



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Legislative and
Public Affairs

Freedom of
Information

4700 River Road
Unit 50
Riverdale, MD
20737-1232

MAY 13 2005

Ms.

Dear Ms.

This is in response to your August 2, 2004 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for inspection reports for the Philadelphia Zoo that were issued from January 1989 to August 2004. Your request was received in this office on August 2, 2004 and assigned case number FOIA 04-703. I apologize for the delay of this response.

Agency employees conducted a thorough search of their files and located ten pages of responsive records which are enclosed. Information that is personal in nature has been withheld pursuant to Exemption 6 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6). This exemption protects information from disclosure when its release would cause a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

This information has also been withheld pursuant to Exemption 7(C) of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(C). This exemption protects from disclosure records or information collected for law enforcement purposes when its release could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

We have been advised by Agency personnel that the records you seek are maintained for three years per the Agency's Records Management Handbook. Records responsive to your request that might have existed prior to 2001 would have been disposed of according to the Agency's records retention schedule.

You may appeal our denial of this information and/or no records determination. If you choose to appeal, your appeal must be in writing and must be sent within 45 days of the date of this letter to:

Administrator
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Ag Box 3401
Washington, DC 20250-3401

Please refer to FOIA 04-703 in your appeal letter and add the words "FOIA Appeal" to the front of the envelope. To assist the Administrator in reviewing your appeal, provide specific reasons why you believe modification of the determination is warranted.



Safeguarding American Agriculture
APHIS is an agency of USDA's Marketing and Regulatory Programs
An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

Ms. Marianne Bessey
FOIA 04-703

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Because the cost to process your request is less than \$25.00, the fee is waived. If you have any questions about this response, please contact Ms. Lynette Carter of this office on (301) 734-5250.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lesia M. Banks". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L".

Lesia M. Banks
Assistant Director
Freedom of Information
Legislative and Public Affairs

Enclosure



INSPECTION REPORT

**ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF
PHILADELPHIA
PHILADELPHIA ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN**

**Customer ID: 2233
Certificate: 23-C-0004**

**3400 W. GIRARD AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19104**

**Site: 0001
ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF**

**Inspection
Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: DEC-19-2001**

**3.125
FACILITIES, GENERAL**

(a) Structural strength. The facility must be constructed of such material and of such strength as appropriate for the animals involved. The indoor and outdoor housing facilities shall be structurally sound and shall be maintained in good repair to protect the animals from injury and to contain the animals.

Gazelle holding area: The asphalt floor is deteriorating, loose asphalt causes uneven rough floors, which may cause injury to the animal hoof.
Correct by: 3/31/2002

Coati holding area: Floors is deteriorating and in need of repair.
Correct by: 1/31/2002

Tiger outdoor exhibit area: The concrete is severely damaged in some areas, and the reinforcement bars are exposed and they started to rust.
Correct by: 3/31/2002

Kangaroo holding area has broken wire mesh that is guarding the heating unit. The animal may get injured from the broken wire or the direct contact with the exposed heater.
Correct by: 1/7/2002

Polar bear den and sloth bear den: the door is severely rusted and has many jagged edges.
Correct by: 3/31/2002

Swift fox exterior cage has rusted wire ties. The wire is protruding inside the cage.
Correct by: 1/7/2002

Lion outdoor concrete steps are worn, exposing the reinforcement bars, which may cause injury to the animal.
Correct by: 3/31/2002

Prepared By: Nasry H Faltas
NARSRY FALTAS, D. V. M., USDA, APHIS, Animal Care
Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER - Inspector ID: 1042
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Date:
DEC-19-2001
Date:
DEC-19-2001



INSPECTION REPORT

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**3.131 (d)
SANITATION.**

(d) Pest control. A safe and effective program for the control of insects, ectoparasites, and avian and mammalian pests shall be established and maintained.

Wild mouse was running around in the floors in the warhogs area, where the feed is presented.

Correct by:
1/5/2002

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DEC-18-2001

Date:
DEC-18-2001

INSPECTION REPORT

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF
PHILADELPHIA
PHILADELPHIA ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN

3400 W. GIRARD AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19104

Customer ID: 2233

Certificate: 23-C-0004

Site: 0001

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF

Inspection

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: JUL-09-2002

3.125 (a)

FACILITIES, GENERAL.

The facility must be constructed of such material and of such strength as appropriate for the animals involved. The indoor and outdoor housing facilities shall be structurally sound and shall be maintained in good repair to protect the animals from injury and to contain the animals.

The Elephant house has an area with barbed wire surrounding drainage pipes, which could cause injury to the animal. Another means of securing the pipes should be used.

Correct by: July 17, 2002

Light fixture in the Kangaroo pen area has no guard, and needs to be covered to insure the safety of the animals living in this pen.

