

## PRESS RELEASE

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### Woodland Park Zoo shares update on sloth bear cubs

SEATTLE—Woodland Park Zoo's 8-week-old sloth bear cubs are getting bigger by the minute. New footage, captured on the zoo's maternity den cam, shows the growing cubs, who's fur has come in completely, becoming more mobile and playing together!



"It's great to see them starting to play and explore their den," said Martin Ramirez, Woodland Park Zoo's curator of mammals. "These behaviors are good indicators that the cubs are healthy and thriving." The two cubs, born December 27, 2017, are the offspring of 13-year-old mother Tasha and 17-year-old father Bhutan (boo-tahn).

The mother and newborn cubs remain in an off-view maternity den to allow for their best possible welfare. This time is critical for maternal bonding and undisturbed nursing. Animal care staff is monitoring the new family via a live web cam inside the maternity den to ensure the cubs continue to thrive. Currently, the cubs are doing well and developing on schedule. **Check out new footage from the maternity den cam here:** <http://bit.ly/2CDLfu9>.

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