



Inspection Report

Tregembo Animal Park
5811 Carolina Beach Road
Wilmington, NC 28412

Customer ID: **21143**
Certificate: **55-C-0183**
Site: 001
TREGEMBO ANIMAL PARK

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: Feb-10-2016

3.80 (a) (1)

PRIMARY ENCLOSURES.

In the brown capuchin enclosure housing two monkeys in the winter primate house, the remnants of a platform were evident. Twisted and heavily damaged pieces of wood were present, posing an injury hazard to the monkeys. In the ring tailed lemur enclosure in the winter primate house, the lemurs were sitting on a heavily damaged/chewed wooden shelf, posing an injury hazard to the lemurs. Primary enclosures must be structurally sound and kept in good repair. Correct by repairing or replacing the platform and shelving to ensure the safety of the animals.

3.84 (b) (2)

CLEANING, SANITIZATION, HOUSEKEEPING, AND PEST CONTROL.

All enclosures in the primate winter house contained evidence of dirt and debris build-up. This build-up can pose a health hazard to the animals via disease transmission or exposure to harmful organisms. Indoor primary enclosures are required to be sanitized at least once every 2 weeks and as often as necessary to prevent buildup. Correct by implementing a thorough cleaning and sanitization program that complies with the guidelines in this section.

3.131 (a)

SANITATION.

There was evidence of excreta build up and/or wet straw in the capybara hutch, the fennec fox enclosure, the flying squirrel enclosure, and the goats shelter area. Excess excreta and/or wet straw poses a health hazard to the animals and may prevent animals from having sanitary shelter from the elements. Correct by cleaning the affected areas as often as necessary to maintain adequate sanitation.

Exit interview conducted with facility representative, Lisa Macelderry, VMO and Mary Ann McBride, VMO.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Prepared By:

MARY ANN T MCBRIDE USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER Inspector 6093

Feb-11-2016

Received By:

SHERRY TREGEMBO

Date:

Title: FACILITY REPRESENTATIVE

Feb-11-2016



Inspection Report

Tregembo Animal Park
5811 Carolina Beach Road
Wilmington, NC 28412

Customer ID: **21143**
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TREGEMBO ANIMAL PARK

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: 19-JUN-2017

2.40(b)(2)

ATTENDING VETERINARIAN AND ADEQUATE VETERINARY CARE (DEALERS AND EXHIBITORS).

Shadow, a female black leopard, has an approximately 1.5 cm of pink tissue exposed past the haired tip of the tail. According to the facility representatives, no veterinary examination or veterinary care has been provided to date. Exposed tail tip tissue can lead to infection, which can impact the health of the animal. Correct by June 22, 2017.

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

Additional Inspectors

Stokes William, Asst Regional Director

Prepared By:

MCBRIDE MARY ANN, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:
19-JUN-2017

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 6093

Received By:

SHERRY TREGEMBO

Date:
19-JUN-2017

Title: FACILITY REPRESENTATIVE



ANIMAL WELFARE COMPLAINT

Complaint No. AC16-574	Date Entered 18 August 2016	Received By A Benson
Referred To McBride/Magid	Reply Due 19 September 2016	

Facility or Person Complaint Filed Against

Name Tregembo Animal Park		Customer/License/Registration No. 21143 / 55-C-0183	
Address 5811 Carolina Beach Rd			
City Wilmington	State NC	Zip 28412	Phone No (910) 392-3604

Complainant

Name Officer Stephen Watson		Organization Sheriff-Support Svcs-Animal Svcs	
Address 180 Division Drive			
City Wilmington	State NC	Zip 28401	Phone No./Email address (910) 798-7506

How was complaint received? Email

Forward response to FOIA: Yes No

Details of Complaint: See attached.

Results: A focused inspection was performed on October 20, 2016, to address the status of water provided to all animals. It was noted during this inspection that all animals had access to fresh water, though the sources of water may not be readily visible to visitors. No non-compliant items were noted during this focused inspection.

Application packet provided? Yes No

INSPECTOR
Mary Ann McBride

DATE
1/30/17

REVIEWED BY
Ellen J. Magid, DVM

DATE
16-Mar-18

Benson, Amy V - APHIS

From: Watson, Stephen <SWatson@nhcgov.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 18, 2016 2:48 PM
To: Benson, Amy V - APHIS
Subject: Tregembo Animal Park Complaint

Good afternoon Amy- Thank you for your efficient manner in addressing this issue. On 08/18/16 the New Hanover County Sheriff's Department Animal Services Unit received a call from a distraught citizen in reference to the Tregembo Animal Park at 5811 Carolina Beach Rd, Wilmington, NC 28412. I am writing this email on behalf of the citizen that contacted Animal Services who seemed overwhelmed at the time of our conversation. The complainant alleges that "the animals did not have water". As we have no jurisdiction over this facility the caller was told to call the USDA for our state. The caller then called our 911 call center. The call was dispatched to me. I assured the citizen that I would direct her concern to the appropriate governing body. The citizen does not wish to be contacted in this matter. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter, and feel free to contact me if necessary. Regards- Stephen Watson

Stephen Watson | Animal Services Officer

Sheriff - Support Services - Animal Services

New Hanover County

180 Division Drive

Wilmington, NC 28401

(910) 798-7506 p | (910) 341-4349 f

www.nhcgov.com



ANIMAL WELFARE COMPLAINT

Complaint No. AC17-165	Date Entered 21-Dec-16	Received By G. Allums
Referred To Magid/McBride	Reply Due 31-Jan-16	

Facility or Person Complaint Filed Against

Name Tregembo Animal Park		Customer/License/Registration No. 21143/55-C-0183	
Address 5811 Carolina Beach Road			
City Wilmington	State NC	Zip 28412	Phone No 910-392-3604

Complainant

Name (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	Organization
Address	

City	State	Zip	Phone No./Email address (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
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How was complaint received?
email

Details of Complaint: SEE ATTACHED

Results: I inspected Tregembo on Feb 9, 2016. No non-compliant items were noted. Regarding items in the complaint, the lion vocalizes almost every evening, as is normal for the species, whether the weather is mild or extreme. The big cats, the small cats, and the bears have adequate bedding in their dens. The only primates with outside access during the winter are the snow macaques, who enjoy being outdoors during the cold but have free access to a heated indoor area to use as they choose. The remaining primates are housed inside during the winter to protect them from colder temperatures. The giraffe is also housed indoors when the temperature drops below 55 degrees. All other animals have adequate bedding and shelter to protect them from adverse weather. Regarding the photo of the "dead" snow macaque, this is a typical posture one monkey takes while being groomed by another.

