



News Release

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Alaska Department of Fish & Game and Alaska Zoo Respond to Brown Bear Incident

(ANCHORAGE) — The Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) was notified by the Alaska Zoo on June 14, 2026, of an incident involving an altercation between an adult male brown bear and a recently acquired adult female brown bear. The bears had shared an enclosure since September 2025 without any prior incidents. The female bear was transferred to the Alaska Zoo following a confiscation conducted by ADF&G and the Alaska Wildlife Troopers in June 2025.

ADF&G is confident the situation was managed promptly and appropriately by Alaska Zoo staff. Upon observing the altercation, zoo personnel acted quickly to prevent further escalation and by quickly and safely separating the animals.

Following the incident, both bears were sedated and underwent comprehensive veterinary evaluations. Both bears received immediate medical care and appropriate treatment. Veterinary assessments determined the injuries sustained are manageable and are not expected to result in long-term health complications or require extended care.

As a precautionary measure, it was determined by the Alaska Zoo and ADF&G that a transfer would be in the best interest of the female bear involved in the incident, and she **has been transferred to a new location** where she will be the only bear in the enclosure.

The Alaska Department of Fish & Game and the Alaska Zoo remain committed to maintaining the highest standards of animal welfare and continue to prioritize the health, safety, and quality of life of the animals in their care.

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