



## Inspection Report

Sue Pearce  
5001 S W Rucks Dairy Road  
Okeechobee, FL 34974

Customer ID: **322131**  
Certificate: **58-C-1011**  
Site: 001  
SUE PEARCE

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION  
Date: 22-SEP-2015

### 2.40(b)(2) DIRECT

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

A red fox was observed with abnormally increased redness and yellowish crusts/secretions adhered to facial hairs around both eyes. The licensee informed the fox's medical condition was a reoccurring issue, and apparently due to allergies. The licensee also informed that periodically the Attending Veterinarian (AV) prescribes an injectable anti-inflammatory drug to treat the allergies. Both inspectors assessed the fox's current condition and is serious enough to require a veterinary examination and assessment followed by appropriate treatment of the condition. To ensure adequate veterinary care for the fox, the AV needs to examine, diagnose and treat as appropriate to alleviate ongoing discomfort and pain.

Correct by: September 24, 2015

An adult lion identified as " Goldie" was observed by the licensee on or about May 29, 2015 and determined by the licensee to have a closed pyometra. The licensee contacted the Attending Veterinarian (AV) and stated that the AV prescribed antibiotics but did not come out to examine or confirm the licensee 's diagnosis. The lion' s condition deteriorated the following day and the licensee contacted the AV who gave permission to euthanize the lion by gunshot. On September 21, 2015 the USDA inspector for the facility tried to contact the AV for confirmation on the diagnosis and instructions provided to the licensee concerning the care, treatment and euthanasia of "Goldie." The AV was traveling/unavailable and medical records were not available at the licensee 's facility, or accessible through the AV.

A closed pyometra is a life threatening emergency that requires prompt veterinary intervention. The licensee must establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care that include appropriate methods to diagnose and treat emergency disease conditions. The licensee failed to provide adequate veterinary care by not getting the lion examined and the lion' s condition diagnosed and treated. Potential life threatening emergencies must be appropriately diagnosed by the AV and treated to minimize potential animal suffering.

Correct by: Immediately

The program of veterinary care (PVC) listed gunshot by the licensee as a method of euthanasia, but did not provide

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details on which species gunshot was allowed, who has been trained and qualified to perform the procedure, explain or provide any details on how gunshot would be used to ensure euthanasia is done humanely, produces rapid unconsciousness and death without evidence of pain or distress and in a manner consistent with the AVMA Guidelines for Euthanasia of Animals 2013 Edition. Gunshot is not an acceptable method for routine euthanasia when other more acceptable methods are available. The PVC cannot list gunshot as a routine method of euthanasia without there being sufficient detail on which species it is to be used, who is trained and qualified to perform the procedure and how the euthanasia is performed and in a manner consistent with the AVMA Guidelines.

Correct by: Immediately

The licensee reported that a female tiger cub was found injured on the morning of August 28, 2015; injuries included a swollen neck and bite marks. The licensee reported the finding to the Attending Veterinarian (AV), who prescribed via telephone medications to treat the inflammation and fever. The licensee stated the AV's plan was to control the inflammation and fever first, and then to physically sedate and treat on Sunday August 29, 2015. After one day of unsuccessful therapy, the cub's health condition deteriorated and died on August 28, 2015. The licensee failed to provide adequate veterinary care to the cub by not having the AV examine, diagnose and treat the animal's serious condition and deterioration. Medical conditions that are serious in nature and potentially life threatening to regulated animals must be examined by the AV in order to appropriately assess the condition and to provide adequate veterinary medical care.

Correct: Immediately

### 3.80(a)

#### PRIMARY ENCLOSURES.

The back door which provides inclement weather protection on the left side of the baboon s outdoor shelter is broken, splintered and has a hole which no longer allows the surface to be cleaned and sanitized nor provide sufficient inclement weather protection. All surfaces in contact with nonhuman primates must be structurally sound, maintained in good repair to protect the animals from injury. This door must be replaced or repaired to provide adequate inclement weather protection for the baboons.

Correct by: October 14, 2015

### 3.81

#### ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT TO PROMOTE PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL-BEING.

