

NEWS

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Video credit, Fresno Chaffee Zoo

Multiple SOTS- Dr. Audrey Siegrist, Chief Veterinary Officer:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/digsoxo92hxun4nlp2g0l/h?rlkey=nieqgz670z1l2yifatpx59nyr&dl=0>

FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO SHARES ELEPHANT ULTRASOUNDS

FRESNO, (April 16, 2024) – Fresno Chaffee Zoo is excited to share an update on the progress of their two pregnant elephants. These pregnancies mark a significant milestone for the Zoo and its dedicated teams, as they eagerly await the arrival of the two elephant calves, the first in the Zoo's history. The ultrasound images provide an intimate look of the development of calves as they prepare to enter the world.

"I truly feel like I'm living a childhood dream," said Fresno Chaffee Zoo Chief Veterinary Officer, Dr. Audrey Siegrist. "It's surprising how similar we are, we look for the same type of shapes you would see in a human ultrasound for pregnancy. In addition to looking for a heartbeat just how you would a human baby but instead we see a trunk and two large ears!"

The Zoo's two female elephants Nolwazi and Amahle have been pregnant since late summer of 2022. Dr. Siegrist says regular checkups are important as they monitor the calves and prepare for their arrival. Zoo staff have been working closely with the animals to make sure they are comfortable during the ultrasounds.

The unveiling of the ultrasound of the elephant calves marks a moment of celebration and anticipation at Fresno Chaffee Zoo, highlighting the importance of conservation efforts and the vital role zoos play in safeguarding endangered species. As the due date approaches, Fresno Chaffee Zoo remains committed to providing the highest level of care for its elephants and ensuring a smooth transition for the new arrivals sometime this fall.

The Zoo will be livestreaming an elephant ultrasound on our Facebook page on May 2nd, providing the public with the unique opportunity to tune in live and witness this incredible moment.

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"Fresno Chaffee Zoo inspires people to care for animals, create connections, build community, and save wildlife."