Correct by: July 24, 2002

The floor in the Cheetah den needs to be leveled to prevent accumulation of stagnant water in this area.

Correct by: August 10, 2002

The den box for the warthogs is deteriorating and is in need of repair or replacement.

Correct by: July 24, 2002

The cover for the partition door in the Gazelle holding area is molded and in need of repair

Correct by: July 17, 2002

3.127

FACILITIES, OUTDOOR.

Shelter from sunlight. When sunlight is likely to cause overheating or discomfort of the animals, sufficient shade by natural or artificial means shall be provided to allow

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Date:
JUL-09-2002

Date:
JUL-09-2002



INSPECTION REPORT

all animals kept outdoors to protect themselves from direct sunlight.

The outdoor Gorilla exhibit area has an insufficient shaded area for the first half of the day where the sun rises from the east. More shade needs to be provided for this area, or the animals should be allowed access to the indoor exhibit area in extreme heat.

Correct by: July 17, 2002

The shelter in the Highland cow area is not large enough to accommodate both animals at the same time.

Correct by:

3.129

FEEDING.

The food shall be wholesome, palatable, and free from contamination. adequate measures shall be taken to prevent molding, contamination, and deterioration.

The feed in the bearded pigs holding area was next to an open bleach container. Food should be separated from miscellaneous items.

Corrected at the time of inspection.

The feed storage area in the attic should have a temperature monitoring device and should have a method of controlling the temperature to prevent deterioration of the feed from excessive heat.

Correct by: August 10, 2002

3.131 (d)

REPEAT NCI

SANITATION.

d) Pest control A safe and effective program for the control of insects, ectoparasites, and avian and mammalian pests shall be established and maintained.

The following pests were noticed at the time of inspection.

flies in the Kangaroo pen; a mouse in the pachyderm area; roaches in the pygmy mammosets area.

Prepared By: Wing H. Faltas

NABRY FALTAS, D. V. M., USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER Inspector ID: 1042

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Date:
JUL-09-2002



INSPECTION REPORT

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF
PHILADELPHIA
PHILADELPHIA ZOOLOGICAL GARDE

Customer ID: 2233
Certificate: 23-C-0004

Site: 0001

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF

3400 W. GIRARD AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19104

Inspection
Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: DEC-08-2003

2.131 (b) (1)

HANDLING OF ANIMALS.

Section 2.131(b)(1) During public exhibition, any animal must be handled so there is minimal risk of harm to the animal and to the public, with sufficient distance and/or barriers between the animal and the general viewing public so as to assure the safety of animals and the public.

At the Pachyderm House, the barrier fence, installed between the outdoor animal enclosures and the public walkway, approximately 3 ft. in height, is constructed variously of wire mesh attached to metal posts, welded metal railings, and chain link fence. Gaps between the wire mesh and metal railing allow direct public access into the exhibits. In addition, 1 section of chain link fence was found to be broken, and several sections of the wire mesh are damaged or inadequately secured to the metal posts.

The exhibitor should repair or replace the existing barrier fence or install another barrier to help prevent possible public contact with the animals that may result in injury to the animals and/or public.

Correct by: January 9, 2004.

3.52 (c)

FACILITIES, OUTDOOR.

Section 3.52(c) Shelter from cold weather. Shelter shall be provided for all rabbits kept outdoors when the atmospheric temperature falls below 40 °F.

In the Children's Zoo, 7 rabbits are housed outdoors in elevated hutches with wire mesh floors and straw bedding material. Outdoor temperatures are seasonably cold, temperatures falling below 40 °F during some days and nights. The wire mesh construction allows cold wind to blow through the floor of the enclosures.

Animal welfare regulations require outdoor housing for animals to be provided with protection from adverse weather conditions at all times.

The exhibitor should further protect the hutches from winter cold-weather conditions to minimize drafts and to ensure the health, comfort, and well-being of the animals.

Prepared By:

Joel Rubin, VMD
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Title: (b)(6), (b)(7)c

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DEC-12-2003

Date:

DEC-16-2003



INSPECTION REPORT

Correct by: December 19, 2003.

3.75 (c)

HOUSING FACILITIES, GENERAL.

Section 3.75(c) Surfaces. (1) General requirements. The surfaces of housing facilities -- including perches, shelves, swings, boxes, houses, dens, and other furniture-type fixtures or objects within the facility -- must be constructed in a manner and made of materials that allow them to be readily cleaned and sanitized, or removed or replaced when worn or soiled. Furniture-type fixtures or objects must be sturdily constructed and must be strong enough to provide for the safe activity and welfare of nonhuman primates. Floors may be made of dirt, absorbent bedding, sand, gravel, grass, or other similar material that can be readily cleaned, or can be removed or replaced whenever cleaning does not eliminate odors, diseases, pests, insects, or vermin. Any surfaces that come in contact with nonhuman primates must: (i) Be free of excessive rust that prevents the required cleaning and sanitization, or that affects the structural strength of the surface; and (ii) Be free of jagged edges or sharp points that might injure the animals.

