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Rare wolverine kit now on exhibit at Northwest Trek



Eatonville, Wash. – Only one zoo in the country successfully bred wolverines this year, and Northwest Trek Wildlife Park’s single kit is on exhibit now. The four-month-old kit has lived in behind-the-scenes housing at Northwest Trek since he was born on March 21.

“Wolverine births in zoos are extremely rare so we like to keep a close eye on them before we put them on exhibit,” said Zoological

Curator Rich Sartor. “They grow pretty rapidly, and this kid is not much smaller than mom at this point.”

Wolverines are also rare in the wild. The species is a state candidate for endangered listing and a federally-listed species of concern.

Visitors can see the new kit in the wetlands habitat at Northwest Trek.

The kit was born with a brother in March, but the second kit died in early June. Siblings from previous years’ litters have been sent to other accredited zoos in the country on breeding loans. Northwest Trek is working to breed more wolverines in the future.

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Northwest Trek, accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums, is a 723-acre zoological park dedicated to conservation, education and recreation by displaying, interpreting and researching native Northwest wildlife and their natural habitats. The wildlife park is a facility of Metro Parks Tacoma and is located 35 miles southeast of Tacoma off State Highway 161. For more information, call (360) 832-6117 or visit www.nwtrek.org.