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Brevard Zoo appoints new director of facilities

MELBOURNE, Fla., January 14, 2020 — Brevard Zoo’s new director of facilities is no stranger to the institution. Previously serving as the Zoo’s landscaping manager, Dane Dernier was appointed to the position in an interim capacity following the previous director’s departure in September 2019. Dernier was given the official title in early January and now oversees the Zoo’s landscaping, construction and maintenance operations.

Before joining the Zoo team in 2018, Dernier, who is originally from Merritt Island, spent 18 years working at Rockledge Gardens in a multitude of roles, including positions in landscaping, design, sales and purchasing. Dernier is a Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association Certified Horticulture Professional and International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist.

“Having grown up in Brevard County, I've been able to see the Zoo grow and transform,” said Dernier. “The way the Zoo connects our community to nature and conservation is one of my favorite things about working here. I love being a part of that.”

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Brevard Zoo is home to more than 900 animals representing 195 species from all over the world. As a not-for-profit organization, it is a leader in the fields of animal wellness, education and conservation. More information is available at www.brevardzoo.org.

Treetop Trek features five aerial obstacle courses that whisk guests above parts of the Zoo and through lush Florida landscapes. More information is available at www.treetoptrek.com.

The Aquarium Project is a plan to construct a world-class aquarium and conservation center at Port Canaveral. More information is available at www.theaquariumproject.org.