



## Inspection Report

Yogie And Friends Exotic Cat Sanctuary Inc.  
128 Fob Lane  
Frierson, LA 71027

Customer ID: **9863**

Certificate: **72-C-0138**

Site: 001

YOGIE AND FRIENDS EXOTIC CAT SANCTUARY, INC.

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 23-SEP-2014

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**2.40(a)(1) DIRECT REPEAT**

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

The current Program of Veterinary Care recommends twice annual visits by the attending veterinarian. The animals at this facility range from middle age to geriatric and several of them are in poor body condition. The lack of adequate veterinary care for the past several years and the ongoing health problems of at least one animal would indicate the attending veterinarian needs to visit more frequently, at least initially until all animals have been evaluated and diagnosed to be healthy.

Licensee stated that fecals and lab work on some of the animals at the facility other than Batman had been done since the last inspection was conducted. No confirmation of this or records from either the licensee or attending veterinarian have been provided as requested by the inspectors as of 9/26/14.

Licensee stated that other veterinarians with experience with all aspects of the exotic felid medicine had been contacted to provide veterinary care and provide assistance to the attending veterinarian of record. As of 9/26/14 no documentation such as a Plan of Veterinary Care, contract for services, or any verification of this arrangement has been provided to APHIS OFFICIALS as requested.

The licensee is responsible for ensuring the veterinarian provides the facility with an adequate Program of Veterinary Care. This facility needs to retain an attending veterinarian or a consultant for the current attending veterinarian that has experience with all aspects of exotic felid medicine.

**2.40(a)(2) DIRECT REPEAT**

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

The diet outlined in the Program of Veterinary Care does not adequately address the nutrition needs of the resident animals. The PVC states they feed approximately 2 to 3% of the animal's body weight then goes on to state lions, tigers, cougars, and leopards are fed 8 to 15 lbs a day. There is a large difference in weight between healthy adult lions and tigers and healthy adult cougars and leopards. Cougars and leopards fed 8 to 15 lbs. of meat a day are

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**Prepared By:** DONNOVAN FOX, A C I USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

**Date:**  
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**Title:** ANIMAL CARE INSPECTOR 4045

**Received by Title:** DIRECTOR

**Date:**  
15-DEC-2014



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being fed well over 3% of their body weight. Animals receiving this much food should be in better body condition than the tiger known as Sampson currently at the facility.

The thin body condition of a male tiger named Sampson are obvious indicators that sufficient quantity and/or nutritive value appear to be lacking.

At the time of the inspection the amount of prepared diet which is now fed by the facility and being thawed for the days feeding consisted of five 10lb. bags of food. This 50 lbs of prepared diet was to be the days ration for 4 Lions, 3 Tigers, 1 Leopard, 1 cougar, 3 Servals and 1 Bobcat.

The facility is not following the recommended feeding practices outlined in the facility Plan of Veterinary Care as developed by both the facility and attending veterinarian. Deviations from this has to be with veterinarian approval and must be appropriate to maintain the animals in good health and provide for all their nutritional needs.

### **2.40(b)(2) DIRECT REPEAT**

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

Batman , one of the male lions, continues to have a squinty eye with the third eyelid protruding across the right half of the eye. The clinical notes from the exam performed by the current attending veterinarian on August 10, 2014 indicate she found no obvious abnormalities with the eye. Her recommendations were to monitor for erythema and color to the discharge . Licensee stated during this inspection that an ophthalmologist had been consulted and had recommended antibiotics to be given to Batman. Licensee was asked what the expected outcome was to be and what follow up evaluation or discussion was to take place between the facility, attending veterinarian and the ophthalmologist following the antibiotic treatment, an answer was not provided. Licensee could not recall the name of the ophthalmologist when asked by the inspectors. Documentation for this care and treatment was requested by the inspectors and as of 9/26/14 none has been recieved. Guidance for this animal was given on the last inspection and if it has been carried out documentation should be available to confirm treatment. It is evident by visual observation that the porblem with the eye still persists and further evaluation and treatment is needed.

At time of inspection the lion known as Batman displayed no signs of ataxia. But the condition having been previously identified by the attending veterinarians still has not been evaluated and diagnosed for possible causes which can in some cases be treated. The licensee is responsible for ensuring appropriate methods are used to adequately prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries. The licensee needs to provide adequate diagnostics and treatment for this lion' s eye and ataxia in order to alleviate the pain and suffering he has endured for the past several months.

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### INFORMATION AS TO BUSINESS; FURNISHING OF SAME BY DEALERS, EXHIBITORS, OPERATORS OF AUCTION SALES, INTERMEDIATE HANDLERS, AND CARRIERS.

\*\*\*\*\* At time of inspection the following Documentation or supporting records were requested by APHIS OFFICIALS to be supplied within 48 hours of the time of the inspection, and as of 9/26/14 they have not been received.

1. Results of the fecal and lab work done other than those for the lion known as Batman which the licensee stated had been done on some of the animals since the last inspection. Licensee has not provided this information, and the attending veterinarian when asked to do so in an email from the licensee to the ATV has failed to do so. The licensee cc'd the inspector on this email to provide his email address to the ATV should she not have it.

2. Documentation of any nature such as a plan of veterinary care, contract for services agreement, or other type of agreement between all veterinarians and the facility to provide services for adequate veterinary care to the animals at this facility and assistance to the ATV by the veterinarians who have experience with all aspects of exotic felid medicine which the licensee states has been arranged has not been provided as of 9/26/14.

TO BE CORRECTED BY: 6:00pm on the 9/29/14

**3.129(a) DIRECT REPEAT**

#### FEEDING.

Food fed to the animals should be wholesome, palatable, and free from contamination. The food being thawed for the days feeding was contained in a wheelbarrow filled with a static water source. The agreed upon method for thawing in the facilities plan of veterinary care states that it will be carried out by cold running water.

Failure to follow the recommended thawing procedures allows for the water to become warm and possible contamination of the food source which puts the animals health and well-being at risk when fed this mishandled meat product.

Even though the USDA, APHIS thawing guide was witnessed at the April 2013 inspection the licensee still does not abide by the recommended thawing guidelines. This guidance document is meant to provide information to the licensee and veterinarian to be utilized to insure proper handling of the food products used at facilities such as this one.

The licensee needs to develop a protocol for adequately thawing and preparing the meat to be feed to the animals at this facility that will prevent possible contamination.

This inspection and exit interview conducted by APHIS, USDA, ANIMAL CARE PERSONNEL and the Director of

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## Inspection Report

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the Facility.

END OF REPORT.

### Additional Inspectors

Niebruegge Cathy, Animal Care Inspector

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## Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
9863	72-C-0138	001	YOGIE AND FRIENDS EXOTIC CAT SANCTUARY, INC.	23-SEP-14

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000003	<i>Leptailurus serval</i>	SERVAL
000001	<i>Lynx rufus</i>	BOBCAT
000004	<i>Panthera leo</i>	LION
000001	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	LEOPARD
000003	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	TIGER
000001	<i>Puma concolor</i>	PUMA / MOUNTAIN LION / COUGAR
<b>000013</b>	<b>Total</b>	