

JULY 20TH 2018

Tiger Cub Intercepted at U.S. Border Finds Permanent Home at Lions Tigers & Bears Sanctuary

Exclusive media opportunity with Moka and tiger companion Nola

WHAT:

In August 2017, a tiger cub was rescued from smugglers attempting to transport it across the border from Mexico to the United States. The tiger was sent to the San Diego Zoo Safari Park, where it remained under the facilities care until June 2018. The cub, named Moka, is a bengal tiger hybrid, and is not conducive for the zoos species survival breeding program. As such, Lions Tigers & Bears - San Diego's only accredited big cat and bear sanctuary - was approached by Fish & Wildlife Service to provide Moka with a permanent home. The tiger was transferred to Lions Tigers & Bears, and has been introduced to a white tiger cub of similar age, named Nola, who resides at the sanctuary.

Press are invited to an exclusive viewing of Moka and Nola released into the sanctuary's Tiger Trails Exercise Area.

Tigers in captivity, can live up to 20 years, and eat more than 12 pounds of food a day. It costs a minimum of \$10,000 a year to provide basic care (food, medical, housing and insurance) to one big cat or bear at the sanctuary. The individuals involved in the attempted smuggling were successfully prosecuted by the US Attorney's Office in the Southern District of California.

WHEN:

Friday, July 27th, 2018 - 9:00 -11:00 AM

9:30 AM - Moka and his new companion, Nola, a rescued white tiger cub, will be released together in the sanctuary's Tiger Trails Exercise Area

10:00-10:30 AM - Media availability with subject matter experts

10:30-11:00 AM - Private guided visit with Founder/Director, Bobbi Brink

WHERE:

Lions Tigers & Bears
24402 Martin Way
Alpine, CA 91901

WHO:

Bobbi Brink - Founder/Director, Lions Tigers & Bears

Erin Dean - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement, Resident Agent in Charge, Southern CA

David Shaw - Department of Homeland Security, Homeland Security Investigations, Special Agent in Charge, San Diego, CA

Joseph Misenhelter - U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Assistant Port Director, Otay Mesa Port of Entry, San Diego, CA