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MEDIA CONTACT:

Darla Givens, Media Director Cell: (916) 247-2060 dqivens@calexpo.com

A Whale Tail: An Interactive, Educational Exhibit Returns to the California State Fair

(SACRAMENTO, CA) - The California State Fair is excited to announce the return of the popular "Whale Tail" exhibit. In its new home, Expo Building 2 Fair guests will learn valuable lessons about marine life through a maze of interactive activities that are fun for the entire family!

The California State Fair is proud to partner with the California Coastal Commission for the third consecutive year to make this exhibit fun and educational. The CCC is dedicated to increasing awareness and encouraging healthy practices to reduce negative impacts on our marine environments.

Guests will get to do a lot at this exhibit, like play video games that demonstrate the importance of removing trash from the ocean. Fairgoers can also play an intense, marine-themed game of Jenga®. Each game piece on the stacked puzzle identifies an "element" of the ocean; remove the wrong "element" and the tower crashes down. This game shows the delicate balancing act of the ocean's composition which protects all of its inhabitants.

Other display elements within the exhibit include information about Ocean Acidification, Oil Spills, Water Quality, and Coastal Clean-up Days. The thought-provoking exhibit will encourage guests to take action. They will learn how to improve their behaviors and protect California's sensitive ocean and coastal ecosystem. Visitors to Expo Building 2 can also meet otters Drip and Drop and their friends. Drip and Drop are otters that were rescued when their mother abandoned them. The two would not be alive today if they had been left to fend for themselves. Other rescued animals include a pelican that can't fish because of a bad eye, an eagle that was shot, salamanders, a raccoon, tree frogs, and a host of other rescued creatures that would not have survived in the wilderness.

Also new this year, The Western Chapter International Society of Arboriculture will join Whale Tails and will be in the center of the exhibit as the forest meets the sea. Fairgoers can actually climb a tree!

The "Whale Tail" exhibit is expected to be a popular destination spot during the entire run of the 2017 California State Fair from July 14 – 30 in Expo Building 2 and is free with your daily admission ticket.

ABOUT CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

The California Coastal Commission was established by voter initiative in 1972 (Proposition 20) and later made permanent by the Legislature through adoption of the <u>California Coastal Act of 1976</u>. The Commission is committed to protecting and enhancing California's coast and ocean for present and future generations. It does so through careful planning and regulation of environmentally-sustainable development, rigorous use of science, strong public participation, education, and effective intergovernmental coordination.

ABOUT CAL EXPO

The California State Fair is celebrating our 50th anniversary at Cal Expo July 14-30th. Established in 1854, the California State Fair is dedicated as a place to celebrate California's achievements, industries, agriculture, and diversity of its people, traditions and trends that shape the Golden State's future.

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