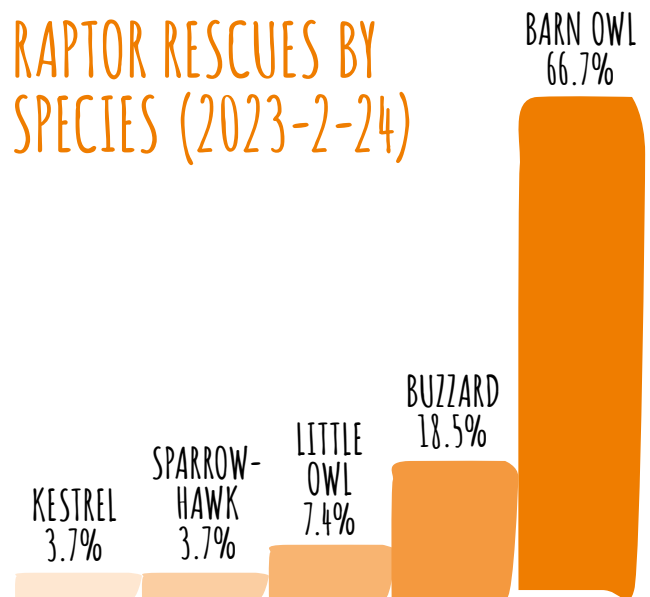
RESCUE, REHABILITATION AND RELEASE OF NATIVE BIRDS OF PREY ON THE ISLE OF WIGHT

Birds of prey, or raptors, play a vital role in the ecosystem, helping to maintain healthy populations of various species. However these majestic birds face numerous threats that endanger their populations these include, Habitat loss, pesticides and poisoning, collisions with infrastructure, climate change, and human disturbance. To combat this, we have two different approaches; rehabilitating and releasing sick or injured birds, and educating people on ways

they can help conserve their habitat. Monkey Haven have rescued 123 birds of prey so far, of which 75% have been successfully released back into the wild, so "by 2035 we hope to have doubled this figure, having rescued at least 250 raptors from life threatening situations". Although we do specialise in rehabilitating birds of prey, in 2023 alone we took in well over 100 birds including, woodpeckers, razorbills, pigeons, and many garden birds.

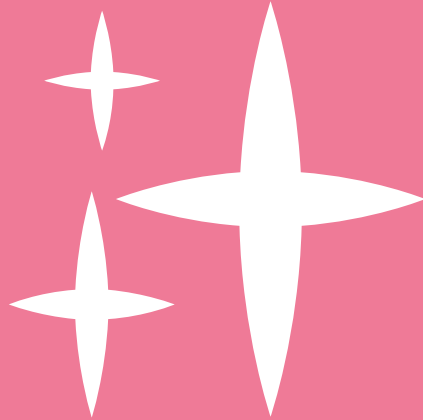


RAPTOR RESCUES BY SPECIES (2023-2-24)



“By 2035 we would like to create a separate branch of Monkey Haven that solely focuses on native wildlife rehabilitation”. Firstly this would involve having a new building and aviaries to facilitate the successful release of a range of native taxa. This new branch would have its own logo to signify the importance of conserving our home ecosystem. Additionally the goal would be for this to have a separate team of staff and volunteers, giving this vital work the time and muscle needed, also allowing for dedicated fundraising events.





GOAL THREE

Enhance the value of animal establishments on society by influencing national policy







“BY 2035 WE WILL JOIN BIAZA AND APPOINT AN
‘EDUCATION AND CONSERVATION LIASON OFFICER’
DEDICATING RESOURCE TO THESE VITAL GOALS”

The future of conservation zoos and the regeneration of our planet depends on collaboration and collective positive action. At Monkey Haven, we are committed to this goal by actively engaging our staff in keeper exchanges, further education and training course ranging in different topics promoting best practice and networking opportunities.

We will also continue to support and align with campaigns and initiatives jointly with other organisations giving a larger voice to topics close to our heart and ethos of our purpose **“Banning Primates as Pets”**.

Additionally, we will contribute to the development of zoo policy and legislation, including zoo licensing and broader regulations that influence our long-term sustainability making sure we advocate for ‘Rescue Centres’.

Beyond the conservation sector, we aim to expand awareness of the benefits and challenges of conservation to a wider audience, including local MPs, business organisations, and industries beyond zoos. By doing so, we will ensure that the collective voice of animal establishments is heard and that their priorities are recognised.

Furthermore, we will seek funding and opportunities to support projects that benefit local communities and demonstrate the broader value of animal sanctuaries inspiring future generations to get involved.

“By working together and amplifying our impact, we can help shape a sustainable future for both wildlife and people.”





GOAL FOUR

Inspire positive change for
the natural world







AT MONKEY HAVEN, WE ARE DEDICATED TO MAKING A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT THROUGH OUR CONSERVATION AWARENESS EFFORTS FOR THE NATURAL WORLD.

