



## Inspection Report

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US Government Smithsonian Institution  
PO BOX 37012/MRC 5508  
WASHINGTON, DC 20013

Customer ID: 20133  
Certificate: 10-F-0010  
Site: 001

NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK

Type: FOCUSED INSPECTION  
Date: 17-DEC-2025

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### 2.131(b)(1)

#### Handling of animals.

On December 12, 2025, around 10:00am, two animal care staff members were bitten by 12-year-old female binturong, named "Lola". As "Lola" was being directed back into her winter enclosure she turned around and grab the leg of an animal care staff member. She then bit the animal care staff member and would not let go. An animal care colleague that was present to assist was also bitten as he removed "Lola" and placed her in a separate enclosure.

At the time of the incident, "Lola" was housed in a new winter housing. The enclosure did not have the same design feature as the previous enclosure, which more effectively facilitated animal enclosure transfers. When the incident occurred, an alternative method of animal transfer was used per SOP. The binturong acted negatively to the changes. Animals must be handled in a manner that does not cause behavioral stress. Correct by January 17, 2026

NOTE; At the time of inspection, "Lola's" safety risk was increased and a work order placed to add the animal transfer design feature.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with the facility representatives.

This is a focused inspection to evaluate the animal care program for binturongs, seals, and sea lions.

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Prepared By: GLORIA MCFADDEN Date:  
08-JAN-2026  
Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL  
OFFICER USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Received by Title: Facility Representative Date:  
08-JAN-2026



### Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
20133	10-F-0010	001	NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK	17-DEC-2025

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000003	<i>Zalophus californianus</i>	CALIFORNIA SEA LION
000004	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	GREY SEAL
000002	<i>Arctictis binturong</i>	BINTURONG
000009	<b>Total</b>	