ZSL Institute of Zoology



Annual Review 2025/2026

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Cover: A Critically Endangered juvenile angelshark *(Squatina squatina)* photographed by Jake Davies in Wales. In 2026, the Welsh Government, through the Nature Network Fund Round 5, awarded £997,770 to the Ocean Predator Lab and Project SIARC to support the continuation and expansion of our community-based shark research programme in North Wales for another three years and the upgrading of our acoustic telemetry array to a fully integrated ocean observatory. The project focusses on the importance of North Cardigan Bay for three endangered species of elasmobranch, including angelshark, nursehound *(Scyliorhinus stellaris)* and tope *(Galeorhinus galeus)*. Photo: JDScuba / Jake Davies.

The ZSL Institute of Zoology is funded by Research England

Executive summary

In 2025/26 the ZSL Institute of Zoology (IOZ), the research division of the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), produced 173 peer-reviewed scientific papers and 13 major reports. Our **research** and **impact** addressed our five **Conservation Challenges**:

- **Biology and Recovery of Threatened Populations**. Research outputs highlighted the importance of historical evidence for identifying opportunities for species reintroductions, while conservation impacts included evidence-based recovery programmes for numerous species, including Vietnam pheasant and red squirrel.
- **Climate Change Risks and Ecosystem-Level Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies.** Research included assessing the Congo Basin as a net carbon sink, while impacts included a high-level report calling for greater policy integration to address climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation.
- **Coexistence Between People and Wildlife**. Publications addressed integrated and context-specific approaches to sustainable wildlife management, while impacts included the reintroduction of cheetahs in the Luangwa Valley, Zambia.
- **Global Biodiversity Monitoring and Forecasting.** Research included the effects of invasive species on insects and extinction-risk estimates for all species of flowering plants. Impacts including the second iteration of the *State of the Thames* report, the Ocean Highways Initiative, and substantial regional and national Red List capacity building.
- **Wildlife Health and One Health in a Changing World.** A research breakthrough was made in understanding antimicrobial peptide maturation in *Bd*-susceptible amphibians. Impacts included contributions to the first government One Health vector-borne disease surveillance report and to the RSPB's decision to update their guidance for supplementary feeding of garden birds.

Teaching and training activities in 2025/26 were directed at a postgraduate community of 74 PhD students, including 14 new students, and 104 Masters students across seven courses run with the Royal Veterinary College (RVC) and University College London (UCL). We also trained 589 conservation practitioners, including 129 trainees from low- and middle-income countries.

Public engagement in 2025/26 included six free public lecture evenings in our Wild Talks Events series, and five episodes of the WildScience Podcast. Our research continues to provide content for ZSL's formal education programmes and our international outreach programme Soapbox Science involved 36 events in 14 countries with 432 speakers and an audience of >36,000 people. IOZ research appeared in 1,196 news articles, reaching an estimated 787,564,665 people.

Total income for the year was £9.86 million of which £2.16 million (22%) was from Research England and the rest from research grants (£5.89 million), overheads, student fees, publications, and endowments (£1.80 million combined). We received an estimated contribution of £213,000 from ZSL for institutional support costs.

1. Introduction

Biodiversity decline is accelerating worldwide, driven by interconnected pressures that threaten the natural systems on which life depends. Against this backdrop, the ZSL Institute of Zoology (IOZ) provides the scientific evidence needed to understand environmental change and inform conservation decisions and practice. In 2025/26 IOZ continued to combine discovery-led and applied science at all scales, from understanding antimicrobial peptide maturation in *Bd*-susceptible amphibians to ecosystem-level approaches, including the Ocean Highways Initiative, identifying critical connectivity corridors that support ocean health and species resilience under human and climate pressure.

The expertise of IOZ's scientific community was recognised this year with Dr Becki Lawson being awarded an MBE for services to wildlife health, and Professor Andrew Cunningham received the BVA Advancement of Veterinary Science Award for his contributions to veterinary medicine and wildlife veterinary science. Professor Nathalie Pettorelli was appointed to the UK Government's Science and Technology Advisory Council for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, and to the UK's first taskforce focused on strengthening climate security.

Our three-year science strategy was set out in the new IOZ Business Plan (2025/26–2027/28), which was submitted to Research England, our core funder, in November. During the year, we were delighted to begin developing a productive partnership with BBSRC, exploring shared scientific priorities and opportunities for delivering meaningful impact.

Our long history of wildlife disease and One Health research was strengthened in April with the announcement of plans for a new £20 million Wildlife Health Centre at ZSL's Regent's Park headquarters. Funded by an anonymous donor, the centre will integrate wildlife disease research, clinical care and a teaching hospital, supporting research into emerging diseases and early-warning systems, while training the next generation of vets and scientists.

Research impact depends on the people and partnerships that enable science to be applied. IOZ works with academic and government partners to develop new research opportunities and strengthen the evidence available to decision-makers. This includes a new memorandum of understanding with the Animal and Plant Health Agency to support research funding opportunities and develop programmes in animal health and veterinary science.

With ZSL and UCL both marking their bicentenaries in 2026, we were delighted to host a day celebrating our longstanding partnership. The programme concluded with an evening reception in UCL's North Cloisters, providing an opportunity to reaffirm our shared commitment to research and teaching to secure a better future for wildlife and people. Also, this year has seen the initiation of formal discussions between ZSL and UCL regarding a strategic partnership built around IOZ.

This Annual Review reports on the breadth of IOZ's contributions through research, impact, training and engagement, which are organized to address the five Conservation Challenges outlined in the IOZ Business Plan.

We are grateful for the continued support of our Independent Scientific Advisory Board (ISAB), whose guidance continues to ensure that IOZ's work remains scientifically rigorous, strategically aligned, and globally impactful. We are also grateful for the supportive care provided by our UKRI colleagues as we prepare for the source of IOZ's core funding to transfer (in 2027) from Research England to BBSRC.

2. Generating world-leading research

The Institute of Zoology (IOZ) creates knowledge through research to directly address global challenges in conservation science and practice, and to drive evidence-based conservation. An example of IOZ's research activities during the 2025/26 academic year is described below for each of our five Conservation Challenges. Between 1 September 2025 and 31 August 2026, IOZ staff and students published 173 peer-reviewed research papers and 13 major reports (Appendix A).

The global influence of IOZ research over the last 10 years, assessed through our institutional h-index, is currently ranked third out of ten international organisations delivering on-the-ground conservation.

Our research benefits from the expertise of staff across ZSL, with whom our research is often jointly conducted to maximise conservation impact. In 2025/26, 22 out of 173 papers published by IOZ included a ZSL co-author.

Conservation Challenge: Biology and Recovery of Threatened Populations

IOZ staff and students continued to research the genetic, demographic and socio-ecological processes that underpin the conservation of small populations, and to advise on structured decision-making in line with new developments in recovery science. Here, we highlight new research showing how historical evidence can reveal insights unavailable from modern data alone, helping to identify well-supported opportunities for species reintroduction and enabling conservation decisions that reflect a fuller understanding of historical ecology.

Case study: Lessons from the past for future conservation

Conservation planning is typically based on recent ecological data, which can obscure the long-term impacts of human activity on biodiversity. Environmental archives, including archaeological, palaeontological, historical and biomolecular records, provide evidence of how species and ecosystems have changed over centuries and millennia. New IOZ research explores the potential to incorporate past evidence into reintroduction planning in a more systematic and comparative manner, by developing a framework of biological and ecological criteria for evaluating different aspects of the former status of lost species and the quality of our knowledge about these species (Turvey et al. 2026a). Using examples from Britain, this research demonstrates that historical evidence can provide important information that would be unavailable from modern data alone. The framework can identify which species are better-supported candidates for reintroduction, highlight other species for which our understanding of past status and ecology is instead uncertain, and reveal knowledge gaps that need to be addressed before practical conservation activities should be initiated. The research also highlights the challenges associated with using environmental archives in conservation (for example, historical records vary considerably in their completeness, geographical and temporal coverage, and potential biases), and calls for greater collaboration between conservationists, archaeologists, palaeontologists and historians.

In a second study historical records were used to investigate whether sturgeon (*Acipenser sturio* and *A. oxyrinchus*) historically bred in British rivers (Turvey et al., 2026b). These giant fish have been recorded in British waters as potential vagrants, but their native status is unclear, meaning that they currently cannot be considered as candidate species for reintroduction under UK legislation. Abundant historical records, mainly from 19th- and 20th-century newspaper archives, documented sturgeon in 24 British rivers, with 196 records from the River Severn. Numerous historical records occurred during late spring and summer,

matching the timing of spawning migrations in modern sturgeon populations, and British historical and archaeological collections were found to include juvenile individuals smaller than the size at which young sturgeon normally leave their natal estuaries. These results provide strong evidence that sturgeon bred in many British rivers during the 19th and into the 20th century. This establishes sturgeon as native British species and provides important evidence supporting their potential reintroduction and conservation.



Juvenile British sturgeon specimens. Photos: Natural History Museum, London, University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge and Colchester and Ipswich Museum

Multi-century historical records and species distribution modelling were also used to assess the past environmental niches and current habitat suitability for Javan rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros sondaicus*) and Sumatran rhinoceros (*Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*), two of the world's rarest mammal species (Granger et al., 2026). Whereas both species are now restricted to tiny ranges with specific ecological conditions, historical evidence showed that both species were ecological generalists, and formerly occupied a wide range of habitats and elevations across Southeast Asia. These findings indicate that substantial suitable habitat still exists for both species, including within protected areas where rhinos are currently absent, and the two species could potentially coexist in many areas. These findings demonstrate that using historical as well as modern data can overcome inherent ecological data biases associated with the human-caused distribution of remnant surviving populations, and can identify new opportunities for re-establishing populations of highly threatened species across parts of their former range to improve conservation planning.

Further research highlights in Biology and Recovery of Threatened Populations

Additional research on the biology and recovery of threatened populations published in 2025/26 includes papers reporting evidence of population fragmentation of the western European hedgehog in urban

landscapes (Turner et al., 2026); the use of individual-based models for predicting the future of introduced large herbivore populations in rewilded landscapes (Lovell et al., 2025); the genetic legacy and recent cross of two ancient lineages that underlie the rebound of the Hainan gibbon (Hou et al., 2026); and the passive acoustic Identification of social groups of that species (Kabuga, et al., 2026).

