



MEDIA ALERT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 24, 2011

WATERBUCK BORN AT ZOO ATLANTA

Summer baby boom continues with a new calf for Kokopelli

WHO: Kokopelli, a 10-year-old waterbuck at Zoo Atlanta, gave birth to her seventh calf on August 24, 2011. The new arrival appears to be healthy and is nursing normally.

WHAT: Native to southeastern sub-Saharan Africa, waterbuck are among the world's largest antelope species, with males reaching weights of over 550 pounds. Known for their oily, "waterproof" coats, the animals are good swimmers and are often found near water sources. Calves are generally able to walk within a half hour of birth, but in the wild, mothers often hide their offspring in thick underbrush to conceal them from predators.

Kokopelli's calf is just the latest new arrival in the Zoo's summer baby boom. The calf joins a newborn giraffe, born to Mona on July 22; two Sumatran tiger cubs, born to Chelsea on July 5; and nearly 20 Chilean flamingo chicks. Two other mothers-to-be, Matilda the eastern bongo and Blaze the Sumatran orangutan, are expected to give birth in late summer to early fall.

WHERE: Zoo Atlanta
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ABOUT: **About Zoo Atlanta**
An accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), Zoo Atlanta inspires value and preservation of wildlife through a unique mix of education and outdoor family fun. From well-known native wildlife to critically endangered species on the brink of extinction, the Zoo offers memorable close encounters with more than 1,000 animals from around the world. Complex Carnivores, a new series of exhibits featuring bush dogs, fossa and binturong, opened on April 1. Zoo Atlanta is also proud to be one of only four zoos in the

U.S. that giant pandas call home: Lun Lun's newest cub, Po, born November 3, 2010, made his public debut in spring 2011. Other highlights include the nation's largest collection of western lowland gorillas, the nation's largest zoological collection of orangutans and a global center of excellence for the care and study of vanishing reptiles and amphibians. The Zoo is open daily with the exceptions of Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. Keeper talks, interactive wildlife shows, education programs and special events run year-round. For more information, call 404.624.WILD or visit zooatlanta.org.

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