



Inspection Report

Yogie And Friends Exotic Cat Sanctuary Inc.
128 Fob Lane
Frierson, LA 71027

Customer ID: **9863**

Certificate: **72-C-0138**

Site: 001

YOGIE AND FRIENDS EXOTIC CAT SANCTUARY, INC.

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 22-JUL-2014

2.40(x)

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

(b)(2)

Records for a male lion named Robin indicated that he was euthanized by gunshot without prior evaluation by a licensed veterinarian. His records indicate the attending veterinarian was contacted by phone, she diagnosed severe ataxia by phone, and approved euthanasia without examining the animal. According to the records this animal was only 12 to 13 years old and had no prior history of neurologic issues.

The licensee is responsible for ensuring appropriate methods to diagnose and treat illnesses are provided to resident animals. The licensee is also responsible for ensuring veterinary care will be available for emergencies, weekends, and holidays. The licensee failed to ensure appropriate care was given to this animal by failing to find another veterinarian able to visit and examine this lion in person. This lion was euthanized for what might have been a minor problem that could have been easily resolved if seen by a qualified veterinarian.

The licensee must have a licensed veterinarian evaluate all animals in person prior to euthanasia in order to ensure all animals are provided with appropriate diagnosis and treatment prior to euthanasia.

To be corrected immediately.

2.40(x)

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

(b)(3)

***** At time of inspection a single housed male lion was observed to be exceptionally thin. His hips, vertebrae, and ribs were very prominent. The animal was lying on its side and did not stand during this inspection. According to records this animal is only 8 years old and has had no prior medical problems but he has not been evaluated by a veterinarian recently.

Prepared By: DONNOVAN FOX, A C I USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:
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Title: ANIMAL CARE INSPECTOR 4045

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It is the licensee's responsibility to have a trained person evaluating these animals daily and communicating any concerns with the veterinarian in a timely manner. According to this animal's records there has been no communication with the attending veterinarian.

The licensee needs to contact the veterinarian and have this animal evaluated.

To be corrected by: Close of business on 8/2/14

2.131

HANDLING OF ANIMALS.

(a)

*****Adequate experience and knowledge of the species maintained by a facility is required. The general husbandry practices of feeding and cleaning alone does not demonstrate this. The ability to recognize the required materials for building enclosures, housing units, enrichment choices, condition of the animals themselves to aid in evaluating good nutrition, ability to recognize an animal which is not acting as the others which can be an indication of a health issue so that this can be conveyed to the attending veterinarian are just a few of those that this facility has failed to show which would demonstrate some of the experience and knowledge which pertains to the species under their care.

If the facility personnel are not certain of the needs then they should seek out other persons in the same type of business or similar business such as zoos other individuals who have similar animals. They should be able to determine the types of materials which would be appropriate or not for use around the animals if they have the experience and knowledge of the species they are working with.

This facility currently lacks a person of experience and knowledge and needs to incorporate into the facility a plan for gaining this help from a person that possesses this experience and knowledge on a routine basis or that can help to educate those personnel at the facility.

TO BE CORRECTED BY: 10/31/14

3.125

FACILITIES, GENERAL.

(a)

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***** At time of inspection the chain-link fabric used for the enclosure located directly west of the leopard enclosure consisted of several different sized pieces of chain-link fabric. Where the two eight foot sections were joined together there were several locations which had not been fastened together they were simply overlapping each other. There were several places where they were not fastened to the posts used to support the construction, At the top there was no top rail or tension wire which was securely fastened to the posts for supporting the chain link fabric.

This was the construction of the south wall of this enclosure. The walls of the rest of the enclosure consisted of chain-link fabric in various sizes with the use of a tension wire along the top which was not attached to the post supports and in some locations missing entirely.

***** In the enclosure next to this enclosure to the north it was constructed of chain-link fabric and posts with what was to be considered a 45 degree kick in of chain-link material along the top. The fabric along the top sagged in many places from having no top support such as a tension wire or top rail. This fails to provide the type of system that is considered appropriate to maintain the enclosure in good repair and the animal securely within the enclosure should it decide to attempt to escape.