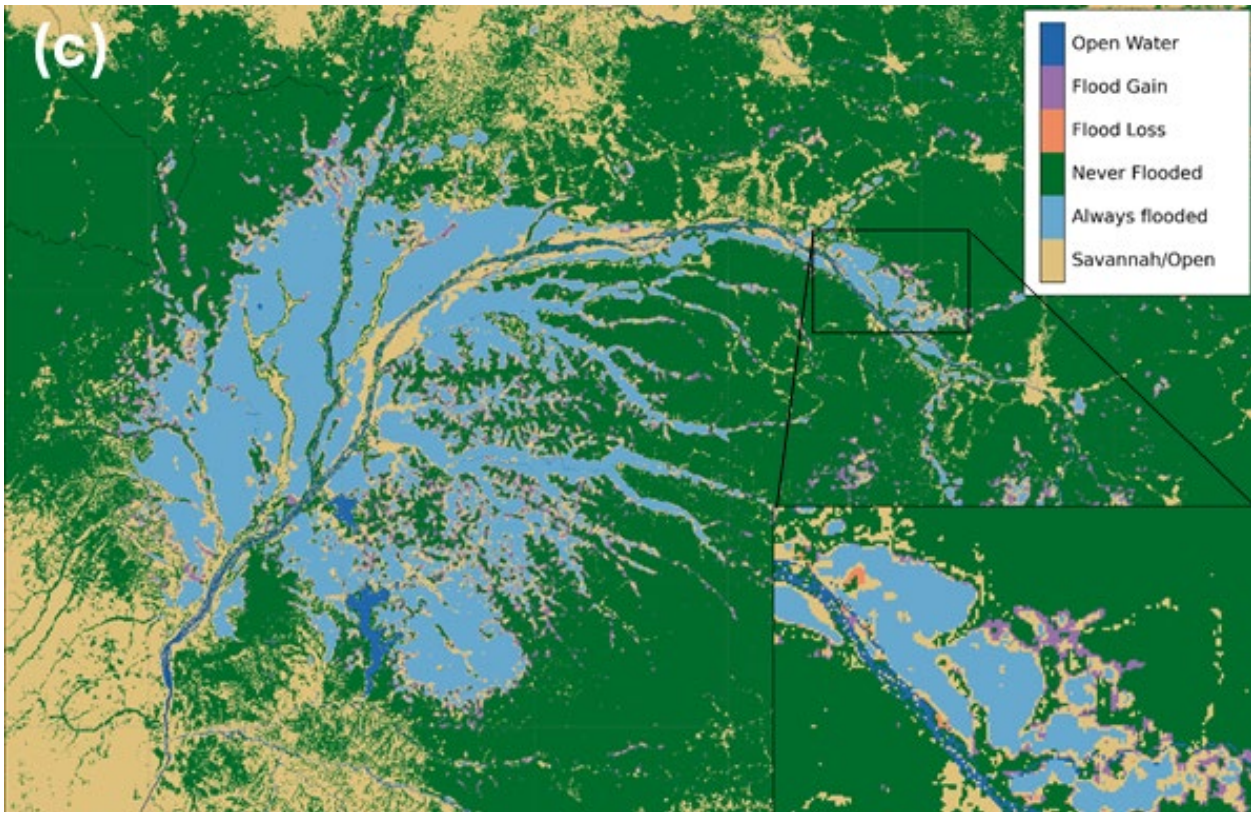
Conservation Challenge: Climate Change Risks and Ecosystem-Level Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies

Over the past year IOZ researchers have continued to explore species and ecosystem vulnerability to climate change, building the evidence base required to assess the effectiveness of approaches that mitigate the impacts of climate change on biodiversity.

Case study: Wetland expansion strengthens the role of the Congo Basin as a Net Carbon sink

Wetlands are the largest natural source of methane, but the drying or desiccation of wetlands can release substantial amounts of carbon dioxide (CO_2). Changing wetland emissions provide one of the greatest sources of uncertainty in global emissions estimates, largely because there is limited data for key tropical carbon sources and sinks, including those in the Congo Basin. The Congo Basin is considered one of the most pristine large river basins on Earth; however, it is particularly vulnerable to climate change. The Cuvette Centrale, a large wetland region within the Congo Basin that contains the world's largest tropical peatland complex, lies close to a climate-driven drought threshold, below which the region could shift from a carbon sink to a carbon source. New IOZ research investigated changes in swamp forest hydrology, forest productivity and greenhouse gas emissions between 2007 and 2024 using satellite Earth observation and emissions datasets (Byrne et al., 2026). The research combined high-resolution Synthetic Aperture Radar, hydrological modelling, MODIS vegetation indices and wetland emissions datasets to determine whether (1) long-term drying trends had reduced the extent of Congo swamp forests, (2) reduced flooding had lowered forest productivity and (3) swamp forest loss and peatland desiccation had driven increasing CO_2 emissions and decreasing methane emissions.

The results showed that, contrary to previous reports of long-term drying trends, swamp forests expanded from 195,345 km^2 to 222,467 km^2 between 2007 and 2024. This indicates that the Congo Basin experienced a significant increase in wetland extent during this period. Despite increasing methane emissions, wetland expansion reduced CO_2-equivalent emissions by 2 million tonnes per year since 2007 on a 100-year horizon, highlighting the increasing role of the region as a net carbon sink and its significance for global carbon budgets. The research also identified limitations in existing global wetland datasets used in Earth System Models, which generally have relatively low spatial resolution and substantially underestimate the extent of swamp forests in the Congo Basin. By applying high-resolution, ecosystem-specific methods, the research showed the true spatial extent of these wetlands, distinguished swamp forests from other wetland types and accounted for variation in water table levels. This information is vital for producing ecosystem-specific estimates of greenhouse gas emissions. Incorporating these methodologies into Earth System Models is essential for addressing the uncertainties in global wetland emissions source terms and for contributing to more accurate assessments of global carbon budgets under a changing climate.



Landcover map visualising the extent of permanently flooded swamp forest, terra firme (non-flooded) forest, and regions that experienced flood loss and flood gain between 2007 and 2024. The inset shows a close-up of swamp forest loss and gain around an eastern portion of the Congo mainstem

Further research highlights in Climate Change Risks and Ecosystem-Level Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies

Additional research on climate change risks and ecosystem-level mitigation and adaptation strategies in 2025/26 include an assessment of the robustness of the Action Agendas of the Rio Conventions (Folkard-Tapp et al., 2026); a call for policymakers to anchor spatial data into integrated climate and biodiversity action (Hagenström et al., 2025); a phylogenetically-informed analysis of crayfish conservation in the face of climate change (Pipins et al., 2026); and an investigation into the compounding impacts of extreme climate events on European birds under climate change (Häkkinen and Pettorelli, 2025).

Conservation Challenge: Coexistence Between People and Wildlife

IOZ staff and students continue to develop transdisciplinary research that focuses on the human dimensions of wildlife conservation. Wildlife exploitation undermines biodiversity conservation and the sustainability of wildlife-dependent livelihoods. Here, we feature three papers that demonstrate the importance of effective enforcement, forensic methods, and understanding the social and economic drivers of illegal exploitation. Together, they highlight the need for integrated and context-specific approaches to sustainable wildlife management.

Case study: Elucidating and solving illegal wildlife exploitation

Forensic DNA analysis in wildlife crime investigations is most widely applied for the purposes of determining species, sex, individual, and location of wildlife. However, the ability to recover human DNA

profiles from the surfaces of wildlife specimens, such as ivory or fur, opens opportunities for the identification of individuals involved in wildlife crimes in the absence of other types of evidence. New IOZ research compared the effectiveness of four different human touch DNA recovery methods: cotton swabs, flocked swabs, foam swabs, and minitapes, from the surfaces of a range of wildlife derivatives (Thomas et al., 2025) including ivory, elephant skin, snakeskin, conch shell, antler, and antelope fur. Foam swabs, a non-traditional method of touch DNA recovery, recovered the highest average DNA concentrations and number of alleles across all specimen types acting as an effective cross-substrate recovery method. Flocked swabs performed as the second-best recovery method for all specimens except when sampling from antelope fur. Minitapes and cotton swabs showed comparatively poor performance, despite being the two most common DNA recovery techniques currently employed by law enforcement. These results indicate that fresh-touch DNA deposits are recoverable from multiple wildlife specimens, suggesting that attempted recovery of touch DNA should be a routine consideration for forensic practitioners during wildlife crime investigations.



Photographer Britta Jaschinski's image of IOZ's wildlife forensics research showing a handprint on the shell of a green sea turtle (Chelonia mydas) confiscated at London Heathrow Airport, UK. The photo was winner of the Earthshot prize, TIME best photo of the year, Environmental Photographer of the Year 2026 and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation Grand Prize Winner

Two studies this year highlight the importance of understanding fishers' perceptions, awareness, and socio-economic circumstances when designing and implementing effective strategies to deter illegal fishing and improve compliance with conservation measures. Illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing threatens fisheries sustainability, global food security, and biodiversity conservation. Many regions rely on patrol-based enforcement to promote compliance, yet the effectiveness of such strategies in deterring IUU activity remains underexplored. IOZ researchers used a mixed-methods approach to assess the effectiveness of management and policy decisions in deterring illegal fishing within the Chagos Archipelago marine protected area (MPA), which has maintained near-continuous patrols since 2010 (Kerry et al., 2026). Semi-structured interviews with Sri Lankan fishers were used to assess perceived deterrence

within the broader socio-economic environment of the MPA. Patrol vessel movements were then used to compare the effectiveness of different enforcement strategies. Finally, the relationship between patrol effort and illegal fishing interception rate was used as an indicator of deterrence. Interviews suggested that strengthened port monitoring and regulatory improvements in Sri Lanka contributed to perceived deterrence. However, although patrol strategies significantly influenced interception rates through differences in vessel activity and spatial coverage, no deterrence effect was detected for any patrolling strategy. These findings highlight the need for context-aware policies to address illegal fishing within MPAs that incorporate patrolling, robust national regulations, and community-focused strategies. The second study focuses on illegal shark fishing by Sri Lanka's semi-industrial fleet, aiming to explore fishers' awareness, perceptions of, and compliance with measures introduced to curb unsustainable shark fishing (Gule Godage et al., 2026). During January–June 2023, 254 questionnaire-based interviews and six focus group discussions were conducted at three harbours associated with previous illegal shark landings to explore awareness of regulations and potential drivers of non-compliance. The results suggest that only 9% of respondents were aware of all banned shark species, 12% landed banned sharks that were caught incidentally and 47% reported that illegal shark landings occur. Thematic analysis identified key drivers of non-compliance, including the economic importance of sharks, reluctance to discard sharks, lack of awareness of regulations and perceived corruption amongst management authorities. These findings highlight the need to incorporate human dimensions into policymaking and fisheries management to address illegal shark fishing effectively. Importantly, the research suggests that local support is critical for the success and sustainability of shark conservation and management efforts.

