

Green Bay Aquarium Society

Green Bay Aquarium Society C.A.R.E.S

Conservation, Awareness, Recognition and Responsibility,
Encouragement and Education, and Support and Sharing

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Conservation, Awareness, Recognition and Responsibility, Encouragement and Education, and Support and Sharing.

Purpose

The CARES (Conservation, Awareness, Recognition and Responsibility, Encouragement and Education, and Support and Sharing) Preservation Program is based on the critical and timely significance of conservation, educating the public and bringing awareness as hobbyists to the issues involved, public recognition of members, our responsibilities as fishkeepers, member encouragement, sharing of fish and data, and support for those who take part in playing a vital role in ensuring a positive future for species at risk. The purpose of the CARES Preservation Program is to encourage hobbyists worldwide to devote tank space to one or more species at risk and distribute offspring to fellow qualified hobbyists, while forming an information network where possible between aquarists, scientists, and conservationists.

Goals

CARES has four major goals:

- 1) To bring awareness to the critical situation of fish in nature, while educating the public and stressing the importance of our roles as responsible aquarists;
- 2) To recognize, encourage, and offer support to hobbyists who maintain species at risk;
- 3) To share fish as well as data and experiences through notes and manuscripts so that others may learn to maintain those identical and similar species; and
- 4) To preserve species at risk for future generations.

Committee Responsibilities

- The CARES Program Committee will consist of a Chairperson, Co-chairperson and additional Members appointed by the chairs.
- Duties of the committee will be to maintain records, report standings for the website, help verify reports at meetings and also act as a guide for the placement of the species into the CARES point schedule.
- It is the duty of a chairperson to obtain and present all awards.



Rules and Program Definitions

Eligibility:

- Keeper must be a member of the Green Bay Aquarium Society.
- Any spawning/propagation must be done by the breeders own organism and the propagation must occur under the care of the breeder.
- The name of the organism is recognized as Genus-species.
- All organisms **MUST** be registered by scientific name. If you know that the scientific name has changed recently, please include any previous names you are aware of.
- Any member abusing the rules and regulations of the CARES program will automatically be stripped of all points awarded and will be ineligible for participation in the program for a minimum of one year.
- All complaints must be in writing to the CARES chairperson.
- The committee will have the final word on any changes that may occur after the program is initiated.
- On any disputed matter, the committee will meet and a vote will be taken with majority rule. If at any time there is a tie, the chairperson will have the deciding vote.
- The CARES committee will be responsible for the point classification of each organism registered.
- When CARES classifications are reclassified, the point classification will not adversely affect any points previously awarded. The change will only affect an upwards point change and then only with a written request from the breeder, submitted to either the Chair or Co-chair.

Point Classification

Five points are to be awarded once per year per species registered.

Additional points can be awarded once per year in the following categories and values.

Breeding/Propagating and Donating to a GBAS Auction	15 Points
Breeding/Propagating and Sharing with a GBAS Member	10 Points
Breeding/Propagating and Sharing with a non-GBAS Member	5 Points



Awarding Of Points:

Propagation

To receive points through the CARES program for fresh and saltwater spawns/propagation:

- Five fry 45 days old or older must be brought to a monthly meeting for verification and auction (if donating) or the recipient of the organism must sign the report. A receipt may be submitted if no signature is available.
- Marine fish/invertebrates will be considered if the fry are free swimming for 30 days.
- Corals and plants must show reasonable growth and must be brought to a monthly meeting for verification and auction.
- The “cutting” must have reasonable growth within 60 days of original viewing.
 - Floating plants and mosses; by doubling the amount, (golfball sized portion minimum)
 - Bunch plants, by doubling the number of rooted growing stems (3 stem minimum)
 - Runner or divided plants must have one healthy plant capable of living independently.
- Plants must have a viable offspring or grow offshoots that develop root systems. Acceptable methods are by cuttings, offshoots, runners, or plantlets that develop their own root systems and can survive on their own, flowering or seed production, and by flower pollination from the members own plant.
- If BAP/HAP/CAP points are desired for propagated organisms, separate forms must be filled out and turned in as that is a separate program.

Species Registration

If you are registering a species, a photo is acceptable proof. You are not required to bring the organism to a meeting for auction. Your points will be awarded upon verification at a meeting but will be considered pending until registration is complete on the CARES website. For information on how to register your fish, please see: [Species Identification and Registration](#)

Report Submission

Each entry must be registered by completing a GBAS CARES form that is signed by the both the participant and committee member and turned into the GBAS CARES Chairperson at the time of the monthly meeting.

The participating members are responsible for obtaining, completing and turning-in all forms required for participation.

If more than one person from a family is a member, points will be awarded to the family, or not more than one individual per household will be allowed to participate in the program. The exception will be Junior Conservationist, which can be awarded to each junior member.

Extra Credit

Organisms which are recorded for the first time will be awarded an additional 5 points. First time points will only count by species, not by color morph, locale, or finnage.

If a breeder elects to write an original article, with references, an additional 5 points will be awarded. The time frame for this article will be three (3) months from the date of the submission.

Awards of Recognition

Certificate of Recognition

A CARES Certificate of Recognition can be awarded annually for each species registered and accepted into CARES within that year.