Application packet provided? Yes No

INSPECTOR
Mary Ann McBride

DATE
10-Mar-17

REVIEWED BY
Ellen J. Magid, DVM

DATE
16-Mar-18

Allums, Gina - APHIS

From: ACEAST
Sent: Tuesday, December 20, 2016 5:32 PM
To: Allums, Gina - APHIS
Subject: FW: Formal Complaint regarding Tregembo Animal Park
Attachments: tregembo1.jpg; tregembo2.jpg; tregembo3.jpg; tregembo4.png; tregembo5.jpg

Hi Gina,

Please process the complaint above.

Thanks,

Teany

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Tuesday, December 20, 2016 10:48 AM
To: ACEAST <ACEAST@aphis.usda.gov>
Subject: Formal Complaint regarding Tregembo Animal Park

Good morning,

I called your office earlier today regarding Tregembo Animal Park in Wilmington, NC and was advised to put a complaint in writing.

My current complaint about this horrible animal park is that it is winter and Wilmington has already had several nights reaching below freezing temperatures, but all of these animals are still outdoors in their barren cages 24/7. I and countless other neighbors/passersby hear the lion moaning and roaring loudly and pitifully each night, and it is extremely disturbing because it clearly sounds like an animal in distress. The animal park is closed for the season and there are rarely vehicles in the parking lot leading me to wonder if anyone is caring for these animals at all. I have been in the animal park and the enclosures are either bare ground or concrete, both of which can reach freezing. There are no walls or climate control, only metal bars surrounding the animal from the environment. I am a biologist and I am certain that these animals, including a lion, tiger, jaguar, monkeys from the tropics, peacocks, zebra, giraffe and countless others can NOT persist healthfully, if at all, in winter temperatures. This issue is the same in the summer with extreme heat and humidity.

If it would aid you, I can certainly record audio of the lion's night time roaring.

I have attached photos of the enclosures that demonstrate their lack of protection from weather/temperature. It will be below freezing again tonight. You'll notice in the fourth photo, the monkey looks very much dead.

Please respond back to me, this zoo has deeply concerned my community and I for many years because of obvious lack of animal welfare. I know that Tregembo is not new to your radar as you have cited them before for lack of veterinary care and sanitation issues.

Thank you,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



December 21, 2016

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Animal Care

Dear Complainant:

Thank you for your correspondence dated 12/21/2016 concerning Tregembo Animal Park. Your concern has been issued number AC17-165. **If you wish to know the results of our findings, you must send a request, in writing, to our Freedom of Information Act office. Depending on the circumstances of the situation, please allow us enough time (30 to 60 days) to thoroughly look into your concerns.**

FOIA requests can be submitted three ways--

- 1. Email: foia.officer@aphis.usda.gov**
- 2. Fax: 301-734-5941**
- 3. US Mail: USDA, APHIS, FOIA
4700 River Road, Unit 50
Riverdale, MD 20737**

Animal Care is the division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that is responsible for the enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act. The Act provides minimum standards for the humane care and use of animals at USDA licensed or registered facilities.

Animal Care inspectors conduct routine unannounced inspections at all USDA licensed and registered facilities to ensure that they are meeting or exceeding these minimum standards. Our inspectors also conduct searches for unlicensed facilities conducting regulated activities. We perform inspections and searches when necessary in response to valid concerns and complaints received from the public to ensure the well-being of the animals and compliance with the law. If violations are found, enforcement action appropriate for the circumstances will be initiated.

Please be assured that we will look into your concerns and take appropriate action if necessary.

Thank you for your interest in the welfare of these animals.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth J. Goldentyer
Director, Animal Welfare Operations
USDA APHIS Animal Care













Inspection Report

Tregembo Animal Park
5811 Carolina Beach Road
Wilmington, NC 28412

Customer ID: **21143**

Certificate: **55-C-0183**

Site: 001

TREGEMBO ANIMAL PARK

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 09-FEB-2017

No non-compliant items identified during this routine inspection conducted in response to a complaint.

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

Prepared By:

MCBRIDE MARY ANN, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 6093

Date:

09-FEB-2017

Received By:

SHERRY TREGEMBO

Title: FACILITY REPRESENTATIVE

Date:

09-FEB-2017



ANIMAL WELFARE COMPLAINT

Complaint No. AC17-223	Date Entered 30-Jan-17	Received By S. BRUNSON
Referred To MAGID / MCBRIDE	Reply Due 2-Mar-17	

Facility or Person Complaint Filed Against

Name TREGEMBO ANIMAL PARK		Customer/License/Registration No. 21143 / 55-C-0183	
Address 5811 CAROLINA BEACH ROAD			
City WILMINGTON	State NC	Zip 28412	Phone No 910-392-3604

Complainant

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	Name (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	Organization
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Address

City	State	Zip	Phone No /Email address (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
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How was complaint received?
Email

Details of Complaint: SEE ATTACHED

Results: This complaint was filed during the winter, when the Tregembo Animal Park is closed for the season. A complete inspection of this facility was made on February 9, 2017. No non-compliant items were noted during this inspection, including cage size / construction and animal status. It should be noted that there has only been one male lion present at this facility since 2016, and is not housed in the area shown in the picture. I cannot identify the enclosure in the picture.