Further research highlights in Coexistence between People and Wildlife

Additional outputs on coexistence between people and wildlife published in 2025/26 include a multi-method approach to characterising dynamic human–shark interactions at Ascension Island (Clarke et al., 2025); an assessment of the social dimensions of shark–human interactions in a large remote marine protected area (Collin et al., 2025); the use of an autonomous network of acoustic detectors to map tiger risk by eavesdropping on prey alarm calls (Kershenbaum et al., 2026); and a study of how livelihoods influence views toward jaguars in protected areas of the Bolivian Amazon (Jones et al., 2026).

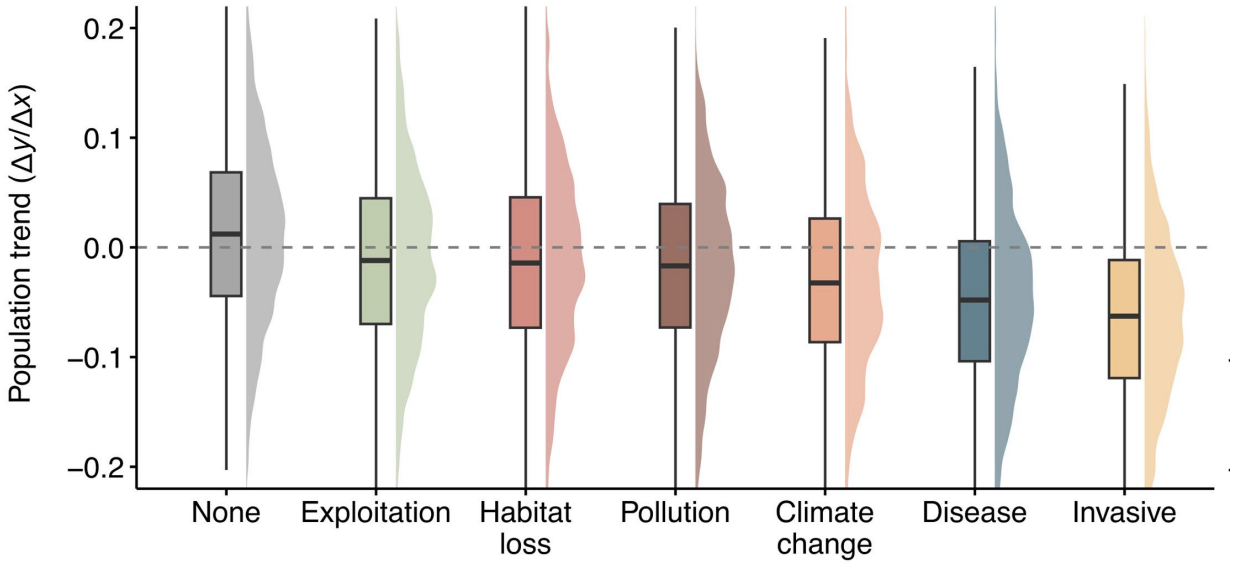
Conservation Challenge: Global Biodiversity Monitoring and Forecasting

Understanding the state of biodiversity - past, present, and future - is critical to developing effective conservation interventions and meaningful policy recommendations. In 2025/26, IOZ research included outputs focussing on better understanding threats to global species diversity. Here we describe three studies that provide new insights for understanding the impact of multiple treats and threat interactions on vertebrate species, the impacts of invasive alien species on terrestrial insects, and a tree of life and extinction risk estimates for all species of flowering plants. Together, this research improves the evidence base to support conservation prioritisation and decision-making.

Case study: Understanding threats to global species diversity

Conservation policies designed to halt biodiversity loss often prioritise threats that are widespread globally, such as habitat loss and exploitation. However, the direct and interactive effects of multiple threats remain poorly quantified. IOZ research published in *Science Advances,* in collaboration with the University of Barcelona and University of Bristol, provides a global, population-level empirical analysis of threat interactions, based on 3,129 vertebrate population time series from the Living Planet Database (Capdevila et al., 2026). The study evaluated six major threats to species populations across all continents and across three systems (freshwater, marine and terrestrial): exploitation, habitat loss, disease, pollution, climate change and invasive species. Where threats act in isolation, the results showed that populations affected by habitat loss or exploitation did not experience the greatest declines. Instead, disease, invasive species,

pollution and climate change were associated with faster population declines. Populations exposed to multiple interacting threats declined more severely than those affected by single threats, and interaction effects were stronger than differences associated with location or changes over time. The results show that the effect of any given threat depends on its environmental and ecological context, and that multiple threats can reinforce one another, accelerating population declines. Contrary to the common perception that synergies are a frequent consequence of global change, these threats generally add to each other's impact, rather than multiplying it. Counterfactual analysis suggested that reducing a single threat is often insufficient to stabilise populations. Effective conservation strategies therefore require a multi-threat approach that accounts for the specific combination of threats affecting populations, and prioritise actions that reduce several threats simultaneously. This is particularly important as emerging pressures, including disease, climate change and invasive species, continue to interact with existing threats. Overall, the study highlights the importance of climate policies in reversing biodiversity loss across the planet, and points to amphibians as the group of vertebrates particularly affected by the combined effects of multiple threats.



Effects of threats acting in isolation on vertebrate population trends of 3129 vertebrate population time series from 1281 species contained in the LPD. "None" represents the estimated trend in the absence of threats

In a second study, IOZ researchers contributed to a global meta-analysis of 318 effect sizes from 52 studies to assess the impacts of invasive alien species on terrestrial insects, focusing on Coleoptera, Hemiptera, Hymenoptera and Orthoptera (Skinner et al., 2026). Invasive alien species reduced insect abundance by 31% and species richness by 26%, when compared to areas without invasive species. Invasive alien animals had stronger negative impacts than plants. Impacts varied among taxa, with Hemiptera and Hymenoptera showing the strongest negative impacts, including a 58% reduction in Hemiptera abundance and reductions of 37% in Hymenoptera abundance and 46% in species richness. The impacts were comparable to those associated with historical climate warming and intensive agricultural land use, which led to average reductions of almost 50% in insect abundance and 27% in species richness. As a result of these impacts, Invasive alien species may disrupt ecosystem stability and cause cascading effects on pollination, pest control, decomposition, food webs and other insect-driven services. These threats are expected to increase, particularly because climate change may create more favourable conditions for some invasive species and reduce ecosystem resistance to invasion. The study emphasises the need to prevent and manage biological invasions and identify the most vulnerable insects and ecosystems to help prioritise conservation resources.

Although global biodiversity policies recognise the need to preserve evolutionary lineages, plants are largely absent from global biodiversity assessments, resulting in a taxonomic imbalance that has undermined their conservation for decades. IOZ research contributed to the publication of a tree of life and extinction risk estimates for all species of flowering plants (angiosperms), representing a global assessment of their threatened evolutionary history (Forest et al., 2026). The research shows that 21.2% of angiosperm evolutionary history is at risk of extinction and identifies 9945 priority species that disproportionately account for total threatened evolutionary history. Notably, protecting just 5.9% of species ranked by EDGE score could safeguard half of all threatened angiosperm evolutionary history, providing a targeted approach to prioritising limited conservation resources.

Further research highlights in Global Biodiversity Monitoring and Forecasting

Additional outputs on global biodiversity monitoring and forecasting published in 2025/26 include papers that uncover temporal patterns of wildlife activity, habitat use and habitat preference from camera-trap data (Rowcliffe et al., 2026); explore optimisation of camera trap placement for felid density estimation (Dorji et al., 2026) and autonomous reef monitoring structures as a tool for assessing UK marine benthic biodiversity (Jordan et al., 2026); and the use of environmental DNA as a tool for the assessment of coral composition in the Chagos Archipelago (Wen et al., 2026).

Conservation Challenge: Wildlife and One Health in a Changing World

IOZ research continues to advance our fundamental and applied understanding of the ecological and social mechanisms, processes, and patterns that underlie the dynamics of infectious and non-infectious diseases affecting living organisms and the ecosystems they inhabit. This work includes investigating the determinants of zoonotic disease spillover from wildlife, investigating disease threats to amphibian conservation, and disease surveillance to support the recovery of British wildlife, for example through our work on Garden Wildlife Health, the Cetacean Strandings Investigation Programme and disease risk analysis for conservation translocations.

Case study: Furthering our understanding of *Bd* in amphibian declines

Epizootic outbreaks of invasive pathogens, such as the fungal pathogen *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* (*Bd*), are increasingly recognised as a global threat to biodiversity. However, not all susceptible host populations are equally impacted by these disease outbreaks. While some populations persist despite intense infections and high mortality rates, others can transition to enzootic coexistence with the pathogen. New IOZ-led research used comparative peptidomics to identify differences in antimicrobial peptide (AMP) maturation in *Bd*-susceptible common midwife toads (*Alytes obstetricans*) through metamorphosis (Jervis et al., 2026). The results show that populations experiencing severe and continuing *Bd* outbreaks had recently metamorphosed toads with low-diversity AMP profiles and fewer peptides capable of inhibiting *Bd*. In contrast, populations with stable, enzootic disease dynamics showed greater AMP diversity. The study also found that immune maturation does not always occur at the same time as metamorphosis, with some tadpoles developing mature immune defences before metamorphosis, while others metamorphosed before their AMP system had fully developed. The timing of immune maturation appears to influence how amphibian populations respond to *Bd*. Toads that metamorphose before developing effective AMP defences are more vulnerable to disease and population decline. These findings suggest that variation in early-life immune development may help explain why some amphibian populations recover and coexist with *Bd*, while others continue to experience severe outbreaks.



