



ICGS ANNOUNCES TWO SIGNIFICANT BIRTHS

The International Center for Gibbon Studies (ICGS) announced the birth of a pileated gibbon (*Hylobates pileatus*) on 26 January 2001. The infant was born to a captive-born 13-year-old female on breeding loan from the Gladys Porter Zoo. The sire is a 21-year-old male born at the Phoenix Zoo. The infant lives with mom, dad,

sister (born 27 July 1998), and brother (born 12 October 1995) as a compatible family group. ICGS plans to eventually house the sub-adult male with one of their adult pileated females.

There are less than 20 pileated gibbons housed in only four institutions in the Western Hemisphere. Currently the only captive breeding of pileated gibbons is taking place in Japan (one pair), Thailand (two pairs), France (one pair), Switzerland (two pairs), England (one pair), and the pair at ICGS. Because of the small captive gene pool, ICGS is proud to have added another member to the worldwide census of this rare species. The current estimate of pileated gibbons in their natural habitat is 30,000 in southeast Thailand, 30,000 in western Cambodia and 10,000 in the Republic of Lao.

On 15 June ICGS also welcomed the birth of a northern white-cheeked gibbon (*Nomascus l. leucogenys*). The 18-year-old breeding male was mother-reared at the Melbourne Zoo, and the 16-year-old female was mother-reared at the Perth Zoo. The family group also includes another male offspring, born 31 July 1997, and it is the only group of its bloodline housed in the Western Hemisphere. There are fewer than 10,000 northern white-cheeked gibbons found in their native habitat of Northern Vietnam, Republic of Lao and southern Yunnan.

