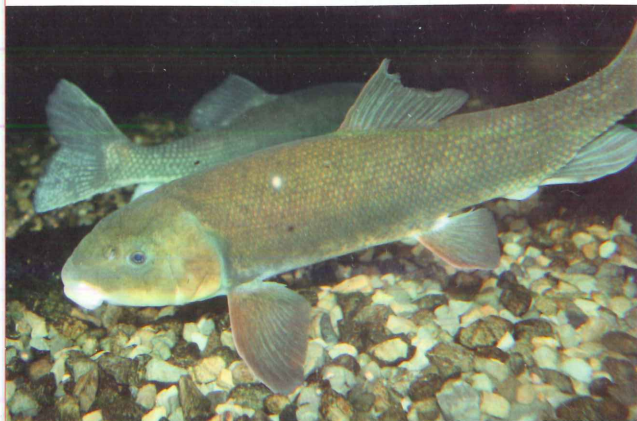


SIGNIFICANT EFFORTS IN CONSERVATION



© HOGLE ZOO

Genetic testing on the Pacific angel shark pup and Aquarium of the Bay's adult angel sharks confirmed the father, which determined that the pup was bred at the Aquarium. Aquarium of the Bay's husbandry staff works to maintain a balance of male and female Pacific angel sharks, to help ensure the continued propagation and health of this species, which is slowly returning from the brink of extinction after heavy over-fishing along the California coast from 1976-1994.

HOGLE ZOO SPAWNS RARE FISH AT A STRANGE TIME OF YEAR

In 2001, Utah's Hogle Zoo became a holding refuge for Utah-native June suckers because their numbers in the wild had dropped. In fact, in 1986, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service added the June sucker to the endangered species list with fewer than 1,000 individuals found in Utah Lake. In 1987, the wild spawning population was estimated between three- and five-hundred individuals. Since then, small populations of June sucker have been established in a few other refuge locations throughout Utah.

In late February 2008, Hogle Zoo keeper Pat Theobald was near the June sucker tank when he heard a rattling sound coming from the gravel at the bottom. When he returned the next



© BUFFALO ZOO

day, he saw the fish had completely changed color overnight, as he realized the strange noise from the previous day was the fish spawning. The June sucker gets its name from its typical June spawning.

Since this discovery, Hogle Zoo has been working closely with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources to figure out how and why the June sucker held at the Zoo had such success in this atypical spawning. After Theobald gave a presentation to the June sucker recovery implementation program in late March, Krissy Wilson with the DWR again commented on the rarity of reproduction outside of Utah Lake and the Provo River. Wilson said, "We have seen spawning in tributaries, however never in a holding area like a tank." In addition, Wilson said the spawning coloration was also something extremely unique to the Hogle Zoo fish. "I've never seen a lightening of the color on the head like that or a color change that drastic in the wild before," she said.

At this point, only time will tell if the Hogle Zoo June Sucker eggs will survive and eventually hatch. However, the phenomenon is encouraging for the continuation of native species that is dwindling in the wild.

BUFFALO ZOO WELCOMES BABY INDIAN RHINO

The Buffalo Zoo welcomed its newest addition - an endangered baby Indian rhinoceros.

Born on 1 March, the female calf weighed in at approximately 135 pounds. Buffalo Zoo animal keepers have named their newest addition Clover in honor of the St. Patrick's Day holiday.

Clover's mother, Tashi, is taking excellent care of her young one, who is the first rhinoceros to be born at the Buffalo Zoo since 17 September 2005. The breeding of Tashi and Henry, Clover's father, was recommended as part of the Species Survival Plan® (SSP). Tashi and Henry's first offspring, Ashakiran, now resides at the Toronto Zoo.

Found in northern India and southern Nepal, the Indian rhinoceros is the largest of the Asian rhino species. Fewer than 200 of them were thought to exist in the wild during the early 20th century, but due to strict protection from the Indian and Nepalese wildlife authorities numbers have increased to approximately 2,500. However, as poaching still occurs, the species remains highly endangered.



