



FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

CAPTIVE WILDLIFE INSPECTIONS FORM



Ref #: FWSW14OFF15055 Inspection Date: 11/07/2014 Time: 0900 Classes: [X] I [X] II [X] III
County: Hillsborough Activity: [] ESA [X] ESB [X] ESC [] Ven [] ROC [] PPL [] PPNC [X] Rehab

Permittee: Carole Baskin DOB: 6/6/1961 Business Name: Big Cat Rescue
Sex: [] M [X] F Phone: (Business) 813-493-5464 (Emergency)
Mailing Address: 19802 Easy Street Facility Address (if different):
City Tampa State FL Zip 33625 City State Zip
Location Lat/Lon: N 28 ° 03 . 622 W 82 o 34 266 Email: Carole.baskin@bigcatrescue.org

Inv. William King/Inv. Rick Brown/Inv. Shelby
Inspecting Officer: Williams Person Accompanying: Mrs. Gale Ingham
Reason for Inspection: [] Initial [X] Routine [] Complaint [] Follow Up [] Previous Problems NOT Corrected
Complaint #: FWSW14OFF15055 Nature of complaint: Routine inspection

Citation Issued: [] No. (1)
Warning Issued: [] No. (1)
Violation(s):

CHECKLIST: (For those marked explain in comments below)

- 1. Sufficient perimeter FENCE NOT provided []
2. Enclosures DO NOT MEET/EXCEED caging requirements []
3. Animals NOT PERMANENTLY marked - VR, ROC, other []
4. Cage doors NOT key LOCKED []
5. Cages, Paddocks, pools appear NOT to have been CLEANED, RAKED, SCRUBBED, & DISINFECTED within prescribed schedules [X]
6. Fecal & food waste NOT properly STORED/DISPOSED OF []
7. Enclosures DO NOT provide adequate surface water drainage []
8. Animals DO NOT appear to be HEALTHY (not including rehab) []
9. NOT free of wounds, injuries, skin irritations (not incl. rehab) []
10. Animals NOT PROVIDED adequate protection from extremes Of Temp [] Of Weather []
11. NO Safety entrance for CLASS 1 & 2 wildlife []
12. PERIMETER/BARRIER fences NOT provided []
13. Complete WRITTEN records NOT kept up to date as required []
14. FOOD & WATER containers NOT clean []
15. Proper DIET not provided per species []
16. FOOD SPOILED or CONTAMINATED for any animal []
17. INSUFFICIENT food & water []
18. Transport cages DO NOT MEET transport requirements []
19. INFANTS/JUVENILES only at this time []
20. ELEPHANT ride without required authorization []
21. NO Critical Incident/Disaster Plan []
22. Contact information for contiguous land owners/neighbors NOT in Critical Incident/Disaster Plan (Class I possessors) []
23. CIDP - Part B - NOT on site []

CURRENT INVENTORY (Species): Binturong 1.0, Bobcat 13.17, Caracal 2.1, Civet 1.0, Cougar 5.6, Geoffroy 1.0, Leopard 5.3, Lion 2.1, Lynx 4.1, Ocelot 0.2, Sandcat 1.1, Serval 7.14, Tiger 6.5