Common midwife toad. Photo: Phillip Jervis, Institute of Zoology, Gonçalo M. Rosa, IMIB Biodiversity Research Institute, CSIC-Oviedo; Jaime Bosch, IMIB Biodiversity Research Institute, CSIC-Oviedo

Understanding the mechanisms that shape patterns of infection risk across spatial scales is central to epidemiology, disease ecology and conservation, and critical for managing infectious diseases in natural populations. Yet, traditional approaches to studying wildlife diseases have often assumed well-mixed host populations, overlooking the spatial structure that characterises most free-living populations. As a result, we know relatively little about the patterns and drivers of fine-scale spatial variation in infection among wild hosts. IOZ research published this year aimed to better understand dynamics of infection with the aquatic fungus *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis (Bd)* in several populations of the fully terrestrial Darwin's frog (*Rhinoderma darwinii*) across southern Chile (Valenzuela-Sánchez et al., 2026). Using high-resolution spatial capture–recapture data, long-term demographic monitoring and a spatial individual-based model parameterised with empirical estimates, the researchers showed that *Bd* infection in this system exhibits pronounced spatial heterogeneity at scales of only metres. This fine-scale clustering arises from localised transmission of an aquatic pathogen in a terrestrial system, driven by spatial proximity between infected and susceptible individuals. Such transmission generates clustered epidemics and can drive rapid subpopulation collapse in this species, as observed in populations from Tantauco Park, where declines of up to 98% were recorded within a year following the invasion of *Bd* in the area. In some populations, these epidemics can remain undetected at the broader population level because different subpopulations can experience outbreaks at different times, and this lack of synchronisation may protect the wider population from extinction. The results also suggest that *Bd* transmission differs between terrestrial and aquatic amphibians. In terrestrial species, transmission may be more dependent on host density and direct contact between individuals because the fungus has a reduced ability to persist in the environment away from water. The results from this study also provide rare empirical evidence highlighting the importance of selecting a relevant scale of observation to detect epidemic dynamics and to understand parasite-driven population regulation in wildlife systems.

Further research highlights in Wildlife Health and One Health

Additional outputs on wildlife health and one health in a changing world in 2025/26 include papers focusing on the impact of poisoning on wildlife populations; for example, research showing temporal increases in mercury concentrations are associated with increased risk of death by infectious disease in harbour porpoises (Williams et al., 2025); exposure to second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides is widespread in non-target British wild mammals, namely hedgehogs and foxes (Seilern-Macpherson et al., 2026); quantifying the toxicity threshold values of free-living raptors in Great Britain for the lethal effect of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (Ozaki et al., 2026); and assessing the effect of cocaine pollution on movement and space use of Atlantic salmon (Brand et al., 2026).

Long-term Programmes: providing deeper insights into wildlife ecology and conservation

Natural and anthropogenic change in wildlife populations and ecosystems can unfold over long periods, and interventions to reduce harmful impacts also take time to become effective. Access to long-term information is therefore essential for advancing conservation. IOZ has supported Long-term Programmes for many decades and now manages a substantial portfolio of long-term datasets, representing more than 400 years of research since Special Funding arrangements for IOZ began over 30 years ago. Most IOZ senior staff lead at least one Long-term Programme that has generated over 20 years of data, research tools and/or knowledge. Over the past year, we have continued to develop bespoke databases for Long-term Programmes, including cheetah, wild dog, New Zealand passerines and tropical seabirds. These are being migrated online to support data management, data sharing and collaboration with our in-country partners and academic institutions.

Biobank

The Biobank contains internationally important collections of biological samples from ZSL's long-term programmes, including projects focusing on wildlife health in the UK, as well as ZSL's zoo-derived veterinary collections. Between September 2025 and August 2026, 224 specimens were catalogued into the dry collection, while 1,450 frozen veterinary post-mortem tissue samples were accessioned. A further 1,024 frozen specimens from IOZ projects and legacy collections were added. The Biobank also received and accessioned 194 wet specimens and 507 histology slides from IOZ and ZSL teams. Research focused on developing an AI image-recognition tool to identify a wider range of reptile species, including snakes, crocodiles, alligators, lizards, tortoises and turtles, as well as processed skins and shells. Other research involved identifying pangolins, unidentified bushmeat and shark meat donated by the Metropolitan Police. A ZSL-wide Biosamples Working Group was also established to coordinate Biobank priorities and processes. The Biobank's work is supported by a large team of volunteers who contribute to the management and development of the collections.

3. Accelerating the translation and use of research to maximise conservation impact

Institute of Zoology (IOZ) research underpins conservation practice and policy, and we work with our network of partners to reduce the adverse impacts of human activities on wildlife at national, regional and global scales. Our activities are supported by staff in ZSL's Conservation and Policy directorate and two conservation Zoos, as well as ZSL's press office and engagement teams, who provide pathways through which our science is shared with the wider conservation community. IOZ policy engagement is overseen by the Policy Leadership Group, which provides a focused, strategic and advisory function that supports the delivery of ZSL's impact. In addition, a ZSL Policy Network is open to all staff who engage with, or are interested in, policy or government issues. A selection of IOZ's impact-related activities during the 2025/26 academic year are described below for each of our five Conservation Challenges.

In 2025/26, IOZ conducted conservation-relevant work in 49 countries and collaborated with 374 institutions in the UK and overseas. Over 187 species were the focus of IOZ conservation science.

Collaboration with ZSL colleagues plays an important role in IOZ's research and impact activities: of 192 IOZ projects running in 2025/26, 34 (18%) were conducted in partnership with ZSL's Conservation and Policy directorate and 6 projects (3%) with ZSL's conservation Zoos

Conservation Challenge: Biology and Recovery of Threatened Populations

Species recovery programmes

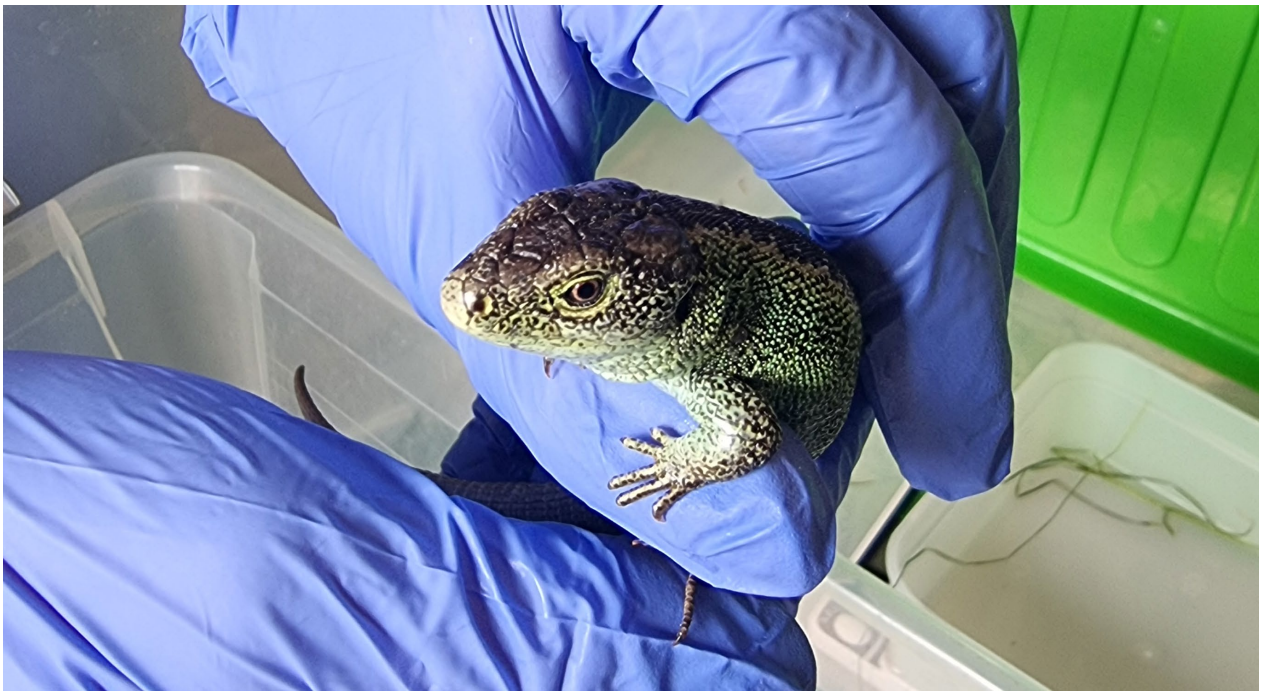
In April we concluded our multi-year work on red squirrel (*Sciurus vulgaris*) recovery planning in England with the Red Squirrel Recovery Strategy, published by Natural England. Red squirrels have declined dramatically in England due to squirrelpox virus, competition from invasive grey squirrels (*Sciurus carolinensis*), and habitat loss. A structured decision-making approach, developed by IOZ, was used to assess 18 possible conservation strategies against a series of objectives, including red squirrel recovery, cost, public acceptability, animal welfare, and impacts on non-target species. The strategies considered combinations of lethal grey squirrel management, red squirrel translocations, and potential future approaches, such as grey squirrel fertility control and a squirrelpox vaccine. The report found that doing nothing, maintaining the current approach, or relying solely on future grey squirrel fertility control would not achieve red squirrel recovery and carries a high risk of extinction across mainland England within 25 years. England-wide grey squirrel suppression provides the greatest potential for large-scale red squirrel recovery, but would involve high financial costs, potential bycatch of other species, welfare concerns, and low predicted public support. Regional approaches in Northern and South West England that include red squirrel translocations also show potential for recovery. The report provides an evidence-based framework for deciding on a national strategy, while also allowing the approach to be adapted for more local conservation decisions.

Investigating health risks for species reintroductions

IOZ's long-term programme on Disease Risk Analysis and Health Surveillance, now renamed the Wildlife Recovery Support Unit, was awarded £223,640 by Natural England to provide essential disease risk analyses and health monitoring for conservation translocations and reintroductions in England. This ongoing work ensures that appropriate disease risk assessments are carried out for animals released each year and that their health is continuously monitored. The partnership utilises the combined expertise and

experience of IOZ and Natural England to ensure that species recovery work is carried out to a high standard and follows IUCN guidelines for conservation translocations.

