

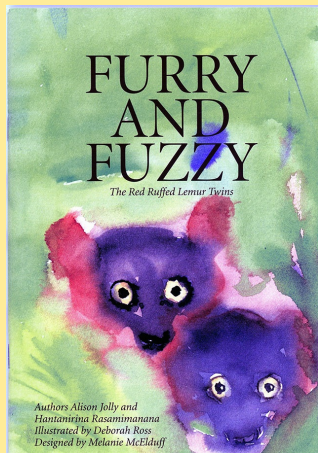


# LEMUR CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

E-ulemur Latitudes  
e-newsletter September 2013  
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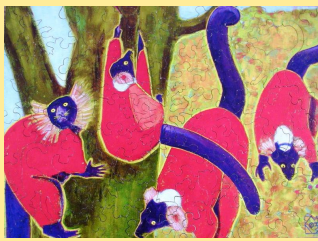
## RING-TAILED TWINS UPDATE



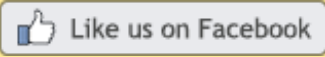
Rogue during 'weight' training

The ring-tailed lemur twins are growing up quickly and learning all about life in the forest. Although we have not confirmed the sex of the twins, they do finally have names! The twins are part of the "beer family" of ring-tailed lemurs and were named after two craft breweries in the US: Rogue and Allagash. One twin is very adventurous and is very comfortable exploring away from mom, while the other twin is a little less brave. The infant with the more bold personality is named Rogue and our shy infant Allagash.

The twins are currently being trained by our animal care staff to stand on a scale in order to obtain weight information. As you see in this picture, Rogue immediately jumped on the scale and obtained his food reward. He weighs a whopping 0.82 kg! (Adult ring-tailed lemurs typically weigh between 2.2 and 2.7 kg.)



[children's puzzle available in our Amazon store](#)



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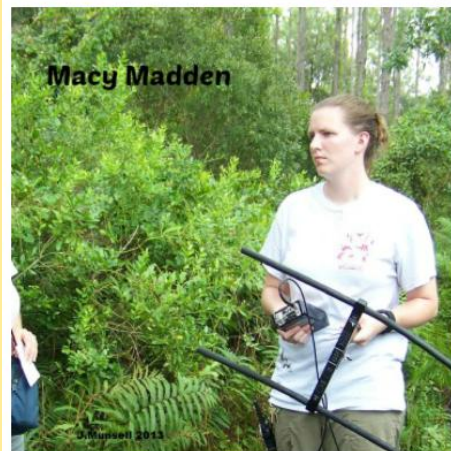


Allagash and Ansell on the scale while Rogue explores the forest

Allagash was more reluctant and waited for mom to get on the scale too. Training lemurs like Rogue and Allagash to sit on a scale is an important part of our animal management program at LCF. Obtaining weights helps to ensure that our animals are within healthy weight limits, which can improve reproductive success and prevent and detect diseases.

### WELCOME INTERNS!

Four talented interns arrived at the reserve. Lindsay, Macy, and Joe are working in Animal Husbandry. Rachel is LCF's Research Intern.



LCF Interns

**Lindsay Krapfl, Animal Husbandry Intern:** Lindsay recently completed her Bachelor's degree at the University

of Wisconsin-Green Bay. She majored in Biology with an emphasis in Animal Biology. While earning her degree she was an Education Intern at the NEW Zoo in Green Bay, WI and was able to work with the program animals. She then joined the LCF team to continue to pursue a career as a zookeeper. Working at LCF has been a wonderful and unique experience for Lindsay. Her favorite lemur is Emilia, a female mongoose lemur.

