



## Inspection Report

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Houston Interactive Aquarium and Animal Preserve  
5440 N Sam Houston Parkway East  
Houston, TX 77032

Customer ID: **6002705**  
Certificate: **74-C-1129**  
Site: 002  
Houston Interactive

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION  
Date: 27-APR-2022

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### 2.40(b)(2)

#### Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care (dealers and exhibitors).

At the time of inspection, there were multiple prescribed drugs for USDA covered species that did not have an expiration date on them. Expiration dates are essential to determining the period at which the efficacy of the drug starts to diminish and is no longer effective; and if missing, this information cannot be determined when treating the animals. Drugs that have questionable efficacy pose a potential health risk to the animals, in addition to them not treating the condition/illness, leading to more suffering. Each exhibitor shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care that include the use of appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose and treat diseases and injuries.

Correct by: May 4, 2022

### 2.131(b)(1) Direct

#### Handling of animals.

At the time of inspection, a single, juvenile (a little over a year old) male dromedary camel was observed pacing in his small enclosure. He never stopped moving back and forth and was never observed laying down, standing calmly, or chewing his cud. He was also mouthing/cribbing and chewing on various parts of the fencing along his enclosure. This is abnormal behavior in ruminants. He was seen rubbing against a pole and plucking his own hair out. There are also videos

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Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL  
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Date:  
24-MAY-2022

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:  
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from social media depicting the same mouthing/chewing behaviors from March 2022.

The licensee has discussed this behavior with the attending veterinarian and recommendations were made. Only two of the many recommendations made by the attending veterinarian have been implemented by the facility and the camel's abnormal behavior is ongoing.

The above-mentioned behaviors are all significantly abnormal and are indicators of stress, anxiety, and potentially stereotypic behavior. Handling of all animals shall be done as expeditiously and carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause trauma, behavioral stress, or unnecessary discomfort.

Correct by: May 4, 2022

### 2.131(c)(1)

#### Repeat

#### Handling of animals.

On April 20, 2022, a member of the public (a minor) was scratched on the leg by one of the lemurs during the public interaction encounter conducted at the facility. The health and well-being of the animals and public can be negatively affected during these exhibition encounters if the animals are not handled in a manner that is conducive to minimal risk of harm to both parties (lemurs and public). During public exhibition, any animal must be handled so there is minimal risk of harm to the animal and to the public.

### 3.125(a)

#### Repeat

#### Facilities, general.

At the time of inspection there were several goats (a mix of adults and a kids) contained in an enclosure with 3 alpacas (2 adults and 1 offspring), and 2 lambs. There was a piece of sheet metal in the sun that was cemented into the ground,

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having been built as enrichment for the goats. The structure had dirt hoof marks on it, showing that the goats were using it. The structure was hot to the touch, as my hand could not be placed on the object longer than a few seconds without causing pain/burning. The metal easily retains heat, and consequently poses a hazard to the well-being of these animals as they could burn and injure themselves during its use. The facility must be constructed of such material and of such strength as appropriate for the animals involved. The indoor and outdoor housing facilities shall be structurally sound and shall be maintained in good repair to protect the animals from injury.

### 3.131(d)

#### Sanitation.

At the time of inspection there were numerous fruit flies both flying around and settled on the food for two kinkajous (that were on exhibit), as well as the produce stored in the prep kitchen used for other USDA covered species. Fruit flies can transfer germs from dirty surfaces to clean ones, and therefore possibly lead to illness of the animals through food contamination. A safe and effective program for the control of insects, ectoparasites, and avian and mammalian pest shall be established and maintained.

Correct by: April 30, 2022

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with facility representatives.

Additional Inspectors:

BRENTON COX, ANIMAL CARE INSPECTOR

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### Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
6002705	74-C-1129	002	Houston Interactive	27-APR-2022

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000001	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>	GIRAFFE
000001	<i>Bos taurus</i>	CATTLE / COW / OX / WATUSI
000001	<i>Camelus dromedarius</i>	DROMEDARY CAMEL
000003	<i>Sus scrofa domestica</i>	DOMESTIC PIG / POTBELLY PIG / MICRO PIG
000003	<i>Lama pacos</i>	ALPACA
000001	<i>Hystrix cristata</i>	AFRICAN CRESTED PORCUPINE
000001	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>	WARTHOG
000002	<i>Dama dama</i>	FALLOW DEER
000009	<i>Capra hircus</i>	DOMESTIC GOAT
000003	<i>Osphranter rufus</i>	RED KANGAROO
000001	<i>Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris</i>	CAPYBARA
000010	<i>Dolichotis patagonum</i>	PATAGONIAN CAVY / MARA
000005	<i>Varecia variegata</i>	BLACK-AND-WHITE RUFFED LEMUR
000011	<i>Lemur catta</i>	RING-TAILED LEMUR
000007	<i>Varecia rubra</i>	RED RUFFED LEMUR
000018	<i>Spermophilus richardsonii</i>	RICHARDSON'S GROUND SQUIRREL
000001	<i>Tamandua tetradactyla</i>	SOUTHERN TAMANDUA
000001	<i>Tolypeutes matacus</i>	SOUTHERN THREE-BANDED ARMADILLO
000002	<i>Choloepus didactylus</i>	LINNAEUS'S TWO-TOED SLOTH
000001	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	WESTERN EUROPEAN HEDGEHOG
000001	<i>Coendou prehensilis</i>	PREHENSILE-TAILED PORCUPINE
000001	<i>Philander opossum</i>	GREY FOUR-EYED OPOSSUM
000006	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	DOMESTIC RABBIT / EUROPEAN RABBIT
000004	<i>Cuniculus paca</i>	LOWLAND PACA
000002	<i>Aonyx cinereus</i>	ORIENTAL SMALL-CLAWED OTTER
000001	<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>	DOG ADULT
000004	<i>Potos flavus</i>	KINKAJOU
000002	<i>Ovis aries aries</i>	SHEEP INCLUDING ALL DOMESTIC BREEDS
000103	<b>Total</b>	



United States Department of Agriculture  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Customer: 6002705  
Inspection Date: 27-Apr-2022

**Species Inspected**

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