



## Inspection Report

Morro Bay Marine Rehabilitation Center  
595 Embarcadero  
Morro Bay, CA 93442

Customer ID: 3632

Certificate: 93-C-0814

Site: 001

MORRO BAY MARINE REHABILITATION CENTER

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 03-JUN-2015

### 2.40(a)

#### ATTENDING VETERINARIAN AND ADEQUATE VETERINARY CARE (DEALERS AND EXHIBITORS).

The facility does not currently have an attending veterinarian who is capable of providing adequate veterinary care for the animals. Animals can become sick or injured and require immediate veterinary care. An attending veterinarian is also required to provide health care checks and husbandry advice. The facility should ensure that a veterinarian with marine mammal experience is employed and available to perform the necessary functions of an attending veterinarian.

Correct by June 25, 2015.

### 2.40(b)(2)

#### ATTENDING VETERINARIAN AND ADEQUATE VETERINARY CARE (DEALERS AND EXHIBITORS).

Appropriate methods were not used to diagnose and treat a male California Sea Lion in December 2014. The animal was found dead on December 30, 2014.

Facility records show that the animal first exhibited signs of diminished appetite on December 18 and refused to eat the following day. Calls were made to several veterinarians on 12/20 and the attending veterinarian dispensed an oral antibiotic recommended by a consulting veterinarian on that day. On 12/22 facility staff contacted the attending veterinarian to ask about an injectable form of the antibiotic, however no change in medication was made at that time despite the fact that the animal would not eat and thus was not able to take the medication. Additional calls were made to both the attending and consulting veterinarians over the next several days regarding the facility's inability to administer the medication, but no action was taken beyond trying to feed a different type of fish on 12/26. There is no record that a veterinarian observed the animal during the 11 days he was sick. No physical examination or diagnostic tests were ever performed to determine a cause for the illness or provide an appropriate treatment. A

Prepared By: MARCY ROSENDALE, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:  
10-JUN-2015

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 5039

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11-JUN-2015



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necropsy was performed and the report stated that the animal died of severe, chronic pneumonia.

Animals with health concerns should receive prompt veterinary care that is appropriate for their circumstances. In this case, while treatment was attempted, the animal ultimately did not receive any treatment. Appropriate treatment in this case may have prevented the death of the sea lion. The facility should ensure that prompt and appropriate veterinary care is provided for the remaining animals.

Correct immediately for any future animal health concerns.

An exit briefing was conducted with a facility representative.

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## Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
3632	93-C-0814	001	MORRO BAY MARINE REHABILITATION CENTER	03-JUN-15

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000001	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	HARBOR SEAL
000002	<i>Zalophus californianus</i>	CALIFORNIA SEA LION
<b>000003</b>	<b>Total</b>	