



Inspection Report

Jason Clay
4324 W. Hwy 79
FRANKLIN, TX 77856

Customer ID: **41361**
Certificate: **74-C-0939**
Site: 004
EAST TEXAS ZOO AND GATOR
PARK

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: 04-AUG-2021

2.40(b)(3)

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

Two capybaras (one male and one female) housed in an outdoor facility were noticed to be thin. The backbone of both animals was readily noticeable. The female has 2 babies still nursing. The facility representative admitted that the female capybara has lost weight but has not discussed this observation with the attending veterinarian. The facility representative thinks the weight lost is due to nursing and decided to increase the amount of food given daily to the female. The facility representative had not noticed a problem with the male capybara.

Medical problems must be communicated to the attending veterinarian so that a diagnosis can be determined, and appropriate treatment implemented. Failure to observe medical problems and/or communicate those problems to a veterinarian can result in prolonged pain, suffering, and even death.

The facility representative must observe all animals daily and then ensure a mechanism of direct and frequent communication with a veterinarian so that timely and accurate information on problems of health, behavior, and well-being are conveyed.

To be corrected by: Aug 23, 2021

2.75(b)(1)

Records: Dealers and exhibitors.

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Date:
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Records of acquisition and disposition for the following animals were not provided during this inspection:

Missing Acquisition Records:

- Giraffe: 1 animal
- Lion: 1 animal
- Muntjac: 5 animals
- Black and White Lemur: 1 animal
- Savannah Cat: 1 animal
- South American Tapir: 2 animals
- Vervet Monkeys: 1 animal
- Lechwe: 2 animals
- Mandrill Baboon: 1 animal
- Six-Banded Armadillo: 2 animals
- Coatimundi: 2 animals
- Fennec Fox: 2 animals

Missing Disposition Records:

- Brown Spider Monkeys: 3 animals
- Grant's Zebra: 4
- North American River Otter: 2 animals
- Lynx: 1 animal
- Snow Macaque: 6 animals
- Pale Fox: 1 animal

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- Olive Baboon: 1 animal
- Red Kangaroo: 6 animals
- Hill Wallaroo: 1 animal
- Capybara: 3 animals
- Caracal: 1 animal
- Fallow Deer: 1 animal
- Eland: 2 animals
- Sika Deer: 1 animal
- Ring-Tailed Lemur: 4 animals
- Domestic Ferret: 1 animal
- Coatimundi: 2 animals

Acquisition and disposition records are required so that animals being used in regulated activities can be accurately tracked to ensure their legal acquisition, proper care, and humane transportation. Animals transferred to or acquired from other licensees must have disposition and acquisition records containing all information required by the Animal Welfare Act Regulations available for inspection. This requirement applies to all regulated animals purchased or otherwise acquired, owned, held, leased or otherwise in possession of or under control of the licensee, and all regulated animals transported, sold, euthanized, or otherwise disposed of by that dealer or exhibitor. The records shall include any offspring born of any animal while in his or her possession or under his or her control.

The facility was previously allowed to have records of acquisition and disposition maintained at their Franklin facility. The records provided from Franklin were not current and complete, therefore each facility must maintain their own records of

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acquisition and disposition.

To be corrected by: Aug 23, 2021

2.131(c)(1)

Handling of animals.

The facility allows the public to have unsupervised contact with the giraffe, capybara, tapir, kangaroo, and several different species of hoofstock. At the time of this inspection, the public was observed feeding and petting these animals through a fence. There were no barriers or readily identifiable attendants visible during these interactions.

The facility also has a "baby room" where the public can interact directly with young animals. At the time of this inspection there were 2 young coati, a fennec fox, 4 armadillo, and 2 ferrets in this area. While inspectors were in the room, the two coati continuously crawled up the inspector's legs. The facility representative made the comment "the animals crawling on people and scratching people are part of the experience"

The lack of barriers with the larger animals is concerning because these animals can cause serious injury and possibly death to a person, especially a child. The contact in the "baby room" is concerning because of the possibility of injury to a person or to the animals.

