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ANIMAL PLANET RINGS IN THE NEW YEAR WITH BUSY JANUARY SLATE

-- Network Announces New Special PANDA REPUBLIC and Brings Back TREEHOUSE MASTERS and YANKEE JUNGLE--

(Silver Spring, Md.) – January’s a beast of a month for Animal Planet. The network brings back series stalwart **TREEHOUSE MASTERS** on **Friday, January 15, at 10 PM ET/PT**, and plants the sophomore season of **YANKEE JUNGLE** in the **9 PM ET/PT** time slot beginning **Saturday, January 23**. And, on **Tuesday, January 26, from 8-10 PM ET/PT**, Animal Planet premieres its two-hour special **PANDA REPUBLIC**, which chronicles the challenges and triumphs at two Chinese panda centers dedicated to saving the species.

TREEHOUSE MASTERS

Returns Friday, January 15, at 10 PM ET/PT

****Contact: Karin Failla***

Pete Nelson dedicates his life granting people’s dreams of turning peaceful nooks in nature into the ultimate escapes. In **TREEHOUSE MASTERS**, Pete and his team execute the most outrageous treehouses, designed to delight every whimsy, form and function. The series returns with six new one-hour episodes and two specials that feature stunning, first-of-its-kind designs, including the construction of the largest bridge in show history, an installation of a retractable roof and a treehouse built over soothing waters. This season, viewers are treated to watch Pete work his magic in new environments across the United States from central Texas to the mountains of North Carolina and amongst the dense canopies of Connecticut. (Discovery Studios, LLC)

YANKEE JUNGLE

Returns Saturday, January 23, at 9 PM ET/PT

****Contact: Karin Failla***

YANKEE JUNGLE follows the daily life of Bob and Julie Miner as they operate D.E.W. Haven, their non-profit animal refuge in Maine, which is home to more than 200 domestic, exotic and wild animals. For the last 21 years, the couple has been dedicated to providing a safe place for these unwanted, disabled and discarded animals that had nowhere else to go. From kangaroos and lemurs to wolves and camels, Bob, Julie and their staff work around the

clock to provide for the beloved creatures that have become their family. (Lone Wolf Documentary Group)

PANDA REPUBLIC

Premieres Tuesday, January 26, from 8-10 PM ET/PT

**Contact: Tahli Kouperstein*

For three million years, giant pandas have roamed across Southeast Asia. Now, their habitat is disappearing at an accelerated rate, and these ancient, gentle giants are running out of living space. The remote mountains of Sichuan, China are the last refuge for the wild panda. With less than 2,000 left in the wild – pandas are edging closer to extinction, but help is on the way. China is home to two cutting-edge panda centers, both of which are determined to save these iconic bears through research and shared responsibilities: Bifengxia Panda Center is dedicated to increasing the panda population in captivity; and Wolong Panda Center is committed to breeding these bears to be released back into the wild – its most ambitious mission to date. (NHNZ Ltd.)

About Animal Planet:

Animal Planet, a multi-media business unit of Discovery Communications, is the world's only entertainment brand that immerses viewers in the full range of life in the animal kingdom with rich, deep content via multiple platforms and offers animal lovers and pet owners access to a centralized online, television and mobile community for immersive, engaging, high-quality entertainment, information and enrichment. Animal Planet consists of the Animal Planet television network, available in more than 94 million homes in the US; online assets www.animalplanet.com, the ultimate online destination for all things animal; Animal Planet L!VE, the go-to digital destination for round-the-clock, unfiltered access to the animal kingdom; and other media platforms including a robust Video-on-Demand (VOD) service, and merchandising extensions.

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