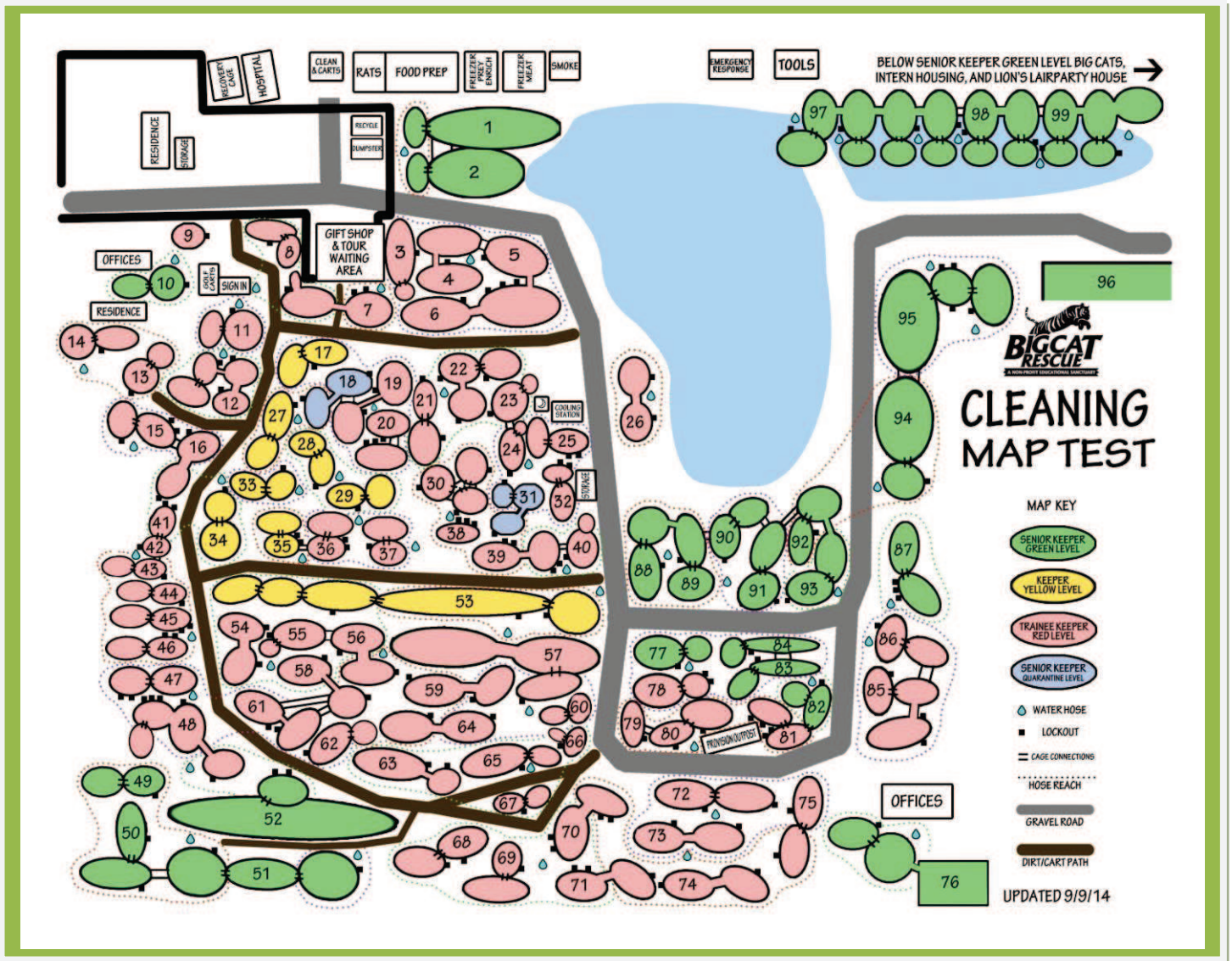
COMMENTS:

This was an unannounced routine inspection. Mrs. Gale Ingram who is the operations manager of the facility was present during the inspection. The facility is located on forty-five (45) plus acres in an urban area of Hillsborough County. The facility is completely enclosed with an eight foot perimeter fence with locking gate. The material trade marked as Rhino wall utilized on the west side noted during a previous inspection conducted by Lt. Steve DeLacure on 10/05/2010 meets the required 11.5 gauge wire requirement. Majority of the enclosures are constructed of galvanized welded panels of structural strength exceeding nine gauge chain link/equivalent. The enclosures meet or exceed caging requirements although most are irregular shapes, with overlapping panels, integrated sub-terrannean supports 8-12 inches deep and horizontal trusses which contribute to the structural integrity of the enclosure despite the absence of structure support poles holding the cages from falling over. The enclosures utilize hog rings that are 9 gauge link/equivalent to connect the panels together.

There are four open top enclosures that are constructed with welded steel panels with the wire greater than 9 gauge chain link and supported with steel poles. The vertical wall height is 15' with a inward 45 degree 5' overhang. Incorporated at the terminal end of the overhang is a 1' cantilever vertical lip to provide additional escape prevention.

All animals appeared to be healthy with food and fresh water provided. All enclosures had the proper enrichment, shelter and are maintained in sanitary conditions. Listed below are the violations that were noted during this inspection. To identify each enclosure the cleaning map number system was utilized. All rules pertaining to the violations will be attached at the end of this report. All violations shall be corrected within 30 days from the receipt of this report or further action may be taken.

(Any included photographs may not be inclusive of all identified discrepancies observed during the inspection, but may be representative of other discrepancies associated with the identified cage, structure or required equipment and described within this report.)



