

The Willamette River Zoo – A Zookeeping Database

URL: <http://flip1.engr.oregonstate.edu:8080/>

Project Changes

The database design for the Willamette River Zoo has undergone many changes since its original inception. Our initial proposal was rudimentary, largely due to our general lack of understanding of the project's finer requirements. Over the course of this term our vision has been fleshed out and expanded upon but is still simple and refined in the end.

Other than minor changes to capitalization and pluralization, our entities have remained consistent throughout our project. Their attributes, however, have gone through many iterations of change. Many of them were originally set to hold values that really should be the result of queries. For example, our Species entity had an attribute 'SpeciesPopulation' that displayed how many animals of that type there were, instead of allowing a user SELECT query this. Each entity had one or more of this type of attribute, so changing them all to non-query variables not only made for a more useful database, but also helped differentiate them from one another.

The other major issue our project proposal had concerned the relationships between entities. While a significant portion of our confusion likely resulted from the attributes, we also struggled to understand how to depict/implement them altogether. It wasn't until we created the .sql file and figured out the FKs that the 1:M relationships clicked. The M:M relationship made much more sense after fixing our broken schema and added the critical relationship table. The ERD and schema gradually became their current versions by week 7 and was last design hurdle we had to clear.

Our website started out with just a few links in the first html step, but quickly grew to a fully-fledged front end in just a week's time. We ran into some issues hosting the pages and then connecting the database to them but managed to resolve them rather quickly. Most of the peer feedback we received in the final weeks were suggestions on how to polish the website, but that the query fields themselves appeared to work fine. Our final addition is the relationship table that was pointed out we were missing.

Project Outline

The Willamette River Zoo is rapidly expanding and needs an efficient way to manage all its employees and animals. In recent months, they have grown to 25 zookeepers, 28 different species, 8 exhibits, and 180 total animals. Specifically, they need to ensure that the number of employees is appropriate for the number of exhibits and animals on display. The zoo also needs to ensure that an exhibit can support the animals it contains and can only sustainably house a certain number of unique species. For the social and reproductive health of the animals, each species always needs to be represented with an adequate number of animals.

A database will help the zoo organize this data and ensure that operations are running both sustainably and profitably. It is their priority to properly take care of the animals and educate the public but would like to do with a minimum number of zookeepers and efficiently as possible. Implementation of the database will reveal if there are currently areas over-capacity, inappropriately staffed, or have room for expansion.

Database Outline

zookeepers – Zoo employees who take care the animals in each exhibit

- keeper_id – PK, auto increment, not NULL, int; unique identifier for zookeeper.
- keeper_name – varchar; full name of zookeeper.
- max_exhibits - int; maximum number of exhibits the zookeeper could manage.
- keeper_total – int; total number of animals responsible for.
- Relationships
 - zookeeper-exhibit: A zookeeper must manage at least one exhibit. And each exhibit must be managed by at least one zookeeper. (M:M)

animals – each individual animal that lives in the zoo

- animal_id – PK, auto increment, not NULL, int; unique identifier for animal
- animal_name - varchar; name of animal
- species_type – FK, varchar; which will be the species_name number (in species entity)
- exhibit_home – FK, int; which will be the exhibit_id number (in exhibit entity)
- Relationships
 - animal-exhibit: An animal can only ever belong to one exhibit. Each exhibit can contain many animals (including zero). (1:M)
 - animal-species: An animal can only ever belong to one species. Each species can contain many animals (including zero). (1:M)

