

**RNANNEY** INS-0000885861

## **Inspection Report**

Customer ID: 501298 Wilstem Inc.

PO Box 88

French Lick, IN 47432

Certificate: 32-C-0265

Site: 001

Wilstem Inc.

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 12-JUL-2023

#### Critical 2.40(b)(3)

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

\*On April 13, 2023, a bison calf was seen laying in/near to the drive through road in the veld area by members of the public. Park staff at the grizzly area advised inspectors that they received multiple complaints from members of the public between 9:30-10:30 am. The first report (9:30-10 am) was given to one of the grizzly staff members who went into the reception area with the concerned visitor and reported the down calf. Between 10-10:30 am other members of the public reported the down calf to another member of the grizzly staff advising the calf was still breathing, but it was labored and in distress. The grizzly staff member texted the Wilstern office to advise the situation. Both reported incidents were advised by the Wilstem reception area to tell the public that 'the calf was born earlier that morning and was fine, it was just drying in the sun'. The management park staff advised they told reception to tell the public that reply. Management staff advised they did not get any report of the down calf until they were at lunch at about 12 pm, and they returned as soon as they could to the veld area where they found that the calf was dead. There is a large amount of time between the notifications of a down calf in the veld area, and the response from the Wilstem management staff arriving to check on the animal. There were no other staff members contacted to check on the calf until the veld staff could arrive and check on the calf. The animal had initially been reported as breathing with difficulty and was not attended to until it was found dead approx. 1-2 hours after the first reports. There was no veterinary care provided or necropsy done to determine the cause of death.

Delayed observation of animals when reports of concern are made by members of the public or staff can lead to severe health and welfare issues, unnecessary pain and suffering and possible death if not treated in a timely manner.

All regulated animals must be monitored on a daily basis and appropriate veterinary care provided as soon as situations are observed, and medical intervention is required.

\*One (1) adult male giraffe, Marchello, approx. 7 years of age was observed as being underweight due to the lack of muscle definition around the back, hips, ribs, abdomen and hind leg areas. Marchello was noted with decreased muscle structure appearing as indents along both sides of his spine, on the back of the thigh muscles and upper rump area on either side of the tail, prominent hip bones and hip pins, and a deep recessed area in front of both hip bones appearing concave (dented inwards). The ribs and base of the tail had several folds of loose skin present, which is not normal for a giraffe with a healthy body weight. When staff were questioned, they advised they were not aware the giraffe was underweight, however after pointing out the condition during the inspection the facility staff could see the concerns inspectors had. The staff advised they had previously placed the giraffe on a diet where the grain amount was decreased

Prepared By: REBECCA NANNEY Date:

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL

**OFFICER** 

Received by Title: Facility Representative Date:

31-AUG-2023

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by a moderate amount to prepare for the summer public feeding encounters where they would substitute the decrease in grain with lettuce that is fed by the public on a daily basis. It was noted by facility staff that he had shown less interest in the treats provided (lettuce) when on the higher grain amount. When discussing the signs of low weight on the giraffe, facility staff felt like he was more ideal in weight than when he had previously been overweight due to past feeding regimens. The allowance of the underweight condition of Marcello shows a lack of understanding/knowledge in diet requirements and the ability to recognize proper giraffe body condition.

The lack of timely observations on body weight condition could cause a treatable condition to become chronic or possibly fatal with unnecessary pain or discomfort depending on the reason for the weight loss. All food consumption should be monitored with proper weight monitoring protocols established for timely diet adjustments to be made to prevent weight loss or excessive gain.

Each dealer and exhibitor shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care that include... daily observation of all animals to assess their health and well-being.

Daily observation includes knowing how to assess animals for adequate and appropriate weights according to age, life stage and health status, as well as species specifics. This also includes timely observation of animals of concern. Incomplete assessment of health can lead to severe medical conditions and affect the health and welfare of the animals.

Correct by completing daily observations of all animals. Consultation with the Attending Veterinarian on ways to assess weight in various species would be beneficial. Other ideas may include implementing and training employees on weight assessment of various species, conducting thorough daily observations with documentation, and periodically weighing animals.

Correct by: July 24, 2023

Corrections already implemented: Veld staff lunch breaks are staggered so that one staff member is present at all times while the park is open.

#### 3.75(a)

### Housing facilities, general.

There was one primary enclosure housing two adult squirrel monkeys and one enclosure housing two adults and one juvenile cotton-top tamarins where the wall covering along the floor, seams and ceiling are peeling to reveal the unsealed surface under the covering.

Housing facilities for nonhuman primates must be designed and constructed so that they are structurally sound for the species of nonhuman primates housed in them and they must be kept in good repair.

Correct by repairing the wall covering in the nonhuman primate enclosures.

Correct by: July 24, 2023

Corrective measures taken prior to exit briefing: covering has been more firmly attached to the walls.

	REBECCA NANNEY  VETERINARY MEDICAL  OFFICER	USDA, APHIS, Animal Care	<b>Date:</b> 31-AUG-2023
Received by Title:	Facility Representative		<b>Date:</b> 31-AUG-2023



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### 3.84(d)

#### Cleaning, sanitization, housekeeping, and pest control.

One primary enclosure, housing two female adult squirrel monkeys, had an excessive amount of flies (too numerous to count) present on the food, walls, ropes and resting surfaces present in the enclosure. The primates were observed catching the flies while they landed on their faces or flying in front of them.

The lack of adequate pest control can be a possible source of health issues and disease transmission to the regulated animals.

An effective program for control of insects, external parasites affecting nonhuman primates must be established and maintained so as to promote the health and well-being of the animals and reduce contamination by pests in animal areas.

Correct by: July 24, 2023

Corrective measures taken prior to exit briefing: smaller screen has been added to window, fly strips have been added in areas out of animal's reach.

#### 3.131(d)

#### Sanitation.

The sheltered portion of the Kangaroo enclosure held a feed bowl that contained grain for the kangaroos that was covered with a large number of flies on the food and surrounding the bowl.

The lack of adequate pest control can be a possible source of health issues and disease transmission to the regulated animals.

A safe and effective program for the control of insects shall be established and maintained.

Correct by: July 24, 2023

Corrective measures taken prior to exit briefing: bowl was moved closer to enclosure with a fan blowing directly over the bowl and fly strips have been added in areas out of animal's reach.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with facility representatives.

Prepared By: REBECCA NANNEY

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OFFICER

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Sheydanis DiazMartinez, VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

ANNMARIE COMPTON, ANIMAL CARE INSPECTOR

Prepared By: REBECCA NANNEY

Date:

31-AUG-2023

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL

**OFFICER** 

Received by Title: Facility Representative

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000209

Total

## United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Customer: 501298

Inspection Date: 12-Jul-2023

# **Species Inspected**

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
501298	32-C-0265	001	Wilstem Inc.	12-JUL-2023