



PRESS RELEASE
June 28, 2011

For Immediate Release
Contact:
Rosemary Jalink
Director of Marketing and Promotions
rjalink@jacksonzoo.org
786.402.6958

Zoo Saddened by Loss of Young Tapir

JACKSON, MS -6/28/11

One month after celebrating the news of his birth, the Jackson Zoo mourns the loss of its young male tapir.

Dr. Michael Holifield explained "The baby tapir was taken to the zoo's animal hospital on Monday morning after showing signs of weakness and was recumbent. Suspecting pneumonia, we began antibiotics as well as fluid therapy, anti - inflammatory and dextrose supportive care. A heart murmur was also detected indicating other health complications."

The adult pair of Malayan tapirs have bred 5 times - 3 have been successful. An offspring produced in 2007 only survived for 48 hours, while the male born in 2008 was recently sent on breeding loan to Mexico.

The two adult tapirs are back on exhibit together.

A necropsy is pending and we will be sending out information as we receive more details.

Zoo admission is \$9.00 for adults, \$6.00 for children ages 2-12, and \$8.10 for senior citizens (65 and over). Children under the age of 2 and Friends of the Zoo members are admitted free of charge.

The Jackson Zoo is located at 2918 West Capitol Street in Jackson and is open daily from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit www.jacksonzoo.org to check out exciting special events, animal updates, one-of-a-kind education programs, membership and adoption packages, and so much more. The Jackson Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). The AZA is America's leading accrediting organization that sets rigorous, professional standards for zoos and aquariums. The AZA is building North American's largest wildlife conservation movement by engaging and inspiring the 143 million annual visitors to its member institutions and their communities to care about and take action to help protect wildlife.

###