



HUMAN FATALITIES CAUSED BY CAPTIVE EXOTIC ANIMALS IN FLORIDA 1990-2008

YEAR/Animal Species	Relationship to animal	Comments
2001 by Tiger	Tiger kills worker during cage repair at Savage Kingdom	Exhibitor, Savage Kingdom, has been shut down, Voluntarily accepted occupational hazard
2000 by Elephant	Ramos circus elephant killed a family member/acrobat Theresa Ramos	Voluntarily accepted occupational hazard
1998 by Tiger	Female owner at "Cat Dancers" show	Voluntarily accepted occupational hazard
1998 by Tiger	Tiger at "Cat Dancers" kills his male handler (and female owner few weeks apart, see above)	Voluntarily accepted occupational hazard
1994 by Tiger	Handler killed at AZA Miami Zoo, when a lock was left off a safety cage and the keeper stepped inside.	Voluntarily accepted occupational hazard
1993 by Elephant	Keeper killed at the AZA accredited Lowry Park Zoo in Tampa	Voluntarily accepted occupational hazard
1993 by Elephant	In Williston, circus trainer died after an elephant knocked him down at a Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus elephant farm	Voluntarily accepted occupational hazard
1990 by Elephant	In Ft. Lauderdale, an elephant with the Hanneford Family Circus crashed her handler to death after being startled by a passing car	Voluntarily accepted occupational hazard

Conclusion:

-In over 17 years, Florida had 8 fatal encounters with captive exotic animals, which is 0.5, half a death, per year.

-all fatalities happened to owners/trainers/handlers/workers as a result of occupational hazard which they voluntarily accepted, not any different than military, fire men, police, NASCAR drivers, etc...

-uninvolved public was not killed

-Two fatalities were at AZA accredited Metro and Lowry's zoos which are often exempted from new regulations, even though AZA is a private (non governmental) accredited group.

-AZA zoos have more visitors than smaller non AZA exhibitors, so exempting them from new regulations while not exempting the rest in the name of 'public safety' is pure discrimination against non AZA exotic and wild animal owners.

-elephant related fatalities are expected to be higher in Florida than the rest of the nation since FL is the center for circuses. Same way you can expect to have more sled dogs and accidents in Alaska than in Florida.

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