



## Inspection Report

Zoological Subdistrict of the Metropolitan Zoological Park and Museum

Customer ID: **4296**

District

Certificate: **43-C-0032**

1 Government Drive  
Saint Louis, MO 63110

Site: 002

Sears Lehmann, Jr. Wildlife  
Reserve

Type: FOCUSED INSPECTION

Date: 26-NOV-2024

### 3.125(a)

#### Facilities, general.

A focused inspection was conducted regarding an incident that occurred on November 13th which was self-reported to the inspector by the facility. Two Red Wolves escaped from their primary outdoor enclosure (approximately one acre); the primary enclosure is surrounded by a secondary fence (which encompasses approximately four acres). The secondary fence encloses a total of four primary enclosures (each of approximately one acre), and the secondary fence is inside of a perimeter fence (which encompasses approximately 40 acres).

On the morning of November 13th, facility staff discovered 2 wolves outside of their primary containment and, instead, inside the secondary fence, an area to which they normally do not have access. An adult male Red Wolf (#12) escaped from its primary enclosure by digging at the junction of the fence and the dig barrier and either creating or finding a gap large enough to squeeze through. The enclosure consists of an 8-foot-tall chain link fence which is joined to a buried wire mesh dig barrier, which runs below the entire extent of the primary and secondary fence. The fencing and dig barrier are joined with metal connectors, spaced at equal distances along the junction. Prior to the inspection the facility relayed that they had worked to correct the failed section and strengthen the junction by increasing the number of metal connectors attaching the fence to the dig barrier, both in the section that failed as well as other sections all along the fence. Another Red Wolf, a juvenile female, (#15), daughter to the male wolf escaped through the same gap. A third Red Wolf, a female (#11), the mother was found still within the primary enclosure. There was no apparent injury to either wolf after the incident. The wolves were recaptured the same day and placed, along with the mother wolf, into one of the other one-acre enclosures within the secondary fence.

The enclosures containing the wolves must be structurally sound and maintained in good repair to protect the wolves from injury and contain them at all times. A failure in this could lead to injury or escape from the facility. Corrected at time of the inspection, November 26th, 2024.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with facility representatives.

Prepared By: HARVEY KENT

USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:

27-NOV-2024

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL  
OFFICER

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:

27-NOV-2024



**Species Inspected**

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
4296	43-C-0032	002	Sears Lehmann, Jr. Wildlife Reserve	26-NOV-2024

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000003	<i>Canis rufus</i>	RED WOLF
000003	<b>Total</b>	