

Hello Bear Tag Team,

I would like to take a moment to tell you about a project that Wildlife SOS is partnering with Shadowview ([www.shadowview.org](http://www.shadowview.org)) on to protect Sloth bears. We have secured 70% of the funding and we are looking for a partner to support financing the remaining project. We instantly thought of you because of your equal love for bears.

In its simplest terms, we have a proposal to map with drones an area of India that is considered prime sloth bear habitat. It is a small area; however, a critical area that Wildlife SOS has been investing in for almost the last 10 years. Please review the project proposal to see the full objectives. This would hopefully lead to further conservation efforts for sloth bears utilizing drones.

The project costs are approximately $50,000. Currently we need $15,000 to move forward with the project. In discussions with Debbie, we calculated that if several zoos would contribute $1000 toward the project, we would have enough.

We know everybody has different processes that they need to go through in order to contribute to conservation projects. Therefore, we came up with two different ways that a zoo could support it.

1. Donate $1000 towards the drone project
2. Buy 100 t-shirt that are being designed for the project at $20 a t-shirt and either sell them or utilize them for zoo programs (total cost would be $2000… of which $1000 would go to the program and the remainder would go to the cost of purchasing and mailing the t-shirts)

We would not need the funds immediately, just a commitment that the funds would be made available to Wildlife SOS in 2015, that is all we would need to move forward.

We would also hope to have the study done in the spring and if possible, have a paper on the project presented at the AZA 2015.

We are grateful to the support we have already received by the zoos and we feel this would be a great collaboration opportunity for all of us to work together for the protection of sloth bears.

Please do not hesitate to contact Debbie or myself if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Nikki Sharp