

Inspection Report

Section 1:

Name of applicant or current licence holder:	Carol Macmanus		
Name of circus:	Circus Mondao		
Location of circus	Farm site, Norcross Road Thornton Cleveleys Postcode: FY5 5NR		
Tel no.	[REDACTED]	Fax no.	[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]		
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] AHVLA Preston.	[REDACTED]
		[REDACTED]

Date and start time of inspection:	12 th Aug, 2014, 14.15Hrs	Date and finish time of inspection:	12 th Aug 2014 , 19.30hrs
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Preamble to Inspector's Report*

This visit is an unannounced touring inspection, carried out by the nominated inspector accompanied by [REDACTED] Animal health Office, AHVLA (Preston).

The Circus Management and staff provided all necessary details and access to areas during the inspection.

The information supplied prior to the inspection was verified and found to be correct. The relevant animals to be inspected were: 2 neutered male reindeer, one solitary male Chapman's Zebra, 1 male and one female Bactrian camel.

At the time of the inspection the Circus was located at a Farm-based site close to a major traffic intersection at Norcross lane, Thornton, Lancashire. The site was on a grassed field with parking for cars adjacent and two substantial areas for outdoor grazing available. At the time of the inspection the site was well drained with easy access.

PERFORMANCE NOTES:

1. Camel and pony rides are offered prior to the performance and at the interval for about 20 minutes in each case. These are at walking pace only, supervised by category A personnel and with two category B personnel to each animal- one leading and the other supporting the rider.
2. Domestic species performances are horses only and are basic dressage manoeuvres or simple turns and pedestal stands. Each performance a maximum of 5 minutes.
3. Camels appear in one performance which involves trained riders posing on the camels as they circle the ring at walking pace only. Total time approx 3 minutes.
4. There is a parade after the interval where the Camels, Zebra, reindeer, mule, llama and horses parade around the ring at walking pace. Approx time 2 minutes.

*This might include general background of the circus (type of animals, number of animals and information obtained from the stock list and the other required forms supplied by Inspectorate at Bristol) and any relevant information gathered prior to the inspection

Information and guidance about the Welfare of Wild Animals in Travelling Circuses (England) Regulations 2012 is available at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-pets/circuses/>

Section 2: Findings at Inspection

Level of compliance should be included in report using a RAG rating - Green – full compliance/minor breach (no action required) / Amber – breach identified (remedial action recommended) / Red – significant breach (action required).

(1) Staff Is unsupervised access to licensed animals restricted to authorised persons?	The staff list indicates the practice for access to and management of, the animals and most staff have toured with this circus for some years and are familiar with animal management and SOPs.	G
(2) Healthcare Do all licensed animals appear to be in good health?	On visual examination, all animals appeared in good health.	G
(3) Environment Are areas used by licensed animals operated in a way that provides good welfare? Are areas a suitable size? Are areas in good condition and free from hazards? Are areas sufficiently secure? Are areas suited to the social, behavioural and environmental needs of the animals? Do animals have sufficient access to exercise and enrichment? Are areas hygienic and clean? Do areas have a suitable floor? Are environmental factors managed, including shelter from the elements? Is due regard had for species specific guidance?	Outdoor facilities: Yes . Grazing was present in two areas adjacent to the circus site and in easy reach of the indoor enclosures. The site had suffered heavy rainfall , but sufficient access was still possible and grazing was still freely available Yes Yes although some areas had suffered heavy rainfall. Yes , wagons are grouped round the indoor animal areas for protection Yes. Yes Yes Yes , grass outdoors . In the indoor areas grass is covered with straw and/or chippings if necessary. Yes Yes	G
(4) Diet Is food stored properly? Is food prepared properly?	Food storage is in a dedicated area in one of the circus wagons. Food is stored in vermin proof and water repellant barrels. Standard commercial foodstuffs appropriate for the species kept are supplied and forage of suitable quality is adequately presented. Access to fresh water is always available on this site.	G
(5) Display, training and performance Are the precautions required by the assessment of welfare risks carried out? Are animals fit for the activities expected of them? Are only suitable areas used for display, training and performance?	The inspectors observed a typical performance. Zebra and reindeer appear only in the ring "parade" and do not "perform" as such. The camels are used for supervised rides prior to the performance and at the interval and in one brief performance (3 mins approx) Supervision overall is by two Category "A" personnel , the animals when used for rides being led by Category "B" handlers. Equipment/tack is of appropriate type and fit. Compliance with the licence conditions of this section was noted.	G

