



Monde Sauvage Safari Parc. Elephant Management Evolution into the future.

[Elephant Business Incorporated](#) was contacted in December 2015 to perform an operation evaluation of the elephant management style and recommend positive changes which on follow up visit be implemented towards a positive and safe elephant management system at the Parc.

The two African elephants that are at Monde Sauvage Safari Parc are a result of drop off from institutions that needed to move an elephant out for various reasons. The male Afrique came from a circus that were having problem with him when he was young he is now in his thirties and the female Wankie, came from a well-known German Zoo for the same reason and she is in her late twenties.

Both elephants were too much in terms of handling experience for Monde Sauvage.

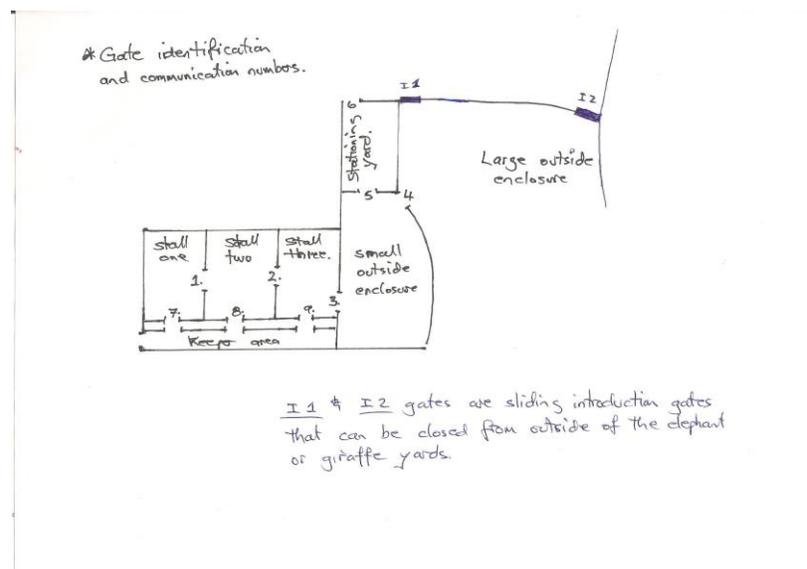
My visit was focused on two areas of their operation:

Safety of the staff, welfare of the elephants and institutional credibility where Monde Sauvage and EAZA were concerned. Following the path they were on would have created a situation in any of those areas to where human safety was at stake, institutional credibility was in question and EAZA as their accrediting agency would be called into account for not giving them advice nor direction towards a safe nor welfare orientated elephant program.

My first point of observation was safety of staff where they interface with the elephants.

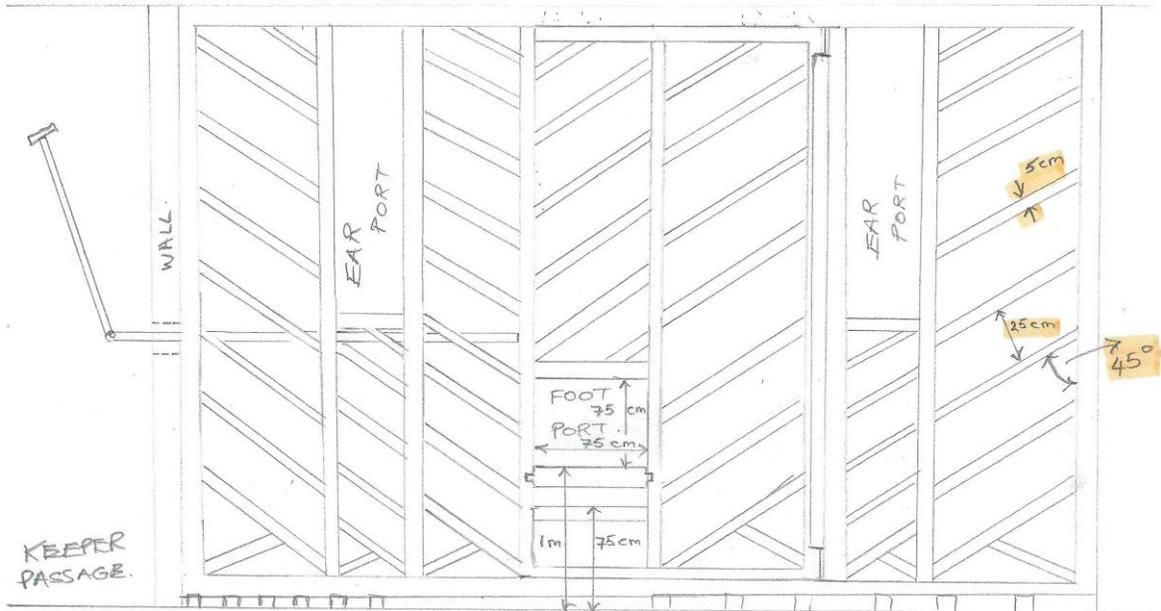
Swinging doors into sliding doors with PC husbandry & medical access.