Certificate Seals

Four colored seals—gold, green, blue, and red—can be presented annually and added to the CARES Certificate of Recognition for further recognition of ultimate achievements.

Certificate seals are obtained through the CARES for Individuals Coordinator.

- A gold seal can be awarded for the achievement of setting aside space in your tanks that is dedicated to maintaining a CARES conservation priority species and registering that species in CARES. The gold seal is automatically awarded with registration of a species at the time of presentation of the CARES Certificate of Recognition.
- A green seal can be awarded for sharing the experiences and knowledge that you have gained regarding your CARES conservation priority species through the submission of an article to the GBAS webmaster, and the subsequent publication of that article.
- A blue seal can be awarded for sharing fry of your registered CARES species with a fellow member of GBAS.
- A red seal can be awarded for sharing fry of your registered CARES species with a hobbyist from another society, business, or educational organization who has implemented the CARES Program.

Longevity Seals

For each succeeding year that you continue to maintain a species enrolled in CARES, a red longevity seal can be added to your CARES Certificate of Recognition.

Longevity seals are obtained through our CARES for Individuals Coordinator.

Ultimate Level of CARES Achievement

A certificate with four colored seals—gold, green, blue, and red—and a solid row of red longevity seals are the ultimate level of CARES Membership Achievement per CARES species.

CARES Member of the Year Award

The CARES Member of the Year Award can be presented annually. This achievement is awarded to a member of CARES who excels in outstanding overall contributions to ensure a

positive future for conservation priority species, openly shares knowledge with others, and altruistically assists fellow hobbyists in their CARES endeavors.

Titles:

As you accumulate points, you earn:

Title	Criteria
Junior Conservationist	30 Points
Senior Conservationist	60 Points
Advanced Conservationist	120 Points
Expert Conservationist	180 Points
Master Conservationist	240 Points
Grandmaster Conservationist 1	360 Points
Grandmaster Conservationist 2	500 Points
Grandmaster Conservationist 3	750 Points
Grandmaster Conservationist 4	1000 Points
Ultimate Conservationist	1500 Points with 5 separate certificates with longevity seals of 3 years or more and 15 Ultimate Level Certificates from at least 10 different families from the CARES Priority List earned throughout the program.

Awards:

Title	Award
Junior, Senior, Advanced and Expert Conservationist	None – Certificates of Recognition only
Master Conservationist	Plaque, plus plaque updates for all previous certificates.
Grandmaster Conservationist 1 – 4	Plaque updates
Ultimate Conservationist	Plaque update and standing trophy



CARES risk classifications

If a species is approved for inclusion on the CARES Conservation Priority List and that species is not on the IUCN Red List or CARES Authorities feel from personal field observation that the species requires a different classification than that assigned by the IUCN Red List, the following classifications will apply.

Key	Classification	Description
CNT	Near Threatened	Species which are close to qualifying for classification to Vulnerable.
CVU	Vulnerable	Species facing a high risk of extinction in the wild in the medium-term future.
CEN	Endangered	Species facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future (includes species on the ALA list (2) shown as Threatened).
CCR	Critically Endangered	Species facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild in the immediate future (same as 'EE' used by de Rham and Nourissat).
CEW	Extinct in the Wild	Known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity, or as a naturalized population (or populations) well outside the past range.



International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) classification

If a species is approved for inclusion on the CARES Conservation Priority List and that species is also on the IUCN Red List, in most cases the IUCN Red List classification is used by CARES, with great appreciation to those who place much effort into maintaining the IUCN Red List.

Key	Classification	Description
NT	Near Threatened	Taxa which do not qualify for Conservation Dependent, but which are close to qualifying for Vulnerable.
VU	Vulnerable	A taxon is Vulnerable when it is not Critically Endangered or Endangered but is facing a high risk of extinction in the wild in the medium-term future.
EN	Endangered	A taxon is Endangered when it is not Critically Endangered but is facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future.
CR	Critically Endangered	A taxon is Critically Endangered when it is facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild in the immediate future.
EW	Extinct in the Wild	A taxon is Extinct in the wild when it is known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalized population (or populations) well outside the past range. A taxon is presumed extinct in the wild when exhaustive surveys in known and/or expected habitat, at appropriate times (diurnal, seasonal, annual), and throughout its historic range have failed to record an individual. Surveys should be over a time frame appropriate to the taxon's life cycle and life form.

The full classification criteria of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (version 2.3) for species in risk can be found in the IUCN Red List site.

CARES Priority List

Resources

Please see the following resources for up-to-date information on CARES species:

CARES Website: <https://caresforfish.org/>

IUCN Website: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

Commonly Kept Cares Species

Common Name	Scientific Name	Classification
White Cloud	<i>Tanichthys albonubes</i>	CEW
Red Tailed Shark	<i>Epalzeorhynchus bicolor</i>	CR
Denison Barb	<i>Puntius denisonii</i>	EN
Boesemani Rainbow	<i>Melanotaenia boesemani</i>	EN
Banggai Cardinalfish	<i>Pterapogon kauderni</i>	EN
Branching Hammer Coral	<i>Euphyllia paraancora</i>	VU



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