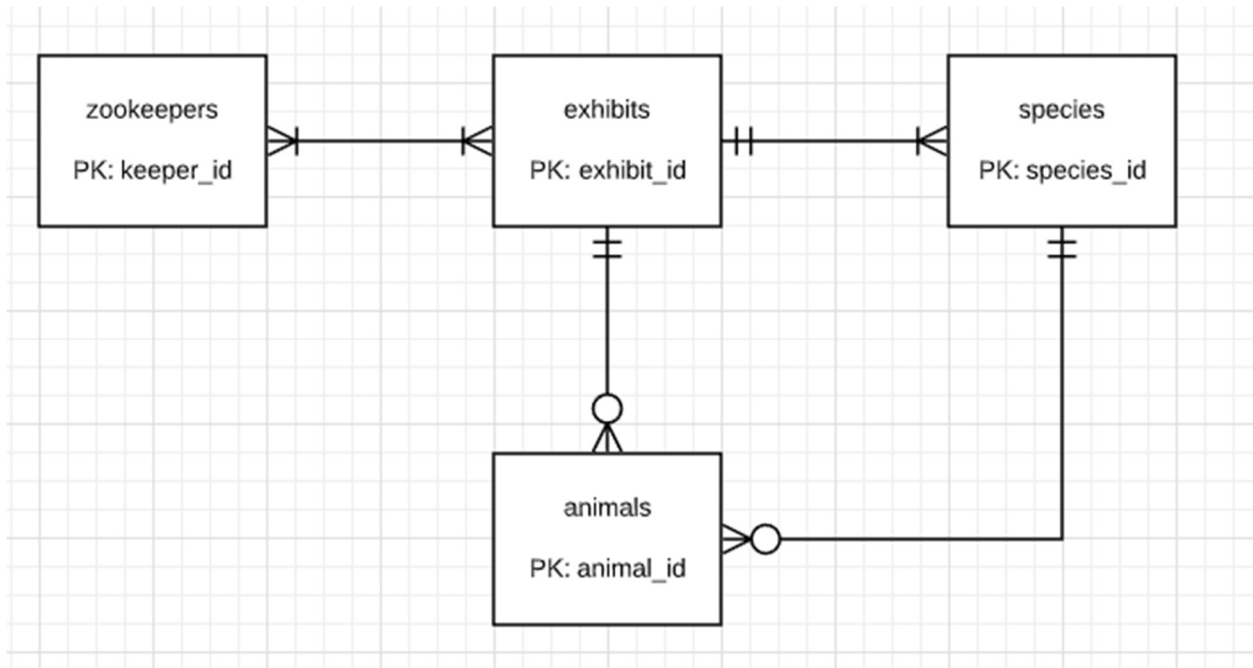
exhibits – Where animals are contained and where zookeepers take care of them

- exhibit_id – PK, auto increment, not NULL, int; unique identifier for exhibit.
- exhibit_name – varchar; name of exhibit.
- max_species – int, the maximum number of different species the exhibit can hold
- exhibit_size – int; total number of animals in exhibit
- Relationships
 - zookeeper-exhibit: A zookeeper must manage at least one exhibit. And each exhibit must be managed by at least one zookeeper. (M:M)
 - animal-exhibit: An animal can only ever belong to one exhibit. Each exhibit can contain many animals (including zero). (1:M)
 - exhibit-species: An exhibit must house at least one species. And at species can be found in exactly one exhibit. (1:M)

