



Inspection Report

Noahs Ark Animal Rehab Center and Sanctuary Inc
712 L G Griffin Road
Locust Grove, GA 30248

Customer ID: **3157**

Certificate: **57-C-0037**

Site: 001

NOAHS ARK REHABILITATION
CENTER

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 12-MAR-2024

3.150(a)

Facilities, general.

Some areas in need of repair were identified in several bird enclosures:

- There was some damage to the fence across the entry door near the ceiling at the top of the cockatiel enclosure resulting in an approximately 1.5-inch gap and broken/bent wires protruding into the enclosure.
- There is flaking and peeling paint that is coming off the top beams of the amazons' enclosure located near the foxes, that could be a hazard if ingested by the birds.
- In the macaw enclosure at the top of the hill, there was an approximately 2.5 feet tall standing piece of wood with several protruding nails and sharp points.

Damaged areas such as these within enclosures could result in animal injury. Housing facilities must be kept in good repair to safely contain the birds. Correct by April 15, 2024.

2.40(b)(3)

Repeat

Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care (dealers and exhibitors).

During inspection, the following animals were identified in need of veterinary care:

- A black pig with a white abdomen was limping on the right front limb.
- The top of both the Patagonian cavy's ears were thickened, crusty and had an irregular margin. The tip of the right ear was missing. Black crusty material could be seen inside both ears. Discharge was seen draining from the left ear creating a wet track leading to his jaw.
- A Peach-faced lovebird in the large cockatiel aviary had many of the feathers on the right side of his face and neck plucked off. The skin underneath appeared reddened. The right eye was abnormal and all that could be seen was a small black dot where the eye should be.
- A marmoset housed in the primate indoor housing/kitchen area was seen once pulling hair from his tail. There was an approximately 2-inch-long section on the inside of his tail that was missing hair.

The licensee had not identified the conditions affecting these animals, therefore had not contacted the veterinarian for guidance on care. Failure to promptly identify animal conditions delays treatment and may cause undue pain or distress in situations such as these. A more rigorous method of daily observation of all animals must be implemented to properly assess their health and well-being. Direct and frequent communication with the attending veterinarian is required for timely diagnosis and adequate medical attention. The currently affected animals need to be seen by a veterinarian for an appropriate diagnosis and treatment plan.

Prepared By: STEPHANIE MAYARD

USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:

22-MAR-2024

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL
OFFICER

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:

22-MAR-2024



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3.75(c)(1)

Housing facilities, general.

In the enclosure housing three brown lemurs in the primate area there were several bamboo perches that were not affixed to the enclosure. At least 2 bamboo perches were starting to pull away from the fence on the way to falling and one did break resting on the ground of the enclosure. Several of the branches were also thin and bowing downwards. Such perches are not of sufficient strength and are not adequately placed to withstand the weight of the lemurs. Furniture-type fixtures such as perches must be sturdily constructed and must be strong enough to provide for the safe activity and welfare of the nonhuman primates. Correct by March 29, 2024.

3.75(c)(1)(i)

Repeat

Housing facilities, general.

The bottom section of the metal shift door in the enclosure housing one Japanese snow macaque Kenya is still rusted and pitted with sharp edges. The facility did some maintenance that did not resolve the issue. There are still substantial gaps in some areas, as well as jagged surfaces which have impacted the structural integrity of the shift door. Excessively rusted and damaged areas such as these within enclosures cannot be cleaned or sanitized and could result in animal injury. Any surfaces that come into contact with primates must be free of excessive rust that prevents the required cleaning and sanitization, or that affects the structural strength of the surface.

3.84(d)

Cleaning, sanitization, housekeeping, and pest control.

The facility does not have an effective program to mitigate rodent issues despite the bait boxes seen around the property. There were rodent feces in the brown lemur shelter box near the admission building and many large rodent holes around the concrete pad beneath the box. Even after the shelter was cleaned the next day, fresh rodent droppings were seen in the shelter box used by the lemurs. Rodents are pest that can transmit diseases, cause sanitation issues and overall, negatively affect the animal's health. The facility must establish and maintain an effective program for pest control including mammalian pest. Correct by April 5, 2024.

3.125(a)

Facilities, general.

Some areas in need of repair were identified in several enclosures:

- In the foxes' back feeding area, the base of one metal pole rusted and an about 6 inch long section broke off creating sharp points and impacting the structural integrity of the pole.
- In the brown bear Anna Lou's enclosure, there were 2 rotting wood boards, each located at the entrance to one of the concrete dens. In front of the wood, dispersed across the entryway of the den facing the enclosure, there were 3 thick metal poles protruding a couple inches to a foot from the ground while the other den had one similar pole at the edge.
- In the black bear Angus' catch pen, there was an approximately 6 foot tall remnant of a cut fence protruding many about 2 inches long thin and sharp metal pieces into the enclosure.
- In Angus' enclosure, near the tiered wooden platform, the large metal sheets wrapped around 2 trees were coming off and hanging down, almost falling.
- In the black bear Little Anne's enclosure, there were sections of the hot wire hanging down across the door leading to

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the creek.

