BBG iWonder

First safari park opens

[Clip from BBC TWO Animal Park]

[Kate Humble]

In the beginning it was the lions that people came to see and there were plenty of them. 50 were brought here from zoos across Europe and from game dealers in Africa. To many local people, just the thought of all those ferocious beasts was horrifying. Tim Moore is the estate manager today.

[Tim Moore]

When he opened the safari park it was considered outrageous. I mean the idea in the mid-60s of having lions running around in Wiltshire took a lot of understanding and indeed it would anywhere if you were introducing large African carnivores to pastoral England so it certainly caused a major stir.

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