© BUSCH GARDENS TAMPA BAY

BUSCH GARDENS TAMPA BAY IS SEEING STRIPES

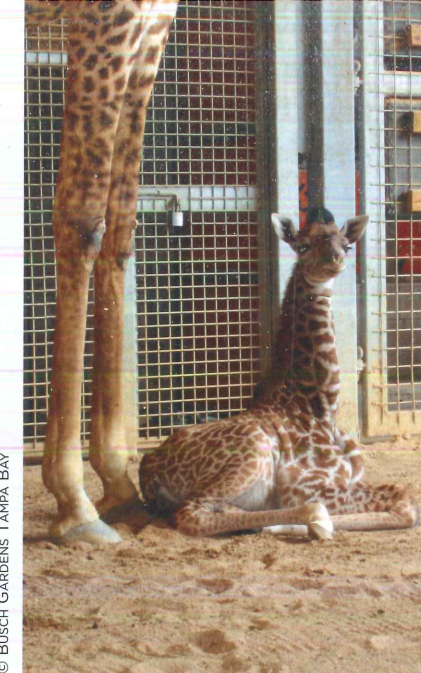
Busch Gardens Tampa Bay welcomed several Grevy's zebra foals to their *Serengeti Plain™* this spring. On 11 March 2008, a female Grevy's zebra foal became the newest Serengeti herd member. Her birth is the third of a series of zebra births with a male born on 27 December 2007 and another male born on 26 February 2008. These births bring the park's total for Grevy's zebras to 14 and their entire zebra population to 33. As an endangered species, each successful Grevy's zebra birth contributes to global conservation and awareness.

The SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Conservation Fund supports a conservation project for Grevy's zebras in Ethiopia. The project researches the species' present population size, reproductive biology, habitat requirements and interactions/conflicts with local domestic livestock.

FEMALE GIRAFFE BORN AT BREVARD ZOO

Brevard Zoo welcomed a female Masai giraffe on 11 March. Born to Raffiki, a male Masai giraffe, and Johari, a female Masai giraffe, this is the second giraffe birth at the Zoo and the second giraffe born to Johari. Mother and baby are doing extremely well and the Zoo anticipates putting mother and baby out on exhibit in a few weeks.

This is Johari's second birth. Melvin was born two years ago on 15 March 2006. Johari is eight years old, born 19 January 2000, at the San Diego



© BREVARD ZOO

Zoological Garden. Her name means jewel, but at Brevard Zoo she is commonly referred to as "Jo." She is on loan from the San Diego Zoological Garden along with another female Masai giraffe named Milenna. Milenna is six and a half years old and also slated to breed with Raffiki as part of the Population Management Plan (PMP). Raffiki, the male Masai giraffe, will be ten years old in July of 2008.

Generally there are three types of giraffe species in zoological facilities, commonly referred to as Reticulated, Rothschild and Masai. The Masai species has historically represented a small population in zoos.

RARE MONKEY BORN AT HOUSTON ZOO

The Houston Zoo announced the birth of a rare monkey at *Wortham World of Primates*. The Schmidt's red tailed guenon marks the first birth of the species at the Zoo in 29 years. The new arrival is a boy and his name is Matani. Matani means 'strength' in Swahili and the baby is living up to his name. He's very strong and healthy. The baby's father, Kabili arrived at the Zoo in 2006 with several other monkeys recovered from the bushmeat and illegal pet trade in Africa.

There are only 37 of these monkeys living in ten zoos in this country. While the Schmidt's red tailed guenon is not critically endangered, the species is protected by an international agreement.



© HOUSTON ZOO

Found in the Central African Republic, Kenya, and Uganda, Schmidt's red-tailed guenons have white noses and long red tails. Their tails provide balance as they move through trees looking for their favorite foods - fruits, leaves, and insects. In the wild they live in small groups in swamp forests and forests surrounding rivers. They are considered a threatened species due to habitat destruction from deforestation.

RARE MONKEY BIRTH AT SANTA ANA ZOO

The Santa Ana Zoo announced the birth of a rare crested capuchin monkey. Outside of their native Brazil there are only 12 of these monkeys found in four zoos in the United States. This is only the second U.S. zoo to breed this species. Born on 25 March this is the first birth for the mother who is seen frequently inspecting and grooming her baby. The sex of the baby is unknown, but it appears healthy and vigorous as it clings to its mother.

The crested capuchin is considered vulnerable to extinction in Brazil due to habitat destruction and hunting. They are known for their intelligence, complex communication skills involving vocalizations, posturing, and facial expressions. Capuchins have the most dexterous hands of all the monkeys and are also the only monkeys known to break open hard nuts using rocks, a form of tool use. ■