

DEW Haven

(Bob and Julie Miner)

918 Pond Rd., Mount Vernon, ME 04352

DEW Haven, formerly known as DEW Animal Kingdom and Sanctuary, is owned by Bob and Julie Miner. The facility has failed to meet the minimum standards for the care of animals used in exhibition as established in the federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA). The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has repeatedly cited DEW Haven for numerous infractions, including failing to trim animals' hooves, failing to provide animals with sufficient shelter from inclement weather, failing to maintain enclosures in good repair, failing to have an adequate perimeter fence, failing to store food properly, and failing to sanitize various areas of the facility properly. In 2012, the USDA cited it for failing to notify the attending veterinarian of behavioral changes in one of the bears. The animal had become aggressive over a period of a year and eventually attacked two other bears, causing all three to be euthanized after a failed attempt to sedate them. Contact PETA for documentation.

December 2, 2020: The USDA cited DEW Haven for failing to have an 8-foot perimeter fence surrounding the facility. A 60-foot section of the fence was 6 feet high, which is considered insufficient to protect animals and the public at facilities that confine dangerous wild animals.

August 30, 2019: The USDA issued DEW Haven a repeat citation for failing to provide animals with safe enclosures in three instances. A gate next to a lion enclosure had an approximately 6- to 8-inch gap

through which an adult lion could potentially extend a foreleg and reach a person walking next to the enclosure. Also, a goat kid was observed putting their head through a gap in an enclosure gate and, because of their growing horns, was unable to withdraw. Finally, the fence between two tiger enclosures had a dead tree leaning against it, weakening the structural integrity of the fence and potentially leading to unplanned comingling, risking injury to the animals. The second tiger enclosure had branches growing through the fence and a loose top rail that could weaken the fence and lessen its ability to contain the tigers.

DEW Haven was also cited for failing to store supplies of food in facilities that adequately protected it against contamination. Dead flies and mouse feces were present in the food preparation area and on shelves holding closed containers of food. The bulk grain storage area had bird droppings covering the outside of the door, and a hole was present that could allow birds access to the grain bin.

August 29, 2017: The USDA cited DEW Haven for failing to repair a broken pump for the pool in the enclosure housing the black bears. Because of the broken pump, the pool hadn't been cleaned in a week, and the water was dark in color and had an accumulation of miscellaneous debris. The facility was also cited for failing to repair exposed chain-link mesh in the enclosure housing the badger, and failing to maintain a shelter for sheep, goats, and aoudads in good repair.

August 23, 2016: The USDA cited DEW Haven for failing to repair holes in an enclosure housing a patas monkey, failing to repair a gap in the fencing surrounding an enclosure housing two tigers, failing to repair detached fencing in pens housing goats and wallabies, failing to replace eroded dirt along the front edge of the pool

in the enclosure housing black bears, and failing to repair areas of the enclosures housing the binturong and cavy.

July 1, 2015: The USDA cited DEW Haven for failing to trim a sheep's excessively long hoof and failing to maintain the following items in good repair: a shelter housing Jacob sheep that was missing boards, leaving gaps large enough for the sheep to put their heads through, risking injury; fencing around the enclosure housing camels that was sagging and bent, risking injury and potentially allowing for the entry of unwanted animals; fencing around the pens housing goats that had detached portions, creating gaps that could allow the animals to escape, risking injury; and the trailer used to transport animals that had rusted areas, causing gaps to form between the floor and the wall.

June 19, 2014: The USDA cited DEW Haven for failing to ensure containment of big cats by failing to activate hot wires around all the big-cat enclosures and failing to use sufficiently tall fences and gates in two enclosures housing tigers. The facility was also cited for failing to cover garbage cans in the food preparation area.

November 28, 2012: The USDA cited DEW Haven for euthanizing three bears when attempts to sedate them failed after an older male bear attacked the two female bears, resulting in injuries. According to the licensees, the male bear had been displaying behavioral changes, including aggression, over the previous year, but the licensee failed to communicate that information to the attending veterinarian. The facility was also cited for failing to remove a roll of chain-link fencing on the ground in the enclosure housing sheep and failing to fix a gap in the fence of the enclosure housing llamas, both of which could cause injury.

