



Inspection Report

Memphis Zoo
2000 Prentiss Place
Memphis, TN 38112

Customer ID: **3059**
Certificate: **63-C-0004**
Site: 001
MEMPHIS ZOO AND AQUARIUM

Type: FOCUSED INSPECTION
Date: 03-SEP-2025

3.150(a) Critical Repeat

Facilities, general.

As reported by a facility representative, on July 22, 2025 one of the exhibits in the Tropical Bird House (TBH) was discovered to be empty that normally housed two Blue dacnis, two Red-cheeked cordon bleu, one Violaceous euphonia, and one Purple honeycreeper. The closing keeper confirmed seeing five of the six birds (all but the Violaceous euphonia) the night before at closing and the line keeper confirmed seeing all six birds several times while working in/around the exhibit in days before. The staff made corrective actions by breaking down the exhibit, but no evidence of bird or pest activity was found. As documented on the letter to the AZA Accreditation Committee, on August 6, 2025, a Turquoise tanager was found dead in the neighboring exhibit while another was missing. The facility immediately pulled all birds in the south building and broke down the exhibit where they located a black rat snake. Radiographs of the snake confirmed a collection bird that had been eaten (presence of band on the leg) and another band seen further down in the snake's digestive track. A sizable shed was discovered near the snake's hiding place as well as several fecal that contained feathers and bands from the first exhibit's residence. Since removing the snake, the south tunnel of the bird house has been left vacant, and staff are systematically stripping and reframing the top of each exhibit in order to replace lumber and mesh and minimize any gapping that could allow future pests to gain egress. Birds that disappear from their primary enclosure or that are not protected from predation may suffer from stress, injury, or death. Correct by ensuring that bird enclosures are maintained in good repair, protect the birds from injury, contain the birds, and restrict other animals from entering who may negatively affect the welfare of the birds within. Corrected prior to time of inspection on 9/3/2025.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with a facility representative.

Additional Inspectors:

TANESHA WILKINS, SACS

Prepared By: BRITTANY KESSLER
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care
Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

Date:
03-SEP-2025

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:
03-SEP-2025



Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
3059	63-C-0004	001	MEMPHIS ZOO AND AQUARIUM	03-SEP-2025

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000000	<i>Uraeginthus bengalus</i>	RED-CHEEKED CORDONBLEU
000002	<i>Cyanerpes caeruleus</i>	PURPLE HONEYCREEPER
000000	<i>Dacnis cayana</i>	BLUE DACNIS
000002	<i>Euphonia violacea</i>	VIOLEACEOUS EUPHONIA
000000	<i>Tangara mexicana</i>	TURQUOISE TANAGER
000001	<i>Bucorvus abyssinicus</i>	ABYSSINIAN GROUND-HORNBILL
000003	<i>Bucorvus leadbeateri</i>	SOUTHERN GROUND-HORNBILL
000001	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	CATTLE EGRET
000004	<i>Loriculus galgulus</i>	BLUE-CROWNED HANGING-PARROT
000003	<i>Ptilinopus pulchellus</i>	BEAUTIFUL FRUIT-DOVE
000002	<i>Polihierax semitorquatus</i>	PYGMY FALCON
000002	<i>Urocolius macrourus</i>	BLUE-NAPED MOUSEBIRD
000004	<i>Stilpnia cyanicollis</i>	BLUE-NECKED TANAGER
000002	<i>Leucopsar rothschildi</i>	BALI MYNA
000002	<i>Ramphocelus carbo</i>	SILVER-BEAKED TANAGER
000001	<i>Todiramphus cinnamominus</i>	GUAM KINGFISHER
000002	<i>Rollulus rouloul</i>	CRESTED PARTRIDGE
000001	<i>Ceratogymna elata</i>	YELLOW-CASQUED HORNBILL
000002	<i>Tamandua tetradactyla</i>	SOUTHERN TAMANDUA
000002	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	WHITE-FACED WHISTLING-DUCK
000002	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>	HAMERKOP
000001	<i>Psophia crepitans</i>	GRAY-WINGED TRUMPETER
000004	<i>Suricata suricatta</i>	SLENDER-TAILED MEERKAT
000001	<i>Otocyon megalotis</i>	BAT-EARED FOX
000003	<i>Prionailurus viverrinus</i>	FISHING CAT
000001	<i>Chauna torquata</i>	SOUTHERN SCREAMER / CRESTED SCREAMER
000001	<i>Oressochen jubatus</i>	ORINOCO GOOSE
000001	<i>Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris</i>	CAPYBARA
000001	<i>Panthera uncia</i>	SNOW LEOPARD
000001	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	LEOPARD
000002	<i>Puma concolor</i>	PUMA / MOUNTAIN LION / COUGAR
000001	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	TIGER
000002	<i>Panthera leo</i>	LION
000001	<i>Perodicticus potto</i>	POTTO
000002	<i>Hemigalus derbyanus</i>	BANDED PALM CIVET
000003	<i>Genetta tigrina</i>	LARGE-SPOTTED GENET
000002	<i>Choloepus didactylus</i>	LINNAEUS'S TWO-TOED SLOTH
000002	<i>Orycteropus afer</i>	AARDVARK
000001	<i>Otlemur garnettii</i>	SMALL-EARED BUSHBABY / NORTHERN GREATER GALAGO
000002	<i>Cricetomys ansorgei</i>	SOUTHERN GIANT POUCHED RAT / EAST AFRICAN SAVANNAH POUCHED RAT
000002	<i>Potos flavus</i>	KINKAJOU
000008	<i>Heterocephalus glaber</i>	NAKED MOLE-RAT
000001	<i>Ailurops ursinus</i>	SULAWESI BEAR CUSCUS
000001	<i>Bassariscus astutus</i>	RINGTAIL
000001	<i>Dasyprocta leporina</i>	BRAZILIAN AGOUTI
000003	<i>Coendou prehensilis</i>	PREHENSILE-TAILED PORCUPINE
000001	<i>Tolypeutes matacus</i>	SOUTHERN THREE-BANDED ARMADILLO
000002	<i>Pteroglossus viridis</i>	GREEN ARACARI



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3059	63-C-0004	001	MEMPHIS ZOO AND AQUARIUM	03-SEP-2025
000002	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>		BURROWING OWL	
000002	<i>Cyanopica cyanus</i>		AZURE-WINGED MAGPIE	
000001	<i>Lophura edwardsi</i>		EDWARDS'S PHEASANT / VIETNAM PHEASANT	
000094	Total			