



## Inspection Report

Georgia Southern University  
261 Forest Drive - Box 8005  
Statesboro, GA 30460

Customer ID: **37673**

Certificate: **57-C-0238**

Site: 001

GEORGIA SOUTHERN  
UNIVERSITY

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 14-MAR-2024

### 3.152(b)

#### Facilities, outdoor

Some of the birds observed housed outdoors have limited or no access to adequate shelter from inclement weather:

- A peregrine falcon (Myra) is tethered by an approximately 5-inch-long tether to a flat rock covered in artificial turf that has some rocks set back from the exhibition space, layered on either side of the falcon, that could block some wind and provide shade, but the tether length does not allow the bird to access the section of rocks that could provide full protection from precipitation.
  - A red tail hawk (Anna) is tethered to an elevated wooden perch (about 4 to 5 feet off the ground) with a tether length of approximately 5 inches located within an outdoor primary enclosure under a tall canopy of trees with no other shelter provided. The trees provide partial shade but there is no shelter from wind or precipitation.
  - A non-flighted bald eagle (Teddy) on exhibit is in an outdoor enclosure with trees for shade but no access to shelter from wind or precipitation.
  - A great horned owl (Crystal) is tethered by an approximately 5 to 6-inch tether to a perch outdoors, within an open (non-roofed) upright manmade log, that provides protection from the sun and wind but would not protect against precipitation. Lack of adequate shelter from inclement weather may cause discomfort and/or stress to the birds which may have a negative impact on their health and well-being. All outdoor housing facilities for birds must provide adequate shelter, appropriate to the species and physical condition of the birds, for the local climatic conditions to protect the birds from any adverse weather conditions, and prevent their discomfort from direct sunlight, precipitation, or wind.
- Correct by 06/01/2024.

### 3.153(a)(2)

#### Primary enclosures.

A few primary enclosures, that house birds that rest by perching, do not have adequate perching available for the species contained within.

The following birds are exhibited outdoors for up to 6 to 7 hours a day, per facility representatives, as follows:

- A peregrine falcon (Myra) has no perch available when exhibited outdoors. Instead, she is provided with artificial turfgrass atop a flat rock surface while tethered to a swivel by an approximately 5-inch tether requiring her to keep her feet in a flat position.
- A red tail hawk (Anna) is exhibited outdoors tethered by an approximately 5-inch tether limiting her movement to remaining on an elevated branch perch approximately 3 to 4 inches wide and about 4 to 5 feet off the ground, with no

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other perching options nor access to other perches for variety.

- A great horned owl (Crystal) is exhibited outdoors and tethered by a 5- to 6-inch-long tether limiting her movement on a single wood perch that was approximately 2 inches wide by 4 inches tall, covered in a sisal rope-like material, that was attached at the bottom to a flat platform with no other perching options nor access to other perches for variety.

The following birds are housed within indoor enclosures as follows:

- An adult bald eagle (Freddie) is housed within a mew with access to only a smaller bow perch of approximately a 2- to 3-inch diameter about 12 inches off the ground, and an airline style plastic transport crate upon which to stand. The bow perch provided is too small to keep the larger sized feet of an adult bald eagle in a normal perching position.

- A second adult bald eagle (Liberty) within another indoor enclosure is tethered by a 3 to 4-foot tether to a tire lying on its side as its only perching option so it cannot perch with its feet in a normal perching position nor has access to other perching options.

Failure to provide species appropriate perches may result in injury to the birds such as development of foot sores and can contribute to their discomfort. Furniture-type objects such as perches must be species-appropriate and designed and maintained so that they prevent harm to the bird.

Correct by 06/01/2024.

### 3.153(b)

#### Primary enclosures.

Upon inspection, a peregrine falcon, a red tail hawk, and a great horned owl are housed outdoors for up to 6-7 hours a day, per facility representatives, while tethered by an approximately 5 to 6-inch tether that does not allow for adequate freedom of movement or normal postural adjustments:

- A peregrine falcon (Myra) is tethered by an approximately 5-inch-long tether to a flat rock covered in artificial turf, but the tether length does not allow her to move freely to access the section of rocks that could provide full protection from precipitation nor any perches.

- A red tail hawk (Anna) is limited in her movement since she is required to remain on a single elevated branch perch approximately 4 to 5 feet off the ground due to her tether length of approximately 5 inches which is located within an outdoor, open, and non-covered primary enclosure under a tall canopy of trees, with no ability to move into shelter, choose to be off the perch or onto another one.

- A great horned owl (Crystal) is tethered by an approximately 5 to 6-inch tether to a perch outdoors, within an open (non-roofed) upright manmade log. The perch was mounted to a flat surface, but the length of tether limits the options for movement and no other perch was provided.