December 14, 2011: The USDA cited DEW Haven for allowing a woman to pose in a photo shoot inside the barrier fence, just outside the primary fence of an enclosure housing an adult or subadult tiger. The facility was also cited for failing to remove construction materials from undesignated areas and failing to maintain the following structures in good repair: the fencing around the enclosure housing zebras and deer, which had gaps large enough to injure animals if they were to entangle their heads, and the shelter in the enclosure housing pigs, which had jagged edges.

September 22, 2010: The USDA cited DEW Haven for failing to maintain the following structures in good repair: the barrier fence around the enclosure housing kangaroos, which had a gap that would allow the public to come into direct contact with the animals; the fences around the enclosures housing the sheep, cavy, and coati, which had sharp ends that could have injured the animals; and a gap in a large lion enclosure that allowed for the risk of escape. The facility was also cited for failing to remove exposed insulation and to clear dust from a radio in the food preparation area, which could potentially serve as a source of contamination for food, and failing to store food properly. Raw meat was being thawed uncovered adjacent to fruit that was to be fed to primates, posing a risk of contamination to the fruit.

September 24, 2009: The USDA cited DEW Haven for having considerable clutter and unhygienic conditions in the kitchen area, including exposed insulation above the food preparation counter.

April 17, 2008: The USDA cited DEW Haven for failing to repair a shelf in the enclosure housing the black leopard, failing to remove a crowbar from the gateway to the enclosure housing bobcats, failing to

provide a deer with shelter, and failing to identify three wolf hybrids properly.

April 4, 2006: The USDA cited DEW Haven for failing to provide two sheep, a tiger cub, and a lion cub with adequate shelter. It was snowing and raining on the day of the inspection, and the two sheep had no shelter. Both the tiger and lion cubs were in pens with shelters that weren't large enough for them to have freedom of movement. The facility was also cited for failing to fix gaps and areas that were too short in the perimeter fence.

March 21, 2006: The USDA cited DEW Haven for a repeat citation for failing to fix gaps in the perimeter fence. The agency also cited the facility for failing to provide a barrier between a 130-pound tiger cub and the public, and allowing the members of the public to pet the cub.

November 9, 2005: The USDA cited DEW Haven for failing to replace a bag of primate food that was out of date; failing to repair a wall of a shelter in the deer and goat area that was pushed out about 8 inches away from the building, which could cause harm to the animals; failing to have adequate drainage in a pen housing a tiger; failing to repair areas of the perimeter fence, including a 75-foot section near a lion pen that was missing and areas near a bear pen that were too short or leaning; failing to have a feeder for the badger and instead placing the food on the floor, allowing for possible contamination; and failing to remove bird feces from the llama's feed area.

February 2, 2005: The USDA cited DEW Haven for failing to provide a goat who had long hooves with adequate veterinary care and housing a tiger cub in the human living area. The facility was also cited for failing to maintain the following structures in good repair: the shelter housing goats, which had

protruding nails and boards falling off the side; the fences around the areas housing camels and goats, which had chain-link ends protruding into the enclosures; and the fence around the area housing sheep, which had broken away from the fence post.

September 27, 2004: The USDA cited DEW Haven for failing to clean the facility maintenance area where waterfowl, a goat, and pigs intended for human consumption were being held. The facility was also cited for failing to include a squirrel monkey on its program of veterinary care, failing to remove weeds from an area near the tigers and deer, failing to control a fly problem by the pen housing a cougar cub, and failing to remove an old, unused chain-link fence from the ground of the pen housing the deer.

February 10, 2004: The USDA cited DEW Haven for failing to trim a goat's long hooves, failing to provide a llama with sufficient shelter, and failing to have food containers so that sheep didn't have to eat off the ground.