United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

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Inspection Report

Ellijay Wildlife Rehabilitation Sanctuary Inc

435 Cougar Lane

Ellijay, GA 30540

Customer ID: 3862

Certificate: 57-C-0118

Site: 001

ELLIJAY WILDLIFE REHABILITATION SANCTUARY INC

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 05-MAY-2016

3.56(a)(1)

SANITATION.

The raised rabbit hutch is constructed of wood and wire. The wooden support rails have a build-up of excreta, hair and debris along the edges. Build-up of organic material may lead to an increase in disease hazard such as bacterial growth, spread of parasites and attraction of insects and vermin. The enclosure shall be cleaned and sanitized. It shall kept reasonably free of excreta, hair, debris, etc. to protect the rabbit s health and well-being. Correct by May 14, 2016.

3.125(a) REPEAT

FACILITIES, GENERAL.

The bear enclosures on the right side of the driveway when going up the hill are in disrepair. The enclosure is divided into three sections by a chain link divider fence. The chain-link on the bottom of the divider between the second and third enclosure has been pulled up. The wire is bent and separated from the bottom support rail leaving sharp points that could injure the bears. The fence shall be repaired or replaced and all sharp points removed to protect the bears from injury.

The plywood over the chain-link roof of the second bear enclosure on the hill has rotted leaving a large gaping hole. The roof no longer affords full protection from the rain. Adequate shelter shall be provided to protect the bear from inclement weather and prevent discomfort.

The den in the enclosure for the large singly housed male bear is very small. It is not tall enough to allow the bear to make normal postural adjustments. It does not appear that it would be tall enough for him to be able to stand on all four limbs while in the den. The bear has rubbed the majority of the hair off of his head. Prolonged inability to make normal postural adjustments can lead to chronic physical injury.

The bottom of the frame for the entry gate in the second bear enclosure on the hill has rusted and corroded. The wire fence panel attached to the frame has corroded and separated from the corroded rail. The structural soundness of the gate is compromised which could allow the bear to escape. The gate shall be repaired or replaced to securely contain the bear within the enclosure and protect him from injury.

Prepared By: MICHELLE WILLIAMS, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care Date: 06-MAY-2016

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 2028

Received by Title: VIA EMAIL Date: 06-MAY-2016



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The cougar on the hill is in an enclosure that has a concrete floor. There is a tiered climbing structure constructed of plywood in the enclosure. The cougar is older and arthritic and because of this she may not be able to easily climb to these levels making her spend the majority of her time on the hard concrete. Although the cougar is currently receiving medication for arthritis she appeared to have some discomfort or difficulty when walking. Remaining on concrete without access to softer substrate or bedding can increase problems with arthritis and result in lameness. The enclosure shall be re-evaluated and access to softer surface provided to prevent or minimize discomfort.

The inspection conducted with the Facility Director and GA DNR.

Prepared By: MICHELLE WILLIAMS, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care Date: 06-MAY-2016

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 2028

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Customer: 3862 Inspection Date: 05-MAY-16

Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
3862	57-C-0118	001	ELLIJAY WILDLIFE REHABILITATION SANCTUARY INC	05-MAY-16
Count	Scientific Name		Common Name	