Cleaning map with numbering system

Enclosure 7

1. Tree coming through breaking upper wire degrading the integrity.
2. Rusted/pitted wire on attached upper panel on food and water lockout –replace
3. Clean and treat surface rust on metal frame door on food and water lockout.



Tree upper wire



Rusted/pitted wire upper panel



Surface rust on support pole

Enclosure 8

1. Food and water lockout support door right corner cracking- replace
2. Clean and treat corrosion areas around enclosure.



Support pole cracking

Enclosure 9

1. Clean debris off enclosure.

NOTE: The chicken wire is being utilized to prevent outside pest and not used for containment.

Enclosure 10

1. Cut branches out of fence adjacent to trailer.
2. Remove vine growth and debris off roof.
3. Remove palmetto vegetation that is blocking view of seam connecting the two panels.
4. Remove dead tree/limb through wire.
5. Readjust support beam due to being a weight bearing support.
6. Replace rusted ceiling panel over stucco shelf.



Support beam



Tree limb remove



Dead tree in wire

Enclosure 11

1. Tree outside of enclosure branches coming through wire. Remove
2. Dead tree inside enclosure. Remove
3. Rusted and pitted wire on water box. Replace
4. Water box separating door framework corroded. Clean, treat, or replace





Wire pitted water lockout

Enclosure 12

1. Replace lockout panel upper corroded.
2. Small tunnel door/lower pipe support replace due to corrosion.
3. Replace door patch corroded and pitted.



Upper tunnel door



Lower pipe

Enclosure 14

1. Separating door framework wire corroded. Clean, treat, or replace.
2. Spring loaded clips used to attach interior door to the framework. Clips have to be the same or like material. The spring loaded mechanism and bolt doesn't meet the requirements.

Enclosure 16

1. Dent in wire containment hog rings disconnected or stretched. Replace



Enclosure 41 and 42

1. Replace water box adjacent to public walkway.
2. Treat and paint rust on wire (water box) #42

Enclosure 44

1. Clean and treat or replace safety gate wire.
2. Replace rusted roof panel where tree comes through.
3. Hog rings not attached. Check enclosure and correct.
4. Remove small tree in back coming through wire.



(1)



(3)



(2)



(4)

Enclosure 45

1. Remove debris from the top.
2. Replace wall panel rusted and degraded wire ground level.



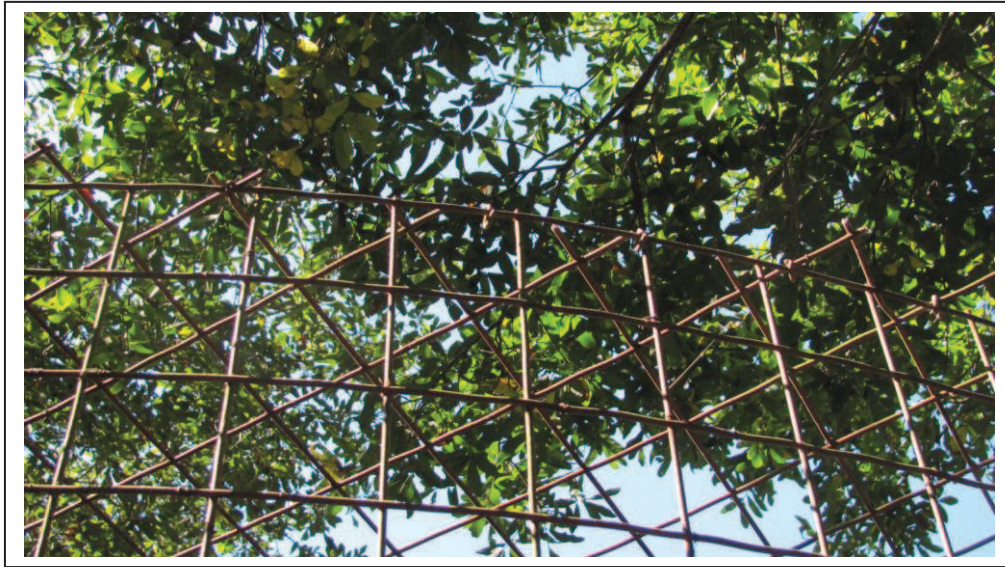
(1)



(2)

Enclosure 48

1. Top panel add ties or replace panel to connect lower portion.



Enclosure 49

1. Replace top panel on water area due to corrosion.
2. Multiple rusted welds on panels. Clean and treat
3. Replace water box doesn't meet 11.5 gauge wire requirement.