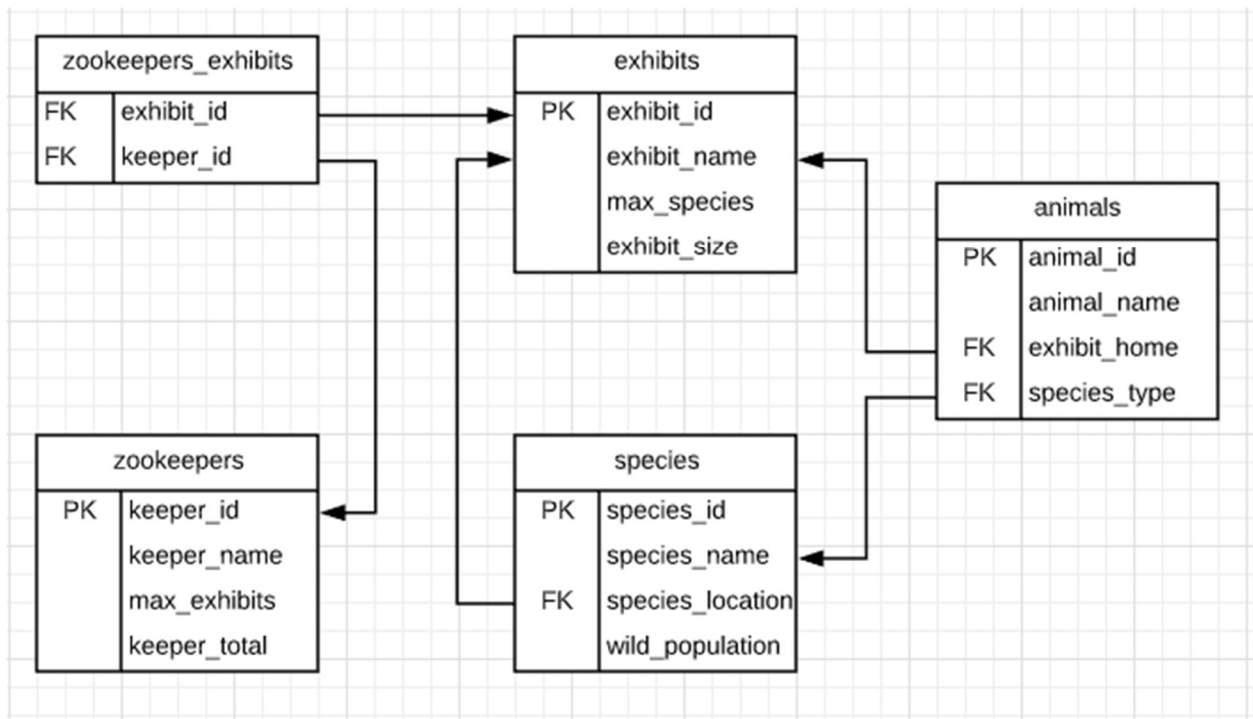
species – The specific family type the animal belongs to.

- species_id – PK, auto increment, not NULL, int; unique identifier for species.
- species_name – varchar; name of species.
- species_location – FK, varchar; which will be the exhibit_name string (in exhibit entity)
- wild_population – int; the number of animals of that species currently in the wild;
- Relationships
 - exhibit-species: An exhibit must house at least one species. And at species can be found in exactly one exhibit. (1:M)
 - animal-species: An animal can only ever belong to one species. Each species can contain many animals (including zero). (1:M)

ERD



Schema



Screenshots

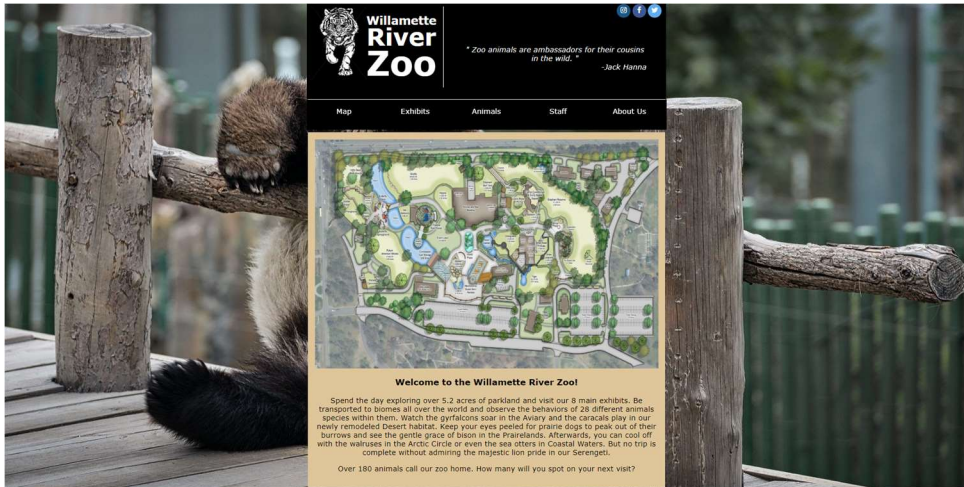
1. Main Page

a.