The Wildlife Recovery Support Unit brings together expertise in decision science, conservation planning, population modelling, wildlife health, disease risk analysis, pathology, veterinary care and project delivery. We support conservation work where decisions are complex, risks are present and outcomes matter, planning responsible conservation action that is practical, evidence based and focused on better outcomes for wildlife. In 2025/26 we continued to work with Natural England to investigate and monitor the health risks of wildlife reintroductions across Britain. We are currently involved in the restoration of over 30 UK species, including hazel dormice *(Muscardinus avellanarius)*, white tailed eagles *(Haliaeetus albicilla)*, sand lizards *(Lacerta agilis)* and beavers *(Castor fiber)*. This year we worked with Knepp Wildlife Foundation to investigate the risks of reintroducing black-veined white butterflies (*Aporia crataegi*), a species extinct in the UK since the early 1900s. Our team examined over 100 potential hazards, including the risk of viruses, bacteria and parasites. We found that the risk of introducing a novel pathogen with the butterflies is very low, but highlighted the challenges the introduced butterflies will face from parasitoid wasps and flies, and steps Knepp could take to manage those interactions. The project has been approved, paving the way for the reintroduction of these once-lost butterflies in the coming year.



Sand lizard (Lacerta agilis) undergoing a health check for the species' restoration. Photo: ZSL

The team was also awarded a total of £90,000 this year through the Natural England Species Recovery Programme to conduct a variety of disease risk analyses and decision science projects ranging from reintroducing the Montagu's harrier to Glutinous Snail translocations.

Economic benefits of the Darwin Tree of Life Project

The Darwin Tree of Life Project, led by the Wellcome Sanger Institute, is sequencing the DNA of 30,000 species across the UK and Ireland. IOZ contributes by collecting high-quality blood and tissue samples from British wildlife, working with the British Trust for Ornithology, wildlife hospitals and other conservation collaborators. A report published in April in Frontier Economics estimates that knowledge generated by the project could deliver up to £3 billion in economic benefits over the next 30 years. This ongoing investment in genomic knowledge has huge potential benefits spanning economic growth, medicine, resilient agriculture, evidence-based conservation and scientific research. The project is providing freely accessible genomic resources, developing sequencing methods and supporting species recovery - saving

the global research community up to £55 million already by providing openly accessible, high-quality reference genomes.



DNA from twite (Linaria flavirostris), a species sampled for the Darwin Tree of Life. Photo: Ava Jenkins

IUCN SSC Extinct in the Wild Action Partnership

Our work supporting the wild recovery of species that have become restricted to ex situ care in zoos, aquaria and botanic gardens globally — species listed on the IUCN Red List as Extinct in the Wild – has grown from strength to strength. In 2025/26 IOZ continued to work closely with partners on monitoring the released sihek (Guam kingfisher, *Todiramphus cinnamominus*) on Palmyra Atoll. All released birds (nine in total) have survived their second complete year in the wild – a remarkable achievement for a species which has been maintained ex situ for nearly 40 years. Our work on Extinct in the Wild species epitomises conservation in action and highlights how ZSL can combine its cutting-edge science with field conservation and the ex situ care of animals.

Recovery of Vietnamese pheasant

IoZ researchers recently worked with the Vietnam Pheasant Recovery Team, Viet Nature and local partners to support the recovery of the Critically Endangered Vietnam pheasant *(Lophura edwardsi)*. Combining field visits with a structured decision-making workshop, partners evaluated alternative approaches for a trial release. The resulting strategy prioritises learning, using strategic release treatments to address key uncertainties about how best to establish the birds in the wild. Lessons from the trial will inform future decisions through an adaptive management approach, helping to refine subsequent releases and support the long-term recovery of the species.

Conservation Challenge: Climate Change Risks and Ecosystem-Level Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies

Climate-nature policy alignment

A new IOZ report, *The Risks of Climate-Nature Silos*, examined the consequences of addressing climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation as separate policy challenges. Drawing on contributions from scientists and policy experts across 13 countries, the report argues that greater coordination between environmental policies could reduce unintended consequences and improve the effectiveness of environmental interventions. A key finding is that climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation should be considered as interconnected components of a broader nature–climate system rather than as independent challenges. Policy interventions targeting one environmental objective may generate unintended effects in other areas. For example, monoculture tree plantations established for carbon sequestration may replace species-rich grasslands, while conservation measures that do not account for changing climatic conditions may become less effective over time. The authors recommend greater coordination across national and international environmental policies, including improved alignment of the reporting mechanisms and action plans of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). The report also calls for further research into the interactions between climate change, biodiversity and land degradation, alongside increased funding for interventions that can address multiple environmental objectives simultaneously.



Greater coordination across national and international environmental policies has the potential to benefit wildlife and livelihoods. Photo Rikki Gumbs

Professor Nathalie Pettorelli was appointed as a member of the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ)'s Science and Technology Advisory Council (STAC). STAC's role is to support the DESNZ Chief Scientific Adviser in providing the department with independent, expert and cross-disciplinary advice and challenge across its remit, informing policy, delivery and strategic decisions. Professor Pettorelli was also invited to join a new Taskforce on climate and nature, bringing leading security, military and academics together to help the Government boost the UK's preparedness for the security impacts of climate change. The new taskforce will identify gaps, assess risks and provide independent recommendations and expertise on climate and nature threats to national security.

Conservation Challenge: Coexistence Between People and Wildlife

Reintroduction of cheetah into the Greater Luangwa Ecosystem

The cheetah *(Acinonyx jubatus)* has been lost from nearly 90% of its historic range in Africa, with most remaining populations increasingly fragmented and facing ongoing declines. Increasing the resilience of cheetah is therefore a priority, with restoration of the species to areas of their historic range an important approach. Priority areas for restoration are open landscapes where the original causes of decline have been effectively mitigated against. One such area is the Luangwa Valley Ecosystem in Zambia – an important wildlife area which encompasses four National Parks and numerous community-governed Game Management Areas. Cheetah were extirpated from the Luangwa Valley in the 1990s, and the area has been identified as recoverable range through government-led national conservation action planning since 2010. Building on many years of preparatory work, our cheetah reintroduction programme has now brought in an initial cohort of 12 individuals from South Africa, who will act as founders for a new population in the Luangwa Valley. The cheetah all arrived safely and settled into holding bomas, with some later being released into our purpose built 20km^2 sanctuary, ahead of their reintroduction into the wider ecosystem. The reintroduction is part of a wider project seeking to secure connectivity across the Luangwa Valley. Maintaining connectivity is vital for the new cheetah population to establish and grow, but will have widescale benefits for other species in the landscape. Securing this connectivity includes working with, and understanding, the needs of local communities in relationship to the reintroduction and land use zonation. The project is underpinned by science, and will gather detailed information that will help us understand how best to reintroduce cheetahs into large open ecosystems, including their changing interactions with their herbivore prey and other members of the large carnivore guild. The reintroduction is being delivered through a partnership between the Africa Range-Wide Cheetah Conservation Initiative (CCI), the Government of Zambia's Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW), the Zambian Carnivore Programme (ZCP), Conservation South Luangwa (CSL), the Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT), and the North Luangwa Conservation Programme within the Frankfurt Zoological Society (NLCP/FZS); funded by the Howard G. Buffett Foundation (HGBF). The project thus represents a collaborative approach to restoring cheetah populations and supporting their long-term conservation in the Luangwa Valley.



Twelve cheetah from South Africa, who will act as founders for a new population in the Luangwa Valley, have settled into holding bomas. Photo: The Luangwa Cheetah Project

Bovine TB Strategy for England

Bovine tuberculosis (bTB) is primarily a disease of cattle, but it can also infect other mammals, including both people and wildlife. Although successive governments have maintained a commitment to eliminating bTB, it remains the greatest animal health challenge for UK farmers. The ability of badgers *(Meles meles)* to become infected, and to re-infect cattle, was first recognised in the 1970s, and badger culling became a central component of bTB control policy. In 2013-2025 alone, over a quarter of a million badgers (and over 300,000 cattle) were slaughtered in attempts to control bTB. ZSL's Cornwall Badger Project was established to better understand bTB transmission, and to explore more wildlife-friendly approaches to bTB management. Having shown, on a small scale, that badger vaccination could be an effective and socially acceptable way to reduce bTB risks, in 2025 ZSL launched a joint project with the National Farmers Union to check whether the same benefits could be replicated at scale. The same year, ZSL's Rosie Woodroffe was the sole wildlife expert appointed to a small steering group, tasked by Defra to co-design a new bTB control strategy for England. The strategy, published in June 2026, sets out a science-led route towards officially Bovine TB-Free status by 2038. Developed by farmers, vets, scientists, and policymakers, the strategy represents a step change in the way that bTB is managed. Embracing scientific evidence that most cattle herds are infected by other cattle, rather than badgers, the strategy places stronger cattle controls at its centre, including improvements to cattle testing, greater autonomy for farmers to understand and manage bTB risk in their herds, and a commitment to making cattle vaccination available by 2030. In parallel with the strategy development, badger cull licences were not renewed, bringing to an end a half-century of controversial and ecologically damaging badger culling.



IOZ researcher Rosie Woodroffe vaccinating a badger. Photo: ZSL.

Conservation Challenge: Global Biodiversity Monitoring and Forecasting

Assessing population trends with the Living Planet Index

IOZ researchers have continued to strengthen the global evidence base for biodiversity trends through the Living Planet Index (LPI) and the Living Planet Database. This year, data collection focused on Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. For South America, the effort was once again supported by our ongoing collaboration with colleagues in Brazil. Strengthening regional datasets is important, as it allows for the calculation of more robust regional and national indices. The LPI plays a central role in tracking progress towards the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) and other international targets. While the goals and targets set by the GBF are global in nature, their implementation relies on national implementation and reporting. This year saw the publication of the latest update of the Canadian Species Index, which the LPI team has been responsible for developing and updating since 2013. This indicator supports the measurement of progress towards the 2022 to 2026 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy, Canada's 2030 Nature Strategy Target 4: Species recovery, as well as Goal A of the GBF. Beyond global reporting, IOZ advanced national and regional collaborations in Canada, Indonesia, and across the Asia–Pacific region and supported development of Australia's Threatened Species Index and the LPI-Catalonia, among other indicators.

