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ANIMAL PLANET CONTINUES ITS SEARCH FOR THE SASQUATCH IN THE SECOND SEASON OF FINDING BIGFOOT

-- Network Announces Early 2012 Return of Hit Series-

-- Halloween's a Real Treat This October with a Two-hour Special Episode "The Squatchiest Place on Earth" —

(Silver Spring, MD) — This summer, Animal Planet left a giant footprint possibly the size of a Sasquatch itself when it revealed its six-part series **FINDING BIGFOOT**, which just completed its first season. Ranking among the network's top three series, delivering 1.2M P2+ viewers, **FINDING BIGFOOT** found a sizeable audience among viewers, whether they believe in or question the existence of the elusive creature.

Today, Animal Planet announces the return of **FINDING BIGFOOT**, with an order of 10 episodes where the search for the Sasquatch continues into the next chapter. With a second season scheduled for early 2012, the network is committed to looking for the Bigfoot until it's found and has plans to explore reported sightings throughout the United States, including Utah, New Mexico, Indiana, Pennsylvania and upstate New York.

Viewers who can't wait until the start of season two won't be kept in total suspense. Just in time for Halloween, Animal Planet plants its viewers deep within the dark forests of Northern California with a two-hour *FINDING BIGFOOT* special, "The Squatchiest Place on Earth." Bigfoot Field Research Organization (BFRO) investigators hone in on the most infamous and disputed piece of Bigfoot evidence ever – the Patterson-Gimlin footage. Captured more than 50 years ago, the footage has been the center of the Bigfoot debate and has driven conspiracy theorists and Sasquatch enthusiasts on a quest to prove the creature's existence. Now, the BFRO researchers take Animal Planet cameras to the site where the footage was captured and scout out new sites where the best and most convincing Bigfoot footprints have been reported.

In **FINDING BIGFOOT**, a four-person team from the BFRO – a leading scientific research organization exploring the Bigfoot/Sasquatch mystery – investigates Sasquatch sightings by interviewing locals, examining evidence and infiltrating the woodlands and forests in places where Bigfoot has been reported. Led by the BFRO president Matt Moneymaker, crab fisherman James "Bobo" Fay, science educator Cliff Barackman and skeptical scientist Ranae Holland, the team listens to harrowing tales of run-ins with Bigfoot before generating reconstructions of the encounters to judge their plausibility or dismiss them as hoaxes. Then, outfitted with the latest technology, including night-vision and infrared cameras, the team sets out on exhilarating and eerie investigations where any broken branch or peculiar noise could mean a Sasquatch is lurking nearby.

FINDING BIGFOOT is produced for Animal Planet by Ping Pong Productions. Keith Hoffman is the executive producer for Animal Planet. Brad Kuhlman and Casey Brumels are the executive producers for Ping Pong Productions. Marc Etkind is Vice President of development for Animal Planet.

Animal Planet Media (APM), 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. APM consists of the Animal Planet television network, available in more than 97 million homes in the US; online assets www.animalplanet.com, the ultimate online destination for all things animal; the 24/7 broadband channel, Animal Planet Beyond; Petfinder.com, the #1 pet-related Web property globally that facilitates pet adoption; and other media platforms including a robust Video-on-Demand (VOD) service; mobile content; and merchandising extensions.