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*Managing fish and wildlife
resources for their long-term
well-being and the benefit
of people.*

620 South Meridian Street
Tallahassee, Florida
32399-1600
Voice: (850) 488-4676

Hearing/speech-impaired:
(800) 955-8771 (T)
(800) 955-8770 (V)

MyFWC.com

May 21, 2020

Monica Welde
Bearadise Ranch
6908 245th Street East
Myakka City, Florida 34251

NOTICE OF DENIAL

Dear Ms. Welde:

This letter is in response to your application for a License to Possess Class I/II Wildlife for Exhibition or Public Sale (ESA), Application ID 17406.

On January 13, 2020, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Captive Wildlife Office staff received your application. The decision to deny your application is based on the following:

With your application, you submitted an itinerary of planned events. In 2020, you state you will be "home" with the wildlife for the months of April, May, and June, totaling more than 90 consecutive days. Previously submitted itineraries also show the wildlife spent more than 90 consecutive days in your Florida facility in both 2018 and 2019. You were made aware of this issue at the time by Commission staff. The extended periods of time spent in Florida violate Rule 68A-6.015(1)(e), Florida Administrative Code, (F.A.C.), which states in part:

(e) Performing wildlife shall not be kept in cages or enclosures below the size required by the standard caging requirements for more than a total of 90 days out of each 120 day period. Such mobile exhibits shall provide an itinerary of planned exhibition times and locations with annual renewal applications.

The caging at your facility does not meet the permanent standard caging requirements for Ursidae per Rule 68A-6.0124(3)(a), F.A.C., which states in part:

(3) Brown bears (e.g., European, grizzly, Kodiak) and polar bears.

(a) For one animal, a cage 24 feet by 32 feet, 10 feet high. For each additional animal, increase cage size by 25 percent of original floor area.

Based on your failure to meet the eligibility requirements for the issuance of the ESA, your application has been denied.

Rule 68-1.010(1)(b), F.A.C., states in part:

(1) The Commission shall deny applications for any license, permit or other authorization based upon any one or more of the following grounds:

(b) Failure of the applicant to meet eligibility requirements or criteria for issuance of the license, permit or other authorization

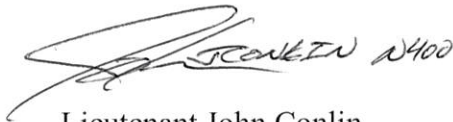
We are processing your application fee for a refund, and you should receive it within 21 days.

Possession of Class I wildlife for commercial use without a license is a violation of Section 379.3761, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and may result in law enforcement action.

In accordance with Rule 28-106.201, F.A.C., and Section 120.60, F.S., you may request a hearing within 21 days from the date of receipt of the notice on this matter if you believe this decision was made in error. Please follow the instructions in the enclosed packet of information regarding the hearing process.

If you have any questions, please call the Captive Wildlife Office at (850) 488-6253, or write to Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Division of Law Enforcement, Captive Wildlife Office, 620 South Meridian Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1600.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JOHN CONLIN" with a date "2/4/00" written to the right. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Lieutenant John Conlin
Division of Law Enforcement

jc/sw
Enclosure