



Inspection Report

Spirit Of The Hills Wildlife Sanctuary
500 Tinton Road
Spearfish, SD 57783

Customer ID: **10912**

Certificate: **46-C-0053**

Site: 001

SPIRIT OF THE HILLS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 28-SEP-2016

2.40(b)(2) DIRECT

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

* A female Bengal tiger, "Asia," has a red swollen, festering mass on her lower left gum. The mass appears to protrude from her mouth and is, at a minimum, two inches by one inch with an unknown depth. The mass was observed to be dripping blood. While observing the tiger, she hit the fence where the mass was and was observed to jerk back in pain. She was observed to be licking frequently and rubbing her face with her paw.

The tiger was assessed by the attending veterinarian on September 15th, 2016 and it was documented that it may be "possible neoplasia" and it would be "monitored and removed if appropriate." No treatment was administered at that time. No record of monitoring was present.

Most of the food from the feeding on Tuesday, September 27th, 2016 was observed on the ground within the enclosure and had not all been consumed. The tiger was observed having difficulty picking up the chicken and eating when it tried to eat. The hip bones, spine, and ribs are visible on the tiger indicating the tiger is not consuming enough calories due to inability or lack of food.

* A male African Lion, "Hercules", was observed to be extremely thin (Body Condition Score -BCS 1/5) with his spine and hip bones showing. When he got up to walk, his legs seemed to be extremely stiff, and he was having difficulty walking. When he walked his back legs were uncoordinated with exaggerated movements. His walk was very staggered and unsteady. He was observed to stumble as he walked on multiple occasions. He only walked about ten steps and then laid back down. Most of the food that had been fed the night before (September 27th) was still on the ground within the enclosure and had not been consumed.

Masses can be painful and/or distressful to the animal and may lead to further medical conditions. A thin body condition and difficulty walking can be indications of other medical problems occurring in the animal.

All exhibitors shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care that include the use of appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose and treat diseases and injuries.

This female Bengal tiger needs to be evaluated by a veterinarian by the end of the day September 28, 2016. This verbal correction dated was provided to the Board Secretary and the Sanctuary Director via two separate phone calls at approximately 11:30AM and 11:45AM respectively on September 28th. A diagnosis needs to be made to

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include a treatment plan with appropriate follow-up treatment and care. Written documentation needs to be kept on all treatment to include medications administered (what medication, the dosage, time, and who administered) and any surgeries performed. This documentation needs to be kept and maintained and made available upon next inspection.

This male African lion needs to be evaluated by a veterinarian by the end of the day September 28, 2016. This was communicated to the veterinarian and veterinary technician at approximately 4:30PM on September 28, 2016. A diagnosis needs to be made to include a treatment plan with appropriate follow-up treatment and care. Written documentation needs to be kept on all treatment to include medications administered (what medication, the dosage, the time, and who administered) and any surgeries performed. This documentation needs to be kept and maintained and made available upon next inspection.

2.40(b)(2) DIRECT

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

There were several animals throughout the facility that were observed to have other veterinary care related problems as documented below:

- * A female pot-bellied pig, "Tilly," roaming free near the barn, was observed to have difficulty walking. She was slow moving. Her rear legs did not move properly. When she attempted to move forward her hind end side-stepped and her rear feet crossed each other. She moved in a staggering motion and was observed falling down on multiple occasions when she tried to turn around.
- * A sheep, "Baby Sheep," was housed with "Marshmallow" in a stall in the barn. The animal care taker stated that the sheep was observed to be throwing up green liquid. Depending on who was asked, the veterinarian was or was not contacted. A document was provided showing that Baytril was to be administered to the sheep twice a day. The attending veterinarian's office did not have any record for "Baby Sheep."
- * A female goat has a hard mass on its right ear. The mass is round and slightly larger than a golf ball. It was firm, covered with thinning hair and mildly red to purple in color.
- * A male dog, "Skippy," housed with the coyote was observed to have an open wound under his right eye. The wound is closely located to the outside corner of the eye and is approximately 2-3 cm in size. The wound itself is moderately red and swollen with brown to black crusting around the open area.
- * A male mountain lion, "Turbo," was observed to have a sore right front leg and is unable to get around his enclosure easily. The animal is missing its left front leg so when it stands it relies solely on its right front leg. When the animal attempted to stand it did not put its foot flat on the ground and its right front leg was not fully extended. As a result, he stood in a "hunched over" position. When the animal attempted to walk he still did not place the bottom of his foot on the ground or fully extend his front right leg. He walked hunched over, in a "crawling" motion, with his head down. The facility representative stated that the animal has a pressure sore on its right front leg. The vet records show that the animal was assessed by the attending veterinarian on December 15, 2015 and recommended euthanasia and then again on August 22, 2016 where euthanasia was recommended once again.