<p>Are display, training and performance correctly staffed?</p> <p>Are items of equipment (including aids, props, costumes, decoration etc) designed, maintained and used appropriately?</p>	<p>Yes . Senior trained staff are are always present .</p> <p>Yes. All tack and other equipment appeared well kept and suitable for use and where required is tailored to fit.</p>	
<p>Are the animals checked after carrying out activities?</p> <p>Are there signage and announcements to inform the public?</p>	<p>Yes . Checked immediately after performance as they are returned to quarters.</p> <p>Yes. Announcements at beginning, interval and end of performance. I would recommend this be re-inforced by signage at the entrance to the animal quarters.</p>	
<p>(6) Breeding</p> <p>Are the health and welfare needs of animals during all stages of the breeding process met?</p> <p>Is guidance on fitness followed?</p> <p>Is suitable veterinary care provided?</p>	<p>Yes. The camels have been housed together for several years and no breeding behaviour has been recorded. Both appear healthy and there does not appear to be any welfare problem or incompatibility. The sole remaining Zebra has bonded with a horse in the adjacent stall and appears content.</p> <p>Zebra and reindeer are all neutered male animals .</p> <p>Yes.</p> <p>Yes.</p>	G
<p>(7) Transport</p> <p>Check for evidence of unfit animals being transported. Can you confirm this is not the case?</p> <p>Are transport containers and any fitting (etc) suitable?</p>	<p>No Unfit animals are transported.</p> <p>The animal wagons are purpose built and have access ramps leading to the flat bed area which has non slip flooring and appropriate swing partitions allow separation of animals as required. All animals are trained to load quietly and are hand led on halters to their stalls. The wagons are of sturdy design and well appointed for transport.</p>	G

<p>(1) Tour Itinerary</p> <p>Confirm that the inspectorate was informed of the correct current and future location of the licensed travelling circus.</p>	<p>A written itinerary was supplied which appeared correct and included details of distance and duration of journeys</p> <p>Itinerary for the future weeks was provided for approximately the next three venues, beyond that time venues are not yet confirmed..</p>	G
<p>(2) List of licensed animals</p> <p>Confirm that every animal present which is covered by the licence is uniquely identified</p>	<p>The animals listed were present and identities confirmed by reading microchips. All microchips tallied with the stock list provided.</p>	G
<p>(3) List of current location of licensed animals</p> <p>Confirm that the whereabouts of all animals covered by a licence</p>	<p>All animals listed were present at the location.</p>	G

<p>(4) Individual records</p> <p>Confirm that a single source of information about an animal's signalment (age, breed, sex, etc) health and welfare history, including all relevant clinical, health and behavioural data is quickly available at the present location of the animal.</p>	<p>Individual records were available for inspection of all animals listed and information therein appeared up to date and accurate.</p>	<p>G</p>
<p>(5) Care Plans</p> <p>Do Care Plans demonstrate that good welfare standards have been planned for and put into practice?</p> <p>Do they record that the welfare needs of licensed animals are being provided for? (Particular note should be taken of the daily record sheets)</p> <p>Are they reviewed regularly?</p> <p>Group Care Plans and Individual Care Plans should each include sections on:</p> <p>(a) assessment of welfare risks</p> <p>(b) behavioural and environmental enrichment</p> <p>(c) breeding</p> <p>(d) dietary requirements</p> <p>(e) preventative medicine</p> <p>(f) retirement</p> <p>(These sections may be cross referenced to avoid duplication of recording)</p>	<p>Yes, Care plans were present and in use and appeared up to date and accurately recording procedures.</p> <p>Yes.</p> <p>Behavioural activity and enrichment was provided for in the care plans and confirmed by observation at the site.</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Diet sheets are constructed with appropriate content and the recommendations therein followed.</p> <p>Yes. Risk assessments for all likely eventualities were present.</p> <p>Present</p> <p>Breeding plans were present but no activity is contemplated at present.</p> <p>See note above</p> <p>The veterinary programme including preventative medicine is present and records confirm compliance.</p> <p>Retirement is planned appropriately.</p>	<p>G</p>
<p>(6) Daily Records</p> <p>Do the Daily Records record include all factors relevant to welfare of the licensed animals</p> <p>(a) Diet</p> <p>(b) Training, including results of checks carried out after activities</p> <p>(c) Environment</p> <p>(d) General Observations</p>	<p>Day records are now part of the established routine and SOP. These are reviewed and updated regularly by senior staff.</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes.</p>	<p>G</p>
<p>(7) List of authorised persons</p> <p>Confirm that only persons that have appropriate qualifications, experience or supervision are permitted to access and care for the licensed animals</p>	<p>The authorised persons list is complete and compliance throughout the period of the inspection was noted. Most senior staff are permanent and seasonal staff are usually recruited from previous seasons employment.</p>	<p>G</p>

