

Wildlife World Zoo

16501 W. Northern Ave., Litchfield Park, AZ 85340

Wildlife World Zoo has failed to meet minimum standards for the care of animals used in exhibitions as established in the federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA). The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has cited Wildlife World Zoo for numerous infractions, including housing incompatible animals in the same enclosure (which caused trauma and death), failing to provide shelter from the elements, failing to maintain clean and secure enclosures, and failing to provide veterinary care, resulting in the deaths of animals. The facility has sold “surplus” animals to a dealer who supplies hunting ranches, and it continues to breed animals today. Baby animals draw crowds, but when they get older, they become “surplus” and are often disposed of in whatever way is most convenient. Wildlife World Zoo breeds tigers to be white, which is an aberrant color that is artificially generated for profit and entertainment purposes only. The Association of Zoos and Aquarium’s Species Survival Plan opposes selective breeding of an extremely rare allele for white coloration. Contact PETA for documentation.

May 29, 2019: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for failing to minimize the exposure of animals to pathogens by not having an effective “pest”-control program. Live roaches were observed in two enclosures of the small-mammal house. In areas of these two exhibits out of view of the public, where other animals were housed and food was kept, there were

many dead insects on the floor, including cockroaches.

March 15, 2019: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for failing to provide sufficient barriers between enclosures housing jaguars and the viewing public. The enclosures had a 3-foot stone barrier in front of the metal fencing, and members of the public were able to reach out and touch the bars of the enclosures. A facility representative said that one of the jaguars scratched two members of the public who had leaned over the barrier.

March 9, 2019: A woman was attacked by a jaguar at Wildlife World Zoo after she crossed over the public barrier to take a selfie near the fence of the jaguar enclosure. The animal reached out and attacked her arm. The woman sustained non-life-threatening injuries.

October 5, 2017: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for failing to repair a gap in the wire mesh in an enclosure housing two guenons, failing to repair a gap with exposed screws and sharp points in an enclosure housing lemurs, failing to replace fraying ropes in an enclosure housing primates, failing to secure the plastic cover protecting a light fixture in an enclosure housing tamarins, failing to repair shade structures that were ripped and hanging into enclosures housing primates and leopards, failing to repair a rock structure with peeling paint in an enclosure housing marmosets, failing to repair fencing with sharp points in the aviary, failing to repair a shade structure with sharp exposed edges in an enclosure housing camels, and failing to cover exposed holes in the flooring of the night house for the cheetah and tiger.

May 24, 2017: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for failing to ensure that animals showing potential signs of medical problems were evaluated by a veterinarian in a timely manner. The inspector observed two prairie dogs who were stumbling and falling while

walking and who struggled to right themselves after they fell over. Their most recent veterinary exam had been performed on April 5, 2016.

April 13, 2016: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for failing to provide three red river hogs with potable water and failing to house guinea pigs away from sun conures, risking possible transmission of diseases between the species and injury to the guinea pigs.

January 14, 2016: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for failing to provide a goat who had overgrown hooves and walked with a slightly abnormal gait with adequate veterinary care, failing to have effective barriers around the enclosure holding giraffes (allowing members of the public to touch and feed one giraffe), failing to keep in good repair the shelter on the island holding five ring-tailed lemurs and the shelter roof on the island holding five spider monkeys, failing to clean the hard surfaces that primates come into contact with on a daily basis, failing to provide primates held outdoors with heat, failing to provide adequate shelter from the elements in an enclosure holding four ring-tailed lemurs, and failing to keep the food-storage area clean. Spilled dry food was on the floor, and the area also contained rodent feces.

May 4, 2015: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for failing to inform it about areas (which the inspector didn't know about) that housed animals used for regulated activities and failing to have an identifiable attendant present at the giraffe exhibit, where members of the public were feeding the giraffes, and at the kangaroo walkabout area, where the public could have contact with the animals. The facility was also cited for failing to maintain several enclosures in good repair; failing to have a clean water receptacle free of debris in the enclosure holding 19 goats; failing to remove a large

accumulation of building material and garbage that was near the enclosure holding goats, risking "pest" infestation and disease transmission; giving contaminated food to the breeding goats, who were being fed on the ground (and the inspector noted an accumulation of fecal material throughout the feed); and failing to clean the enclosure holding 19 goats. It contained an excessive accumulation of feces, and the animals couldn't lie down without becoming contaminated.

July 7, 2014: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for failing to maintain a clean enclosure for two goats. There was an excessive accumulation of feces, and according to the inspector, the goats could not lie down in the enclosure without becoming contaminated by the feces.

