Why positive lists are more effective than negative lists

WORLD ANIMAL PROTECTION

ZOO CHECK

＋ Positive list	**－ Negative list**
List only animals that have been evaluated and that satisfy all required criteria	Lists mostly animals that pose a significant physical safety threat to humans
Applies to all animal species	Applies to relatively small number of animal species, with a disproportionate emphasis on mammals
Animal welfare a key consideration	Animal welfare not considered
Precautionary	Reactionary
Consumer safety guaranteed	Lacks consistent consumer safety criteria
Easy to enforce, low level of expertise required	Difficult to enforce, high level of expertise required
Easy to understand, no expertise needed	Difficult to understand, some level of expertise required
People who want to keep, sell or otherwise exploit animals have to do the work to prove animals satisfy all criteria for inclusion on list	Governments, humane societies and other organizations have to do the work to prove animals should be on list
Comprehensive criteria used to determine suitability of animals for keeping as pets	Physical safety threat animals posed to humans is often the only criterion
Considers capacity of shelters and rescues when rehoming is required	Does not consider capacity of shelters and rescues when rehoming is required
Considers capacity and knowledge of enforcement agencies and government	Does not consider capacity and knowledge of enforcement agencies and government
Transparent, accessible and fair process	Process unfair due to lack of scientific foundation, and key issues not being considered
Protects native wildlife and natural ecosystems	Does not protect native wildlife and natural ecosystems

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