



Inspection Report

THE DOLPHIN CONNECTION INC
6100 HAWK'S CAY BLVD
DUCK KEY, FL 33050

Customer ID: **3871**

Certificate: **58-C-0020**

Site: 001

THE DOLPHIN CONNECTION,
INC.

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 14-DEC-2021

2.131(b)(1)

Handling of animals.

During public exhibit and training sessions, it was observed that some of the dolphins were made to look up into the sun while interacting with employees and members of the public, in order to complete commands and to receive food rewards. Requiring dolphins to repeatedly look up into the sun can be harmful to their eyes, and this can result in discomfort, chronic eye problems, and loss of vision over time. Employees working with the dolphins should work under shade structures whenever possible, or orient to animals so that they are facing away from the sun in order to protect their well-being. To be corrected from this time forward.

3.103(c)

Facilities, outdoor.

The facility is not entirely encircled by a perimeter fence that can effectively prevent people and animals from entering the facility. Failure to provide an effective perimeter fence could allow animals or people to access the animals on exhibit, which could be hazardous to their well-being. The facility is bordered by natural seawater and has alternate 24 hr security, so it may be determined that a complete perimeter fence is not required, however the facility must obtain written approval for such a determination from the USDA APHIS Animal Care Administrator, as per subsections under 3.103 (c).

Prepared By: PAMELA SMITH

USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:

15-DEC-2021

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL
OFFICER

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:

15-DEC-2021



Inspection Report

Facility should continue to provide adequate surveillance and protection of the animals at all times, and create an effective perimeter or obtain written approval by 2/15/22.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with facility representatives.

Prepared By: PAMELA SMITH
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL
OFFICER

Date:
15-DEC-2021

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:
15-DEC-2021



United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Customer: 3871
Inspection Date: 14-Dec-2021

Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
3871	58-C-0020	001	THE DOLPHIN CONNECTION, INC.	14-DEC-2021

Count
000006

Scientific Name
Tursiops truncatus

Common Name
BOTTLENOSE DOLPHIN

000006

Total