



Inspection Report

Houston Interactive Aquarium and Animal Preserve
5440 N Sam Houston Parkway East
Houston, TX 77032

Customer ID: **6002705**

Certificate: **74-C-1129**

Site: 002

Houston Interactive

Type: FOCUSED INSPECTION

Date: 29-JUN-2026

2.40(b)(3) Critical Repeat

Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care (dealers and exhibitors).

The facility did not perform daily observation so that timely and accurate information on the problems of animal health were conveyed to the veterinarian. On June 4, 2026 a juvenile cavy was euthanized by the attending veterinarian (AV) due to it succumbing to infected wounds. An animal caretaker noted the young cavy had raw, irritated, and reddened skin on June 4, 2026 but the facility did not note its progression prior. A video was recorded of this animal and sent to the attending veterinarian on June 4, 2026, showing the extent and severity of the animals wound. This area was infested with crawling larvae and a fly was seen on it. The wound was brown in color and appeared to extend into subcutaneous tissue. At the recommendation of their AV the animal was euthanized. The AV was contacted and she informed the inspector that the young cavy was euthanized the day it was presented to her since it was very lethargic and wasn't doing well. She noted the animal had maggots along her back and abdomen. AV indicated facility failed to observe that this animal was sick and had apparently been so for several days prior to the June 4th observation.

The presence of blow fly larvae indicates this wound was present prior to when the issue was first observed and relayed to the AV. Failure to observe each animal daily may result in not observing health changes leading to severe harm or injury to animals that cause more than momentary pain.

Each exhibitor shall conduct daily observations of all animals to assess their health and well-being. A mechanism of direct and frequent communication is required so timely and accurate information on problems of animal health, behavior, and well-being is conveyed to the attending veterinarian.

Correct from this date forward, June 30, 2026.

3.133 Critical

Separation.

The facility is not ensuring that animals housed together are compatible.

- Rosemary, an adult female Patagonian Cavy, was noted on the April 16, 2026 to have had a healing wound on the top aspect of her right lower leg. On 6/29/26 facility representative was asked how these wounds were acquired. She stated staffing changes were made and was not aware what elicited the wounds.

Prepared By: ALEXANDRA CALDERON

USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL
OFFICER

Date:

02-JUL-2026

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:

02-JUL-2026



Inspection Report

- Lavender, an adult female Patagonian Cavy, was taken to their attending veterinarian on June 3, 2026 due to several lacerations and a gait abnormality. The exam noted puncture wounds on the top of her head near the left eye. Also noted were superficial abrasions on the rear hocks along with a superficial laceration on her left shoulder. For history, the exam record states she had been bullied by the other cavies in the enclosure.

- On June 4, 2026 a juvenile Patagonian cavy, offspring of Rosemary, was observed with blow fly larvae on red and irritated skin lesions. Phone correspondence by the keeper showed that their attending veterinarian suspected these larvae were a result of several small bites on the rump following inter herd aggression. This was confirmed with the AV when called. AV stated a video was provided to her showing an adult cavy rushing after it to which it attempted to bite. The AV stated this animal was the infant cavy that had to be euthanized due to its injuries. AV stated aggression among the herd were noted following changes made by the facility in regards to feeding.

During inspection an adult female Patagonian cavy named Ginger was observed with a healing laceration. The laceration was superficial, measuring approximately 5 inches in length, and was surrounded by clipped fur. The skin had a few raised and red pinpoint lesions that had scabbed over. The facility representatives stated the wounds were first seen on 6/27/26 but were unsure how she obtained them. Additionally, there were two brief incidents seen on inspection where Ginger was observed chasing off another adult female Patagonian Cavy who was near her offspring.

Housing incompatible animals together in the same primary enclosure can lead to stress, injury, and even death. Animals housed in the same primary enclosure must be compatible. Animals shall not be housed near animals that interfere with their health or cause them discomfort.

Correct from this date forward, June 30, 2026

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with the facility representatives.