<p>(8) List of authorised persons on duty</p> <p>Confirm that someone is in overall charge of the animals at all times.</p> <p>Do circus staff know who is currently on duty and how to contact them urgently?</p>	<p>SOPs for these arrangements are in place and as far as I am aware are working satisfactorily</p> <p>Yes.</p>	<p>G</p>
<p>(9) Journey plans</p> <p>Confirm that sufficient planning is being done before embarking on a journey.</p> <p>Are plans updated with important details about the actual journey afterwards?</p> <p>Is a contingency plan in place for each journey?</p> <p>Does a suitable person travel with the animal?</p>	<p>Journey plans and records of subsequent journeys were present and appeared complete.</p> <p>Contingency planning has taken place and is documented and staff are aware of procedures. Any changes are regularly noted.</p> <p>Wagons are driven only by Category "A" staff, who are assisted /accompanied by at least 2 category "B" staff. Yes. All follow a similar basic pattern.</p> <p>Yes. The circus normally travels in one group i.e. in "convoy", which should add another level of safety for contingency action</p>	<p>G</p>
<p>(10) Veterinary Care</p> <p>Are the lead vet and the circus in good communication?</p> <p>Is the lead vet providing continuity of care, veterinary oversight and advice on Care Plans?</p> <p>Are routine quarterly visits carried out by veterinary surgeons?</p> <p>Does the lead vet attend at least two of the inspections (of which one of which must be at a tour site and one at winter quarters?</p> <p>Are general healthcare and treatments properly administered?</p>	<p>At the time of this inspection , three Veterinary visits had taken place: Lead vet 28/2/2014. Secondary Vets; 9/4/2014, 29/7/2014. Reports on all were present and reviewed.</p> <p>Yes.</p> <p>Yes (as above).</p> <p>Yes as far as I am aware.</p> <p>Yes .Routine anthelmintic treatment has taken place. The veterinary activities are recorded on the animal's record sheets and confirmed by veterinary correspondence.</p>	<p>G</p>

THE FOLLOWING SPACE IS PROVIDED FOR:

- **ADDITIONAL NOTES AND COMMENTS ON THE ANSWERS TO THE EARLIER QUESTIONS**
- **ANY GENERAL REMARKS WHICH THE INSPECTOR MAY WISH TO RECORD**

The management and staff appear to be making a genuine effort to fully comply with the current requirements and are receptive to constructive advice to ensure ongoing compliance.

Records appear up to date, clearly completed and safely stored. General management and staff competence appears good. The standard of maintenance of infrastructure is high with all wagons and animal quarters being in good condition and fit for purpose. Animals appear well cared for and content. No coercion of animals in performance was noted and in my opinion no animal was subjected to unnecessary stress or any other matter which would compromise welfare.

I would make 3 recommendations:

1. To reinforce the announcements made to the public regarding access to the animals after the performance, I would advise notices at the entrance to the animal quarters with regard to the expected behaviour of the public and the access to hand washing facilities following the visit in this area of the circus.
2. As the children experiencing the ring rides are in close proximity with the animals I would advise "on the spot" access to hand disinfection, by tissue or spray on dismounting.
3. Even though many of the B&C staff have served with the circus repeatedly over many seasons, I would advise annual staff re-appraisals at that level and that a record of outcomes be kept.

Section 3: Inspectors Recommendation to Defra

Having inspected (name of circus)

Circus Mondao

operated by (name of operator).

Carol Macmanus

on: 12th August 2014

Summarise the potential impact of the issues found on the welfare of the wild animals in this travelling circus, noting the involvement of any other authority.

Current compliance is satisfactory. Record keeping appears accurate and complete.

No animal welfare problems are noted at present. The welfare of the ageing animals is closely monitored and ongoing Veterinary care appears prompt and to a high standard.

Under "Recommendation" below, it is not possible to strike out worded areas in the electronic format, so the recommendation " THAT THE CIRCUS CONTINUE TO BE LICENSED " is made in this section.

