Sacramento Zoo is mourning the loss of Kaci, a vivacious and playful two-year-old Wolf's guenon after a short battle with a respiratory infection. A full necropsy will be performed at the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine.

This past Thursday, the veterinary and animal care teams brought Kaci to the Sacramento Zoo's Dr. Murray E. Fowler Veterinary Hospital for treatment and care. She was diagnosed with a respiratory infection. After undergoing blood tests and radiographs, she was treated with fluids and antibiotics. Kaci was then returned to the family troop of Wolf's guenon to minimize stress to her during recovery. On Friday, caretakers monitored her closely and she was taking her medication well and seemed stable, but she remained lethargic and low energy. On Saturday Kaci’s condition worsened and she was taken to the veterinary hospital for critical care and subsequently passed away.
“Kaci was an energetic wonderful animal, beloved by many on staff and with the public,” said Director of Animal Care, Matt McKim. “Her loss is a difficult one that we feel deeply.”

At this time the rest of the troop is healthy and behaving normally. Caretakers have been and will continue to closely monitor the troop for illness. While Kaci’s absence will alter the hierarchy within the troop, we don’t anticipate significant changes in the group’s behavior or demeanor. The Sacramento Zoo is home to four other Wolf’s guenons. Mimi and Eddie, the adult pair and their two offspring Zuri, born in 2013 and Rori, born last year.

Wolf’s guenons are native to central Africa where they inhabit dense forests and forage for fruits, seeds, and an occasional insect. Forming loose family groups in the wild, these monkeys are even known to spend time with other primate species including bonobos, colobus monkeys, and other guenon species. A larger mixed-species group may mean that there are more eyes on the lookout for predators, and many guenons have learned to recognize other monkeys’ alarm calls so that they know how to respond correctly if a neighbor spots a leopard or eagle.

The nonprofit Sacramento Zoo participates in the Association of Zoos and Aquariums’ Species Survival Plan® program for the Wolf’s guenon species. The focus of this plan is captive breeding and educational awareness to prevent the extinction of this species.

###
Open since 1927, the Sacramento Zoo is home to more than 500 native, rare and endangered animals and is one of more than 200 accredited institutions of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. Located near the corner of Land Park Drive and Sutterville Road in William Land Park, the zoo is wholly managed by the non-profit Sacramento Zoological Society. This Sacramento treasure inspires conservation awareness through education and recreation. Daily admission is 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., zoo grounds are open until 5 p.m. General admission is $14.95; children ages 2-11 are $9.95 and one and under are admitted free. Parking is free throughout the park or ride Regional Transit bus #6. For information, call 916-808-5888 or visit saczoo.org.