PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

For immediate release | June 5, 2015 Media contact: Gigi Allianic, Alissa Wolken 206.548.2550 | woodlandparkzoopr@zoo.org

"Hey Boo Boo, let's go steal some pic-a-nic baskets!" Bears raid a "backyard picnic" at Bear Affair: Living Northwest Conservation Day presented by Brown Bear Car Wash

WHAT:

WHO:

Grizzly bear brothers Keema and Denali will do what You Bear and Boo Boo do best: steal pic-a-nic baskets! Watch the bears raid a mock backyard picnic in their exhibit, except without the careless picnic-goers: checkered tablecloths, barbecue grill, coolers, hamburgers, hot dogs, cupcakes and other picnic fare. The grizzlies will remind us what happens when food and garbage aren't stored properly in territory shared with bears and other native wildlife.

The press will have access to the roof overlooking the bear exhibit for the picnic demonstration from 11:00 a.m.- noon

The backvard scenario is a part of Woodland Park Zoo's Bear Affair: Living Northwest Conservation Day presented by Brown Bear Car Wash. Get tips on how to bear-proof your yard or camp site!

The zoo's grizzlies are 21-year-old brothers, Keema and Denali. Currently weighing 750 pounds apiece, the bears arrived at the zoo in 1994 from Washington State University, which maintains a small collection to conduct a

long-term study on bear nutrition.

WHEN: Backyard picnic demonstration: Saturday, June 6, 11:00 a.m.-noon Bear Affair: Living Northwest Conservation Day presented by Brown

Bear Car Wash: Saturday, June 6, 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

WHERE: The rooftop of the grizzly bear exhibit in Woodland Park Zoo's award-winning

> Northern Trail. Meet PR staff at the West Entrance on Phinney Ave. N. between N. 55th & N. 56th Sts. or proceed to the exhibit's viewing shelter. Traffic cones will mark a few reserved parking spots for the press in the

Otter Lot, first come, first serve.

INFO: In commemoration of Bear Awareness Week, proclaimed by Governor Jay

> Inslee to be May 31-June 6, 2015, Bear Affair puts the spotlight on bears, wolves, raptors and other Pacific Northwest wildlife. Practice carnivore awareness by learning what these animals need to survive in the wild, how to help keep them safe and what humans can do to peacefully co-exist. Meet zoo staff and volunteers, and conservation and community partners from Western Wildlife Outreach, Wolf Haven, National Parks Conservation Association, Conservation Northwest and National Park Service. Karelian bear dogs will be back to demonstrate how the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife partner dogs play an essential role in training nuisance

bears and cougars to avoid human contact.

A complete schedule of activities can be found at

http://www.zoo.org/bearaffair.

COST: Bear Affair: Living Northwest Conservation Day presented by Brown

Bear Car Wash is free with zoo admission or membership. For information,

visit www.zoo.org for information or call 206.548.2500.

###

