United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

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Inspection Report

Kern County Superintendent Of Schools 10500 Alfred Harrell Highway Bakersfield, CA 93306 Customer ID: 3610

Certificate: 93-C-0275

Site: 001

KERN COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 16-APR-2019

2.40(b)(3) CRITICAL REPEAT

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

On 11 February, 2019 one of three skunks was found dead in their shared enclosure. The body was submitted to the attending veterinarian for necropsy. The necropsy report stated that the animal had a body condition score of four out of nine and that "Stomach and intestines empty, no ingesta or stool present." Histopathology findings were consistent with a viral infection. An employee at the facility stated that the attending veterinarian had contacted them after the necropsy and commented on the fact that animal caretakers had failed to notice that the skunk wasn't eating. Both the curator and the skunk caretaker on duty at the time of the inspection stated that there was no procedure in place to ensure that all animals in shared enclosures were eating.

Failure to observe animals to assess their health and well-being on a daily basis and failure to adequately communicate health issues to the attending veterinarian can be detrimental to the health of the animals and cause unnecessary pain and distress. Daily observation of all the animals to assess their well-being and direct and frequent communication with the attending veterinarian regarding health issues is necessary to ensure that the animals receive timely and adequate veterinary care. A system should be in place to ensure that all animals receive adequate daily observation and that the attending veterinarian is notified when necessary.

3.132 CRITICAL

EMPLOYEES.

The records review revealed an uncharacteristically high mortality rate at this facility since 1 January, 2018. Included among the deaths are one skunk that died with no food or feces in the intestinal tract and a fisher with a severe flea infestation that was noticed but not treated, and that ultimately led to the death of the animal. A second fisher living in the same enclosure died shortly before its cage mate (no necropsy was performed) and that death was likely due to the same cause.

During interviews of facility staff members the animal curator stated that she has requested permission to hire

Prepared By: ROSENDALE MARCY, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care Date: 25-APR-2019

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 5039

Received by Title: DELIVERED BY EMAIL

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additional help but has not received permission to do so from the Superintendent of Schools. She stated that with the current staffing level it is difficult for animal caretakers to adequately perform their duties. The attending veterinarian was also contacted regarding the mortality rate and she stated that she agreed with the curator, that staffing levels were not sufficient at times to provide adequate daily observation and care of the animals.

A sufficient number of adequately trained employees are needed to maintain a professionally acceptable level of animal husbandry. The facility should ensure that they have a sufficient number of trained employees to care for their animals.

Correct by May 25, 2019.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with a facility representative.

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Customer: 3610 Inspection Date: 16-APR-19

Species Inspected

3610 93-C-0275 001 KERN COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF 16-APR-19 SCHOOLS	

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000001	Ammospermophilus leucurus	WHITE-TAILED ANTELOPE SQUIRREL
000002	Bassariscus astutus	RINGTAIL
000002	Canis latrans	COYOTE
000004	Capra hircus	DOMESTIC GOAT
000001	Castor canadensis	AMERICAN BEAVER
000002	Didelphis virginiana	VIRGINIA OPOSSUM
000001	Dipodomys deserti	DESERT KANGAROO RAT
000003	Erethizon dorsatum	NORTH AMERICAN PORCUPINE
000004	Lynx rufus	BOBCAT
000002	Mephitis mephitis	STRIPED SKUNK
000001	Nasua nasua	SOUTH AMERICAN COATI
000003	Odocoileus hemionus	MULE DEER
000001	Oryctolagus cuniculus	DOMESTIC RABBIT / EUROPEAN RABBIT
000003	Ovis aries aries	SHEEP INCLUDING ALL DOMESTIC BREEDS
000009	Ovis canadensis	BIGHORN SHEEP
000003	Procyon lotor	RACCOON
000003	Puma concolor	PUMA / MOUNTAIN LION / COUGAR
000001	Sus verrucosus	JAVAN WILD PIG
000001	Tadarida brasiliensis	BRAZILIAN FREE-TAILED BAT
000002	Taxidea taxus	AMERICAN BADGER
000003	Urocyon cinereoargenteus	GRAY FOX / GREY FOX
000002	Urocyon littoralis	CHANNEL ISLANDS FOX
000002	Ursus americanus	NORTH AMERICAN BLACK BEAR
000004	Vulpes macrotis	KIT FOX
000002	Vulpes vulpes	RED FOX (INCLUDES SILVER FOX & CROSS FOX)
000062	Total	