(3)



(1)

Enclosure 51

1. Clean and treat or replace panels due to corrosion.

Enclosure 68

1. Clean and treat or replace water lockdown area due to corrosion.

Enclosure 69

1. Clean and treat or replace wire panels due to corrosion.
2. Remove dead debris off roof.

Enclosure 71

1. Remove grass along enclosure.

Enclosure 74

1. Remove dead debris off roof.
2. Remove dead limb off tree through wire panel and repair.
3. Replace water dish outside panel.



(2)



(3)

Enclosure 73

1. Clean and treat or replace feed and water box due to corrosion.

Enclosure 75

1. Clean and treat support pole.

Enclosure 76

1. Remove roof debris.
2. Clean and treat wire on safety entrance
3. Remove bamboo growing through roof wire or exclude from the enclosure.
4. Cut vegetation encroaching on the enclosure wire.
5. Clean and treat or replace rusted roof wire.
6. Use 9 gauge wire to attach panels to post.
7. Replace rusted panels on roofed back area next to open top.



Enclosure 84

1. Replace roof trusses/corner.
2. Replace rusted hog rings and ruptured roof panel near den.
3. Remove vegetation adjacent to the wire.

Enclosure 87

1. Replace hog rings on safety entrance roof.
2. Replace wire inside of the external den.
3. The wire attaching to the support poles have to be 9 gauge or equivalent.

Enclosure 95

1. Replace rusted panels on covered cage housing den.
2. The wire attaching to the support poles have to be 9 gauge or equivalent.

Enclosure 99

1. Clean and treat or replace rusted wire.

Enclosure 97

1. Replace rusted roof panels.

Enclosure 94

1. Replace rusted panel next to pool area.
2. The wire attaching to the support poles have to be 9 gauge or equivalent.

Enclosure 93

1. Clean and treat or replace rusted roof panels.

Enclosure 92

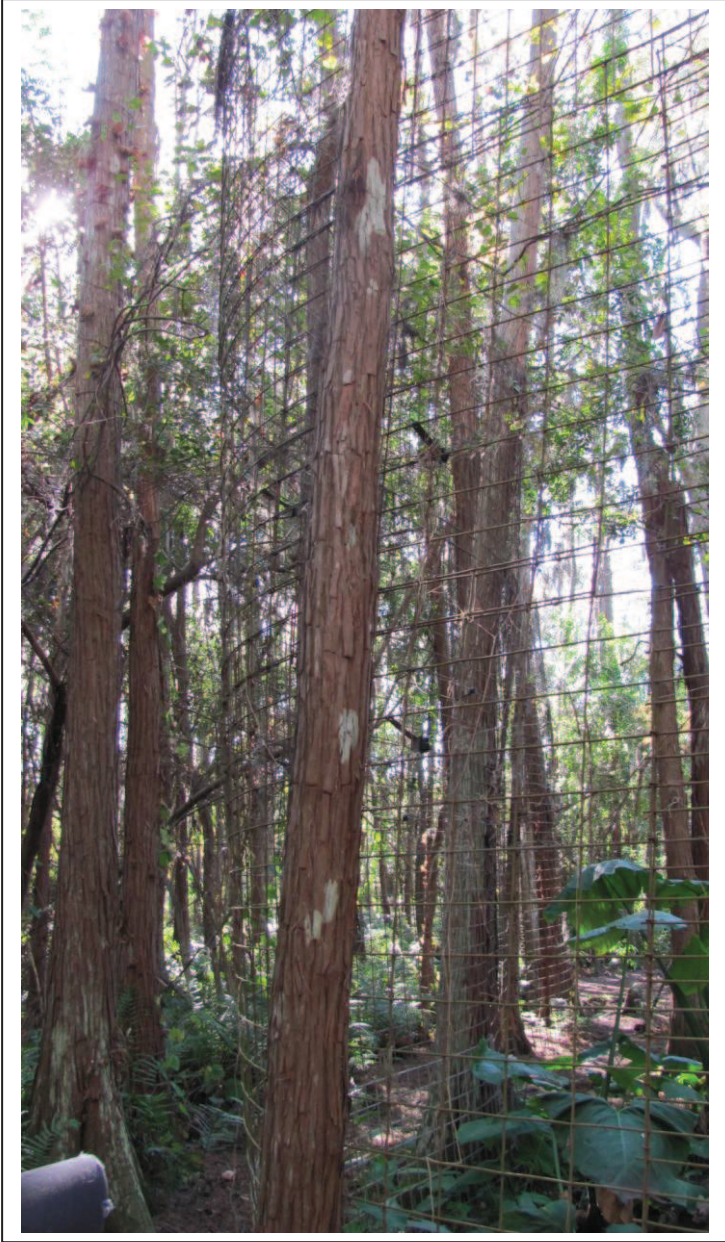
1. Replace rusted panels covering old chute access.

