

### United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

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# Inspection Report

Stone Mountain Game Ranch Yellow River Game Ranch 4525 Highway 78 Lilburn, GA 30047

Customer ID: 3169

Certificate: 57-C-0029

Site: 001

STONE MOUNTAIN GAME RANCH

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: Apr-05-2016

3.53 (a) (1)

#### PRIMARY ENCLOSURES.

In the shed located in the veterinary treatment there are three rabbits housed individually and temporarily in suspended rabbit cages while there primary enclosure is under construction. The hanging cages are very rusty and the surface of the wire is roughened and flaking. These cages cannot be adequately cleaned and pose a disease and/or injury risk, rabbits.

In the rabbit pen toward the beginning of the walking trail there is a portion of buried chain-link fencing that was not covered up. The loops of wire protrude from the ground in such a way as to pose a potential leg/foot entanglement hazard for the three rabbits housed in the enclosure.

Primary enclosures for rabbits must be structurally sound and maintained in good repair. Excessively rusted cages must be repaired or replaced and all fencing and/or wiring must be maintained in a manner that does not pose an injury hazard for the rabbits. To be corrected by: April 26, 2016

3.56 (d)

#### SANITATION.

There is an excess of flies hovering just under the hanging rabbit cages in the shed of the veterinary area. Insects may carry disease and contaminate food posing a health and welfare risks to the animals. An effective program for the control of insects and pests must be established and maintained. To be completed by: April 15, 2016.

3.125 (a) REPEAT

### FACILITIES, GENERAL.

In the bear enclosure one of the main upright metal posts has corrosion leaving holes in the lower portions of the post which may compromise the structural strength of the caging.

In the coyote enclosure there are several deep burrows excavated near the edges of the primary enclosure fence. One of these burrows is angled in the direction of the enclosure fence. On the outside of the



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enclosure near the access tunnel and in very close proximity to this burrow, there is a hole or depression in the ground that may have occurred from the dirt collapsing or possibly another animal digging near the enclosure. These holes could create an escape route for the coyote.

The goat pen housing the single goat next to the turkey pen has a small gap at the base of the chain link fencing between the enclosures. There are sharp points on the wire. The enclosure containing 15 goats on the other side of the singly housed goat has a large gap at the base of the fence along the back side. On the other side of the path the dirt has eroded primarily at the back side of the enclosure housing about 14 goats creating large gaps between the bottom of the fence and the ground. These gaps may allow an animal to get out of the enclosure, become trapped, or allow other animals to enter.

There are sharp points of wire in areas the goats can access, such as at the front of the enclosure where there are fence panels connected together with a piece of wire and an area on the left back portion of the fence where a supplemental layer of fence was attached by a piece of wire. The wire used was cut and twisted leaving sharp points pointing into the enclosure. These sharp points are an injury hazard.

At the sheep pen containing 17 sheep, next to alpacas there are gaps along the back fence between the fence and the ground. In the area behind the old blacksmith shop there is a wooden platform that is broken along the edge close to the cross fence. The broken platform combined with the erosion of the dirt beneath the platform has created a narrow drop-off that could potentially cause leg injury.

The access pass-through tunnel for the bobcats has small rusty holes in the side compromising structural strength. On the rectangular pen side there is erosion that has exposed sharp wire points protruding upward from the floor that may cause injury.

At the left front corner of the bison enclosure a large hole/gap was visible in the bottom of the chain link fence. There are sharp points protruding from the bent fencing. There is a gap at the bottom of the fencing under the railing toward the back of the enclosure and a long loose metal cable dangling loosely toward the back of the enclosure.

In the pen for the fox by the river there are thin wires wrapped at the bottom of the fence enclosure with several sharp ends pointing inward into the enclosure. The gray fox pen has a raised platform where the fox was sleeping during the inspection. There are two of the wooden cross supports that are falling off/displaced and in poor repair. There is also a metal rung at the bottom of one of the front enclosure panels that has broken and is pointing into the cage.

Poorly maintained enclosures with wire structure that has been compromised by rust, gaps in the fence and/or sharp edges and points pose an injury hazard. The structural integrity of the fence is compromised which will interfere with the capability of the fence to adequately maintain the animals within their enclosure and fail to prevent other animals from entering the enclosure.

All housing facilities shall be structurally sound and shall be maintained in good repair to protect the

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animals from injury and to contain the animals. They shall be constructed of material of such strength as appropriate for the animals involved. The licensee must verify containment features such as buried wire are in place and adequate. The licensee must secure, repair or remove all dangling or exposed wires or cables that may pose an entanglement risk in all animal enclosures. The licensee must ensure that in all facilities there are no sharp wires or other sharp edges or pointed objects on which animals can injure themselves. The licensee must ensure that the supplemental structures inside any enclosure (such as platforms, shelters, supports, or any other item that the animal comes into contact with) are in good repair and do not pose an injury hazard.

### 3.125

### FACILITIES, GENERAL.

The food storage facilities are in disrepair. The styrofoam insulation of the ceiling in the primary feed storage building is falling and there is debris, cobwebs etc. present on the ceiling and walls. The feed is currently stored in covered barrels but when the lids are removed the feed could potentially become contaminated by falling styrofoam and debris. The old freight container in the off exhibit area being used to store bagged dry food has bagged food stacked on pallets. Several bags have been torn and there are holes in the bags where rodents have shredded the packaging. There is food spilled and scattered on and around the bags and pallets also indicating the presence of rodents. There are several holes in the walls at the junction between the wall and floor (some of these holes been filled with a foam filler to prevent rodent access) but others are still present. There is lawn care equipment (mowers, weed wackers, trimmers, etc.) stored at the back of the container. These items contain gas and oil which could spill and contaminate the food.

All food shall be stored in a manner that will protect them from contamination and deterioration. To be corrected by April 15, 2016.

### 3.129 (b)

#### FEEDING.

There is a public feeding tube provided at the bear enclosure housing the 4 bears. The tube is a white PVC pipe though which the public is allowed to drop food to feed the bears. The inside surface of the pipe has a build up of food residue or grime that will contaminate food delivered through the tube. Contamination poses a health risk. All food receptacles shall be kept clean and sanitary to prevent contamination and protect the health of the bears. To be completed by: April 15, 2016

### 3.130

#### WATERING.

The suspended water dish in the bear enclosure is rusted and not operational. Currently the only water source for the bears is their pool which becomes contaminated during play. Another source of clean water is being added, but at this time the only source is the pool water. An appropriate source of potable water must be provided. To be corrected by April 8, 2016.

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## 3.131 (c) SANITATION.

Housekeeping. The fenced in "off exhibit area" is very cluttered. There is equipment, building materials, crates, pallets, old housing structures, trailers, trash, etc. creating clutter. Extreme clutter encourages the presence and nesting of vermin and rodents thereby increasing disease hazard. There are open feed carts being filled with vegetables, bread, fruits, etc. for the animals present in this area which could become contaminated. The two dry food storage units (building and freight container) are located in this area as well. In addition, animals being transported to the veterinary area must pass through this location. The area shall be cleaned and organized to minimize the presence of vermin and protect feed and animals from exposure to contaminants. To be corrected by: April 15, 2016

No records were inspected during this inspection.

This inspection and exit interview was conducted by Brenda Pietrosante, ACI, Michelle Williams, VMO, and Suzan Loerzel, VMO, accompanied by Assistant Manager. There will be a second exit interview conducted with the Facility Manager at a later date.