Animal Haven Zoo, also known as Animal Haven Farm Zoo, is operated by Jim and Dawn Hofferber and has failed to meet 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 cited Animal Haven Farm for, among other things, failing to provide water, failing to maintain enclosures in good repair, failing to provide animals with proper veterinary care, failing to provide animals with adequate shelter from inclement weather, failing to properly clean enclosures, and improper handling of animals. Contact PETA for documentation.

August 26, 2021: The USDA issued Animal Haven Zoo a direct citation for failing to provide a liger with water for about 20 hours. The licensee stated that the liger’s current water receptacle had a hole in it and that he had a new water trough but had not yet installed it. According to the licensee, the water receptacle was last filled around 4 or 5 p.m. the night before the inspection. The licensee provided water during the inspection, and the liger began to drink “immediately” and “continued to drink for over four minutes.”

The USDA issued the facility another direct citation for failing to provide nine rabbits with adequate shelter. The two shelters provided were not large enough for all rabbits to “comfortably fit in,” and there was insufficient natural shade from the surrounding trees.

The USDA also issued a direct citation for failing to supply adequate veterinary care to a young rabbit in “poor condition.” The rabbit had dried discharge in the right ear, mild discharge around the eyes, and hair loss on the left hind foot. The licensee stated that he had noticed the condition the day before but “hadn’t attended to it.” The inspector noted that the delay in treatment could cause “discomfort in the rabbit” and, if the ailment is contagious, risk spreading it to other rabbits. The inspector observed multiple other animals who had not received adequate veterinary care. A pot-bellied pig’s right tusk was growing into the right upper cheek – the inspector could not see the end of the tusk. An African crested porcupine had problems with both eyes, which were pale in color and had pale-colored discharge in the corners. A white goat had an abnormally growing hoof, and an older alpaca had front toenails that were overgrown, although the inspector noted that the other alpacas’ toenails had been trimmed. The USDA further cited Animal Haven Zoo for failing to supply adequate veterinary care to a white rabbit who had a scab and hair loss on the nose. The licensee was not aware of the rabbit’s condition and “indicated it wouldn’t be worth treating.”

In addition, the USDA issued Animal Haven Zoo a repeat citation for failing to keep the following enclosures in good repair:

- Muntjac: Chain-link fencing was broken and had exposed points.
- Sika deer: A panel was bent and leaning and had become disconnected from the top of the post, and a section of fence was bent and damaged across the top.
- Barbary sheep: Tree branches had fallen on two portions of the fence, and the top of the fencing was bent and damaged.
- Fallow deer: The gate’s wire-mesh fencing had become detached from the
framing, and there was a large hole in it with loose wires.

- Camels: Wire panels between the two camel pens had become bent and had sharp points.
- Wolves and bison: The fence between the two enclosures had a post that was leaning.

The USDA also cited Animal Haven Zoo for failing adequately to clean an enclosure housing nine rabbits and another housing seven. The enclosures had “an excessive accumulation of rotten food and soiled waste that was covered in flies.” The USDA additionally cited the facility for failing to maintain rabbit enclosures in good repair. The enclosure housing seven rabbits had loose wire mesh with exposed points, and a rabbit hutch by the nursery housing two rabbits had two screws with exposed points. The rabbits could reach these sharp points, causing an injury risk.

**June 9, 2021:** The USDA cited Animal Haven Zoo for failing to retain complete disposition records for two tiger cubs born on April 29, 2021. The inspector noted that such records are necessary “so that animal tracing can be done if needed (for example—health tracing).” The USDA also issued Animal Haven Zoo a critical citation for failing to handle animals in a manner that did not cause trauma, overheating, behavioral stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort. On or around May 24, 2021, an Animal Haven employee transported a male tiger cub less than 4 weeks old to a classroom and exhibited him to the class. The investigator noted that public exhibition of the infant cub put him “at risk for getting sick,” as “[n]ondomestic cats of this age do not have a completely developed immune system and are unable to fight off disease and infection.”

**November 2, 2020:** The USDA issued a critical citation to Animal Haven Zoo for failing to maintain its facilities in good repair to contain animals and protect them from injury. The citation resulted from an incident in which prairie dogs had escaped from their enclosure because of an “improperly repaired hole” in the enclosure wall. One prairie dog was observed during the inspection, while three remained unaccounted for.

**August 8, 2016:** The USDA cited Animal Haven Zoo for failing to provide an alpaca with adequate veterinary care. The inspector observed that the alpaca had a wound on the front right leg approximately 6 inches to 8 inches long and 3 inches wide. The investigator noted that “[m]ost of the wound was scabbed over however, there were a few areas that appeared to be flesh that were bright red in color” and that the alpaca was “using his hind leg to itch the wound.” According to the inspector, the owner stated that the wound was caused by clippers during shearing two weeks prior and that the attending veterinarian had not been contacted. The owner further stated that he was self-treating the wound with scarlet oil at first, then “a horse wound spray that was purchased at a local farm supply store,” which he applied every two to three days after the oil ran out. However, no bottle could be found during inspection.

**July 5, 2016:** The USDA cited Animal Haven Zoo for failing to provide eight Jacob sheep with shelter from inclement weather after the animals tore down a plastic structure in their enclosure that had previously served as a shelter.