{This text will be transferred to the letter sent to the circus after the inspection}

Recommendation:

- Licence awarded / Continue to be licensed
- Documentary evidence to demonstrate improvements to be provided
- Early visit recommended to confirm that action taken
- Licence refused / suspended

(Please delete as necessary)

Signed:

[Redacted Signature] MRCVS

Dated:

15th Aug 2014

Section 4: Decision

The Circus Licensing Panel, on behalf of the Secretary of State, makes the following decision:

- ~~• It is recommended that a licence be refused/suspended.~~
- It is recommended that the above circus be licensed in accordance with the Regulations

(delete as necessary)

Explanatory note if decision is different from recommendation

Signed:

S. G. Ellis

Dated:

19.08.2014

The Inspector should complete sections 1-3 and submit the signed form to the Wildlife Licensing and Registration Team, who will keep one copy and pass one to DEFRA. DEFRA will return a copy of the form with section 4 completed to WLRT.

The Data Protection Act 1998

Information supplied on this form will be used by Defra to monitor the implementation of the Welfare of Wild Animals in Travelling Circuses (England) Regulations. The information will be held on a central database at Defra and will be used to issue relevant guidance and information to travelling circuses. The information will also be used as a resource to develop relevant training and guidance for the Secretary of State's Circus Inspectors and to field circus related questions and issues addressed from time to time by Non Governmental Organisations, members of the public, Members of Parliament, Government Ministers, other Government Departments. Defra may be required to release information, including personal data and commercial information, on request under the Environmental Information Regulation, the Code of practice on Access to Government Information or the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, Defra will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will we act in contravention of our obligations under the Data Protection Act 1998.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Tel: 0117 372 8774
wildlife.licensing@ahvla.gsi.gov.uk

19 August 2014

Dear Ms Macmanus

Routine inspection under the Welfare of Wild Animals in Travelling Circuses (England) Regulations 2012

As you know, an unannounced inspection of your travelling circus took place on 12 August 2014 under the Welfare of Wild Animals in Travelling Circuses (England) Regulations 2012 (the "Regulations").

Decision of the Circus Licensing Panel

In summary, the inspector found that current compliance is satisfactory.

As before, a copy of the inspection report is now attached for your information. You are reminded that, where an inspection report's use in deciding the status of a licence has been concluded, it is our usual policy to release inspection reports in response to any Freedom of Information request.

The inspector's findings have been considered by a panel of officials on behalf of the Secretary of State (the "Panel"), who were satisfied that at the time of the visit the conditions of the Regulations appeared to be being complied with and who have recommended that your current licence is allowed to continue.

While the inspector was satisfied that all of the licence conditions are being met by your circus, there were some additional points and recommendations noted by the Panel which you may wish to consider:

1. The Panel noted that three of the routine quarterly veterinary visits had so far taken place as required. The Panel agreed to remind you that the final quarterly

veterinary visit needs to be undertaken by your lead vet and this should take place at winter quarters, or equivalent, as required by the Regulations.

2. The Panel noted the inspector's recommendation that you reinforce the announcements made to the public regarding access to the animals after the performance, with notices about expected behaviour of the public following any visit to that area of the circus. The Panel thought this was a sensible suggestion but, as announcements were already being made, it was a decision for you whether to include additional signs.
3. The Panel also noted the inspector's recommendation that you provide "on the spot" access to hand disinfectant, by tissue or spray on dismounting, for the children experiencing the ring rides. Again, the Panel thought that this would represent good practice but, as it is not a requirement under the Regulations (and provided it wasn't a requirement under other legislation), it was a decision for you whether to adopt this practice.
4. Finally the Panel noted the inspector's recommendation that you undertake annual staff re-appraisals, with a record of the outcomes kept. Again, the Panel agreed that this would be good practice but, again as it is not a specific requirement under the Regulations, it is a decision for you whether to adopt this practice.

Further Inspections

We made clear to you when issuing your licence that there would be at least two additional inspections during the year. The inspection on 12 August 2014 represented one of these inspections. There will be at least one further announced inspection during the year. The Secretary of State also retains the power to undertake further announced or unannounced inspections during the remaining period of your licence. Additional inspections may also be required in response to changes in your stock list, any complaints received or concerns raised about the wild animals in your circus.

You will usually be charged for the costs of any further inspection visits, once they have taken place.

S.G. Ellis

(Issued on behalf of the Secretary of State)