CONCERNS REMAINING FROM PREVIOUS INSPECTION

1. The following primates—colobus monkey, red-ruffed lemur, black and white lemur and spider monkey are still housed in corn crib exhibits that are small and provide very limited animal and keeper space. In addition, the use of corn crib exhibits (Behlen exhibits) do not reflect modern zoological practice [Preamble, 1.5.1, 1.5.2, 10.3.3, 11.3.2]. **

The four Behlen exhibits near the KidsZoo have been permanently closed. We are currently in contact with SSP coordinators to find home for these animals. Status:
- Red Ruffed Lemurs: moving to another AZA Accredited zoo this Spring
- Debranza Monkey: This animal has been deemed surplus to SSP and will be moved to off display holding in the Zoo Hospital
- Vacant:
- Black & White Lemurs: moving to another AZA Accredited zoo this Spring

Demolition is being set for these exhibits once vacant.

2. Aging infrastructure requiring a proactive repair and maintenance plan are still a major issue. Specific areas noted from the last inspection include: a) pygmy hippo building/exhibit including a cracked wall in the back of the hippo exhibit; b) rusted cagework as described in the list of concerns below from this inspection; c) concrete deterioration in some moats, on gunite barrier walls and a number of holding area floors (including black rhino barn floor in the stall and keeper area that is uneven, rough in texture and cracked; pygmy hippo barn floors; Andean bear holding stall and keeper service aisle floor). [10.1.0, 10.1.2] *

See attached photos to show the work that has been completed to address these concerns. All areas have been addressed.

In addition, two new 2 FT Maintenance Tech positions have been added to the Zoo staff effective February 2018. This will greatly help the Zoo have considerably more control on getting painting and carpentry projects cared for in a timely manner. This will also allow the Zoo to have in-house staff make necessary maintenance improvements before they become an issue. These two individuals will work in the Buildings and Grounds Department alongside our Carpenter, a FT position added in 2015.

RC2 a. Pygmy hippo exterior wall in progress
RC2 b. Rusted cagework
RC2 c. Moat Repairs & Black rhino floor In Progress
RC2 d. Andean Bear

MAJOR CONCERNS FROM CURRENT INSPECTION
The institution experienced three animal escapes in the 16 month period from 13 June 2016 to 3 October 2017. Enhancement of the keeper training program is warranted in order to ensure that keepers have developed appropriate competencies relevant to animal containment. [7.3]**

The escapes listed were the result of new keeper error. The Animal Department has expanded its new keeper training program to include additional testing by the Curators with documentation of the Keepers’ successful passing of the training.

A Training Release Checklist has been implemented to evaluate and document competencies of new keepers. This requires increased involvement with the Supervisor and Trainer in providing feedback to new staff.

**MC1 Keeper training protocol & checklist**

2. There was no supplemental lighting in the following areas: a) ibex holding; b) macaque holding; c) spider monkey; d) bobcat; e) colobus; f) red-ruffed lemur; g) black and white lemur. The following areas had inadequate supplemental lighting: a) bongo barn; b) pygmy hippo barn; c) shelters for aviaries in tropical bird house; d) inside raptor aviary holding cages; e) access tunnels to the jaguar and Andean bear exhibits. In addition both of these tunnels were wet and potentially slippery. [11.3.2; 10.3.1]**

27 new LED light fixtures have been installed, providing substantial lighting in all of the above since the inspection. A “grit paint” has been applied to the floors of these two areas to provide traction for staff’s safety. See attached photos.

**MC 2 No Supplemental Lighting
MC 2 Inadequate Supplemental Lighting**

3. All Behlen aviaries in Parrot Paradise lack supplemental light in the holding areas/keeper access “caves”, and there is no secondary containment. In addition there is heavy rust and/or flaking paint on the metal doors to the holding areas. [10.1.0, 10.3.1, 11.3.1, 11.3.2]**

The Zoo has closed Parrot Paradise to the public. The area has been converted to be used for our new Bird Conservation and Breeding Center. A solid 8’ wood fence has been placed to separate this area from the public. Secondary containment has been installed. The birds will remain here while we are building new parrots exhibits in the appropriate geographic areas of the Zoo.

The old primate holding ‘caves’, which were built into the exhibit walls, are not used for the birds, however to remove this possibility, the doors have been welded shut to prevent usage, therefore no lighting is needed. The doors have been properly painted. See attached photos.

Prior to this becoming Parrot Paradise, the area housed 11 exhibits of primates in Behlen exhibits. In the early 2000’s we removed the primates from the collection and replaced them with parrots, many of which were confiscated bird.

**MC3 Parrot Paradise Aviaries**
4. A keeper was observed working in the exhibit with 1.2 sable antelope. No animal based risk assessments were provided. [11.4.1].

Animal based risk assessment have been completed on all mammals and birds. This information is included in the in the areas SOP’s. While not required, new risk assessment signage has been installed at holding areas to add to keeper safety. A copy is attached.

