



Inspection Report

STEARNS ZOOLOGICAL RESCUE AND REHAB

Customer ID: 16585

Certificate: 58-C-0883

Site: 001

STEARNS ZOOLOGICAL RESCUE AND REHAB

37245 MERIDIAN AVENUE

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

DADE CITY, FL 33523

Date: Sep-14-2011

2.131 (b) (1) REPEAT

HANDLING OF ANIMALS.

Sec. 2.131 Handling of animals.

(b)(1) Handling of all animals shall be done as expeditiously and carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause trauma, overheating, excessive cooling, behavioral stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort.

****During the tiger swim session the cub # 2(blue collar, black leash) was reluctant to move to the edge of the pool and the handler pulled him by the leash. The cub was later passed from the side of the pool to the handler inside the pool and the cub was apparently under distress by vocalizing and moving around when handled inside the pool in apparent discomfort. After swimming for a short distance the cub swam towards the handler located at the pool wall and extended his paws towards the edge of the pool apparently wanting to get out of the pool. Instead of pulling the cub out of the water and stopping the encounter the handler decided to continue with the swimming.

****Young cubs should not be handled in a manner so it would not be forced to perform any interaction that it doesn't want in order to prevent unnecessary discomfort and/or behavioral stress.

****An exit interview was conducted with the licensee on 9-14-2011.

Prepared By:

LUIS A NAVARRO, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER Inspector 6025

Sep-14-2011

Received By:

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

Date:

Title:

Sep-15-2011