

2005 Update for Saint Louis Zoo's *Nicrophorus americanus* Recovery Effort

In 2005 the Saint Louis Zoo's captive colony of *Nicrophorus americanus* produced 736 individuals. One hundred beetles were removed from our population in 2005. Ninety-nine of these were introduced to the wild in Ohio in cooperation with Ohio State University. Zoo staff assisted with the reintroduction. One male was donated to the Ohio State University Captive breeding program.

Five additional *N. americanus* beetles were collected at Fort Chaffee, Arkansas in September, 2005 and added to our captive colony.

Staff members from the Saint Louis Zoo also surveyed four sites in southwestern Missouri during August of 2005. No *Nicrophorus americanus* were collected in a total of 217 trap nights.

In November, 2005, the Saint Louis Zoo's WildCare Institute hosted and participated in The World Conservation Union's (IUCN) Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG) Population Habitat Viability Assessment Workshop (PHVA). This goal-oriented workshop brought together specialists and stakeholders with a concern for the recovery of the American burying beetle. A detailed report from the workshop can be found elsewhere on this webpage.