



Inspection Report

Gulf World Marine Park Inc
15412 Front Beach Road
Panama City Beach, FL 32413

Customer ID: **324287**
Certificate: **58-C-0992**
Site: 001
Gulf World Marine Park Inc.

Type: FOCUSED INSPECTION
Date: 09-JUL-2025

3.113(b)(3) Critical

Primary enclosures used to transport marine mammals.

The facility failed to prevent injury to animals during transportation. Three bottlenose dolphins, Striker, Cajun, and Luna, were relocated from their enclosure in Panama City Beach, Florida, to a new facility in Duck Key, Florida. The animals left the facility in Panama City Beach, Florida, on June 10, 2025, and arrived at the new facility approximately 13 hours later on June 11, 2025. Upon arrival, all three dolphins were noted to have received skin abrasions during transport.

- Striker, a male bottlenose dolphin had mild abrasions on the leading edge of both pectoral fins as well as a deep abrasion located underneath the rear portion of the left pectoral fin, near the body. This lesion is approximately 3 inches long and 1.5 inches wide before extending up, behind, and over the left pectoral fin approximately 6 inches in length and 3 inches in width. The central portion of the wound is rough, sunken and pale.
- Cajun, a male bottlenose dolphin had moderate abrasions on the leading edge of his right pectoral fin and mild abrasions on the leading edge of his left pectoral fin. Underneath his left pectoral fin, and near the body wall, he had a cut approximately 3 inches in length and .5 inches wide. There were two more cuts noted on the top of his left pectoral fin. The first lesion was approximately 2 inches in length and up to .5 inches in width, located near the back of the fin where it meets the body wall. The second lesion was approximately 2.5 inches long and 1.5 inches wide located mid fin, where the fin meets the body. Behind the right pectoral fin was another deep abrasion approximately 2.5 inches in length and .5 inches in width. These lesions were pink to red with hints of bleeding still observable.
- Luna, a female bottlenose dolphin had moderate abrasions on the leading edge of her left pectoral fin and a deep cut/abrasion on the top of that same fin along the body wall. This lesion had removed skin with exposed flesh approximately 6.5 inches in length and 4 inches in width.

These injuries were not present prior to transportation and are consistent with injuries sustained from body support devices used during transportation.

Failure to ensure that the primary enclosure, used to transport marine mammals, conforms to regulatory requirements can result in discomfort or injury to the animal.

Straps, slings, harnesses, or other devices used for body support or restraint, when transporting marine mammals such as cetaceans must be capable of keeping the animals from thrashing about and causing injury to themselves or their

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attendants, and yet be adequately designed so as not to cause injury to the animals. To be corrected from this day, 21 July, 2025, forward.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with facility representatives.

Additional Inspectors:

KRISTIN NAPOLI, SUPERVISORY ANIMAL CARE SPECIALIST

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