

## Statement from Woodland Park Zoo on Grizzly Bear Restoration in the North Cascades

SEATTLE—Woodland Park Zoo thanks the National Park Service and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service for developing a careful, long-term plan for a successful grizzly bear reintroduction.



Woodland Park Zoo President and CEO Alejandro Grajal, PhD:

“As a conservation organization committed to saving wildlife, we applaud this hard-won opportunity to restore grizzlies to their native habitat in the North Cascades, one of the wildest places in the contiguous U.S. We are grateful to our community of engaged neighbors, nature lovers, and wildlife advocates who spoke up during the public comment period on behalf of grizzly bears in our shared ecosystem. We are also grateful to the agencies who looked at the science and listened to the will of the public to develop a plan so that people and grizzlies can coexist here in perpetuity. Our zoo’s beautiful brown bears, Fern and Juniper, will continue to be ambassadors for their remarkable species and we will continue to work with our diverse partners in the Friends of the North Cascades Grizzly Bear coalition and other community leaders to bring scientific expertise and coexistence resources to the reintroduction process.”

Woodland Park Zoo Carnivore Conservation Specialist Paula MacKay:

“I can’t think of better news to usher in the promise of Spring than this historic step toward restoring grizzly bears to the North Cascades. As we await the final Record of Decision, the zoo is poised to promote the long-term coexistence of thriving human communities and a healthy grizzly bear population.”

*\*MacKay represents the zoo as an organizational member of the Friends of the North Cascades Grizzly Bear coalition*

For more information, please read the statement from the National Park Service : [Agencies release final environmental impact statement evaluating options for restoring grizzly bears to the North Cascades - North Cascades National Park \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](#)

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