

PRESS RELEASE

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Firefox connects voters to zoo's red panda on Election Day *Popular browser to live stream the joys of red pandas from exhibit*

SEATTLE—On Election Day, starting around 10:00 a.m. (PST), Firefox will run a special Election Day live stream to its YouTube page, where for 60 to 90 minutes, viewers can experience happy moments watching Woodland Park Zoo's male red panda, Carson, in his exhibit.

Those interested can tune in here: <http://www.youtube.com/firefoxchannel>



"Many Americans are feeling stressed about the future of our country, especially on the heels of the last two violent weeks leading up to Election Day," said Woodland Park Zoo President and CEO Alejandro Grajal. "Whether Carson is curled up in a tree taking a snooze or romping on the ground, our adorable red panda is sure to bring a little light to our lives, help ease anxiety and make us smile. This is the universal magic of wildlife—they help unite us. We're grateful to team up with Firefox on Election Day to encourage Americans to join us in casting votes."

Firefox's live stream at Woodland Park Zoo marks the first time it has partnered with the conservation organization. But the browser, backed by non-profit Mozilla, has a long history of working hard to make the internet more people friendly.

"Very few things are more serious than exercising your right to vote," shared Jascha Kaykas-Wolff, a member of the Mozilla leadership team. "Now that you've exercised your civic responsibility and eagerly await seeing your vote counted, please enjoy a moment of zen courtesy of Carson the red panda enjoying a nap brought to you by our friends at Woodland Park Zoo."

Carson is 4 years old and was born at Lincoln Children's Zoo in Lincoln, Nebraska. He was named after the famous television host Johnny Carson, who grew up in Nebraska. According to the zoo's animal keepers, Carson routinely climbs to the top of the tree after his morning feeding and spends most of his time curled up sleeping. When awake, Carson's other favorite activities are training for treats—grapes and apples are his favorites—and playfully chasing his keepers.

Other red pandas currently living at the zoo are Hazel and her 4-month-old twin cubs, Zeya (ZAY-uh) and Ila (EE-la), who live in a non-public enclosure. The father of the cubs, Yukiko (you-KEY-koh), lives next door to his family. The zoo anticipates putting Hazel and her cubs in the outdoor public exhibit by mid-November/early December.

Red pandas share the name of giant pandas, but are not related. Most recent genetic research places red pandas in their own independent family: Ailuridae. Studies suggest they are closely related to skunks, weasels and raccoons. An endangered species, fewer than 10,000 red pandas remain in their native habitat of bamboo forests in China, the Himalayas and Myanmar, and share part of their range with giant pandas. Their numbers are declining due to deforestation, increased agriculture and cattle grazing, and continuing pressure from growing local populations.

Woodland Park Zoo supports the [Red Panda Network](#), whose multi-prong approach aims to conserve this flagship species in Nepal. Help support the project by adopting a red panda through the zoo's [ZooParent Adoption Program](#).

Founded in 1899, Woodland Park Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums and certified by the rigorous American Humane Conservation program. The Humane Certified™ seal of approval is another important validation of the zoo's long-standing tradition of meeting the highest standards in animal welfare. Woodland Park Zoo is helping to save animals and their habitats through more than 30 field projects in the Pacific Northwest and around the world. Each year, the zoo engages more than a million visitors of all ages, backgrounds, abilities, and walks of life in extraordinary experiences with animals, inspiring them to make conservation a priority in their lives and a difference in our planet's future ecological health and sustainability. Visit www.zoo.org and follow the zoo on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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