Red river hog ... a colorful pig bursting with personality!

Why exhibit red river hogs?

- Catch and hold the attention of your guests with these brightly-colored, tassel-eared pigs; their striped piglets are a HUGE draw.
- Large family groups of this active species create a dynamic hoofstock display.
- Multitask your exhibits: red river hogs can be kept with a variety of birds and larger ungulates like giraffe, antelope, and zebras.
- Existing savanna or mixed species hoofstock exhibits can accommodate this species with minimal (if any) modifications.
- Enhance the experience of visitors (and facilitate animal husbandry) by capitalizing on the intelligence of this species: red river hogs are easily trained to perform complex behaviors.
- Reinforce conservation messages surrounding the bushmeat trade on wildlife.

Measurements

- Length: 3.5-5 feet
- Height: 2.5 feet at shoulder
- Weight: 100-225 lbs

Care and Husbandry

**YELLOW SSP:** 74.77 (151) in 46 AZA institutions (2019)

**Species coordinator:** Matt James, Dallas Zoo

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**Social nature:** Can be kept in pairs and large family groups. This species is very dynamic and interactive, frequently displaying social behaviors and a variety of vocalizations.

**Mixed species:** Mixed with large and small hoofstock (antelope, giraffe, cattle, zebras), medium-sized primates, bat-eared foxes, and various birds. Adequate space is needed to alleviate conflicts.

**Housing:** A tropical species that is not very cold tolerant. Supplemental heat should be provided in temperatures below 45°F. Red river hogs enjoy wallowing and wading in small water features.

**Medical notes:** Generally robust. Easily trained for medical procedures including injections, ultrasounds, blood draws, and hoof work. Prone to overheating during anesthesia, restraint, and transport.

**Special requirements:** Exposure to very rough substrates should be minimized. Competition over food may occur in small holdings.

**Keeper resources:** Typical cleaning of exhibit and holding areas. A variety of enrichment is necessary to keep animals stimulated.

Please contact the TAG for full husbandry guidelines.

[Website: http://www.azaungulates.org/](http://www.azaungulates.org/)

Stewardship Opportunities

Bushmeat Crisis Task Force:

[Website: http://www.bushmeat.org/](http://www.bushmeat.org/)