Assessing Species Extinction Risks with the IUCN Red List

Work to increase the diversity of taxonomic and regional representation in the IUCN Red List has continued through the Global Swallowtail Assessment thanks to support from the Rufford Foundation. Additional support from the Indianapolis Zoo Wild Futures grant enabled IOZ to focus on Afrotropical swallowtail butterflies. Through expert consultation and review of museum materials with regional experts and collaborators at the African Butterfly Research Institute (ABRI) and the National Museums of Kenya (NMK), the project is helping to strengthen the evidence base for conservation assessments with Kenya as a focal country for developing a pathway from Red List assessment to conservation action. This work will continue next year and contribute to a Prepare-to-Plan conservation action report for Kenya, to close the gap between species assessments and action. IOZ continued to support regional, national and subnational Red List capacity building through training sessions and technical support, including initiatives for the Western Balkans hosted in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in Serbia by IUCN Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECARO), alongside a new initiative with the Government of South Australia's Department for Environment and Water (DEW) to support the application of IUCN Red List methods and technical standards for subnational assessments across the state.

The State of the Thames report

The second edition of *The State of the Thames* report brings together the expertise of 21 organisations working across the Thames. The report collates the most up-to-date monitoring data available from 21 different indicators and calculates their long- and short-term trends to evaluate the health of the Thames, providing conservationists, policy makers and industry leaders with an essential overview of the progress made so far to recover the river. The report highlights how decades of dedicated action have bettered the Thames for people and nature, including taxa such as harbour porpoises and wading birds. These improvements include lower concentrations of the toxic metals copper and zinc to below levels that can damage the aquatic ecosystem, as well as improving long- and short-term trends in dissolved oxygen, critical for fish life. The report also demonstrates how rapidly regulation can bring benefits; for example, plastic cotton bud sticks, once a common litter item in the Thames, have nearly been eliminated from its shores following the UK sale-ban in 2022. Plastic wet wipes are now a primary pollutant but face an upcoming ban. While nitrates have risen over the last 35 years, phosphorus levels have fallen since 1970 in part due to London sewage upgrades and investment in the Lee Tunnel. Excess levels of both nutrients, sourced from agriculture, sewage and industrial waste, risk oxygen-depleting algal blooms, highlighting the need for better land management and continued investment in waste management. Meanwhile, forever chemicals, including those found in some pharmaceuticals, are emerging as chemicals of concern and the report highlights the need for future monitoring and action. The impacts of climate change are

also evident, the summer temperature of the capital's waterway has increased on average by 0.13^{o}C each year since 2007, equivalent to a 1^{o} C temperature rise every eight years. Water levels by Tower Bridge and the Tower of London have also been rising - by 5mm each year on average since 1993. As water levels continue to rise, so does the risk of upstream waters becoming increasingly saline, leading to the loss of rare freshwater tidal habitat along the Thames and the interwoven communities of wildlife that it supports. Ultimately, the report emphasises that cross-government action is vital to protect the Thames. The river provides drinking water, flood protection, and economic livelihoods for nine million people. Following the report's February 2026 release, ZSL has presented these findings to lawmakers at the Wildlife and Countryside LINK's parliamentary event and a Thames-based MPs roundtable event, advocating for critical amendments to the recent Clean Water Bill's white paper and engaging MPs in the issues and practical solutions.



Juvenile short-snouted seahorses are found in the Thames, indicating localised breeding populations. Photo: Anna Cucknell.

Ocean Highways Initiative

The high seas, ocean areas beyond national borders, are critical habitats and migration routes for many marine species. Working with the Pew Bertarelli Ocean Legacy programme, ZSL has completed a feasibility study exploring how conservation can move beyond managing isolated Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) towards protecting connected Ocean Highways that enable marine life to move between protected areas. The research combined data describing biodiversity, animal movements, ocean currents, high-seas habitats and human pressures, with ecological and socio-political case studies in the South Atlantic and South Pacific. A feasibility model was developed and validated to map and prioritise potential marine corridors between static protected zones. The analysis identified significant data gaps, helping to target future research and data collection. The identified Ocean Highways show strong alignment with important marine values, particularly wilderness areas and blue carbon stocks. A complementary policy and governance review assessed the feasibility of implementing connectivity-focused conservation across

different jurisdictions and governance systems. It examined international treaties, sectoral bodies and regional organisations, including Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs), Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJs), the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs). This work identified where governance responsibilities intersect with potential corridors and helped define priorities for future engagement. The initiative provides a scalable toolkit that combines ecological and socio-political information to support dynamic, resilient networks of marine protection. It is designed to contribute scientific evidence for implementation of the BBNJ Agreement (High Seas Treaty) and support the global 30×30 commitment to conserve at least 30% of the world's oceans by 2030 under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Conservation Challenge: Wildlife and One Health in a Changing World

Flavivirus surveillance and VB-RADAR

The risk to the UK from vector-borne diseases (VBDs) is increasing due to increased international travel and trade, and the impacts of climate change and land use change. The Vector-Borne RADAR project advances our understanding of mosquito-borne diseases in wild birds that may have implications for public health, while also contributing to wildlife disease surveillance and conservation. In collaboration with the Animal and Plant Health Agency, British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) and UK Health Security Agency, the project brings together molecular scientists, disease and population ecologists, wildlife veterinarians and medical entomologists, working alongside bird ringers, wildlife rehabilitators and citizen scientists. Our findings on orthoflavivirus detection in wild birds and mosquitoes contributed to the first government One Health vector-borne disease surveillance report, published in May 2026. The report combines animal and human health data to provide the most comprehensive overview of vectors and associated diseases in England to date. Further funding from the Integrated Security Fund Biosecurity Portfolio has been secured to develop aspects of this research in 2026/27 as the 3-year UKRI-funded grant ends.



The recent decline in blackbirds (Turdus merula) in the UK is linked to mosquito borne Usutu virus. Photo: RSPB

Finch trichomonosis and supplementary feeding of garden birds

Finch trichomonosis is a parasitic disease that has caused greenfinch *(Chloris chloris)* population declines in recent decades, sufficient to prompt species Red-listing, as well as ongoing chaffinch declines in Great Britain. The disease also affects a range of other finch species and may represent an important additional threat to other species already of conservation concern, including hawfinch. IOZ has a long-standing

collaboration with the BTO and Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) to investigate the epidemiology and impact of finch trichomonosis in Great Britain. This work is delivered through disease surveillance undertaken as part of the Garden Wildlife Health project. IOZ is working together with the BTO and RSPB on research, co-funded by Natural England and the RSPB, to improve understanding of how the disease can best be mitigated. Investigations are ongoing to identify risk factors associated with finch trichomonosis outbreak occurrence and to better understand how the *Trichomonas gallinae* parasite is transmitted between birds in gardens. This work includes field trials of new bird feeders designed to mitigate disease transmission. IOZ vet, Dr Becki Lawson, was invited to join a Technical Steering Group, convened by the RSPB Centre for Conservation Science, to conduct a literature review of the effects of supplementary feeding on birds and people. The review, published in spring 2026, helped inform the RSPB's decision to update their guidance for supplementary feeding of garden birds in April 2026, with a focus on 'feed seasonally, feed safely'.



The Garden Wildlife Health project is informing conservation of hedgehogs in the UK. Photo: RSPB

Supporting hedgehog recovery

The Garden Wildlife Health project's archive of samples from post-mortem examinations has enabled research into hedgehog *(Erinaceus europaeus)* population genetics and revealed widespread exposure to second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides in this species of conservation concern. By uncovering previously unrecognised pressures on hedgehogs and providing evidence of contaminant risks, our research has identified, and informed government of, the lack of evidence so far that the Rodenticide Stewardship Scheme has reduced hedgehogs' exposure to these chemicals.

Launch of a regional One Health network in Central Asia

A three-day Regional Laboratory Diagnostics Workshop held in Almaty in April brought together wildlife health and laboratory experts from six Central Asian countries and the UK. The workshop strengthened practical skills in wildlife disease surveillance, including field sampling, biosafety and molecular diagnostics, while promoting knowledge exchange and cross-border collaboration. The initiative has also supported the development of a regional One Health network, providing a platform for continued cooperation on wildlife health and zoonotic disease risks amid changing environmental and ecosystem pressures.

4. Building capacity through teaching and training

The integration of Institute of Zoology (IOZ) with ZSL creates a unique environment for teaching and training that allows staff and students to work alongside wildlife conservation professionals, as well as providing access to ZSL's two conservation zoos. This creates opportunities and experiences for students that go beyond their immediate academic disciplines. ZSL colleagues contribute practitioner perspectives to IOZ's teaching and training, including through the delivery of lectures and modules to our MSc courses, supervision of MSc student projects, and co-supervision of PhD students.

PhD Students

In 2025/26 IOZ hosted 74 PhD students, including 14 new students. The majority of new students are working on projects that cut across two or more of our five Conservation Challenges, highlighting the interdisciplinary nature of IOZ research. The 14 projects are:

- Bending the curve - restoring biodiversity by understanding taxon-biome responses to global threats
- Computer vision depth models of wildlife imagery for conservation monitoring
- Design principles for human-wildlife coexistence
- Endocrine disruption in marine mammals: relationships between contaminant exposure and reproductive physiology in the common harbour porpoise
- Establishing past biodiversity baselines to guide UK wetland and freshwater nature recovery
- From cognition to conservation: using cognitive and behavioural research to enhance red-billed chough reintroductions
- Genomic approaches to understanding connectivity, genetic viability, and population dynamics in cheetahs across the Eastern Africa landscape
- How can AI-based insect monitoring technologies enhance large-scale insect monitoring?
- Impacts of snaring and prey loss on lion ecology in Tsavo National Park
- Marine forests in flux: the impact of climate change on seaweed carbon sequestration
- Novel biosensor technology for environmental surveillance of emerging infectious diseases
- Optimising native oyster restoration: low-cost monitoring, biodiversity assessment and hydrodynamic modelling to enhance reef recovery in Essex
- The biology and palaeobiology of living and extinct small mammals
- Using biologging to prioritise conservation actions for an endangered African carnivore

IOZ is not a degree-awarding institution, so our PhD students are co-registered with university partners. The 14 new students in 2025/26 were co-registered at eleven universities, namely Birkbeck University of London, Queen Mary University of London, University College London, University of Bristol, University of Exeter, University of Glasgow, University of Leeds, University of Portsmouth, University of Reading, University of Swansea, as well as the University of Wyoming (USA).

In 2025/26 the first students arrived through the new NERC Doctoral Landscape Awards (DLAs), the successors to the DTPs. We are full partners on the TREES DLA (led by UCL) and the CROCUS DLA (led by University of Reading). We are collaborative partners on the GW4+ DLA (led by University of Bristol), the ILESLA DLA (led by University of Oxford, jointly funded by BBSRC and NERC) and the ACCE+ DLA (led by University of Liverpool). We are also a core partner on AI_INTERVENE (led by University of Reading), a NERC Doctoral Focal Award (DFA) and successor to the CDTs, which focuses on the use of artificial

intelligence for biodiversity monitoring, forecasting and management. These programmes will keep recruiting through 2029 (2030 for ILESLA), apart from AI-INTERVENE, which recruits to 2027.