- The black coating on the metal chain link fence of the black bear Baloo's enclosure is flaking off.

Areas in disrepair such as these may affect the structural integrity of the structures and could result in animal injury.

Housing facilities must be structurally sound and maintained in good repair to safely contain the animals. Correct by April 20, 2024.

3.150(c)(2)

Repeat

Facilities, general.

There are still areas of rust along the side of the cockatiel enclosure and some areas are actively flaking and beginning to pit causing sharp edges. These rusted areas prevent appropriate cleaning and sanitization and may lead to structural integrity issues. The animals may also injure themselves on jagged surfaces present when the metal starts to disintegrate. A more effective plan to address these issues and to maintain the enclosure in good repair need to be established. The facility shall ensure that any surfaces that the birds can encounter are free of excessive rust or damage.

3.154(b)

Environment enhancement to promote psychological well-being.

Three instances were identified where the physical environment for the birds was not enriched sufficiently to provide the means to express species-typical behavior:

- A budgie that could not fly was observed on the ground of a large cockatiel aviary. In one corner, the facility had a lowered perch and bedding set up for this bird. However, the perch was too large for the bird to wrap his feet around and the nesting material provided was wet.

- Several holes/indentations in the rocks were seen on the ground of the cockatoos' enclosure where the birds are trying to nest. The facility did not provide nest boxes or nesting material which allowed for the abnormal behavior of nesting on the ground.

- Cage complexities recommended by the attending veterinarian, such as foraging opportunity, things to climb, things to hide in and things to play with like mirrors, were missing or scarce in the bird enclosures.

A lack of adequate environmental enrichment for the given species may negatively impact psychological well-being and has resulted in abnormal behavior. With the attending veterinarian's oversight, the facility must put in place environmental enrichments specifically tailored to meet the species needs. Correct by April 5, 2024.

3.154(c)(2)

Environment enhancement to promote psychological well-being.

Multiple parrots and cockatiels at the facility were showing signs of self-plucking or plucking feathers from other birds. The current enrichment program states that when the facility sees these behaviors, they are to contact the veterinarian however a plan has not been implemented to counter this abnormal behavior. On September 2023, the veterinarian recommended adding more enrichment for all the birds as well as things they could hide in yet several of these birds are in enclosures that are not sufficiently enriched with cage complexity or visual barriers to avoid conspecifics. The lack of adequate enrichment and the lack of implementation of the veterinarian's guidance has allowed birds to continue this feather plucking behavior that may underline psychological distress. The facility must implement an adequate enrichment plan per the attending veterinarian's instructions for all the birds including special attention regarding enhancement of the

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environment of those showing signs of being in psychological distress through behaviors such as feather plucking. Correct by April 5, 2024.

3.158(d)

Cleaning, sanitization, housekeeping, and pest control.

The current pest control program is not sufficient to minimize the presence of rodents in the small animal area near the administration building. There was a dead rat in the entryway to the small hallway connecting two enclosures each housing a scarlet macaw. The grass in these enclosures was overgrown which could be living areas for pests. The shelter box for lemurs adjacent to these two bird enclosures had rodent feces inside and many large rodent holes were seen around the concrete pad beneath the box. Rodents are pest that can transmit diseases, cause sanitation issues and overall, negatively affect the animal's health. The facility must establish and maintain an effective program for pest control including mammalian pest. Correct by April 5, 2024.

3.159

Employees

The facility does not have adequately trained employees that have adequate experience in the husbandry and care of birds or knowledge in recognizing concerning signs of welfare and psychological distress. This includes the following areas:

- The employees did not recognize that the parrots were overheating and did not have established protocols to monitor heat and cold that may negatively impact their birds.
- The employees did not notice the poor condition of feathers or injury to the wing of the single budgie housed in with the cockatiels and did not provide adequate perching or nesting for this bird. The facility provided nesting material on the ground not recognizing Budgies as cavity nesters.
- The staff does not have adequate experience to manage birds that are self-plucking or plucking conspecifics and there is no additional enrichment, nesting boxes or visual barriers that may prevent the birds from further self-harm.
- The staff is not recognizing the need to provide perching that would naturally wear down a blue and yellow macaw's nails that are overgrowing into the foot pad, in the building housing food storage. This is despite the veterinarian's guidance to provide all birds with textured perches to help keep nails filed.

