For immediate release | May 30, 2017 Media contact: Gigi Allianic, Alissa Wolken 206.548.2550 | woodlandparkzoopr@zoo.org

World-famous Pike Place Fish Market to toss salmon to bears Salmon toss kicks off Bear Affair: Living Northwest Conservation Day presented by Brown Bear Car Wash

WHAT:

TT for the bears! Pike Place Fish Market brings its world-famous flying fish to Woodland Park Zoo's grizzly bears Thursday, June 1. Join the fishmongers as they show off their expert aerial stunts with zoo guests before tossing salmon to the 850-pound bears.



The salmon toss kicks off Bear Affair: Living Northwest Conservation Day presented by Brown Bear Car Wash. The annual conservation event is at the zoo Saturday, June 3, and 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 1, 10:30–10:45 a.m.

Grizzly bear exhibit at Woodland Park Zoo. Meet PR staff at the West WHERE: 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 and the zoo's grizzly bear brothers, 23-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: Living Northwest Conservation Day is Saturday, June 3.

> Learn bear-proof tips at make-believe demonstrations in the grizzly exhibit where the zoo's curious—and hungry—grizzly bear brothers offer an upclose look at what happens when food and garbage aren't stored properly, such as a backyard wedding reception. Stop by the Living Northwest conservation tent for chats with experts, up-close visits with western pond turtles and free seed packets and pollinator-friendly planting guides. Hear talks on river otters, wolves and other animals. Visit with conservation partners from Western Wildlife Outreach, Wolf Haven, Defenders of Wildlife, National Parks Conservation Association, Conservation Northwest, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Northwest Trek Wildlife Park and King Conservation District. Watch Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and their partner Karelian bear dogs demonstrate how they train nuisance bears and cougars to avoid human contact. Join artist and storyteller Roger Fernandes as he shares Native American stories about animals and their connection with the other "people" who inhabit the world. Do kids crafts and enjoy videos on bears and western pond turtles. Enter to win a prize: a behind-the-scenes visit with the zoo's grizzly bears, a copy of Woodland Park Zoo's new history book "WOODLAND: The Story of the Animals and People of Woodland Park Zoo" or a Living Northwest gift bag. And, stop by the Rain Forest Food Pavilion to purchase special fry bread by Lancer Hospitality. Visit www.zoo.org/bearaffair for a complete schedule of activities.

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. The grizzly bear was listed as a threatened species in the contiguous United States in 1975 and listed as endangered by the state of Washington in 1980.

Learn more about the zoo's Living Northwest conservation programs at http://www.zoo.org/conservation/livingnorthwest

Bear Affair: Living Northwest Conservation Day presented by Brown Bear Car Wash 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) \$20.95; Child (3–12) \$12.95. 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.

Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the zoo for zoo guests, made possible through products donated by Cisco.

Mobile app: Search for the free Woodland Park Zoo mobile app for iPhone, iPad or Android in your app store. Use it to track your location on zoo grounds with GPS, discover more about animals and daily zoo activities, and share the highlights of your visit with friends.

Gifts/Food: Explore the ZooStores for unique gifts and souvenirs and the Rain Forest Food Pavilion to quench your thirst and appetite.

For more information or to become a zoo member, visit www.zoo.org or call 206.548.2500.

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