

<b>ANIMAL RIDES</b>	An exhibitor who uses regulated animals to give rides to the public must meet all the applicable Animal Welfare Act regulations and standards.
<b>Criteria</b>	<p>Examples of animals used to give rides are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• elephants - NOTE: On the inspection report, be sure to put the names of the elephants.</li> <li>• camels</li> <li>• llamas</li> <li>• cattle</li> </ul> <p>Note: Domestic equine species are exempt. Therefore, horse or pony rides are not covered.</p>
<b>Conducting the Inspection</b>	<p>When inspecting animals used for rides, make sure that the exhibitor meets all the applicable regulations [2.40, 2.50, 2.75, 2.78, 2.80, 2.125, 2.126, 2.130, 2.131], all the standards, including the transportation standards, for the animals being used, and Policies 2, 3, 4, 6, 18, 21, 22, 24, and 25.</p> <p>While conducting your inspection, some areas to pay special attention to include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• training and handling experience of the handlers and employees</li> <li>• attentiveness of the handler during the ride, i.e., is the handler watching the animal during the ride, or staring off into space</li> <li>• number of personnel, i.e., are there enough personnel to watch for dangerous behaviors from the animals, the riders, and the viewing public</li> <li>• barriers between the animals and the general viewing public</li> <li>• animal's physical condition and behavior</li> <li>• animal's locomotion, gait, and uniformity of stride</li> <li>• willingness of the animal to work</li> <li>• availability of drinking water</li> <li>• availability of shade</li> <li>• foot care, especially elephants</li> <li>• weight load for the animal</li> </ul>

- methods used to make the animals walk, i.e., are the methods used injurious to the animal, such as sharp ankus penetrating the skin, cattle prod, or excessive physical force
- proper fit of saddles, riding equipment, halters, or restraint devices. Some signs of improper fit include:
  - redness
  - sores
  - abrasions
  - irritated skin
  - hair loss
- condition of the equipment, i.e., no sharp edges, no broken straps, buckles or fasteners, padding not thin or excessively worn
- rest periods for animals between rides and overnight  
 Note: Animals must be allowed a rest period equal to the amount of time that they were giving rides. [2.131(b)(2)]
- housing for the animals not being used and overnight quarters
- security measures at night
- contingency plan to provide veterinary care if an animal becomes sick or is injured on the road
- method of transporting the animals between venues
- transport enclosures and vehicles

NOTE: If you have questions or are unsure about a situation, use your professional judgment, call your SACS, and/or see the appropriate Sections of this Guide.

**Inspection Report**

**On-the-Road Inspection**

When completing the inspection report in LARIS, **be sure to enter the inspection in the “TRA” site if the exhibitor is on-the-road, NOT** at the home site.

If there is not a “TRA” site in LARIS, complete the inspection using the word-processing inspection report. Then follow the procedure on page 7.1.2.

	<p>On the inspection report in the narrative section, put:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the location, i.e., city and State, of the inspection</li><li>• the name of the circus, unit or group if the exhibitor is part of a circus or traveling group</li></ul>
<b>Follow-Up</b>	<p>If noncompliances are identified and a follow-up inspection is required, be sure to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• obtain an itinerary from the exhibitor</li><li>• discuss with your SACS who will contact the next inspector</li></ul>