Enclosure 96

1. The wire attaching to the support poles have to be 9 gauge or equivalent.

Enclosure 1

1. Multiple areas the wire needs to be reattached to the support.
2. Multiple trees that are being used to support wire are rotted and have to be removed. New poles have to be added to support wire.
3. The wire attaching to the support poles have to be 9 gauge or equivalent.
4. U nails that are attaching wire to poles/trees have to be resecured to support wire.



Enclosure 72

1. Replace rusted ties on water lock out area.
2. Replace water box due not being at least 11.5 chain link/equivalent.

Enclosure 57 (Serval)

1. Open top enclosure. A deviation is needed to house without a top. 68A-6.004(3)-No provision for open top.

Enclosure 53

1. Clean and treat or replace panels due to rust.

Enclosure 29

1. It is evident that a water line was in the den area. This area must be able to drain around the enclosure and have no impact on the animal. 68A-6.0023(5)(b) see below

Enclosure 28

1. Clean and treat or replace door area at ground level at water bowl due to corrosion.

Enclosure 6

1. The wire in the water box areas (3) doesn't meet the required strength for the species contained.

Mrs. Baskins needs to be aware of the following but not limited to:

When animals are placed in temporary caging due to veterinarian needs the caging or housing shall be permanently marked and traceable written records indicating the date the wildlife was placed in temporary holding. 68A-6.0041

(2) Wildlife being held for sale by those persons properly licensed pursuant to Section 379.3761 or 379.3711, F.S., or for veterinary care, or quarantine may be temporarily housed or caged in smaller cages or enclosures for a period not to exceed 60 days. With written notification to the Commission, this period may be extended in circumstances where a licensed veterinarian has certified that a longer holding period is medically necessary in the interests of the health, safety and welfare of the subject animals or the public. Medical records concerning all animals for which an extension of the 60-day period is obtained shall be maintained at the facility and shall be made available for inspection, upon request, by Commission personnel. The caging or enclosure of all wildlife temporarily held under this section shall not be smaller than that required for the caged animal to stand up, lie down, and turn around without touching the sides of the enclosure or another animal. All wildlife thus caged or housed shall be permanently marked or their enclosures shall be permanently marked, so as to be traceable to written records indicating the date the wildlife was placed in temporary holding. Such records shall be maintained and made available for inspection by Commission personnel. Commission personnel shall direct dealers to mark wildlife temporarily if, upon inspection, there is no record indicating the date the wildlife was placed in temporary holding.

All cages with dirt floors shall be raked a minimum of once every three days. 68A-6.0023(5) (e)

(5) Sanitation and Nutritional Requirements:

(a) Sanitation, water disposal, and waste disposal shall be in accordance with all applicable local, state, and federal regulations.

(b) Water: Clean drinking water shall be provided daily. Any water containers used shall be clean. Reptiles and amphibians that do not drink water from containers and those in an inactive season or period shall be provided water in a manner and at such intervals as to ensure their health and welfare. All pools, tanks, water areas and water containers provided for swimming, wading or drinking shall be clean. Enclosures shall provide drainage for surface water and runoff.

(c) *Food: Food shall be of a type and quantity that meets the nutritional requirements for the particular species, and shall be provided in an unspoiled and uncontaminated condition. Clean containers shall be used for feeding.*

(d) *Waste: Fecal and food waste shall be removed daily from inside, under, and around cages and stored or disposed of in a manner which prevents noxious odors or pests. Cages and enclosures shall be ventilated to prevent noxious odors.*

(e) *Cleaning and maintenance: Hard floors within cages or enclosures shall be cleaned a minimum of once weekly. Walls of cages and enclosures shall be spot cleaned daily. The surfaces of housing facilities, including perches, shelves and any furniture-type fixtures within the facility, shall be cleaned weekly, and shall be constructed in a manner and made of materials that permits thorough cleaning. Cages or enclosures with dirt floors shall be raked a minimum of once every three days and all waste material shall be removed. Any surface of cages or enclosures that may come into contact with animal(s) shall be free of excessive rust that prevents the required cleaning or that affects the structural strength. Any painted surface that may come into contact with wildlife shall be free of peeling or flaking paint.*

68A-6.004 Standard Caging Requirements for Captive Wildlife.

