

United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

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Inspection Report

Fortress Of The Bear Inc. 4639 Sawmill Creek Road Sitka, AK 99835 Customer ID: **27148**

Certificate: 96-C-0039

Site: 001

FORTRESS OF THE BEAR INC.

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 04-AUG-2015

3.125(a)

FACILITIES, GENERAL.

The insulated container used for a shelter structure for 3 black bears had a portion of the wall damaged, leaving two holes approximately 4 inches square with insulation material exposed. This material can be accessed and ingested by the bears and the damage to the wall poses a risk to its structural strength.

The housing facilities shall be structurally sound and shall be maintained in good repair to protect the animals from injury.

To be corrected by 8/8/2015.

3.127(d)

FACILITIES, OUTDOOR.

Perimeter fence.

The perimeter fence for the outdoor housing facilities for 5 brown bears and 3 black bears does not meet the requirements for dangerous animal facilities:

- --There is no perimeter fence along the west side of the facility behind the brown bear enclosure extending to the northwest area behind the black bear enclosure.
- --There is fencing on the northwest side that is contiguous with the black bear enclosure fencing (<3 feet from the enclosure) and then an 8 foot chain link fence with barbed wire at the top begins again near the keeper access gate (<3 feet for approximately 1 foot, then >3 feet after access gate), extending to north-northwest corner. There are several areas along the bottom of this stretch of perimeter fence where there are gaps >6-8 inches high, which would not restrict animals from entering the facility.
- --No perimeter fence is present between the north-northwest area of the facility but an 8 foot high perimeter fence topped with barbed wire begins again at the east side of the facility (public access gate area) extending to the south which has an 8 foot high fence topped with barbed wire.

Having a perimeter fence that is incomplete, damaged, or that is not at least 3 feet from outdoor primary enclosures housing bears cannot restrict animals or unwanted persons from entering the facility and prevent them from coming

Prepared By:	TRACY THOMPSON, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care	Date: 05-AUG-2015
Title:	VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 5044	
Received by Title:	DIRECTOR	Date: 04-AUG-2015



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into contact with the bears or be able to act as a secondary containment should any of the captive bears escape from their enclosures.

All outdoor housing facilities must be enclosed by a perimeter fence that is of sufficient height to keep animals and unauthorized persons out. Fences less than 8 feet high for potentially dangerous animals, such as, but not limited to bears and fences less than 3 feet in distance from the primary enclosure must be approved in writing by the Administrator.

To be corrected by 11/4/2015.

Inspection and exit interview conducted with facility representatives and AC VMO, Tracy Thompson, DVM.

Prepared By: TRACY THOMPSON, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care Date: 05-AUG-2015

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 5044

Received by Title: DIRECTOR Date: 04-AUG-2015



800000

Total

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Inspection Date: 04-AUG-15

Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
27148	96-C-0039	001	FORTRESS OF THE BEAR INC.	04-AUG-15
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Count	Scientific Name		Common Name	
000003	Ursus americanus		NORTH AMERICAN BLACK BEAR	
000005	Ursus arctos		BROWN BEAR	