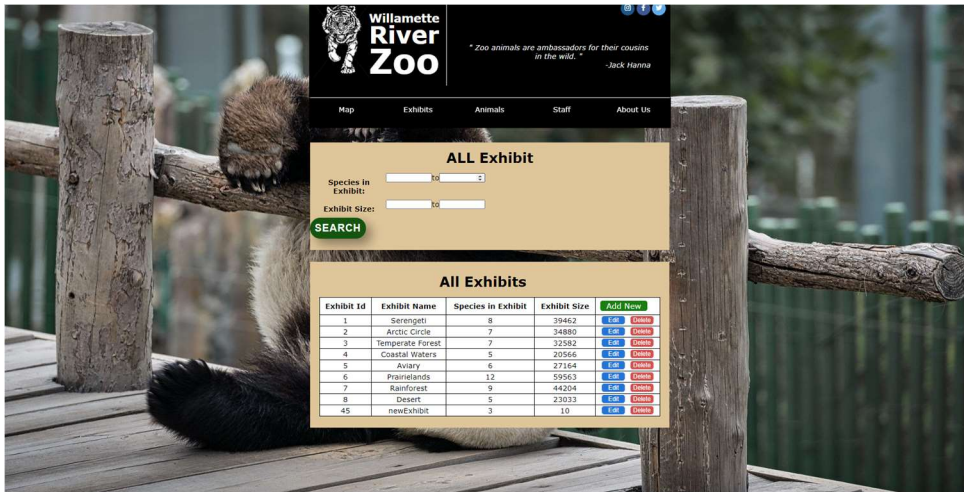
2. Map Page

a.

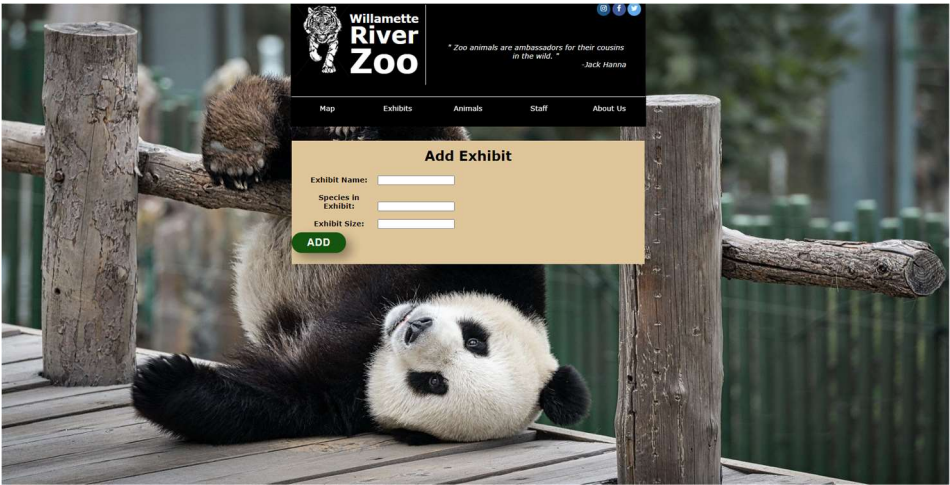


3. Exhibits > All Exhibits (SELECT/CREATE/UPDATE/DELETE in `exhibits` table)

a.

