



Inspection Report

VIRGINIA SAFARI PARK INC
PO BOX 147
NATURAL BRIDGE, VA 24578

Customer ID: **2481**

Certificate: **52-C-0166**

Site: 001

VIRGINIA SAFARI PARK INC

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 06-FEB-2023

2.131(b)(1) Critical

Handling of animals.

The facility failed to handle a newborn llama as expeditiously and carefully as possible to prevent trauma and physical harm, resulting in the death of the animal. Facility death records indicate that in July, 2022 a two month old llama was found in the "front safari" pen deceased with damage consistent from vehicular trauma. According to facility representatives, a contracted employee who was fertilizing the fields reported the death of a baby llama. Upon further investigation by facility management, it was determined that the baby llama had been resting on the far side of a hill near the contractor's truck and was not spotted by the driver as they crested the hill during fertilization, leading to the death of the animal.

Animals that are not handled carefully and protected from contractors and other people unfamiliar with the terrain of the park can lead to serious injury and death.

Correct by February 10, 2023 by ensuring that all animals are handled as expeditiously and carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause trauma, overheating, excessive cooling, behavioral stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort.

Prepared By: RACHEL PEREZ-BAUM
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:
10-FEB-2023

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL
OFFICER

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:
10-FEB-2023



Inspection Report

2.131(e) Critical

Handling of animals.

An adult giraffe with known health issues died soon after being subjected to cold weather. A 14-year-old female giraffe was under veterinary treatment for a heavy parasite load and poor body condition while also nursing a 2 month-old calf. According to facility representatives, when the baby suddenly became ill, an employee was asked to move the mother to another stall while the baby was being treated by veterinary staff. The employee then accidentally moved the mother to the outside yard. She was outdoors for about 30-45 minutes before being found and brought back into the barn. The facility documented outdoor temperatures that day to be between 41 and 62 degrees. Barn temperatures the same day, and for the preceding 3 days, were documented to be as low as 63 degrees. The following day this giraffe declined rapidly and ultimately passed away.

It is well understood that giraffe are sensitive to cold weather and are especially susceptible to impacts from cold when they are under stress and/or debilitated by other factors, including heavy parasitism and nursing. While a healthy adult giraffe may be able to handle lower temperatures for limited periods, young and ill animals require higher temperatures to support their health and metabolism. Subjecting animals to temperatures that are detrimental to their health or well-being can lead to serious consequences such as illness and death.

The facility states that corrective personnel action was taken following this event.

Correct by February 10, 2023 by ensuring that all animals are never subjected to any combination of temperature, humidity, and time that is detrimental to the animal's health or well-being, taking into consideration such factors as the animal's age, species, breed, overall health status, and acclimation.

3.125(a) Repeat

Prepared By: RACHEL PEREZ-BAUM
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care
Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL
OFFICER

Date:
10-FEB-2023

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:
10-FEB-2023



Inspection Report

Facilities, general.

Several areas of the facility are in disrepair, leading to sharp points/edges in primary enclosures where animals can injure themselves.

- In the petting zoo area, the hay rack is bent on one side, causing the metal pipe to crack and expose sharp edges directly where the animals lean against the rack to access the hay at the top.
- Multiple shelters and catch buildings in the "front" and "back" safari pastures have locations where the metal siding has detached from the underlying wall, exposing sharp metal edges and corners that are bent and protruding into animal areas.
- The walls of the stalls in the rhino barn are covered in metal sheeting and guard rails. There are several locations along the lower walls of three stalls where the animals have damaged the metal sheeting, punching approximately 3 to 5 inch holes in the wall and exposing underlying materials. In some areas the damaged metal surface is bent outward into the stalls presenting jagged and sharp edges in the animal space.

Sharp and jagged metal edges can cause physical injury to an animal when encountered. The facility took measures to correct the damage at the time of inspection. Correct by ensuring the outdoor housing facilities are structurally sound and maintained in good repair, to protect the animals from injury and to contain the animals.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with facility representatives.

Additional Inspectors:

Kristina D'Apice, VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

Prepared By: RACHEL PEREZ-BAUM
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care
Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL
OFFICER

Date:
10-FEB-2023

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:
10-FEB-2023



Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
2481	52-C-0166	001	VIRGINIA SAFARI PARK INC	06-FEB-2023

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000061	<i>Capra hircus</i>	DOMESTIC GOAT
000005	<i>Sus scrofa domestica</i>	DOMESTIC PIG / POTBELLY PIG / MICRO PIG
000013	<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>	CHEETAH
000002	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	TIGER
000053	<i>Antilope cervicapra</i>	BLACKBUCK
000010	<i>Lemur catta</i>	RING-TAILED LEMUR
000001	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>	WARTHOG
000015	<i>Bison bison</i>	AMERICAN BISON
000025	<i>Axis axis</i>	AXIS DEER / SPOTTED DEER / CHITAL
000005	<i>Myrmecophaga tridactyla</i>	GIANT ANTEATER
000007	<i>Ateles fusciceps</i>	BROWN-HEADED SPIDER MONKEY
000008	<i>Tragelaphus eurycerus</i>	BONGO
000016	<i>Tragelaphus angasii</i>	NYALA
000015	<i>Oryx dammah</i>	SCIMITAR-HORNED ORYX
000003	<i>Bubalus bubalis</i>	ASIATIC WATER BUFFALO
000013	<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>	COMMON ELAND
000006	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>	GIRAFFE
000002	<i>Choloepus hoffmanni</i>	HOFFMANN'S TWO-TOED SLOTH
000010	<i>Equus quagga</i>	BURCHELL'S / GRANT'S / CHAPMAN'S / PLAINS ZEBRA
000004	<i>Ceratotherium simum</i>	WHITE RHINOCEROS
000009	<i>Boselaphus tragocamelus</i>	NILGAI
000019	<i>Bos taurus</i>	CATTLE / COW / OX / WATUSI
000006	<i>Camelus dromedarius</i>	DROMEDARY CAMEL
000391	<i>Dama dama</i>	FALLOW DEER
000003	<i>Bos grunniens</i>	YAK
000005	<i>Camelus bactrianus</i>	BACTRIAN CAMEL
000134	<i>Lama glama</i>	LLAMA
000028	<i>Cervus canadensis</i>	ELK / WAPITI
000008	<i>Elaphurus davidianus</i>	PERE DAVID'S DEER
000056	<i>Cervus nippon</i>	SIKA DEER
000006	<i>Leontopithecus chrysomelas</i>	GOLDEN-HEADED TAMARIN
000021	<i>Osphranter rufus</i>	RED KANGAROO
000004	<i>Cercopithecus neglectus</i>	DE BRAZZA'S MONKEY
000013	<i>Saimiri sciureus</i>	COMMON SQUIRREL MONKEY
000014	<i>Connocchaetes taurinus</i>	BRINDLED WILDEBEEST
000991	Total	



United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Customer: 2481
Inspection Date: 06-Feb-2023

Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
2481	52-C-0166	001	VIRGINIA SAFARI PARK INC	06-FEB-2023