September 5, 2013: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for failing to provide several primates with safe enclosures. One enclosure housing two gibbons had at least two wires with sharp ends protruding and a wooden perch in disrepair, a rusted wire with sharp ends protruded into the enclosure housing three gibbons, the enclosure for one De Brazza's monkey had wire for a perch with sharp edges protruding, and mesh was broken in a couple of lemur enclosures, exposing sharp ends. The facility was also cited for feeding animals in the petting zoo on the ground, where there was an accumulation of feces.

June 17, 2013: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for failing to clean the primates' housing properly. Several enclosures had an accumulation of cobwebs on the surfaces, and at least two enclosures had surfaces that could no longer be readily cleaned and sanitized.

April 1, 2013: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for failing to construct enclosures in a manner to protect animals from injury.

A young jaguar named Fitzgerald was found to be limping and had a wound on his paw. According to the inspector, the staff suspected that Fitzgerald had put his paw in an area where an adult jaguar could injure it.

February 28, 2013: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for allowing a 3-month-old tiger cub to run throughout a local television studio. The inspector noted that the cub was seen biting the clothing of an offstage handler and that the lead handler was seen with scratches and bite marks on his arms. In addition, the host of the television program was seen pulling the tiger's tail. The facility was also cited for having several areas of the perimeter fence in need of repair or replacement, having an overgrowth of vegetation along portions of the perimeter fence, and having a large accumulation of building materials and debris next to the perimeter fence.

December 14, 2012: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for keeping expired drugs and not having a working scale in order to weigh an African lion named Delilah, who was being treated for a chronic illness that had caused her to lose weight. It was also cited for failing to have adequate enclosures. A defassa waterbuck managed to jump over the wall of his enclosure. The primary fence for the red river hog enclosure had become loosened from the ground, and sharp ends of wire were protruding. An enclosure housing two tigers had an algae-covered pool of standing water. The enclosure for two leopards had a pool of standing water with a buildup of algae. The facility was also cited for placing the feed for a dromedary camel directly on the ground, and there was an accumulation of fecal material throughout the food.

September 16, 2008: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for failing to supply adequate veterinary care to at least two sable

antelope who had overgrown hooves that caused them to have an abnormal gait and put them at risk of foot and leg problems. The inspector wrote, "This condition has been brought to the attention of the director in the recent past and now to his assistant."

November 2, 2007: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for failing to have suitable drainage for an enclosure housing three spot-nosed guenons. The inspector wrote that the monkeys' enclosure "was completely flooded with the exception of a very small area not large enough for all three animals" and that the monkeys "were seen clinging to the side of the enclosure presumably to stay dry and out of the water."

June 6, 2006: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for failing to handle animals in a manner that ensures minimal risk of harm to the animals and to the public. Members of the public were allowed to feed giraffes without the supervision of an employee, and a barrier that was intended to separate the public and the animals at a kangaroo exhibit consisted of only a single rope, which the animals or the public could easily jump or reach over. The facility was also cited for failing to provide five spider monkeys with water.

May 2, 2006: Wildlife World Zoo transferred five New Guinea singing dogs to Arbuckle Wilderness, an unaccredited zoo in Oklahoma that has been repeatedly cited by the USDA for noncompliance with the federal AWA. The USDA has cited Arbuckle Wilderness for the following: failing to provide veterinary care, failing to provide adequate shelter, failing to maintain adequate barriers between the animals and the public, failing to employ a sufficient number of employees to care for the animals, and housing animals in structurally unsound and filthy enclosures.

May 2006: Wildlife World Zoo and five other zoos collectively spent almost half a million dollars to import 33 monkeys who had been illegally trafficked by poachers. These zoos brought the monkeys to the U.S. instead of working with wildlife rehabilitators in Africa to return the primates to their natural habitat.

April 26, 2006: Wildlife World Zoo leased an alligator to Claws 'N' Paws Wild Animal Park, an unaccredited zoo in Pennsylvania that has been repeatedly cited by the USDA for noncompliance with the federal AWA. USDA citations of Claws 'N' Paws include the following: failure to provide veterinary care, failure to provide adequate shelter, failure to provide wholesome food, and failure to maintain enclosures in good repair to prevent injuries to animals. Claws 'N' Paws' failure to maintain adequate enclosures resulted in the escape of a sloth, who climbed into a tree and later died because of cold weather.

February 20, 2003: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for failing to maintain the sanitation of an off-exhibit enclosure that housed a tiger. The resting platform in the enclosure appeared to be soiled with excreta, and the tiger was lying on the ground, possibly to avoid the dirty platform. The facility was also cited for failing to maintain the structural integrity of an addax enclosure, which had fence posts that were bent or leaning. In addition, a gazelle enclosure had gaps under the chain-link fence.