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2.40(b)(2) DIRECT

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

There were a number of animals throughout the sanctuary that were observed to be extremely thin:

* A female wolf hybrid, "Macey," housed down by the cabin was observed to be extremely thin (BCS 0.5/5) with her hip bones and spine showing. The hip bones and spine were prominent. The ribs were moderately visible. The abdomen had a "tucked up" appearance and appeared sunken in behind the ribs.

* A female hog, "Gertrude," housed by the barn was observed to have open sores on her sides. The size of the sores varied in size from pinpoint to 2-3 cm. Some of the smaller sores were scabbed over but the majority of the larger sores were open with brown to black crusting around the open areas. Some of the sores were oozing a yellow-green discharge while others were bleeding. The hog was also extremely thin (BCS 0.5) with her back bone and hips protruding. When the hog got up, she walked over to the fencing and started rubbing/itching her sides along the fencing causing the sores to bleed/ooze more.

* A female sheep, "Marshmellow," housed in one of the stalls in the barn was observed to be emaciated (BCS 0.5/5) with every bone in its body clearly visible. The ribs, hips, back-bone and head bones were protruding greatly and the abdomen was sunken in behind the ribs. The sheep moves very little and spends a good deal of time standing in place with its head in the corner. The sheep was evaluated on August 22nd, 2016 and the veterinarian diagnosed moderate arthritis, vision loss, and generalized muscle loss. The veterinarian recommended deworming with Fenbendazole and a diet increase/change. There are no records showing that the recommendations were followed. There are no records showing that the veterinarian has been contacted since the evaluation in August.

* A male Grizzly bear, "Kody," was observed pacing non-stop in his enclosure. He appears thin (BCS 1.5/5) and his hair coat appears poor. His hip bones, shoulders and spine were mildly protruding and his haircoat is dull and rough in appearance.

* "Benny" and "Kiwani," two Syrian bears housed next to the other bears appear thin (BCS 2/5) with mildly protruding hip bones, shoulders and spine.

* The female black bear, "Lilly," and the male black bear, "Grunt," were observed to be thin (BCS 2/5) with poor hair coats. Their hip bones, shoulders and spine were mildly protruding and their haircoats were dull and rough in appearance. Their flank appears to be sunken in.

* A male white tiger, "Raphael," was observed to be thin (BCS 2.5/5) with prominent hip bones and back bone.

* A female Bengal tiger, "Shula," was observed to be thin (BCS 2.5/5) with prominent hip bones and back bone. She was also observed dribbling urine when she exited her shelter. Her food from the feeding from September 28, 2016 was still on the ground in her enclosure and had not all been consumed. The attending veterinarian assessed the tiger on August 22nd and recommended metacam be administered every other day. There was no metacam on the property and the animal care takers present were not made aware that she should be getting medication.

Veterinary care issues, such as all those listed above can be painful or distressful to the animal and can lead to further health complications. The animals listed above must be examined by a licensed veterinarian by 5:00 pm on September 29, 2016 in order to ensure that an accurate diagnosis is obtained and an appropriate treatment plan is developed and followed. This information, including the diagnosis, treatment and

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resolution of the condition, must be documented and made available to the inspector upon request. The licensee must ensure that all animals receive adequate veterinary care at all times.

