



## Inspection Report

Hand Me Down Zoo  
1056 Highway 211 N W  
Winder, GA 30680

Customer ID: 502959

Certificate: 57-C-0376

Site: 001

Hand Me Down Zoo

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 10-DEC-2025

### 2.40(a)(2)      Critical

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

The licensee acquired a six-week-old female oriental small clawed otter named "Miso" on October 18, 2025, without alerting the attending veterinarian, who therefore was not consulted regarding an infant species that is not listed on the current Program of Veterinary Care. Miso was being bottle-fed by the licensee and exhibited for public interactions. The attending veterinarian was unaware that the otter had been obtained until she was presented to the veterinarian on December 2, 2025, for an illness examination. At that time, Miso was prescribed medication for what the veterinarian suspected was "pneumonia, possibly aspiration." Miso did not respond to treatment and died overnight. The attending veterinarian was not notified of the death until their office called five days later to check on the patient. The attending veterinarian stated they would have wanted further diagnostic testing, to include a necropsy, to help determine a cause and to address any potential husbandry issues. If the facility does not consult with or give the appropriate authority to the veterinarian, the health and well-being of the animals may be affected. Disease transmission, inadequate diet and/or husbandry can occur from not consulting the attending veterinarian. The exhibitor shall assure that the facility employs an attending veterinarian under formal arrangements and assures that the veterinarian has appropriate authority to ensure the provision of adequate veterinary care and to oversee the adequacy of other aspects of animal care and use.

Correct by: February 15, 2026.

### 2.40(b)(2)

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

Some aspects of veterinary care are not being followed as per the program of veterinary care or the attending veterinarian's instructions:

- One male kitten (Kitten 1) was prescribed oral antibiotics and an eye ointment after being diagnosed with a suspected upper respiratory infection on December 2, 2025, by the veterinarian. Oral antibiotics were given as per the prescription label, per the licensee. The eye ointment prescription states the ointment is to be applied "to affected eyes every 12 hours for 4-6 days, or until eyes look better and two more treatments after resolution of symptoms." Per the licensee, both the oral antibiotics and eye ointment were given for 5 days (last dose was December 7, 2025). Upon inspection on December 10, 2025, Kitten 1 still had black dried discharge around its right eye, to the side and below its eye, but above its nose. Upon consultation with the veterinarian, they did not think the right eye was resolved yet and that Kitten 1 should still be getting the eye ointment applied.
- None of the twelve cats have been receiving preventative heartworm medication as stated in the Program of Veterinary

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Care, per the licensee. During the inspection, the licensee was asked to show the inspector any medications given to the animals, and no heartworm preventative medication was provided.

Maintaining adequate programs of veterinary care, including following the prescription guidance and parasite prevention protocols of the attending veterinarian, is necessary to ensure the use of appropriate methods to treat infections, prevent diseases, and also protect the health of the animals. The facility shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care to include the use of appropriate methods to prevent and control diseases. The facility needs to follow the instructions provided by the attending veterinarian and as directed in the written program of veterinary care.

Correct by: February 15, 2026.

### 2.50(c)(1)

#### Time and method of identification.

Six cats and two kittens maintained at the facility did not have official identification as required by the Animal Welfare Act. Not having proper identification can cause misidentification of animals on inspections, veterinary care documentation, acquisition, and disposition records. The licensee must ensure that an official USDA sequentially numbered tag is placed on the animals with a collar or kept on the door of the animals' cage or run, or an approved tattoo or microchip is used to positively identify the animals. If tags are maintained on the enclosure (rather than a collar) then the licensee must have a record book containing each animal's tag number, a written description of each animal, and a clear photograph of each animal. Each tag must contain the letters "USDA", the certificate number identifying the state as well as the facility, and a number identifying the animal. A duplicate tag must also accompany each cat whenever it leaves the premise.

Correct by February 15, 2026.