Application packet provided? Yes No

INSPECTOR Mary Ann McBride	DATE 4/4/17
REVIEWED BY Ellen J. Magid, DVM	DATE 16-Mar-18



Inspection Report

Tregembo Animal Park
5811 Carolina Beach Road
Wilmington, NC 28412

Customer ID: **21143**
Certificate: **55-C-0183**
Site: 001
TREGEMBO ANIMAL PARK

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: 09-FEB-2017

No non-compliant items identified during this routine inspection conducted in response to a complaint.

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

Prepared By:

MCBRIDE MARY ANN, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 6093

Date:
09-FEB-2017

Received By:

SHERRY TREGEMBO

Title: FACILITY REPRESENTATIVE

Date:
09-FEB-2017

Brunson, Sophia - APHIS

From: Brunson, Sophia - APHIS
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 9:24 AM
To: Magid, Ellen J - APHIS; McBride, Mary Ann T - APHIS
Subject: AC17-223 open complaint 21143 Tregembo Animal Park
Attachments: AC17-223.docx

Good morning!

From: ACEAST
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 7:39 AM
To: Brunson, Sophia - APHIS <Sophia.Brunson@aphis.usda.gov>
Subject: FW: Complaint Against the Tregembo Animal Park Wilmington, NC

Hi Sophia,

Can you please process the following complaint against: **55-C-0183 19 FEB 2018 ACTIVE TREGEMBO ANIMAL PARK.**

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 10:20 AM
To: ACEAST <ACEAST@aphis.usda.gov>
Subject: Complaint Against the Tregembo Animal Park Wilmington, NC

Hello, my name is (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) have only been to the Tregembo Animal Park once, and what I saw was horrible and just made me depressed for days. I've been to zoos, and I see enclosures that animals are supposed to be kept in. Their terrain and foliage in their enclosures are supposed to slightly resemble what it would be like in the wild to make the animals more comfortable, and they're supposed to have some things in their enclosures for some sort of stimulation. Tregembo Animal Park does not have single enclosure for those poor animals, they have cages. Just plain cages, with cement bottoms, and steal bars, and that's it. All of the animals seem lethargic and depressed, there's never sufficient food or water, and they're all under weight and much smaller than they should be. As if that's not bad enough, their cages are tiny too, it's like something you would transport an animal in, not have an animal live in. I think that the lions and the bears housed at this zoo have it particularly bad. One of my friends lives right by the tregembo animal park and she said that she can hear the lion crying all night, I doubt that's normal. I love animals and I think it's so sad that these beautiful creatures are being kept in such horrible conditions and have to live such miserable lives. I know so many people have seen this abuse and neglect first hand and have complained so I cannot fathom why this "zoo" is still open to the public. I really hope something is done to help these poor animals or to close the zoo down so they don't have to live this way anymore. Thank you very much for your time and I look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)





January 30, 2017

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Animal Care

Dear Complainant:

Thank you for your correspondence dated 1/28/2017 concerning Tregembo Animal park. Your concern has been issued number AC17-223. **If you wish to know the results of our findings, you must send a request, in writing, to our Freedom of Information Act office. Depending on the circumstances of the situation, please allow us enough time (30 to 60 days) to thoroughly look into your concerns.**

FOIA requests can be submitted three ways--

- 1. Email: foia.officer@aphis.usda.gov**
- 2. Fax: 301-734-5941**
- 3. US Mail: USDA, APHIS, FOIA
4700 River Road, Unit 50
Riverdale, MD 20737**

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Please be assured that we will look into your concerns and take appropriate action if necessary.

Thank you for your interest in the welfare of these animals.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth J. Goldentyer
Director, Animal Welfare Operations
USDA APHIS Animal Care



ANIMAL WELFARE COMPLAINT

Complaint No. AC17-379	Date Entered 19-Apr-17	Received By G.Allums
Referred To McBride/Magid	Reply Due 19-May-17	

Facility or Person Complaint Filed Against

Name Tregembo Animal Park		Customer/License/Registration No. 21143/55-C-0183	
Address 5811 Carolina Beach Road			
City Wilmington	State NC	Zip 28412	Phone No 910-392-3604

Complainant

Name (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	Organization PETA Foundation
Address	

City	State	Zip	Phone No./Email address (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)petaf.org
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How was complaint received?
Email

Details of Complaint: SEE ATTACHED

Results: An inspection was conducted on 4-25-17 by Dr. Mary Ann McBride and SACS Dr. Ellen Magid. No noncompliant items were noted during this inspection.

--The fennec fox, bobcat and guenon were closely observed. Licensee contacted their AV and made appointment for AV to examine these animals later that or the following week. It appears that the fennec fox was in standard spring shed. The elderly bobcat has been previously noted to have visual impairment. The guenon has exhibited the intermittent, inconsistent lameness-type gait for its entire time at this facility and has been observed by the AV in the past. Information regarding the AV evaluations will be obtained in the future.

--The leopard has one enclosure area that has a concrete floor but also has free access to the adjacent dirt- and grass-floored enclosure.

--The brown bear has a double enclosure where one side is concrete floor but the other has deep mulch and plants growing on top of the concrete floor, providing a soft surface that meets the digging needs of a bear.

--The mentioned pacing animals did not exhibit significant stereopathic pacing behaviors. A discussion was held regarding increasing the level of enrichment items and activities. When the animals were observed in the absence of the zoo staff, pacing was greatly diminished or absent.
--There is no singly housed capuchin.
--The enclosure housing the cotton-top tamarins met sanitation standards during this inspection.

