

United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

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Inspection Report

Squalus Inc

36302 Singletary Road

Myakka City, FL 34251

Customer ID: 8176

Certificate: 58-C-0648

Site: TRA

VARIOUS TRAVEL LOCATIONS

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 17-MAY-2016

3.101(a)(3)

FACILITIES, GENERAL.

A no longer needed piece of a metal support bar at the front left side of stage next to the small pool is very rusted. Although the sea lions cannot reach this bar, it is being sprayed by the pool water and can leach rust into the pool. This bar also cannot be adequately cleaned and sanitized. It needs to be replaced or removed. To be corrected by 6-3-16.

3.104(d)(3)(1)

SPACE REQUIREMENTS.

Minimum surface area of a pool of water shall be at least equal to the dry resting or social activity area required. At the start of this inspection at 3:00 pm all 5 sea lions were still contained in the smaller pool. There are 3 female California sea lions (average body length 5.7 feet) and 2 female South American Sea Lions (average body length 6.6 feet). This means the total dry resting area needs to be a minimum of 184.59 square feet $(6.6 \times 6.6 = 43.56 \times 2 = 87.12$ square feet $+ 5.7 \times 5.7 = 32.49 \times 3 = 97.47$ square feet). For these animals the pool needs to be at least 184.59 square feet. The small pool measures $22 \times 6.5 = 143$ square feet. Either fewer animals are to be maintained in this small pool or while stopped the animals are to have access to the outdoor pool. To be corrected by 5-25-16.

3.106(a)

WATER QUALITY.

During this inspection at least 3 of the 5 sea lions are exhibiting painful eye conditions. The pools were filled with municipal city water. The chlorine levels in the water and the methods to correct it, along with the lack of salinity are contributing to eye issues. The water is not being tested according to the written protocol, and nitrites are not being tested, as according to their protocol. The monitoring records are not clear in diffentiating if a 2 is 2.0 or 0.2. The pH testing device only goes down to 7.0 and this is inadequate to monitor. Primary enclosures shall not contain water which would be detrimental to the health of the marine mammals contained therein. Better water quality control testing needs to be done. To be corrected 5-21-16.

Prepared By: LISA MACELDERRY, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care Date: 18-MAY-2016

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 1055

Received by Title: OWNER Date:

18-MAY-2016

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3.106(c)

WATER QUALITY.

The attending veterinarian has prescribed all of the sea lions have easy access to salt water. This is not being done and was recorded as 0 during this inspection and at least 3 of the 5 sea lions are exhibiting painful eye conditions. When salt is used, the salinity of any pool is to be maintained between 15 36 parts per thousand. To be corrected by 5-25-16.

3.108(a)

EMPLOYEES OR ATTENDANTS.

Five sea lions are under the care of two caretakers in a travel exhibit. The head keeper has worked with this company for two years. Due to multiple items cited and noted during this inspection, this keeper does not appear to have adequate training and knowledge to be the primary caretaker for these animals. Items seen include: serious eye conditions are not recognized and reported; not recognizing the importance of shade in exhibiting marine mammals; medical records are incomplete not indicating which eyes are treated when treated; pH monitoring is not adequate; water treatments are added without using measured amounts and are not documented; and animals are not released into bigger pools in timely manner. The caretaker does not have a copy of the USDA regulations and has not read them. Old and newer bite slash wounds were observed on both arms and she stated Poonky will play attack. During the inspection, the two oldest sea lions went off the stage and onto the grass by the public barrier. The secondary caretaker needed the primary caretakers help to return them to the stage. All of these items show the current caretakers have not been adequately trained and supervised to maintain the professionally acceptable level of husbandry practices required by USDA. These employees need to receive additional training and supervision. To be corrected by 6-3-16.

3.110(f)

VETERINARY CARE.

The medical records for the 5 sea lions do not show the attending veterinarian visually examined the sea lions at least semi-annually. There were only reports for an annual physical examination at the first of the years in 2015 and 2016. If these animals were seen by the veterinarian, it needs to be documented. Since several of these sea lions are exhibiting painful eye conditions, the veterinarian should be regularly consulted about these conditions. This does not appear to be done. To be corrected by 6-1-16.

This is a partial report of an inspection conducted at the travel location at Heritage Park in Simpsonville, SC. Inspection of sea lions Kitty, Stella, Zoey, Poonky, and Lilly. Exit briefing conducted with owner by phone.

Prepared By:	LISA MACELDERRY, D V M USDA, APHI	S, Animal Care	Date: 18-MAY-2016
Title:	VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 1055		
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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
8176	58-C-0648	TRA	VARIOUS TRAVEL LOCATIONS	17-MAY-16

Count Scientific Name Common Name

000002 Otaria byronia SOUTH AMERICAN SEA LION

000003 Zalophus californianus CALIFORNIA SEA LION **000005 Total**