### 2.75(a)(1)

#### Records: Dealers and exhibitors.

The current Record of Animals on hand (acquisition record and disposition records) for cats is not up to date or complete. Twelve adult cats and two kittens were present on inspection and only 3 cats had acquisition paperwork provided by the licensee. Accurate and complete acquisition and disposition records are necessary to allow for medical and legal tracking of the animals. The facility shall ensure that it makes, keeps and maintains records using APHIS Form 7005 and 7006 which fully and correctly disclose the following information concerning all exhibition cats: name and address of person from whom the animal was acquired, their USDA license number or Driver's license number/state, the name and address of the disposition of the animal, the date of acquisition and/or disposition, and the species of the animal. The records shall include any offspring born of any animal while in his or her possession.

Correct by: January 15, 2026.

### 2.75(b)(1)

#### Records: Dealers and exhibitors.

The current Record of Animals on hand (acquisition record and disposition records) is not up to date or complete. Since the last inspection, the following has occurred:

- Acquisition of birds, rabbits, guinea pigs, sheep, goats, and pigs were not recorded.
- Dispositions of guinea pigs and rabbits were not recorded.

Accurate and complete acquisition and disposition records are necessary to allow for medical and legal tracking of the animals. The facility shall ensure that it makes, keeps and maintains records which fully and correctly disclose the

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following information concerning all exhibition animals: name and address of person from whom the animal was acquired, their USDA license number or Driver's license number/state, the name and address of the disposition of the animal, the date of acquisition and/or disposition, and the species of the animal. The records shall include any offspring born of any animal while in his or her possession.

Correct by: January 15, 2026.

### 2.134(b)

#### **Contingency planning.**

There is no documentation maintained to indicate that an annual review of the contingency plan has been completed since 01/24/2024. The contingency plan must be reviewed by the facility on at least an annual basis to ensure that it adequately addresses all required contingency related criteria and that no updates or changes need to be made to the plan such as changes made as a result of any recent unforeseen circumstances. The facility must maintain documentation of their contingency plan annual reviews including documenting any amendments or changes made since the previous year's review.

Correct by: January 20, 2026.

### 3.6(b)(2)

#### **Primary enclosures.**

Twelve adult cats (3 intact males, 6 spayed females and 3 neutered males) and two kittens, were housed in the same enclosure. The kittens were not related to the adult cats in the enclosure. Kittens may be injured or stressed by the presence of adult cats that are not their mother or foster mother. Kittens must be separated from adult cats other than their dam or foster dam.

Correct by: January 20, 2026.

### 3.27(b)

#### **Facilities, outdoor.**

Nineteen guinea pigs are currently housed outdoors along the exhibition pathway. The facility has not obtained prior approval for such housing. Guinea pigs are very sensitive to both heat and cold. Even though they didn't appear impacted, the weather outside during the inspection, as measured by the inspector's kestrel, was 44 degrees Fahrenheit and out of compliance with the regulations. Their housing must be designed to protect the guinea pigs from both heat and cold extremes to avoid putting their health at risk and causing them discomfort. The facility must not house the guinea pigs outdoors unless such facilities are located in an appropriate climate and the facility has received approval from the Deputy Administrator.

Corrected at the time of inspection, December 10, 2025, and shall remain corrected moving forward.

### 3.53(a)(1)

#### **Primary enclosures.**

Three rabbits were housed free roaming within an indoor room currently undergoing construction as their primary enclosure. The following items were observed and accessible to the rabbits: an active electrical cord was plugged in running along the floor, wooden boards stacked, and upon an elevated surface accessible to the rabbits were an open box of screws, power drills, fast food cups of soda, and an open-topped water jug. During the inspection, one rabbit

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jumped up and knocked over the elevated jug of water and spilled the water, soaking itself. Allowing the rabbits access to sharp points (screws), unstable surfaces (wooden boards), heavy items they can knock over (power drills, water jugs) and active electrical cords can all cause injuries. Enclosures for rabbits need to be constructed in a way that protects them from injury, securely contains them, and keeps predators out.

Corrected at the time of inspection, December 10, 2025, and shall remain corrected moving forward.

### 3.56(a)(1)

#### **Sanitation.**

Rabbits' food is provided under a sheltered awning where an accumulation of hair and excrement has collected such that the rabbits housed outdoors must walk through the accumulation, that covers a majority of the area, in order to eat their hay or pellets. Primary enclosures, including shelters within, need to be cleaned at a frequency that maintains cleanliness for the health and wellbeing of the rabbits. This enclosure must be cleaned to remove said accumulation of feces and hair. Rabbit enclosures must be cleaned on a more frequent basis to prevent such accumulations of fecal matter and hair. Primary enclosures housing rabbits must be kept reasonably free of excreta, hair, cobwebs and other debris by appropriate periodic cleaning.

