



## Inspection Report

County Of Essex Turtle Back Zoo  
560 Northfield Avenue  
West Orange, NJ 07052

Customer ID: 2051

Certificate: 22-C-0141

Site: 001

COUNTY OF ESSEX TURTLE BACK ZOO

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 11-MAR-2015

### 2.131(c)(1)

#### HANDLING OF ANIMALS.

The horizontal pole, which serves as a barrier fence, is 12 inches away from the plexiglass enclosure fence for the two red pandas. Both the primary enclosure and the barrier pole are approximately the same height of about 4 feet. The APHIS official observed small children going under the barrier pole and standing on the wooden base of the primary enclosure. Due to the height of the fences and the barrier's distance away from the primary enclosure, the public has access to the animals within the enclosure.

Additionally, the section of the enclosure that is composed of a chain link fence, has a post and rope barrier with bamboo in between. The thinnest portion of the bamboo is also approximately 12 inches away from the primary enclosure.

The close proximity of the barriers puts the two red pandas at risk of harm from the viewing public.

To assure the safety of the animals and the public, the facility must provide a sufficient distance and/or barriers between the animals and the viewing public.

TO BE CORRECTED BY: MARCH 23, 2015

### 3.101(a)(1)

#### FACILITIES, GENERAL.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE IN NEED OF REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT:

\* The concrete between the stones in the exterior building wall are chipping and falling out in several places. Pieces of chipping concrete are a potential hazard to the sea lions should they be ingested.

\* All of the horizontal rails, on the fence that serves as a barrier in the upper viewing area, are severely rusted. Rust could flake off into the pool and become a hazard to the sea lions if ingested.

Prepared By: KARLA WILLS, A C I USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:  
19-MAR-2015

Title: ANIMAL CARE INSPECTOR 1014

Received by Title: SENT VIA E-MAIL

Date:  
19-MAR-2015



## Inspection Report

---

- \* The "beach" area has several areas where the concrete floor is severely deteriorated and crumbles of concrete are present. Pieces of chipping concrete are a potential hazard to the sea lions should they be ingested.
- \* A large chunk of the concrete floor, near the drain of the main pool adjacent to the lower viewing window, is missing.
- \* The rubber seal on the outside of the viewing window, which is not accessed by the public, has water present which indicates a leak.

Damaged concrete and a leaking window seal leaves the pool structurally unsound for the seallions housed therein.

Housing facilities for marine mammals must be structurally sound and maintained in good repair for the health and well-being of the animals.

### 3.101(a)(3)

#### FACILITIES, GENERAL.

THE FOLLOWING AREAS ARE IN NEED OF REPLACEMENT OR REPAIR:

- \* The metal trim on the base of all four gates in the holding pool area are severely rusted. Rusted materials cannot be sanitized. All rusted metal trim bases must be replaced to maintain them in good repair as part of a regular, on-going maintenance program.
- \* There is peeling sealant in the floor of holding room #3 with exposed duct tape present below the sealant.
- \* Peeling paint on holding pool #1 near the top edge of the pool. Additionally, rust is appearing through the pool wall.
- \* Peeling paint in the corner of the wall of holding room #4. Also, peeling paint and chipped concrete on the side wall adjacent to the wall of holding room #2.
- \* Peeling paint on the floor of holding rooms #2 and #4.
- \* Chip in the concrete adjacent to the floor scale in holding room #1.
- \* Chipped concrete on the edge of main pool wall near the upper viewing area.
- \* Large chip of paint is missing from the the wall of the interior side of the main pool between the viewing windows.

---

Prepared By: KARLA WILLS, A C I USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:  
19-MAR-2015

Title: ANIMAL CARE INSPECTOR 1014

Received by Title: SENT VIA E-MAIL

Date:  
19-MAR-2015



## Inspection Report

---

\* Rusted drain covers are present on the "beach" side of the main pool. Rusted materials cannot be sanitized.

Peeling paint and unsanitizable rusted materials pose a potential hazard to the sea lions housed therein.

All surfaces in a primary enclosure must be constructed of durable, nontoxic materials that facilitate cleaning, and disinfection as appropriate. All facilities must implement a written protocol on cleaning so surfaces do not constitute a health hazard to animals.

### 3.107(b)

#### **SANITATION.**

All of the metal shelves that are present in the thawing cooler/walk-in fridge are rusted. Rusted equipment cannot be sanitized. Equipment used for food preparation must be cleaned and sanitized after each use. Since the shelving cannot be sanitized, the shelving must be replaced.

Equipment must be clean and sanitary for proper storage and thawing of food to protect marine mammal health.

TO BE CORRECTED BY: APRIL 8, 2015

### 3.107(c)

#### **SANITATION.**

A 4 inch by 18 inch stone block is detaching from the stone wall just outside of the man-door that leads out to the main pool. This loose and detaching block could cause injury to the sea lions as well as the keepers. This block must be secured to maintain the stone wall in good repair.

TO BE CORRECTED BY: APRIL 8, 2015

### 3.125(a)

#### **FACILITIES, GENERAL.**

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE IN NEED OF REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT:

BISON:

\* There is a section of detached wire mesh along the front portion of the enclosure, nearest the building. This wire mesh must be secured to maintain structural strength and to prevent injury to the bison housed therein.

