"Time for the Grizzly? Bringing Grizzly Bears Back to the North Cascades" Woodland Park Zoo hosts grizzly bear recovery event

WHAT: The Friends of the North Cascades Grizzly Bear is proud to present an event celebrating the iconic grizzly bear. The event will include an overview about recovering the grizzly bear to Washington's North Cascades Ecosystem, a screening of bear expert and acclaimed filmmaker Chris Morgan's brand new short film "Time for the Grizzly?", which follows the story of grizzly bear recovery in Montana's Cabinet Mountains, and a panel discussion and audience Q&A with bear experts.

WHEN: Wednesday, March 8, doors open at 6:30 p.m., presentations begin at 7:15 p.m.

- WHERE: Woodland Park Zoo's Education Center Auditorium, located off the adjacent Hippo parking lot (enter the lot at the south side of the zoo at Fremont Avenue N. and N. 50th Street). Parking is free for this event.
- **COST:** The event is free but registration is required. Reserve a seat through <u>timeforgrizzly.brownpapertickets.com</u>.
- **INFO:** Preceding the film will be a presentation from Jack Oelfke, chief of the natural and cultural resources at the North Cascades National Park Service, who will discuss the public process undertaken by government agencies to recover the grizzly bear to Washington's North Cascades Ecosystem, as well as describe potential options under consideration to restore the grizzly population.

The evening will end with a conversation and audience Q&A about how to bring the recovery process to Washington's North Cascades Ecosystem. Panelists include Chris Morgan and Bill Gaines, wildlife ecologist and executive director of Washington Conservation Science Institute.



Opportunities to submit a public comment or to provide feedback on the recovery plan will be available throughout the evening.

After decades of research, the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other agencies have released proposals to support recovery of the grizzly bear to the North Cascades. Drawing on science and community involvement, these agencies recently released a draft Environmental Impact Statement detailing four alternatives regarding grizzly recovery. A 60-day public comment period is now underway and ends Tuesday, March 14.

Take action now. Submit a public comment in support of bear recovery by visiting the <u>National Park Service website</u>. Use the zoo's new <u>Facebook profile frame</u> to show friends and family you support grizzly recovery in the North Cascades Ecosystem and use the hashtag <u>#MyWildHasGrizzlyBears</u>.

Accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums, awardwinning Woodland Park Zoo is famed for pioneering naturalistic exhibits and setting international standards for zoos in animal care, conservation and education programs. Woodland Park Zoo is helping to save animals and their habitats through more than 35 field projects in the Pacific Northwest and around the world. By inspiring people to care and act, Woodland Park Zoo is making a difference in our planet's future ecological health and sustainability. Free Wi-Fi is available for zoo guests, made possible through products donated by Cisco. For more information, visit www.zoo.org.

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