TO BE CORRECTED BY: 10/31/14

3.127

FACILITIES, OUTDOOR.

(b)

***** At time of inspection the concrete block housing units for both the Leopard and Cougar were too narrow and not long enough to completely protect the cats from the elements and to prevent discomfort from the elements. The cats had to lay one of two directions only, facing towards the front or rear of the longest measurement of the housing unit. When facing forward such as the leopard at time of inspection its flanks touched the back wall of the housing unit while it had its front legs tucked beside its body and its head stuck out of the front of the housing unit. The width dimension of the housing unit would not allow for either animal to lie, it was far too narrow.

These units had an overhang on the roof which would have been the appropriate length for the housing unit itself to provide for the protection and comfort of the animals. The width should be of a similar dimension which would allow for the animals to lay in either direction comfortably.

***** At time of inspection the single housed male lion had been provided with a concrete block housing unit which

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met the provisions that a housing unit should. It was long enough and wide enough to provide protection from the elements and prevent discomfort to the animal. Ventilation for this unit was provided by the entrance to the housing unit. The animal had sufficient shade provided so that ventilation was not a factor at this time.

***** At time of inspection the concrete pads that had been poured in the enclosure housing the two tigers and the enclosure with the three lions were of a size sufficient for one animal only.

When the Director was asked if a housing unit for each animal in the enclosure equivalent to the pad size poured was to be provided for each animal the answer was no that the pad currently poured was to be the housing unit for the animals in the enclosure.

After seeing the unit for the single lion the inspector asked the director if the proposed pad size and housing units would be large enough for all the animals to enter at one time and be provided protection from the elements, could move about freely, sit, stand and lie in a normal manner the answer was no that they needed to be larger.

These units which are not large enough for all the animals to enter at one time, need to be enlarged or multiple housing units which can accommodate all animals in the enclosures need to be constructed which will provide protection of the animals from the elements and prevent discomfort to the animals.

The choice of materials to provide housing for these animals is that of the licensee. That choice also comes with the requirement to maintain that choice of materials in good repair.

TO BE CORRECTED BY:10/31/14

3.131

SANITATION.

(a)

***** At time of inspection the leopard pen had remnants of animal fur and skin which had not been removed. During the summer s hot temperatures and high humidity that is present in this area routine husbandry practices need to provide for the quick removal of material which leads to the attraction of pests and insects, causes odors and can lead to disease problems in the facility

***** At time of inspection the enclosure housing two tigers had fecal material which was chalk white to light grey in appearance which had not been removed during the routine husbandry of the enclosures which should be occurring. This can lead to pests, odors and disease which can affect the health of the animals at this facility. A more frequent cleaning of these enclosures need to be incorporated into the standard operating procedures for this facility.

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TO BE CORRECTED BY: 8/8/14

This inspection conducted by APHIS, USDA, ANIMAL CARE PERSONNEL and the Director.

An initial exit interview was conducted at time of inspection by APHIS, USDA, ANIMAL CARE PERSONNEL with the Director. A follow up exit interview was conducted by APHIS, USDA, ANIMAL CARE Inspector with the Director on 7/31/14, as requested documentation from the facility which was emailed to the inspector following the inspection had to be reviewed before final items which would be addressed on the inspection report could be determined.

All items on the inspection report where discussed during this final exit interview with the Director.

END OF REPORT.

Additional Inspectors

Digesualdo Cynthia, Veterinary Medical Officer

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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
9863	72-C-0138	001	YOGIE AND FRIENDS EXOTIC CAT SANCTUARY, INC.	22-JUL-14

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000003	<i>Leptailurus serval</i>	SERVAL
000001	<i>Lynx rufus</i>	BOBCAT
000004	<i>Panthera leo</i>	LION
000001	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	LEOPARD
000003	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	TIGER
000001	<i>Puma concolor</i>	PUMA / MOUNTAIN LION / COUGAR
000013	Total	