A single brown lemur is housed in barn structure without being able to see and hear any other nonhuman primate or a compatible species. When first observed, this animal was doing repetitive backflips which could be indicative of psychological distress. The Environmental Enhancement plan did not include provisions for social grouping or

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address considerations for a nonhuman primate that could not see or hear other compatible nonhuman primates or have possible psychological distress secondary to the social isolation of this animal. There was no written documentation that the attending veterinarian had approved the plan.

The Environmental Enhancement plan must include provisions for social housing, special attention for the lemur not being able to hear and see nonhuman primates of its own or a compatible species and address any signs of psychological distress as manifested by stereotypic behaviors. The plan must be specifically approved by the attending veterinarian.

Correct by: October 21, 2015

### 3.125(a)

#### FACILITIES, GENERAL.

The plywood siding of the bobcat enclosure's shelter house was observed to be extremely damaged/rotted. Approximately a 1/3 of the plywood siding at the back of the shelter was missing and the remainder of the siding was rotting and separating from the shelter. There were several sharp wood splinters/points were present in the affected areas which are injury hazards for the animals.

The inside surface of the plywood roof for the tiger enclosure adjacent to the cougar enclosure is rotting and warping. This portion of the roof is deteriorating and not in good repair. It must be replaced or repaired to prevent possible injury to the contained tigers.

The sides of the shelter for the single housed ataxic lion are broken, worn and in disrepair. The shelter must be repaired to maintain the structural soundness of the shelter and to provide adequate shelter for the lion.

Also, the lock out portion for the bear's primary enclosure had a corner of the dirt flooring dug out leaving a hole with exposed support mesh wire which could create an injury hazard. Housing facilities for all regulated animals shall be structurally sound and shall be maintained in good repair to protect the animals from injury while containing the animals. To prevent discomfort, unhealthy conditions and potential injury to the animals, both the plywood siding at the bobcat's enclosure and the floor at the bear's enclosure should be repaired/replaced.

Correct by: October 14, 2015

### 3.125(d)

#### FACILITIES, GENERAL.

A medium-size utility trailer loaded with several used/opened produce boxes was observed next to the food storage

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container and food preparation area. The opened boxes contained old produce and food wastes which were attracting an excessive amount of flies and insects creating unsanitary conditions in close proximity of food storage/preparation areas. Also, due to farm animal wastes deposited near the coati mundi and red fox primary enclosures, an excessive amount of flies and insects were observed as well, creating unsanitary conditions.

The facility shall make provision for the quick removal and disposal of animal and food wastes, bedding, dead animals, trash and debris, especially around food storage/preparations areas. Disposal facilities shall be so provided and operated as to minimize vermin infestation, odors, and disease hazards. The disposal facilities and any disposal of animal and food wastes, bedding, dead animals, trash, and debris shall comply with applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations relating to pollution control or the protection of the environment.

Correct by: September 30, 2015

Also present during the team inspection was Dr. Gregory Gaj, SACS.

Exit interview conducted with a facility representative.

### Additional Inspectors

Gaj Gregory, Supervisory Animal Care Specialist

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## Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
322131	58-C-1011	001	SUE PEARCE	22-SEP-15

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000001	<i>Eulemur fulvus</i>	COMMON BROWN LEMUR
000001	<i>Lama glama</i>	LLAMA
000002	<i>Lynx rufus</i>	BOBCAT
000003	<i>Nasua nasua</i>	SOUTH AMERICAN COATI
000004	<i>Panthera leo</i>	LION
000001	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	LEOPARD
000013	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	TIGER
000002	<i>Papio anubis</i>	OLIVE BABOON
000004	<i>Procyon lotor</i>	RACCOON
000002	<i>Puma concolor</i>	PUMA / MOUNTAIN LION / COUGAR
000001	<i>Ursus americanus</i>	NORTH AMERICAN BLACK BEAR
000002	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	RED FOX (INCLUDES SILVER FOX & CROSS FOX)
<b>000036</b>	<b>Total</b>	