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FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO SETS ANNUAL ATTENDANCE RECORD

Fresno, CA – For the sixth consecutive year, Fresno Chaffee Zoo has broken an annual attendance record – finishing 2015 with 808,914 guests – a 15 percent increase from 2014’s annual attendance of 703,325.

“It’s been an outstanding year for the Zoo,” said Scott Barton, Fresno Chaffee Zoo CEO. “We saw the largest attendance increase in the fall when we opened African Adventure, but since then we’ve also seen a lot of people coming back and re-visiting the new exhibit.”

In addition to setting an annual attendance record, the Zoo also saw two of the busiest months in its history. In October 2015, when African Adventure opened, the Zoo welcomed 92,592 guests, a 95 percent increase from October 2014, which saw 47,505 guests.

The largest monthly increase was in November 2015 when 86,388 guests visited the Zoo – a 112 percent increase from November 2014’s attendance of 40,565.

“We’re so grateful to our community for their support and for another amazing year,” Barton said. “We’re looking forward to more exciting changes in 2016. This year, we will start construction on an expanded and re-designed Malayan tiger exhibit, a new warthog exhibit in African Adventure, and start the design of African River that will include hippos.”

In 2015, the Zoo also saw an increase in guests visiting from out of the country; guests from 22 countries and 47 states visited the Zoo.

Fresno Chaffee Zoo is open daily at 9 a.m. Closing times vary 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. by season (subject to change without prior notice). Thanksgiving (9 a.m. – 2 p.m.) and Christmas Day (closed). Visit www.fresnochaffeezoo.org for current hours. General admission during regular Zoo hours is \$10 for adults and \$5.50 for children 2-11 & seniors 62+. Children under 2 and Fresno Chaffee Zoo members are free. Fresno Chaffee Zoo inspires wonder of our natural world, provides an engaging learning environment, and creates a passion for conservation. The Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA).

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