Application packet provided? Yes No

INSPECTOR
Mary Ann McBride

DATE
4-May-17

REVIEWED BY
Ellen J. Magid, DVM

DATE
9-Feb-18



April 19, 2017

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@petaf.org

Animal Care

Dear Complainant:

Thank you for your correspondence dated 4/19/2017 concerning Tregembo Animal Park. Your concern has been issued number AC17-379. **If you wish to know the results of our findings, you must send a request, in writing, to our Freedom of Information Act office. Depending on the circumstances of the situation, please allow us enough time (30 to 60 days) to thoroughly look into your concerns.**

FOIA requests can be submitted three ways--

- 1. Web Request Form: <https://efoia-pal.usda.gov/App/Home.aspx>**
- 2. Fax: 301-734-5941**
- 3. US Mail: USDA, APHIS, FOIA
4700 River Road, Unit 50
Riverdale, MD 20737**

Should you have any questions regarding the APHIS FOIA process or need assistance using the Web Request Form please contact APHIS FOIA at 301-851-4102

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Please be assured that we will look into your concerns and take appropriate action if necessary.

Thank you for your interest in the welfare of these animals.

Sincerely,

Craig Nowakowski
Director of Program Support
USDA APHIS Animal Care

Allums, Gina - APHIS

To: ACEAST
Subject: RE: Urgent Request to investigate Tregembo Animal Park, Lic. No. 55-C-0183

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@petaf.org](mailto:petaf.org)
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 8:22 PM
To: betty.i.goldentyer@usda.gov; ACEAST <ACEAST@aphis.usda.gov>
Cc: Maginnis, Gwendalyn M - APHIS <Gwendalyn.M.Maginnis@aphis.usda.gov>
Subject: Urgent Request to investigate Tregembo Animal Park, Lic. No. 55-C-0183
Importance: High

Dear Dr. Goldentyer,

Please see the attached correspondence, sent on behalf of PETA, requesting an inspection of Tregembo Animal Park (license number 55-C-0183). We will be issuing a press release on this footage tomorrow, April 19. Thank you for your timely attention to this matter. Please inform me of the complaint number your agency assigns to this correspondence.

Regards,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

PETA Foundation
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

April 18, 2017

Elizabeth Goldentyer, D.V.M.
Director, Animal Welfare Operations
USDA/APHIS/AC Eastern Region

Via e-mail: betty.j.goldentyer@usda.gov; aceast@aphis.usda.gov

Re: Request for Investigation of Apparent Animal Welfare Act Violations at
Tregembo Animal Park (License No. 55-C-0183)

Dear Dr. Goldentyer,

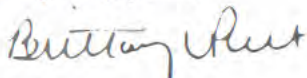
I am writing on behalf of PETA to request that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) promptly investigate Tregembo Animal Park (license no. 55-C-0183) for the following apparent Animal Welfare Act (AWA) violations, detailed in the attached appendix, which were documented by a concerned citizen on April 8:

- A guenon monkey was observed with a severe limp.
- A fennec fox and a donkey had hair loss.
- A bobcat appeared to have difficulty seeing.
- Multiple animals were observed pacing, including a brown bear, a capuchin monkey, a fennec fox, patas monkeys, and a serval.
- A leopard and a brown bear were confined exclusively on concrete.
- Cotton-top tamarins were confined to an enclosure with unsanitary conditions.
- A capuchin monkey was held in solitary confinement.

Please investigate Tregembo Animal Park and ensure that all animals there are provided with adequate veterinary care, shelter, food, and water and are otherwise handled in accordance with the AWA. Please also hold Tregembo Animal Park fully accountable for any and all violations that you discover during your inspection.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please inform me of the complaint number that your agency assigns to this correspondence.

Very truly yours,



Brittany Peet, Esq.
Director, Captive Animal Law Enforcement
202-540-2191 | BrittanyP@petaf.org

cc: Gwendalyn Maginnis, D.V.M., Nonhuman Primate Specialist
gwendalyn.m.maginnis@aphis.usda.gov

PEOPLE FOR
THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT
OF ANIMALS
FOUNDATION

Washington, D.C.
1530 16th St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
202-483-PETA

Los Angeles
2154 W. Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90024
323-449-PETA

Norfolk
901 First St.
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-622-PETA

Oakland
5301 Shattuck Ave.
Oakland, CA 94612
510-763-4474

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Appendix

a. Guenon Monkey With Severe Limp

The witness observed and documented that a guenon monkey had a severe limp that affected the left leg. The monkey appeared to avoid bearing any weight on that leg. (See [Video 1.](#))

Please examine this animal, as well as the relevant veterinary records, and ensure that she or he is receiving adequate veterinary care pursuant to 9 C.F.R. § 2.40.

b. Fennec Fox and Donkey With Hair Loss

The witness observed and documented that a fennec fox had hair loss on the left thigh. (See Photos 1 and 2.) The witness observed this fox scratching. A donkey¹ was also observed with hair loss on the rump. (See Photo 3.) Wildlife veterinarian Dr. Christine Capaldo opined that this loss may be attributable to any number of conditions that warrant veterinary evaluation, including pruritic skin disease caused by parasites, bacteria, allergies, or other diseases or could possibly be excessive or the result of self-inflicted rubbing or scratching because of stress.

Please examine this fox and donkey, as well as the relevant veterinary records, and ensure that they are receiving adequate veterinary care pursuant to 9 C.F.R. § 2.40.

c. Bobcat Who Appears to Be Blind

The witness observed and documented that a bobcat appeared to be visually impaired. (See [Video.](#)) The witness said that the animal's eyes "appeared transparent or glassy, almost reflective" and that he or she "appeared to be feeling around to get up on the ramp." Dr. Capaldo opined that if this bobcat shows signs of blindness—whether acute or chronic—it's necessary to determine what is causing it.