In the Cheetah Run Exhibit, primate facility, outdoor enclosure for 3 baboons, a wood platform/tower structure was found to be broken or splintered at several areas of the structure. The damaged contact surfaces of this climbing structure could potentially cause injury to the animals in the enclosure.

Animal welfare regulations require animal housing areas, including enrichment items within the enclosures, to be maintained and kept in good repair in order to prevent animal injury, to facilitate cleaning and sanitization, and to prevent further structural deterioration.

The exhibitor must repair or replace the climbing structure or otherwise prevent further animal contact with the damaged structure.

Correct by: December 26, 2003.

3.80 (a)(1)

PRIMARY ENCLOSURES.

Section 3.80 Primary enclosures for nonhuman primates must meet the following minimum requirements: (a) General requirements. (1) Primary enclosures must be designed and constructed of suitable materials so that they are structurally sound for the species of nonhuman primates contained in them. They must be kept in good repair.

1. In the Primate Reserve, holding enclosure PR/HA 7, housing 6 colobus monkeys, was constructed around an unprotected drain pipe with a painted surface. The paint was found to be peeling from the pipe and/or likely removed by animal activities. Contact with or ingestion of the paint particles could potentially be hazardous to the animals in the enclosure.

Primary enclosures for nonhuman primates should be maintained and kept in good repair in order to help ensure animal health, facilitate cleaning and sanitization, and to prevent further deterioration of surfaces.

Correct by: December 19, 2003.

Prepared By:

JOEL RUBIN, V M D, USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

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Date:

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2. In the Primate Reserve, day room/exhibit enclosure, housing 3 gibbons and 2 orangutans, three oval areas of the finished floor surface/cove, each approximately 6 in. x 10 in., were found to be broken and missing, exposing the subfloor material. The damage was reported to be due to animal activities. Contact with subfloor materials or ingestion of building materials could potentially be hazardous to the animals in the enclosure. Damaged floor surfaces cannot be readily cleaned and sanitized.

3. In the Cheetah Run Exhibit, primate facility, indoor enclosures, housing 3 baboons, eight holes, each approximately 1 in. in diameter, were found in the upper area of 2 cinder block walls.

Primary enclosures should be maintained and kept in good repair in order to help ensure animal health, to facilitate cleaning and sanitization, to reduce or eliminate vermin harborage, and to prevent further structural deterioration. Maintenance/repairs should be performed on a regular basis.

The exhibitor should make the necessary repairs.

Correct by: Item 2> December 28, 2003. Item 3> January 9, 2004.

3.84 (c)

CLEANING, SANITIZATION, HOUSEKEEPING, AND PEST CONTROL.

Section 3.84(c) Housekeeping for premises. Premises where housing facilities are located, including buildings and surrounding grounds, must be kept clean and in good repair in order to protect the nonhuman primates from injury, to facilitate the husbandry practices required in this subpart, and to reduce or eliminate breeding and living areas for rodents, pests, and vermin. Premises must be kept free of accumulations of trash, junk, waste, and discarded matter. Weeds, grass, and bushes must be controlled so as to facilitate cleaning of the premises and pest control.

1. In the Primate Reserve, exhibit enclosure PR/E3, housing 7 lemurs, a substantial amount of rust was found around the glass light/frame on the keeper side of the entry door.

2. In the Primate Reserve, holding enclosure PR/C2-C3, the enclosure mounted water supply is leaking.

Animal facilities should be maintained and kept in good repair in order to help ensure animal health, to facilitate cleaning and sanitization, and to prevent structural deterioration. Maintenance/repairs should be performed on a regular basis.

The exhibitor should make the necessary repairs.

Correct by: January 9, 2004.

3.125 (a)

FACILITIES, GENERAL.

Section 3.125(a) Structural strength. The facility must be constructed of such material and of such strength as appropriate for the animals involved. The indoor and outdoor housing facilities shall be structurally sound and shall be maintained in good repair to protect the animals from injury and to contain the animals.

Prepared By: Joel Rubin, VMD
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Date:
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DEC-15-2003

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In the Small Mammal House, a wood entry door, located at the rear of the facility, currently unused and severely deteriorated, may allow the entry of unwanted rodents and vermin into the exhibit areas.

Animal facilities should be maintained and kept in good repair in order to help ensure animal health, to facilitate cleaning and sanitization, to reduce or eliminate entry and breeding of vermin, and to prevent further structural deterioration. Maintenance/repairs should be performed on a regular basis.

