

**Statement regarding grizzly bear restoration  
in the North Cascades**  
***Zoo celebrates conservation decision***

SEATTLE—Woodland Park Zoo applauds today’s momentous announcement by the National Park Service and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service regarding the critical conservation decision to reintroduce grizzly bears to the North Cascades.

Woodland Park Zoo Vice President of Conservation and Climate Initiatives Anji Moraes:

“Woodland Park Zoo celebrates this momentous decision to recover grizzly bears to the North Cascades. Grizzlies are a culturally and ecologically iconic species, whose recovery will help this ecosystem be more resilient in the face of climate change and other threats. As a conservation organization working to sustain biodiversity in the Pacific Northwest, the zoo looks forward to grizzlies, once again, being part of this wild ecosystem.”

Woodland Park Zoo Carnivore Conservation Specialist Paula MacKay\*:

“We celebrate today’s decision to restore grizzly bears in their home in the North Cascades because grizzlies belong here and there is still plenty of space for them and for us. Few people will ever see a grizzly in this vast mountain range, but the ecosystem will be wilder and more intact due to their presence. The zoo is excited to bring its expertise in human-wildlife coexistence to this next phase of the recovery process.”

*\*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 National Park Service:  
<https://www.nps.gov/noca/learn/news/agencies-announce-decision-to-restore-grizzly-bears-to-north-cascades.htm>

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