Orangutan SSP Spotlight



Name: Erin Jones

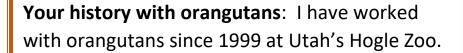
SSP Job Title: Treasurer and Steering Committee

member

Brief info about yourself: I was tired of dressing in ten layers with my eyes frozen open in ND so I made the move to continue my career in SLC and go skiing on the weekends. I currently work with 2.2 gorillas,

1.2 Bornean Orangutans all housed in the same building, and every now and then I get to work with our elephants and rhinos.

Your job title (not SSP, but the zoo you currently work at): Director of Animal Care, Utah's Hogle Zoo





Why orangutans? Within a few months of starting at the zoo they needed people to train in Apes, so I volunteered. They are so challenging yet so rewarding to work with that I decided to stay with the naughty red heads.



Best experience with orangutans: Working with the orangutans and guests artists to create collaborative paintings for the ORANGe-UTAhN Art Show with proceeds going to orangutan conservation.

Worst experience with orangutans: While in the middle of shifting animals I had one orangutan who wanted my attention and spit in my ear in order to try and get it. Of course I

did not respond to her request much to her dismay.

Biggest career accomplishment involving orangutans: Building enough trust with our
orangutans to train blood draws, ultrasound, xray, maternal behaviors, etc.

The most unique form of orangutan memorabilia you own: An orangutan painting and a cheek pad print bookmark.



