For immediate release | October 27, 2016 Media contact: Gigi Allianic, Alissa Wolken 206.548.2550 | woodlandparkzoopr@zoo.org

Let it glow! Let it glow! Let it glow! Celebrate the holidays with Woodland Park Zoo at WildLights presented by Sound Credit Union

'Twas the night before WildLights when all through the zoo not a mammal was stirring, not even the pudu. The lights were strung up on the buildings with flair, in hopes that zoo visitors soon would be there. To wander the pathways that shine vivid and bright, And bring kids and their families such joy and delight.



WHAT:

Friends and families are invited to commemorate the holiday season at Woodland Park Zoo's fifth annual WildLights presented by Sound Credit **Union**. The electrifying, after-hours event runs from Friday, November 25, 2016 through Sunday, January 1, 2017, 5:30-8:30 p.m. nightly. Guests will be transported to a festive winter wonderland complete with lights, treats, animals and more. Tickets are available for purchase at zoo.org/wildlights.

Over 600,000 energy-efficient LED lights illuminate the paths of Woodland Park Zoo through dazzling displays of wild animals and exotic destinations including "African Water Hole," "Jungle Lights" and "Northern Lights." WildLights guests can enjoy brilliant indoor and outdoor displays, a peacock scavenger hunt, a Winter Warm Up area, a ride on the zoo's decorated Historic Carousel (additional fee) and a visit from Santa and a couple of his reindeer! Zoomazium, the zoo's indoor nature play space, will be transformed into Snowmazium which will be open every night for storytelling and the everpopular [faux] snowball fights.

Keep an eye out for the man in red! Santa will be stopping by WildLights every Friday through Sunday prior to Christmas as well as December 19 through 23. Guests can head over to Santa's Camp to meet jolly old Saint Nick and take a commemorative Santa photo (additional fee).

The Winter Warm Up area will be located at the southwest corner of the Rain Forest Food Pavilion and open every night to guests of all ages. The Winter Warm Up area will offer delicious winter treats including mini donuts, apple fritters, chowder, chili and pizza as well as hot cider, hot cocoa, coffee, espresso, hot tea, soda and water. Guests 21 and older can enjoy a selection of bottled beer, draft beer, cider, spiked hot cider, mulled wine, red wine and white wine while cozying up under the covered [outdoor] space. ID is required to order alcoholic beverages.

A flock of peacocks has taken over WildLights. In honor of the zoo's two freeroaming peacocks, light-up peacocks have been added to WildLights. Visitors can stop by Guest Services where they'll find the leader of the peacock flock, as well as entry forms for the peacock scavenger hunt. There are six peacocks hiding out in the WildLights displays and all have names. Visitors can enterto win a Woodland Park Zoo plush and four tickets to Woodland Park Zoo by writing down the names of the six peacocks on their entry form and submitting it to the West ZooStore. One winner will be chosen each week during WildLights (six winners total).

While most of the zoo's animals will be nestled in for the night, a few creatures will still be stirring at the Day Exhibit, which showcases reptiles, amphibians and a tree kangaroo, and in the Adaptations Building, which houses sloths, Indian flying foxes, Komodo dragons and meerkats. In addition, the zoo's birds of prey, porcupine and other animals will make scheduled appearances at the Raptor Center Fridays through Sundays during WildLights.

WHEN: WildLights: November 25, 2016-January 1, 2017, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. nightly

WildLights will be closed December 24 and 25

WHERE: Enter through Woodland Park Zoo's West Entrance on Phinney Ave. N.

between N. 55th & N. 56th Streets.

TICKETS: Tickets go on sale Tuesday, November 8, at 10:00 a.m., and can be

purchased online by visiting <u>zoo.org/wildlights</u> or at zoo gates during regular zoo hours. Night-of-event tickets will be sold at the zoo's West Entrance, if not sold out. WildLights will be a rain or shine event—there will be no ticket

refunds.

Adults (13+): \$9.95; Children (3-12): \$7.95; Toddlers (2 and under): free. Zoo member special offer: \$2 off adult tickets purchased through December

9.

Free parking is available in the Penguin, Otter and Bear parking lots. The Hippo and Flamingo lots will open as needed.

###