Of the 14 students who joined IOZ in 2025/26, three were through TREES, three through CROCUS, two through GW4+, one through AI-INTERVENE and one through the BBSRC Yorkshire Bioscience DTP. The other four joined through other funding routes, including one overseas student registered at the University of Wyoming. We have no students yet from ILESLA or ACCE+. We have also submitted a bid as a full partner on SECURE (led by Imperial College London), a DFA whose first intake would be in 2027.

Cost recovery for our PhD students is based on fee-sharing arrangements with our university partners. In 2025/26, full partnership arrangements accounted for 53% (39/74) of PhD students. We typically recover 50% of the student fees, which contributes towards the cost of supporting these students.

Overall, 18 IOZ PhD students submitted theses during the academic year, with 100% completing within four years.

MSc Students

Masters courses with University College London (UCL)

Our partnership with UCL Masters courses now extends to five courses, continuing to provide core teaching on methods and practice in conservation science for the well-established MSc in Biodiversity and Global Change and MRes in Biodiversity, Evolution and Conservation, as well as some input on advanced computational methods for the newer MSc courses in Ecology and Data Science, Ecology and Urban Engineering, and Ecology, Climate Change and Health. A high proportion of the 81 students on these courses completed research projects with IOZ, making an important contribution to our research.



UCL MSc students and course supervisors at UCL East. Photo: Jim Labisko

Masters courses with the Royal Veterinary College (RVC)

Our MScs in Wild Animal Biology (WAB) and Wild Animal Health (WAH) are run in partnership with RVC but primarily delivered by IOZ and other ZSL staff, providing scientifically rigorous, practically oriented training at the nexus of animal conservation, management and health. This year we conducted a once-a-decade periodic review of the course, when external and internal examiners scrutinised every aspect of the course from academic standards through to career progression of our students. We received a glowing review with examiners highlighting our teaching quality and enthusiasm and the high numbers of our students who have gone on to successful careers in conservation. We increased student numbers in 2025/6 and hope to remain stable for the coming year.



2025/26 MSc Wild Animal Biology/Health students and supervisors at Whipsnade Zoo for a practical session on wildlife disease Investigation and surveillance. Photo: Amber Wyard

Residencies

The ZSL/RVC partnership is the only place in Europe that hosts European College of Zoological Medicine residency programmes in both Wildlife Population Health (WPH) and Zoo Health Management (ZHM). The former is hosted by IOZ, the latter by ZSL's Wildlife Health Services. These programmes are validated by the European Board of Veterinary Specialisation and build on ZSL's international reputation as a world-leader in veterinary zoological practice and education, augmenting global capacity to promote wild animal welfare and conservation. While IOZ's WPH programme has been re-certified by the ECZM until 2029, lack of funds to support a stipend mean that we have been unable to recruit a current WPH resident.

Student Numbers

Because IOZ is not a degree-awarding institution, student numbers depend largely upon enrolments at the universities with which we collaborate. In accordance with national trends, partly due to declining enrolments of international students, there has been a gradual decline in our PhD student numbers in recent years. An additional factor is that our participation in UKRI-funded Doctoral Landscape Awards and similar programmes is increasingly constrained by fee-sharing restrictions imposed by universities in the consortia. IOZ is now actively exploring new avenues for bringing in PhD students under fee-sharing agreements with collaborating universities.

Course	Partner University	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26
PhD students	Various	83	86	80	75	75	74
MSc Wild Animal Health	RVC	10	9	4	0	0	2
MSc Wild Animal Biology	RVC	18	17	15	14	16	21
MSci Wild Animal Biology	RVC	12	9	10	7	1	0
MRes Biodiversity Evolution and Conservation	UCL	16	18	17	14	11	19
MSc Biodiversity and Global Change	UCL	Started 2021/22	12	17	25	19	12
MSc Ecology and Data Science	UCL		Started 2022/23	18	27	32	36
MSc Ecology and Urban Engineering	UCL				Started 2024/25	4	5
MSc Ecology, Climate Change and Health	UCL				Started 2024/25	6	9
TOTAL		**139**	**151**	**161**	**162**	**164**	**178**

Practitioner Training

IOZ's research programmes offer opportunities to train conservation practitioners, and support development of in-country expertise. A snapshot of these activities during the reporting year is given below.

Growing local conservation leadership

The 2026 EDGE Conservation Tools Course was held over 28 days in Jan-Feb in Kumasi, Ghana, delivered in partnership with Herp Ghana and CSIR-Forestry Research Institute of Ghana. The course covered project planning and management, social and ecological research methods, conservation leadership, fundraising and the human dimensions of conservation. The seven EDGE Fellows, from Ghana, Tanzania, Mozambique, Cameroon, Indonesia and Colombia, were joined by eight additional participants from Ghana and Kenya. Training was delivered by EDGE, IOZ and C&P staff from the ZSL Cameroon office, along with trainers from RBG Kew and Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology.



EDGE Fellows completing the Conservation Tools Course before embarking on two-year conservation projects, translating IOZ science into locally led action for some of the world's most evolutionarily distinct and globally endangered species. Photo: EDGE

Reverse the Red Accelerator Award finalist session

IOZ contributed to global practitioner training through the Reverse the Red Accelerator Award programme. The Accelerator programme supports conservation practitioners working to reverse declines in threatened species and ecosystems. In the online session "Leveraging the IUCN Red List and Green Status in your Conservation Work", Sophie Ledger delivered the IUCN Red List section, strengthening participants understanding of IUCN Red List assessments and their uses in conservation planning and decision-making processes. The session reached 44 Accelerator Award finalists from around the world, including 24 participants from low- and middle-income countries, and helped build capacity for evidence-based conservation action across a diverse global cohort of practitioners. By strengthening understanding and application of the IUCN Red List, these initiatives help ensure that conservation decisions are informed by robust evidence and aligned with global best practice.

Capacity building for IUCN National Red Lists

IOZ continued to support practitioner capacity development in the application of the IUCN Red List through a series of national and regional training activities. In collaboration with IUCN Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECARO), we contributed to a high-level session with the Biodiversity Task Force of the Western Balkans in Bosnia and Herzegovina, introducing National Red Lists and their role in biodiversity monitoring, conservation planning and policy development. Building on this engagement, and organised by IUCN ECARO, IOZ co-developed and delivered a three-day regional capacity-building workshop in Serbia, for 14 practitioners from government agencies, academic institutions and NGOs across the Western Balkan Six. Structured around the IUCN Guidelines for Establishing a National Red List Programme, the training strengthened technical knowledge and fostered regional collaboration to support future biodiversity monitoring and reporting efforts in the region. The programme also provided an opportunity to identify barriers to National Red List implementation and, crucially, to help shape future capacity-building priorities, resources and support for countries developing National Red List programmes.



Capacity-building for IUCN National Red Lists workshop, Serbia. Photo: IUCN ECARO

Strengthening wildlife disease surveillance in Central Asia

In April, IOZ co-organised a three-day Regional Laboratory Diagnostics Workshop in Almaty with the National Center for Biotechnology of Kazakhstan, hosted with the support of the Institute of Zoology of the Republic of Kazakhstan, as part of the IKI-funded project "One Health in Nature Conservation in Central Asia". The workshop brought together scientists and laboratory specialists from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to strengthen national capacity for wildlife disease surveillance. Hands-on training covered molecular diagnostics for zoonotic pathogens in wildlife, including PCR, Sanger sequencing, interpretation of sequencing data and primer design, alongside sessions on biosafety, safe handling of equipment, potentially infectious samples, field sampling design and the links between biodiversity loss, climate change and zoonotic disease emergence. Javier Sánchez Romano and Fay Webster co-organised the workshop, with Fay attending to deliver talks on wildlife disease ecology and surveillance. Beyond the technical skills gained, the workshop laid the foundations for a new regional One Health in Nature Conservation network, launched by the project to support knowledge exchange, training opportunities and practical experience across Central Asia.



Building capacity for wildlife disease surveillance in Central Asia. Photo: Institute of Zoology of the Republic of Kazakhstan

In total, during 2025/26, 589 conservation practitioners participated in IOZ training, including 224 overseas participants (129 trainees from low- and middle-income countries).

5. Inspiring audiences to care about and better understand wildlife and its conservation

A key part of our work involves communicating science to a range of audiences, and we are in a unique position to engage with over two million visitors to ZSL's Zoos annually. Our programming creates opportunities for Institute of Zoology (IOZ) staff and students to discuss research with public audiences and provides pathways to impact through policy and practitioner engagement. The full cost of ZSL's communications and Learned Society activities, including our public lecture series, symposia and outreach, is met by income from ZSL's portfolio of scientific journals.

Science and Conservation Events

To celebrate ZSL's 200th anniversary, our free public lecture series was restyled as Wild Talks, which continued to showcase new ZSL research and demonstrate how our work has influenced public understanding of science over the past 200 years. The Wild Talks series included six hybrid events, hosted by well-known figures, including author Dr Chris van Tulleken and broadcaster Lizzie Daly, contributing to the broad reach of the series. All event recordings are posted on the ZSL Science and Conservation YouTube channel, increasing accessibility to a global audience. Topics included 'Wild Health: People, Nature & One Health', 'Breaking Barriers: Women in Wildlife' and 'Conservation by Design: Technology & the Future of Wildlife Protection'. More than 1,800 people registered for the Wild Talks series. Attendee feedback shows that 90% felt inspired to learn more about science and conservation, 84% felt empowered to share the knowledge they learned and engage with others on the topic, and 80% felt empowered to make choices that benefit wildlife and its future. To date, 46 Science and Conservation Events have been uploaded to the YouTube channel, which accrued 12.3k views in the reporting year. Nearly half of all views (47.7%) correlate to YouTube Shorts; short-form clips showcasing our scientific events, the ZSL Wild Science podcast, and IOZ research. More than 3,400 people now subscribe to the channel (a 5.6% increase from the previous year).



