



## Inspection Report

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SeaQuest Trumbull LLC  
5065 Main Street Suite 1106  
Trumbull, CT 06611

Customer ID: **6014233**  
Certificate: **16-C-0177**  
Site: 001  
SeaQuest Trumbull LLC

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION  
Date: 24-MAY-2023

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### 2.131(c)(1)

#### Handling of animals.

Handling of animals during a public exhibition was not conducted as carefully as possible resulting in a 12-year old child being bitten by a sugar glider during an interactive experience. The gliders arrived at the facility on 3/20/23 and were between 16-18 weeks old on the day of the incident (5/13/23). According to facility personnel the staff member followed their standard process for a glider interaction. This included taking all 5 gliders out of their pouch/sack for each interaction. There is only one staff member present during the interaction and the single staff member is responsible for handling and monitoring the 5 gliders, as well as responsible for monitoring the actions and behavior of the guests who participate in the interaction (varies from 1 guest up to 3 or 4; 2 guests participated in the 5/13/23 interaction). The guests are seated on a bench inside the exhibit and the staff member takes the 5 gliders out of the pouch/sack and places them on and near the guests. The animals are then allowed to freely run over the guests for a period of time. During the interactive exhibit on 5/13/23, the guest was bitten by the glider when they closed their hands and squeezed the glider when it was moving across their hands.

Handling of all animals shall be done as carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause trauma, overheating, excessive cooling, behavioral stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort. Sugar gliders are small pocket-sized tree-dwelling nocturnal animals that move quickly, are active at night, and sleep during the day. Members of the public, especially children, can easily become startled or frightened by the quick movements of these animals. Similarly, sugar gliders, particularly juvenile animals, may become startled and bite when not handled properly by inexperienced members of the public. The presence of only a single staff member with responsibility for monitoring both the behavior of 5 animals and the actions of multiple guests during an interaction, means that the staff would not be likely to intervene to protect the animals or guests if something goes wrong. This is not handling the animals as carefully as possible or ensure the safety of the animals and the public. Following the bite, the staff member reported that they were unsure which of the five gliders used in the interaction had bitten the guest. As a result, all 5 animals were quarantined by state health officials.

Failure to handle animals as carefully as possible can result in behavioral stress, physical harm, and/or unnecessary discomfort to the animals, and can result in injury to members of the public. Correct by ensuring that all animals are handled as carefully as possible by ensuring that an adequate number of staff are present to monitor the actions of the animals and members of the public during animal interactions. Correct from this date 6/2/23 forward.

### 3.131(d)

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Prepared By: PAULA GLADUE  
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care  
Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL  
OFFICER

Date:  
18-JUL-2023

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:  
18-JUL-2023



## Inspection Report

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### Sanitation.

The facility is located inside a shopping mall. At the time of the inspection, there were a large number of house-type flies noted in the indoor enclosure housing 1 pig. The flies were observed landing on and crawling on the body of the pig as well as being present on the bedding material in the enclosure. There were also a number of house-type flies noted in the indoor enclosure that co-housed 2 Patagonian caviars and 6 chickens. In addition, there were many fruit flies noted in the room where the animal food is stored and the animal diets are prepared; no fly strips or other means of fly control were noted in this room.

Per this Section, a safe and effective program for the control of insects, ectoparasites, and avian and mammalian pests shall be established and maintained. Although the Licensee has a pest control company that regularly visits the premises, the measures that are in place to control the flies in the indoor animal enclosures and food prep room are not effective based on the number of flies seen. The pest control program needs to be improved for the health and well-being of the animals. Correct by 6/23/23.

This inspection and exit briefing were conducted with facility representatives.

\*END OF REPORT\*

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### Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
6014233	16-C-0177	001	SeaQuest Trumbull LLC	24-MAY-2023

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000001	<i>Choloepus didactylus</i>	LINNAEUS'S TWO-TOED SLOTH
000002	<i>Notamacropus rufogriseus</i>	BENNETT'S WALLABY / RED-NECKED WALLABY
000001	<i>Sus scrofa domestica</i>	DOMESTIC PIG / POTBELLY PIG / MICRO PIG
000004	<i>Felis catus</i>	CAT ADULT
000002	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	DOMESTIC RABBIT / EUROPEAN RABBIT
000002	<i>Chinchilla lanigera</i>	CHINCHILLA
000002	<i>Aonyx cinereus</i>	ORIENTAL SMALL-CLAWED OTTER
000002	<i>Dolichotis patagonum</i>	PATAGONIAN CAVY / MARA
000005	<i>Petaurus breviceps</i>	SUGAR GLIDER
000021	<b>Total</b>	