



3930 West Land Park Drive
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Media Release

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Dual Birth Announcement at the Sacramento Zoo Wolf's Guenon and Eastern Bongo both give birth on Labor Day

WHAT'S HAPPENING: The two newest residents at the Sacramento Zoo range in species and size. The Wolf's guenon family, a Vulnerable species of monkey, welcomed a new infant just before midnight on September 4. Around the same time an eastern bongo, a species that is Critically Endangered in the wild, delivered a calf.

Eastern Bongo



The Sacramento Zoo is proud to introduce the newest member of the eastern bongo herd born just before midnight on September 4. The calf was born to parents Sukari (born at the Cincinnati Zoo in 2014) and Penny (born at the San Francisco Zoo in 2014). Mother and calf are both doing well and can be seen on exhibit daily before 3 p.m.* Eastern bongos are Critically Endangered; it is estimated there are fewer than 200 individuals left in the wild.

Keepers had suspected the female was pregnant after a gradual increase in body weight and subtle body changes noted over the past four months. Gestation is between nine and 9 1/2 months. The gender of the calf is not known yet. The first-time mother and calf are bonding and doing well. Mother will often 'stash' her calf behind bushes and rocks while she goes to forage and then returns to nurse the calf. The father can be seen on exhibit after 3 p.m.

The eastern bongo is a large, African forest antelope with a chestnut colored body with white vertical body stripes, patches of black and white on the legs, white chevrons on the chest, large ears and spiral horns. Mature males are larger and darker than adult females. They live in



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isolated populations in the high elevation montane forests of Kenya. The forests that eastern bongos live in are disappearing because of illegal logging activity, and they are facing increasing hunting pressure as the human population in the area grows.

The Sacramento Zoo works to increase awareness of conservation issues that affect eastern bongos and other large animals in African habitats. For more than 20 years the Sacramento Zoo has actively participated in Association of Zoos and Aquariums' Eastern Bongo Species Survival Plan® to cooperatively manage this Critically Endangered species.

**Subject to change. The zoo will take its cues from the first-time mother. There may be days when she decides to stay behind-the-scenes with her new calf.*

Wolf's Guenon



Late in the evening on September 4 the Sacramento Zoo's Wolf's guenon family welcomed a new addition. Zookeepers had been monitoring the mother closely prior to the expected birth. Staff will continue to monitor the entire family group to ensure that the infant is receiving all the care that it needs from mom. The gender is unknown at this time. Wolf's guenons are listed as a Vulnerable species.



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Mimi, the mother, was born at the San Diego Zoo in 2007 and Eddie, the father, was born at the San Antonio Zoo in 1995. This is their third offspring. The first Zuri, was born in 2013 and Kaci was born in 2016. As with any new baby this latest addition will shift the social dynamics and give the older siblings the opportunity to learn valuable parenting skills from their mother.

Wolf's guenons are native to central Africa where they inhabit dense forests and forage for fruits, seeds and an occasional insect. Forming loose family groups in the wild, these monkeys are even known to spend time with other primate species including bonobos, colobus monkeys and other guenon species. A larger mixed-species group may mean that there are more eyes on the lookout for predators, and many guenons have learned to recognize other monkeys' alarm calls so that they know how to respond correctly if a neighbor spots a leopard or eagle.

Not a lot is known about this species in the wild so each birth, including this one, adds to our overall knowledge of this species, their biology, social interactions, developmental stages and more. The nonprofit Sacramento Zoo participates in the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' Species Survival Plan® program for the Wolf's guenon species. The main focus of this plan is captive breeding and educational awareness to prevent the extinction of this species.

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Open since 1927, the Sacramento Zoo is home to more than 500 native, rare and endangered animals and is one of more than 200 accredited institutions of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. Located near the corner of Land Park Drive and Sutterville Road in William Land Park, the zoo is wholly managed by the non-profit Sacramento Zoological Society. This Sacramento treasure inspires conservation awareness through education and recreation. Daily admission is 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., zoo grounds are open until 5 p.m. General admission is \$14.95; children ages 2-11 are \$9.95 and one and under are admitted free. Parking is free throughout the park or ride Regional Transit bus #6. For information, call 916-808-5888 or visit saczoo.org.