2.40(b)(3) DIRECT

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

Evidence of daily observation of the health and well being of every animal is not present. Ongoing chronic health and well being issues have not been reported to the attending veterinarian in a timely and accurate manner.

No notations on any animal's condition are present, even with animals who had recognized health or well being issues.

Animals with health conditions needing immediate or timely veterinary assessment and care were not reported to the veterinarian prior to inspection. This included "Hercules" as described above.

The veterinarian had not been contacted for chronic health and well being issues such as weight loss, lameness, lethargy and ill thrift. No monitoring or corrective plans were in place.

There was no evidence of administration of veterinary prescribed medication or treatments or follow up/monitoring for the tigers "Shula" or "Asia" who had been evaluated by veterinarian.

There was a verbal report of an animal being administered medications without a prescription/treatment protocol from a veterinarian - "Baby Sheep" housed with "Marshmallow" was reportedly being treated with Baytril® (fluoroquinolone). There was no documentation that the animal had been seen by the veterinarian or that the veterinarian prescribed the treatment.

Thinness, lameness, oral mass and other cited health issues appear NOT to be acute problems, but have developed over a significant amount of time (>6 weeks) which should have allowed for proper and timely assessment, treatment/intervention and reassessment by veterinarian.

The facility representatives present on the inspection stated that daily observations were not being done, that some of the prescribed veterinary treatments were not done, and that the veterinarian was not aware of some of the medical conditions in the animals.

Most feeding records are not initialed by the person who performed task and appear to have been filled out all at one time rather than daily. The facility representatives present on the inspection stated that feeding and watering of animals was not always done.

The lack of daily observation records, the statements made by the facility representatives and the general conditions of the animals show that there is inadequate daily observation and a lack of communication with the veterinarian. Inadequate daily observation and communication with the veterinarian allows for chronic problems to develop and acute health and well being issues to be overlooked which can lead to unnecessary pain, distress, and suffering for the animals.

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The licensee must conduct daily observations of all animals to assess their health and well-being. In addition, a mechanism of direct and frequent communication is required so that timely and accurate information on problems of animal health, behavior and well-being is conveyed to the attending veterinarian. In order to demonstrate compliance, records should show that all animals were observed daily to assess their health and well being. In addition, all communications with the veterinarian should be documented. These records should be maintained and made available to the inspectors upon request. Correction of this should be immediate from this day forward.

3.129(a) DIRECT

FEEDING.

Throughout the facility the body conditions of animals were observed to be inadequate indicating that the animals are not consuming enough calories either due to lack of food, lack of quality food, inappropriate diet, or the inability to consume the food provided.

The following animals appeared thin to emaciated:

- * "Macy" - wolf hybrid - housed at the cabin
- * "Gertrude" - Female hog -housed at the barn
- * "Marshmallow" - Female sheep - housed at the barn
- * "Cody" - Male Kodiak Grizzly bear
- * "Benny" and "Kiwani" - Male and female Syrian bears
- * "Lilly"- female black bear
- * "Grunt" - male black bear
- * "Raphael" - male white tiger
- * "Shula" - Female Bengal tiger
- * "Hercules" - Male African lion
- * "Asia" - female Bengal tiger

In addition, the facility representatives present during the inspection stated that animals were not being fed appropriately.

Insufficient, inadequate quality or inappropriate diets can cause serious illness in animals leading to health problems in the animals to include death by starvation. Food provided to all animals at the facility shall be wholesome, palatable, and free from contamination and of sufficient quantity and nutritive value to maintain all animals in good health. The diet shall be prepared with consideration for the age, species, condition, size, and type of the animal. Animals shall be fed at least once a day except as dictated by hibernation, veterinary treatment, normal fasts, or other professionally accepted practices.