August 2, 2002: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for failing to implement an enrichment program to promote the psychological well-being of primates.

February 14, 2000: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo a third time for improper food storage. The facility was also cited for having expired medication, failing to maintain structures, having a dirty food

receptacle for capuchin monkeys, having inadequate drainage, and having poor housekeeping.

June 21, 1999: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for failing to provide animals with adequate veterinary care. The inspector wrote, "Several animals were found in need of medical attention, but this was not provided or was provided too late to prevent the death of the animal... Animals have gone down or died unnoticed by facility personnel." A veterinarian never examined an adult addax with a prominent limp. A thin dik-dik (small antelope) with an open mouth died and was found to have pneumonia and a broken mandible that prevented him from eating. An emaciated antelope with multiple skin wounds died on February 18, 1998. A necropsy showed a large amount of sand in her stomach, indicating that she had been kept away from food, likely by the other animals. A Thomson's gazelle who'd been limping for five days was found dead in an irrigation ditch. A necropsy showed puncture wounds from being gored. Her right thigh was swollen to three to four times its normal size. Two pygmy goats died after difficult parturitions that were not reported to the attending veterinarian in a timely manner. The inspector wrote, "One goat was reported 'in labor' on January 23, 1999, but was not seen by a veterinarian until the following morning. The animal died two days later. ... The second goat had one kid early on January 25, 1999. The veterinarian delivered another dead kid later in the day and treated the animal with antibiotics. The veterinarian found out on February 11, 1999, that she had become lethargic on February 7, 1999, and died later in the day. She was not given any veterinary care after January 25." The inspector also wrote, "A dromedary camel was losing weight and being attacked by younger camels. ... This was first noted on September 4, 1997." A veterinary

recommendation made on October 2, 1997, to separate the camel from the others so that he could eat more was not followed. The camel was euthanized on January 5, 1998, after he went down and was unable to get up. He was covered with cuts and abrasions. An antelope was found dead in the pasture on January 20, 1998, and presumably had died 36 hours earlier. The animal was emaciated, and a large amount of nematodes were found in the cecum and large intestine. The facility was also cited for failing to provide animals with shelter from the elements. A llama was found down and not moving on August 13, 1998, and was found dead the next day from heatstroke. Three blackbucks and an emaciated zebra, frightened by storms, died from running into fences or other structures on February 18, 1998. At least five animals sustained trauma and died as a result of being housed with incompatible animals. The roadside zoo was also cited for improper food storage, inadequate "pest" control, poor housekeeping, and feeding practices that allowed animals to ingest fecal material, parasites, and dirt.

May 3, 1999: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for failing to maintain enclosures to contain the animals securely. A capuchin monkey had attacked and bit an employee, causing a severe wound on her lower leg. The USDA cited the facility for failing to provide veterinary care. The inspector found expired drugs, a primate with an open wound, and an antelope and three goats with overgrown hooves. The facility was cited for inadequate ventilation in an area housing two galagos (primates) and in another area with a chinchilla, a hedgehog, and a squirrel. The inspector wrote, "A very offensive odor was present ... of animal feces and urine." The roadside zoo was cited for inadequate housekeeping and "pest" control. The inspector found housing areas containing cockroaches, heavy accumulations of rodent feces, dead rodents, garbage, and flies on

and hovering around a lion's face and hindquarters. The roadside zoo was also cited for improper handling. Two unpredictable pot-bellied pigs with large tusks snapped at employees and the inspector in the petting area. Insufficient barriers allowed daily physical contact between primates and visitors, who had been seen feeding French fries to the animals. The facility was cited for failing to maintain structures. An antelope routinely escaped the enclosure and left the grounds for three weeks. A Patagonian cavy regularly escaped the enclosure. A coyote entered the grounds and killed several birds and a dik-dik (small antelope). The roadside zoo was also received citations for failure to provide access to records, improper feeding, dirty water, filthy enclosures, inadequate drainage, and improper housing of guinea pigs.

March 9, 1999: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo for a structurally unsound lemur exhibit and improper storage of bedding material.

February 11, 1999: According to the *San Jose Mercury News*, Wildlife World Zoo sold oryx to a dealer who supplies hunting ranches.

April 9, 1998: The USDA cited Wildlife World Zoo a second time for having primate den boxes made of improper material, which prevented sanitizing, and having others that were falling apart. The roadside zoo was also cited for having inadequate drainage in exhibit areas, having poor housekeeping, having inadequate "pest" control, and failing to give fresh, clean water to the jaguars.