The tether length provided to these birds limits their ability to make such postural adjustments as moving to their choice of perch, accessing all areas of their shelter (if provided), or freedom of movement to escape from aggression demonstrated by other animals such as native birds of prey that have been observed, per facility representatives, perching in trees above the outdoor exhibits. Not providing enough room for normal postural adjustments and adequate freedom of movement can impact the birds' health and wellbeing. The licensee must ensure that the above-mentioned birds have adequate space and/or tether length to make normal postural adjustments and adequate freedom of movement.

Correct by 06/01/2024.

### 3.154

#### Environment enhancement to promote psychological well-being.

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At the time of inspection, an environmental enhancement plan for birds that documents the appropriate provisions to provide enrichment and special considerations that is approved by the attending veterinarian has not been developed by the facility. This plan is necessary to ensure the psychological well-being and health of the animals. The facility must ensure that a documented plan for environmental enhancement that addresses the required elements including social grouping, environmental enrichment, special considerations, and exemptions is approved by the attending veterinarian as well as maintained and available for inspection.  
Correct by 06/01/2024.

**3.156**

### Watering

In the outdoor primary enclosure containing 173 ducks, the ducks' pond is the only source of drinking water available which is also where they swim, defecate, bathe, and preen. The pond is brownish in color with turbidity that does not allow visualization below the first 2 to 3 inches beyond the surface. There is some green growth on the rocks just below the surface of the water along the banks where the ducks enter and exit. This pond is also shared with turtles who also swim and defecate in this pond. Providing potable water is necessary to ensure the birds' health and well-being. Potable water must be provided to every bird housed at the facility and water receptacles must be kept clean and sanitized, if provided.  
Correct by 04/15/2024.

**3.158(a)(1)**

### Cleaning, sanitization, housekeeping, and pest control.

The indoor primary enclosure mew for a bald eagle and the outdoor primary enclosure for a peregrine falcon both have an excessive accumulation of feces:

- An adult bald eagle (Freddie) has excrement covering approximately 2/3 of the loose rock floor of his indoor mew as well as up a portion of two of the vertical walls of the enclosure (approximately 12 to 24 inches in height in some areas), and on top of a plastic transport airline crate where he was observed standing. Per facility representatives, this bird's enclosure was not fully cleaned as frequently as the other enclosures in order to disturb him less since he was in training.
- An adult peregrine falcon (Myra) is tethered to a flat rock covered in artificial turf grass that was mostly covered in excrement (approximately 70 to 80 percent of the surface). The falcon is exhibited outdoors for up to 6 to 7 hours per day, per facility representatives, via an approximately 5-inch tether that didn't allow her to move away from the turfgrass covered in excrement.

Being exposed to an excessive accumulation of waste may cause soiling of the birds which could lead to odors, pests, and/or disease. The facility must establish a system for timely removal of waste material to prevent excessive accumulation within the enclosures.

Correct by 04/05/2024.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with facility representatives.

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### Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
37673	57-C-0238	001	GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY	14-MAR-2024

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000001	<i>Mephitis mephitis</i>	STRIPED SKUNK
000004	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	BALD EAGLE
000001	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	GOLDEN EAGLE
000001	<i>Bucephala albeola</i>	BUFFLEHEAD
000003	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	RED-TAILED HAWK
000002	<i>Buteo lineatus</i>	RED-SHOULDERED HAWK
000002	<i>Parabuteo unicinctus</i>	HARRIS'S HAWK
000003	<i>Bubo bubo</i>	EURASIAN EAGLE-OWL
000002	<i>Bubo virginianus</i>	GREAT HORNED OWL
000012	<i>Anas acuta</i>	NORTHERN PINTAIL
000003	<i>Tyto alba</i>	BARN OWL / WESTERN BARN OWL / AMERICAN BARN OWL / EASTERN BARN OWL
000002	<i>Strix varia</i>	BARRED OWL
000004	<i>Megascops asio</i>	EASTERN SCREECH-OWL
000001	<i>Anas fulvigula</i>	MOTTLED DUCK
000002	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	TURKEY VULTURE
000001	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	BLACK VULTURE / MEXICAN VULTURE
000001	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>	BROAD-WINGED HAWK
000002	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	AMERICAN KESTREL
000001	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	PEREGRINE FALCON
000011	<i>Anas rubripes</i>	AMERICAN BLACK DUCK
000009	<i>Mareca americana</i>	AMERICAN WIGEON
000009	<i>Spatula discors</i>	BLUE-WINGED TEAL
000004	<i>Anas crecca</i>	GREEN-WINGED TEAL / COMMON TEAL
000001	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	CANADA GOOSE
000016	<i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>	FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK
000005	<i>Mareca strepera</i>	GADWALL
000008	<i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>	HOODED MERGANSER
000015	<i>Aythya americana</i>	REDHEAD
000024	<i>Dendrocygna autumnalis</i>	BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK
000022	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>	RUDDY DUCK
000042	<i>Aix sponsa</i>	WOOD DUCK / CAROLINA DUCK
000004	<i>Aythya affinis</i>	LESSER SCAUP
000002	<i>Aythya collaris</i>	RING-NECKED DUCK
000220	<b>Total</b>	



United States Department of Agriculture  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

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