

Ministry of  
Natural Resources  
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August 29, 2006

Melissa Tkachyk  
Campaigns Officer  
World Society for the Protection of Animals  
90 Eglinton Avenue East, Suite 960  
Toronto, ON  
M4P 2Y3

Dear Ms. Tkachyk:

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), Aylmer District, has completed its investigation into your complaint of July 7, 2006 regarding four zoos in southwestern Ontario, namely: Lickety Split Zoo, Greenview Aviaries Park and Zoo, Colasanti's Tropical Gardens and Pineridge Zoo.

MNR's licensing of zoos under the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act* applies to specified native species, in accordance with the Ministry's mandate to ensure the sustainability of native wildlife populations. Other wildlife, including non-native wildlife, is not subject to the conditions of our zoo licences, therefore we did not include those exhibits in our inspection.

During the inspections we encountered some administrative irregularities, unrelated to enclosure design, which we are addressing. With respect to the concerns you raised related to the following general condition of a zoo license:

"Animal enclosures in which animals are on public display should be of a size which enables animals to:

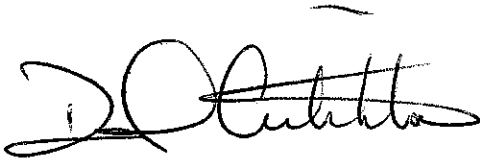
- a) exercise natural behaviours to facilitate public education and interpretation.
- b) achieve a distance from the public and other specimens at which the animals are not psychologically or physically stressed.
- c) achieve a full range of body movements and physical movements normally performed.";

no violations of the current condition relating to animal enclosures were identified.

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Thank you again for bringing your concerns to our attention. I encourage you to continue to work with MNR's Wildlife Section to assess the need for modification to MNR's zoo licensing policies for native wildlife.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Critchlow". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

David Critchlow  
Enforcement Supervisor  
Aylmer District  
[REDACTED]

DC/jo