Please examine this animal, as well as the relevant veterinary records, and ensure that he or she is receiving adequate veterinary care pursuant to 9 C.F.R. § 2.40.

d. Leopard and Brown Bear Confined Exclusively on Concrete

The witness observed and documented that a black leopard and a brown bear appear to be confined exclusively on concrete. (See Photos 4 and 5.) In addition, the brown bear was observed to be pacing, an abnormal behavior pattern. (See [Video 2.](#)) Confinement to concrete without any access to a natural substrate is harmful to big cats and bears and can cause them to suffer from numerous physical maladies, including early-onset osteoarthritis and foot injuries. Also, wearing can predispose them to painful blisters and ulcers. Dr. Capaldo opined that calluses can form and crack open, becoming infected, abscessing, and causing pain. In recognition of the health risks inherent in confining bears on concrete substrate, a recent USDA inspection report of Deer Haven Mini Zoo (license no. 51-C-0111) stated the following:

[T]he substrate is concrete flooring, which can exacerbate mobility issues and does not allow for digging, an important normal postural adjustment for bears. In light of the

¹Although horses (*Equus caballus*) not used for research are exempted from the protections of the AWA, donkeys—an entirely different species (*Equus asinus*)—are not. See 7 U.S.C. § 2132(g) (which exempts "horses not used for research purposes" from the definition of "animal" [*emphasis added*]); 9 C.F.R. § 1.1 (same); see also, e.g., Dr. Stephan R. Purdy, D.V.M., Veterinary and Animal Sciences, UMass Amherst, "[A Donkey Is Not a Horse: the Differences From a Practical Veterinary Standpoint.](#)"

bear's behavior, weight issues, and front limb angular deformities, the amount of space, furnishings, and the substrate are not appropriate for this bear.²

These enclosures appear to violate 9 C.F.R. § 3.128, which requires that "[e]nclosures shall be constructed and maintained so as to provide sufficient space to allow each animal to make normal postural and social adjustments with adequate freedom of movement. Inadequate space may be indicated by evidence of malnutrition, poor condition, debility, stress, or abnormal behavior patterns," and *Id.* § 2.131(d)(1), which requires that "[a]nimals shall be exhibited only for periods of time and under conditions consistent with their good health and well-being." Please also examine this leopard and brown bear, as well as the relevant veterinary records, and ensure that they are receiving adequate veterinary care pursuant to 9 C.F.R. § 2.40, including (b)(2), which requires "[t]he use of appropriate methods to *prevent*, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries" [*emphasis added*].

e. Multiple Animals Were Pacing

The witness observed and documented that multiple animals exhibited apparent stereotypical pacing behavior, including a brown bear, a capuchin monkey, a fennec fox, patas monkeys, and a serval. (*See Video 2, Video 3, Video 4, Video 5, and Video 6.*) These repetitive movements may indicate psychological distress. Abnormal pacing is likely caused by a lack of sensory stimulation and suggests poor welfare and suffering,³ in apparent violation of 9 C.F.R. § 2.131 (d)(1) and *Id.* § 3.128. Bears, along with wild felids and canids, are naturally far-ranging animals, and their stereotypic pacing—an "abnormal behavior pattern"—is a sign of stress. Please inspect these animals, as well as the relevant veterinary records, and ensure that they are receiving adequate veterinary care and treatment pursuant to 9 C.F.R. § 2.40.

In addition, these conditions appear to violate 9 C.F.R. § 3.82 (c), requiring that "[c]ertain nonhuman primates must be provided special attention regarding enhancement of their environment, based on the needs of the individual species," specific to "[t]hose that show signs of being in psychological distress through behavior or appearance."

f. Cotton-Top Tamarins Confined to an Enclosure With Unsanitary Conditions

The witness observed and documented unsanitary conditions in the enclosure confining the cotton-top tamarins. (*See Photo 6.*) Feces and food waste appear to have built up under and around the mesh floor of the cage, which is also near their food and water.

These conditions appear to violate 9 C.F.R. § 3.131(a), which requires that "[e]xcreta shall be removed from primary enclosures as often as necessary to prevent contamination of the animals contained therein and to minimize disease hazards and to reduce odors," and *Id.* § 3.84(a), which requires that "[e]xcreta and food waste must be removed from inside each indoor primary enclosure daily and from underneath them as often as necessary to prevent an excessive accumulation of feces and food waste, to prevent the nonhuman primates from becoming soiled, and to reduce disease hazards, insects, pests, and odors."

g. Capuchin Monkey Held in Solitary Confinement

²See USDA Inspection Report, Deer Haven Mini Zoo, license number 51-C-0111, October 12, 2016.

³See G.J. Mason, *Stereotypies and Suffering*, 25 *Behavioural Processes* 103–104 (1991); R.R. Swaisgood and D.J. Shepherdson, *Scientific Approaches to Enrichment and Stereotypies in Zoo Animals: What's Been Done and Where Should We Go Next?* *Zoo Biology* 24, 499–518 (2005).

The witness observed a capuchin monkey who appeared to be confined alone to a barren cage. (*See* Photo 7.) Capuchin monkeys are complex social beings, who, in the wild, live in groups of 10 to 35 conspecifics. Confining any primate in isolation is an apparent violation of 9 C.F.R. 3.81(a), requiring the implementation of "specific provisions to address the social needs of nonhuman primates of species known to exist in social groups in nature" and also *Id.* § 2.131(d)(1).

Pursuant to 9 C.F.R. § 3.81(e)(1), the solitary housing of primates requires an exemption by the attending veterinarian in the environmental enhancement plan, which "must be reviewed at least every 30 days by the attending veterinarian." Please investigate whether the attending veterinarian has made such an exemption for this capuchin and—if the plan is being reviewed every 30 days, as required whether the exemption provides an adequate welfare justification for the isolation of this highly social animal.



