

According to FWC, Big Cat Rescue, BCR, is not classified as sanctuary.

From: Ask FWC [mailto:myfwc@mailnj.custhelp.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2013 10:29 AM
To: contact@rexano.org
Subject: Big Cat Rescue, Tampa, FL [Incident: 130410-000028]

Thank you for contacting the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. The response to your concerns appears below.

If this issue is not resolved to your satisfaction, please reply and let us know how we can assist you. You may follow the link below to login and check the status of your account.

Thank you for allowing us to be of service to you.

Subject

Big Cat Rescue, Tampa, FL

Discussion Thread

Response Via Email (LE-OT)

04/18/2013 01:28 PM

Zuzana,

Big Cat Rescue is not classified as a sanctuary by FWC. FWC does not delineate between zoos and other types commercial activity such as sales or privately run exhibits for the purposes of permit issuance. Big Cat Rescue holds a valid exhibition/sale permit.

Customer By Web Form (Zuzana Kukol)

04/10/2013 02:21 PM

Hi, is Big Cat Rescue in Tampa, Florida classified as zoo or sanctuary by your FWC agency?

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FWC Definition of Sanctuary:

<http://www.myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/captive-wildlife/recent-rule-changes/2009-changes/68A-6.0025> Sanctuaries; Retired Performing Wildlife and Identification. (New Rule) Must be a not-for-profit corporation exempt from taxation. Proof of status as a Florida registered not-for-profit corporation and tax exemption under 501(c)(3) must be maintained on file and be available for inspection upon request by FWC personnel.

Defines a "wildlife sanctuary for captive wildlife" as a facility established for the sole purpose of providing lifetime care for unwanted or infirmed captive wildlife. Trade, sale, offering for trade or sale, or buying captive wildlife or parts thereof is prohibited. Full or incidental contact with the wildlife is prohibited. Wildlife shall be permanently identified by means of tattoo, brand, PIT tag, or photographic identification. Rare, endangered, or protected wildlife may be transferred for breeding purposes, if it clearly enhances the survival of the species. Sanctuaries exhibiting Class I wildlife must be bonded or meet the financial responsibility guarantee requirements for the exhibition of Class I wildlife. Performing wildlife that due to age or physical condition can no longer perform may be kept for the purposes of providing lifetime care. Such retired performing wildlife must be permanently identified.

www.REXANO.org