



Inspection Report

Stearns Zoological Rescue And Rehab
36909 Blanton Rd
Dade City, FL 33525

Customer ID: 16585

Certificate: 58-C-0883

Site: 001

STEARNS ZOOLOGICAL RESCUE AND REHAB

Type: FOCUSED INSPECTION

Date: 23-MAY-2017

2.40(b)(2)

ATTENDING VETERINARIAN AND ADEQUATE VETERINARY CARE (DEALERS AND EXHIBITORS).

Several animals were observed to have medical conditions requiring veterinary assessment or examination. There was a very thin bison with ribs clearly visible. A female lion had a bloody ear lesion that the owner said had surgery to remove a mass. A tiger had severe generalized patchy hair loss which was more pronounced on the neck and shoulder areas. Another female lion had hair loss around the eyes, face, back and ear margins. A white raccoon was thin, had hair loss and was walking stiffly. When asked for information regarding what veterinary care these animals were receiving, the owner state that she does not keep any veterinary medical records at all and that everything is with her attending veterinarian. She claimed the veterinarian had been out recently and seen some of these animals. Some she described as having ongoing problems but when asked for records of what diagnoses or treatments were being given she repeated several times that she didn't keep any medical records. She provided the number for the veterinarian and told us we would have to call him to get any information that we needed on any of the sick animals. Some text communications were eventually shown to the inspectors to show that the veterinarian had been on his way out to the facility recently to look at the lion with the ear lesion. The inspectors called the veterinarian's office twice on the morning of May 24, 2017 and waited nearly three hours but no calls were returned in that time frame. Therefore, the information available at the time of the inspection and the following day was not sufficient to demonstrated adequate veterinary care for these animals.

Licensees shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care that includes appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose and treat diseases and injuries. Every facility should have a system of health records sufficiently comprehensive to demonstrate the delivery of adequate health care. Animals that are sick, injured, or have medical problems must be examined by a veterinarian.

Correct by 5/30/2017

3.81(a)(3)

ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT TO PROMOTE PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL-BEING.

A single ringed-tail lemur and a single bush baby were each individually housed in their respective enclosures without being able to see and hear any other nonhuman primate of their own or a compatible species; psychological distress secondary to social isolation could develop. The Environmental Enhancement plan was generic and did not include provisions for social grouping of specific species. Also, the Environmental Enhancement Plan did not

Prepared By: LOERZEL SUZAN, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

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address considerations for a nonhuman primate that could not see or hear animals of their own or other compatible nonhuman primates. The owner stated that the lemur had been separated from another one due to aggression but no reason was provided for the animal being house out of sight and hearing of others of its species. The reason given by the licensee for the bush baby being housed singly was the loss of its mate approximately a year previously. However, this did not provide and explanation for housing it out of sight or hearing of other nonhuman primates. Individually housed nonhuman primates must be able to see and hear nonhuman primates of their own or compatible species unless the attending veterinarian determines that it would endanger their health, safety, or well-being. The basis for exempting an individual animal from participation in the environmental enhancement plan must be recorded by the attending veterinarian for each exempted nonhuman primate and must be reviewed at least every 30 days unless the basis for the condition is a permanent condition. The Environmental Enhancement Plan needs to be reviewed/updated, and must be in accordance with the currently accepted professional standards as cited in appropriate professional journals or reference guides, and as directed by the attending veterinarian.
Correct by: June 14 , 2017

3.125(a) REPEAT

FACILITIES, GENERAL.

The enclosure housing the jungle cat had a hole in the fencing in the lower left corner where the wires were bent and separated. This could create a risk of escape or injury. This was repaired shortly after it was pointed out to the owner.

An enclosure housing two lions had a den with a board on the roof which was separating from the structure and had a screw/nail coming loose. Loose boards and sharp metal in the enclosure could cause injury.