Photo 7: A capuchin monkey held in solitary confinement



Photo 5: A brown bear confined exclusively on concrete



Photo 6: Unsanitary conditions in the enclosure confining cotton-top tamarins

**Tregembo Animal Park
License No. 55-C-0183
Wilmington, North Carolina
April 8, 2017**



Photo 1: A fennec fox with hair loss on the left thigh



Photo 2: A fennec fox scratching



Photo 3: A donkey with hair loss on the rump



Photo 4: A leopard confined exclusively on concrete



Inspection Report

Tregembo Animal Park
5811 Carolina Beach Road
Wilmington, NC 28412

Customer ID: **21143**
Certificate: **55-C-0183**
Site: 001
TREGEMBO ANIMAL PARK

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: 25-APR-2017

No non-compliant items identified during this routine inspection conducted in response to a complaint.

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

Additional Inspectors

Magid Ellen, Supervisory Animal Care Specialist

Prepared By:

MCBRIDE MARY ANN, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 6093

Date:
26-APR-2017

Received By:

SHERRY TREGEMBO

Title: FACILITY REPRESENTATIVE

Date:
26-APR-2017



ANIMAL WELFARE COMPLAINT

Complaint No. AC17-591	Date Entered 1-Jun-17	Received By R.Smith
Referred To Magid/McBride	Reply Due 1-Jul-17	

Facility or Person Complaint Filed Against

Name Tregembo Animal Park		Customer/License/Registration No. 21143/55-C-0183	
Address 5811 Carolina Beach Rd			
City Wilmington	State NC	Zip 28412	Phone No (910) 392-3604

Complainant

Name (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)		Organization PETA	
Address			
City	State	Zip	Phone No./Email address (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)petaf.org

How was complaint received?
Email

Details of Complaint: SEE ATTACHED

Results: An inspection of the facility was conducted on June 19, 2017 by Drs. McBride and Stokes. An inspection report was generated.

1. No capuchins were observed drinking their urine during this inspection. One capuchin was observed grooming itself, but none of the animals showed any signs of lesions or injury due to self-hitting and none noted to be rocking in a stereotypic manner. All exhibited normal behavior for captive capuchins.
2. The fennec foxes have been examined by the AV and normal shedding patterns were noted. No evidence of fleas or skin disease were noted.
3. The leopard was noted to have a tail-sucking type of wound on its tail. Mitigating factors were discussed with the licensee. The AV examined the cat the following day and has devised a plan to minimize this behavior.
4. The serval was noted to be sleeping in three different locations at different times during this inspection. No pacing behavior was noted at any time. In the video provided by the complainant, the serval is repeatedly looking back toward the area where his food is prepared. No time of recording was provided, but it is most likely that it was just prior to feeding time and the serval could hear his caretakers preparing his meal.

5. One male armadillo was noted to be exercising vigourously in its enclosure at one time and sleeping at another. This armadillo has recently been separated from its mate due to an impending delivery. Mitigating activities were added to the enclosure by the licensee during the inspection, including a housing box, a ball, and deeper mulch for more digging. Once the young armadillo is big enough, the adult pair will be reunited.

6. The lion-tailed macaque is singly-housed due to recorded incidents of aggression to other macaques during attempts for introduction. This macaque is housed very close to a pair of guenons, and also can see and hear 2 japanese macaques and a pair of spider monkeys close by. The AV has documented and approves of the single-housing requirement of this animal.

7. Although birds are not inspected, no limping geese or muscovy ducks were noted during this inspection. All geese and ducks appeared in adequate health.

8. The hairless patch on the capybara face is a normal sexually dimorphic characteristic of adult male capybara. The morillo is a scent-marking gland.

Application packet provided? Yes No

INSPECTOR

Mary Ann McBride, DVM

DATE

June 20, 2017

REVIEWED BY

Ellen J. Magid, DVM

DATE

16-Mar-18

PEOPLE FOR
THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT
OF ANIMALS
FOUNDATION

Washington, D.C.
1536 16th St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
202-483-PETA

Los Angeles
2154 W. Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90026
323-644-PETA

Norfolk
501 Front St.
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-622-PETA

Oakland
554 Grand Ave.
Oakland, CA 94610
510-763-PETA

PETA FOUNDATION IS AN
OPERATING NAME OF FOUNDATION
TO SUPPORT ANIMAL PROTECTION.

AFFILIATES:

- PETA U.S.
- PETA Asia
- PETA India
- PETA France
- PETA Australia
- PETA Germany
- PETA Netherlands
- PETA Foundation (U.K.)

June 1, 2017

Elizabeth Goldentyer, D.V.M.
Director, Animal Welfare Operations
USDA/APHIS/AC Eastern Region

Via e-mail: betty.j.goldentyer@usda.gov; aceast@aphis.usda.gov

Re: Request for Investigation of Apparent Animal Welfare Act Violations at
Tregembo Animal Park (License No. 55-C-0183)

Dear Dr. Goldentyer:

I am writing on behalf of PETA to request that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) promptly investigate Tregembo Animal Park (license no. 55-C-0183) for the following apparent Animal Welfare Act (AWA) violations, detailed in the attached appendix, which were documented by a concerned citizen on May 14:

- A capuchin monkey was drinking his or her own urine, a sign of potential serious health concerns. (See [Video 1](#).)
- A fennec fox and leopard had hair loss that appears to not be healing. (See Photos 1-3.)
- A capybara had hair loss on the face. (See Photos 4-5.)
- A goose was limping. (See [Video 2](#).)
- Multiple animals exhibited apparently stereotypic behaviors: a capuchin monkey exhibited self-injurious behaviors in the form of self-biting and self-hitting, a capuchin monkey was rocking, and a serval and armadillo were pacing. (See [Video 3](#), [Video 4](#), [Video 5](#) and [Video 6](#).)
- A lion-tailed macaque was held in solitary confinement. (See Photo 6.)

