

Conclusion re Animal Welfare at Project Chimps

The reason for my visit to Project Chimps was to review chimpanzee welfare at the sanctuary. According to the AVMA, animal welfare is determined by

how an animal is coping with the conditions in which it lives. An animal is in a good state of welfare if (as indicated by scientific evidence) it is healthy, comfortable, well-nourished, safe, able to express innate behavior, and if it is not suffering from unpleasant states such as pain, fear, and distress. Good animal welfare requires disease prevention and veterinary treatment, appropriate shelter, management, nutrition, humane handling, and humane euthanasia. Protecting an animal's welfare means providing for its physical and mental needs.

Based on my review of Project Chimps, I conclude that the chimpanzee welfare at Project Chimps is excellent. All aspects of animal welfare, based on my own understanding of the term as well as the AVMA's definition, are completely met with respect to the Project Chimps chimpanzees.

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