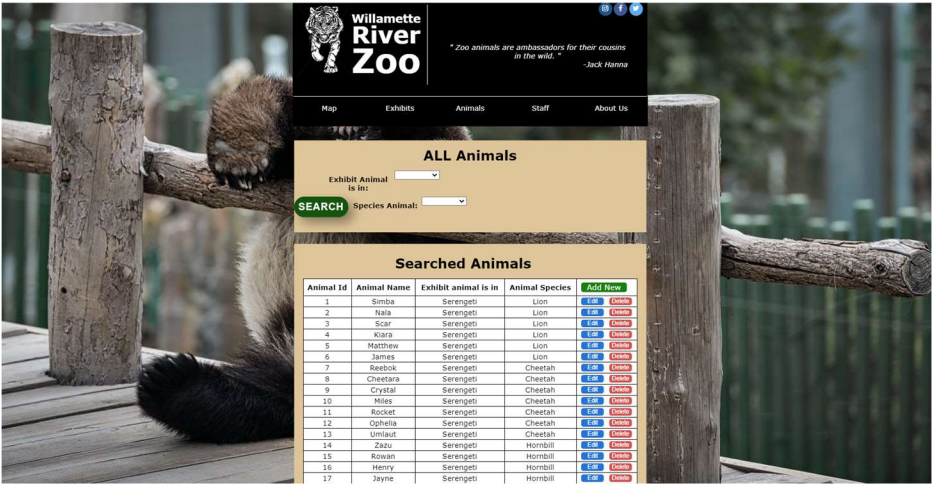


4. Exhibits > Add Exhibits (CREATE in `exhibits` table)



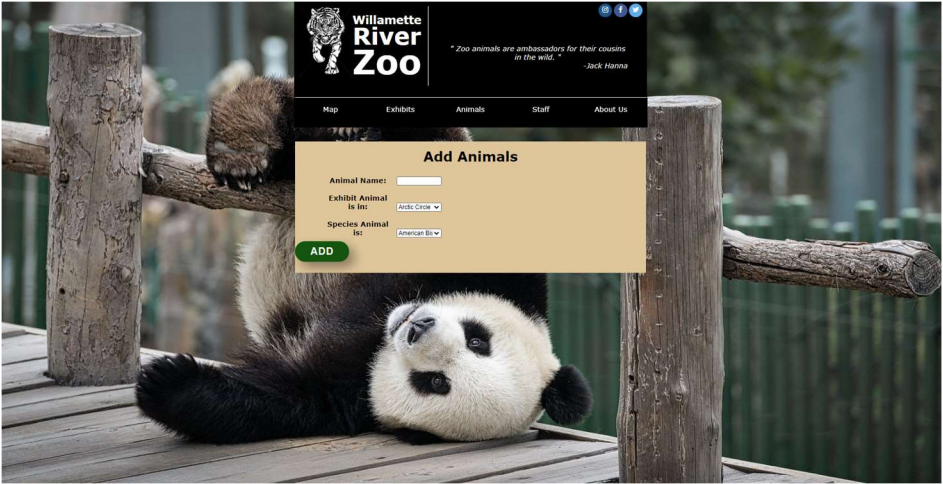
a.

5. Animals > All Animals (SELECT/CREATE/UPDATE/DELETE in `animals` table)



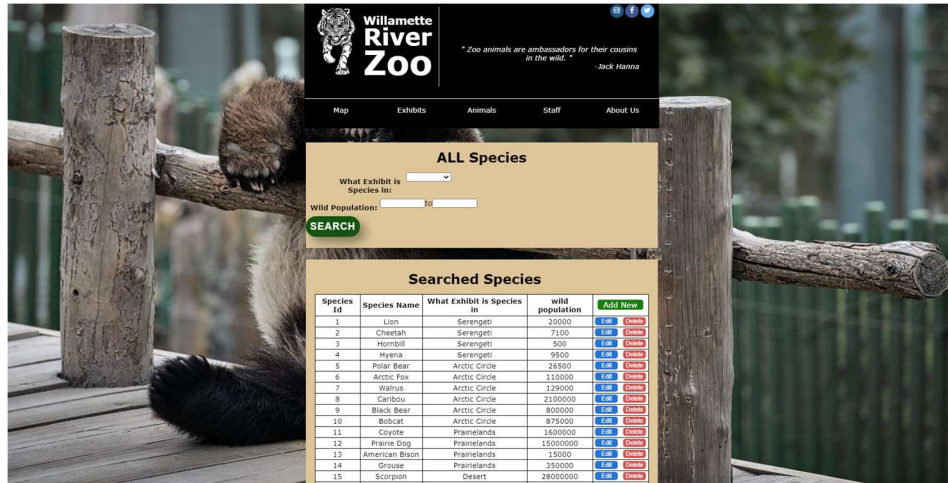
a.