Please investigate Tregembo Animal Park and ensure that all animals there are provided with adequate veterinary care, shelter, food, and water and are otherwise handled in accordance with the AWA. Please also hold Tregembo Animal Park fully accountable for any and all violations that you discover during your inspection.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please inform me of the complaint number that your agency assigns to this correspondence.

Very truly yours,



Rebecca Smudzinski, M.A.
Wildlife Specialist, Captive Animal Law Enforcement
757-409-1182 | RebeccaS@petaf.org

cc: Gwendalyn Maginnis, D.V.M., Nonhuman Primate Specialist
(gwendalyn.m.maginnis@aphis.usda.gov)

Appendix

a. Capuchin Monkey Drinking Own Urine

The witness observed and documented a capuchin monkey who appeared to be drinking his or her own urine. (See [Video 1](#).) This behavior could indicate serious health issues and should be evaluated by a veterinarian. Wildlife veterinarian Dr. Heather Rally opined that diabetic urine is high in glucose and craving glucose is a symptom of diabetes. Diabetes is common in captive primates, who have been observed drinking their own urine¹.

Please examine this animal, as well as their veterinary records, and ensure that they are receiving adequate veterinary care pursuant to 9 C.F.R. § 2.40.

b. Fennec Fox and Leopard With Chronic Hair Loss

The witness observed and documented a fennec fox with hair loss on the left thigh. (See Photos 1-2.) PETA first alerted the USDA to this fox's condition on April 18 (See Complaint No. AC17-379). The animal's condition has not improved and may be a sign of a more serious condition that should be evaluated by a veterinarian. Dr. Rally opined that because the pattern of hair loss was not consistent with shedding and appears persistent, there is a concern for skin pathology, including a potentially pruritic skin disease caused by parasites, bacteria, allergies, or other etiology.

On April 8, the witness observed and documented a leopard's tail, which was red on the tip and had hair loss. (See Photo 3.) According to the witness, on May 14, the tail tip looked the same as it did a month ago. The witness was not able to document the tail on this visit, but the condition could be indicative of a non-healing wound and can lead to infection.

Please examine this fox and leopard, as well as their veterinary records, and ensure that they are receiving adequate veterinary care pursuant to 9 C.F.R. § 2.40.

c. Capybara With Hair Loss

The witness observed and documented a capybara who had hair loss on the face. (See Photos 4-5.) Wildlife veterinarian Dr. Christine Capaldo opined that this hair loss may be attributable to any number of conditions that warrant veterinary evaluation, including parasites, infection, irritation or trauma.

Please examine this animal, as well as their veterinary records, and ensure that they are receiving adequate veterinary care pursuant to 9 C.F.R. § 2.40.

d. Limping Goose

The witness observed and documented a goose² who was limping. (See [Video 2](#).) The limp was significant and could indicate a musculoskeletal disorder or trauma and warrants veterinary evaluation.

Please examine this goose, as well as their veterinary records, and ensure that they are receiving adequate veterinary care pursuant to 9 C.F.R. § 2.40.

¹ Hamilton, C. L., and John R. Brobeck. "Diabetes mellitus in hyperphagic monkeys." *Endocrinology* 73(4), 512-515 (1963).

² Although the USDA has not yet developed specific standards for birds, these warm-blooded animals are covered by the plain language of the AWA (see 7 U.S.C. § 2132(g); see also 9 C.F.R. § 1.1) and AWA regulations, including the general AWA standards set forth in subpart F, 9 C.F.R. §§ 3.125-142.

e. Multiple Animals Exhibiting Apparent Stereotypical Behaviors, Including Self-Injury

The witness observed and documented a capuchin monkey who exhibited self-injurious behaviors, including self-biting and self-hitting. (See [Video 3](#) starting at 0:35.) In addition, multiple animals were observed and documented exhibiting other apparent stereotypical behaviors, including a capuchin monkey who was rocking, and a serval and armadillo who were pacing. (See [Video 4](#) starting at 0:41, [Video 5](#), and [Video 6](#).) These repetitive movements may indicate psychological distress. Abnormal behaviors are likely caused by a lack of sensory stimulation and suggests poor welfare and suffering,³ in apparent violation of 9 C.F.R. § 3.128, requiring that "[e]nclosures shall be constructed and maintained so as to provide sufficient space to allow each animal to make normal postural and social adjustments with adequate freedom of movement. Inadequate space may be indicated by evidence of malnutrition, poor condition, debility, stress, or abnormal behavior patterns," and *Id.* § 2.131(d)(1), requiring that "[a]nimals shall be exhibited only for periods of time and under conditions consistent with their good health and well-being."

In addition, exhibitors "must develop, document, and follow an appropriate plan for environment enhancement *adequate* to promote the psychological well-being of nonhuman primates." 9 C.F.R. § 3.81 [emphasis added]. As is apparent from the capuchin's bizarre and self-injurious behavior, Tregembo Animal Park does *not* appear to be following a plan of environmental enhancement that is *adequately* addressing the primate's psychological needs. Because he or she "show[s] signs of being in psychological distress through behavior or appearance," the capuchin "must be provided special attention regarding enhancement of their environment, based on the needs of the individual species and in accordance with the instructions of the attending veterinarian." *Id.* § 3.81(c).

Please inspect these animals, in particular the capuchin for self-inflicted wounds, as well as their veterinary records, and ensure that they are receiving adequate veterinary care and treatment pursuant to 9 C.F.R. § 2.40.

f. Lion-tailed Macaque Held in Solitary Confinement

The witness observed a lion-tailed macaque who appeared to be confined alone to a barren cage. (See Photo 6.) Lion-tailed macaques are complex social beings, who, in the wild, live in groups of 10 to 20 conspecifics. Confining any primate in isolation is an apparent violation of 9 C.F.R. 3.81(a), requiring the implementation of "specific provisions to address the social needs of nonhuman primates of species known to exist in social groups in nature" and also *Id.* § 2.131(d)(1).

