



Inspection Report

Noahs Ark Animal Rehab Center and Sanctuary Inc
712 L G Griffin Road
Locust Grove, GA 30248

Customer ID: **3157**

Certificate: **57-C-0037**

Site: 001

NOAHS ARK REHABILITATION
CENTER

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 30-JUL-2024

3.150(a)

Repeat

Facilities, general.

Areas in need of repair were identified in two bird aviaries.

- In the mix large parrot aviary, damage to the fencing connecting the ceiling to the front wall created a small gap spanning an approximately 1 foot long section.
- In the cockatoo aviary, a large hole, almost 1 foot deep and 1.5 foot wide, was seen at the bottom of the enclosure fencing at one of the corners of the front holding room. The hole created a direct tunnel to the outside.
- In the same cockatoo aviary, the plastic panels beneath one of the waterers was extensively stained yellow and green. Areas such as these in need of repair could result in animal injury, escape or could allow entry to unwanted animals that may carry diseases. In fact, there were 3 wild birds inside the mix large parrot enclosure. The animal housing facilities must be maintained in good repair to protect the birds from injury, safely contain them and restrict other animals from entering that may negatively affect the welfare of the birds within.

2.40(b)(3)

Direct

Repeat

Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care (dealers and exhibitors).

At the time of inspection, several birds were identified in need of veterinary care. The facility had not identified the condition affecting many of those birds while others were known but had not been communicated with the attending veterinarian.

The following birds had conditions that were not identified by the facility:

- In the cockatiel aviary, a dominant yellowcheek cockatiel was seen alone, perched on the side rail, at a corner of the enclosure. The bird was completely missing all his tail feathers, and the feathers at the back of his head. Feathers were also missing on the top section of his left wing, creating an approximately 1-inch-long area of exposed pink skin. The bird walked on the floor or climbed the side of the enclosure not seeming able to fly thus also not able to use the perches or enrichment items within the enclosure. When walking, he was seen limping on the left leg.
- A Peach-faced lovebird in the large mix small birds' aviary had many of the feathers on the right side of his face and neck plucked off. The skin underneath appeared pink/red and the few remaining feathers were moist clinging to his face. The right eye was abnormal and all that could be seen was a small black dot where the eye should be. This bird was in the same condition at the last inspection but was not evaluated by a veterinarian.

Prepared By: STEPHANIE MAYARD

USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:

03-SEP-2024

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL
OFFICER

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:

03-SEP-2024



Inspection Report

- A Lutino cockatiel in the mix small birds' aviary had a completely hairless right leg and connecting lower right abdomen area. The skin underneath appeared dark red and three small ulcerative lesions were seen at the intersection between the leg and the abdomen. Per the facility's records, this bird was seen on May 3, 2024 by the vet to examine the hairless right leg. However, the bird did not have the lesions at the time and the facility did not identify this change in his condition.
- The African Grey was seen with an approximately 1-inch-long section on the chest where the hair had been plucked.
- Several other birds, 2 in the cockatiel enclosure and 2 in the mix small birds' enclosure, were seen with feathers missing from the back of the head. The facility had identified and provided medical care for one but not for the others.

The facility knew of the condition affecting the following 2 birds but had not communicated these findings with the veterinarian claiming that these birds "have always been this way":

- One cockatiel in the cockatiel aviary had a completely hairless head, face and neck exposing the grey skin underneath.
- A Brozefallow cockatiel in the mix small birds' aviary was seen with a mostly hairless neck, a large section of feathers missing from the top of the head and a missing toe on the right foot.

Failure to identify such conditions and to communicate findings with the veterinarian, delays treatment and causes undue animal pain and distress. A more rigorous method of daily observation of all the birds must be implemented to properly assess their health and well-being. Direct and frequent communication with the attending veterinarian is required for timely diagnosis and adequate medical attention. The currently affected animals need to be seen by a veterinarian for an appropriate diagnosis and treatment plan.

3.75(a)

Housing facilities, general.

Two areas in need of repair were identified in the enclosure housing 2 brown lemurs near the admission's office:

- There was a large gap at the bottom of the door leading into the enclosure from the tunnel connecting both lemur enclosures in that area. The dirt floor beneath had eroded leaving behind a gap, 4.5 inches in height at the deepest point, spanning the length of the door.
- 5 sharp nails in a line, about 1.5 inches apart from each other, were seen protruding from the top wooden platform of the entrance into the lemur's shelter box.