During public exhibition animals must be handled so that there is minimal risk of injury to the animals and the public, with sufficient distance and/or barriers between the animals and the public so as to assure the safety of animals and public.

A method to protect the animals and the public from injury and to prevent unsupervised access to the animals must be implemented.

To be corrected by: Sept 1, 2021

3.1(d)

Housing facilities, general.

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Inside the food preparation area, a large number of flies were observed flying around and landing on the food preparation table and food items. Sticky fly rolls placed near windows are full of trapped flies. The pest control method currently being used is not effective.

Flies can transmit disease and spoil food not adequately stored. They can also cause irritation to the animals.

The facility needs to establish and maintain a safe and effective program for the control of insects, ectoparasites, and avian and mammalian pests.

To be corrected by: Sept 1, 2021

3.81

Environment enhancement to promote psychological well-being.

The facility was unable to provide inspectors with a written plan for environmental enhancement.

Facilities that house primates must have an appropriate plan for enhancement adequate to promote the psychological well-being of nonhuman primates. The plan must be in accordance with the currently accepted professional standards as cited in appropriate professional journals or reference guides, and as directed by the attending veterinarian.

The facility needs to develop a written plan of enhancement for the primates that is approved by the attending veterinarian.

To be corrected by: Sept 1, 2021

3.125(a)

Facilities, general.

The enclosure fence for the giraffe was not structurally sound and in good repair. The fence was constructed of exotic field fence and T posts. Some of the fence appeared to be 8 feet tall and some appeared to be 6 feet tall. In several areas metal livestock panels/gates were being used as extra support or barriers to keep the giraffe away from the primary fence. One area of the fence was noted to be leaning outward. Another area of fence was curled down as if the giraffe

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has been leaning on the fence. The current giraffe housed in this area is a young male. As he grows and increases in weight it is very likely he will be able to push this fence down. The metal panels/gates being used inside the enclosure for support or barriers present a risk for the giraffe to become entangled in those gates/panels and possibly injured.

There is a gap at the intersection of 2 fences in the hoofstock yard. The gap is approximately 12 inch at the top and narrows as it goes toward the ground. The gap is wide enough for one of the hoofstock to get it's head or a horn/antler stuck in the gap.

The facility needs to repair or replace the giraffe fence so that it is structurally sound, does not require additional support from the metal panels, and is appropriate for a giraffe. The gap in the hoofstock fencing needs to be repaired.

To be corrected by: Oct 1, 2021

3.127(d)

Facilities, outdoor.

The facility does not currently have a perimeter fence behind the giraffe and muntjac enclosures.

The current giraffe housed in the giraffe yard is a young male. As he grows and increases in weight it is very likely he will be able to push through his enclosure fence. If this happens, he will be loose outside of the facility. Recapturing the giraffe would be dangerous for the giraffe and for the people involved.

The facility must install a perimeter fence behind the giraffe and munjac.

To be corrected by: Nov 1, 2021

3.129(a)

Feeding.

The area used to store the dry foods for the hoofstock, primates, giraffe, and dogs does not appear to be secure from pests. At the time of this inspection, the dog food bag and a bag of an unidentified substance had been torn open.

According to the facility representative, it was probably a racoon. The current method of storing dry food can cause the

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food to become contaminated by animals, bugs, and dirt.

To be corrected by: Aug 23, 2021

3.131(a)

Sanitation.

The otter enclosure, both inside the holding area and outside in the viewing area, did not appear to have been cleaned recently.

The outside area consisted of a pool surrounded by round river rocks. The pool was a dark green color. The facility uses some type of greenish dye in the pool, the purpose of which is unclear. This dye makes it difficult to determine the quality of the water in the pool however there was a greenish ring around the top of the water indicating the water had not been changed recently.

The rocks surrounding the pool, on the end where the food was placed, appeared wet and dirty. There was a large amount of black material, which could have been old feces or dirt, embedded between the rocks in this area.

The inside holding area consisted of a couple of den boxes on top of old landscape mix/dirt. The dirt was wet and packed down indicating it had not been raked or cleaned recently. One corner had an accumulation of old feces. There was a very strong ammonia odor in this area.