Pursuant to 9 C.F.R. § 3.81(e)(1), the solitary housing of primates requires an exemption by the attending veterinarian in the environmental enhancement plan, which "must be reviewed at least every 30 days by the attending veterinarian." Please investigate whether the attending veterinarian has made and is qualified to make such an exemption for this macaque and—if the plan is being reviewed every 30 days, as required—whether the exemption provides an adequate welfare justification for the isolation of this highly social animal.

³See G.J. Mason, *Stereotypies and Suffering*, 25 *Behavioural Processes* 103–104 (1991); R.R. Swaisgood and D.J. Shepherdson, *Scientific Approaches to Enrichment and Stereotypies in Zoo Animals: What's Been Done and Where Should We Go Next?* *Zoo Biology* 24, 499–518 (2005).

**Tregembo Animal Park
License No. 55-C-0183
Wilmington, North Carolina**



Photo 1: A fennec fox with hair loss on the left thigh (May 14, 2017)



Photo 2: A fennec fox with hair loss on the left thigh (May 14, 2017)



Photo 3: A leopard's tail with hair loss and red skin (April 8, 2017)



Photo 4: A capybara with hair loss on the face (May 14, 2017)



Photo 5: A capybara with hair loss on the face (May 14, 2017)



Photo 6: A lion-tailed macaque held in solitary confinement (May 14, 2017)



ANIMAL WELFARE COMPLAINT

Complaint No. AC17-688	Date Entered July 13, 2017	Received By A Benson
Referred To McBride / Magid	Reply Due August 12, 2017	

Facility or Person Complaint Filed Against

Name Tregembo Animal Park		Customer/License/Registration No. 21143 / 55-C-0183	
Address 5811 Carolina Beach Road			
City Wilmington	State NC	Zip 28412	Phone No (910) 392-3604

Complainant

Name (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)		Organization	
Address (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)			
City (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	State	Zip	Phone No./Email address

How was complaint received? Email

Forward response to FOIA: Yes No

Details of Complaint: See attached.

Results: An inspection was conducted on 6-19-17. This complaint lists items that can be responded to based on that inspection. Many of the animals are alone due to incompatibility issues. The primates have specific veterinary approval to be alone. The lion's enclosure size is within AWA standards. The feeding is optional and the cages are designed to protect both the public and the animals and are within AWA standards.

Application packet provided? Yes No

INSPECTOR
Mary Ann McBride, VMO

REVIEWED BY
Ellen J. Magid, DVM

DATE
July 17, 2017

DATE
16-Mar-18

From: [ACEAST](#)
To: [Benson, Amy V - APHIS](#)
Subject: FW: USDA APHIS ANIMAL CARE - Animal Welfare Complaint Submission
Date: Monday, July 10, 2017 1:14:15 PM

Hi Amy,

Please see the complaint below.

Thanks,

Teany D. Gerkin
Program Support Specialist
Eastern Region USDA/APHIS/Animal Care
920 Main Campus Drive, Suite 200
Raleigh, NC 27606
919-855-7116 (Work)
919-855-7123 (fax)
TEANY.D.GERKIN@APHIS.USDA.GOV

[Join the Animal Care Stakeholder Registry and receive emails on topics of interest](#)

From: noreply@aphis.usda.gov [mailto:noreply@aphis.usda.gov]
Sent: Saturday, July 8, 2017 10:05 AM
To: ACEAST <ACEAST@aphis.usda.gov>
Subject: USDA APHIS ANIMAL CARE - Animal Welfare Complaint Submission

Details of complaint:

- Name of USDA licensee/registrant:
- USDA license/registration number:
- City/State:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- Complaint details:Tregembo Park (zoo) in Wilmington,NC has got to be the saddest place that I've ever seen! Most animals are alone,no mates or anything. The cage sizes are ridiculously small. The pen/cage that the lion is in,is not big enough for my dog to roam around in. They sell you corn and peanuts to feed the animals.Yet,you have to throw the food at the cages.The spaces/holes in the cages are so small,the food doesn't go in.So all you're doing is throwing stuff at the animals,with it bouncing off the cages. Someone really needs to check this place out! It really needs to be shut down and animals moved!

Submitted To: aceast@aphis.usda.gov

Complaint Contact Information:

Can Contact Complainer: Yes

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Submitted on: Jul 8, 2017 8:04:55 AM MDI



July 13, 2017

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Animal Care

Dear Complainant:

Thank you for your correspondence dated 7/8/2017 concerning Tregembo Animal Park. Your concern has been issued number AC17-688. **If you wish to know the results of our findings, you must send a request, in writing, to our Freedom of Information Act office. Depending on the circumstances of the situation, please allow us enough time (30 to 60 days) to thoroughly look into your concerns.**

FOIA requests can be submitted three ways--

1. Email: foia.officer@aphis.usda.gov
2. Fax: 301-734-5941
3. US Mail: USDA, APHIS, FOIA
4700 River Road, Unit 50
Riverdale, MD 20737

Animal Care is the division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that is responsible for the enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act. The Act provides minimum standards for the humane care and use of animals at USDA licensed or registered facilities.

Animal Care inspectors conduct routine unannounced inspections at all USDA licensed and registered facilities to ensure that they are meeting or exceeding these minimum standards. Our inspectors also conduct searches for unlicensed facilities conducting regulated activities. We perform inspections and searches when necessary in response to valid concerns and complaints received from the public to ensure the well-being of the animals and compliance with the law. If violations are found, enforcement action appropriate for the circumstances will be initiated.

Please be assured that we will look into your concerns and take appropriate action if necessary.

Thank you for your interest in the welfare of these animals.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth J. Goldentyer
Director, Animal Welfare Operations
USDA APHIS Animal Care