



Inspection Report

MORRO BAY MARINE REHABILITATION CENTER

Customer ID: 3632

Certificate: 93-C-0814

Site: 001

MORRO BAY MARINE REHABILITATION CENTER

MORRO BAY AQUARIUM

595 EMBARCADERO

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: Aug-12-2010

MORRO BAY, CA 93442

3.104 (d) (3) (iii)

SPACE REQUIREMENTS.

(iii) The pool of water shall be at least 0.91 meters (3.0 feet) deep or one-half the average adult length of the longest species of pinniped contained therein, whichever is greater.

A staff member confirmed that the depth of the pool housing one Harbor Seal was only 19.7 inches deep. The minimum depth of the pool for the Harbor Seal should be three feet. The staff member stated that they planned to try introducing the Harbor Seal to the California Sea Lions next week when public attendance was expected to be lower thus giving the Harbor Seal access to the deeper enclosure currently housing the Sea Lions.

Correct by: August 27, 2010.

Note: Other space requirements regarding the Harbor Seal are being reviewed at this time.

3.110 (b) REPEAT

VETERINARY CARE.

(b) Holding facilities must be in place and available to meet the needs for isolation, separation, medical treatment, and medical training of marine mammals. Marine mammals that are isolated or separated for nonmedical purposes must be held in facilities that meet minimum space requirements as outlined in Sec. 3.104.

There is currently no separate holding facility in which to isolate or separate the Sea Lions being kept by the aquarium. The aquarium submitted plans for holding facilities that did not meet the space requirements outlined in Sec. 3.104. The area the aquarium used for separation in the past is now permanent housing for an incompatible resident marine mammal. If one of the Sea Lions at the facility needs to be separated from the others for any reason there is now no holding facility available for use at the aquarium. The inability to separate marine mammals may endanger their health and well-being.

The aquarium must ensure that adequate holding facilities are available when needed to isolate, separate, or provide

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Date:

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Aug-13-2010

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Aug-13-2010



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medical treatment or training to the marine mammals being housed there.

Previous correction date: Submit plans for correction by June 1, 2010.

3.110 (d) (2) REPEAT

VETERINARY CARE.

(d) Individual animal medical records must be kept and made available for APHIS inspection. These medical records must include at least the following information:

(2) Physical examination information, including but not limited to length, weight, physical examination results by body system, identification of all medical and physical problems with proposed plan of action, all diagnostic test results, and documentation of treatment.

Individual animal medical records still did not include physical examination information. The animals had not been measured or weighed and no diagnostic tests had been performed on the California Sea Lion with a history of diarrhea.

Appropriate medical records that document basic physical examination information are necessary in order that aquarium staff, the attending veterinarian, and APHIS inspectors may monitor the health of the animals. The aquarium should ensure that physical examinations are performed when necessary and the information obtained from the examinations are included in the medical records.

Previous correction date: Correct immediately.

3.110 (f) DIRECT NCI

VETERINARY CARE.

(f) All marine mammals must be visually examined by the attending veterinarian at least semiannually and must be physically examined under the supervision of and when determined to be necessary by the attending veterinarian. These examinations must include, but are not limited to, a hands-on physical examination, hematology and blood chemistry, and other diagnostic tests as determined by the attending veterinarian.

The male California Sea Lion named Ramses was observed to be significantly underweight and to have intermittent muscle tremors during the inspection. Ramses was also observed to have an abnormal gait on the dry resting area, hitting his head once and running into the wall once. A staff member stated during the inspection that he would call the attending veterinarian and have him come to the facility that day. The staff member was contacted by the APHIS inspector by telephone at 1642 hours the day of the inspection to check on the results of the attending veterinarian's examination of Ramses and was told that their veterinarian said he was not capable of performing any diagnostic tests and could only prescribe an antibiotic for Ramses. He stated that some other veterinarian would have to be contacted to do any necessary diagnostic procedures. The attending veterinarian was contacted by telephone on

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August 13, 2010 by APHIS field specialist Laurie Gage. Dr. Gage stated that the attending veterinarian admitted that he was not physically capable of handling any of the marine mammals at the facility and that he felt that he was not up to date on pinniped medicine.

Inadequate veterinary care may lead to unnecessary suffering and death for the animals at the facility. It is the responsibility of the aquarium to ensure that their attending veterinarian has appropriate qualifications to provide adequate care for the marine mammals at their aquarium.

Correct immediately.

Note:

An exit briefing was conducted with a facility representative.
Accompanied by Dr. Kathleen Garland.

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Certificate: **93-C-0814**

MORRO BAY AQUARIUM
595 EMBARCADERO

Site: 001
MORRO BAY MARINE REHABILITATION CENTER

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: Apr-20-2009

MORRO BAY, CA 93442

3.105 (c)

FEEDING.

Sec. 3.105 Feeding.

(c) Marine mammal feeding records noting the estimated individual daily consumption must be maintained at the facility for a period of 1 year and must be made available for APHIS inspection. For marine mammals that are individually fed and not subject to public feeding, the feeding records should reflect an accurate account of food intake; for animals fed, in part, by the public, and for large, group-fed colonies of marine mammals where individual rations are not practical or feasible to maintain, the daily food consumption should be estimated as precisely as possible.

Feeding records for the marine mammals were not available for APHIS review at the time of the inspection. A staff member stated that the facility was behind on their daily food consumption records. Changes in food consumption may be an indication of changes in the health status of marine mammals. Maintaining feeding records helps to ensure that changes in consumption are identified in a timely manner and enables the attending veterinarian and APHIS inspectors to monitor daily food consumption of marine mammals kept at the facility. A system should be in place to ensure that food consumption records are maintained and made available for APHIS inspection.

Correct immediately.