(4) Carnivores and Certain Omnivores with Similar Requirements:

(a) Wild felines.

In addition to requirements of this section, each cage or enclosure shall be equipped with a shelter(s)/nest box(es) large enough to accommodate all the animals in the enclosure simultaneously. Each enclosure shall have an accessible device to provide physical stimulation or manipulation compatible with the species. Such device shall be noninjurious, and may include, but is not limited to, boxes, balls, bones, barrels, drums, rawhide, pools, etc.

1. African and Asian lions; tigers.

a. For one or two animals, a cage 24 feet by 10 feet, 8 feet high. For each additional animal, increase cage size by 25 percent of original floor area.

b. Each cage shall have an elevated platform(s) that shall accommodate all animal(s) simultaneously. Each cage shall have a claw log, unless the animal(s) front claws have been removed.

c. Outdoor cages over 1,000 square feet (uncovered) shall have vertical jump walls at least 10 feet high, with a 2-foot, 45 degree, inward angle overhang, or jump walls at least 12 feet high, without an overhang. The inward angle fencing shall be made of the same material as the vertical fencing. Wet or dry moats may be substituted for the required fencing provided prior Commission written approval has been obtained.

2. Jaguars, leopards, and cougars

a. For one or two animals, a cage 20 feet by 10 feet, 8 feet high. For each additional animal, increase cage size by 25 percent of original floor area.

b. Each cage shall have an elevated platform(s) that shall accommodate all animals in the enclosure simultaneously. Each cage shall have a claw log, unless the animal(s) front claws have been removed.

c. Outdoor cages over 1,000 square feet (uncovered) for cougars shall have vertical jump walls at least 10 feet high, with a 4-foot, 45 degree, inward angle overhang. Leopards and jaguars shall not be kept in uncovered enclosures except in facilities with wet or dry moats, which have been previously approved in writing by the Commission.

3. Lesser cats (e.g., bobcats, lynx, ocelots, caracal, serval, margay, fishing cats, jungle cats, Teminick's cats, golden cats)

a. For one or two animals, a cage 12 feet by 6 feet, 6 feet high. For each additional animal, increase cage size by 25 percent of original floor area.

b. Each cage shall have an elevated platform(s) that shall accommodate all animals in the enclosure simultaneously. Each cage shall have a claw log, unless the animal(s) front claws have been removed.

4. *Small cats (e.g., Geoffroy's cats, jaguarundis, leopard cats, wildcats (Felis silvestris), mountain cats, pampas cats, marbled cats, pallas' cats, sand cats, oncilla/tiger cats, black-footed cats, flat-headed cats, kodkods, rusty-spotted cats)*

a. *For one or two animals, a cage 6 feet by 6 feet, 6 feet high. For each additional animal, increase cage size by 25 percent of original floor area.*

b. *Each cage shall have an elevated platform(s) that shall accommodate all animals in the enclosure simultaneously. Each cage shall have a claw log, unless the animal(s) front claws have been removed.*

5. *Cheetahs*

a. *For one or two animals, a cage 40 feet by 20 feet, 8 feet high. For each additional animal, increase cage size by 25 percent of original floor area.*

b. *Each cage shall have an elevated platform(s) that shall accommodate all animals in the enclosure simultaneously.*

68A-6.0023 General Regulations Governing Possession of Captive Wildlife; Public Contact; Transfer of Wildlife and Record Keeping Requirements.

(1) *No person shall maintain captive wildlife in any unsafe or unsanitary condition, or in a manner which results in threats to the public safety, or the maltreatment or neglect of such wildlife.*

(2) *Caging Requirements:*

(a) *All wildlife possessed in captivity shall, except when supervised and controlled in accordance with subsection (3) hereof, be maintained in cages or enclosures constructed and maintained in compliance with the provisions of Rules 68A-6.003, 68A-6.004 and 68A-6.007, F.A.C.*