Inadequate employee knowledge and experience could result in inadequate care which could negatively impact animal welfare. The facility must work to maintain a professionally acceptable level of husbandry and handling practices. Such practices must be conducted under the supervision of a bird caretaker who has appropriate experience in the husbandry and care of birds that are being managed in a given setting. Correct by April 20, 2024.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with facility representatives.

This is part 2 of a 2 part report.

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USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

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Additional Inspectors:

ANDREA D AMBROSIO, ANIMAL CARE INSPECTOR

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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
3157	57-C-0037	001	NOAHS ARK REHABILITATION CENTER	12-MAR-2024

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000005	<i>Sapajus appella</i>	BROWN CAPUCHIN / TUFTED CAPUCHIN
000002	<i>Cebus capucinus</i>	WHITE-HEADED / WHITE-THROATED CAPUCHIN
000001	<i>Macaca fuscata</i>	JAPANESE MACAQUE / SNOW MACAQUE
000002	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>	RHESUS MACAQUE
000001	<i>Papio hamadryas</i>	HAMADRYAS BABOON
000001	<i>Hylobates lar</i>	LAR GIBBON
000001	<i>Symphalangus syndactylus</i>	SIAMANG
000007	<i>Sus scrofa domestica</i>	DOMESTIC PIG / POTBELLY PIG / MICRO PIG
000002	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	RED FOX (INCLUDES SILVER FOX & CROSS FOX)
000001	<i>Panthera leo</i>	LION
000001	<i>Lynx rufus</i>	BOBCAT
000001	<i>Dolichotis patagonum</i>	PATAGONIAN CAVY / MARA
000002	<i>Hystrix cristata</i>	AFRICAN CRESTED PORCUPINE
000004	<i>Ursus americanus</i>	NORTH AMERICAN BLACK BEAR
000001	<i>Potos flavus</i>	KINKAJOU
000000	<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>	CRAB-EATING MACAQUE / CYNOMOLGUS MONKEY
000004	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	TIGER
000002	<i>Ateles chamek</i>	BLACK SPIDER MONKEY
000001	<i>Callithrix jacchus</i>	COMMON MARMOSET
000000	<i>Saimiri sciureus</i>	COMMON SQUIRREL MONKEY
000006	<i>Eulemur rufus</i>	RUFIOUS BROWN LEMUR / RED BROWN LEMUR
000000	<i>Canis lupus X C. familiaris</i>	WOLF/DOG HYBRID
000001	<i>Ursus arctos syriacus</i>	SYRIAN BROWN BEAR
000002	<i>Cacatua moluccensis</i>	SALMON-CRESTED COCKATOO / MOLUCCAN COCKATOO
000006	<i>Ara militaris</i>	MILITARY MACAW
000004	<i>Cacatua sulphurea</i>	YELLOW-CRESTED COCKATOO / LESSER SULPHUR-CRESTED COCKATOO
000002	<i>Cacatua alba</i>	WHITE COCKATOO / UMBRELLA COCKATOO
000016	<i>Ara ararauna</i>	BLUE-AND-YELLOW MACAW / BLUE-AND-GOLD MACAW
000005	<i>Ara macao</i>	SCARLET MACAW
000007	<i>Ara, Anodorhynchus, Primolius, Diopsittaca spp hybrid</i>	MACAW HYBRID
000002	<i>Psittacus erithacus</i>	CONGO AFRICAN GREY PARROT / GRAY PARROT
000003	<i>Cacatua sanguinea</i>	LITTLE CORELLA / BARE-EYED COCKATOO
000009	<i>Amazona oratrix</i>	YELLOW-HEADED PARROT / YELLOW-HEADED AMAZON / DOUBLE YELLOW-HEADED AMAZON
000054	<i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>	COCKATIEL
000001	<i>Eclectus roratus</i>	ECLECTUS PARROT
000001	<i>Eolophus roseicapilla</i>	GALAH / ROSE-BREASTED COCKATOO / ROSEATE COCKATOO
000002	<i>Amazona viridigenalis</i>	RED-CROWNED PARROT / GREEN-CHEEKED AMAZON / RED-CROWNED AMAZON / MEXICAN RED-HEA
000001	<i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>	BUDGERIGAR / BUDGIE / COMMON PARAKEET / SHELL PARAKEET
000001	<i>Pyrrhura molinae</i>	GREEN-CHEEKED PARAKEET / GREEN-CHEEKED CONURE
000003	<i>Thectocercus acuticaudatus</i>	BLUE-CROWNED PARAKEET
000002	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET
000001	<i>Agapornis spp hybrid</i>	LOVEBIRD HYBRID



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000168 **Total**