Prepared By: ALEXANDRA CALDERON

USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL
OFFICER

Date:

02-JUL-2026

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:

02-JUL-2026



Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
6002705	74-C-1129	002	Houston Interactive	29-JUN-2026

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000001	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>	GIRAFFE
000001	<i>Camelus dromedarius</i>	DROMEDARY CAMEL
000001	<i>Sus scrofa domestica</i>	DOMESTIC PIG / POTBELLY PIG / MICRO PIG
000002	<i>Lama pacos</i>	ALPACA
000002	<i>Hystrix cristata</i>	AFRICAN CRESTED PORCUPINE
000001	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>	WARTHOG
000010	<i>Capra hircus</i>	DOMESTIC GOAT
000001	<i>Osphranter rufus</i>	RED KANGAROO
000001	<i>Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris</i>	CAPYBARA
000007	<i>Dolichotis patagonum</i>	PATAGONIAN CAVY / MARA
000007	<i>Varecia variegata</i>	BLACK-AND-WHITE RUFFED LEMUR
000009	<i>Lemur catta</i>	RING-TAILED LEMUR
000008	<i>Varecia rubra</i>	RED RUFFED LEMUR
000001	<i>Tamandua tetradactyla</i>	SOUTHERN TAMANDUA
000001	<i>Tolypeutes matacus</i>	SOUTHERN THREE-BANDED ARMADILLO
000002	<i>Choloepus didactylus</i>	LINNAEUS'S TWO-TOED SLOTH
000001	<i>Coendou prehensilis</i>	PREHENSILE-TAILED PORCUPINE
000002	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	DOMESTIC RABBIT / EUROPEAN RABBIT
000004	<i>Aonyx cinereus</i>	ORIENTAL SMALL-CLAWED OTTER
000002	<i>Potos flavus</i>	KINKAJOU
000002	<i>Ovis aries aries</i>	SHEEP INCLUDING ALL DOMESTIC BREEDS
000001	<i>Struthio camelus</i>	COMMON OSTRICH
000002	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	AFRICAN SACRED IBIS
000002	<i>Anthropoides virgo</i>	DEMOISELLE CRANE
000022	<i>Columba livia domestica</i>	DOMESTIC PIGEON INCLUDING ALL DOMESTIC BREEDS
000005	<i>Netta peposaca</i>	ROSY-BILLED POCHARD
000002	<i>Aix galericulata</i>	MANDARIN DUCK
000001	<i>Pavo muticus</i>	GREEN PEA FOWL / INDONESIAN PEA FOWL / PEAHEN / PEACOCK
000001	<i>Dromaius novaehollandiae</i>	EMU
000001	<i>Chrysolophus amherstiae</i>	LADY AMHERST'S PHEASANT
000002	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>	INDIAN PEA FOWL / COMMON PEA FOWL / PEAHEN / PEACOCK
000008	<i>Aix sponsa</i>	WOOD DUCK / CAROLINA DUCK
000001	<i>Lophonetta specularioides</i>	CRESTED DUCK
000011	<i>Pyrrhura molinae</i>	GREEN-CHEEKED PARAKEET / GREEN-CHEEKED CONURE
000038	<i>Gallus gallus domesticus</i>	DOMESTIC CHICKEN (INCLUDING ALL DOMESTIC BREEDS / TURKIN / COCK / HEN / ROOSTER)
000001	<i>Ramphastos sulfuratus</i>	KEEL-BILLED TOUCAN
000001	<i>Cacatua alba</i>	WHITE COCKATOO / UMBRELLA COCKATOO
000001	<i>Cacatua moluccensis</i>	SALMON-CRESTED COCKATOO / MOLUCCAN COCKATOO
000001	<i>Amazona farinosa</i>	MEALY PARROT
000001	<i>Psittacus erithacus</i>	CONGO AFRICAN GREY PARROT / GRAY PARROT
000027	<i>Agapornis fischeri</i>	FISCHER'S LOVEBIRD
000060	<i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>	BUDGERIGAR / BUDGIE / COMMON PARAKEET / SHELL PARAKEET
000001	<i>Tauraco leucotis</i>	WHITE-CHEEKED TURACO
000001	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET



Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
6002705	74-C-1129	002	Houston Interactive	29-JUN-2026
000002	<i>Ara, Anodorhynchus, Primolius, Diopsittaca</i> <i>spp hybrid</i>		MACAW HYBRID	
000002	<i>Anas spp. / Cairina spp. hybrid</i>		DOMESTIC DUCK HYBRID (OFFSPRING W/ AT LEAST ONE PARENT IS MUSCOVY OR DOMESTIC)	
000004	<i>Spheniscus demersus</i>		AFRICAN PENGUIN / CAPE PENGUIN	
000001	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>		RING-NECKED PHEASANT / COMMON PHEASANT	
000001	<i>Brotogeris versicolurus</i>		WHITE-WINGED PARAKEET / CANARY-WINGED PARAKEET	
000267	Total			