Prepared By:

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Date:

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER Inspector 5039

May-08-2009

Received By:

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Date:

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May-14-2009



Inspection Report

3.110 (d)

VETERINARY CARE.

Sec. 3.110 Veterinary care.

(d) Individual animal medical records must be kept and made available for APHIS inspection. These medical records must include at least the following information:

- (1) Animal identification/name, a physical description, including any identifying markings, scars, etc., age, and sex; and
- (2) Physical examination information, including but not limited to length, weight, physical examination results by body system, identification of all medical and physical problems with proposed plan of action, all diagnostic test results, and documentation of treatment.

The medical record of a marine mammal that died in March was not available for review at the time of the inspection. Information compiled in medical records should include the data obtained during physical examinations, diagnostic test results, any proposed plan of action, and treatment regimens in order that facility personnel, the attending veterinarian, and APHIS inspectors may adequately monitor the health status of those animals. A system should be in place to ensure that the facility keeps all pertinent information in individual animal medical records that are available for APHIS inspection.

Correct immediately.

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May-08-2009

Received By:

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May-14-2009



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MORRO BAY AQUARIUM
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MORRO BAY MARINE REHABILITATION CENTER

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: Mar-10-2010

MORRO BAY, CA 93442

3.105 (c) **REPEAT**
FEEDING.

Sec. 3.105 Feeding.

(c) Marine mammal feeding records noting the estimated individual daily consumption must be maintained at the facility for a period of 1 year and must be made available for APHIS inspection. For marine mammals that are individually fed and not subject to public feeding, the feeding records should reflect an accurate account of food intake; for animals fed, in part, by the public, and for large, group-fed colonies of marine mammals where individual rations are not practical or feasible to maintain, the daily food consumption should be estimated as precisely as possible.

February and March feeding records for the marine mammals were not available for APHIS review at the time of the inspection. A staff member stated that the facility was behind on their daily food consumption records. Changes in food consumption may be an indication of changes in the health status of marine mammals. Maintaining feeding records helps to ensure that changes in consumption are identified in a timely manner and enables the attending veterinarian and APHIS inspectors to monitor daily food consumption of marine mammals kept at the facility. A system should be in place to ensure that daily food consumption records are maintained and made available for APHIS inspection.

Previous correction date: Correct immediately.

3.110 (a)
VETERINARY CARE.

Sec. 3.110 Veterinary care.

(a) Newly acquired marine mammals must be isolated from resident marine mammals. Animals without a known medical history must be isolated until it is determined that the newly acquired animals are determined to be in good health by the attending veterinarian.

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Three newly acquired marine mammals were placed directly in the permanent enclosures with resident animals at the facility. Two new California Sea Lions and one Harbor Seal were acquired and placed directly in the enclosures with the resident California Sea Lion and Harbor Seal. Staff at the aquarium stated that they did not have a separate holding facility in which to isolate the animals.

Newly acquired marine mammals must be isolated in order to ensure that they are in good health prior to exposing them to resident marine mammals. Animals that initially appear to be in good health may later be determined to have communicable diseases that may adversely affect the well-being of resident animals. The aquarium should not acquire any additional animals until they have adequate isolation facilities in place.

This noncompliant item should be corrected prior to obtaining additional animals.

3.110 (b)

VETERINARY CARE.

(b) Holding facilities must be in place and available to meet the needs for isolation, separation, medical treatment, and medical training of marine mammals.

There is currently no separate holding facility in which to isolate or separate marine mammals being kept at the facility. The area the aquarium used for separation in the past is now permanent housing for two incompatible resident marine mammals. If one of the animals at the facility needs to be separated from the others for any reason there is now no holding facility available for use at the aquarium. The inability to separate marine mammals may endanger their health and well-being. The facility must ensure that adequate holding facilities are available when needed to isolate, separate, or provide medical treatment or training.

Submit plans for correction by June 1, 2010.

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595 EMBARCADERO

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: Jul-12-2010

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3.110 (b) REPEAT
VETERINARY CARE.

(b) Holding facilities must be in place and available to meet the needs for isolation, separation, medical treatment, and medical training of marine mammals. Marine mammals that are isolated or separated for nonmedical purposes must be held in facilities that meet minimum space requirements as outlined in Sec. 3.104.

There is currently no separate holding facility in which to isolate or separate the Sea Lions being kept by the aquarium. The aquarium submitted plans for holding facilities that did not meet the space requirements outlined in Sec. 3.104. The area the aquarium used for separation in the past is now permanent housing for an incompatible resident marine mammal. If one of the Sea Lions at the facility needs to be separated from the others for any reason there is now no holding facility available for use at the aquarium. The inability to separate marine mammals may endanger their health and well-being.

The aquarium must ensure that adequate holding facilities are available when needed to isolate, separate, or provide medical treatment or training to the marine mammals being housed there.

Previous correction date: Submit plans for correction by June 1, 2010.

3.110 (d) (2) REPEAT
VETERINARY CARE.

(d) Individual animal medical records must be kept and made available for APHIS inspection. These medical records must include at least the following information:

(2) Physical examination information, including but not limited to length, weight, physical examination results by body system, identification of all medical and physical problems with proposed plan of action, all diagnostic test results, and documentation of treatment.

Individual animal medical records still did not include physical examination information. The animals had not been

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Aug-12-2010



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measured or weighed and no diagnostic tests had been performed on the California Sea Lion with a history of diarrhea.

Appropriate medical records that document basic physical examination information are necessary in order that aquarium staff, the attending veterinarian, and APHIS inspectors may monitor the health of the animals. The aquarium should ensure that physical examinations are performed when necessary and the information obtained from the examinations are included in the medical records.

Previous correction date: Correct immediately.

Notes:

An exit briefing was conducted with the licensee.
Accompanied by Dr. Laurie Gage.

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