Areas such as these in need of repair could result in animal injury or escape. The animal housing facilities must be maintained in good repair to protect the animals from injury and to safely contain the animals. Correct by 08/15/2024.

3.127(d)

Repeat

Facilities, outdoor.

The following deficiencies were identified with the facility's perimeter fences:

- There was a large gap, about 3 feet long and lightly packed with large rocks, at the bottom of the fence behind the Syrian brown bear's enclosure.
- There was a large gap, about 0.5 feet to 1 feet in height, at the bottom of the fence located at the top of the black bear Baloo's enclosure. The gap spanned a section about 4 feet in length.
- Several areas at the top of the perimeter fence surrounding the porcupines and the Patagonian Cavy, a few over doors, were several inches short of 6 feet.

With gaps at the bottom and insufficient height in some areas, the fences may not stand as an effective barrier. Outdoor

Prepared By: STEPHANIE MAYARD

USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:

03-SEP-2024

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL
OFFICER

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:

03-SEP-2024



Inspection Report

housing facilities must be enclosed by a perimeter fence to keep animals as well as unauthorized persons out and to function as a secondary containment system for the animals within the facility.

3.154(c)(2)

Repeat

Environment enhancement to promote psychological well-being.

Multiple cockatiels and some parrots at the facility were showing signs of self-plucking or plucking feathers from other birds. The current enrichment program states that when the facility sees these behaviors, they are to contact the veterinarian. However, the veterinarian had not been contacted for many of these birds and an overall enrichment plan had not been implemented to counter this abnormal behavior.

The lack of adequate enrichment has allowed birds to continue this feather plucking behavior that may underline psychological distress. The facility must implement an adequate enrichment plan per the attending veterinarian's instructions for all the birds including special attention regarding enhancement of the environment of those showing signs of being in psychological distress through behaviors such as feather plucking.

3.154(c)(4)

Environment enhancement to promote psychological well-being.

An eclectus parrot was singly housed unable to see and barely able to hear other birds. A special consideration enrichment plan was not specifically implemented or documented for this individually housed social bird. Without such a plan, this bird may develop abnormal behaviors and could experience psychological distress. The facility must implement an adequate enrichment plan per the attending veterinarian's instructions for all the birds including special attention regarding enhancement of the environment of those individually housed social species of birds that are unable to see and hear birds of their own or compatible species. Correct by 08/22/2024.

3.155(b)

Feeding

In the large cockatiel aviary, food and water receptacles were attached to the side walls of the enclosure, about 3 to 4 feet above ground. Not being able to fly, the flightless yellowcheek cockatiel had to walk along the floor and crawl along the fence in his condition in order to reach these essential items. This bird was not provided receptacles within easy reach causing him additional undue pain or distress. Food and water receptacles must be readily accessible to all the birds. Correct by 08/09/2024.

3.159

Repeat

Employees

The facility does not have adequately trained employees that have adequate experience in the husbandry and care of birds or knowledge in recognizing concerning signs of welfare and psychological distress. This includes the following areas:

- The employees are not identifying apparent medical conditions affecting several birds such as the flightless limping cockatiel completely missing tail feathers and feathers behind the head.
- Employees are also not recognizing when certain chronic abnormal findings, such as the cockatiel with complete hairlessness on the head, face and neck, require ongoing veterinary consultation in order to establish a plan for the animal's welfare.

Prepared By: STEPHANIE MAYARD

USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:

03-SEP-2024

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL
OFFICER

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:

03-SEP-2024



Inspection Report

- The staff does not have adequate experience to manage birds that are self-plucking or plucking conspecifics and there is no additional enrichment, or visual barriers that may prevent the birds from further self-harm.
- The employees did not recognize that the eclectus parrot is a social bird needing additional enrichment in order to prevent psychological distress from being individually housed not able to see and barely able to hear other birds. Inadequate employee knowledge and experience could result in inadequate care which could negatively impact animal welfare. The facility must work to maintain a professionally acceptable level of husbandry and handling practices. Such practices must be conducted under the supervision of a bird caretaker who has appropriate experience in the husbandry and care of birds that are being managed in a given setting.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with facility representatives.

