



News From

Maggie Brooks

Monroe County Executive

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BROOKS ANNOUNCES MALE SEA LION TO JOIN ZOO FAMILY

Zoo plays a vital role in saving animals, including those abandoned or stranded in their natural range

It is with great pleasure that **County Executive Maggie Brooks**, along with officials from Seneca Park Zoo and the Seneca Park Zoo Society, announces the arrival of a 9-year-old California sea lion named Boomerang. He comes to the Zoo from Mystic Aquarium in Mystic, Connecticut, and joins the Zoo's three resident sea lions, a 2-year-old male and two adult females.

"It's a wonderful time of year at the Zoo and Boomerang's addition only adds to the excitement of the season," said **Brooks**. *"We are always happy to welcome new animals that enhance the visitor experience. The Rocky Coasts Exhibit has been a top attraction and now as Boomerang's new home, it will continue to be a favorite among Zoo visitors."*

As a pup, Boomerang was found stranded along the California coast and deemed non-releasable by National Marine Fisheries Service. He was transferred to the Mystic Aquarium, where he has lived since 2007. Our Zoo's resident female sea lions, here since 2011, were also found stranded along the California coast. Due to the permanent injuries they suffered before they were rescued, they too, were deemed non-releasable.

"The Zoo continues to play a vital role in saving many animals, including those abandoned or stranded in their natural range, such as the California sea lion," said **Larry Sorel**, County Zoo Director. *"Our staff is extremely skilled at working with sea lions, and Boomerang's safe and seamless adjustment is their top priority."*

Boomerang's move to the Zoo was a breeding recommendation from the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) Species Survival Plan (SSP). The SSP is a management program that maintains a healthy and sustainable population of species.

"Our sea lions are definitely crowd pleasers, and it will be fascinating to watch this adult male sea lion interact with his new family," said **Pamela Reed Sanchez**, Executive Director of the Seneca Park Zoo Society. *"The addition of Boomerang helps us provide a great visitor experience while also giving this graceful animal a safe home."*

The Zoo is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Once on grounds you may stay until 5 p.m. For admission rates and additional Zoo information, visit senecaparkzoo.org.

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