

## **Tandie makes his second Seattle debut! Zoo's new male lion now viewable to the public**

SEATTLE—Hear him roar! *Tandie*, the 8-year-old male lion who first stole the heart of Seattle as a cub, is now viewable to the public. Tandie has spent the last few weeks acclimating to his new home and animal keepers. He's now showing off for guests in the zoo's African Savanna lion habitat.



Tandie, whose name means fire, was born as a triplet at Woodland Park Zoo in 2014 to parents Adia and Xerxes. The big cat arrived back in Seattle last month after living at Oakland Zoo since 2016.

Tandie isn't the *mane* event in the zoo's lion habitat; he shares the spotlight with female Ilanga, 5. The pair have been getting to know each other and are getting along well. "This has been a big adjustment for both Tandie and Ilanga, but they're both getting along really well. It will be exciting to see how their relationship continues to develop," said Kim Szawan, an animal care manager at Woodland Park Zoo.

While there is a breeding recommendation from the Association of Zoos and Aquariums between Tandie and Ilanga, the zoo doesn't plan to breed them in the near future. Their pairing will provide each lion with social interaction that is important for this social species.

The two lions are a South African lion subspecies, *Panthera leo krugeri*, known as the Transvaal lion. The South African lion subspecies ranges in Southern Sahara to South Africa in grassy plains, savanna and open woodlands, excluding the Congo rain forest belt. These lions range in weight from 260 to more than 400 pounds.

Woodland Park Zoo partners with and supports the [Lion Landscapes](#) program in and around Ruaha National Park in Tanzania, which is protecting as much as 10% of the remaining population of wild lions in their landscape. The program continues to add members and focuses on reducing the key threat of human-carnivore conflict in the Ruaha landscape.

Zoo hours through January 22, 2023: Tuesday–Sunday 9:30 a.m.– 3:00 p.m.; Mondays 9:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Parking: \$6 first two hours, \$2 each additional hour, daily maximum of \$12, plus applicable state and local taxes.

Accessibility: Information about accessibility and resources, one-to-one aides, sighted guides, mobility equipment rentals, and a sensory map and tools can

be found at [www.zoo.org/access](http://www.zoo.org/access). For questions or to request disability accommodations for zoo programs or events, contact [zooinfo@zoo.org](mailto:zooinfo@zoo.org).

For more information or to become a zoo member, visit [www.zoo.org](http://www.zoo.org) or call 206.548.2500. Follow the zoo on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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