Correct by: December 25, 2025.

### 3.58(a)

#### **Classification and separation.**

Upon inspection, three rabbits were observed housed within an indoor primary enclosure with four turtles. Also, when exhibited during off site petting zoo exhibitions, per the licensee, rabbits are placed within an enclosure with other species of animals (sheep and goats). Rabbits housed in the same primary enclosure with other species of animals may cause them harm or injury. Rabbits shall not be housed in the same primary enclosure with any other species in order to protect their health and well-being.

Correct by: January 15, 2026.

### 3.131(c)

#### **Sanitation.**

Within the primary outdoor enclosure housing goats and sheep, the following areas were not kept clean and/or in good repair:

- A large wooden furniture structure located within the primary enclosure of the goats and sheep has deteriorated such that the top is no longer horizontal and instead is slanted down. During the inspection, a goat jumped up on top of it, causing it to wobble and the goat slid off. The structure was not stable and had three large bolts poking out of its top, varying in height from approximately 6 to 10 inches.
- Many strands of twine were located scattered on the ground in the primary enclosure housing goats and sheep, from previously fed hay bales, per the licensee.

Allowing the above items to remain in the primary enclosures with the animals can result in injury from slipping or falling off the deteriorated furniture or ingesting and/or being entangled in the twine. Premises, including buildings and grounds, shall be kept clean and in good repair in order to protect the animals from injury and to facilitate prescribed husbandry practices.

Correct by January 15, 2026.

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**3.33(b)**

**Classification and separation.**

At the time of inspection, chickens were observed within the primary outdoor enclosure of the guinea pigs. This enclosure was open topped allowing the chickens to fly in. Co-mingling different species in the same enclosure can increase the risk of stress, disease hazards, and/or injury. The facility must ensure that guinea pigs are not housed in the same primary enclosure with any other species of animals.

Corrected at the time of inspection, December 10, 2025, and shall remain corrected moving forward.

**3.150(e)**

**Facilities, general.**

Three unopened bags of bird feed were being stored on the floor under an outdoor roofed area, leaning against cabinetry that had cleaning products on the countertop. Leaving the bags in this area could lead to contamination by chemicals or pests. Supplies of food, including food supplements, bedding, and substrate must be stored in a manner that protects the supplies from deterioration, spoilage, contamination, and vermin infestation. The supplies must be stored off the floor and away from the walls, to allow cleaning underneath and around the supplies.

Correct by: January 15, 2026.

**3.153(a)(1)(i)**

**Primary enclosures.**

Sharp points were found in an outdoor bird primary enclosure housing pigeons, a cockatoo, a yellow shouldered parrot, and quail. At a wooden beam below the roof of the enclosure, two screws were sticking out with their sharp tips pointing up and out approximately 1 to 2 inches in length. There were bird feces around this area demonstrating the birds are using it as a perching area. Sharp points may cause injury and may lead to pain or discomfort to the animals. Primary enclosures must be designed and constructed of suitable materials so that they are structurally sound. The primary enclosures must be kept in good repair and have no sharp points or edges that could injure the birds.

Correct by: January 15, 2026.

**3.154(b)**

**Environment enhancement to promote psychological well-being.**

Upon inspection, a dove and lovebird, while being housed indoors together, had no environmental enrichment provided as per the environmental enrichment plan. Their outdoor enclosure does have these items but due to the colder weather, per licensee, the birds were brought inside. Other species of exhibited birds, turkeys and ducks, were not listed on the environmental enrichment plan. A lack of adequate environmental enrichment for these species may negatively affect psychological well-being and could result in abnormal behavior. The physical environment in the primary enclosures must be enriched by materials or activities that would provide the birds with the means to express non-injurious species-typical activities. With the attending veterinarian's oversight, the facility must implement species-appropriate environmental enrichments to meet the behavioral and psychological needs of all exhibited birds.

Correct by: February 15, 2026.

