Roadside Zoo Checklist

Thank you for your help in our fight to shut these cruel facilities down and free endangered and captive animals from the exploitation of roadside zoos.

Roadside zoos are regulated by a federal law called the Animal Welfare Act (AWA). Under the AWA, zoos are referred to as “exhibitors.” This checklist will help you document potential AWA violations at these facilities. When you’re documenting conditions at a roadside zoo, be sure to take lots of photos and video to back up your reporting.
HOUSING FACILITIES
Please document if the animal cages have any of the following:
- holes or damaged areas in the roof
- holes or gaps on the sides of the fencing
- sharp or jagged pieces of the cage sticking out that might harm the animals
- excessive rust
- standing water or large puddles
- a metal or mesh floor through which an animal’s paw could fall
- concrete floor
- lack protection from sun, rain, snow, wind, or cold
- any trash, waste material, or junk
- any accumulation of feces
- mildewed or moldy bedding
- any non-zoo animals, like squirrels, raccoons, or pigeons inside cage
- animals are housed with a different species in the same enclosure
- animals are housed with many other animals in the same enclosure

ENDANGERED SPECIES
Endangered or threatened animals are of special interest. Please note if there are endangered animals at the roadside zoo. Below is a list of endangered animals frequently found in roadside zoos. For a full list of endangered animals, please go to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service website, www.fws.gov.
- Lemurs
- Bears (certain types of bears are endangered, note the type(s) of bears below):
  - Tigers
  - Lions
  - Gray wolves
  - Leopards
- Monkeys (certain types of monkeys are endangered, note the type(s) of monkeys below):
  - Elephants
  - Chimpanzees

PRIMATES
Primates, such as lemurs, monkeys, and apes, receive special protections under the AWA. Please document if any of the primates:
- are housed alone
- lack shade or shelter, especially if it is very cold or hot
- are housed with aggressive animals
- have inadequate ventilation
- lack toys or structures that provide stimulation, like perches, swings, or mirrors

EMPLOYEES
Please document the following:
- How many employees do you see working at the zoo? _____
- Do you see any employees actively cleaning or feeding any of the animals? Yes _____ No _____
- Are employees monitoring or able to see the animals in their cages? Yes _____ No _____

VETERINARY CARE
Please document if any of the animals:
- appear lethargic or are not moving at all
- are limping or having trouble walking
- have patches of missing fur or sores on their body
- have any visible injuries (cuts, scrapes, missing limbs)
- are crying or yelping
- appear very thin or very overweight
- are breathing abnormally (panting or breathing very slowly)
- have overgrown or untrimmed hooves
- are engaged in repetitive motions, like bobbing their head repeatedly or pacing back and forth

NOTES / ADDITIONAL INFO
Please provide additional information about any of the potential violations you documented.