

## **Crane Returned to Zoo After Brief Beak-Breakout**

SEATTLE— Shortly after 4:00 p.m., a female white-naped crane was observed outside of Woodland Park Zoo near the water tower on Phinney Avenue N. at N. 55th Street. A passing pedestrian alerted the zoo, and staff quickly responded and located the female bird.



With Animal Care staff following closely, the crane traveled a short distance down N. 55th St. and entered a sunken garage just past Greenwood Ave. N. Animal keepers caught the crane inside the garage. The crane was loud and vocal but unharmed. She has now been safely returned to her habitat with her brother and parents, Cal and Laura.

The crane is one of a pair that hatched in July 2019, the first of their species ever successfully hatched at Woodland Park Zoo. The cranes live in an open-air exhibit. Some of the feathers on their wings are clipped to prevent them from flying away, however, their wings are large and broad and it appears the young crane's extended wings caught lift when the wind picked up this afternoon. The clipping process does not hurt the crane, as only feathers that do not have a blood supply are trimmed, similar to a human receiving a haircut.

Fowl play is not suspected.

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