The diets for the above mentioned animals need to be assessed by the veterinarian and the operators of the facility. An appropriate written diet and feeding schedule needs to be implemented to include detailed records on what is being fed (including food item and weight), what time it is being fed, and who is providing the feed. These records

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need to be maintained at the facility and made available for inspection upon next inspection.

To be corrected by noon, September 30, 2016.

3.132 DIRECT

EMPLOYEES.

It is evident by the number and type of non-compliant items that there is an inadequate number of knowledgeable employees to carry out the level of husbandry and care required by the Animal Welfare regulations. During the day-long inspection at the facility, numerous animals were observed to need veterinary care. Animals were observed to be thin indicating they are not getting a sufficient diet and there are animals intermingled with animals that are not compatible with each other. There were areas in the facility that needed maintenance and upkeep. In addition, the animal caretakers who accompanied the inspector on inspection indicated that the "reliable people" who were assigned to the different areas of the sanctuary had not shown up at the sanctuary to care for the animals they were assigned to care for. Some of the people who were assigned to the areas were not showing up until later in the day or even in the dark of night to feed the big cats and bears.

The volunteers who are currently at the sanctuary have little to no experience with large exotic animals and there is not a program in place to train the volunteers who are helping or who will be helping in the future. In addition, the turn over at the facility continues to be extremely high making it difficult to maintain sufficiently trained employees.

Failure to provide a sufficient number of adequately trained employees does not ensure that problems at the facility, including veterinary care and husbandry issues, are identified and corrected which could be detrimental to the welfare of the animals.

The sanctuary needs to employ a sufficient number of adequately trained employees to maintain the professionally acceptable level of husbandry practices set forth in this subpart. Such practices shall be under a supervisor who has a background in animal care.

To be corrected by October 30, 2016.

This inspection was conducted with Sanctuary volunteers. An exit interview, conducted on September 29, 2016, was conducted with a Sanctuary volunteer and Animal Care VMO, Dr. Ann Goplen.

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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
10912	46-C-0053	001	SPIRIT OF THE HILLS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	28-SEP-16

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000002	<i>Bison bison</i>	AMERICAN BISON
000001	<i>Bos taurus</i>	CATTLE / COW / OX / WATUSI
000001	<i>Canis latrans</i>	COYOTE
000003	<i>Canis lupus</i>	GRAY WOLF / GREY WOLF / TIMBER WOLF
000009	<i>Canis lupus x c. l. familiaris</i>	WOLF/DOG HYBRID
000031	<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>	DOMESTIC DOG
000003	<i>Capra hircus</i>	DOMESTIC GOAT
000002	<i>Cavia porcellus</i>	DOMESTIC GUINEA PIG
000003	<i>Chinchilla lanigera</i>	CHINCHILLA (DOMESTICATED)
000026	<i>Felis silvestris catus</i>	DOMESTIC CAT
000006	<i>Lama glama</i>	LLAMA
000001	<i>Leptailurus serval</i>	SERVAL
000001	<i>Lynx canadensis</i>	CANADIAN LYNX
000004	<i>Lynx rufus</i>	BOBCAT
000015	<i>Ovis aries aries</i>	SHEEP INCLUDING ALL DOMESTIC BREEDS
000004	<i>Panthera leo</i>	LION
000004	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	LEOPARD
000013	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	TIGER
000004	<i>Procyon lotor</i>	RACCOON
000006	<i>Puma concolor</i>	PUMA / MOUNTAIN LION / COUGAR
000012	<i>Sus scrofa domestica</i>	DOMESTIC PIG / POTBELLY PIG / MICRO PIG
000001	<i>Tamiasciurus hudsonicus</i>	AMERICAN RED SQUIRREL
000006	<i>Ursus americanus</i>	NORTH AMERICAN BLACK BEAR
000001	<i>Ursus arctos horribilis</i>	GRIZZLY BEAR
000004	<i>Ursus arctos syriacus</i>	SYRIAN BROWN BEAR
000163	Total	