The single zebra was housed in a pasture with fencing constructed of welded wire panels along the sided, and barbed wire strands on the far end. The zebra was observed to rub it's head on the side fencing where there were exposed sharp wire points at eye level. Additionally, the zebra ran along the fence line and was observed tripping and getting tangled in a dead tree limb that had fallen near the fence. The animal was trotting/strutting around and bumping up against the fence; including the barbed-wire section. The sharp points in the fence panel, the sharp points of the barbed wire, and the tree limb debris all pose a risk of injury. Debris and sharp pointed objects should be removed, repaired, or replaced.

The facility must be constructed of such material and of such strength as appropriate for the animals involved. The facilities shall be structurally sound and shall be maintained in good repair to protect the animals from injury and to contain the animals.

3.128

SPACE REQUIREMENTS.

The primary enclosure for the two Oriental small-clawed otters did not have an appropriate pool/container for the animals to swim; only a small shallow bucket of water was observed at the enclosure. The otters were observed

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going to the shallow container several time and trying to get in it but it was barely big enough for one to fit in with the water coming up to about belly height. The container was not big enough for both of them to get in at the same time. The licensee said that they have access to a big swimming pool on another part of the property two to three times a day when they do visitor "swim-with" encounters. However, encounters with the public do not occur every day. Otters are aquatic animals and a normal behavior for them, and for which they are adapted, is two swim. The enclosure was not adequate to allow normal postural and social adjustments and freedom of movement for this species. The licensee showed the inspectors another pen that she said they had plans to renovate which had a pool. The lack of appropriate housing for this species can be detrimental to the health and wellbeing of the animals and could cause distress to animals. The primary enclosure for otters needs to provide sufficient space to allow both otters to make normal postural, behavioral and social adjustments with adequate freedom of movement; including normal swimming behavior for the species.

In order to prevent potential health problems and abnormal behavior patterns for an aquatic species, a pool/container of adequate size must be available in their primary enclosure.

Correct by: June 1, 2017

This inspection was conducted with the licensee.

The exit interview was conducted by phone with the licensee and the two VMO inspectors.

Additional Inspectors

Mercado Mario, Veterinary Medical Officer

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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
16585	58-C-0883	001	STEARNS ZOOLOGICAL RESCUE AND REHAB	23-MAY-17
Count	Scientific Name	Common Name		
000002	<i>Amblonyx cinereus</i>	ORIENTAL SMALL-CLAWED OTTER		
000002	<i>Bison bison</i>	AMERICAN BISON		
000001	<i>Choloepus didactylus</i>	LINNAEUS'S TWO-TOED SLOTH		
000002	<i>Equus asinus asinus</i>	DONKEY / BURRO / ASS		
000001	<i>Equus quagga</i>	BURCHELL'S / GRANT'S / CHAPMAN'S / PLAINS ZEBRA		
000001	<i>Felis chaus</i>	JUNGLE CAT		
000001	<i>Galago moholi</i>	SENEGAL BUSHBABY		
000001	<i>Lemur catta</i>	RING-TAILED LEMUR		
000001	<i>Leopardus geoffroyi</i>	GEOFFROY'S CAT		
000001	<i>Leptailurus serval</i>	SERVAL		
000002	<i>Lynx rufus</i>	BOBCAT		
000001	<i>Mephitis mephitis</i>	STRIPED SKUNK		
000003	<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>	WHITE-TAILED DEER		
000005	<i>Panthera leo</i>	LION		
000002	<i>Panthera onca</i>	JAGUAR		
000004	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	LEOPARD		
000018	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	TIGER		
000001	<i>Papio hamadryas</i>	HAMADRYAS BABOON		
000001	<i>Papio papio</i>	GUINEA BABOON		
000002	<i>Procyon lotor</i>	RACCOON		
000004	<i>Puma concolor</i>	PUMA / MOUNTAIN LION / COUGAR		
000005	<i>Sus scrofa domestica</i>	DOMESTIC PIG / POTBELLY PIG / MICRO PIG		
000001	<i>Tamandua tetradactyla</i>	SOUTHERN TAMANDUA		
000002	<i>Ursus americanus</i>	NORTH AMERICAN BLACK BEAR		
000064	Total			