

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Zoo hires new Vice President of Conservation and Climate Initiatives** ***Vast experience in climate change resilience, landscape connectivity, species recovery and marine health will bolster zoo's leadership in conserving species***

SEATTLE—After a national search, Woodland Park Zoo is pleased to welcome Anji Moraes as its new Vice President of Conservation and Climate Initiatives. Moraes is a respected leader in the Pacific Northwest and joins the zoo most recently from Vulcan LLC and the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation where she was a Senior Program Officer focused on local and international conservation solutions. Her first day at the zoo will be June 12.



While at Vulcan LLC and the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, Moraes worked within the community and environmental portfolios including climate change resilience, ecosystem connectivity, species recovery and marine health. She led strategy development, investigated new potential funding opportunities, and managed programming in the Pacific Northwest and Sub-Saharan Africa. She has developed and managed philanthropic initiatives in coral health, dam removal, illegal and unreported fishing and anti-wildlife trafficking. A strong commitment to equity and collaboration underpins her work.

The Vice President of Conservation and Climate Initiatives role was redesigned to specifically focus on Woodland Park Zoo's commitment to climate and community action. In this role, Moraes will lead the zoo as we explore the intersection of wildlife conservation with climate, as well as community-based conservation and technology.

"Saving species and wild places is at the core of what we all do every day at Woodland Park Zoo. I look forward to welcoming Moraes and continuing to prioritize our time and resources addressing critical conservation and climate issues," said Woodland Park Zoo President and CEO Alejandro Grajal. "She will also have expanded conservation fundraising and program development duties and will ensure efforts to engage underrepresented, diverse voices in this critical work. Moraes will be a great addition to the zoo's leadership team."

Anji has a master's degree in environmental studies with a concentration in environmental science and policy, and a bachelor's degree in public policy with a concentration on environmental policy.

Woodland Park Zoo is currently open 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily. For more information about Woodland Park Zoo, visit [www.zoo.org](http://www.zoo.org) or call 206.548.2500. Follow the zoo on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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