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## **Bouncing Baby Bongo Born in Time for Father's Day**

June 15, 2018 – *Jacksonville, FL* – Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens has the perfect addition in time for Father's Day. An Eastern bongo calf was born early on June 16 and discovered resting calmly with her mother in their night house. Sixteen-year-old, Sequoia, and 10-year-old, Tambo, are the parents to a healthy baby girl - with huge ears!

With her beautiful orange coat, white stripes and incredibly big and soft ears, the bongo calf is the undoubtedly the cutest thing at the Zoo. She is also an important step in the Zoo successfully breeding critically endangered species.

The new addition is the first bongo born at the Zoo since 2011. A breeding recommendation brought an adult male named Tambo to the Zoo in March of 2017. This is his fifth offspring. The birth is significant for Sequoia since she has not had an offspring in many years. It was unclear if she would be a mom again.

After receiving a neonatal exam from the Animal Health team, the youngster is cleared to be on exhibit with her mother, father, and aunt Molly as early as Saturday morning. Sharing the bongo enclosure are two yellow-backed duikers, a smaller mountain species of African antelope.

Eastern bongo are native to the mountains and tropical forests of Africa. Their critically-endangered status is due mainly to a loss of habitat because of logging. Bongo are the largest of the forest antelope and both sexes sport thick, spiral horns. At the Zoo, guests can tell the male Tambo apart from the females because of his darker coloring and significantly heavier horns. Sequoia's horns cross at the top while aunt Molly's are parallel to each other.

Visit the Zoo this weekend to see the Zoo's newest resident and celebrate Father's Day with Tambo! All dads receive free general admission on Sunday, June 17. No coupon required.

[Dropbox link to stills and video](#)

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## About Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens

For over 100 years, the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens has aimed to inspire the discovery and appreciation of wildlife through innovative experiences in a caring environment. Starting in 1914 with an animal collection of one red deer fawn, the Zoo now has more than 2,000 rare and exotic animals and 1,000 species of plants, boasting the largest botanical garden in Northeast Florida. **The Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens is a nonprofit organization and a portion of every ticket sold goes to the over 45 conservation initiatives Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens supports around the world, and here in NE Florida.** JZG is proud to be an accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. For more information, visit [jacksonvillezoo.org](http://jacksonvillezoo.org).

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