

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

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Pike Place Fish Market returns for its famous salmon toss to kick off *Bear Affair: Living Northwest Conservation Day presented by Brown Bear Car Wash*

WHAT: Pike Place Fish Market brings back its world-famous salmon toss to Woodland Park Zoo's grizzly bears **Thursday, June 2**. Just before the 850-pound bears "catch" their salmon, the fishmongers will warm up by tossing salmon to zoo visitors and showing off their expert aerial stunts.



The salmon toss kicks off **Bear Affair: Living Northwest Conservation Day presented by Brown Bear Car Wash** and Bear Awareness Week, proclaimed by Governor Jay Inslee to be the week of June 4–12, 2016. Bear Affair, held at the zoo Saturday, June 4, focuses on the survival of bears, wolves, turtles, raptors and other wildlife in the Pacific Northwest. Zoo-goers will become "carnivore smart" by learning what these animals need to survive in the wild, how to help keep them safe and what humans can do to peacefully coexist.

WHEN: Pike Place Fish Market salmon toss: **Thursday, June 2, 10:30-10:45 a.m.**

Bear Affair: Living Northwest Conservation Day presented by Brown Bear Car Wash: **Saturday, June 4, 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.**

WHERE: Grizzly bear exhibit at Woodland Park Zoo. Meet PR staff at the West Entrance at Phinney Ave. N. between N. 55th & N. 56th Sts. or head to the grizzly exhibit. Park in the Penguin Lot at N. 55th St. & Phinney Ave. N. or Otter Lot off N. 59th St. & Phinney Ave. N.

WHO: Pike Place Fish Market staff; the zoo's grizzly bear brothers, 22-year-old Keema and Denali. 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.

INFO: Bear Affair is Saturday, June 4. Special activities include: mock birthday party and camp site demonstrations in the grizzly exhibit for an up-close look at what can happen in bear country when food and garbage aren't stored properly; staff and volunteers, and conservation and community partners from Western Wildlife Outreach, Wolf Haven, Defenders of Wildlife, National Parks Conservation Association, Conservation Northwest and National Park Service; talks at animal exhibits and demonstrations of raptors in flight; horticulture experts offering tips on creating a garden for pollinators; a look at the zoo's western pond turtle recovery project; crafts for kids; and special videos on bears and western pond turtles. A complete schedule of Bear Affair activities can be found at www.zoo.org/bearaffair.

Biologists believe there may be only a handful or fewer individual grizzly bears remaining in the North Cascades, making these bears the most at-risk population in the U.S., and 50 to 70 in the Selkirk Ecosystem of northeast Washington. Help restore a healthy population of grizzly bears to the North Cascades by [signing a statement of support](#).

Bear Affair is free with zoo admission or membership. Summer zoo hours, May 1–September 30: 9:30 a.m.–6:00 p.m. daily. Admission April 1–September 30: Adult (13–64) \$19.95; Child (3–12) \$12.25. Free for children 2

and under year round. Active, retired, and veteran U.S. military and their families, seniors and people with disabilities receive an admission discount. Zoo members receive free zoo admission year round. Parking: \$6. For more information, visit www.zoo.org or call 206.548.2500.

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