We provide informative conservation education through interactive daily talks, focusing on the diverse species in our care. We share their individual stories, species-specific awareness such as diets and behaviour, threats to their natural habitat, IUCN Red List status, the devastating impact of the illegal pet and breeding trade and our wild bird of prey rescue and rehabilitation programme. We also promote responsible consumption of palm oil products and discuss how we can facilitate positive change in the future. **“Since our establishment in 2010, we have delivered approximately 21,600 public talks to visitors, with a projection of 37,600 by 2035”.**

Since our opening in 2010, we have provided age-appropriate guided tours to 400 schools, igniting curiosity and wonder

in over 20,000 students and their teachers about the natural world. Our tours, which encompass all disabilities, focus on the diverse species in our care, the threats to their natural habitat, illegal pet and breeding trade, the importance of conservation within zoos and rescue sanctuaries as well as in situ, the ethical implications of exotic animal encounters in tourism and unsustainable palm oil production and consumption. We also emphasise the potential for our visitors to facilitate future change. **“By 2035, we will have welcomed 1,000 schools to Monkey Haven”.** Our established links within universities enable us to provide undergraduate and postgraduate students with behavioural observation

opportunities for their final dissertations and theses, in-person or remotely, via question-and-answer sessions, benefiting the students and our animal care team by providing valuable data.

Engaging interactive signage and educational material throughout the sanctuary focuses on conservation, biodiversity loss, deforestation, IUCN Red Lists status, environmental sustainability, individual rescue stories, species-specific behaviour, and the diet of the diverse species in our care.

We are committed to environmentally sustainable practices. From being a palm oil-free sanctuary to recycling and crop cultivation, we are dedicated to reducing our environmental footprint. By 2035, we aim to establish food and manure composts to further reduce waste and greenhouse gas emissions while providing a nutrient-rich fertiliser for plant growth. These efforts not only promote

sustainable practices and educational opportunities but also contribute to the protection of our natural world.

Educational visits to schools and colleges to increase public awareness about the importance of conservation by 2035. These visits will particularly emphasise in situ conservation, highlighting the need to protect species in their natural habitat, the impact of the illegal pet and breeding trade, and the potential of students as the facilitators of future change.

Delivered through educational PowerPoint presentations, which are not just informative but also interactive. Featuring the individual stories of Monkey Haven's rescued animals, engaging activities like enrichment making, vivarium setups, and quizzes, ensuring an active learning experience.



International Animal Days serve as a crucial platform to urgently raise public awareness and support for conservation efforts. The critically endangered and endangered species at Monkey Haven face grave threats in their natural world, and it's our collective responsibility to address them. We celebrate these days annually through our social media sites and propose themed events within the sanctuary by 2035.

August 15th marks International Cotton-top Tamarin (Oedipomidas Oedipus) Day, a species listed as critically endangered on the IUCN Red List in 2008, with only 2000 mature individuals left in the wild. The main threats are habitat loss and illegal pet trade.

On October 24th, we observe International Gibbon Day, a day to remember the three species of gibbons at Monkey Haven: Lar Gibbon (*Hylobates lar*), Müller's Gibbon (*Hylobates muelleri*), and Siamang (*Symphalangus syndactylus*), all listed as endangered on the IUCN Red List in 2008. The main threat they face is habitat loss due to deforestation from unsustainable palm oil plantations.

Delivered through themed talks focusing on these species' vital role in the ecosystem, illegal pet trade and sustainable palm oil consumption awareness, arts and crafts and interactive educational material.





GOAL FIVE

Achieve environmental sustainability







“BY 2035, WE WILL RECYCLE OVER 50% OF THE WASTE GENERATED AT MONKEY HAVEN, BY INTRODUCING OUR REUSE, RECYCLE, REDUCE POLICY”

Monkey Haven is a charitable rescue center committed to making a positive impact on the environment, people, and the communities we serve. We adhere to all relevant environmental laws and guidelines, applying the precautionary principle to prevent pollution and striving to continuously improve our environmental performance. Our goal is to minimise the use of non-renewable resources while promoting sustainability through communication and engagement with visitors, stakeholders, and the broader community.

Our key focus areas and commitments for 2035 include:

- ✓ Recycling over 50% of the waste generated on-site through the introduction of our “Reuse, Recycle, Reduce” policy.
- ✓ Ensuring our suppliers uphold sustainable practices.
- ✓ Encouraging the use of sustainable transport by offering discounts and installing electric vehicle charging points.
- ✓ Reducing energy consumption by incorporating alternative energy solutions such as solar power, heat pumps, and energy-efficient lighting.





- ✓ Ensuring that all visitors are informed about the benefits of waste recycling, composting, and waste reduction through on-site messaging. By implementing these initiatives and encouraging visitor participation, we aim to reduce waste at Monkey Haven while promoting environmental sustainability. This will not only benefit the environment but also enhance the visitor experience and strengthen our reputation as a socially responsible organisation.
- ✓ Take the first steps towards meeting the UK Government's 2050 carbon neutrality target.

To improve waste management, recycling, and renewable energy usage, we will introduce several measures in 2026. In 2024, we welcomed nearly 41,000 visitors, who generated between 11 tonnes of waste, of which less than 3 tonnes (27%) was recycled. Our efforts for 2026 and beyond include:

- ✓ Reducing packaging in our retail areas.
- ✓ Promoting reusable items such as travel mugs.
- ✓ Expanding our mixed recycling capacity.
- ✓ Introducing food waste recycling.

These actions will help us significantly increase our recycling efforts and environmental impact in the years to come.



monkeyhaven.org