



## 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: 19-AUG-2014

### 2.40(a)(1) DIRECT REPEAT

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

The current Program of Veterinary Care recommends twice annual visits by the attending veterinarian. The animals at this facility range from middle age to geriatric and several of them are in poor body condition. The lack of adequate veterinary care for the past several years and the ongoing health problems of at least one animal would indicate the attending veterinarian needs to visit more frequently, at least initially until all animals have been evaluated and diagnosed to be healthy.

The licensee is responsible for ensuring the veterinarian provides the facility with an adequate Program of Veterinary Care. This facility needs to retain an attending veterinarian or a consultant for the current attending veterinarian that has experience with all aspects of exotic felid medicine.

### 2.40(a)(2) DIRECT REPEAT

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

The diet outlined in the Program of Veterinary Care does not adequately address the nutrition needs of the resident animals. The PVC states they feed approximately 2 to 3% of the animal's body weight then goes on to state lions, tigers, cougars, and leopards are fed 8 to 15 lbs a day. There is a large difference in weight between healthy adult lions and tigers and healthy adult cougars and leopards. Cougars and leopards fed 8 to 15 lbs. of meat a day are being fed well over 3% of their body weight. Animals receiving this much food should be in better body condition than the cougar currently at the facility. The PVC states they are currently feeding whole prey diet with bone but does not explain how they determine the meat on the bones is actually 8 to 15 lbs. of meat. The PVC states Oasis vitamins, with extra taurine, are given when determined a supplement is necessary. They do not explain how they determine a supplement is needed. The PVC states when whole prey diet is not being utilized we feed a commercially prepared zoo diet. They do not explain when or why a whole prey diet might not be used nor do they identify which prepared diet they use. There was no prepared diet on site at the time of this inspection.

The thin body conditions of a male cougar named Boudreaux and a male tiger named Sampson are obvious

Prepared By: MARY MOORE, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

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indicators that sufficient quantity and/or nutritive value appear to be lacking.

Although the body conditions of the other large cats and 4 small cats are not as obviously poor as the above 2 animals, inadequate nutrition can cause less obvious problems such as anemia, vitamin deficiencies, neurologic problems and poor hair coat which can cause as much pain and suffering as a thin body condition. The results of blood tests done on Batman on Aug 10, 2014 indicate the diet is inadequate. The poor hair coat on the female lion named Yogi is indicative of an inadequate diet.

### 2.40(b)(2) DIRECT REPEAT

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

Batman, one of the male lions, continues to have a squinty eye with the third eyelid protruding across the right half of the eye. The clinical notes from the exam performed by the current attending veterinarian on August 10, 2014 indicate she found no obvious abnormalities with the eye. Her recommendations were to monitor for erythema and color to the discharge. No effort has been made to consult with an ophthalmologist or other veterinarian experienced with exotic felids to further evaluate the cause of the problem. This problem has been ongoing and monitored for the past six months. Batman has also been identified as being ataxic however nothing has been done to evaluate this issue. The licensee is responsible for ensuring appropriate methods are used to adequately prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries. The licensee needs to provide adequate diagnostics and treatment for this lion's eye and ataxia in order to alleviate the pain and suffering he has endured for the past several months.

### 2.125

#### INFORMATION AS TO BUSINESS; FURNISHING OF SAME BY DEALERS, EXHIBITORS, OPERATORS OF AUCTION SALES, INTERMEDIATE HANDLERS, AND CARRIERS.

Records requested from the licensee during the Aug 5, 2014 inspection confirming that the EPA has approved the practice of carcass feeding have not been provided to USDA as of this date. Records concerning the business of the facility requested by USDA must be furnished within a reasonable time. Fourteen days is well past a reasonable time. The licensee must provide requested records within a reasonable time.

Correct by: August 25, 2014.

### 3.129(a) DIRECT

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### FEEDING.

Food fed to the animals should be wholesome, palatable, and free from contamination. The food in the freezer during today's inspection was carcass meat wrapped in black plastic bags. Some of the bags had parts of carcasses sticking out with obvious freezer burn. Freezer burned food is not wholesome and free from contamination.

The squalid odor coming from the freezer was very suspicious of old rotten meat. Food should never be stacked to freeze. It should be stacked only after it is frozen solid. The food at the bottom of the pile currently in the freezer may not have frozen quickly enough to keep some of the meat from spoiling.

The area in front of the freezer was littered with old pieces of carcass covered with flies. Old pieces of meat and flies in front of the freezer can contaminate meat being loaded and unloaded from the freezer.

The licensee needs to develop a protocol for adequately preparing and freezing food. All parts of the carcass should be protected from freezer burn. The carcasses should be separated into small segments and thoroughly frozen before being stacked. Shelves in the freezer would allow for adequate separation and freezing of smaller quantities of food. The area in front of the freezer as well as the freezer itself must be kept clean to decrease the possibility of contamination. The food currently in the frozen mound in the freezer needs to be separated and evaluated for spoilage. Any food that appears suspicious should be discarded.

Correct by: August 25, 2014.

This inspection was conducted by APHIS, USDA, ANIMAL CARE PERSONNEL and the Vice President of the Inc. on 8/19/14.

The exit interview was conducted by APHIS, USDA, ANIMAL CARE PERSONNEL with the Vice President of the Inc. on 8/20/14.

END OF REPORT.

### Additional Inspectors

Digesualdo Cynthia, Veterinary Medical Officer

Gage Laurie, Big Cat Specialist

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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.	19-AUG-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
<b>000013</b>	<b>Total</b>	