Additional Inspectors:

Patricia Laracuente, VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

Prepared By: STEPHANIE MAYARD
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care
Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL
OFFICER

Date:
03-SEP-2024

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:
03-SEP-2024



Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
3157	57-C-0037	001	NOAHS ARK REHABILITATION CENTER	30-JUL-2024

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000003	<i>Sapajus appella</i>	BROWN CAPUCHIN / TUFTED CAPUCHIN
000002	<i>Cebus capucinus</i>	WHITE-HEADED / WHITE-THROATED CAPUCHIN
000001	<i>Macaca fuscata</i>	JAPANESE MACAQUE / SNOW MACAQUE
000001	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>	RHESUS MACAQUE
000001	<i>Papio hamadryas</i>	HAMADRYAS BABOON
000001	<i>Symphalangus syndactylus</i>	SIAMANG
000006	<i>Sus scrofa domestica</i>	DOMESTIC PIG / POTBELLY PIG / MICRO PIG
000002	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	RED FOX (INCLUDES SILVER FOX & CROSS FOX)
000001	<i>Panthera leo</i>	LION
000001	<i>Lynx rufus</i>	BOBCAT
000001	<i>Dolichotis patagonum</i>	PATAGONIAN CAVY / MARA
000002	<i>Hystrix cristata</i>	AFRICAN CRESTED PORCUPINE
000003	<i>Ursus americanus</i>	NORTH AMERICAN BLACK BEAR
000001	<i>Potos flavus</i>	KINKAJOU
000003	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	TIGER
000002	<i>Ateles chamek</i>	BLACK SPIDER MONKEY
000001	<i>Callithrix jacchus</i>	COMMON MARMOSET
000003	<i>Eulemur rufus</i>	RUFIOUS BROWN LEMUR / RED BROWN LEMUR
000001	<i>Ursus arctos syriacus</i>	SYRIAN BROWN BEAR
000002	<i>Cacatua moluccensis</i>	SALMON-CRESTED COCKATOO / MOLUCCAN COCKATOO
000006	<i>Ara militaris</i>	MILITARY MACAW
000004	<i>Cacatua sulphurea</i>	YELLOW-CRESTED COCKATOO / LESSER SULPHUR-CRESTED COCKATOO
000002	<i>Cacatua alba</i>	WHITE COCKATOO / UMBRELLA COCKATOO
000016	<i>Ara ararauna</i>	BLUE-AND-YELLOW MACAW / BLUE-AND-GOLD MACAW
000005	<i>Ara macao</i>	SCARLET MACAW
000007	<i>Ara, Anodorhynchus, Primolius, Diopsittaca spp hybrid</i>	MACAW HYBRID
000001	<i>Psittacus erithacus</i>	CONGO AFRICAN GREY PARROT / GRAY PARROT
000003	<i>Cacatua sanguinea</i>	LITTLE CORELLA / BARE-EYED COCKATOO
000009	<i>Amazona oratrix</i>	YELLOW-HEADED PARROT / YELLOW-HEADED AMAZON / DOUBLE YELLOW-HEADED AMAZON
000054	<i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>	COCKATIEL
000002	<i>Eclectus roratus</i>	ECLECTUS PARROT
000001	<i>Eolophus roseicapilla</i>	GALAH / ROSE-BREASTED COCKATOO / ROSEATE COCKATOO
000002	<i>Amazona viridigenalis</i>	RED-CROWNED PARROT / GREEN-CHEEKED AMAZON / RED-CROWNED AMAZON / MEXICAN RED-HEA
000001	<i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>	BUDGERIGAR / BUDGIE / COMMON PARAKEET / SHELL PARAKEET
000001	<i>Pyrrhura molinae</i>	GREEN-CHEEKED PARAKEET / GREEN-CHEEKED CONURE
000003	<i>Thectocercus acuticaudatus</i>	BLUE-CROWNED PARAKEET
000002	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET
000003	<i>Pyrrhura rupicola</i>	BLACK-CAPPED PARAKEET / BLACK-CAPPED CONURE
000001	<i>Poicephalus senegalus</i>	SENEGAL PARROT
000001	<i>Agapornis roseicollis</i>	ROSY-FACED LOVEBIRD
000162	Total	



Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
3157	57-C-0037	001	NOAHS ARK REHABILITATION CENTER	30-JUL-2024