6. Animals > Add Animals (CREATE in `animals` table)



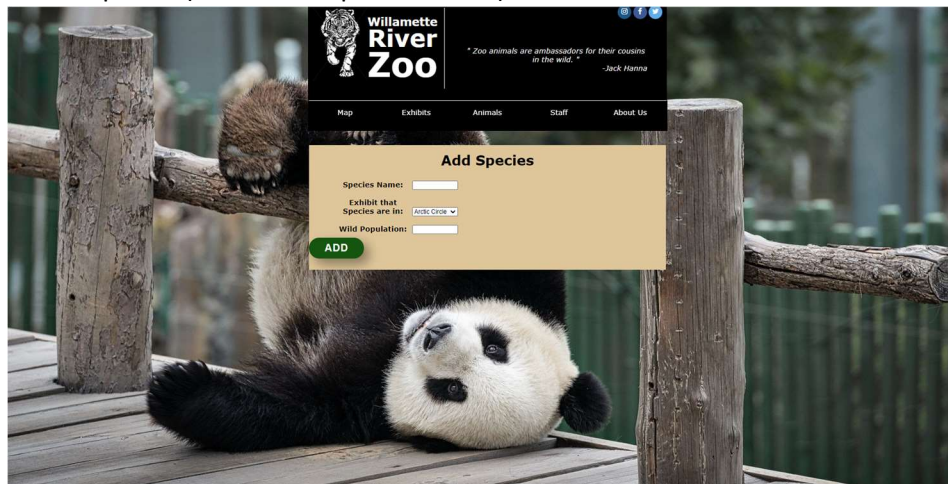
a.

7. Animals > All Species (SELECT/CREATE/UPDATE/DELETE in `species` table)



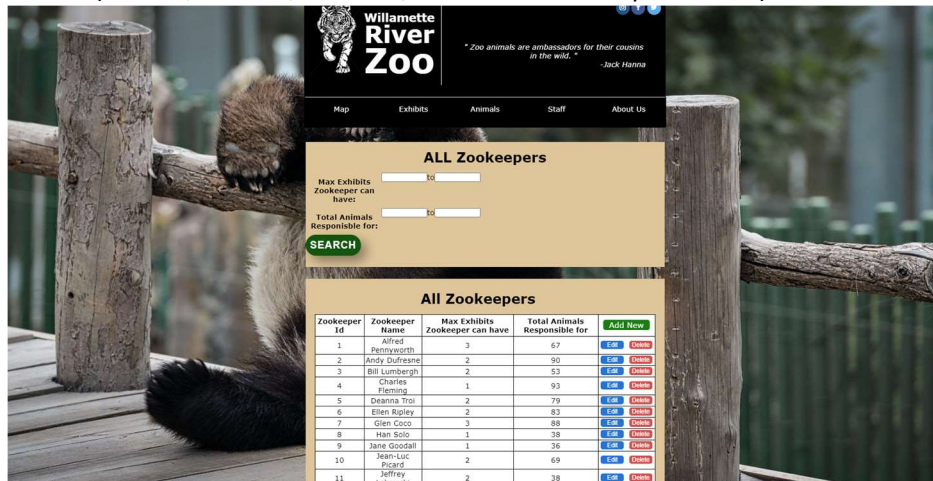
a.

8. Animals > Add Species (CREATE in `species` table)



a.

9. Staff > All Staff (SELECT/CREATE/UPDATE/DELETE in `zookeepers` table)



a.

10. Staff > Zookeepers to Exhibits (SELECT for `zookeepers_exhibit` table)