



PRESS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release
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Jackson Zoo

Jackson Zoo Continues Work to Assist Oiled Wildlife

Deputy Director Accepts 2 Week Assignment

Jackson, MS - 08/03/10 - Deputy Director, Dave Wetzel, has joined other officials who will report to the Theodore station in Alabama on Monday, August 2nd for a new 2-week assignment working alongside local and federal Fish and Wildlife staff as well as those from Tri-State Bird Rescue and from International Bird Research and Rescue Center.

He will not only be cleaning the oiled birds, but actually expanding his duty to include the search and rescue along our coasts for wildlife affected by the oil spill. His shift will begin at noon and conclude at midnight each day.



Since it began its assistance with the crisis in the gulf, The Jackson Zoo has been a holding area for over 20 birds and has already assisted in placing 5 birds in the Brookfield Zoo and 4 in St. Louis. These birds have all suffered injuries which prohibit their release back into the wild. They must be placed in zoos across

the country to be cared for. Currently, The Jackson Zoo is holding 11 birds which will eventually go to other facilities including Phoenix and Omaha which have volunteered to take on the next victims.

If you would like to assist the zoo in the care and feeding of these birds, please consider visiting the website and giving to the 'Pelican Fund'

at <http://www.jacksonzoo.org/donations.html>

Special summer admission is \$7.25 for adults, \$4.50 for children ages 2-12. 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 9 a.m. to 5 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.

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