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Loveland Living Planet Aquarium Launches Naming Contest for Baby Toucan

DRAPER, Utah (August 31, 2020) — Loveland Living Planet Aquarium wants your help to name their new baby toucan chick. They are launching a naming contest for the Keel-billed toucan on Monday, August 31.

The chick hatched June 17 to the delight of Aquarium animal care staff who have been waiting for this moment. The Aquarium expanded their aviary three years ago to create the best breeding conditions possible for this threatened species. On average, about six Keel-billed toucan chicks are born each year at Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) accredited facilities nationwide.

The Aquarium's Keel-billed toucans are part of a Species Survival Plan (SSP), administered by AZA. The goal of an SSP is to oversee sustainable breeding programs within accredited zoos and aquariums, and to enhance conservation of the species in the wild. The SSP for Keel-billed toucans is Red status, meaning institutions with breeding pairs are needed to maintain healthy population levels.

The parents fed and cared for the chick in the nest until it fledged on July 31. Now it has already grown to full size! The gender isn't known at this time, so the Aquarium is looking for a unisex name that would work for either a boy or girl.

To submit your name, go to thelivingplanet.com/toucan. Later in September the Aquarium will hold a vote on the top five names before it reveals the final choice. The Toucan Naming Contest is presented by Harmons.

About Loveland Living Planet Aquarium

LLPA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that inspires people to Explore, Discover, and Learn about Earth's diverse ecosystems. A world-class facility, LLPA provides learning opportunities at all levels, interests, and ages. Since opening in Draper in March 2014, the Aquarium has welcomed more than 5 million visitors. Additionally, LLPA reaches more than 82,000 Utah students each year through its Outreach Education programs. LLPA is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA).

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