MC4 Animal risk assessment Carnivores & Primates
MC4 Carnivore and Primate SOP
MC4 Animal risk assessment Hoofstock
MC4 Hoofstock SOP

LESSER CONCERNS FROM CURRENT INSPECTION

1. The institution’s process for identifying animal welfare concerns currently directs these concerns through normal chain of command, rather than supplementing it. A careful review of the current standard is warranted in order to ensure that all suggested elements are included (see AZA Accreditation Resource Center for examples). This may be accomplished as part of the institution developing its proactive animal welfare process, as described in the 2018 Accreditation Standards. [1.5.8] *

The Animal Welfare Concerns Reporting & Resolution Process document has been update. See attached copy. In addition the Animal Welfare Committee has added a new member who currently served on the Louisiana State University Animal Care and Use Committee. David Baker, DVM is a professor/instructor at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine and over sees the laboratory animal program and is the veterinarian in charge of the schools tiger mascot. Attached is Dr. Baker’s CV.

LC1 Animal Welfare Reporting Process   LC1 David Baker CV

2. The Visiting Committee was unable to inspect the entire perimeter fence (as was the last VC) due to constant rain. In light of two previous dog intrusions that resulted in the deaths of animals, extreme vigilance is indicated. It was noted that a section of wooden stockade fencing immediately adjacent to the administration entrance gate is less than 8 feet tall. 11.8.1

The committee was provided copies of fence inspection records. They were also shown work completed to further secure the property. The wooden stockade fence at the Administration Offices was removed and a new 8’ high fence was installed. See attached photo.

LC2 admin gate after   LC2 admin gate before

3. There is no ozone alarm system or detailed protocol for dealing with a release of the gas. Staff determine if there is a leak using the sniff test. [11.2.2, 11.3.2]

An ozone alarm was present. The new protocol has been added to the Keeper Manual and a sign stating the protocol has been placed on the Otter Pump House.
4. In the elk barn storage cabinet there were chemicals stored alongside medications and vitamin supplements. [2.2.1, 11.3.2].*

New labeled cabinets and bins have been placed in all barns. See attached photos.

5. As noted above in the remaining concern there is also cracking in the floor of the outdoor paddock and on the interior and exterior paddock walls at black rhino. [10.1.0]

This floor has been patched numerous time with a variety of products, from rubber to epoxy. None have lasted any length of time. We are still trying to find a product that is proven to work in our highly moist climate.

6. In the Thomson gazelle barn the following was noted: a) an electric fence controller is located on the barn wall within potential reach of the animals; b) a can of wasp spray was located on a window sill directly over the animal’s water source; c) hole in CMU under window. [10.1.0, 1.5.7]**

Corrective action has taken place. Fence controller has been boxed in and wasp spray removed. The small hole has been patched. See attached photos.

7. In the giraffe hay barn insect spray and other chemicals were stored on top of the refrigerator that contained human food. [11.1.4; 11.3.2].

The insect spray and other chemicals have been stored in cabinet. See attached photo.

8. In the red river hog barn there was an overhead radiant heater whose electrical cord was frayed on both ends. The radiant heater was rusted. There is an outstanding work order for the repair of the electrical cord. [10.1.0, 1.5.7]. *

All work related to this concern has been competed. See attached photo.
9. The ten Behlen (corn crib) units housing parrots do not reflect modern zoological practices. [Preamble, 1.5.1]

The Zoo has closed Parrot Paradise.

10. The nylon mesh on the sides of the raptor aviary had several holes. One hole was observed to be of sufficient size to potentially allow the escape of the Abdim’s storks. The retaining wall at keeper access to the Raptor Aviary holding area is in disrepair. [10.1.0; 11.3.1]. **

This repair has been made. See attached photo.

LC10 Bird of prey nylon mesh repaired 1
LC10 Bird of prey nylon mesh repaired 2
LC10 Bird of prey woodwork after

11. Rust was observed in the following areas: a) shelving in commissary; b) black rhino exhibit—guillotine and paddock gates, inside stall and head chute, outside metal shelter over the food trough, overhead heater; c) Thomson gazelle keeper gate and fence; d) metal door and frame on back side of pygmy hippo barn; e) holding/howdy cages in the tropical bird house; f) keeper access doors to the tropical bird house aviaries; g) doors into the bobcat holding area; h) door to spider monkey holding; i) keeper access door to the jaguar exhibit; j) electric outlet in the hall leading to the jaguar exhibit keeper access door; k) pygmy hippo barn heater; l) pygmy hippo pool divider; m) Indian rhino outside cage work; n) above keeper access door to North American river otter holding, o) commissary HVAC vent, p) table legs in bird incubator room, q) counter-weight at macaque holding. [10.1.0] *

Below is a list of project completed at the time of the hearing.