Drawings of PC wall barn gate identification design.



PROPOSED TRAINING WALL DESIGN
FROM STALL THREE

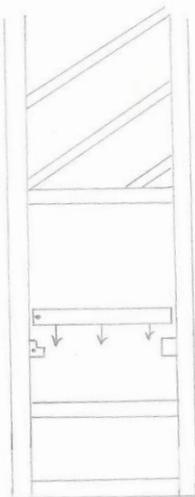
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3

*FOOT PORT DETAILS, FOOT REST
FOR THE BULL.



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Old swinging gate that keepers had to lock behind the elephant, new PC wall gate. We have one more gate to change inside on the bull gate. The steel work is already done and will be installed the week of May 29th. This will make inside gates sliding and operated from the outside of the stall. No more keepers in the stalls with the elephants to close gate.

Training and husbandry access.



Roocroft introducing training with Wankie.



Passing it on to Michael head of elephants.

We were teaching her to place her foot on the wooden block extension so she will in a week or so have her foot on the bar in place when we perform foot care, medical inspections and hygiene washing as the program expands.

I am surprised when I see young people being allowed to interface with elephants through vertical bars.

The safety and future of the program will depend on the operational style at the time and usually through ignorance, never considers when the older people leave and the younger less experienced staff take over how the program will affect the management/owner of the zoo, if something serious should happen with either the staff or elephants.

My focus at Monde Sauvage was to introduce a philosophy that would service and protected the staff, introduce a style of operation that supported clear welfare for the elephants using their own biology and that could be replicated by any zoo in the world with an interest of leaving a legacy for the community.

Mr. JR Renton, Monde Sauvage Safari Parc owner, CEO and founder was interested in introducing change at his Parc and ultimately be an example to the Zoo community and allowed me to lay out a plan into the future.

In terms of a program evaluation I can be the worst or best person to bring in and will not compromise safety or elephant welfare so to institute change as my focus was very clear.

Habitat preparation and welfare standards.

Elephants all over the world in our zoos spend unusually long hours in small, dark, dirty rooms overnight. This can hardly be called a habitat for complicated species of animal. The light for me is that there are also many zoos trying to change this situation.



Afrique over the next years be getting a large in side sand area where he can stretch his legs at night move around freely and lay down on clean sand under a clear roof and follow the light cycles of the season.

I am happy to say I have been given assurances that these changes will be implemented at Monde Sauvage in the next years.

Environmental support.

Creating habitat for elephant's demands change in daily operation. It needs imagination and the use of their natural history. An elephant never turns off its program and will deteriorate significantly if it's not supported.





Wankie taking advantage of the new sand mounds and the habitat preparation team at the Parc.

Three extra gates will be needed in the old set up till we broaden the size of the habitat in the coming years.

- The entrance door to the house will need to be made weather tight and bigger and larger for Afrique.
- The swinging gate from the small side yard to the bigger yard needs to be designed as a sliding gate to eliminate the need for keepers to go into the enclosure with the elephants.
- For bringing fresh sand into the yard a new swinging gate will be necessary.

Food delivery apparatus.

- Swinging hay net feeders so food can be given through the day and so the hay is not just thrown on the ground for naturally browsing animal.

- Basket feeders. A drawing was left behind on this visit so the Parc welder can build his own design.
- Zip line hanging feeders across the yard attached at the barn and anchored on a pole for the height and reaching possibilities.



Swinging feeder.



Zip line with multiple feeders attached.

I am very happy to help Monde Savage Safari Parc assemble their new elephant program which should stand as an example to the rest of the elephant/zoo community. Thanks for the opportunity to assist.