



Protecting Wildlife.
Preserving Wonder.

20+ Year Master Plan Community Investment

Kern County



*Mountain
Lion*

For more than four decades, **CALM Zoo has been Kern County's window into the natural world** – showcasing native plants and animals while educating thousands of children each year. Now, CALM Zoo is looking ahead to the next two decades with an ambitious 20+ Year Master Plan designed to transform facilities, expand educational opportunities, and strengthen its role as a hub for conservation and community learning. These Master Plan improvements will keep CALM Zoo a regional treasure and an economic engine for Kern County.

Why This Matters



Creates Local Jobs

CALM Zoo anticipates increased economic impact through implementation of its Master Plan. Modeled after Fresno Chaffee Zoo, recent data indicates the creation of 310 jobs, including 195 full-time positions, an outcome CALM Zoo aims to replicate locally.

195 full time positions



Protects Wildlife

Expanded and new habitats, with state-of-the-art animal care facilities.



Supports Education

Expanded opportunities for students, including an Education Hub. CALM Zoo will help educate approximately

100,000 students annually



Community Events

With planned expansions including an event pavilion, open lawn, and enhanced amphitheater, CALM Zoo is expected to host large-scale community events that draw tens of thousands of attendees annually.



*Bighorn
Sheep*

Future Projects and Initiatives

Project

Community Impact

Entry Plaza & Café	Improved arrival, local dining, welcoming space
Rescue and Operations Hub	Wildlife rescue, veterinary care, and education
Legacy Campus	Updated guest amenities and central walking areas
West Habitat Expansion	New habitats for bears, wolves, and avian wildlife
Extended West Expansion	Year-round family and community events
North Meadow Habitat	Hoofstock habitat and meadow walking trail



CALMZOO CHARTS A BOLD FUTURE

CALM Zoo is looking for community support to fund the 20+ Year Master Plan. We are currently exploring a sales tax measure that would place a 1/8 of 1% to the local sales tax on the 2026 ballot.

Every penny invested in CALM Zoo will stay local to benefit Kern County, creating jobs, supporting education, protecting wildlife, and preserving wonder for the next generation.



What the sales tax increment will look like for Kern County consumers:

- For every \$1 spent, your contribution would be just a fraction of a penny.

Projected Local Impact



Similar to Fresno Chaffee Zoo, which has generated approximately **\$171 million** for capital improvement projects, this sales tax measure would support major capital improvements at the CALM Zoo.



Development of the 20+ Year Master Plan will create construction and skilled labor opportunities by prioritizing the use of local workers and contractors, helping drive economic benefits within the community.

Grizzly Bear



CALMZOO

For more information, please visit ProtectCALMZoo.org