Dr Chris van Tulleken hosting a Wild Talks event on Wildlife Health: People Nature & One Health. Photo: ZSL

Wild Science Podcast

Five new episodes of the Wild Science Podcast were released during the year, with episodes downloaded over 14k times from platforms including Spotify and Apple in more than 70 countries. Episodes explored topics ranging from evidence-based animal care in zoos, to the restoration of Darwin's frog populations and threat of chytridiomycosis. Episodes also featured representatives from other organisations such as the Postcode Lottery, who offer unrestricted funding to ZSL to further our species rescue work, and the Wellcome Sanger Institute, who lead the Darwin Tree of Life project, of which the IOZ is a partner. To date there have been over 105,711 downloads across all episodes, which feature interviews recorded online, in-person and in the field.

Public Engagement with Science

Engaging young learners

IOZ staff and students work with Senior Learning Officers to embed science in ZSL's formal educational programmes and teaching resources, including ZSL's Education Access Scheme, which offers schools and colleges in Camden, Westminster and L1 to L7 postcodes (Luton/Bedfordshire) unlimited term-time access to ZSL London and ZSL Whipsnade Zoos. During the year 32,324 school visitors were able to engage with ZSL's work via the Education Access Scheme, with 13,255 participating in a guided conservation science activity. Live, online outreach activities, including Scientist in Your Classroom sessions, held during Biology Week and Science Week, reached 2,723 learners during the year.

Inside Nature

Inside Nature, a free, first-of-its-kind education programme bringing real-world wildlife science directly into classrooms across the UK, was launched in November. Designed for biology students from GCSE to T Level Animal Care and Management, the programme provides access to wildlife necropsies, through learning packs available on TES (the Times Educational Supplement website). Developed in consultation with teachers, *Inside Nature* supports key learning objectives while helping students visualise biological concepts and understand how scientific research into animal health, emerging diseases and threats to wildlife contributes to conservation. The series includes a necropsy of a porpoise, highlighting the work of the Cetacean Strandings Investigation Programme (CSIP).

Nature Communications Academy

In 2026, ZSL launched a five-day Nature Communications course for 16–25-year-olds, designed to develop the next generation of nature communicators. The course features input from IOZ staff, with one day dedicated to podcasting and audio production, co-created using expertise and experience gained from producing the Wild Science podcast. Each iteration of the course, which took place twice in the reporting year, features recent IOZ publications that are used to form the basis of students' final projects. Each course can support 12 students, with half of the places offered free to young people from backgrounds underrepresented in conservation.

Careers events

Our expertise in communicating science is also demonstrated through supporting ZSL's Conservation Education team's careers weeks, such as Camden Summer University, Zoo Academy, and ZSL Careers Course. Workshops delivered aimed to give an overview of science communication, with specific examples of how we communicate IOZ's scientific research to a broader audience. Similar workshops were also delivered to incoming Masters and PhD students.

UCL/ZSL: Reimagining the Studio of Animal Art

As part of the joint UCL/ZSL bicentenary programme, ZSL collaborated with the Slade School of Fine Art, UCL Biosciences and the Grant Museum of Zoology to explore drawing as a tool for scientific observation and communication. From March to May 2026, students took part in five interdisciplinary sessions at London Zoo, UCL's Grant Museum of Zoology and ZSL's Library and Archives, combining guided tours, archival and object-based learning, artist-led drawing workshops and digital methods. Students used drawing to investigate animal form and movement, museum collections, wildlife research and conservation, while discussions considered the ethical and sustainability issues surrounding animals and scientific collections. The project demonstrated how artistic and scientific approaches can complement one another, using observation and visual communication to encourage a deeper understanding of zoology, conservation and biodiversity.



IOZ staff and UCL Art and Biosciences students drawing at London Zoo. Photo: ZSL.

Soapbox Science

Our international public outreach platform Soapbox Science showcases the work of women and non-binary scientists by placing them on soapboxes in public spaces in a fun, informal setting. Each event offers scientists a chance to break free of conventional communication methods, such as lectures, and aims to inspire young scientists of the future while challenging limiting stereotypes about what a scientist looks like. During the year, 36 Soapbox Science events were held in 14 countries including 432 speakers and reaching an audience of over 36,000 people. Women are significantly under-represented in science: only 33% of scientists globally are women – and only 26% in the UK. In addition, many reports still fail to consider non-binary people when monitoring diversity in STEM. Through its work spotlighting women and non-binary researchers, Soapbox Science is working to tackle this imbalance by inspiring future scientists. Soapbox Science also celebrated 15 years since the first event in London, and marked this occasion with a special event, inviting past notable speakers to return and give presentations for a second time.



Soapbox Science Cape Town, South African. Photo: Soapbox Science

Recruiting Citizen Scientists

IOZ has a strong track record of enlisting help from citizen scientists. The participation of citizen scientists enables projects to run in the long-term that would otherwise be logistically and financially unfeasible, while simultaneously engaging and inspiring the wider public with our research and impact activities. During the reporting year, the Garden Wildlife Health project received c.3500 Disease Incident Reports from members of the public. Our programme of activities to celebrate ZSL/UCL joint bicentenaries included 12 Bioblitzes, which were attended by 55 UCL students, who contributed to our audit of frozen biological samples in ZSL's biobank. At London HogWatch, hedgehogs and co-occurring species are monitored using camera-trap surveys. Many surveys are conducted at a large scale, including deployments of up to 150 cameras, making citizen scientist involvement essential to both data collection and processing. In 2026 over 150 citizen scientists received practical training in camera-trapping techniques, including camera deployment, calibration and data-collection protocols. Citizen scientists are also trained through HogWatch workshops, using images captured by camera traps to develop identification skills and increase awareness of local wildlife. During the year 31 people have attended species ID workshops, after which they contribute to image classification through the online platform Zooniverse. Volunteers who have not attended in-person workshops are provided with online training materials before beginning image classification. Fifty-five volunteers have been trained this way, helping to promote consistent and reliable species identification. The generous contributions of citizen scientists allows large-scale data collection and image processing, enabling a greater number of sites to be surveyed and a more complete picture of hedgehog populations across Greater London.



Citizen scientists deploying camera traps in Bushy Park, London. Photo: London HogWatch

Press and Media

From 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026, ZSL's science was profiled in 1,196 news articles, reaching an estimated 787,564,665 people and delivering an equivalent advertising value of £8,411,855.

Coverage reflected the breadth and impact of ZSL's conservation science, from global biodiversity and climate policy to species recovery and wildlife health. Highlights included research into chytrid transmission in Darwin's frogs and the role of antimicrobial peptides in chytrid tolerance, helping to advance understanding of one of the world's most devastating wildlife diseases. Major environmental stories included the publication of State of the Thames II, analysis of climate-nature silos, and a blog exploring the importance of the Congo Basin as a global carbon sink. ZSL experts also contributed to significant policy and conservation milestones, including the launch of Defra's bTB elimination strategy and updates on the RSPB supplementary feeding programme.

International conservation successes generated strong interest, including news of cheetah reintroductions in Zambia and the EDGE Angiosperms and EDGE Crayfish assessments. Coverage also reflected ZSL's role in scientific collaboration through the Darwin 'Tree of Life' Economic Impact Report, while profile-raising opportunities included the announcement of Becki Lawson MBE, alongside public engagement initiatives such as Wild Talks and Soapbox Science. Together, these stories showcased the diversity of ZSL's research portfolio and its contribution to tackling some of the most pressing challenges facing wildlife and ecosystems worldwide.

6. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

2025/26 has been a difficult year for our work on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI), as we lost our EDI officer towards the end of 2025, significantly impacting our work on delivering the next iteration of our EDI Action Plan (2025/28). Despite losing this support, our EDI committee has continued to meet regularly and has made progress on several initiatives. Furthermore, we recruited two new PhD students to join and strengthen the EDI committee and represent PhD student voices. Specifically, we finalised guidance on inclusive authorship to promote equity in research outputs and built on last year's introduction of Performance Advisory Committees (PACs), rolling it out to more post-doctoral research assistants. Feedback on PACs has been, to date, very positive, enabling IOZ staff to broaden their connections with colleagues across career stages and to access a more diverse portfolio of perspectives on how best to navigate their career development.

For students, we have reflected and acted upon the results of our recent student wellbeing survey and have put in place a number of measures to address concerns raised. This has included expanding professional development opportunities by offering a new portfolio of in-house courses, delivered monthly, on topics ranging from scientific writing to statistics and policy. We have also increased our financial support to address student financial stressors. This includes providing travel funds for PhD students who live outside London to attend internal conferences, providing a free meal every week to students working on-site, and investing in our PhD student facilities to provide a more motivating and productive working environment. To strengthen support to students, we have also revised and updated our supervisor eligibility guidelines and allocated funds to build stronger peer networks through monthly pizza lunches, student-led social activities, and the annual PhD student writing retreat.

We continued to recognise our student contributions to EDI through three Student Awards to recognise contributions to co-designed research, public engagement, and workplace inclusion. We also continued to support the development of ZSL's new EDI Strategy, embedding representation from our EDI committee on ZSL's EDI strategy group. We continue to share resources and opportunities, along with contact for ZSL's wider support networks through monthly EDI newsletters.

7. Environmental Sustainability

In 2025 the Sustainability Committee at the Institute of Zoology (IOZ), comprising academic staff and students, published its second Carbon Management Report, which brought together all available data on greenhouse gas emissions associated with IOZ's work over the previous year. The third Carbon Management Report is due to be published imminently and will describing changes in IOZ's environmental impact since the previous report. Recognising the importance of addressing environmental impacts beyond greenhouse gas emissions, we have progressed the implementation of the IOZ Sustainability Action Plan. The IOZ Sustainability Action Plan is aligned with the wider ZSL Strategy, which embeds environmental sustainability as a key component of ensuring organisational resilience. Recent progress includes committing ZSL to formally support the UKRI Concordat for the Environmental Sustainability of Research and Innovation Practice, ensuring that IOZ and ZSL follow best practice in sustainability and research. Additionally, we reviewed the impacts of adapting lab practices to minimise energy usage through raising the temperatures of deep freezers, as well as produced a report on the environmental impacts of AI usage in research. The IOZ Sustainability Committee will continue the implementation of the IOZ Sustainability Action Plan in close alignment with the ZSL Decarbonisation Plan Working Group, serving as a test case for developing approaches suitable for adoption in other departments across ZSL.

Appendix A. Institute of Zoology Publications

(1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026)

Journal articles

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