The exhibitor should make the necessary repairs or replace the door.

Correct by: January 9, 2004.

**3.127 (b)
FACILITIES, OUTDOOR.**

Section 3.127(b) Shelter from inclement weather. Natural or artificial shelter appropriate to the local climatic conditions for the species concerned shall be provided for all animals kept outdoors to afford them protection and to prevent discomfort to such animals. Individual animals shall be acclimated before they are exposed to the extremes of the individual climate.

In the Cheetah Run Exhibit, 3 male cheetahs are group housed in indoor/outdoor enclosures, and 1 female cheetah is singly housed in another indoor/outdoor enclosure. As designed, the cats have access from and to their respective indoor and outdoor enclosure through a common tunnel. For justifiable reasons and under established procedures, male and female cats are not given access to the tunnel at the same time. At the time of this inspection-outdoor temperatures were seasonably cold and the ground was mostly snow and ice covered-both the male group of cats and the female cat were given access to and in their separate outdoor enclosures. Procedurally, only the male group or the female animal could have access to the tunnel and to their respective indoor enclosure (shelter). The single, common tunnel does not provide free access to indoor shelter, when both male and female animals are in their respective outdoor enclosures at the same time.

Animal welfare regulations require exhibitors to provide adequate shelter from inclement weather for animals that are confined to an outdoor exhibit area and unable to seek other natural kinds of shelter, such as, caves, ground depressions, or trees, that are available in the natural environment.

Correct by: Access to indoor shelter was provided at the time of this inspection.

3.131 (c)

3.131 (d)

SANITATION.

Section 3.131(c) Housekeeping. Premises (buildings and grounds) 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. Accumulations of trash shall be placed in designated areas and cleared as necessary to protect the health of the animals.

1. In Carnivore Kingdom, holding enclosure CK/C3, housing 3 coatis, the wall repair along the left corner of the cinder block wall has not be repainted.

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Received By: _____

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2. In Carnivore Kingdom, paint is peeling/flaking from several areas of the cinder block wall on the keeper side of the holding enclosure CK/C3.

3. In the Pachyderm House, indoor enclosure/pool, housing 2 hippopotami, paint is peeling from several areas of the walls.

4. In the Pachyderm House, indoor enclosures, housing 2 rhinoceros, paint is peeling or removed by animal activities from the animal entry area and walls.

Animal facilities should be maintained and kept in good repair in order to help ensure animal health, to facilitate cleaning and sanitization, and to prevent structural deterioration. Maintenance/repairs should be performed on a regular basis.

The exhibitor should make the necessary repairs.

Correct by: Items 1, 2, 3, 4> April 2, 2004, pending weather conditions allowing animals to be housed outdoors for painting work.

5. In the kangaroo keeper shed, food storage area, a rectangular hole, approximately 4 in. x 6 in., was found in the masonry wall.

6. In the kangaroo shelter, indoor enclosure #4, housing 7 kangaroos, a rectangular hole, approximately 6 in. x 8 in., was found in the masonry wall extending beneath the heater grill.

7. In the driveway/roadway area between the kangaroo keeper shed and animal shelter, 7 filled trash containers, filled with a variety of debris, garbage, and soiled bedding material, were found left uncovered.

8. In the commissary, butcher room, several holes were found in the right and left tiled walls.

9. In the commissary, meat locker, the concrete floor was found to be generally pitted and tile cove cracked in several areas.

10. In the commissary, food freezer, multiple interconnecting cracks were found in the concrete floor.

Animal facilities should be maintained and kept in good repair in order to help ensure animal health, to facilitate cleaning and sanitization, to reduce or eliminate entry and breeding of vermin, and to prevent further structural deterioration. Waste storage should be separated from animal areas. Trash containers should be equipped with tightly-fitted lids. Maintenance/repairs should be performed on a regular basis.

The exhibitor should make the necessary repairs and corrections.

Correct by: Items 5, 6> January 9, 2004. Items 8, 9, 10> February 6, 2004. Item 7 was corrected at the time of inspection.

Section 3.131(d) Pest control. A safe and effective program for the control of insects, ectoparasites, and avian and mammalian pests shall be established and maintained.

In the commissary, supply closet, considerable amounts of rodent fecal excreta were present on the shelving and floor. No rodent control measures were seen in the closet.

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Date:

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Animal welfare regulations require areas for food storage to be kept clean and uncluttered to prevent contamination of food supplies, the entry of pests or vermin, and the potential introduction of disease, parasites, and disease vectors into animal facilities.

The exhibitor must clean the commissary supply closet and establish a safe rodent control program that will not contaminate the animal food.

Correct by: Rodent control measures were initiated in the supply closet at the time of this site visit.

Note: This inspection was conducted on December 8-December 10, 2003.

Prepared By:

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Received By:

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