---

**Prepared By:** KARLA WILLS, A C I USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

**Date:**  
19-MAR-2015

**Title:** ANIMAL CARE INSPECTOR 1014

**Received by Title:** SENT VIA E-MAIL

**Date:**  
19-MAR-2015



## Inspection Report

---

TO BE CORRECTED BY: MARCH 23, 2015

\* The concrete bases around the two Nelson waterers in the rear of the holding area are crumbling and in disrepair. Although these waterers are currently inoperable, the damaged concrete must be repaired to maintain the structural strength of the bases. Additionally, the large chunks of concrete on the ground around the bases of the waterers must be removed to prevent injury to the bison's feet and/or legs.

### RED PANDAS:

\* The wooden support posts, for the plexiglass primary enclosure, have water damage at their tops. Damaged wooden post must be replaced in order to maintain structural strength of the posts as well as the plexiglass walls of the primary enclosure.

\* The wooden top rail is broken in one area with an exposed, protruding nail present. The damaged area, as well as the exposed nail can cause harm to the viewing public due to the inadequate 12 inch separation of the barrier fence and the primary fence.

### PRAIRIE DOGS:

\* There is one panel of glass on the rear of the enclosure that has two cracks at the base. The panel must be replaced to maintain structure strength of the primary enclosure and to protect the prairie dogs housed therein.

The above items must be addressed to ensure that the animals and the public are protected from injury.

### 3.131(c)

#### SANITATION.

#### SNOW LEOPARD/LEOPARD HOLDING:

\* The gutter above the man-door in the rear of the building is clogged and water is leaking over the sides. Due to this leak, the underlying soffits have absorbed water and are now deteriorating. Leaking water has the potential to enter the building and cause damage to the indoor snow leopard holding area.

#### BISON:

\* There are two planks of wood missing from the wall of the catwalk above the bison holding. The missing planks must be replaced to maintain the structural strength of the wall. The missing planks of wood could have fallen below into the holding area potentially causing harm to the bison.

---

Prepared By: KARLA WILLS, A C I USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:  
19-MAR-2015

Title: ANIMAL CARE INSPECTOR 1014

Received by Title: SENT VIA E-MAIL

Date:  
19-MAR-2015



## Inspection Report

---

The damaged soffits and the catwalk wall must be repaired to in order to maintain them in good repair to facilitate the prescribed husbandry practices.

ALL OF THE ABOVE ITEMS MUST BE CORRECTED BY: NOVEMBER 11, 2015 EXCEPT WHERE OTHERWISE INDICATED.

The exit briefing was conducted with the facility representative.

---

**Prepared By:** KARLA WILLS, A C I USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

**Date:**  
19-MAR-2015

**Title:** ANIMAL CARE INSPECTOR 1014

**Received by Title:** SENT VIA E-MAIL

**Date:**  
19-MAR-2015



## Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
2051	22-C-0141	001	COUNTY OF ESSEX TURTLE BACK ZOO	11-MAR-15
<b>Count</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>		<b>Common Name</b>	
000002	<i>Ailurus fulgens</i>		RED PANDA	
000002	<i>Atelerix albiventris</i>		FOUR-TOED HEDGEHOG	
000003	<i>Bison bison</i>		AMERICAN BISON	
000003	<i>Bos taurus</i>		CATTLE / COW / OX / WATUSI	
000003	<i>Canis lupus</i>		GRAY WOLF / GREY WOLF / TIMBER WOLF	
000012	<i>Capra hircus</i>		DOMESTIC GOAT	
000002	<i>Chinchilla lanigera</i>		CHINCHILLA	
000001	<i>Choloepus didactylus</i>		LINNAEUS'S TWO-TOED SLOTH	
000001	<i>Coendou prehensilis</i>		PREHENSILE-TAILED PORCUPINE	
000024	<i>Cynomys ludovicianus</i>		BLACK-TAILED PRAIRIE DOG	
000003	<i>Erethizon dorsatum</i>		NORTH AMERICAN PORCUPINE	
000001	<i>Euphractus sexcinctus</i>		YELLOW ARMADILLO	
000002	<i>Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris</i>		CAPYBARA	
000003	<i>Lama glama</i>		LLAMA	
000002	<i>Lama pacos</i>		ALPACA	
000002	<i>Lontra canadensis</i>		NORTH AMERICAN RIVER OTTER	
000001	<i>Lynx rufus</i>		BOBCAT	
000003	<i>Macropus giganteus</i>		EASTERN GREY KANGAROO	
000001	<i>Marmota monax</i>		GROUNDHOG / WOODCHUCK	
000001	<i>Muntiacus reevesi</i>		REEVE'S MUNTJAC	
000002	<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>		HAZEL DORMOUSE	
000002	<i>Nomascus leucogenys</i>		WHITE-CHEEKED GIBBON	
000009	<i>Notamacropus rufogriseus</i>		BENNETT'S WALLABY / RED-NECKED WALLABY	
000003	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>		EUROPEAN RABBIT	
000006	<i>Ovis aries aries</i>		SHEEP INCLUDING ALL DOMESTIC BREEDS	
000002	<i>Panthera onca</i>		JAGUAR	
000002	<i>Panthera pardus</i>		LEOPARD	
000002	<i>Puma concolor</i>		PUMA / MOUNTAIN LION / COUGAR	
000001	<i>Sphiggurus mexicanus</i>		MEXICAN PORCUPINE	
000001	<i>Sus scrofa domestica</i>		DOMESTIC PIG / POTBELLY PIG / MICRO PIG	
000002	<i>Uncia uncia</i>		SNOW LEOPARD	
000002	<i>Ursus americanus</i>		NORTH AMERICAN BLACK BEAR	
000003	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>		RED FOX (INCLUDES SILVER FOX & CROSS FOX)	
000003	<i>Zalophus californianus</i>		CALIFORNIA SEA LION	
<b>000112</b>	<b>Total</b>			