



Inspection Report

Stephen H Kroschel
HC60 Box 2848
1.8 Mile Mosquito Lake Road
Haines, AK 99827

Customer ID: **15278**
Certificate: **96-C-0028**
Site: 001
Stephen Kroschel

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: 06-MAY-2025

2.40(b)(3) Critical

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

On 11/21/24 an adult female porcupine was found dead in her enclosure and submitted for necropsy. When questioned during the inspection about her food intake leading up to this date, licensee stated that he had noticed that she had not been eating as much. Following the inspection, the inspectors contacted the attending veterinarian (AV) and the AV stated this information has not been communicated to the AV. The AV did not have a record of attempted contact from the licensee and was unavailable at the time of death. No other veterinarian was designated to cover in absence of AV. Necropsy results showed a poor body condition adult female with severe widespread loss of all body and internal fat stores resulting in a severely underweight adult animal (3.66 kg, normal adult weight for adult female 5-9 kg).

Lack of timely and accurate communication with the attending veterinarian can result in lack of timely and appropriate veterinarian care and intervention leading to illness or death of an animal.

A system of daily observations to assess the animal's health and well-being must be in place to assure that timely and accurate information is conveyed to the attending veterinarian so that proper veterinary care and intervention is provided to all animals.

To be corrected by May 15, 2025.

3.125(a) Repeat

Facilities, general.

There are holes in the roof over the mink (5) enclosures that are allowing rain to fall into the area and onto the top of the mink enclosures. This could lead to deterioration of enclosures and illness, injury or escape of the animals.

Large nails were exposed in the arctic fox (2) pen (old wolverine pen nearest moose pen) and in red fox (1) pen where outer logs of the climbing structure had rotted off leaving large nail head and shaft exposed.

Many locations had sharp points and wires poking into the animal enclosures. These include but are not limited to the reindeer (5) pen near the "Crooked door", arctic (2) and multiple red fox (3) enclosures, mink (most Southwest pen out back of weasel house), moose (1) fencing on the south side of the swamp, Pine marten (2) in the room nearest the entry door of the weasel house around the water bottle, mink (2) enclosures patched holes, enclosure in house used by

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porcupine, and wolf (1, Miluna) house.

Exposed nails, sharp points and protruding wires could lead to puncture, injury or death of the animals.

A large section of fencing in the reindeer pen was laying on the ground near the shed. This could injury or entrap the reindeer (5) leading to death.

In the narrow alleyway between the moose exhibit area and the moose swamp, there were several metal pipes that were bent inwards at approximately moose chest height. These could cause injury, impalement or death to the moose (1).

The facility must be constructed of such materials and of such strength as appropriate for the animals involved. They must be structurally sound and maintained in good repair to protect the animals from injury and contain the animals.

3.127(d)

Repeat

Facilities, outdoor.

Multiple sections of fence did not meet the requirement for perimeter fence, including several enclosures that did not have any identifiable perimeter fence or had significant gaps underneath or decreased effective height. The following list includes specific examples of inadequate perimeter fence, but is not all inclusive because there were areas of the perimeter fence that were inaccessible due to safety concerns and steep topography.

In the red fox exhibition pen (red fox was in the pen at the time of inspection) there is no perimeter fence, although a new approximately 4 foot barrier fence has been added along the road, there is nothing but enclosure fence elsewhere.

In the lynx exhibition pen (lynx was in the pen at the time of inspection) and the wolf (wolf was in the pen at the time of inspection) studio F enclosure there was no perimeter fence.

The bear yard has hot wire strands on the inside of a 4-6" livestock wire fence, partially surrounded by chainlink/wire fence that is in disrepair. At the front side of the yard the topography reduces the effective height of the livestock wire, and the wire fence is curled over. The licensee referred to the livestock wire as the perimeter fence around both the yard and the den/shelter area, but it was incomplete, with multiple open doors and an area that was removed for a pulley system anchor.

Adjacent to the house, the perimeter fence had a gap where it met the house at the corner of the deck, near the pen the porcupine was in.

In the reindeer yard, there were multiple gaps along the bottom of the fence large enough for animals to pass through or under the fence. This fence serves as the primary enclosure for the reindeer and the perimeter fence for the fox and wolverine enclosures contained within. Various gaps measured at least 6-10 inches, and at least the same width. One area of perimeter fence had fence holes that were 6-10 inches.

Around Asheena the wolf enclosure, there is a broken board that, according to the licensee had filled the gap, but at the maximum depth it is almost a foot of space under the fence.

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A perimeter fence was under construction for the arctic fox, but had not yet been completed with gaps underneath, a large square hole and an entire side that was not enclosed.