(b) *Cages or enclosures housing captive wildlife shall be sufficiently strong to prevent escape and to protect the caged animal from injury, and shall be equipped with structural safety barriers to prevent any physical contact with the caged animal by the public, except for contacts as authorized under subsection (3) of this rule. Structural barriers may be constructed from materials such as fencing, moats, landscaping, or close-mesh wire, provided that materials used are safe and effective in preventing public contact.*

(c) *All cages or enclosures less than 1,000 square feet shall be covered at the top to prevent escape (except paddocks, reptile enclosures and habitats specified below). Class I or Class II wildlife shall not be kept in uncovered enclosures that are less than 1,000 square feet, except as specified in Rule 68A-6.004, F.A.C. All outdoor enclosures for non-native venomous reptile species and reptiles of concern shall be topped with close-meshed wire or an equivalent barrier to provide additional security as specified in Rule 68A-6.007, F.A.C. For the purpose of this section, the following definitions apply:*

1. *Paddocks: Areas enclosed by fencing, railing or other Commission-approved structures which allow animals to graze or browse.*

2. *Reptile enclosures: Areas encompassed by smooth walls or other Commission-approved materials which provide safe keeping of venomous and non-venomous snakes, crocodilians and other reptiles.*

3. *Open air habitats or moated areas: Areas enclosed by Commission-approved fences, walls, or moats which provide safe keeping of species specified in Rule 68A-6.004, F.A.C.*

(d) *Caging considered unsafe or otherwise not in compliance herewith shall be reconstructed or repaired within 30 days after notification of such condition. In the event such condition results in a threat to human safety or the safety of the wildlife maintained therein, the wildlife maintained therein shall, at the direction of the Commission, be immediately placed in an approved facility, at the expense of the permittee, owner, or possessor, until such time as the unsafe condition is remedied. In instances where wildlife is seized or taken into custody by the Commission, said permittee, owner, or possessor of such wildlife shall be responsible for payment of all expenses relative to the animal's capture, transport, boarding, veterinary care, or other costs associated with or incurred due to such seizures or custody. Such expenses shall be paid by said permittee, owner, or possessor upon any conviction or finding of guilt of a criminal or noncriminal violation, regardless of adjudication or plea entered, of any provision of Chapter 379 or 828, F.S., or rules of the Commission, or if such violation is disposed of under Section 921.187, F.S. Failure to pay such expenses shall be grounds for revocation or denial of permits to such individuals to possess wildlife.*

68A-6.003 Facility and Structural Caging Requirement for Class I, II and III Wildlife.

(1) In addition to the standard caging requirements set forth in Rule 68A-6.004, F.A.C., Class I and Class II animals shall be caged in accordance with the following requirements:

(a) All cages or enclosures of Class I and Class II wildlife, and Class III capuchin, spider and woolly monkeys, except paddocks, approved open air habitats, or outdoor reptile enclosures shall be equipped with a safety entrance. A safety entrance is defined as a protected, secure area that can be entered by a keeper that prevents animal escape and safeguards the keeper, or a device that can be activated by a keeper that prevents animal escape and safeguards entry. Such entrances shall include: A double-door mechanism, interconnecting cages, a lock-down area, or other comparable devices, subject to Commission approval, that will prevent escape and safeguard the keeper. Safety entrances shall be constructed of materials that are of equivalent strength as that prescribed for cage construction for that particular species.

(b) All cages or enclosures constructed of chain link or other approved materials shall be well braced and securely anchored at ground level to prevent escape by digging or erosion. Cages shall be constructed using metal clamps, ties or braces of equivalent strength as the material required for cage construction for the particular species. Cages or enclosures using the ground as flooring must meet the following requirements:

1. For enclosures housing wildlife that exhibits a behavior of digging or burrowing:

Enclosures shall have a footer or bottom apron constructed of concrete, chainlink or equivalent strength material as specified in this rule for the housing of such wildlife. The footer must be a depth of 3 feet. In the instance of a bottom apron, the bottom apron must be securely attached to the bottom of the enclosure fencing or wall and extend inward into the enclosure a minimum of 3 feet. The bottom apron must be buried to prevent injury to the captive wildlife in the enclosure.

2. For enclosures affected by erosion:

Measures must be taken to stop the erosion. Such measures may include, but are not limited to, a footer or bottom apron as described above or other measures capable of ensuring the structural integrity of the enclosure and preventing the escape of the captive wildlife.

Emailed
Recipient

All Discrepancies Explained to Recipient

Permit Holder
Recipient Title

Appropriate Copies of Regs Given or Possessed

Inv. William King L910
Inspecting Officer