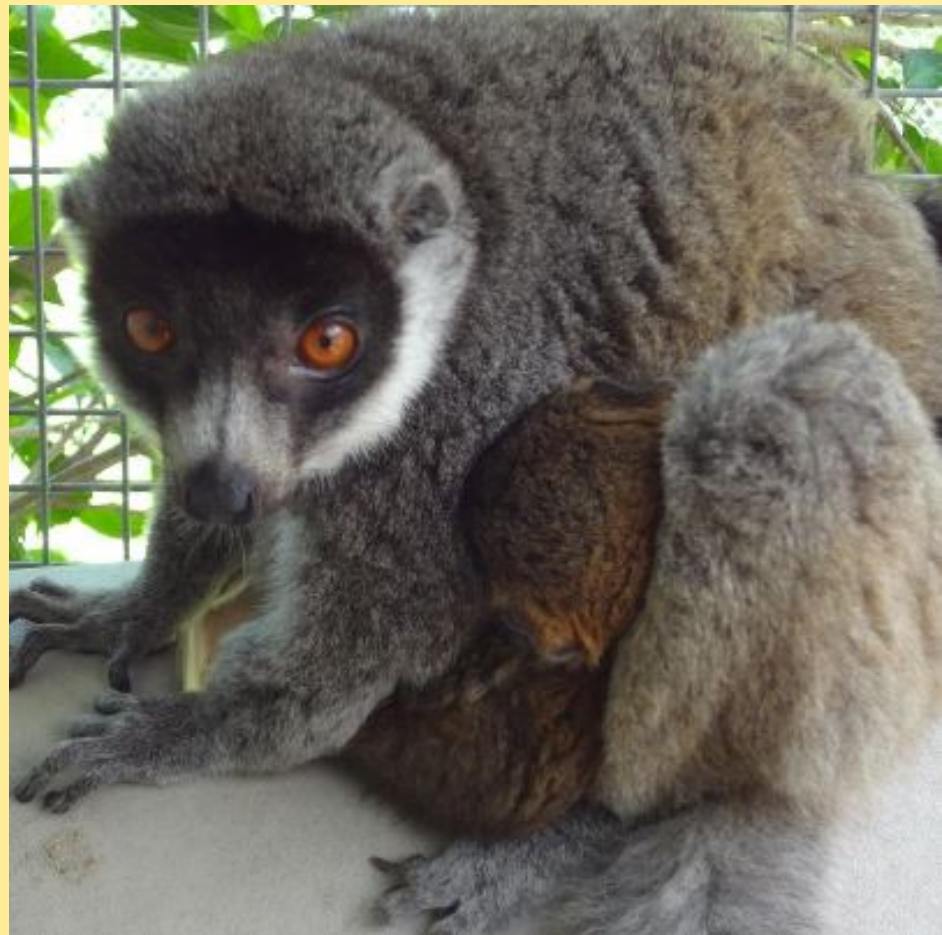
**Rachel Mattes, Research Intern:** Rachel is from Columbia Station, Ohio. Rachel earned her BA in Zoology and Psychology from Ohio Wesleyan University. She completed an externship in wildlife rehabilitation at The Wildlife Center of Virginia. 'I'm very excited for an opportunity to work with exotic endangered animals and to get some experience in the field of conservation. I love that some of the animals are able to live free range, and especially that they have been trained to receive their food even in the forest. I think it's really great that even if they have to live in captivity, the lemurs have an opportunity to live an almost natural life style.'

**Macy Madden, Animal Husbandry Intern:** Macy's hometown is Clinton, NY. She attended Canisius College and an internship at Rosamond Gifford Zoo as a Small Mammals Intern. Macy returned to the zoo as a Small Mammal Keeper last summer. How does Macy view her internship at LCF? 'It is an amazing opportunity to apply the research techniques I have learned throughout my coursework at college and to work only with lemurs. I have the ability to work with several species of lemurs and can interact with a majority of them closely. This internship has offered a wide variety of opportunities and everyone is very supportive.'

**Joe VanSistine, Animal Husbandry Intern:** After earning a Bachelor's degree in General Biology from the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, Joe started his career working at the NEW Zoo in Green Bay, the zoo he grew up going to. Working as an education intern, he not only got to work with the program animals, but was also able to work closely with the zookeepers in animal care. Joe sees LCF as a great step forward to becoming a zookeeper, and he absolutely loves being here. His favorite lemur to work with is Bimbini, who is one of the male mongoose lemurs. Although the job can be very demanding, Joe always looks forward to working each day.

## AN ARTICLE FROM NBC NEWS:

When human babies are 3 months old, they pay attention to lemur calls as well as human voices -



Infants respond to the voices of their doing parents - but it's not just human voices that hold them spellbound. In what may be a hallmark of our ancestry, human brains begin life hard-wired to hear the calls of non-human primates, an ability that fades away after just a few months.

Past studies with infants have shown that deep cognitive wheels are set turning as they listen to human speech. Now researchers have found that soon after birth the blue-eyed Madagascar lemur engage their attention, too, in ways that artificial sounds don't.

"The link is sufficiently broad to include the call of this adorable lemur," [Sandra Waxman](#), professor of cognitive psychology at Northwestern University and a co-author on the new study, told NBC News.

"The fact that there's this precise link between language and thought... it's just hands-down amazing." [READ MORE HERE](#)

## FELICIA SPECTOR JOINS THE LCF TEAM AS OUR ANIMAL CARE TECHNICIAN



Felicia Spector, Animal Care Technician

Felicia is from Plainview, Long Island, and completed her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in New York. She graduated with a BS in Biology from Union College in Schenectady, NY and completed a Master's in Conservation Biology from Columbia University.

Before joining the LCF team on 21 August Felicia finished internships at the Cleveland Amory Black Beauty Ranch in Murchison, Texas and one at the Association of Zoos and Aquariums in Silver Spring, Maryland. During these internships she gained experience as a Vet-tech at the exotic animal sanctuary in Texas and Conservation Education experience with the AZA in Maryland.

Here are her own words about the Animal Care Technician position with LCF: 'I liked that LCF not only works towards the betterment of their in-situ populations, but also collaborates with groups in Madagascar on conservation research and efforts for the few populations left in the wild. I was hoping to find a job that involved direct animal care, while also allowing me to be a part of a conservation organization that had a presence in the region of which their species are endemic, and the Animal Care Technician position with LCF provides just that!'

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