The fox perimeter fence had a temporary roll of wire being used as a gate to access the enclosures, but the access point did not provide an intact perimeter fence when closed.

Inadequate perimeter fencing can allow for access of unauthorized persons and other animals and fail to act as secondary containment for the animals in the facility. This could lead to injury, escape, or death of the animal. It is the licensee's responsibility to construct and maintain the perimeter fence around all outdoor housing facilities (i.e., facilities not entirely indoors).

All outdoor housing must be enclosed by a perimeter fence unless the animals are exempt (reindeer). The perimeter fence must protect the animals in the facility by restricting animals and unauthorized persons from going through it or under it and having contact with the animals in the facility. The perimeter fence must also function as secondary containment for the animals housed within.

3.129

Feeding.

Food was left in the open to thaw on cardboard in the "wolverine cabin" at the time of inspection, which does not protect it from contamination, which can lead to illness, disease or death of the animals. In several freezers, frozen food was exposed and no longer covered or showed evidence of contamination from the debris in the freezer itself. Some food items appeared discolored and grey, and no longer appeared palatable and were no longer stored in a manner that prevented contamination. A chunk of frozen material, identified as deer carcass, was removed from the freezer at the time of inspection and placed on a towel in the house but also contained leaves frozen within the same chunk.

All food shall be wholesome, palatable and free from contamination. Storage of food and preparation of food shall be done in a manner that prevents contamination or spoilage, both at the time of thawing and at the time of processing before freezing.

Correct by 1 June, 2025

3.130

Watering.

The water bottles for the mink had an accumulation of algae growth as well as brown debris and residue in the water bottles. In the bear, ermine and fox enclosures, the water receptacles were no longer kept in a clean and sanitary condition. These included metal that appeared rusty, water that appeared green in white buckets and water with bedding and other debris floating in it. All of these water receptacles need to be cleaned and kept clean for the health of the animals.

Correct by 1 June, 2025

3.131(a)

Repeat

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Sanitation.

The east side mink enclosures had large amounts of old fur, debris, and dirty bedding material built up. An empty enclosure on the ground floor of the house that is used by several animals had a buildup of dirty bedding and fecal material.

Accumulation of dirty bedding, debris and fecal material can attract pests and vermin and lead to disease and illness in the animals.

Cleaning of enclosures must be done as often as necessary to prevent contamination of the animals and to minimize disease hazards and to reduce odors.

3.153(a)(1)(i)

Primary enclosures.

In the snowy owl enclosure, there were screws and nails with exposed sharp points that could injure the snowy owl housed therein. Primary enclosures must be designed and constructed of suitable materials so that they are structurally sound and maintained so that they have no sharp points or edges that could injure the birds. Two out of the three screws were immediately removed by the licensee, but there was still a sharp point in the enclosure.

Correct by 1 June 2025

3.154(a)

Environment enhancement to promote psychological well-being.

On the environmental enhancement plan for birds, the social grouping page was lined out with N/A. The environment enhancement plan must include specific provisions to address the social needs of species of birds known to exist in social groups in nature. All aspects of the environmental enrichment plan should be addressed, N/A does not indicate an understanding of the specific species social needs and whether or not these birds exist in social groups in nature. A description of the social grouping needs of the birds housed in the facility should be addressed in writing in the plan and could be as simple as an acknowledgement that these species are solitary in nature.

Correct by 1 June 2025

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with the licensee.

Additional Inspectors:

KATHARINE FRANK, VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
15278	96-C-0028	001	Stephen Kroschel	06-MAY-2025

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000007	<i>Vulpes lagopus</i>	ARCTIC FOX
000014	<i>Mustela erminea</i>	ERMINE
000011	<i>Mustela vison</i>	AMERICAN MINK
000008	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	RED FOX (INCLUDES SILVER FOX & CROSS FOX)
000003	<i>Canis lupus</i>	GRAY WOLF / GREY WOLF / TIMBER WOLF
000002	<i>Lynx canadensis</i>	CANADIAN LYNX
000001	<i>Erethizon dorsatum</i>	NORTH AMERICAN PORCUPINE
000001	<i>Alces alces</i>	MOOSE
000005	<i>Rangifer tarandus</i>	REINDEER
000001	<i>Ursus arctos</i>	BROWN BEAR
000008	<i>Martes martes</i>	PINE MARTEN
000001	<i>Gulo gulo</i>	WOLVERINE
000001	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	RED-TAILED HAWK
000002	<i>Bubo scandiacus</i>	SNOWY OWL
000065	Total	