**3.154(c)(2)**

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### **Environment enhancement to promote psychological well-being.**

A cockatoo was seen with feathers missing around the sides of its head. Per the licensee, this bird was acquired in this condition, and it has not progressed. The enrichment plan should address this bird as a special consideration so a specific enrichment plan can be implemented to prevent any further feather plucking. Failure to document and implement a specific enrichment plan for this bird with a history of abnormal behavior may result in psychological distress. The facility shall document and provide special attention regarding enhancement of the environment to promote psychological well-being for this cockatoo in accordance with the instructions of their attending veterinarian.

Correct by: February 15, 2026.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with the licensee.

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### Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
502959	57-C-0376	001	Hand Me Down Zoo	10-DEC-2025

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000003	<i>Procyon lotor</i>	RACCOON
000006	<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>	WHITE-TAILED DEER
000002	<i>Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris</i>	CAPYBARA
000003	<i>Potos flavus</i>	KINKAJOU
000001	<i>Urocyon cinereoargenteus</i>	GRAY FOX / GREY FOX
000001	<i>Wallabia bicolor</i>	SWAMP WALLABY
000001	<i>Muntiacus reevesi</i>	REEVE'S MUNTJAC
000002	<i>Lynx rufus</i>	BOBCAT
000002	<i>Procyon cancrivorus</i>	CRAB-EATING RACCOON
000002	<i>Nasuella olivacea</i>	MOUNTAIN COATI
000002	<i>Chinchilla lanigera</i>	CHINCHILLA
000003	<i>Petaurus breviceps</i>	SUGAR GLIDER
000002	<i>Atelerix albiventris</i>	FOUR-TOED HEDGEHOG
000020	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	DOMESTIC RABBIT / EUROPEAN RABBIT
000005	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	RED FOX (INCLUDES SILVER FOX & CROSS FOX)
000001	<i>Osphranter rufus</i>	RED KANGAROO
000001	<i>Cacatua alba</i>	WHITE COCKATOO / UMBRELLA COCKATOO
000001	<i>Amazona barbadensis</i>	YELLOW-SHOULDERED PARROT
000005	<i>Columba livia domestica</i>	DOMESTIC PIGEON INCLUDING ALL DOMESTIC BREEDS
000010	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	COMMON QUAIL / EUROPEAN QUAIL
000002	<i>Sus scrofa domestica</i>	DOMESTIC PIG / POTBELLY PIG / MICRO PIG
000011	<i>Capra hircus</i>	DOMESTIC GOAT
000002	<i>Dromaius novaehollandiae</i>	EMU
000001	<i>Bos taurus</i>	CATTLE / COW / OX
000002	<i>Philander opossum</i>	GREY FOUR-EYED OPOSSUM
000019	<i>Cavia porcellus</i>	DOMESTIC GUINEA PIG
000008	<i>Ovis aries aries</i>	SHEEP INCLUDING ALL DOMESTIC BREEDS
000001	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	EASTERN GREY SQUIRREL
000009	<i>Felis catus</i>	CAT ADULT
000002	<i>Felis catus</i>	CAT KITTEN
000003	<i>Felis sp</i>	DOMESTIC X EXOTIC CAT HYBRID
000002	<i>Mustela putorius furo</i>	DOMESTIC FERRET
000001	<i>Didelphis virginiana</i>	VIRGINIA OPOSSUM
000001	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>	BARBARY DOVE / RINGED TURTLE-DOVE / RINGNECK DOVE
000005	<i>Meleagris gallopavo domesticus</i>	DOMESTIC TURKEY
000002	<i>Anas platyrhynchos domesticus</i>	DOMESTIC DUCK INCLUDING ALL DOMESTIC BREEDS
000002	<i>Anser anser domesticus</i>	DOMESTIC GOOSE
000001	<i>Marmota monax</i>	GROUNDHOG / WOODCHUCK
000000	<i>Aonyx cinereus</i>	ORIENTAL SMALL-CLAWED OTTER
000001	<i>Agapornis fischeri</i>	FISCHER'S LOVEBIRD
000002	<i>Crossarchus obscurus</i>	KUSIMANSE
000150	<b>Total</b>	



United States Department of Agriculture  
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