



Inspection Report

Sea World LLC
500 Sea World Drive
San Diego, CA 92109

Customer ID: **3549**
Certificate: **93-C-0069**
Site: 001
SEA WORLD, L.L.C.

Type: FOCUSED INSPECTION
Date: 13-FEB-2025

3.101(a)(1)

Facilities, general.

On January 26, 2025, a pregnant, adult, female bottlenose dolphin (ID # NOA0010122) was being housed in the medical pool in the Dolphin Stadium Complex in preparation for parturition (birth of her calf). The medical pool is connected by two gates to the Dolphin Stadium Pool Complex consisting of several pools housing multiple adult marine mammals including dolphins and pilot whales. On January 26, 2025, facility personnel observed a newborn bottlenose dolphin calf swimming with two adult dolphins in a pool immediately adjacent to the medical pool. Facility veterinarians and staff immediately confirmed the calf belonged to the adult female dolphin in the medical pool and reunited the mother and calf. Facility staff indicated they suspected the dolphin calf slipped between a gap in the metal rails on a pool ledge next to the gate separating the two pools. Although the calf remained in a facility pool, it was not contained in the intended medical pool with its mother. The pool enclosure, as constructed, failed to contain the animals as intended allowing the newborn calf to enter an adjacent pool creating a potential for distress, injury, or death to the animal. The facility has implemented preventive measures to ensure this does not happen again.

Indoor and outdoor housing facilities for marine mammals must be structurally sound and must be maintained in good repair to protect the animals from injury, to contain the animals within the facility, and to restrict the entrance of unwanted animals.

Corrected prior to the inspection on February 13, 2025.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with facility representatives.

Additional Inspectors:

ALEXANDRA ANDRICOS, VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

Geoffrey Olsen, VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

Prepared By: LEANN SARGEANT
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care
Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

Date:
04-MAR-2025

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:
04-MAR-2025



Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
3549	93-C-0069	001	SEA WORLD, L.L.C.	13-FEB-2025

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000016	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	BOTTLENOSE DOLPHIN
000016	Total	