



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 29, 2010

Contact: Sheelah McCaughan, 253-404-3636 or sheelah.mccaughan@pdza.org
Whitney DalBalcon, 253-404-3637 or whitney.dalbalcon@pdza.org

Tiger cubs get their names at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium

More than 4,500 people voted for the Indonesian titles



More than 4,500 people voted on the names for two 9-week-old tiger cubs at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium in Tacoma, Wash. The male (left) is named Bima, and the female (right) is named Mali.

Tacoma, Wash. – Two 9-week-old Sumatran tiger cubs received their names today at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium. More than 4,500 people voted on the names over the past six weeks.

The male will be called Bima, meaning brave, and the female is Mali, meaning flower. Bima won with 30 percent of the votes, and Mali barely edged out Indah, meaning beautiful, with 30 percent as well.

The zoo's tiger keepers came up with five options for each cub, and the public picked their favorites by voting online at www.pdza.org.

"Their new names match their personalities perfectly," said staff biologist Andy Goldfarb. "The male, Bima, really is brave. He's always the first to explore and try new things. His sister, Mali, is so beautiful and elegant."

The cubs, born on May 25, can be seen at estimated times every day in the zoo's Asian Forest Sanctuary exhibit with their mother Jaya.

Bima and Mali weighed about 2 lbs. at birth and have grown to about 15 lbs. each.

Estimated viewing times for the cubs are posted daily on the zoo's website at www.pdza.org.

###

Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, the Northwest's only combined zoo & aquarium, is located in Tacoma's beautiful Point Defiance Park, 5400 North Pearl Street. Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium promotes responsible stewardship of the world's resources through education, conservation, research and recreational opportunities. The zoo, a division of Metro Parks Tacoma, is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) and the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums (AMMPA).