a) 4 of the 6 have been replaced; remaining 2 replacements have been ordered
b) All painted
c) Painted
d) Frame painted
e) Replaced
f) Painted
g) Painted
h) Painted
i) Painted
j) Replaced
k) Replaced
l) Not completed – pending warmer weather
m) Painted
n) Painted
o) Replaced
p) Replaced
q) Removed & replaced with cranks

LC11 Rust Issues
12. In addition to the items above (#1), rust was observed in electrical boxes/panels in the breeding nyala barn, the sable barn and the bongo/red river hog barn. In other areas of the zoo rusted electrical boxes/panels were observed and a full audit is warranted. [10.1.0] *

**LC12 Bongo fuse box after**  
**LC12 Nyala fuse box after**  
**LC12 Nyala fuse box before**  
**LC12 Sable fuse box after**  
**LC12 Sable fuse box before**

13. An overhead electrical junction box located between the red-fronted macaws and Demoiselle cranes was missing its cover and the electrical wires were exposed. A number of the adjacent light sockets were without bulbs. [10.1.0, 10.1.1, 11.3.2] *  
The cover has been installed. All bulbs replaced.  

**LC13 Macaws and Demoiselle cranes overhead junction box repaired**

14. Secondary containment was lacking at ibex mountain and the ten Behlen exhibits for parrots. [11.3.1] **  
Secondary containment has been installed. See attached photo.  

**LC14 ibex mountain secondary containment after**  
**LC14 ibex mountain secondary containment before**  
**LC14 Parrots Containment**

15. The following wooden doors/walls were found to be rotted/in disrepair in the following areas:  
a) elk barn; b) Thomson gazelle barn door and adjacent wooden panel on the right; c) deer barn door and wall; d) red river hog barn door; e) multiple areas in hoofstock holding; f) red-ruffed lemur barn roof trim; g) storage shed at lemur Behlen exhibits; h) bottom of stall doors in kangaroo barn. [10.1.0]  
All have been replaced or repaired.  

**LC15 Wooden Doors-Walls**

16. Extension cords were found to be in permanent or semi-permanent use in the following areas:  
a) mixed hoofstock barn; b) keeper aisle of the tropical bird building; c) behind macaque holding area;  
d) raptor aviary holding; e) otter holding. [10.1.1] *  
All extension cords have been removed. Most were for the holiday lights. Hard wiring has been completed where permanent electrical is needed.  

**LC16 Eliminate Extension Cord Usage**

17. Peeling/flaking paint was observed in the following areas:  
a) mixed hoofstock barn near food storage cabinet; b) walls in the keeper aisle of the tropical bird house under the howdy cages; d) door to tapir barn and barn exterior wall; e) giraffe barn. The cagework at jaguar off exhibit holding and the
pygmy hippo pool divider and fencing is in need of paint. [10.1.0]

a) Painted
b) Painted
c) No “C” listed above
d) Painted
e) Giraffe barn and off exhibit Jaguar have been painted. Pygmy hippo pool divider is not yet done, pending warmer weather.

LC17 Peeling Paint

18. Poor housekeeping/clutter was observed in the following areas: a) storage cabinet in the mixed hoofstock barn; b) the end of keeper service area behind pygmy hippo had leaves and trash; c) the drain cleanout located in the keeper service area behind pygmy hippo has volunteer plant material growing out of it; d) clutter behind parrot holding aviaries, e) dirty food buckets at roan antelope barn. [10.1.1]

a) Removed
b) Cleaned
c) Cleaned
d) Cleaned
e) Replaced

LC18 a. MHS barn clutter removed

LC18 b. Pygmy hippo service area

LC18 b. Pygmy hippo service area 2

LC18 c. Pygmy hippo drain cleanout volunteer plant removed

LC18 e. Mixed hoofstock feed buckets replaced

19. The Euthanasia Policy does not meet AZA/AAZV standards. [2.0.1; 2.9.1]

Euthanasia Policy has had a sentence added to meet AZA/AAZV standards. Copy is attached.

LC19 Animal Euthanasia Protocol

20. Water quality testing is not done in the North American river otter exhibit. [1.5.9] *

Water quality testing is done. In addition we have expanded testing to include bi-weekly test for Fecal coliform. See attached expanded protocol.

LC20 Otter Water Quality Testing

21. The floor of the black & white ruffed lemur barn is in disrepair; there is an unsealed crack in the concrete slab at the ruffed lemur chute (between behlen cage and holding); off-exhibit large bird holding cages adjacent to jaguar off-exhibit introduction cages are in poor shape and overgrown with vegetation (the VC was told that they are still used). [10.1.0]

Concrete work in these two areas has been completed. The off display bird holding t has been cleared.
LC21 Bird holding off exhibit 1
LC21 Bird holding off exhibit 2

Submitted by:

Phil Frost, Zoo Director