



Inspection Report

Decatur Park District
71 S. Country Club Road
DECATUR, IL 62521

Customer ID: **2568**
Certificate: **33-C-0040**
Site: 001
DECATUR PARK DISTRICT

Type: FOCUSED INSPECTION
Date: 22-OCT-2024

3.150(a) Critical

Facilities, general.

On the morning of October 21, 2024 at approximately 7:30 am a keeper on thier morning checks found that the female Tawny Frogmouth was killed overnight by what the zoo thinks is a possible mink. The male Tawny Frogmouth and Kookaburra housed with the female Frogmouth that was killed, were unharmed and moved inside to their winter primary enclosure. Some feathers were located beside a gap under the wooden fence along the back of the primary enclosure and could be one of the areas the possible mink could have entered/exited. The bird carcass was gone, and there were no tracks or other clues to identify what predator came into the enclosure and killed the Tawny Frogmouth. The zoo has had problems with mink this year and currently has been trying to remove them from the property.

The primary enclosure has housed these birds for several years and have not had any previous issues, however the mink problem this year is new. The enclosure was originally used to house other mammals in the past, and was updated to house birds. However there were several areas within the primary enclosure that could allow for entry of a small, narrow predator like a mink that can be dangerous for bird species in captivity that can not fly away from the danger. There were areas around the rocks bordered by the wooden wall and areas along the ground level at the base of the wooden wall and an open knot hole at the front wooden wall that allowed spaces of over 2 to 3 inches wide or long where an animal like a mink could gain access into the enclosure.

While the birds had been safe for several years in this type of enclosure that was modified from mammals to birds, it did not account for the gaps around the rock feature or between the wooden wall base along the ground that were wide enough to allow smaller predators access to the regulated animals.

The lack of secure predator proof enclosures for bird species can cause possible stress to the animals by allowing predators to enter the primary enclosures to harass, injure or kill the regulated species.

Housing facilities for birds must be designed and constructed so that they are structurally sound for the species of bird housed in them. They must be kept in good repair, protect the birds from injury, and restrict other animals from entering that may negatively affect the welfare of the birds within.

To be corrected by: This was corrected on October 21, 2024 before the inspection with the remaining birds being moved into their indoor winter primary enclosures.

Prepared By: ANNMARIE COMPTON
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care
Title: ANIMAL CARE INSPECTOR

Date:
25-OCT-2024

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:
25-OCT-2024



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This inspection and exit interview were conducted with facility representative.

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USDA, APHIS, Animal Care
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Species Inspected

| Cust No | Cert No | Site | Site Name | Inspection |
|---------|-----------|------|-----------------------|-------------|
| 2568 | 33-C-0040 | 001 | DECATUR PARK DISTRICT | 22-OCT-2024 |

| Count | Scientific Name | Common Name |
|--------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| 000001 | <i>Podargus strigoides</i> | TAWNY FROGMOUTH |
| 000001 | Total | |