



Common hamster | Photo: Bärbel Franzke

# 32nd Meeting of the International Hamster Workgroup

## Conference Book

### Preface

The International Hamster Workgroup brings together conservationists, scientists, ecologists, and experts from various fields each year to exchange ideas on the common hamster, its habitat, and its protection. In 2025, NABU Sachsen and Zoo Leipzig will host this 32<sup>nd</sup> traditional meeting.

For many years, a dedicated Saxonian working group from fields including agriculture, public authorities and nature conservation has been committed to the protection of the common hamster. Even in the face of setbacks – such as the drought years since 2003, which placed additional pressure on the species – conservation partners have remained determined. With renewed energy, they have strengthened their cooperation through a long-term strategy that extends well into the future. Since 2024, the population has been further supported through the release of captive-bred animals.

NABU Sachsen and Zoo Leipzig are partners in common hamster conservation in the region. As hosts of this year's meeting, they not only provide the opportunity to learn about their ongoing work but also invite participants to visit the zoo's breeding facility. Together, they represent the strong alliance of nature conservation in Saxony.

In addition, participants can look forward to an engaging program featuring both national and international perspectives on common hamster conservation. We warmly welcome you at Zoo Leipzig for this important gathering.

We look forward to welcoming you to Leipzig!

The Organizing Committee  
Zoo Leipzig and NABU Sachsen

