

# United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

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## **Inspection Report**

Bearizona Wildlife Park L L C 1500 E. Route 66 Williams, AZ 86046 Customer ID: **321880** 

Certificate: 86-C-0100

Site: 001

BEARIZONA WILDLIFE PARK, LLC

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 24-JUN-2014

#### 2.40(b)(2)

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

\*\*\*A female river otter (ID #0A01542478) was noted on 9/28/2013 as having a poor coat condition and ocular abnormalities (runny, mucous discharge from right eye, eyes not clear). On 10/24/2013 she was noted as having lameness (trouble rising and moving around the enclosure). On both occasions, an employee from the facility contacted the attending veterinarian (AV) via telephone to obtain an assessment and treatment recommendations.

Records obtained from the facility indicate the otter was started on 1-1200 mg Fish oil tablet daily on 9/28/2013 for the poor hair coat condition. On 10/24/2013 she was started on Meloxicam and 1 glucosamine daily for presumed arthritic condition. Currently, Meloxicam is labeled for use only in dogs. At the time of inspection, the facility could not supply any prescriptions or directions on medication usage from the AV nor was the usage detailed in the program of veterinary care. Additionally, the facility has not documented medication administration since 10/26/14.

Directions from the AV on medication usage should be documented and maintained by the facility to ensure proper administration of the medication. Currently accepted veterinary standards for the extra-label drug usage (using Meloxicam in the river otter), states the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal by virtue of examination of the animal, and/or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept.

To date, the AV has not done a physical examination of the river otter or completed any diagnostic testing for any of the noted conditions. Eye discharge can be signs of ocular, infectious or systemic disease. Depending on the cause, these conditions can be both progressive and painful. Lameness is an indicator of disease and often pain. It can result from numerous causes including both infectious and non-infectious. Diagnostic testing, including physical examination from a veterinarian, is necessary to properly determine the cause and best course of treatment to alleviate discomfort.

The licensee must have this animal examined by a veterinarian by 5:00 p.m on July 11, 2014, to obtain accurate diagnoses and appropriate treatment plans for the issues cited above. The outcome of this consultation must be provided to the inspector upon request. This documentation should include the veterinary diagnosis, all diagnostic tests and the outcome of those tests that were performed by the veterinarian, any medications prescribed along with

Prepared By: AARON RHYNER, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date: 26-AUG-2014

Title: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR 6077

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the dosing instructions, and entries on a log and/or calendar and/or animal health record that list when the medication is administered to the animals.

There should also be an entry at the end of the treatment to document the health status and condition of each animal at that point, to indicate a time frame to address current issues that require further veterinary treatment, and the need for follow-up and any further veterinary care

#### 2.40(b)(4)

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

\*\*\*On 10/19/13, a female river otter (ID # 0A01542478) was anesthetized by an employee of the facility without the supervision of the attending veterinarian (AV). The employee is neither a veterinarian or a certified veterinary technician. Both the employee and the AV stated to the APHIS VMO that the employee did not receive training from the AV prior to anesthetizing the otter. The employee did state she had received training during a wildlife safe capture and immobilization certification class. The program of veterinary care did not outline any guidance on anesthesia in any regulated animal.

Adequate guidance and training, from the facility's AV, is needed to ensure the proper usage of anesthetic medications, proper monitoring during anesthesia and what to do in an emergency situation (i.e. adverse reactions to anesthesia or while under anesthesia). Without proper training, the facility can not ensure the safety and well being of the animal while under anesthesia. The licensee should receive proper training, with documentation of training, from the AV before anesthetizing any other regulated animals.

To be corrected from this date forward.

## 3.131(a)

#### SANITATION.

\*\*\*The pool in the enclosure housing 3 river otters was dirty. The walls and surface of the pool had an accumulation of green algae, dirt and debris. Dirty pools and water in the enclosure posse a health risk to the animals. Primary enclosures shall be cleaned as often as necessary to prevent contamination of the animals contained therein and to minimize disease hazards and to reduce odors.

To be corrected by 7/11/14.

A focused inspection of the river otters and their enclosure was conducted with a facility representative.

Exit interview was conducted on-site with a facility representative.

Prepared By: AARON RHYNER, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care Date: 26-AUG-2014

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Customer: 321880 Inspection Date: 24-JUN-14

# **Species Inspected**

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
321880	86-C-0100	001	BEARIZONA WILDLIFE PARK, L L C	24-JUN-14

CountScientific NameCommon Name000003Lontra longicaudisNEOTROPICAL OTTER000003Total

Page 1 of 1