

<http://www.nczoo.org/press/tigercubs.cfm>

# Rescued Tiger Cubs

***Tiger Cubs Arrive at N.C. Zoo - 1/11/2005***



Joe Hurdt of [Cleveland County Animal Control](#) briefs Zoo staff on the tiger cubs.  
photo: **N.C. Zoo**

Two tiger cubs found wandering along a highway on the Gaston and Cleveland County border last week arrived at the North Carolina Zoo Tuesday afternoon.

They will be housed at the zoo for up to 60 days before being transferred for permanent care at the [Carnivore Preservation Trust](#) (CPT), a sanctuary for large cats near Pittsboro.

The zoo has been pushing for several years to have state laws passed to restrict private ownership of exotics. Currently there is no state regulation on exotics and only about 30 of North Carolina's 100 counties have local restriction. Within the last 18 months, two North Carolina children have been mauled by tigers, including a young Wilkes County boy who was killed.

"This is just the latest example of a huge ongoing problem that the State Legislature needs to address," said Dr. David Jones, Director of the N.C. Zoo. "These animals being kept in private hands pose a real threat to public safety and are detrimental to the welfare of the animals themselves."



One of the tiger cubs in it's temporary home.  
photo: [Tom Gillespie](#)

Jones added that an effort will be made to have exotic pet legislation introduced in this year's session of the State Legislature.

Due to the high cost of long-term care, CPT has set up a special fund to receive contributions for the tiger cubs. For information call 919-542-4684 or visit the CPT Web site at <http://www.cptigers.org>.

### ***Tiger Cubs Physical Exam - 1/11/2005***



Veterinary staff members at the North Carolina Zoo give an anesthetized tiger cub its first physical today (Wednesday).



The cub was one of two young tigers that arrived at the zoo Tuesday after they were found last week wandering along a highway on the Gaston and Cleveland County border.



The cubs will undergo a 30-day quarantine, like all animals coming to the zoo, to prevent the spread of disease to other zoo animals. They will then be housed at the zoo for as much as another 30 days before being transferred for permanent care to a sanctuary for large cats near Pittsboro." (NC Zoo photos by Tom Gillespie)

<http://www.nczoo.org/press/view.cfm?ID=157>

## TIGER CUBS SLATED TO LEAVE N.C. ZOO ON TUESDAY

**FOR RELEASE: April 29, 2005**

**By Rod Hackney**

**Asheboro** - Two wayward tiger cubs brought to the North Carolina Zoo for temporary care earlier this year will be leaving next Tuesday, May 3, for their new home at the Carnivore Preservation Trust (CPT) in Pittsboro.

A motorist discovered the tigers wandering along a back road on the Gaston and Cleveland County border in January. The cubs, a male and a female, are thought to be around 9-10 months old. Local animal control officials asked the N.C. Zoo for assistance in caring for the animals until permanent housing could be located.

The tigers will be leaving the zoo around 10 a.m. Tuesday on board a truck for the one-hour drive to Pittsboro. Zoo Curator of Mammals Lorraine Smith arranged for CPT, a sanctuary for large cats, to accept the cubs. But because CPT does not have quarantine facilities, the tigers were quarantined at the zoo's Hanes Veterinary Medical Center until the transfer could be arranged. Most zoos require a minimum 30-day quarantine period for any new animals to prevent the spread of disease to existing collections.

Arriving malnourished and with some minor physical problems after apparently being dumped on the highway, the cubs have almost doubled in size to about 120 pounds each since arriving at the zoo. Their physical problems have also been resolved.

The zoo has been dealing with problems related to private ownership of dangerous animals for many years. The Animal Division routinely receives several calls a week from people who have bought exotic animals and can no longer provide proper care for them. But the zoo normally cannot accept these animals due to the lack of holding space, staff and budget to care for them as well as the problems of disease transfer and uncertain genealogical history commonly associated with them.

The zoo has been pushing for several years to have state regulations established to restrict private ownership of dangerous animals. A bill has been introduced in this session of the State Legislature to establish a law on private ownership of these animals, since only about 30 of North Carolina's 100 counties have local regulations. But the bill has not yet come to a vote.

Within the last 22 months, tigers have mauled two North Carolina children, including a young Wilkes County boy who was killed.

N.C. Zoo is a member institution of [AZA](#) and an agency of the [N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources](#), William G. Ross Jr. Secretary; Michael F. Easley, Governor. A part of the [North Carolina Government](#) portal.

The Zoo is closed Christmas day and during severe weather. Call our information line at: 1-800-488-0444.