Fecal material, old food, dirty bedding/dirt need to be removed from the primary enclosures as often as necessary to prevent contamination of the animals and to minimize disease hazards and to reduce odors.

The otter enclosure needs to be cleaned more frequently so that the health of the otters is not compromised.

To be corrected by: Aug 23, 2021

3.131(c)

Sanitation.

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The food prep room needs a thorough cleaning. There were open bags of food sitting on shelves. Medications and cleaning products are being stored next to food. Shelves and the floor did not appear to have been cleaned recently and there was a large amount of clutter present. All of these can contribute to animal diets becoming contaminated and the animals becoming ill.

Premises shall be kept clean and in good repair in order to protect the animals from injury and to facilitate the prescribed husbandry practices set forth in this subpart. The facility needs to ensure all food products are stored in pest proof containers. Medications, cleaning products and food should all be stored in separate areas. The clutter should be removed and the shelves and other structures in the food prep room should be cleaned regularly.

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3.131(d)

Sanitation.

Inside the food preparation area, a large number of flies were observed flying around and landing on the food preparation table and food items. Sticky fly rolls placed near windows are full of trapped flies. The pest control method currently being used is not effective.

Flies can transmit disease and spoil food not adequately stored. They can also cause irritation to the animals.

The facility needs to establish and maintain a safe and effective program for the control of insects, ectoparasites, and avian and mammalian pests.

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This inspection and exit interview were conducted with a facility representative.

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Additional Inspectors:

NIANET CARRASQUILLO, VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
41361	74-C-0939	004	EAST TEXAS ZOO AND GATOR PARK	04-AUG-2021

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000002	<i>Caracal caracal</i>	CARACAL
000002	<i>Cervus nippon</i>	SIKA DEER
000014	<i>Capra hircus</i>	DOMESTIC GOAT
000003	<i>Sus scrofa domestica</i>	DOMESTIC PIG / POTBELLY PIG / MICRO PIG
000003	<i>Leptailurus serval</i>	SERVAL
000004	<i>Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris</i>	CAPYBARA
000002	<i>Hystrix cristata</i>	AFRICAN CRESTED PORCUPINE
000005	<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>	COMMON ELAND
000007	<i>Muntiacus reevesi</i>	REEVE'S MUNTJAC
000002	<i>Hyaena hyaena</i>	STRIPED HYENA
000006	<i>Osphranter rufus</i>	RED KANGAROO
000002	<i>Potos flavus</i>	KINKAJOU
000001	<i>Osphranter robustus</i>	HILL WALLAROO
000002	<i>Nasua olivacea</i>	MOUNTAIN COATI
000004	<i>Papio anubis</i>	OLIVE BABOON
000011	<i>Chlorocebus pygerythrus</i>	VERVET
000002	<i>Mustela putorius furo</i>	DOMESTIC FERRET
000007	<i>Lemur catta</i>	RING-TAILED LEMUR
000002	<i>Procavia capensis</i>	ROCK HYRAX
000002	<i>Tapirus terrestris</i>	SOUTH AMERICAN TAPIR
000003	<i>Antelope cervicapra</i>	BLACKBUCK
000002	<i>Aonyx cinereus</i>	ORIENTAL SMALL-CLAWED OTTER
000003	<i>Dama dama</i>	FALLOW DEER
000001	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>	GIRAFFE
000001	<i>Panthera leo</i>	LION
000002	<i>Kobus leche</i>	RED LECHWE / SOUTHERN LECHWE
000001	<i>Varecia variegata</i>	BLACK-AND-WHITE RUFFED LEMUR
000001	<i>Mandrillus sphinx</i>	MANDRILL
000002	<i>Tolypeutes matacus</i>	SOUTHERN THREE-BANDED ARMADILLO
000002	<i>Atelerix albiventris</i>	FOUR-TOED HEDGEHOG
000012	<i>Bos primigenius indicus</i>	ZEBU
000001	<i>Felis sp</i>	DOMESTIC X EXOTIC CAT HYBRID
000002	<i>Euphractus sexcinctus</i>	YELLOW ARMADILLO
000003	<i>Vulpes zerda</i>	FENNEC FOX
000119	Total	



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