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LABOR DAY WEEKEND MUST-DO: NORTHWEST TREK'S "GET OUT OF THE RUT" ACTIVITIES BRING ANTLER-CLASHING, ELK-BUGLING END-OF-SUMMER FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

EATONVILLE, Wash. – Nature's calling. And before backpacks are loaded with supplies, before lunches are made, before school bells ring, there's a glorious end-of-summer celebration at Northwest Trek Wildlife Park.

Get Out of the Rut is a Labor Day Weekend celebration of elk, bison, deer and bighorn sheep during their mating season, also known as the "rut."

The event lasts all weekend, from Saturday, Sept. 5 through Monday, Sept. 7.

Visitors can learn why elk bugle, what the clashing of antlers means and what it takes for a bull to assert dominance.

What does a bugling elk sound like? Here's the link to a clip:

<https://www.nwtrek.org/rut/>

Northwest Trek's trams carry visitors through meadows and forests, past herds of Roosevelt elk, American bison, bighorn sheep, deer and other animals. You might catch a glimpse of the moose calf born July 17 during Northwest Trek's 40th birthday weekend. There are also bison calves, bighorn sheep lambs, fawns, a caribou calf, and other babies to see.

The wildlife park is open from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day during Get Out of the Rut. Activities run from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

For more information, visit www.nwtrek.org.



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Northwest Trek, accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums, is a 725-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.