



## Inspection Report

Zoological Society Of Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh Zoo & Ppg Aquarium  
One Wild Place  
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Customer ID: **2241**  
Certificate: **23-C-0009**  
Site: 001  
THE PITTSBURGH ZOO

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION  
Date: Jan-06-2015

### 2.131 (b) (1)

#### HANDLING OF ANIMALS.

The elephant husbandry staff employs two dogs to watch the elephants and alert the staff to elephants' behavior while the handlers are in free contact. Due to weather on the day of inspection, only a limited interaction between dogs and elephants could be observed by APHIS officials. The manager was asked to demonstrate an example of this type of interaction, and so he called one of the dogs to create a barrier between the husbandry staff and an elephant which had reached its trunk through the enclosure bars. The dog showed aggressive behavior, growling and lunging at one elephant and entering its enclosure before being called by the manager. The manager also reported the dogs' having bitten the elephants during the course of their work. Furthermore, a CBS News clip from May 13, 2014, which was verified by the facility representatives, showed the elephants exhibiting signs of distress when charged by one of the dogs, including ear flapping, trumpeting, and turning and running away. The manager was clear that the dogs are not herding the elephants but are protecting the keepers during free contact. Having the dogs interact with the elephants by unrestrained lunging and biting may cause undue stress to the elephants. All animal handling must be done in a manner that does not cause behavioral stress.

Correct by: from this point forward.

### 3.106 (a)

#### WATER QUALITY.

There is one female sea lion (Maggie) with significant blue discoloration affecting both eyes, and a prolonged history of corneal edema flare-ups according to the keepers and the attending veterinarian. Also in discussion with the veterinarian it was discovered that most of the marine mammals have had issues with corneal disease. Upon inspection of water quality records both from the past month and some from ~6 months ago, it was noted that the chlorine levels (especially in the sea lion pools) have been elevated. The chlorine level had reached as high as 8 PPM, and was over 2 PPM on 5 separate days during December 2014. Excessive chemical additives like chlorine can cause ocular problems in these species. Levels of chlorine in marine mammal enclosures must be maintained so there is no detrimental effect to the health of the animals contained therein.

Correct by: January 21, 2015.

Prepared By:

**KATHRYN CAMPITELLI**

KATHRYN M CAMPITELLI USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:  
Jan-07-2015

Title:

VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER Inspector 6085

Received By:

(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)

Date:  
Jan-07-2015

Title:



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This inspection and exit briefing were conducted with facility representatives.

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**Title:** VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER Inspector 6085

**Date:**  
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